

10 Years Later: Class of '98's Sara Tariq Helps Students Focus on Professionalism



Sara Tariq, M.D. '98, (second from left) guides fellow alumni and guests on a tour of the Center for Clinical Skills Education during Alumni Weekend. With her in the observation room are (from left) Rose Tyson, the wife of J. Wendell Tyson, M.D. '68, of Tucson, Ariz.; Douglas Young, M.D. '58, of Little Rock; and Gerry and Russell Eubanks, M.D. '63, of Montrose, Ala. The monitor on the wall shows a teaching session demonstration with a standardized patient and sophomore Kentaura Richardson.

Every medical student learns how to use a stethoscope. **Sara Tariq, M.D. '98**, wants to make sure they also learn “what it truly means to be a doctor.”

The associate professor of internal medicine, medical director of UAMS' Center for Clinical Skills Education and director of the Introduction to Clinical Medicine II (ICM II) course for sophomores teaches essential clinical techniques. But she devotes much of her time to instilling the communication skills, professionalism standards and commitment to self-reflection that students need to become truly fine physicians.

“I realized that I had a passion for teaching and that it gave me a lot of energy,” Dr. Tariq said, recalling her experiences as chief resident at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. After completing her residency in 2002, she returned to Little Rock, her hometown, to direct the sophomore clinical course.

She was a sophomore herself when she had a “light bulb moment.” Working with a standardized patient – a layperson trained to teach medical students exam skills – she realized that one-on-one time with patients is “what medicine is really all about.” After becoming a practicing physician, she came to lament the all-too-brief time that physicians have to spend with patients.

“Patients expose their body and soul to their physician,” Dr. Tariq explained. “The exam can't become just part of our daily routine. When the patient leaves, we may not always have solved their medical condition, but they should feel comforted on some level.”

Dr. Tariq, working with Center for Clinical Skills Education Director Mary Cantrell, integrated a “professionalism clinic” into ICM II that is designed to teach students how to handle difficult situations such as delivering bad news. “I want them to feel that discomfort,

because if they're uncomfortable as a sophomore delivering bad news, they'll certainly feel much more comfortable delivering it as a doctor,” she said. More recently she has added reading and essay writing assignments to help students cultivate reflection and self-assessment skills that will help them throughout their careers.

Dr. Tariq is working with other College of Medicine leaders to assess clinical professionalism on campus, partly through surveys of students after rotations. It could help shape educational strategies in the future as well as inform faculty-related professionalism initiatives.

In her practice, Dr. Tariq specializes in women's health, and she also teaches a senior elective in ambulatory primary care in this area. She has partnered with the Department of Psychiatry on the state's first adult eating disorders program. Meanwhile, the mother of two manages to find time to serve as secretary of the Women's Faculty Development Caucus and to volunteer with organizations such as Amnesty International.

A Note from the Dean, Debra H. Fiser, M.D.

The Alumni Weekend activities last month reminded me of how important and gratifying it is to stay connected with one another and how much it means to so many of you to “stay involved,” even if you’re fully or semi-retired. Here’s an opportunity to do just that – and potentially help your community in a time of crisis.

UAMS is supporting the organization of Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) units affiliated with our central campus and with the Area Health Education Centers (AHECs) throughout Arkansas. MRCs are community-based volunteer groups of physicians, nurses, pharmacists, allied health professionals and others who have trained to mobilize as a unit in a local or regional disaster.

MRCs have formed in communities all across the nation in the years since the 2001 terrorist attacks. They can make the difference in countless lives not only in the wake of a tragedy such as 9-11, but also in the aftermath of devastating natural disasters. For example, a unit affiliated with the Fort Smith AHEC activated to help evacuees from hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005, and members of other units responded as well.



Each MRC unit is unique to its own community, but MRC volunteers might deliver public health services, assist emergency response teams with patients or provide care directly to those with less serious injuries or other health related issues.

College of Medicine leaders including Aubrey Hough, M.D., the chairman of UAMS’ Emergency Preparedness Committee, and Judith McClain, executive director of the Medical Alumni Association, met earlier this month with a group of alumni who want to organize and boost alumni and UAMS involvement in MRCs. We’re just getting started, and we would love to have you on board.

