

### **Centers for Simulation Education Teaching Associates Assist at 12th Street**

In the Centers for Simulation Education (CSE) men and women are trained as teaching associates for teaching invasive exams on their bodies.

Exams such breast exams, pelvic exams and male genitourinary (GU) exams are much easier for a novice to learn if the teaching associate is able to slowly guide the students through the exams.

Breast Teaching Associate Professionals (BTAP), Gynecological Teaching Associate Professionals (GTAP) and Male Teaching Associate Professionals (MTAP) go through extensive training and yearly recertification in order to teach these exams to students. The teaching associate explains each step while letting the student know what they are feeling, the proper way to drape, and address the steps of the exam.

For the past two years the CSE has made available these teaching associates to the students at the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Center in order for them to become more comfortable with invasive

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### **IPE Offers Many Pathways for Participation**

"Interprofessional education [IPE] occurs when learners (students and/or faculty) from two or more professions learn about, from, and with each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes."

- [World Health Organization](#), 2010

The Office of Interprofessional Education (OIPE) offers an introduction to the world of IPE through their signature course: **IPE 101: Theory, Evidence, and UAMS Application.**

In one short hour, participants learn how interprofessional education reaches across clinical, research, and educational missions to break down barriers (silos) and create collaborative practices geared towards achieving [quadruple aim](#) (improve patient experience, improve population health, reduce cost, improve work life of clinician/staff) outcomes.

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## A Message from the Provost

As 2017 draws to a close, it offers a time to reflect on the events and accomplishments of the past year. Across Academic Affairs, there is much to celebrate in terms of accomplishments that improved our academic programs and positioned our faculty members and students for success.

The institution-wide effort, led in Academic Affairs, that achieved 10-year reaccreditation of our programs by the Higher Learning Commission demonstrated the quality of our institution. The recent achievement of joint accreditation by our Office of Continuing Education for offering unified medicine, nursing and pharmacy CE activities showed our commitment to both efficiency and interprofessional education.



*Dr. Stephanie Gardner*

Meanwhile, our interprofessional education efforts became more firmly engrained with more integration into our clinical enterprise. UAMS students in all programs are participating in more joint activities and more faculty members are taking part in IP faculty development.

We have programs achieving national recognition, such as the ClearMark award to our Center for Health Literacy for their Spanish-language handbook. We hosted successful events such as the Teaching with Technology Symposium that drew presenters from across the state and across the nation to benefit our educators. Many of you presented your work national conferences, promoting the sharing of knowledge with peers but also demonstrating the strength of education support resources.

More students are using the resources of our Student Success Center, enjoying our Student Center facility or attending activities organized through our Campus Life.

This is in no way a complete list of the successes in Academic Affairs. I appreciate every member of our team and their contributions to our institution. I wish you all even more success in 2018.

- Stephanie Gardner  
Interim Chancellor and Provost

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## Departments in the Division of Academic Affairs

### Enrollment Services

- [Office of the University Registrar](#)
- [Commencement](#)

### Institutional Research, Policy and Accreditation

- [Academic Administration](#)
- [Institutional Studies](#)

### Society and Health

- [Office of Interprofessional Education](#)
- [12th Street Health and Wellness Center](#)
- [Office of Global Health](#)
- [Center for Patients and Families](#) (on-campus only)

### Student Services

- [UAMS Library](#)
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### Teaching and Learning Support

- [Office of Academic Services](#)
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[Arkansas Commission on Child Abuse, Rape and Domestic Violence](#)

## From Enrollment Services

### 2018 Graduation Information

All students who plan to graduate must submit a Graduation Application via GUS ([gus.uams.edu](http://gus.uams.edu)) for the term in which he or she intends to graduate.

The application provides the Office of the University Registrar with essential information about the student's degree and expected graduation term/year. It also puts the student's name on the diploma order, degree posting and commencement lists.

Failure to complete the application promptly may result in a delay in the graduation arrangements or omission from the commencement programs.

### Gradfest coming in February!

Plans are underway for UAMS' first Gradfest, a one-day event in the Student Center from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 22. The Commencement Office and the Department of Campus Life are collaborating to bring together officials from the colleges and other units across campus to help candidates prepare for 2018 graduation.

Students can bring their resumes for critique and sit for a free head shot, and order regalia, graduation announcements, class rings, and diploma frames in one easy step. Music, door prizes, refreshments and more is planned, details coming soon. Commencement is May 19, 2018 at Verizon Arena in North Little Rock.



#### **Graduation Application Deadlines**

All applications must be submitted via GUS by the following deadline:

- Spring 2018 – February 1

Students needing to change their information (i.e. expected graduation term, diploma mailing address, etc.) after the deadline must notify the Office of the University Registrar immediately.

## State Authorization Update

With the exception of California and Maryland, all states have joined the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA), the national compact which governs distance education activities offered across state lines.

