



Officials break ground on the nearly \$10 million Child Development Center for the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. The participants were Darrin Williams (from left), CEO of Southern Bancorp; Phil Purifoy of Fennell Purifoy Architects; Tom Fennell of Fennell Purifoy Architects; C.C. "Cliff" Gibson III, chairman of the University of Arkansas System Board of Trustees; Stephanie Gardner, UAMS provost and chief strategy officer; UAMS Chancellor Cam Patterson; Little Rock Mayor Frank Scott Jr.; Ward 3 Little Rock City Director Kathy Webb; Jay Chesshir, president and CEO of the Little Rock Chamber of Commerce; Justin Reeves, project superintendent of C.R. Crawford Construction; and Mike Richardson, Missouri and Arkansas branch banking market leader at U.S. Bank.

UAMS Breaks Ground on Child Development Center

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) broke ground Sept. 14 on a nearly \$10 million Child Development Center on a four-acre property in Little Rock.

The approximately 20,000-square-foot Child Development Center will be built at the intersection of 11th and Monroe streets, just south of the Hillary Rodham Clinton Children’s Library and across Interstate 630 from the UAMS campus. The facility is expected to open in spring 2024.

The center will have the capacity to provide services for about 200 children, from infancy through prekindergarten, of UAMS employees and students. Of those, 10% of the slots will be reserved for the children of employees

who live in the surrounding community, and another 10% will go to workers or students who qualify for Child Care and Development Fund vouchers through the Arkansas Department of Human Services.

Registration for slots in the new day care is expected to start in late 2023, facilitated by the UAMS Office of Human Resources. Watch for more information when the registration schedule is set.

The project will be financed through the federal New Markets Tax Credit program, with additional money coming from gifts from UAMS employees and supporters.

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Educational and Student Success

Start of Semester Busy for ESSC

The start of a new semester is always a busy time for the team in the UAMS Educational and Student Success Center (ESSC) as the group spreads out to let new and returning students know the resources available to them through the center.

ESSC team members presented at various orientations and workshops, including the Graduate School New Student Orientation and CHP New Student Welcome, to promote the services the ESSC provides

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News from Academic Affairs

September 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

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- [12th Street Health and Wellness Center](#)
- [Center for Patients and Families](#) (on-campus)

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- [Educational and Student Success Center](#)

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[Center for Health Literacy](#)

[Center for Faculty Excellence](#)

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Office of Strategy Management

Questions? Comments?

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A Message from the Provost

This month I was thrilled to take part in the groundbreaking for the UAMS Child Development Center. It is a project that is decades in the making and will help UAMS attract and retain faculty and staff who will benefit from having quality child care options near campus.



Dr. Stephanie Gardner

When it opens in early 2024, the nearly 20,000-square foot Child Development Center will support enrollment of 198 children, ages infant to pre-K. Its location, will be just across Interstate 630 from our campus.

About 20 years ago, I served on a committee of UAMS faculty and staff to discuss the need for a child care center. An on-campus daycare had closed a few years earlier, but a new center always seemed just out of reach financially or logistically.

Dr. Jan Shorey, then associate provost for faculty, later took up reins, urging this project forward until her 2020 retirement. It was fitting that Jan was able to be there to see this long-held dream become a reality. She and so many UAMS faculty, staff and donors over the years championed this project. Their years of hard work led us to the groundbreaking ceremony and I am grateful.

For the children and their families — who will include UAMS front-line clinicians, health professions educators, researchers and our staff — we will provide a safe, welcoming facility where their preschoolers can learn, thrive and have fun. For those Team UAMS working parents, they can come to work knowing their children are being well cared for and not very far away.

UAMS is investing in its most valuable resource — its people — by supporting their wellbeing and work-life balance through offering quality child care with extended hours, a strong curriculum at a convenient location.

Educational and Student Success Center

ESSC Stages First-Ever Open House for Students



The UAMS Educational and Student Success Center (ESSC) held its first ESSC Open House on Sept. 21 to showcase its services to students.