We think many alumni would find volunteering in an MRC to be a meaningful experience. Our MRCs and our communities would benefit tremendously from your skills and desire to serve. Let us know if you can help.

Debra H. Fiser, M.D.

For more information, please contact Judith McClain at (501) 526-4330, or via e-mail at JMcclain@uams.edu.

A Note from the Director, Judith McClain



A new school year has begun, and we welcomed 160 fresh new faces to the College of Medicine (COM). There’s nothing like the eagerness and inquisitiveness of medical students starting their journey to becoming physicians.

Many of you have helped pave the way for these bright, young individuals. Giving through the Medical Alumni Association was up

280 percent in fiscal year 2008 from levels two years ago. Ten percent of you gave to the COM this past fiscal year.

Even so, we need to increase our scholarship endowments and the amounts of the individual scholarships that we can give. About 93 percent of our students depended on financial aid last year, and our graduates are weighed down by an ever-increasing debt burden. Scholarships are more important than ever for all of us. They help us recruit outstanding students – and the very best future physicians for Arkansas.

As you may know, the COM has embarked on a major campaign this year to strengthen our class scholarship endowments. Along with our Alumni Advisory Board, we have established a goal of \$250,000 per class. At this level, each class could fund a \$10,000 annual scholarship!

On page three, we honor those named scholarships that were established by families and friends of physicians and other community leaders. Anyone can contribute to these endowments. It’s a wonderful way to honor namesakes while helping students. A great example is the newest endowment, honoring the late **Raymond P. Miller, M.D. ’63**. The Arkansas Medical, Dental & Pharmaceutical Association (AMDPA) has matched a \$100,000 challenge grant from **Tom Bruce, M.D. ’55**. The Arkansas Minority Health Commission provided \$50,000 of the match, joining the growing group of contributors.

We’re on our way!

Judith

Dean's Society

Members of the Dean's Society have pledged to make annual unrestricted gifts to the College of Medicine. The following joined between May 16 and August 22, 2008.

Couples (\$1,500)

Dr. and Mrs. R. Lee Archer
Drs. Philip J. Kenney and Jeannette Yen Lee

Individuals (\$1,000)

John C. Ansel M.D.
Sudhir V. Shah, M.D.
W. Frank Williams, M.D.
W. Wayne Workman, M.D.

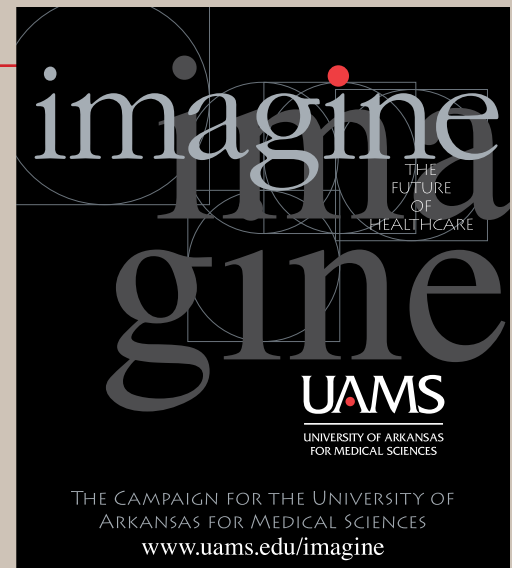
Named Scholarships Recognize Generosity

Behind every named endowed scholarship is an individual or family with a desire to make a difference in the lives of future doctors who otherwise might not have the means to attend medical school. Benefactors share the common desire to help students achieve their goals by providing a permanent source of scholarship assistance every year.

Scholarships exist because of generous donors like the Ingram family of Pine Bluff, who not only provided financial assistance to **LeRoy LeNarz, M.D. '76**, but also the friendship to help him graduate from medical school. After Dr. LeNarz repaid Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ingram following residency, he set a goal to "pay it forward" and endow a medical school scholarship to honor the Ingrams. His gift and the matching gift from the Lilly Foundation – where Dr. LeNarz was a research advisor – established the LeNarz/Ingram Endowed Scholarship. The inaugural award was presented in 1999.