To assure compliance with existing and proposed federal regulations, a State Authorization Committee will be assembled, including liaisons from the colleges, financial services, the registrar's office, and other key stakeholders across UAMS. This team will help educate

their respective areas about state authorization, maintain and publish required disclosures via website and through student communications, help collect and review data for institutional reporting, and conduct reviews of programs leading to licensure in states where students are enrolled.

If your department is communicating with potential distance education students about a program which leads to licensure, please contact Dana Venhaus at 296-1376 for the latest information regarding disclosure requirements.

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## From Enrollment Services

### 2017 UAMS Veterans Awareness Celebration

The UAMS Veterans Awareness Committee delivered 450 care packages to Fort Roots and the St. Francis House during the month of November. Collections totaled more than \$1,800, with thousands of dollars worth of merchandise donated. In addition, thousands of signatures were collected for the Veteran Thank You cards, which were included in the packages.

The UAMS Veterans Appreciation Celebration was held Wednesday, November 8th in the Hospital Lobby Gallery. UAMS was able to honor veteran, active duty, and reserve and guard employees and students.

There was also a day-long Veterans Fair held Wednesday, November 15th in the ED II Concourse. Veteran groups and agencies were on hand to meet with veterans and their family members to address questions regarding counseling, education, health benefits, and other related concerns. The last event for the 2017 UAMS Veterans Awareness celebration was the presentation "Understanding PTSD" held Nov. 29, providing an opportunity for the campus community to learn about post-traumatic stress disorder and its effects on individuals and families — particularly those who have served in the military.

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### Teaching Associates Assist at 12th Street

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exams. Back in August, on a night when the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Center was closed to patients, the students worked in inter-professional teams to learn pelvic exams from these women.

The skills that the students learn can later be used for doing pap smears on their patients at 12<sup>th</sup> Street and enable them to conduct well checkups on female patients.

This project was initiated by Elizabeth Gath, M.D., medical director at 12<sup>th</sup> Street, and the students there. While new students are learning the exams, students from the clinic are teaching about the importance of pap smears with an anatomical model in the lobby area before the new students go in to conduct exams. The comments from the interprofessional teams has been positive and they feel supported by the clinic and the teaching associates.

### NWA Walker Clinical Education Center Says Farewell to Shantrell Hall

Shantrell Hall has been the clinic manager for the Pat and Willard Walker Student Clinical Education Center at UAMS Northwest for two years. She is now headed to graduate school to earn a Masters in Health Administration at Missouri State University.

Hall was working at UAMS as a pharmacy tech and going to school at UA Little Rock when she interned at the Centers for Simulation Education on the main campus in Little Rock in 2015. Around that same time the job at the Walker Student Clinical Center in Fayetteville became available she was more than ready to jump in to the job.

She said she has high hopes of becoming the chief operating officer of a hospital someday.



*Shantrell Hall (left) with Centers for Simulation Education Director Mary Cantrell*

## Historical Research Center Hosts Successful Open House

The UAMS Library Historical Research Center hosted an Open House on Oct. 12 in celebration of American Archives Month and National Medical Librarians Month. The event was held in the Center on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the library and attracted approximately 60 attendees from across campus and the community who enjoyed food, conversation, and tours of the collections.

An exhibit highlighting new artifacts and archival materials acquired by the Center over the last year was on display, including a “doctor’s bag” converted from a portable bar set case and handicrafts made by patients at the Benton Unit of the Arkansas State Hospital.

The Historical Research Center collects and preserves materials and artifacts that document the history of UAMS and the medical and other health-related professions of Arkansas. In addition to the annual Open House in October, the Center also co-sponsors an annual spring lecture and dinner with the Society for the History of Medicine and the Health Professions, as well as other events throughout year.

If you were unable to attend the recent Open House and would like a tour of the Historical Research Center, or have materials you would like to donate, please contact Tim Nutt, Director, at 686-6735 or [tgnutt@uams.edu](mailto:tgnutt@uams.edu).

Find the Historical Research Center online at [libguides.uams.edu/historical-research-center](http://libguides.uams.edu/historical-research-center).



*Dr. S. William Ross (1922-2017) converted a portable bar set case (top photo) into a functional and practical doctor's bag. Donated by Linda Ross. Patients at the Benton Unit of the Arkansas State Hospital created handicrafts (bottom photo) as part of their occupational therapy under the direction of Katherine L. Scott (1905-2001). Donated by Nathania Sawyer.*

*News and Reflections from Academic Affairs* is published quarterly by the Office of the Provost to inform students, faculty and staff about programs and support provided by the Division of Academic Affairs and to highlight UAMS initiatives beneficial to students and faculty.

### Questions? Comments?

Contact the Newsletter Editor, Jon Parham ([jcparham@uams.edu](mailto:jcparham@uams.edu))

## UAMS Librarians on the Road

- Nadia Lalla, UAMS Library

October was National Medical Librarians Month and typically when the South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association will host its annual meeting. This regional meeting attracts health sciences librarians – academic, hospital, and some public librarians – from Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Louisiana, and Arkansas.