The ESSC faculty and staff members, especially Marjorie Harper and Dana Pickett, worked diligently to make this outreach and de-stress event happen. The ESSC hallway area and all the event rooms were decorated in a fall theme. Snacks and swag were provided to students. All the ESSC faculty and staff members either manned the tables or opened their offices to meet and greet students and other faculty members or to introduce ESSC services.

The students enjoyed the therapy dogs, the Relaxation Room with foot massage, the Coloring Art Poster, and all the free goodies. The ESSC Open House created a relaxing and fun afternoon for students and faculty members. The UAMS ADA/Title IX office joined the ESSC to introduce its services. Campus Life staff members taught students to build their own stress balls.

(Clockwise from top left) ADA/Title IX Director Michelle Zengulis talks with students. (Top right) Marybeth Norcross, ESSC Teaching and Learning Specialist, Dr. Kevin Ryan, CPH Associate Dean for Student and Alumni Affairs, and Lorraine Stigar, CPH Director of Recruitment and Student Life Cycle chat. (Middle right) Students enjoy therapy dog. Bottom right) ESSC Writing Specialist Tim Muren visits with student. (Bottom left) ESSC team members Tim Muren and Dana Pickett staff the tables.



Educational and Student Success Center

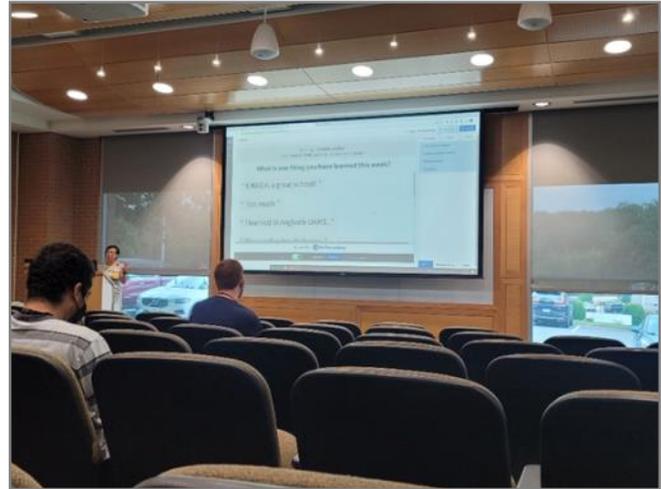
ESSC

Continued from Page 1

to assist with student success.

Tim Muren, Marjoree Harper and Helen Hu gave three workshops to the Graduate Program in Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences (GPIBS) students on Aug. 11. The topics were: 1) Learning Strategies and Professionalism in the PhD program, 2) Writing Process and Writing Center, and 3) Organization and Time Management.

Zeketra Grady presented at the College of Public Health orientation on August 11 afternoon. Jasna Vuk gave presentations to first, second and third year medical students at various times, and Jasna Vuk and Lian Taylor gave a presentation on Time Management via Zoom on Aug 17. Marybeth Norcross and Marjoree Harper gave presentations to sonography and other College of Health Professions programs.



ESSC Director Helen Hu, presenting on "Learning Strategies and Professionalism in the PhD program" (above) at the GPIBS Orientation. Writing Center head, Tim Muren, (below) gives a presentation on Writing Process and Writing Center on Aug. 11, 2022 at the GPIBS Orientation.



(Above) Learning Specialist Marjoree Harper talks to students at the Grad School Orientation. Learning Specialist Marybeth Norcross talks to CHP students (below) during a Test Anxiety Workshop.



Action Steps toward Time Management

01 SET GOALS 	02 PRIORITIZE 	03 ORGANIZE, PLAN, & CREATE A SCHEDULE 	04 MONITOR & ADJUST 	OVER PROGRA
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Learning Specialists Jasna Vuk and Lian Taylor (above) give a presentation via Zoom on Time Management to COM students.