Thank you to the hundreds of individuals, families, foundations and corporations for their continued support that grows stronger every year. Our list below includes the named scholarship funds that the Medical Alumni Association stewards. To read the stories behind all of these scholarships, visit www.uams.edu/com/alumni.

- George Link Ackerman Scholarship
- Harold Braswell Challenge Scholarship
- Rita and Robert Homer Bryant Memorial Scholarship
- Marianna Clift Memorial Scholarship
- The Cooper Family Scholarship
- Thomas A. Formby, M.D., Endowed Scholarship
- Samuel L. Gaston, M.D., Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- Jean C. Gladden, M.D., and William King Gladden Memorial Scholarship
- Dr. and Mrs. Edwin F. Gray Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Fred O. Henker Memorial Scholarship
- Dr. W. Mage and Janet Honeycutt Memorial Scholarship
- Linda Yeager Hough Endowed Scholarship
- LeNarz/Ingram Endowed Medical Scholarship
- McCracken Family Foundation Scholarship
- Raymond P. Miller Memorial Scholarship Endowment
- Captain and Mrs. Charles Roy Moon Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Jerry D. Morgan Memorial Scholarship
- Nolie Mumey, M.D., Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. and Mrs. Lee A. Nauss Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Robert H. Nunnally Endowed Scholarship
- W. Robert Orr, Jr., M.D., Endowed Scholarship
- Dr. Debra Velez Owings Endowed Scholarship
- Alex A. Pappas, M.D., and Ann W. Maners, M.D., Endowed Scholarship
- Paul and Dorothy Reese Pelko Endowed Scholarship
- Edward Roberson, M.D., Endowed Scholarship
- Annie Schoppach, M.D., Memorial Scholarship
- Dr. and Mrs. Bill Scurlock Endowed Scholarship
- Alan James Stevenson, M.D., Scholarship
- Carlton Sturms Endowed Scholarship
- John Samuel Taylor Memorial Scholarship
- James Gentry Thomas Memorial Scholarship
- A. J. Thompson, M.D., Scholarship
- A.T. and Gladys Walker Memorial Scholarship
- Lee Bailey Word, M.D., Endowed Scholarship
- Louis Zimmerman, M.D., Memorial Scholarship



Alumni Weekend 2008: Thanks for the Memories

The College of Medicine welcomed about 275 alumni and guests during a weekend in August that was reminiscent of the spirit and enthusiasm of when they were students. This year's reuniting classes graduated in years ending in 8 or 3 and spanned six decades. They traveled from 22 states other than Arkansas and as far away as Alaska.

The reunion began Friday, August 22, with the Golden Graduates Reception to honor members of the class of 1958 on the 50th anniversary of their graduation, along with alumni from the earlier classes of 1953, 1948 and 1945. The annual banquet and awards ceremony was held that evening.

On Saturday, about 40 toured the Center for Clinical Skills Education and the new hospital addition that will open in early 2009. And in a first for Alumni Weekend, 10 classes enjoyed individual events later that day. Some planned luncheons or a picnic while others gathered for cocktails at an alumnus' home or for dinner at a restaurant.



Bill Mason, M.D. '68, of Little Rock, Milton Hughes, M.D. '68, of Pine Bluff, Roby Mize, M.D. '68, of Dallas, and Bill Harrison, M.D. '68, of Fayetteville, reconnect at their 40th anniversary dinner.



Peter Young, M.D. '83, of Scottsdale, Ariz., and Ronnie E. Smith, M.D. '83, of Fayetteville, Ga., reminisce during a luncheon cruise on the Arkansas River.



Alumni get a sneak peek of the 500,000-square-foot hospital addition that will open early next year. Jo Smith, R.N., director of special services for UAMS hospital administration, (far right) served as tour guide.



Owen Clopton, M.D. '58, of Jonesboro, visits with Distinguished Alumnus Maj. Gen. Elder Granger, M.D. '80, before the reunion and awards banquet.

See more photos and read more stories from Alumni Weekend 2008 on the Web: <http://www.uams.edu/com/alumni>.

