

## **Sim Center Earns First-Ever Education Accreditation by ACS**

The Centers for Simulation Education received notice June 24 that it was accredited as a Focused- Accredited Education Institute (AEI) by the American College of Surgeons (ACS). This is a first for the center, which becomes the only accredited institute in Arkansas.



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS • DIVISION OF EDUCATION  
**ACCREDITED EDUCATION INSTITUTES**  
ENHANCING PATIENT SAFETY THROUGH SIMULATION

“This accreditation is important to our program as it is a peer-reviewed validation of our processes and delivery of simulation education,” said Travis Hill, M.Ed., executive director of the Centers for Simulation Education. “The process allowed us to review and improve existing processes in order to align with recognized best practices.”

Launched by the ACS Division of Education in 2005, the ACS-AEI Program continues to set standards for simulation-based surgical education and training. The five-year accreditation was based on meeting requirements for learners, space, facilities and personnel, in an accreditation process that includes an application and a site visit.

There are two levels of accreditation, Comprehensive and Focused, each with specific requirements. The level of accreditation status differs based, in part, on the focus of the educational program, the learners served, the

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## **Office of Educational Development**

### **OED Educators Academy Awards 2022 Educational Innovation Grants**

The Office of Educational Development-Educators Academy recently awarded its annual Educational Innovation Grants.

The Educational Innovation Grants foster educational scholarship at UAMS and promote faculty development for teaching and learning. These grants encourage innovations to improve educational outcomes. Projects have focused on enhancing existing courses or developing new ones, developing new modes of instruction, evaluating instruction or assessing curricular needs. OED supports projects that respond to trends in education, such as active learning, educational technology, and interprofessional teaching.

The recipients of the 2022 OED Educational Innovation Grants are:

- **Jennifer Naylor, Ph.D.**, director of educational research for the Baptist Health-UAMS Graduate Medical Education Program, *Teaching Quality Improvement in a Community-Based Family Medicine Residency Program*
- **Hakan Paydak, M.D.**, professor, College of Medicine, PI, and **Dinesh Voruganti, M.D., M.S.**, PGY-5, Fellow, Co-I, *The EKG Guys*
- **Ruth Ross, PT, DPT**, assistant professor, College of Health Professions, PI, and **Angel Holland, PT, DPT, Ed.D.**, and **Heather Vaughn, PT, DPT**, Co-Is, *The Use of Yoga to Address Self-Compassion and Foster Empathy in First-Year Physical Therapy Students*
- **Claire Tucker, Ed.D., RDH**, associate professor, College of Health Professions, PI, and **Brittany Rose, BS, RDH** and **Michael Anders, PhD**, Co-Is, *Emotional Intelligence Professional Development for Dental Hygiene Faculty*

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## News from Academic Affairs

July 2022 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.**  
Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
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](#)
- [Educational and Student Success Center](#)

#### Teaching and Learning Support

- [Office of Academic Services](#)
- [Centers for Simulation Education](#)
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[Center for Health Literacy](#)

[Center for Faculty Excellence](#)

[Office of Continuing Education](#)

Office of Strategy Management

#### Questions? Comments?

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

**Academic Affairs**

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## A Message from the Provost

UAMS received great news at the end of June that our Centers for Simulation Education achieved five-year accreditation as a Focused-Accredited Institute by the American College of Surgeons. This is a first-time accreditation for our center and for a simulation program in Arkansas.



*Dr. Stephanie Gardner*

Our simulation education programs — including our Clinical Skills Center, standardized patient program and simulation centers on both our main and Northwest campuses — have long been a point of pride and strength within our academic enterprise. Using advanced educational technology in the form of medical manikins, partial simulated body parts or even virtual reality, our Sim Center is able to offer our learners simulations of real-life experiences and medical procedures in a safe, controlled learning environment and supports our interprofessional education activities. In addition, the program provides simulation education to health professions education programs at other colleges and universities statewide. The Sim Center also offers continuing education for health professionals at UAMS as well as for providers across Arkansas.

We remain on the cutting edge of simulation technology while expanding our education offerings. This can be seen in the second Centers for Simulation Education Research Day that is scheduled for this fall, offering a chance for our talented faculty and staff to demonstrate how simulation education is optimizing patient care and improving outcomes.