This year, nearly 140 librarians attended including six from UAMS: Susan Steelman, Alice Jagers, Lindsay Blake, Matthew Windsor, Louise Montgomery, Joanna Delevan and me. This year's conference was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico and overlapped with that city's perennial International Balloon Fiesta, presenting a colorful counterpoint to an informative and educational event.

Lindsay and Alice both presented papers. Alice introduced medical librarians to the format of graphic medicine and how it can improve health information literacy training for librarians and health care professionals and encourage empathy in health professional students. Alice highlighted the UAMS' budding collection of graphic medicine print books and gave some context to graphic medicine in the larger scheme of graphic works.

Lindsay presented on role-playing scenarios and their use in evidence-based medical education. This was part of the work that she had previously done at Medical College of Georgia. In a related presentation, Lindsay also discussed the development, implementation, and evaluation of an embedded librarianship ecosystem model.



*A view from Albuquerque, New Mexico, host of the annual meeting for the South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association, attended by six from the UAMS Library staff.*

Matthew, Susan, and I attended committee meetings and took advantage of some of the continuing education course offerings including a challenging class on Data Analysis and Visualization with R. One of the highlights of the meeting (aside from the networking opportunities) was the keynote and plenary sessions. Dr. Patricia Brennan, Director of the National Library of Medicine (NLM), opened the conference with an exciting overview of the changes in direction that are happening at NLM.

These changes include an emphasis on developing community relationships with public libraries and non-profit organizations to strengthen health literacy, continuing education for employed librarians in the area of data management, and hints at the upcoming five-year strategic plan. Dr. Brennan is an enthusiastic supporter of the work done by local medical libraries and she recognized the collaborative efforts of regional libraries to support the information and infrastructure needs of libraries caught in the destruction of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Another innovative speaker was Siobhan Reardon, President and Director of the Free Library of Philadelphia, who had some truly unique ideas about how to raise funds for needed library services and programs including selling rare, archival collections (don't worry – I'm not suggesting we do that).

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## UAMS Librarians Learn and Share in Albuquerque SCC Meeting

**Susan Steelman, Head of Education & Research Services**, attended the new officer's event and will begin duties as Chair of Membership Committee after the conference. She attended meetings for the Continuing Education, Membership and Research Committees. As a member of the Research Committee, Susan was a judge for contributed papers and posters designated as research.

**Lindsay Blake, Clinical Services Librarian**, attended the new members event and joined the Fund Raising Committee. Blake also presented a poster titled "Facilitating Access to LGBT Specific Health Information for Patients and Providers." The poster looked at the creation and use of a web portal focusing on LGBT health issues, especially those in the transgender community as well as educational resources for providers caring for this community. She also presented two papers titled "Expanding Possibilities for the Library in Evidence-Based Medicine Education with Role-Playing Scenarios" and "Rising Above the Patchwork of Evaluations: An Embedded Ecosystem Model Provides a View from the Top." These oral presentations looked at librarian created clinical role-playing scenarios for first year medical students and the evaluation and theoretical framework behind an embedded librarian program.

**Alice Jagers, Outreach Coordinator**, attended the Fundraising Committee meeting. She presented a paper on graphic medicine in medical libraries explaining the benefits of the graphic medicine field. A select number of graphic medicine books are available for checkout at the library. She also attended a four hour CE: Grants and Proposal Writing to better prepare her for grants that benefit UAMS.

**Louise Montgomery, Education Librarian and Liaison to Arkansas Children's Hospital**, was sponsored by ACH for the meeting. She especially enjoyed the presentation by Siobhan Reardon, MA, MLIS, President and Director of the Free Library of Philadelphia where Louise worked in her early career. Siobhan Reardon presented Thinking Creatively: Establishing Reliable Financial Future for Your Library.

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## UAMS Librarians on the Road

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Another guest speaker was Dr. Lara Patriquin, a local radiologist and meditation instructor who discussed the scientific aspects of meditation and the spaces where science and spirituality meet. Albuquerque was a wonderful, if packed venue.

I always return from these events with my head spinning with new ideas ("I wonder if \_\_\_\_\_ would work at our library"), coveting new or enhanced products ("Elsevier has this really neat full-text resource. It probably costs way too much"), or thankful that our institutional situation is not as bad as it appears to be ("Texas still has a hiring freeze and now they are dealing with hurricane damage"). This conference in particular is an excellent opportunity to hear from the leaders in my profession and to see the trends that are emerging in our region: large scale retirements in upper levels of academe, a desperate need to train working librarians in data management while maintaining current employment, the challenges of providing quality consumer health information to a population with low health literacy skills, and the impact of new medical schools on existing programs and resources.

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## Library Sponsors Open Access Presentation

The UAMS Library hosted its inaugural Open Access Presentation on Oct. 26, 2017, with Mary Ryan, MLS, M.P.H., professor emeritus, and neurobiology professor and researcher Sue T. Griffin, Ph.D., presenting "From Idea to Publication: The Creation and Development of an Open Access Journal."