Educational and Student Success Center

ESSC and IPE Presents 'Artful Thinking' Workshop on NW Campus

The UAMS Northwest Campus Interprofessional Education office hosted its first Artful Thinking competence workshop in July. Led by Northwest Campus ESSC Learning Specialist Lian Taylor, who has a background in art education, students learned observational skills through observing and discussing different pieces of art, while also understanding the emotions of those observations.

Students then had the opportunity to observe a patient scenario and explore their emotions of the situation through creating a sculpture of modeling clay. The event focused on the fourth pillar of the Quadruple Aim, the Provider Experience. Students from the physical therapy, occupational therapy, and radiologic imaging sciences programs participated in the event.



Lian Taylor (above, left) giving the "Artful Thinking" Workshop this summer on the Northwest Campus.

ESSC to Hold Slate of Fall Faculty Development Events

The Educational and Student Success Center will offer a series of events this fall to help faculty develop their teaching skills and learn new instructional methods, materials, assessment strategies, and technology tools.

Workshops:

- Designing Assessments That Are Aligned with Learning Goals (Oct. 14, 12-1 p.m.; I. Dodd Wilson 115 A/B and Zoom)
- Aligning Instructional Strategies with Learning Goals (Nov. 16, 12-1 p.m.; Zoom and recorded)

[Please click on this link to sign up for the Workshops](#)

Book Club:

BOOK CLUB (Sept. 30, Oct. 21, and Nov. 18, 12-1 p.m.; Zoom)

Join us for a study of "The Missing Course: Everything They Never Taught You About College Teaching," by David Gooblar.

[Please click on this link to sign up for the Book Club](#)

For more information on these events: inside.uams.edu/news/fall-2022-faculty-development-events-start-sept-16

Center for Faculty Excellence

UAMS Welcomes New Faculty

The Center for Faculty Excellence welcomed new faculty members with its annual New Faculty Reception on Sept. 1 on the 12th floor of the Stephens Spine Institute. One factor making the 2022 event more exciting was that it returned to being in person after pandemic forced the event to be virtual the past two years.

Chancellor Cam Patterson, M.D., MBA, welcomed the newest members of Team UAMS, along with Stephanie Gardner, Pharm.D., Ed.D., provost and chief strategy officer. Wendy Ward, Ph.D., associate provost for faculty, told the new faculty about UAMS and institution resources available to them. The event was organized by the Center for Faculty Excellence, including center director Emily Freeman and Faterra Herd, program manager for faculty development.



Center for Faculty Excellence

**Tuesday, October 25, 2022, 2:30 - 4:30 pm
via Zoom**

Wendy L. Ward, Ph.D., ABPP, FAPA
Associate Provost for Faculty
Director of Interprofessional
Faculty Development

Amber Teigen, M.M.S., PA-C
Associate Program Director
Assistant Professor, Certified
Koru Mindfulness Instructor

Objectives

- Identify specific domains in your departments or work units in which wellness is supported and domains in which there are gaps
- Explore approaches to promote a culture of wellness in your team across the eight domains of wellness
- Describe the impact of health behaviors on personal and professional wellness and vitality

Target Audience - Director Level and Above

To register, email [Fatera Herd](mailto:Fatera.Herd@uams.edu)

Accreditation Statement for Directly-Provided Activities: In support of improving patient care, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

AMA Designation Statement: The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences designates this live activity for a maximum of 2.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credits commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE): These knowledge-based activities will provide pharmacists up to 2.0 contact hours or 0.2 CEU. CE credit information, based on verification of live attendance and completion of the program evaluation, will be provided to NABP within 60 days after the activity completion. No credit will be awarded after that 60 day mark.

American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) For Approved Activities: The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences designates this live activity for a maximum of 2.0 ANCC contact hours. Nursing contact hours will be awarded for successful completion of program components based upon documented attendance and completion of evaluation materials.

Arkansas State Board of Physical Therapy: This activity has been approved by the ASBPT for 2.0 contact hours or 0.2 CEU. Submission of your CEU request must be submitted to the board within 60 days of course completion.

AAPA Designation Statement: The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences has been authorized by the American Academy of PAs (AAPA) to award AAPA Category 1 CME credit for activities planned in accordance with AAPA CME Criteria. This activity is designated for 2.0 Category 1 CME credits. PAs should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation.

