



Meet OUR Team

The job of enrolling UAMS students and maintaining student records has become more complex over the years with technology, new programs and new policies — but at UAMS you can count on “OUR” team.

Academic Affairs Focus:

Office of the University Registrar

registrar.uams.edu

The [Office of the University Registrar](#) (OUR) is responsible for maintaining the student academic record — including registration, enrollment, transfer credit

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The Office of the University Registrar team includes, from left to right, Linda Stanger, Maryland Avery, Phyllis Lloyd, Gibson Garrett, Clinton Everhart, Nadine Ledet, Nusrat Jahan, Stephen Williams, Charlotte Gass, Pattie Hamilton

Accolades

Friends and colleagues gathered Sept. 27 to celebrate UAMS Library Director **Jan Hart**, MLS, Ed.D., who retired on Nov. 15. She has been a part of the Library staff for nearly 40 years. The UA Board of Trustees recently approved her appointment as Professor Emeritus. Hart, shown at right posing with Provost Stephanie Gardner, holds a plaque with her emeritus appointment proclamation.

Hart joined UAMS in 1980 as the cataloger and then the collection management librarian. Working

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News from Academic Affairs

October/November 2019 Newsletter

News from Academic Affairs is published bimonthly (six times annually) 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.

Stephanie F. Gardner, Pharm.D., Ed.D.
Provost and Chief Strategy Officer

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](#)
- [Center for Patients and Families](#) (on-campus)

Student Services

- [UAMS Library](#)
- [Campus Life and Student Support Services](#)
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Teaching and Learning Support

- [Office of Academic Services](#)
- [Centers for Simulation Education](#)
- [Office of Educational Development](#)

[Arkansas Commission on Child Abuse, Rape and Domestic Violence](#)

[Center for Health Literacy](#)

[Faculty Center](#)

[Office of Continuing Education](#)

Questions? Comments?

Contact the Newsletter Editor, Jon Parham
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Academic Affairs

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A Message from the Provost

The Provost's Book Club started its fourth year recently as we are now reading "[Chasing My Cure](#)," by David Fajgenbaum, M.D., MBA, about his battle with Castleman Disease.



Dr. Stephanie Gardner

Fajgenbaum's newly published book was the perfect choice for our club. Since the book club started in 2016, I have looked for books on topics of education, leadership, personal/professional development and examples of patient-centered care. This book checks most all of the boxes.

I dearly love reading and talking about books with friends and colleagues — so the book club gives me a chance to do just that. I also believe it reinforces the [UAMS Core Values](#).

Another reason this book was a perfect choice is that Fajgenbaum was treated at UAMS by [Fritz van Rhee](#), M.D., Ph.D., who has become one of the world's foremost experts on this rare disease.

In 2016, [van Rhee was awarded](#) the Castleman Disease Warrior Award for Best Physician of the Year by the Castleman Disease Collaborative Network. It was Fajgenbaum, co-founder and executive director of the organization, who presented the award to van Rhee.

"He has been the leader in the field of Castleman Disease for over a decade," Fajgenbaum said at the presentation. "I feel incredibly fortunate to have Dr. van Rhee as my doctor. As a patient, he saved my life three times, and as a fellow medical professional I can say with 100 percent certainty that I have never met or interacted with another physician that was anything like Dr. van Rhee. He is the ultimate care provider and the ultimate doctor."

I am glad to know that Dr. van Rhee is right on this campus, seeing patients and working to improve the treatment of Castleman Disease, multiple myeloma and other cancers and diseases. It was wonderful to read about Dr. Fajgenbaum's journey and care here. I recommend this book wholeheartedly.

I'm always looking for my next book to read. Let me know your suggestions: provost@uams.edu.

Faculty Center

Faculty Center hosts Reception for New UAMS Faculty

The Faculty Center hosted New Faculty Reception on Sept. 24 on the 12th floor of the Jackson T. Stephens Spine Institute.

