Another successful academic year in the College of Medicine drew to a close last month with the conclusion of our convocation and graduation ceremonies. The students left graduation with a sense of accomplishment for achieving another milestone in their academic careers. The faculty within the COM also completed its mission by sending forth some of the brightest and most talented students in the medical field. Indeed, we had a spectacular year and can look back on our journey with pride, but we must also prepare for what lies ahead.

For the students who are leaving the COM to further pursue their ambitions, I would like to say thank you for allowing us to be a part of your academic journey. Accept life’s challenges with tenacity and determination. Never give up on your dreams and never stop learning! Educating yourself every day will only allow you to grow into the best physician possible.

I would also like to extend my appreciation to the faculty and staff in the COM. It is because of your unwavering dedication and commitment to education and the medical field that our graduates completed this phase of their medical education so brilliantly. You have fully and effectively prepared the next generation of clinicians and scientists. The importance of your academic responsibilities here will never be forgotten. You are not only educating students, you are educating tomorrow’s clinicians, scientists and future leaders.

Dwight D. Eisenhower once said, “Accomplishment will prove to be a journey, not a destination.” While we have accomplished much this past academic year, we are not at the end of the road. Another aspiring group of students will soon walk through our doors, and we must be prepared to provide them with the absolute finest in education and training.

Students will continue to come and go, yet we must remain constant in our relentless pursuit of excellence, every day.

Congratulations to each of you listed in this month’s “Buzz” on your accomplishments and endeavors, which together are moving us further in our pursuit of excellence.

Sincerely,

E. Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A.
Vice Chancellor, UAMS
Dean, College of Medicine
Beginning in July, two editions of the Buzz will be published approximately on the 1st and 15th of each month. The new deadlines for July Buzz submissions will be **July 8** and **July 22**. Please remember to send all Buzz submissions to **Misty Engler** at mleengler@uams.edu.

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**IT'S OFFICIAL—WELCOME NEW FACULTY**

**Nahed El-Hassan**, M.D., M.P.H., has joined the Department of Pediatrics as an instructor in the neonatology section. She obtained her medical degree from the American University of Beirut in Lebanon. El-Hassan completed a fellowship in neonatal-perinatal medicine at the University of Rochester, Golisano Children’s Hospital at Strong Memorial Hospital. She received her master’s degree in public health from the University of Rochester, where she also served as a clinical investigator.

**IT'S OFFICIAL—CONGRATULATIONS FACULTY**

**Mohammad Karim**, M.D., Ph.D., has joined the Department of Pediatrics as an instructor in the Section of Birth Defects Research. Karim transferred from the Endocrinology Division in the Department of Internal Medicine. He received his medical degree from the University of Dhaka in Bangladesh and his doctorate in human genetics and molecular biology from Kumamoto University School of Medicine in Japan.

**Tim Chambers**, Ph.D., has been appointed as vice chairman of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Chambers joined the department as an assistant professor in 1994 and is currently a full professor. He is a member of the National Institutes of Health Study Section on Drug Discovery and Molecular Pharmacology and is an associate editor of Cancer Research.

**Judy Weber**, a researcher in the Department of Pediatrics, has successfully received both promotion and tenure on her first application. Weber’s translational research studies focus on obesity in children and adolescents.

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**FACULTY AFFAIRS**

**Promotion and Tenure 2005**

The Nuts and Bolts of Compiling a Good Promotion and Tenure Packet

**Wednesday, July 20**

College of Public Health, Room 226

12-1 p.m.

**PRESENTERS:**

Lee Lee Doyle, Ph.D., chairman of the Promotion and Tenure Committee

Joan Cranmer, Ph.D., chairman of Pediatric Promotion and Tenure Committee

Christopher Westfall, M.D., Promotion and Tenure Committee

**THE NUTS AND BOLTS:**

This workshop is designed to demonstrate how to format, assemble and present a promotion and tenure packet. The workshop will clarify the proper way to compile a promotion and tenure packet by using demonstrations of sample packets, the expertise of administrative personnel and the experience of dedicated promotion and tenure committee members.