Ryan, who worked 42 years in health library sciences — including nearly 18 years at UAMS — before her 2014 retirement, discussed the role of open access journals in academic publishing. She pointed out that the problems with traditional publishing system included an emphasis on printed journals with publishers not taking full advantage of technology; the cost of subscriptions rising to prohibitive levels; and complexity of access. Open access journal articles are available to everyone on the Internet at no charge, the cost is shifted to authors with higher publication fees. These fees can be covered by research grants. Today there are thousands of open access journals and hybrid open access that allow access to some articles for free.

Griffin, the Alexa and William T. Dillard Professor and Vice Chairman of Research in the Donald W. Reynolds Department of Geriatrics, discussed the day that she and former UAMS faculty member Robert Mrak, M.D., Ph.D., sat in Ryan's office and decided that the new journal that they were going to publish would be an open access journal. They wanted their journal, the Journal of Neuroinflammation, available to as many people as possible.

Today, that journal is an "open access, peer-reviewed journal that focuses on interactions of the immune system (and especially the innate immune system) with the nervous system." It is published with BioMed Central, a leader in open access publishing and has an impact factor of 5.102. You can find the journal at <https://jneuroinflammation.biomedcentral.com>. Griffin and Mrak, now at the University of Toledo, remain editors-in-chief of the journal.

Each month the library will have a new speaker who will discuss open access publishing. In November, the independent research ACCESS group led a panel discussion on open access publishing trends for the different types of open access publishing.

Watch <http://libguides.uams.edu/OA> for info on the January presentation.



Mary Ryan



Sue Griffin, Ph.D.

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## Students Find the 'Sweet' SPOT in the Library

The UAMS Library hosted seven therapy dog visits with the UAMS SPOT Teams in October.

This valuable volunteer service provides an opportunity for our students to relax and refresh from long hours of study and exam preparation.

Research is providing evidence that therapy animals provide relief for students in highly stressful situations. A recent [article](#) from CNN examined how useful these sessions are and the benefits to the students.



During the month, 112 students, faculty, and staff came by to pet, play and just enjoy the furry therapist.

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## IPE Offers Many Pathways for Participation

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Participants in the 101 course gain valuable knowledge regarding IPE influence in faculty development, student curriculum, collaborative practice, research, and development across UAMS.

Busy schedules are also a barrier to educational opportunities. Understanding this, the OIPE strives to offer as many online options as possible. Through collaboration with UAMS LearnOnDemand, multiple IPE courses are [available online](#) — with more being introduced monthly. An added benefit to our IPE offerings are the CE credits you'll receive after completion.

If you are interested in learning more about the Office of Interprofessional Education, and what it can do for you, please check out our [website](http://ipe.uams.edu) (ipe.uams.edu) for more information.



# Office of Interprofessional Education

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## SSC Blog Offers Source of Student Encouragement, Advice - Marybeth Norcross and Bob Musser, Student Success Center

One way the Student Success Center (SSC) supports students is through the blog on the SSC website, [studentsuccess.uams.edu/blog/](http://studentsuccess.uams.edu/blog/). The blog debuted in August 2015 with the post, *Six Tips for Student Success*, and we have published new posts nearly every week. Bloggers Marybeth Norcross and Bob Musser recently talked about how the blog is evolving through a broader focus and the addition of new voices in our mission to enhance learning and increase student success.

### Why blog?

**Marybeth:** The decision to start the blog came out of the design process for the Student Success Center website. A good portion of the website doesn't change. It tells students who we are, describes our services, and offers various ways for students to contact us. Our static content is important because it offers consistency which makes it easier for students seeking help. At the same time, I felt that we needed content that was up-to-date, changing, and addressed the common issues that students across all the colleges faced. That's why I started the blog. It's an informal method of communication, more like a conversation than a lecture. The posts tend to be short, between 300 - 500 words, so they are easy to both write and read. Quite simply, the blog is one more way to reach out to students.

**Bob:** Why indeed? Surely there are enough voices and more; even at UAMS there are employee and administrator blogs. Our blog is the only blog dedicated to assisting UAMS students toward academic success, and as Marybeth pointed out, it is conversational. It contributes to the goals of our Student Success Center in a way that is unique for us and complements our other approaches.

Find the Student Success Center Blog online at: <http://studentsuccess.uams.edu/blog/>

### Talk about how Bob got involved.

**Bob:** Soon after I was hired I was asked to write an entry introducing myself to the students and outlining my availability particularly for the students in the College of Pharmacy and in the College of Public Health. Later I contributed other posts and found that I enjoy the creative outlet, and I trust that I have added some useful helps for our students. In addition, I have taken on a small bit of the administrative side and am glad to help out there as well.