Congratulations to our entire Simulation Education team for working to achieve the ACS AEI accreditation. This includes Travis Hill, the executive director for the Centers for Simulation Education as well as Karen Dickinson, MBBS, M.Ed., who arrived in 2020 and serves as the director for Interprofessional Simulation and Clinical Skills Training in the Office of Interprofessional Education and also holds a faculty appointment as an assistant professor in the College of Medicine Department of Surgery.

Thanks to you all and keep up the great work!

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## **Center for Faculty Excellence**

### **UAMS-UA Team up on Executive Healthcare Leadership Program**

In a collaboration between the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville's Walton School of Business and UAMS, the Center for Faculty Excellence announced a new **Executive Healthcare Leadership program created just for UAMS faculty**.

This is a one-year, monthly leadership training for UAMS faculty in their 4<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> year of their career. A list of dates, topics, and learning objectives can be found at [faculty.uams.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/16/2022/07/UAMS-EHLI-Program-Schedule-2022-2023.pdf](https://faculty.uams.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/16/2022/07/UAMS-EHLI-Program-Schedule-2022-2023.pdf). The program will begin in September 2022. Space is limited to 20-25 and applications will be competitive.

The selection process will include priority toward diversifying the cohort in terms of affiliated college/department, role (clinician/researcher/educator), race/ethnicity, gender, and other characteristics and/or those applicants with a clear commitment to diversity, equity, and/or inclusion in their UAMS work and future goals. Faculty may nominate themselves or others for participation. Protected time to attend monthly sessions will need to be approved by the faculty member's department chair, so consent will be automatically requested for each applicant when their application is submitted. Funding will be supported by the applicant's College and/or other internal funding.

Please note that the location for this program is at Walton College's Little Rock location (119 Main Street, Little Rock, 72201—on the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> and Main). If you are a faculty member not located in Central Arkansas but want to attend please email Associate Provost for Faculty Wendy Ward at [wward@uams.edu](mailto:wward@uams.edu) to express interest.

The application can be found at [faculty.uams.edu/resources/development/application-form-for-the-executive-healthcare-leadership-institute](https://faculty.uams.edu/resources/development/application-form-for-the-executive-healthcare-leadership-institute). All application materials are **due by Monday, Aug. 8 at 5 p.m.** Please direct questions to [wward@uams.edu](mailto:wward@uams.edu).

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### **Division of Academic Affairs' Faculty of the Year Award Created**

The UAMS Academic Affairs Faculty of the Year Award has been established to recognize excellence in Academic Affairs. Given that this is a diverse field and the faculty serve the institution in diverse ways, the criteria involve a spectrum of activities. The first award will be presented in 2023.

**Evaluation Criteria:** UAMS faculty member with an appointment in Academic Affairs who has displayed outstanding contributions in one or more of the following:

- Educational Innovation
- Collaborative Leadership
- Advocacy
- Teaching/Learning Scholarship
- Clinical Innovation
- Quality and/or Performance Improvement (implementation of tools and processes to improve outcomes) Faculty, Staff or Trainee Recognition
- Exemplary Performance (on recognized outcome measures in their field or department)

#### **Eligibility**

Faculty may apply or may be nominated by another faculty member. Nominees must be at least 50% FTE as Academic Affairs faculty. Nominators must be UAMS Academic Affairs faculty, emeriti, students, or employees. An individual who has previously received this award is ineligible for a period of three years.

#### **Award Process**

The Academic Affairs Promotion Committee will serve as the Award Review Committee. The Committee will select no more than three finalists and vote on a ranking of those finalists to be provided to the Provost. The Provost will consider the application materials and the ranking recommendations and will make the final selection of the award recipient. During the Spring Academic Affairs meeting, the recipient will be recognized.

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## **Centers for Simulation Education**

### **Standardized Patient Profile**

**Name:** Ron Jones

**How long you have been an SP?** 5 years

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

I retired from Pulaski County as the delinquent tax collector for the treasurer/collector. I currently enjoy keeping up with a multitude of grown children and grandkids, listening to all types of eclectic music, consuming books along with movies and documentaries. My wife, Dana and I are involved with our church and busy maintaining a house and all that goes along with that. We also work part-time for the Little Rock Convention and Visitor's Bureau as ambassadors, ushers and ticket takers for Robinson Performance Center and the Statehouse Convention Center.