Alumnus, Faculty Member, UAMS Leader Honored

A pillar in the military, an internationally known College of Medicine neurotologist and the UAMS chancellor were honored during the Alumni Weekend reunion dinner and awards presentation.

Distinguished Alumnus Award

Maj. Gen. Elder Granger, M.D. '80, oversees the Department of Defense's managed health care program as deputy director and program executive officer of TRICARE Management Activity in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs). He has distinguished himself as a national and international leader, ensuring high-quality health care for over 9 million members of the military, their families, retirees and others. Among many major military honors, Dr. Granger received the Bronze Star for leading the largest U.S. and multinational battlefield health system in recent history in Iraq in 2004-2005. Read more about Dr. Granger in the September 2006 issue of Alumni Matters, available online at www.uams.edu/com/alumni.

Distinguished Faculty Award

Since joining the College of Medicine faculty in 1994, John Dornhoffer, M.D., has earned international recognition for his clinical achievements and research into hearing loss and conditions such as tinnitus, vertigo and other balance disorders. He has invented two prostheses that are used worldwide for middle ear reconstruction. Dr. Dornhoffer is a professor and director of the Otology/Neurotology Division in the Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery and the Samuel D. McGill, Jr., Endowed Chair in Otolaryngology Research. He is known as an outstanding researcher, teacher and clinician who brings extraordinary empathy to his work because of his own severe, progressive hearing loss. Read more about Dr. Dornhoffer in the Spring/Summer 2008 issue of University of Arkansas Medicine, available online at www.uams.edu/com.



Pictured from left are: Distinguished Faculty Award winner John Dornhoffer, M.D.; Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Maj. Gen. Elder Granger, M.D. '80; Dean Debra H. Fiser, M.D. '77; Medical Alumni Association Executive Director Judith McClain; and UAMS Chancellor I. Dodd Wilson, M.D., who was inducted into the College of Medicine Hall of Fame.

College of Medicine Hall of Fame

UAMS Chancellor I. Dodd Wilson, M.D., was inducted into the College of Medicine Hall of Fame in recognition of more than 20 years of service to the campus and Arkansas. Dr. Wilson served as dean of the College of Medicine from 1986 to 2000, when he was named chancellor. His vision and tireless efforts have advanced UAMS' reputation for world-class patient care, education and research. In recent years he has focused on preparing UAMS to meet the state's needs for far greater numbers of health care professionals in the future. A newly opened education building and planned satellite campus in Northwest Arkansas are just two of many efforts to support expanding enrollment. Dr. Wilson will retire next year after the completion of a 500,000-square-foot UAMS hospital addition, part of the largest expansion project in UAMS' history.



Joe Mason, M.D. '58, of Fort Smith, Thomas Ashcraft, M.D. '53, and John Alexander, M.D. '53, of Magnolia, look through the medical school registration books they signed more than 50 years ago.



Douglas Young, M.D. '58, of Little Rock, shows off his 1958 graduation photo at the Golden Graduate Reception.



Medical Alumni Association Executive Director Judith McClain welcomes Thomas Ashcraft, M.D. '53, who traveled from Tulsa, Okla., to reunite with his classmates.

Art as Medicine



Skee Hill, M.D. '45, a retired anesthesiologist, has been painting with different mediums for nearly 50 years. This watercolor print was chosen by a national pharmaceutical firm to be featured in a calendar in 1992.



Academy. He started oil painting at first and changed to watercolors in the 1970s. "I've always had good training," he said. "Painting is great therapy."

Dr. Hill has entered art shows on the local, state and national levels. Yet the proudest moment in his career came when a watercolor print was published in a calendar. "From then on, my daughters called me Mr. March," he laughed.

He is inspired by his childhood, growing up in DeValls Bluff along the White River. He typically paints landscapes, and water and duck hunting scenes. "The marshes are just beautiful at sunrise," he said. "I can still see them."

Dr. Hill turned 87 in August. He and his wife have three daughters, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Watercolor artist **Roy "Skee" Hill, M.D. '45**, still sends a hand painted Christmas card to each member of his graduating class. Although the class is scattered across the United States, six members, along with three widows of classmates and four spouses, reunited in Little Rock during Alumni Weekend.