Faculty from all colleges who received a faculty appointment within the past year were invited to attend along with their spouses and UAMS senior leadership. More than 100 were in attendance with all colleges represented. Chancellor Cam Patterson welcomed the new members of Team UAMS. New faculty members were asked to wear yellow UAMS buttons so that department chairs and senior leadership could introduce themselves and welcome them to team UAMS.



(Above Left) College of Medicine Dean Chris Westfall, M.D., left, visits with new faculty member Srinivasa Gokarakonda, M.D. (Above Right) UAMS Chancellor Cam Patterson, M.D., MBA, welcomes news faculty members at the New Faculty Reception.

Women's Faculty Development Caucus Celebrates 30 Years

The Women's Faculty Development Caucus, supported by the UAMS [Faculty Center](#), is celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2019 with a series of special events.

Faculty Movie night in May drew a sold-out crowd to the Riverdale Movie Theater for "On the Basis of Sex," the biopic about Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. After the movie, faculty members engaged in a lively discussion about gender roles and norms, breaking stereotypes and the struggles of being a woman in a traditionally male-dominated profession. The event was held in partnership with the Office of Interprofessional Education's faculty movie night series.

In September, the group hosted a panel discussion based on the book "Women Don't Ask." The panel included Jeannette Shorey, M.D., Associate Provost for Faculty, Amy Franks, Pharm.D., Department Chair of Pharmacy Practice in the College of Pharmacy and Wendy Nembhard, MPH, Ph.D., Department Chair of Epidemiology in the College of Public Health. The panel was the kick-off event to gauge interest in a leadership series based on several leadership books directed at women. For more information on the series, please contact Fatera Herd in the Faculty Center, (501) 526-5226 or fsherd@uams.edu.

On Nov. 7, there was a poster showcase and reception to celebrate women in research. Wrapping up the schedule will be the WFDC Winter Dinner on Dec. 4. For more information on the caucus, visit <https://faculty.uams.edu/wfdc>.

Provost's Office

UAMS Online Literary Journal — Medicine & Meaning — Seeks Submissions

Medicine & Meaning — A UAMS Online Literary Journal is seeking submissions from faculty, staff and students.

"As part of an academic medical center, we have many creative people and are witness to a variety of deeply moving stories," said Erick Messias, M.D., MPH, Ph.D., dean of faculty affairs in the UAMS College of Medicine. "We wanted to create a venue for these stories and for your creativity. We have put together a broad and representative editorial board, and we look forward to reading your submissions!"

The journal's editors are interested in submissions of fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry, and images – including photographs.

To learn more and visit the Medicine & Meaning's homepage, [click here](#).

ATTENTION
Faculty, Staff, Students!

Now accepting poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, photography and other visual artwork for the UAMS literary journal.

Visit medicine.uams.edu/medicine-meaning for submission guidelines.

The graphic features a red header with the word 'ATTENTION' in large white letters. Below it, the text 'Faculty, Staff, Students!' is written in white. A white box contains the submission information. The background is a colorful, abstract collage with a laptop and hands typing on a keyboard in the lower right corner.

Email submissions and questions to
medicineandmeaning@uams.edu



Student Success Center

New Edition of APA Manual Released

The new, 7th edition of *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* is now available for purchase. Copies are available from Amazon as well as the American Psychological Association (APA). APA offers different formats of the book, including the Ebook, at: <https://apastyle.apa.org/products/publication-manual-7th-edition?tab=4> APA Style also gives an overview of changes and additions to the new edition.

One notable addition is an expansion of student-specific rules and resources. For example, to be APA compliant, student papers are no longer required to have running headers. The *Concise Guide to APA Style, 7th ed.*, is scheduled to be released December 24, 2019 and is now available for preorder.

It is suggested that faculty instruct students to notify the Writing Center which edition of APA they are required to follow when seeking help with papers. Students can indicate this on the online submission form in the "Briefly describe your writing project" dialogue box. The Writing Center will assume that the 7th edition will be adopted universally on campus by the Fall 2020 term.