UAMS

Center for Health Literacy

CHL Welcomes Student Practicum Team from UA Clinton School for Public Service

Personal health literacy skills are a critical part of one's ability to adequately take care of their health. Prioritizing the development of such skills in K-12 education could make a positive impact in developing these skills and in turn advance national objectives such as a healthier population, equity in health outcomes and lower health care costs. To characterize needs and opportunities in this area, CHL was selected to host a team of students from the University of Arkansas-Clinton School for Public Service for their practicum project.

Over two semesters, students will collaborate with CHL to:

- Summarize the literature surrounding the evidence to include specific personal health literacy competencies in K-12 education
- Assess the inclusion of personal health literacy competencies in state and national health education standards
- Identify and evaluate resources to aid in teaching personal health literacy competencies

This partnership between CHL and the Clinton School will result in a white paper to summarize these issues and provide guidance for health education leaders across the country. CHL is excited to collaborate with the Clinton School students on this important project and we look forward to being able to produce and share meaningful resources to impact timely progress toward the Quadruple Aim.

CHL Reminders:

- CHL will host a two-part Applied Plain Language training for UAMS faculty and staff engaged in research. Supported by the UAMS Translational Research Institute, the training will be held in two parts, on Oct. 13, 27, from 9 a.m.-noon, via Zoom. Please e-mail SMRice@uams.edu to register.
- CHL has a variety of free, online patient education modules available. Please share these resources with others, and contact CHL to discuss implementation and evaluation needs. <https://healthliteracy.uams.edu/for-healthcare-professionals/community-and-patient-engagement-resources/>

Campus Life and Student Support Services



Arkansas Traveler's Night at Dickey Stephens Park

The Associated Student Government (ASG) hosted its Back-to-School Pyro Night on Sept. 16 during the Arkansas Travelers baseball game at Dickey Stephens Park. Some 200 UAMS students and family members gathered in and around the Tracks Inn Pavilion to meet ASG officers and enjoy the game.

Campus Life and Student Support Services

Campus Housing Move-In Day

It is back to school and the Campus Life staff welcomed new and returning students to campus recently.

Move-in day is always a hustle and bustle of activity both inside and outside of the UAMS Residence Hall. The housing staff were prepared and available to assist students as they settled into their new "home away from home." Students, along with their family and friends, unloaded vehicles and loaded belongings onto carts for the short journey to locate their assigned building, floor and room.



Constitution Day and Student Resource Fair

The Associated Student Government and Office of Campus Life and Student Support Services kicked off the semester by hosting Constitution Day and the Student Resource Fair in the Student Center. After being virtual for two years, it was great to host the event in person. Inside the Student Center, various departments and programs such as Stocked and Reddie, the Fitness Center, 12th Street Health & Wellness, Office of the Registrar, Veteran Affairs, ASG, Student Success Center, Library, Historical Research Center, Student Wellness and Student Disability Support Services greeted students with information. To commemorate Constitution Day, students were also able to pick up helpful voting information for the state of Arkansas.

Office of Continuing Education

Continuing Education Activity Highlight – Act 503

Act 503 was signed into state law by Gov. Asa Hutchinson on April 1, 2021. This new law expands the scope of practice for pharmacists to test **and treat** various health conditions diagnosed using CLIA-waived tests within a statewide protocol.

Megan G. Smith, PharmD, BCACP, an Assistant Director in the College of Pharmacy's Pharmacy Practice department designed and developed the continuing education series for the state's pharmacists to implement these new protocols confidently and fully in their practice.

Pharmacies can perform these rapid result tests under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) with a valid Certificate of Waiver. Act 503 first specified influenza and Group A Streptococcus (pharyngitis) as health conditions to treat using a statewide protocol and includes other health conditions that could be adopted by rule of the Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy. Also on April 1, 2021, ACT 408 was approved to authorize pharmacists to provide access and administration of oral contraceptives by statewide protocol. In Arkansas, statewide protocols must be approved by the Arkansas Board of Pharmacy and the Arkansas State Medical Board.