**What is your favorite thing about being an SP?**

- (1) Helping learners and being a part of their educational journey through pharmacy or medical school.
- (2) The act of portraying a variety of patients with all sorts of medical problems
- (3) Always enjoyable being someone else other than myself for a few hours

**What is your least favorite thing about being an SP?**

Being anxious before the first student enters the room making sure that I'm totally focused on the case

**What is your biggest reward about being an SP?**

- (1) Seeing and hearing the learner achieve their task successfully
- (2) When the learner thanks me for being part of the encounter
- (3) The money is always useful

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

- (1) Be concise with your answers to the learner's questions ("just the facts")
- (2) I'm able to know what my doctors should ask me on my visits
- (3) I'm learning a lot of medical terms, procedures and drugs

**Anything else you want to share about your experiences as a Standardized Patient?**

The most interesting thing that has happened to me was when participating in an ultrasound session, the doctor in my room instructing learners discovered a tumor in my bladder that was cancerous. I had no symptoms and without the scan, I would have never known it was there until much later and larger. Within six weeks, I had surgery for the removal of the tumor and I'm now cancer free. I'm being monitored every three months. When I told my PCP and my urologist how it was discovered they were astonished and still joke about the discovery.

Find out more about the UAMS Standardized Patient program at [medicalsims.uams.edu/standardized-patients](http://medicalsims.uams.edu/standardized-patients).



*Ron Jones*

### **Academic Affairs Faculty Award**

*Continued from Page 3*

#### **Nominations and Applications**

Faculty may apply or may be nominated by another faculty member. Nominees and nominators must be Academic Affairs faculty members, emeriti, students, or employees of UAMS. The nominator or applicant must fill out an Academic Affairs Award Application Form (which will be available when the application period begins), provide a Curriculum Vitae, and provide one support letter (maximum of two pages) which addresses the candidate's outstanding contributions in one or more of the areas noted above. The letter should be written by someone thoroughly familiar with this person's contributions. Additional letters will not be reviewed. Additional supporting documentation may be included if it is directly supporting the determination of excellence (reviews, ratings, publications, other awards or honors, links to online materials and other evidence to support the accomplishments noted in the application, etc.). Supporting documentation should be as concise as possible.

**Application packets are due Monday, Jan 16, 2023 by 5 p.m.**



**Centers for Simulation Education**

ANNOUNCING THE SECOND  
**UAMS CENTERS  
FOR SIMULATION  
EDUCATION  
RESEARCH DAY!**



**THEME:**

**Simulation and Outcomes: Utilizing  
Simulation to Optimize Patient Care**

Directors: Dr. Karen Dickinson, Travis Hill

**November 1, 2022 8 am - 12 noon**

Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences  
Institute, Fred W. Smith Conference Center,  
12th floor (*virtual options available*)

**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS:**

Please submit your work on  
any simulation education topic.

**Deadline is midnight, September 5, 2022.**



**Featuring world  
renowned simulation expert  
Dr. Juli C Maxworthy, DNP,  
PhD(c), MSN, MBA, RN, CNL,  
CPHQ, CPPS, CHSE, FNAP, FSSH**

[Link to abstract submission portal:](#)

[JULI MAXWORTHY BIO](#)

[CLICK HERE](#)



## Center for Health Literacy

### Center for Health Literacy to Host Workshop: Applied Plain Language for Research

The Center for Health Literacy will team up with the Translational Research Institute to host a two-part virtual workshop in October to boost plain language skills in researchers.

If you would like to learn practical skills to improve your communication with research participants, this workshop is for you. Clear and effective communication is critical across all phases of a research study, from your initial promotion of the study, through recruitment and consent, during on-study activities, and in your dissemination of findings. In this two-part workshop, you will gain valuable tools to assess your communications, both written and verbal. You will learn and practice nuanced plain language writing and speaking techniques that will help you connect with those you hope to engage.

Participants in previous workshops said:

“What our group learned in CHL’s Applied Plain Language for Research workshop far surpassed my expectations. As regulatory specialists and clinical research nurses, we had a firm grip on making sure we communicated the right information to support regulatory and ethical needs, but this workshop gave us the practical skills we needed to make that information clear. This is a game-changer in our commitment to promoting equity in clinical research.”