— Nancy Sessoms, Instructor, Student Success Center Writing Center

Centers for Simulation Education

Standardized Patient Profile

Name: Rachel Arrington

How long you have been an SP? 6-7 years

Tell us about your career/life other than the SP work that you do.

I retired from teaching after 33 years and I live in Bryant. I have always been active in my community serving in clubs, organizations, sororities and I manage a swimming pool in the summer. I am married to a disabled, Purple Heart Marine and we have four children and seven grandchildren with one more on the way in December.

What is your favorite thing about being an SP?

My favorite thing about being an SP is working with the students and I feel like I am making a difference still being a teacher.

What is your least favorite thing about being an SP?

I least enjoy being a BACKUP. You still have to be trained, you practice, you have a dry run and then don't get to do it.

What is your biggest reward about being an SP?

My reward comes from knowing I am part of the process of making good health care professionals.



Rachel Arrington

“Once during feedback, I told my student that he really needed to work on his professional appearance, that his long, unwashed and unkempt hair was a distraction.

“Years later he saw me in an elevator at the VA hospital, and said, ‘YOU!’ Everyone turned to look at me. He then said, ‘Because of you, I cut my hair.’ Then he added, ‘Thanks, I did not know I was perceived that way’ then he hugged me.”

- Rachel Arrington
UAMS Standardized Patient

What have you learned about being a patient because of the work you do?

I now know what to look for in a doctor. I have learned that it is important to carry a written medications list and medical history with you. It also helps to have someone with you to take notes, ask questions, or just be an advocate.

(Find out more about the Standardized Patient program in the Centers for Simulation Education at <https://medicalsims.uams.edu/standardized-patients/>.)

Center for Health Literacy

CHL Service Offerings Include Resources for Researchers

The UAMS Center for Health Literacy is available, through partnership with the Translational Research Institute (TRI), to help UAMS research teams make information easy for research participants to understand and use.

When potential participants understand study information it lowers barriers to join studies and empowers truly informed decision-making and consent.

Resources available to UAMS researchers at no departmental cost include:

- **Informed consent template.** This is written in plain language and was recently updated to include new requirements from the Revised Common Rule released in January 2019. Download the template at <https://healthliteracy.uams.edu/health-literacy-research/resources/>.
- **Assessment and editing of research materials.** The plain language writing team at CHL can review your informed consent documents, recruitment ads, surveys, and other participant-facing materials. Please upload your documents to www.plainpages.org.
- **Tip sheet on presenting to lay audiences using plain language.** This sheet offers researchers simple strategies researchers can use to make oral presentations easier for lay audiences to understand. Download the sheet at <https://healthliteracy.uams.edu/health-literacy-research/resources/>.

In addition, the CHL team is skilled at developing new materials, field testing written materials, translating materials into Spanish. If you would like information about including these services in your next funding proposal and budget, contact us at healthliteracy@uams.edu.



Accolades

Continued from Page 1

with colleagues in the 1980s, she helped secure funding to implement the first automated library system in the state. Through the years, Hart has led almost every department within the Library, always stepping in when needed.

Kathryn Neill, Pharm.D., associate provost in Academic Affairs and co-director of the Office of Interprofessional Education, and **Michael Anders, Ph.D.**, of the Office of Educational Development, are among the coauthors of a peer-reviewed publication, *The Syphilis Testing Result Interprofessional Counseling and Education (STRICE) Simulation*. The manuscript reported the results of a project funded by an Office of Interprofessional Education grant. Other authors include Mari Davidson, Ph.D., of the Graduate School, Amber Teigen, PA-C, Cherika Robertson, MEd, MLS, and Lindsey Gilbert, M.Ed., MLS, of the College of Health Professions. The first author is Leticia Nuñez-Arogote, M.P.H., MLS, of the University of Kansas Medical Center.