**Marybeth:** Having Bob on board has really broadened the voice of the blog. He brings a new point of view, a way of thinking, which was missing. Working together we are able to connect the blog to more students. Bob writes very well, and his sense of humor is evident in his posts. He is a thinker, and he's interested in so many things, which helps us reach more students.

### What do you write about?

**Marybeth:** I've tried to write posts that would meet the needs of students across all of the colleges. In the beginning, most of the posts were reviews of different apps and websites that I thought students would find helpful. I wrote posts to highlight our services. Some of our posts follow the academic calendar, like welcome posts at the beginning of the fall semester or congratulations to the graduates in May. I've listed helpful tips for using the Testing Center during midterms and finals and offered posts about test preparation and test anxiety. In meetings with students I've been able to identify sometimes overlooked themes, like the value of reflection, or the need to practice self-care. Over time, the blog has evolved to address the issues and concerns we see in our daily contact with students.

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## SSC Blog

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**Bob:** I have written blogs on some key learning points: the value of failure and setback in eventual success, some practical tips for using search engines, and so forth. I have especially enjoyed some more light-hearted topics such as the value of selective procrastination, an invitation to have fun with words, and so on.

### Who are the contributing authors?

**Marybeth:** In the beginning, we included posts from other members of the Student Success Center. Ashley Phillips has written about the peer tutoring process, and Tim Muren and Nancy Sessoms have talked about writing assistance. Since Student Life is an important part of academic success, Vanessa Lewis has become a regular contributor, commenting on the value of social interaction and highlighting events where students can get together to connect to students from other programs.

**Bob:** This semester I reached out to the Student Wellness Program, and their residents contributed self-care posts on quality sleep and on regular physical activity as part of student success. We're a collaborative bunch here, and we want to include any input that helps our students. When someone else has greater expertise, we prefer those voices. If you have an authorial itch needing to be scratched, or if you know of topics we could pursue, please let us know. We would consider any submission that furthers student success.

### How do you see the future of the blog?

**Bob:** Let's see, I envision our modest publication receiving national attention for our excellence, and I see us having to build a grand display case to show off the numerous awards. Hmmm', maybe there will even be a movie deal down the road. Hey, might as well dream big, right? Seriously, I would like to continue to broaden our authorship. One of the appeals for me personally is a chance to write something important, something that might not merit a full-blown research project and peer-reviewed article. I would imagine other faculty at UAMS might have similar significant contributions. I want us always to remain an instrument for student success.

**Marybeth:** The goal of the blog has always been to increase student success and enhance learning, and I feel that there are so many aspects we haven't yet considered. Bringing in authors from Student Life and the Student Wellness Program is a good beginning, but there are so many other voices on campus that could be included. Bob mentioned getting contributions from faculty members. I would also like to include posts written by students. Students learn so much from one another, and I believe we would all benefit from hearing directly from students what helps them be successful here at UAMS.

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## **It's Beginning to Look a lot like...Finals**

**- Fred Bassett and Sharon Keel, Student Success Center**

As the end of 2017 and the holiday seasons approach there is something else on the horizon – Final Exams!

Without question final exam week is the busiest time of the year in the testing center. You might be surprised to find out that in the 2016 -2017 fiscal year students came to the testing center for exams almost 7,000 times. In the remaining months of 2017 we have only seen an increase in the number of students testing in the testing center.

You have tested with us several times by now so you are aware we have limited space for testing. UAMS has almost 3,000 students enrolled and a large percentage of those students require testing at our facility. If you are a student reading this, you are probably one of them! Considering those statistics, remember we have 24 testing computers located in two testing rooms, twelve testing cubicles for students that require accommodations such as reduced distraction, and hundreds of students to test.

Here are three testing tips to make your experience as smooth and stress-free as possible.

### **Testing Tip 1: Don't wait until the last minute to take your test.**

We preach this every semester and still many students wait until the last hour of the last day to come for their exam. If everyone comes at the same time then you can expect to experience delays and waiting time if all spots are filled. The busiest times tend to be the hours between 4:00pm and closing time. Keep that in mind as you plan for your finals. Come early and beat the rush.

### **Testing Tip 2: Know the login procedure for your test before arriving.**

Is your test in Blackboard? Lockdown Browser? ExamSoft? Exemplify? ATI? The initial process of logging in and accessing your exam is your responsibility. We do not know your personal passwords or student identification numbers.

### **Testing Tip 3: Remember the "drill."**

- Bring your UAMS Student ID
- Sign in for your test at the student scanning station outside the testing office
- Don't forget you still need to see one of the testing staff after signing in. The process of signing in does NOT alert us or let us know what test you are here to take. We can't type in the password if we don't know who you are, why you are here, or what test you're taking.
- Place all your personal belongings in one of the lockers located in the Student Success Center with cell phones silent or off

We are committed to doing our part to ensure your success as a student at UAMS. Keep these testing tips in mind when taking finals and it will go a long way toward streamlining your testing experience and making it a good one.