“This has been one of the most useful trainings I have attended thus far in my career! I was able to take away concrete knowledge that I can apply to my job.”

The two-part workshop will be held on Oct. 13 and 27, from 9 a.m. until noon, via Zoom. Please email [SMRice@uams.edu](mailto:SMRice@uams.edu) to register.

## Office of Educational Development

### OED eLearning News

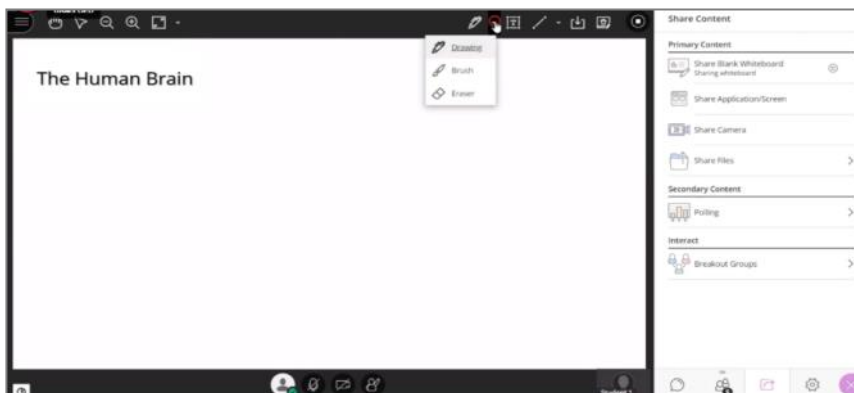
#### *New Feature: Blackboard Name Pronunciations*

Blackboard has introduced a new feature that allows users to share their name pronunciation.



Once correctly set up, users can view and listen to your name pronunciation by clicking on your profile picture. Please see our [feature announcement and video](#) to learn more.

### Featured Video: Collaborate Whiteboard Activities



Rhonda Wakelyn recently created a video introduction to the Collaborate Whiteboard.

If you’re interested in this Collaborate feature, please [watch the video](#).

You can find more videos and step-by-steps on our [Blackboard How-to page](#).

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## **Office of Educational Development**

### **Featured Sessions Teaser**

The eLearning team is preparing two special sessions on best practices.

- Cristina Gamalie will present **Best Practices with Discussion Boards** on Aug. 11 at noon.
- Rhonda Wakelyn will present **Best Practices on Conducting a Successful Webinar** on Aug. 24 at noon.

If you are interested in either of these topics, please contact us through [BlackboardHelp@uams.edu](mailto:BlackboardHelp@uams.edu).



### ***Investigating Ultra***

For the last two years, eLearning has closely monitored the progress of Learn Ultra, Blackboard's latest course experience. We noticed that Blackboard has put a lot of investment and resources behind the Learn Ultra Experience over the last several months.

eLearning will continue to attend weekly meetings with Blackboard and other higher education institutions to receive updates on Learn Ultra's progress.

UAMS will likely need to adopt Learn Ultra in the future. Adoption will happen when all of the required features are in place and support for the Original Experience ends.

To get a sneak peek of this new experience, please watch this short [Ultra Overview Video](#).

### **Upcoming eLearning Training Sessions**

Please see our [eLearning Training Sessions page](#) for a complete list of scheduled sessions. If you need training for another Blackboard tool or topic, please send your request to [BlackboardHelp@uams.edu](mailto:BlackboardHelp@uams.edu). Comprehensive training sessions are also available by request. We can accommodate individual and group training.

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### **Accreditation**

*Continued from Page 1*

curriculum offered, and the technological support and resources available. Following an accreditation visit to the Little Rock simulation center, the UAMS Centers for Simulation Education is now a Focused AEI, providing a focused program that educates at least one learner group, offers educational programs that are often focused in one particular area and has the resources and physical space necessary to conduct its educational activities.

"Accreditation is important for UAMS in recruitment and retention of students, educators and employees who are interested in simulation training as an integral aspect of their career," Hill said. "It further serves to set our program apart as we work with our external partners across Arkansas. I'm very proud of the hard work and excellence that our team as been recognized for in this designation."