Michael Anders, Ph.D., of the Office of Educational Development, is a coauthor of a peer-reviewed publication, *Community-engaged Development, Implementation, and Evaluation of an Interprofessional Education Activity on Gender-affirming Care*. This manuscript, too, reported the results of a project funded by an Office of Interprofessional Education grant. The first author is Kathryn Allison, Ph.D., of the College of Public Health. Other coauthors are Alexandra Marshall, Ph.D., Taylor Neher, M.P.H., and Kate Stewart, Ph.D., of the College of Public Health as well as Gray Stewart and Dani Archie, Ph.D., of the Arkansas Transgender Equality Coalition.

Office of Educational Development

OED eLearning

Interprofessional Education and Educational Development Collaboration

The Office of Interprofessional Education (OIPE) and the Office of Educational Development (OED) recently teamed up to develop an innovative way for online students to participate in live IPE activities.

OIPE Program Administrator Misty Besancon, B.A., reports that OIPE offers a variety of events that fulfill the Immersion Simulation activity requirement, including a Mock Trial and monthly Error Disclosure Simulations. In an effort to include online students who need this activity, OIPE reached out to OED

eLearning Instructor, Janay White, M.A., to develop an effective way to use Blackboard Collaborate Ultra to connect online students to the live events as they are happening.

The **monthly Error Disclosure Simulations** take place on the UAMS campus in the Simulation Center at 3:00 p.m. and 4:15 p.m. OIPE wanted to use a system that the online students were familiar with and could easily access from home so **using Blackboard Collaborate** was the best option. Online students could participate real-time during the orientation and debriefing of the simulation with the students in the SIM Center, and participated as directed observers during the patient encounter.

It was determined that **utilizing the Breakout Group tool within the Blackboard Collaborate Ultra** session would be best way to move students from the large group interaction to the individual rooms, and then back to the large group again to participate. After **extensive** testing over the summer, OED, OIPE and the Simulation Center were able to successfully pilot the first distant connection to an Error Disclosure Simulation using Blackboard Collaborate Ultra on August 22nd.

After the success of the distant connection for the Error Disclosure Simulation, the same techniques were used for the Mock Trial, held on October 3rd at the Friday Courtroom at the UALR Bowen School of Law. OIPE teams up with the Law School for the simulation of a medical malpractice trial, where students participated as members of interprofessional juries as the trial unfolded. The student juries listened to all sides before rendering their verdict of "liable" or "not liable." With the use of Blackboard Collaborate and the Breakout Groups tool, 22 online students were able to watch the trial from home, breakout into two juries, and report their verdict to the live audience.

OED eLearning Lunchtime Brownbag Sessions

The OED eLearning team announces a change in the November-December lunchtime Brownbag sessions. Two topics will be offered:

**Copy Spring 2020 Course Materials
End of Semester Tasks**

**Nov 21 & 22 Noon – 12:50 p.m.
Dec 3, Dec 5, Dec 6 Noon – 12:50 p.m.**

All trainings will be held in Shorey 8/16 with laptops provided. The trainings hands-on and limited to 10 seats. Please RSVP to [Martha Carle](#) to reserve a seat or receive a Collaborate guest link to join from any computer.



This break in the weekly topics will allow the eLearning team to test new connectivity and integrations within the Blackboard products. In addition, the eLearning team will be involved with testing the GUS (Student Information System) upgrade.

OED eLearning will continue to answer Blackboard and other eLearning tools questions through BlackboardHelp@uams.edu. In addition, specific tool training may be requested one-on-one or small groups. Topics for training include: Grade Center Tips; SafeAssign; Course Analytics; Testing Tips in Blackboard; Respondus Lockdown Browser; Respondus Monitor; Attendance tool; Softchalk; Monitoring Students in Blackboard; and Collaborate Ultra.

Office of Educational Development

OED eLearning Blog

The eLearning Team in the office of Educational Development has been posting current tips, to help faculty in their Blackboard needs for preparing courses, using tools, making reports, analyzing data.