2010 would have been their reuniting year, but they elected to get together this year to have a better turnout, Dr. Hill said. Although he helped organize the reunion, he wasn't able to make it at the last minute. His classmates called him from the reunion and passed around the phone to make him a part of the special get-together.

Dr. Hill moved to Baton Rouge, La., in 1957 for practice and took his first painting class in 1962 with several physicians and engineers in a private lesson. He's been at it ever since, taking classes for nearly 30 years at the Baton Rouge Fine Arts



*Six of Dr. Hill's classmates reunited at Alumni Weekend 2008 for a special reunion. Front row: **Eldon Tommey, M.D. '45**, of El Dorado; **John Fulmer, M.D. '45**, of Little Rock; **Gaither Johnston, Jr., M.D. '45**, of Little Rock; **Roger Bost, M.D. '45**, of Little Rock; Back row: **Martin Eisele, M.D. '45**, of Hot Springs and **Gerald Sutterfield, M.D. '45**, of Roswell, Ga.*

Peck's Painting Mystery Solved!

Bill Beck, M.D. '90, of Springdale and **David Crittenden, M.D. '71**, of Fayetteville helped us identify the artist of the wonderful painting of the old Peck's bar that we printed in our last issue. (We couldn't determine the name in the snapshots of the painting that we had on file.) We were especially delighted when we received a print of the painting in the mail – signed by artist Dan Kerlin of Fayetteville! Dr. Crittenden called the painting "a very accurate depiction of that fine watering hole, now unfortunately existing only in memory." Mr. Kerlin has signed, numbered prints available for \$125. If you're interested, let us know.



Share Your News! E-mail: riceginny@uams.edu, or mail to: UAMS Medical Alumni Association, 4301 W Markham ST, #642, Little Rock, AR 72205.

The Stethoscope & the Stole



Steve Thomason, M.D. '91, has found a way to heed the two distinct callings in his life: one to be a physician; the other to be an ordained Episcopal priest. Or rather, he said, it found him.

“I wasn’t looking for a change, but it found me,” the Rev. Dr. Thomason said of his new role as medical director at the Circle of Life Hospice in Springdale. “What a gift to care for people who are at the end of life, trying to make sense of things past and things to come, offering them some dignity and comfort. This is where it all comes together for me.” When we interviewed him, he had just made a house call to visit a patient who was injured in the Battle of the Bulge. “He’s not spoken of that experience for 64 years, but now he wants to, and he chose me to hear the story,” Dr. Thomason said. “What an honor!”

Dr. Thomason worked as medical director and a family physician for Baptist Health’s Arkansas Health Group

for seven years before deciding to enter seminary. He saw patients at Ft. Hood in Texas while in seminary. In 2004 the newly ordained priest was appointed rector of St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Springdale. Meanwhile, he volunteered each week in a community clinic and, last fall, started filling in as medical director at the hospice.

The opportunity to become the hospice’s full-time medical director presented a “wonderful dilemma” for Dr. Thomason, who after months of prayer and contemplation elected to leave his post at St. Thomas. He has continued to serve the diocese, including many Sundays at church pulpits as a substitute priest.

Dr. Thomason doesn’t wear a clerical collar when seeing patients, but the listening skills he honed in seminary complement physician-patient communication. “The most fulfilling part of my job is being with patients and their families, who often just need someone to listen to them,” he said. “Sometimes a prescription for medicine is needed to treat the patient; sometimes the prescription involves simply sitting and listening.”

Students



LaShundra Watson, Evan Watts and fellow members of the future class of 2012 recite the UAMS Medical Student Oath at the White Coat Ceremony August 7. About 1,200 freshmen, family members and faculty attended the annual ceremony that uses the symbolism of the white coat to help introduce medical students to the tenets of professionalism.



Freshman **Jerry McKenzie** of West Memphis dons his white coat with assistance from **Mark Heulitt, M.D.**, a professor of pediatrics and the keynote speaker at the White Coat Ceremony. Senior **Hannah Park**, co-president of the College of Medicine Honor Council, looks on.

Freshman **Ian Goodman** (center) enjoys Family Day activities August 9 with his parents **Ramona** and **Robin Goodman, M.D. '82**. Dr. Goodman practices emergency medicine in Russellville.