Dr. Smith was actively involved in developing the statewide protocol for Act 503. She led several accredited training programs on point-of-care testing for pharmacists over the last six years and taught these skills in our College of Pharmacy PharmD curriculum. This included development of the statewide protocol for influenza and for Group A streptococcus. This work was a collaboration with the Arkansas Department of Health, local physicians, and pharmacists in community pharmacies and acute care infectious disease clinics. Along with the Arkansas Pharmacists Association, she presented these protocols for review by the Arkansas Board of Pharmacy and Arkansas State Medical Board. The Board of Pharmacy approved the protocols in June 2022, followed by the State Medical Board approval on Aug. 5, 2022.

Upon the approval of these protocols, Dr. Smith designed a continuing education (CE) series to disseminate this information to practicing pharmacists. The CE Series, accredited through the Office of Continuing Education, will accommodate varying levels of education for pharmacists. The Introduction, offered three times, covers all statewide protocols that allow pharmacist prescribing and the essential information to deploy them in their practice. In addition, there are more in-depth sessions on each specific protocol, including workflow, implementation, and billing aspects.

Upcoming CE/CME Activities:

10/12/22 – Arkansas Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Summit
10/21/22 – Arkansas Orthopaedic Forum
10/28/22 – Arkansas Summit for Antimicrobial Stewardship
10/31/22-11/2/22 – Hospice & Palliative Care Association of Arkansas Annual Conference
11/1/22 – 2nd Annual UAMS Sim Center Research Day
11/4/22-11/6/22 – Arkansas Society for Otolaryngology Head & Neck Surgery Conference
11/18/22 – Primary Care Urology Symposium

For more information on these courses, visit our website at <https://uams.cloud-cme.com/default.aspx>.

OCE Accreditation Resources

For general information on our accreditation services: <https://ce.uams.edu/planyouractivity/accreditation/>
Planner's Guide: <https://ce.uams.edu/planyouractivity/accreditation/planners-guide/>
Application Tips: <https://ce.uams.edu/planyouractivity/accreditation/application-tips/>
Tools and Resources: <https://ce.uams.edu/planyouractivity/accreditation/tools-and-resources/>
RSS Information: <https://ce.uams.edu/planyouractivity/rss-planning-forms/>
CloudCME Training: <https://ce.uams.edu/planyouractivity/rss-planning-forms/cloudcme-training-videos/>



CDC*Continued from Page 1*

"When I joined UAMS, Dr. Stephanie Gardner and a dedicated team were already hard at work building support for this center," said Chancellor Cam Patterson, M.D., MBA. "It is because of their efforts that we are breaking ground on this much needed facility to benefit our employees and students."

"For the children and their families — who will include UAMS front-line clinicians, health professions educators, researchers and our staff — we will provide a safe, welcoming facility where their children can learn, thrive and have fun," said Stephanie Gardner, Ed.D., PharmD, UAMS provost and chief strategy officer. Access to high-quality child care has long been identified as a need for UAMS employees. The project meets UAMS' strategic goals of being an employer of choice and offering programs that increase opportunities for success and improve the work-life balance of employees.

The center's design includes rooms for infant care, toddlers and preschool as well as indoor and outdoor play and activity areas. UAMS will contract with Bright Horizons, the nation's largest provider of employee-sponsored child care, to manage the center and offer a curriculum that covers subjects including language and literacy, creative arts, math operations and reasoning, science and technology, and health and wellness. UAMS worked with the city of Little Rock to acquire the land for the Child Development Center. Other community partners include Southern Bancorp, U.S. Bank, the Central Arkansas Library System and the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance.

The project team consists of Fennell Purifoy Architects and C.R. Crawford Construction.

"We were proud partners with UAMS in locating this much-needed center in the 12th Street corridor," said Little Rock Mayor Frank Scott Jr. "The Child Development Center will be an anchor of the neighborhood while at the same time serving as an exceptional and positive learning environment that benefits children in the heart of our city.