All faculty and associated staff are invited.

A light lunch will be served.

For more information, please contact Glenda J. Cooper, director of the Office of Faculty Affairs, at (501) 526-4685 or http://uams.edu/cmefa/faculty_affairs/promotion_tenure.asp
CONGRATULATIONS—GRANTS AWARDED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name and Department</th>
<th>Type and Title</th>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Total Annual Cost</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cornelia Beck, Ph.D., Geriatrics</td>
<td>Research Evaluating Assisted Living Dementia Specific Training</td>
<td>NIH/NIMH</td>
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<td>Curtis Lowery, M.D., Obstetrics and Gynecology</td>
<td>Research Fetal Magnetoencephalography and Evoked Potentials</td>
<td>NIH/NINDS</td>
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<td>Joshua Epstein, D.Sc., Myeloma Research Center</td>
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<td>NIH/NCI</td>
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<td>Stavoula Kousteni, Ph.D., Endocrinology</td>
<td>Research Osteoblast Commitment and Differentiation by ANGELS</td>
<td>NIH</td>
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<td>Wayne Gray, Ph.D., Microbiology and Immunology</td>
<td>Research Animal Models to Design &amp; Evaluate VZV vaccines</td>
<td>NIH/NIAID</td>
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<td>Robert J. S. Reis, Ph.D., Geriatrics</td>
<td>Research Metabolic Mechanisms Limiting and Protecting Longevity</td>
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<td>Helen Beneš, Ph.D., Neurobiology &amp; Developmental Science</td>
<td>Research Sex-Specific Gene Activity in the Mosquito Larva</td>
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<td>Donald Mock, M.D., Ph.D., Biochemistry &amp; Molecular Biology</td>
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<td>Kevin Raney, Ph.D., Biochemistry &amp; Molecular Biology</td>
<td>Research HCV NS3: Biological, Biochemical and Structural Analysis</td>
<td>NIH/NIAID</td>
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<td>Nancy Rusch, Ph.D., Pharmacology</td>
<td>Research Role of Cerebrovascular K+ Channels in Hypertension</td>
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<td>Maxim Dobretsov, Ph.D., Anesthesiology</td>
<td>Research Hyperglycemia-Induced Mechanical Hyperalgesia</td>
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<td>Paul Hermonat, Ph.D., Cardiology</td>
<td>Research HPV Helper Functions for AAV Replication</td>
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<td>Michael Jennings, Ph.D., Physiology</td>
<td>Research Mechanisms of Sulfate Transport and Regulation</td>
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<td>Piotr Zimniak, Ph.D., Toxicology</td>
<td>Research Role of Lipid Peroxidation and 4-Hydroxynonenal in Aging</td>
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<td>Patricia Wight, Ph.D., Physiology</td>
<td>Research Activation of PLP Gene Expression in Oligodendrocytes</td>
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<td>Chun-Yang Fan, M.D., Pathology</td>
<td>Research Oxidative DNA Damage, DNA Repair and Oral Cancer</td>
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<td>Toni Darville, M.D., Pediatrics</td>
<td>Research Cell Death and Innate Immunity</td>
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<td>E. Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A., Vice Chancellor and Dean</td>
<td>Research General Clinical Research Center</td>
<td>NIH/NCRR</td>
<td>$1,932,859</td>
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EDITOR’S NOTEBOOK

John F. Redman, M.D., a professor in the Department of Urology, had his paper titled “Reoperative Orchiopexy” published in Dialogues in Pediatric Urology (26, No. 5:10-11, 2005).

A manuscript written by Jackie Fickel, Ph.D., has been accepted for publication in the International Journal in Health Care (17:6, Dec. 2005). The manuscript is titled “Policymaker Use of Quality of Care Information.”
Behjatolah Monzavi-Karbassi, Ph.D., Cecile Artaud, Fariba Jousheghany, Leah Hennings, D.V.M., Jaime Carcel-Trullols, Ph.D., Saeid Shaaf, M.D., Ph.D., Soheila Korourian, M.D., and Thomas Kieber-Emmons, Ph.D., are the co-authors of “Reduction of Spontaneous Metastases through Induction of Carbohydrate Cross-Reactive Apoptotic Antibodies,” which was published in the *Journal of Immunology* (2005 Jun 1;174(11):7057-65).