In Memoriam

1940s

Robert Alan Burger, M.D. '41, of Little Rock, died June 7, 2008. He was 90. Dr. Burger was a pathologist.

William Ernest King Jr., M.D. '46, of Russellville, died June 28, 2008. He was 89. Dr. King was in general practice in Russellville for 35 years.

John Clement Baber, M.D. '47, of Little Rock, died June 16, 2008. He was 83. Dr. Baber was a surgeon.

James B. Minor, M.D. '48, of Americus, Ga., died April 5, 2008. He was 85. Dr. Minor practiced cardiology in Atlanta for more than 40 years and helped develop several advancements in treatment.

1950s

Frank M. Westerfield, Jr., M.D. '53, of Little Rock, died Sept. 7, 2008. Dr. Westerfield practiced psychiatry.

1960s

Dorothy C. Sample, M.D. '62, of El Dorado, died June 13, 2008. She was 85. Dr. Sample practiced dermatology in El Dorado until her retirement in 1988.

Dennis R. Fecher, M.D. '68, of Fort Smith, died June 15, 2008. He was 65. Dr. Fecher was an oncologist and hematologist.

1970s

Richard "Dicky" Hendrickson Jr., M.D. '71, of Conway, died July 14, 2008. He was 64. Dr. Hendrickson was an ophthalmologist.

Richard C. Bellas, M.D. '71, of Troy, Ohio, died July 14, 2008. He was 67. A radiologist, Dr. Bellas served as chief of aerospace medicine at Little Rock Air Force Base and in other leadership roles in the Air Force. He later practiced in Ohio.

Rupert C. Anderson, M.D. '72, died June 3, 2008. He was 61. A surgeon, Dr. Anderson practiced throughout the United States.

1980s

John S. Williams, M.D. '87, of Blytheville, died Aug. 18, 2008. He was 47. Dr. Williams practiced family medicine.

1990s

Joseph M. Rochelle, M.D. '90, of Lonoke, died July 4, 2008. He was 44. Dr. Rochelle practiced family medicine in Lonoke and Cabot.

J. Aaron Little, M.D. '90, of Searcy, died Aug. 29, 2008. He was 45. Dr. Little was a general surgeon.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dean's Society Luncheon – October 24
Alumni Advisory Board – November 15



Paris & the French Riviera
March 21-March 29, 2009



Sensational Spain
April 17-25, 2009



Treasures of China and Yangtze River Cruise, May 11-23, 2009

Pack Your Bags!

Make 2009 your year to get away to exciting destinations while enjoying the company of fellow alumni travelers. Five spectacular trips are planned:



Italy's Lake Garda and the French Alps, September 23-October 1, 2009



Italian Favorites – Rome & Florence, November 7-15, 2009

For more information, visit www.uams.edu/com/alumni.

"Lost" Alumni

We're missing addresses for some of your classmates. If you know how to reach someone on this list, please let us know.

Ben O. Price, M.D. '55
Jack R. Thompson, M.D. '55
Ben O. Price, M.D. '55
Jack R. Thompson, M.D. '55
Richard F. Plant, M.D. '60
James W. Bost, M.D. '75
Robert Mc Kinney, M.D. '75
Paul Becton, M.D. '80
David S. Estes, M.D. '85
Robbie L. Martin, M.D. '85
Donna Barnes, M.D. '90

Bobby Chu, M.D. '90
L. K. Henson, M.D. '90
Barbara S. Lucas, M.D. '90
Elemi John E. Agbomi, M.D. '95
Zuleika C. Font, M.D. '95
Wes L. Hester, M.D. '95
Steven E. Kelley, M.D. '95
Warren S. Lafferty, M.D. '95
Anna J. Osborn, M.D. '95
Scott B. Rooft, M.D. '95
Michael D. Stout, M.D. '95
Mark D. Wofford, M.D. '95
Lee E. Arthur, M.D. '00
David W. Crownover, M.D. '00
Jadd W. Koury, M.D. '00
Daniel Kueter, M.D. '00
Michael B. Pafford, M.D. '00

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