Here are some of the current topics and announcements:

- **Adobe Flash Player End of Life, Test Your Course Content** by Jake Martar, M.Ed.
- **Manage the Blackboard Grade Center** by Cristina Gamalie, M.S.E., M.S.
- **Collaborate Ultra Offers New Interactive Tools** by Janay White, M.A.

Visit the [OED eLearning Blog](#) here to learn more.

OED Educators Academy

Educators Academy Fall Teaching Workshops

Visit recorded sessions online through Blackboard — Self-enroll in the Educators Academy Community Page and under *Content* you will find the recordings and materials for *Evidence-based Teaching, Active Strategies, How Do I Design a Class?, Multiple Choice Exams*, and more.

Coming Soon

The annual **Chancellor's Teaching Award** and the **Educators Academy Grants** opportunities for faculty are coming soon.

The UAMS Chancellor's Teaching Award Program was established in 2004 to recognize excellence in teaching among faculty in all five colleges and the Graduate School. The program includes two awards: **Teaching Excellence** and **Society and Health Education Excellence**. Faculty who have been on campus for at least five years can self-nominate or be nominated by someone else. The recipient in each category will receive a plaque and a \$10,000 award. More information about the requirements and the application deadlines will be announced soon.

The Educators Academy Grant program will be announced in the spring to foster educational innovation and scholarship at UAMS and to promote faculty development regarding teaching and learning. The Academy encourages projects that respond to trends in education, such as active learning, educational technology, and interprofessional teaching. Three awards of up to \$2,500 each will be offered. For more information, contact the [Educators Academy](#).

Office of Educational Development

Submissions Now Accepted for 2020 Teach the Teacher Symposium

The UAMS Educators Academy and the College of Medicine's annual Teach the Teacher Symposium will be held on Friday, February 28, 2020 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the I. Dodd Wilson building.

We are looking for posters that highlight teaching, learning, educational innovations and educational scholarship.

All UAMS faculty members are invited to submit proposals for consideration. Proposals will be peer reviewed and accepted based on space and adherence to criteria. Preparation of presentation materials are the responsibility of the presenters.

To submit poster proposals, send the information requested below via email to edacad@uams.edu no later than **5:00 p.m., Monday, November 25, 2019**.

Please be sure to include the review criteria listed below. First authors will be notified of acceptance via email no later than **Friday, December 13, 2019**. If you have any questions or wish to discuss possible presentations please email edacad@uams.edu or call 501.686.5720.

Posters are intended to allow UAMS faculty to share educational scholarship activities with colleagues. Presenters should converse with attendees and answer questions on their scholarship project during the networking lunch (time TBD) for approximately one hour. Presenters are required to be present at their board during that time. Most posters will be displayed in print; a limited number displayed electronically.

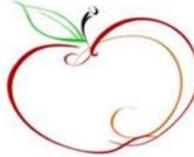
Required Poster Proposal Information and Review Criteria:

- Title (10-word limit)
- Author(s)
- Primary author email
- One learning objective
- Abstract (350 word max) that includes the following items:
 - Objective/Scope/How the work benefits the UAMS educational enterprise
 - Methods/Procedures/Process
 - Results/Outcomes
 - Conclusions/Next steps

Agreement to participate (Receipt from first author's email address constitutes her/his agreement.) The first author confirms that each collaborator listed above has contributed sufficiently to the work for inclusion as a co-presenter and has approved this proposal submission. We would appreciate participation of all presenters for the Teach the Teacher Symposium if the proposal is accepted.

Send the submission via email to edacad@uams.edu no later than 5:00 p.m., Monday, November 25, 2019.

Save the Date



UAMS College of Medicine, UAMS Educators Academy & The Arkansas Medical Society presents

11th Annual Teach the Teacher Symposium

“Promoting Growth in Teaching and Learning”

Friday, February 28, 2020
8:30 am—3:00 pm
IDW 115 A/B

You are invited to attend this free Educator's workshop hosted by the COM Academic Affairs Office and Office of Educational Development.