"The city of Little Rock was delighted to do its part in the work leading to today's groundbreaking on an important project that serves as a significant example of the positive effects of targeted community development," Scott said.

The center is expected to create about 40 jobs for teachers, teacher assistants and other staff members, all with competitive salaries and benefits.

Other dignitaries at the groundbreaking included



Top — Professor Emerita Jan Shorey, M.D., (left) who led the CDC campaign while she was associate provost for faculty, celebrates the ground breaking with Provost Stephanie Gardner, Pharm.D., Ed.D. Bottom — Dr. Gardner speaks during the groundbreaking ceremony.

C.C. "Cliff" Gibson III, chairman of the University of Arkansas System Board of Trustees; Jeannette "Jan" Shorey, professor emerita in the UAMS College of Medicine; Kathy Webb, Ward 3 Little Rock city director; state Rep. Tippi McCullough; Jay Chesshir, president and CEO of the Little Rock Chamber of Commerce; Tom Fennell of Fennell Purifoy Architects; Phil Purifoy of Fennell Purifoy Architects; Justin Reeves, project superintendent of C.R. Crawford Construction; Darrin Williams, CEO of Southern Bancorp; Mike Richardson, Missouri and Arkansas branch banking market leader at U.S. Bank; Nate Coulter, executive director of the Central Arkansas Library System; and Shya Washington-Webb, branch manager for the Hillary Rodham Clinton Children's Library.

Accolades

CHL Helps Arkansas PBS to National Media Award for Work on COVID PSA

The **Center for Health Literacy** teamed up with Arkansas PBS, Arkansas' only statewide public media network, on video public service announcements to combat COVID-19 vaccine disinformation and hesitancy that recently earned Arkansas PBS a national Public Media Award in the Community Initiative category. This multipronged campaign was designed and executed to be a hyperlocal, highly personal "friends and neighbors" effort to combat COVID-19 vaccine misinformation. It featured intimate and confessional video storytelling by people who were negatively and profoundly affected by the coronavirus, and plain-spoken, fact-based information by health care professionals. Joining Arkansas PBS and CHL to produce the PSAs were the Arkansas Community Foundation, Immunize AR and Arkansas Coalition of Marshallese.

CHL Authors Collaborate on Article Accepted for Publication

Staff members from the **Center for Health Literacy** collaborated with colleagues from UAMS and the UALR Bowen School of Law on "The Informed Consent Form Navigator: A Tool for Producing Readable and Compliant Consent Documents," which has been accepted for publication by the *Journal of Clinical and Translational Science*. Authors include: Jonathan Bona, Ph.D., Joseph Utecht, B.A., **Jennifer M. Gan**, MBA, **Alison Caballero**, MPH, CHES, Aaron Kemp, MBA, Christopher Trudeau, J.D., Laura James, M.D., and Mathias Brochhausen, Ph.D. A poster presentation on the work can be found online at clic-ctsa.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/uams-ctsa-2021-poster-final.pdf.

Presentation Proposal Accepted

A proposal entitled "Interprofessional Culinary Medicine Simulation Education Influences Students' Attitudes and Perceptions of Healthy Eating on Patient and Personal Health Outcomes", by **Kat Neill**, Pharm.D., associate provost for academics and director of administrative and curricular affairs in the Office of Interprofessional Education; Gina Drobena, M.D., associate professor in the College of Medicine; **Alison Caballero**, MPH, director of the Center for Health Literacy; and **Lian Taylor**, M.S.Ed., learning specialist/instructor in the Educational and Student Success Center on the Northwest Campus, was accepted by Nexus Summit 2022.