Linda J. Perrot, M.D., J.D., wrote a manuscript titled “Identifying Lifelong Learning Across the Education Continuum,” that has been published in the fall issue of *Annals of Behavioral Science and Medical Education*. Her co-authors are Yvonne LaRocca Lewis, Ed.D., Linda A. Deloney, Ed.D., and Paula K. Roberson, Ph.D.

Anastas Pashov, M.D., Ph.D., Steward Macleod, Ph.D., Rinku Saha, Martin Perry, Ph.D., Thomas C. Vancott, Ph.D., and Thomas Kieber-Emmons, Ph.D., are co-authors of an article titled “Concanavalin A Binding to HIV Envelope Protein is Less Sensitive to Mutations in Glycosylation Sites Than Monoclonal Antibody 2G12,” which was published in *Glycobiology* (2005 May 25).


Several manuscripts written by Mark Edlund, M.D., Ph.D., have been published or have been accepted for publication. The titles and journals are as follows:
- “Racial and Ethnic Differences in the Need for and Use of Mental Health Care,” in *Medical Care* (in press).
- “Perceived Need for Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Treatment,” in *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology* (in press).

Helen Beneš, Ph.D., is a co-author of a manuscript that was published in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences U.S.A.* (102 (22):8024-8029). The manuscript is titled “Increased Glutathione S-transferase Activity Rescues Dopaminergic Neuron Loss in a Drosophila Model of Parkinson’s Disease.”

K.J.S. Anand, M.B.B.S., D.Phil., has the following recent publications:
Gwen Childs, Ph.D., Noor Akhter, Ph.D., and Mary Iruthayanathan, M.D., are the co-authors of a paper titled “Bipotential Effects of Estrogen on Growth Hormone Synthesis and Storage in Vitro,” which was published in the April issue of *Endocrinology*. They have also been invited by *Molecular and Cellular Endocrinology* to write an essay about their work.

Bob Burns, Ph.D., had some of his research on biological rhythmicity referenced and quoted in the recent book “Rhythms of Life: The Biological Clocks that Control Daily Lives of Every Living Thing,” by R.G. Foster and L. Kreitzman.

**THE APPOINTMENT CARD**

Linda J. Perrot, M.D., J.D., has been invited to serve on the National Institutes of Health review panel, BBBP-H-50, titled “Strengthening Behavioral and Social Science in Medical Schools.”

Thomas Kieber-Emmons, Ph.D., has been appointed as a member of the NIH Onc-L (12)B Cancer Diagnostic and Treatment Study Section.

Tammy Kielian, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the Department of Neurobiology and Developmental Sciences, has been appointed as a full member on the NIH Study Section panel, “Clinical Neuroimmunology and Brain Tumors.” Kielian was also recently appointed to the program committee for the American Society for Neurochemistry.

Paula K. Roberson, Ph.D., professor and chairman in the Division of Biostatistics, recently participated in the NIH Member Conflict Special Emphasis Panel. The panel met on June 7 to review applications for biomedical imaging and imaging technology.

Angus MacNicol, Ph.D., has been appointed as a member of the American Cancer Society’s Differentiation, Development and Cancer Study Section to review research grants and post-doctoral fellowship applications.

**EVENTS, LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS**

Maurizio Zangari, M.D., an associate professor in the Myeloma Institute for Research and Therapy, presented a poster at the 10th Congress of the European Hematology Association meeting in Stockholm, Sweden on June 4. The poster was titled “Marked Activity of VTD Regimen Comprising G Velcade (V) Plus Thalidomide (T) and Added Dexamethasone for Non-responders in Advanced and Refractory Multiple Myeloma (MM).”