Established by the American College of Surgeons' Division of Education, with approval from the Board of Regents, the AEI Consortium accredited its first institutes in 2006. Today the Consortium is a network of 89 Comprehensive and 11 Focused ACS-AEIs.



## **Accolades**

### **Sterba Elected President of Graduate Enrollment Association**

Kristen Sterba, Ph.D., associate provost for students and administration and director for institutional research, policy and accreditation in the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Office of Academic Affairs, was recently elected president of NAGAP, The Association for Graduate Enrollment Management. Sterba, who previously served as vice president, has begun serving as president. Her term lasts through April 2024.

### **Hu Presents at AERA Annual Meeting**

**Helen Hu**, Ph.D., director of the **Educational and Student Success Center**, recently presented a paper entitled "Algebra Connecting Concepts: A Professional Development to Facilitate Equity Using Integrated STEM Problem-based Learning," with her former colleagues at UCA, Drs. Uma Garimella and Donna Wake, at the 2022 American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA on April 22.

## **Division of Academic Affairs News**

### **Annichiarico Joins Library**



*Caraline Annichiarico*

Join the UAMS Library in welcoming our new Academic Health Sciences Librarian, **Caraline Annichiarico**, MA, MLIS.

She earned a master's degree in Library and Information Science from the University of South Carolina, as well as a master's degree in Arts in Dance Education from New York University. She comes to UAMS from The University of South Carolina in Columbia, S.C.

Fun fact: Caraline is a 3rd generation protégé of Joseph H. Pilates and continues to train regularly on her Pilates equipment.

### **Clement Joins Office of Continuing Education**



*Kimberly Clement*

**Kimberly Clement** recently joined the Office of Continuing Education as an Education Program Manager.

She has a BA in Communications from Mississippi State University and is currently working on her master's in Organizational and Industrial Psychology at Arkansas Tech University.

With over 17 years of Continuing Education experience, Clement is excited to be back at UAMS. Her previous experience includes not only CE, but also community and economic development. Living in Hot Springs with her two children and dog, Clement enjoys life at the lake and spends most of her free time on the water.



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## **Division of Academic Affairs News**

### **Kronenberger Joins Sim Team in NWA**



*Jonah Kronenberger*

**Jonah Kronenberger** is the newest member of the UAMS Northwest simulation team. He comes to UAMS from the University of Arkansas Eleanor Mann School of Nursing where he served as a simulation operations specialist since 2010. He specializes in high-fidelity simulators, case design, task-trainers and audio-visual systems.

Kronenberger got his start in simulation while working in IT at the University of Arkansas. In 2007 they purchased their first patient simulators, an iStan and a MetiMan, and needed someone to help operate them. He quickly became more involved in the simulation program and eventually transitioned to a full-time sim ops position.

In addition to technology, he enjoys working on cars and spending time outdoors camping and hiking.

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### **Special Issue of UAMS Online Literary Journal Now Available**

A special summer issue of the UAMS literary journal, *Medicine and Meaning*, is now available at [medicineandmeaning.uams.edu](http://medicineandmeaning.uams.edu).

Read the special issue now at [medicineandmeaning.uams.edu/issues/mehta-awards-2022](http://medicineandmeaning.uams.edu/issues/mehta-awards-2022). This supplement features the winners of the Mehta Creative Writing Contest 2021-2022, presented in May. Also included are the works of the three first-place winners: a poem by Samuel Byrd (*Life Outside the Cell*), a fiction short story by Dr. Steven Nix (*Feeding Animals*), and a nonfiction story by Dr. Elizabeth Hanson (*The Window*). The issue also include the work of the honorable mention winners: a poem by Lindsey Johnson (*Losing Keller*), a collection of seven poems by F. Alex Wells (*Weary Land*), and a fiction and nonfiction short story each by Dr. Jamie Watson (*The Last Days of Silky Wooten*) and Dr. Jaleesa Jackson (*On Maintaining Humanity in Medicine*) respectively.

For those new to UAMS or if you were not aware of *Medicine and Meaning*, the online journal started in 2020 as a way to share the creative talents of UAMS faculty, staff and students.

Visit the journal online at [medicineandmeaning.uams.edu](http://medicineandmeaning.uams.edu), where you can subscribe to be alerted of future issues — as well as find out how you can submit your works of poetry, fiction/non-fiction or images for the journal.