Robot Surgery Simulation Article by Dickinson, UAMS Colleagues Published

The *Journal of Surgical Education* recently published the manuscript "Surgical Residents' Perception of Multi-Specialty Learning" by **Karen Dickinson**, M.D., MEd, CHSE, FRCS, director of IPE Simulation and Clinical Skills Training in the Division of Academic Affairs **Centers for Simulation Education**, and UAMS colleagues Mary Luann Racher, M.D., from the College of Medicine's (COM) Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology; Kimberly Jackman, M.D., from the COM Department of Surgery; Theresa McCallie, M.D., from the COM Department of Surgery; Katy Marino, M.D., from the COM Department of Surgery; Timothy Langford, M.D., from the COM Department of Urology; and W. Conan Mustain, M.D., from the COM Department of Surgery. The authors measured perceptions of surgical residents before and after a multi-specialty robotic simulation event. The study concluded that participation in a multi-specialty educational event can improve perceptions of surgical residents regarding the utility of being taught by faculty in different specialties.

Congratulations to Academic Affairs Faculty Appointments, Promotions

Several faculty members in the Division of Academic Affairs recently received promotions or initial appointments.

They include:

- **Alison Caballero**, MPH, CHES, director of Center for Health Literacy, appointed as associate professor
- **Florentine (Cristina) Gamalie**, MSE, Office of Educational Development, from instructor to assistant professor
- **Lea Mabry**, M.Ed., Office of Continuing Education, appointed as professor
- **Kristen Sterba**, Ph.D., associate provost for students and administration and director – Institutional Research, Policy and Accreditation, from assistant professor to associate professor

Division of Academic Affairs News

Goforth to Retire as Campus Life Director; Dedner Named New Director

Cheri Goforth Warmack, director of Campus Life & Student Support Services, will retire on Sept. 30, after more than 20 years of service with UAMS.

She started at UAMS in 2001 as a patient advocate for international, out-of-state, and Arkansas hospital patients through the Department of Special Services. In 2003, she was appointed as director of UAMS student activities and housing, where she managed all aspects of operations for the original campus housing facility, the Jeff Banks Student Union and dormitory. The union and dorm was imploded in 2006 to make way for a major hospital expansion. Today the department is known as Campus Life and Student Support Services and is located in the Residence Hall that opened in fall 2006.

"We are grateful to Cheri, who has long been a tireless leader and contributor to making UAMS welcoming for our students, especially those living on campus," said Stephanie Gardner, Pharm.D., Ed.D., provost and chief strategy officer. "She has impacted the lives of thousands of students and colleagues in her years at UAMS and her commitment to excellence is well known across campus."

Succeeding Warmack as director, effective Oct. 1, is **Nakia Dedner**, M.A., who has served as assistant director for Campus Life & Student Support Services since 2003. She joined UAMS in 2000, working as a pediatric family enrichment specialist/billing manager in the UAMS Head Start program. In 2006, she earned a master's degree in management and leadership from Webster University.

"Cheri's leadership and vision has been instrumental for the expansion of student facilities and services during her tenure at UAMS," said Kristen Sterba, Ph.D., associate provost for students and administration. "We wish her best in her retirement and are glad to be able to welcome Nakia into the role, where she brings a depth of experience working with Cheri along with a commitment to create a supportive and fun campus environment for our students."

During her time as department director, Warmack represented the department in a wide range of student services initiatives. She participated in the collaborative effort to replace the original student union and dormitory with an updated campus housing facility, the UAMS Residence Hall and the Student Center. As chief housing officer, she developed and coordinated the implementation of housing and operations policy and processes to provide seamless services to students and guests who reside on campus. She also was involved with the initial proposal and development of the student health clinic and played a key role in the conception and planning of the Student Center.

She led efforts to expand many other student service initiatives, including wellness, communication, and the intramural sports program. She has long been involved in the development and review of University policies that impact student-related issues including the student government association; student organization repository; student insurance compliance; Title IX and ACA related issues; emergency notification and training; and student events and recreational activities.

UAMS Northwest Librarian Welcomes New Addition



The UAMS Library recently welcomed back **Kay Strahan**, MSLIS, Northwest Campus Librarian, from maternity leave.

Elliott was born June 7. Kay reported: "I am thrilled to be back with my friends and do the work that I really want to do on the Northwest Campus. Elliot is such a happy baby, and his sister Diana is a very helpful and loving big sister."