An abstract by John Fortney, Ph.D., and his co-authors has been accepted for presentation at the 18th National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Conference on Mental Health Services Research. The conference, titled “Broadening the Scope of Scientific Investigation,” will be held July 18 and 19 in Bethesda, Md. The abstract is titled “Based Collaborative Care for Rural Depression.”

An abstract by Teresa Kramer, Ph.D., has also been accepted for presentation at the 18th NIMH Conference. Her abstract is titled “Improving Depression Care through Churches, a Community-Based Strategy.”
Frank Block, M.D., a professor in the Department of Anesthesiology, recently traveled to Lübeck, Germany for a meeting of the ISO/IEC Joint Working Group on Alarms. Block is an “Expert Member” of the group, which met to discuss proposed German amendments to the recently-issued Alarms Standard.

Graham Greene, M.D., an associate professor and head of the Genitourinary Oncology Section in the Department of Urology, moderated a scientific poster session titled “Benign and Malignant Disease of the Testis, Penis and Urethra” at the annual American Urological Association meeting on May 23 in San Antonio, Texas.

Jehad Albataineh, M.D., Mohammad Jaffar, M.D., and James Pasley, Ph.D., will present their poster titled “Patient Simulator Program in Medical Physiology: Effect Scores” during the 9th annual meeting of the International Association of Medical Science Educators. The meeting will be held July 14-19 in Los Angeles, Calif.

J. Grady Crosland, M.D., an associate professor in the Department of Anesthesiology, lectured at the Street Level Airway Management (SLAM) Conference in Dallas on “The Difficult Pediatric Airway” and “Evaluation of the Pediatric Airway” in April.

Sana Ullah, M.D., an assistant professor in the Department of Anesthesiology, presented a lecture titled “Anesthesia for Non-Cardiac Surgery in Patients with Congenital Heart Disease” at the St. Jude’s Topics in Pediatric Anesthesia meeting in May. Timothy Martin, M.D., a professor in the Department of Anesthesiology and chief of the ACH Pediatric Division, also presented a lecture titled “Problems in the Pediatric PACU” at the meeting.

Terry Yamauchi, M.D., a professor and vice chairman of the Department of Pediatrics, recently made these presentations at different venues:

- “Antibiotic Resistance in the Outpatient Area,” at the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) in Jonesboro.
- A poster presentation titled “Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus in Dogs and Cats,” at the 32nd Annual Association for Practitioners of Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) National Conference in Baltimore.

Timothy Chambers, Ph.D., and Brandon Jeffus, a graduate student in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, presented a lecture at the 2nd annual Cell and Molecular Biology Symposium on May 6 in Fayetteville, Ark. The lecture was titled “Impact of Post- and Co-Translational Glycosyl Modification on Membrane Trafficking of Serotonin Transporter Proteins.”

Edgar Garcia-Rill, Ph.D., director of the Center for Translational Neuroscience, was invited to give a series of lectures on May 23 and 24 at the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute at the University of Graz in Austria. He was invited by the departments of Philosophy, Psychology and Psychiatry. The lectures were titled “Development of REM Sleep: Implications for Neuropsychiatric Disorders,” “Brain Music, the Mind in Sickness and in Health,” and “Future Dangerousness and the Biology of Violence.”

John F. Redman, M.D., a professor in the Department of Urology, presented a course on anatomy at the Basic Science Course at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville on June 4. The course was organized by the American Urological Association for first- and second-year urology residents.
**Abhijit Dandapat**, Ph.D., a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, will attend the 15th Biennial International *C. elegans* Conference, sponsored by the Genetics Society of America. The meeting will be held June 25-29 in Los Angeles. Dandapat will present a poster during the meeting.

**SPOTLIGHT**

**Mary Aitken**, M.D., Ph.D., F.A.A.P., testified March 22 on behalf of the American Academy of Pediatrics before the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), seeking national safety standards for all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). The standards would include banning the sale of adult-size ATVs for use by children younger than 16 years of age. The recommendation was prompted by a CPSC report which indicated that ATV-related injuries and deaths broke records for the second consecutive year.