Contact Jennifer VanEcko to register now, vaneckojennifer@uams.edu or 501.686.5800

Funding for this conference is provided by a MEFFA grant, the Educators Academy, and the Arkansas Medical Society

Campus Life and Student Support Services

Associated Student Government

The Associated Student Government (ASG) hosted its annual Halloween party at Next Level Events on Oct. 25. Each year ASG unites all UAMS students to provide refreshments, entertainment and a much-needed dance off to relieve stress.

This year the UAMS ASG officers and representatives collected winter gear at the event as a fall community service project. Items such as hats, scarves and socks were collected and donated to Union Rescue Mission Dorcas House.

This organization donates year round to those in need throughout the community. UAMS students were proud to include this cause with their event and look forward to adding more humanitarian opportunities in the future.

For more information about ASG please visit <http://studentlife.uams.edu/student-life/asg>.



Special thanks to our student leadership team. From left to right: Cody Timmerman, ASG president; Christian Gonzalez, guest; Allison Schneider, ASG secretary; Madison Shaw, COM representative.

Residence Hall

Meet the RAs

Campus Life is fortunate to have five student employees working in the Office of Student Housing. These five Resident Assistants (RAs) work in the office after regular office hours.

Keyana Foreman is a first-year nursing student who grew up in Fayetteville. She earned a bachelor's degree in Public Health from UA-Fayetteville. She has a passion for music and dancing. In her spare time (when she has some), she is teaching herself to play the acoustic guitar and also binge-reads novels. She is a member of the Student Nurse Association at UAMS. She says that she is "super excited to have the opportunity to attend nursing school at UAMS."



Residence Hall RAs for 2019-2020 include, from left to right, Paige Jones (COM); Ansley Scott (COM); Keyana Foreman (CON); Jasmine McKissick (COM); Kennedy Richard (COP).

Kennedy Richard is a third-year pharmacy student from Camden. She is involved in on-campus clubs such as the National Community Pharmacist Association and American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists. She works as a pharmacy intern at an independent compounding pharmacy, and hopes to one day own her own independent pharmacy after she graduates. When she isn't studying, in class or working, you can find her curled up with a good book or binge watching Disney movies.

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Campus Life and Student Support Services

RA Community Service

It is a "We Appreciate You" special delivery to the Little Rock Fire Department Fire Station #1 from the UAMS Residence Hall students and staff.

What could be nicer than to wake up one morning to have surprise breakfast treats hand delivered with a smile! Resident assistants Paige Jones and Jasmine Mckissick were the RH "breakfast elves" to honor the first responders with a sincere thank you to show our appreciation to our LRFD neighbors!

Firefighters from the Little Rock Fire Department Station #1, located next to the UAMS campus, pose for a photo with Residence Hall RAs Paige Jones and Jasmine Mckissick)



Meet the RAs

Continued from Page 10

Jasmine Mckissick is in her third-year in the College of Medicine/Masters of Public Health Program at UAMS. She's from Wheatley and earned her Bachelor of Science degree from the UA-Little Rock. In her free time, she enjoys reading, shopping, volunteering and spending time with family and friends. Jasmine loves giving back to the community and believes that we all can play a small role in helping and healing one another.

Paige Jones is a native of Memphis, Tennessee. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology with a minor in Chemistry at Xavier University in New Orleans, Louisiana. Paige is pursuing her medical degree. When she's not studying or serving, Paige enjoys dancing, watching anime and trying new restaurants. She is co-author of the Brown Girl's Guide series and a founder of the Cooperative, LLC. After graduation, Paige hopes to match into an emergency medicine residency.