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## Office of Educational Development Update

### The Office of Educational Development Welcomes New Instructor

Rachel Bullock, M.Ed., recently joined the Office of Educational Development (OED) as an eLearning instructor. Rachel is a member of the eLearning team and provides support and training for Blackboard and other eLearning tools such as Collaborate, SoftChalk, Respondus, and Respondus LockDown Browser. Her expertise in education technology is a tremendous asset to OED and UAMS faculty.

Rachel holds a degree in instructional design and technology from Arkansas Tech University and an undergraduate degree in fine art. She recently relocated from Russellville to North Little Rock and is learning the joys and pains of "big city life." In her spare time, she enjoys painting and playing the fiddle.



Rachel Bullock

## OED Educators Academy

### Teaching Observation by Peers (TOPs) program

The Educators Academy is committed to helping UAMS faculty with their teaching. Toward this goal, the Teaching Observation by Peers (TOPs) is a new program developed and launched in fall 2017. TOPs is **voluntary**, **confidential** and **formative**, offering observations about classroom teaching, including resident lectures, and grand rounds presentations. Complete the OED [Service Request](#) to ask for a TOPs consultation.

### Teaching Workshops

During each fall semester, weekly workshops are offered to enhance teaching skills. Although the workshops were designed with new instructors in mind, all faculty are welcome to attend. This fall, 10 workshops were offered with an average of 11 attendees each.

Teaching Workshops completed include the following topics:

- *How People Learn and Effective Teaching Practices*
- *Active Learning Strategies*
- *Writing Multiple-Choice Tests*
- *Communication in the Classroom and Clinic*
- *Basics of Face-to-Face Course Design*
- *Aligning Objectives, Assessments and Content*
- *Introduction to Teaching with Technology*
- *Intermediate PowerPoint Skills and Tips.*

Upcoming Teaching Workshops are listed below. To sign up for any and all classes, email [EdAcad@uams.edu](mailto:EdAcad@uams.edu)

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## Office of Educational Development

- Educators Academy

### Educational Development Series

The Educators Academy sponsors monthly Educational Development sessions with presentations by UAMS colleagues. These sessions provide opportunities for faculty to network and share ideas.

All sessions are open to all faculty. Educational Development classes completed include the following topics: *Teaching Observation of Peers Program and Educators Academy Membership; Online Teaching; Student Accommodation; Online Course Presence with Collaborate; Writing Educational Grants; Coaching Struggling Students; Converting Face-to-Face to Online Teaching; and New Topics in eLearning.*

Upcoming Educational Development classes are listed below. To sign up for any and all classes, email [EdAcad@uams.edu](mailto:EdAcad@uams.edu)

### Upcoming 2018 Educational Development Series, 4-5 p.m.

- Jan. 10 — Writing Educational Grants, Steve Boone, Laura Smith-Olinde
- Feb. 14 — Coaching Struggling Students, Timothy Atkinson
- March 14 — Converting Face-to-Face to Online Teaching, Lisa Ferris, Bonnie Kenney
- April 11 — New Topics in eLearning, Martha Carle and entire eLearning team
- May 9 — Accessible Materials & Multiple Ways to Show Mastery

### Teach the Teacher Symposium 2018

The OED Educators Academy and the College of Medicine are pleased to present the *2018 Teach the Teacher Symposium* from 8 a.m.–2 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 26.

The theme this year is *Conversations That Matter: Strategies and Frameworks for the Educator*. Our plenary speaker is Julie Byerley, M.D., M.P.H., vice dean for education and chief education officer for the University of North Carolina School of Medicine. Byerley is responsible for the curriculum and programs for medical students, including student admissions, assessments, meeting accreditation standards and oversight of student affairs. She also contributes to Graduate Medical Education at UNC Hospitals.

In addition to Byerley's remarks, there will be workshops on strategies to support educators and poster presentations by UAMS colleagues showcasing their educational scholarship. The Symposium is free and includes breakfast, snacks, lunch, and stimulating conversation. Register by Friday, Jan. 12 by emailing [Jennifer VanEcko](mailto:Jennifer.VanEcko@uams.edu). We look forward to seeing you on Jan. 26.

### Chancellor's Teaching Award

Nominations for the Chancellor's Teaching Award will be accepted through mid-January. Watch for the call and guidelines.

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## Campus Life and Student Support Services

### - Associated Student Government

The Associated Student Government (ASG) is comprised and administered entirely by students and is the official body representing student opinions and interests on the UAMS campus. The purpose of ASG is to act as a liaison between students and the faculty/administration.

ASG promotes professional and social unity among students, which fosters a culture of respect, commitment, excellence, accountability and teamwork. ASG works to make the University a more inclusive environment for students by planning and facilitating a variety of social, cultural, and recreational events and activities. Involvement is ASG also provides leadership development opportunities so that students can better themselves and their community.

#### Community Service Project

As temperatures drop, the ASG Community Service Committee kicked off its annual No-Sew Blanket project. This year the committee hosted a Pizza Fundraiser in the Student Center in an effort to raise money to purchase more material for the project.