**Galen R. Wenger**, Ph.D., **Paul Prather**, Ph.D., and **Donald McMillan**, Ph.D., all received the Red Sash Award at the COM convocation on May 20. This award is given out by the graduating medical school class to those faculty members they feel have had the most significant input into their medical education.

**Graham Greene**, M.D., an associate professor and head of the Genitourinary Oncology Section in the Department of Urology, received an award at the presidential banquet of the annual American Urological Association (AUA) meeting as an elected member of the inaugural AUA leadership class. The meeting was held on May 23 in San Antonio, Texas.

**D. Keith Williams**, Ph.D., an associate professor in the Department of Biostatistics, received the Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching at the 2004-2005 Convocation and Awards Ceremony of the UAMS Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health, held on May 21.

**Lawanya Kalla**, M.D., a second year resident in the Department of Radiology, has been awarded the 2005 Research and Education Foundation Roentgen Resident Research Award given by the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA). To receive the award, each residency program director identifies a resident or fellow in their program who has conducted or participated meaningfully in research during the academic year. Kalla has participated in various projects with radiology staff, which have led to publications and presentations at several radiology national meetings.

**Mary Iruthayanathan**, M.B.B.S, Ph.D., is the recipient of a $500 travel award from the Endocrine Society for her poster presented June 4-7 at the 87th annual meeting in San Diego, Calif. Only 130 of 800 abstracts that were entered were selected for the award. She also was the first place winner in the postdoctoral fellows division of the Student Research Forum held recently at UAMS.

**Catherine Kossover**, a medical student in the lab of **Cynthia Kane**, Ph.D., graduated with honors in research.

**Terry Yamauchi**, M.D., a professor and vice chairman of the Department of Pediatrics, was inducted into the Arkansas Softball Hall of Fame in recognition of his 30 years as a player and coach, and for his many contributions to Arkansas softball.

**Laura Hutchins**, M.D., a professor and director of the Division of Hematology and Oncology in the Department of Internal Medicine, is the recipient of the Distinguished Faculty Award from the Arkansas Caduceus Club. She was nominated by Kent C. Westbrook, M.D. The Distinguished Faculty Award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the health of all people through teaching, basic research, clinical research or health services administration and who have demonstrated the high principles of the medical profession. Hutchins was recognized for her gifted and caring leadership, compassion

(continued on pg. 8)
for her patients and families, and for the superb example she has set for students and young physicians. Hutchins is also the recipient of the Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award, which was established to recognize and honor faculty members who demonstrate the highest standard of compassion and sensitivity in their interactions with patients.

Charles Feild, M.D., a professor in the Department of Pediatrics, was awarded the College of Public Health Faculty Award for public service for 2005 at convocation on May 21.

Jason Chang, Ph.D., is the recipient of the Freshman Golden Apple Award, which is presented by the freshman medical students at the end of their first year. Chang has received the award three times in the past five years.

Richard F. Jacobs, M.D., a professor in the Department of Pediatrics, was awarded the Physician Service Award from the Pediatric Infectious Disease Society in recognition of his 14 years of service to the society.

Whit Goodwin, M.D., received the 2005 American Alliance of Academic Chief Residents in Radiology Advisor’s Award for his paper, “Radiology Residents Evaluate Their Peers and Faculty On-Call: An Innovative Program to Evaluate and Emphasize the Professionalism Competency.” This award is given for the best presentation by a resident at the Association of University Radiologists annual meeting. Goodwin is a chief resident completing his third year of the diagnostic radiology residency. His co-authors on the winning paper are Eric Sale, M.D., Linda Deloney, Ed.D., Heather Smith, John Livoni, M.D., and Sarah Klein, M.D.

Thomas H. Wortham, M.D., received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Arkansas Caduceus Club at the Alumni and Faculty Awards Banquet on June 3 at the Peabody Hotel. The award was given to Wortham to recognize his compassion and care for his patients, astute clinical abilities, and his vital and valuable leadership to his community and alma mater. Wortham received his medical degree from UAMS in 1953.