Ansley Scott is a Mississippi native enrolled in College of Medicine/Masters of Public Health program at UAMS. She earned her bachelor's degree in Biology from Tougaloo College in Tougaloo, Mississippi and her graduate degree in Biology from Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi. Ansley enjoys spending time with her nieces and goddaughter, binge reading, DIY projects and volunteering. She is a member of the Student National Medical Association and the Student Club on Pathology Exposure. Post-graduation from medical school, Ansley plans to complete a residency in Pathology and further pursue her interests in Public Health.

Campus Life and Student Support Services



Student Center

This semester was the first time that *Local Grounds Café* catered our Breakfast @ the Center. Our students devoured the grab-and-go breakfast treats, coffee, and juice.

This was a delightful way to welcome the students and continuing an early morning tradition that Campus Life and Student Support Services provides each semester.

A group of dental hygiene students enjoy a recent Breakfast at the Center.



Intramural Sports

Our fast-paced flag football teams worked toward the coveted championship on Oct. 27. A team of College of Medicine students, The Goblins (above), emerged as the 2019 Flag Football Champions.

The next Intramural sport for the students, bowling, started its season in November.

OUR Team

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evaluation and degree completion audits for current students, graduation, transcripts, enrollment verification, Veterans student services and historical student records. The office also oversees the university's academic catalog and plays a central role in managing the GUS student information system. In addition to that, the office provides academic data in conjunction with the Department of Institutional Research, Policy and Accreditation and serves as the compliance office for the student privacy policy ([FERPA](#)).

"With so many changes over the last few years stemming not only from the centralization of the office in 2014 to the implementation of the GUS student information system, many of our business processes have evolved," said Clinton Everhart, Ed.D., university registrar and assistant provost for enrollment services. "The changes have been positive and we are always ready to be a resource for our faculty and students."

The registrar's office is the primary component of enrollment services and records maintenance at UAMS with a staff of 10. Prior to centralization, each college had its registrars and maintained their own student records. Now four registrars along with an associate university registrar coordinate the enrollment process for the OUR team. In addition, the office has three functional-technical staff members who are primarily responsible for GUS admissions, records, transfer credit and advising modules, as well as reporting and data. Administratively, the office has a department operations manager and is led by the university registrar and assistant provost for enrollment services.

The OUR ensures students complete requirements and graduate according to their academic plans, all within a comprehensive student information system that ensures transparency, accuracy and efficiency of operation. In addition, the OUR provides critical support to other departments in its role as custodian of records, ensuring institutional compliance with FERPA, privacy and records retention policies. In addition, in the five years since the OUR's creation, the office has led efforts to build consistency in student service processes across colleges, reducing confusion and helping to bring the institution into line with accreditation, Arkansas Department of Higher Education and UA System policies, Everhart said. The centralized OUR celebrated its fifth birthday

"With so many changes over the last few years stemming not only from the centralization of our office in 2014 to the implementation of the GUS student information system, many of our business processes have evolved.

"The changes have been positive and we are always ready to be a resource for our faculty and students."

*- Clinton Everhart, Ed.D.
University Registrar and
Assistant Provost for Enrollment Services*

on Oct. 1. Everhart acknowledged it has taken some time to acquaint all corners of the campus with the various roles the office plays and many ways it supports the academic mission.

"We continue to cultivate relationships with all of the academic units," he said. "It has taken time to develop an identity and our capabilities.

"With that said, we still have work to do and always will seek opportunities to improve and collaborate more effectively with our colleagues."

He noted the department recently held a strategic planning retreat, setting goals that included: expanded use of technology such as document imaging systems and course catalog software; increased outreach to campus partners; improved training for GUS and other student records processes; and improved policies and procedures that enhance business processes not only for students but also faculty and staff (in areas such as Leave of Absence and Grading policies).

Find the OUR online at registrar.uams.edu, where there are quick links to forms, registration and transcript information, resources for graduation and FERPA as well as access to GUS. You can also visit the OUR in building 2 of the CHP complex, directly west of the Administration West building.