Interim chancellor, Stephanie Gardner, Pharm.D., Ed.D., and Chuck Black donated fabric for the mission. Jade Anuszek, ASG Secretary, spearheaded the donation drive, raising nearly \$400 on her own in less than 24 hours. Jade presented an overview of the project that was featured on Channel 4, KATV.

Students and staff assembled to make the no-sew blankets and in December ASG members donated 85 blankets to the local homeless community through Canvas Community Outreach.



*Students make no-sew blankets as a community service project.*

## Campus Life and Student Support Services

- Associated Student Government

### Halloween Party



*On Friday, Oct. 27 UAMS hosted its much-anticipated annual ASG Halloween party. This year the party was held at the Chenal Country Club, where 436 students and their guests attended the event. Costumes ranged from ghouls and goblins to unicorns and hot dogs. It appears that our students are not only academically inclined but also possess ingenuity and creativity. The imaginative costumes, festive food, and party atmosphere are evidence that much time, thought, and effort goes into planning for this event each year.*

### ASG Meetings

The ASG holds open meetings at noon on the second Monday of each month in IDW 105 A/B.

If you have questions about ASG or committee groups please contact Nakia Dedner at [dednernakiaa@uams.edu](mailto:dednernakiaa@uams.edu) or call 501-686-5850.

For upcoming events check out the Campus Life webpage at <http://studentlife.uams.edu/>.

## Events and Activities

### - Student Services

#### Intramural Bowling

Bowling League excitement was at its best this fall. Clever team names like *Irritable Bowl Syndrome* and *We Don't Give a Split* were among the competition. This intramural team sport was full of laughter and camaraderie. The spirit of friendship between the teams was engaging and entertaining. Even though it was a competition, the teams celebrated each other with high fives and fist bumps when the anticipated strikes, splits, and spares were conquered. Although there was not a perfect game bowled, the memories will last a lifetime!



#### Diversity Affairs Open House@ the Student Center

The Student Center opened in 2016 to give UAMS students a common space that promotes inclusion and interprofessional connections among students, faculty and staff from all colleges.

On October 31, the Center for Diversity Affairs (CDA) held its annual Open House at the Student Center. The venue was an ideal location to promote diversity and inclusion at UAMS. This celebration featured tasty appetizers, music and prizes. In addition to the Halloween-themed festivities many representatives from other departments and organizations came together and shared valuable resources to students, faculty, and staff. Everyone involved had fun and became more knowledgeable about CDA and all the events, outreach programs, and workshops they sponsor.



Amber Booth (above) from the Center for Diversity Affairs presented information on services and resources available to students. Students (left) enjoy the annual Open House at the Student Center hosted by the Center for Diversity Affairs.

## Events and Activities

- Student Services

### Boulevard Bread in the UAMS Student Center



*Vanessa Lewis, Student Center Manager & Jade Anuszek, ASG Secretary*

Boulevard Bread Company's goal is to serve the community by creating excellent handcrafted foods. The UAMS location is a warm and friendly spot to enjoy breads, soups, sandwiches, salads, pastries and fresh-brewed coffee every day. Customers can enjoy a quiet lunch with a friend or gather together on comfortable lounge furniture for a larger group setting. Watch for upcoming lunch specials and visit <http://boulevardbread.com> for a full listing of menu and catering options.

Find more on Campus Life and Student Activities online:

**<http://studentlife.uams.edu/>**

## Residence Hall

### - Campus Life and Student Support Services

The Campus Life housing office employs five students who serve as resident assistants (RAs) for the UAMS Residence Hall. RAs are an integral part of the Campus Life staff. They assist in creating a positive, healthy, safe and thriving environment for students living on campus; provide weekend and after-hours staffing of the housing office; and serve as a resource for University policy.

Our 2017-18 Resident Assistants:

**Emily Mouser** is a senior in the College of Health Professions Dental Hygiene Program. This young lady with a bubbly personality hails from Queen City, Texas. She attends Immanuel First Baptist church and volunteers as a door greeter and an assistant in the children's department. Emily also is a student volunteer at the UAMS 12<sup>th</sup> street Clinic. She's a member of the UAMS Fitness Center, with the goal to better her health. Emily plans to move back to Queen City after graduating in May 2018 with her bachelor's degree.

**Mikayla Feemster** is from the southwest Arkansas town of Dierks. She is a senior dental hygiene student with an infectious smile. She will graduate with a bachelor's degree in May 2018. She is a student volunteer at the UAMS 12<sup>th</sup> street Clinic and is currently the Dental Clinic coordinator. Mikayla is the choir leader at her home church. In her free time, she really enjoys going home and spending time with her family and friends, sewing, playing board games, going to concerts, taking pictures and anything that has to do with her dog Finn.

**Nkese Essien** is a second-year College of Pharmacy student. She is involved in activities and organizations on campus. She's currently the treasurer of the Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPha) and the SNPha Power to End Stroke Committee Chair. She is the Sergeant-At-Arms for the Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity and member of Student Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists. Nkese is also employed part-time as a pharmacy intern. Since she doesn't have enough to keep her busy, Nkese says she enjoys doing makeup and "just making people look beautiful." She plans on continuing this hobby as a "side job" after she graduates from pharmacy school.

**Zachary Schwartz** grew up in Cedarville. He received his Biology (with a pre-med emphasis) undergraduate degree in 2016 from Arkansas Tech University in Russellville. Zach is currently a second-year medical student. He's a College of Medicine M2 Honors Council Representative in Research. In the summer 2017, he participated in ovarian cancer research. He enjoys spending time outdoors. His favorite activities are canoeing, fishing, hiking and running. This is Zach's second year as an RA.

**Matthew Steele** is a second-year medical student from Bauxite. He is the vice president of the Wilderness Medicine Interest Group and is involved in other outdoor-related groups on campus. Matt enjoys working out, hunting, fishing and playing intramural sports. He loves playing with his two dogs and spending time with his family. He also enjoys playing ping-pong and plans to de-throne a former RA, Levi Ellison, to become the "Master of the Ping-Pong Universe"!



*Our 2017-18 Resident Assistants are (from left to right) Emily Mouser, Mikayla Feemster, Nkese Essien, Zachary Schwartz, Matthew Steele.*

## News from the Center for Health Literacy

The new fiscal year has been a successful period of growth for the Center for Health Literacy (CHL). In September we welcomed Maria Ruvalcaba to the program team as our first program administrator for Spanish health literacy services. Her contribution will allow us to build capacity and better serve the Spanish-speaking population. We also welcomed an intern, Adeline McClenney, from the UALR Department of Applied Communication. She was charged with assisting with management of CHL social media and implementing the plan for Health Literacy Month in October. With her help we are positioned to exceed our annual goal for social media impressions (we are at 30 percent of the annual goal at the end of the first quarter) and had a successful Health Literacy Month.



*Maria Ruvalcaba*

### Health Literacy Month in October

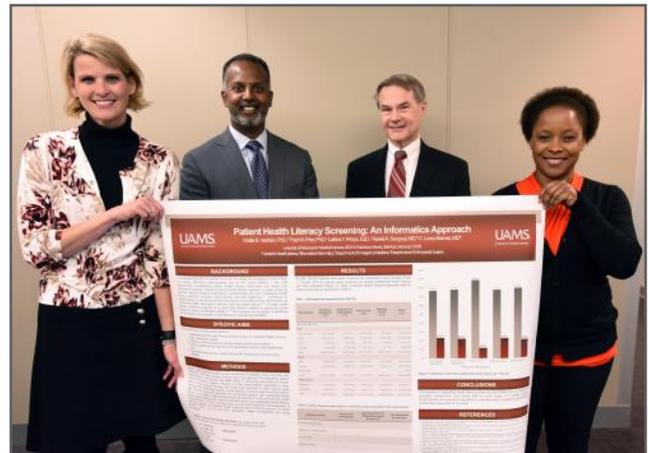
During Health Literacy Month, the Center promoted the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual #PlainPledge Challenge, sponsored by Delta Dental of Arkansas, to promote health literacy and using plain language with patients and consumers. During October more than 1,200 people were exposed to plain language messaging through the #PlainPledge, with more than 300 taking the pledge to not use jargon. In celebration of Health Literacy Month, the Center also hosted its first Twitter Storm, a one-day Twitter campaign to promote the importance of a specific topic, in this case dental health literacy.

Over the last few months, program staff have continued work on funded projects and have also been working with several UAMS departments and initiatives, such as the Cancer Institute, Orthopaedics, Patient- and Family-Centered Care, and the Falls Committee, to assess existing patient education tools and develop new ones. This work has led to over 150 pages of materials being assessed or edited in the first quarter of the fiscal year.

In August, CHL faculty Kristie Hadden and Chris Trudeau delivered health literacy training to all incoming UAMS students (over 700) in the interprofessional education (IPE) Exposure workshops. Trudeau presented a talk on health literacy's impact on public health at the Arkansas Department of Health's Public Health Grand Rounds.

### Best Poster Winner at International Conference

CHL staff also attended the International Conference on Communication in Healthcare and Health Literacy Annual Research Conference held in October in Baltimore. The team presented three posters on recent scholarly work, one of which won Best Poster in Health Literacy. The poster illustrated UAMS' work to screen patients' health literacy at UAMS through the electronic medical record platform Epic.



*From left: Kristie Hadden, Ph.D., Rawle Seupaul, M.D., Fred Prior, Ph.D., and Latrina Prince, Ed.D.*

The CHL program and research teams also submitted several new proposals over the last few months including a new NIH R01 application for more than \$3 million for a five-year research project that integrates health literacy into care for orthopaedic surgery patients at UAMS and University of Nebraska Medical Center.