James Clardy, M.D., was honored last month for his successful completion of the Association of American Medical Colleges’ GME Leadership Development Course. Clardy was among 45 graduates from institutions across the country to earn this certificate on April 17. The course is designed to help participants fulfill their responsibilities as graduate medical education leaders and designated institutional officials.

DID YOU KNOW?

The UAMS Tissue Bank was launched on April 12, 2005. The bank has been in the planning phase for the past two years and is a joint venture of the ACRC, the Department of Pathology and other UAMS contributors. It is an institution-wide tissue procurement facility that coordinates and oversees tissue and related data donation, processing, storage and dissemination. This effort will provide UAMS researchers access to tissue processed in a standardized manner, in compliance with all institutional and federal regulations. The end result is a significantly enhanced research environment that will attract additional funding and resources. In addition, the tissue bank satisfies one requirement needed for NCI designation of ACRC as a comprehensive cancer center. The bank staff includes Marwan Yared, M.D., director, Sue Lewis, manager, and Mindy Gibbons, clinical nurse. Clinicians are encouraged to start banking tissue using this resource.

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(continued on pg.9)
Galen R. Wenger, Ph.D., is the recipient of a five-year grant from the National Institute of Child Health & Human Development with a total cost of $1.3 million. The grant is titled “Age and Cognition in a Mouse Model of Down’s Syndrome” and will examine working memory and repeated learning over the lifetime of the Ts65Dn mouse and littermate controls. The grant will also examine the therapeutic potential of cognitive enhancers at various time points in the life cycle.

William C. Culp, M.D., received a patent titled “Ultrasound Apparatus and Method for Augmented Clot Lysis.” The device improves delivery of ultrasound to areas of thrombosis in difficult-to-penetrate structures, such as the skull, by using multiple transducers and frequency, along with amplitude agile ultrasound technology. This can improve thrombolysis up to 90 percent when used with tPA. For even safer clot lysis, this allows successful thrombolysis without tPA when coupled with microbubbles. Culp and Doug Wilson of UALR invented the device, and the patent was approved on May 23.

Bob Burns, Ph.D., received a two-year grant from the Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Early Childhood Services and Education, with total costs of $270,000. The funding will be used to teach the basic functional gross anatomy of the human heart to all pre-kindergarten teachers statewide. The pilot work for this grant was conducted with Charles Feild, M.D., Billy Thomas, M.D. and a group of UAMS Head Start teachers and parents.

Akihiko Kudo, a visiting professor, recently received a three-year research grant from the Japanese government for his research regarding changes of somatogonadotrope population in the pituitary gland after overiectomy.

Gwen Childs, Ph.D., recently received a National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Experience for Undergraduate Students supplement to her NSF grant.

Cynthia Kane, Ph.D., received an NIH supplement for her R01 grant to purchase a camera and software for her microscope.

Thomas Kelly, Ph.D., was awarded a one-year contract with ActivX-Kyorin for $24,326 to investigate “Suppression of Breast Tumor Growth with Inhibitors of FAP-alpha.”

UAMS BioVentures

Presented at the Arkansas Venture Conference.

Over thirty developing and new businesses competed for seven slots as “Presenting Companies” at the Arkansas Venture Forum’s (AVF) 4th annual Arkansas Venture Conference, held May 17-18 at the Peabody Hotel.

The seven presenting company finalists were selected from a broad range of over thirty businesses, all aimed at growth, success and new economic development for Arkansas. The companies are ready to take their proprietary positions in the marketplace and can easily become tomorrow’s high-growth and high-wage companies. Out of the seven presenting companies selected, four UAMS BioVentures companies were listed as this year’s Arkansas Venture Forum’s presenting companies:

InterveXion Therapeutics, LLC, a company that will develop, produce and market protective therapies to treat medical illnesses, including the first medications intended to treat substance abuse caused by phencyclidine (PCP) and methamphetamine (Meth).

Balm Innovations, LLC, a company that produces a tea tree oil-based topical cream shown to be highly effective when applied to a variety of skin ailments.
NanoBlade, LLC, a company focused on continuous improvement of the medical device industry through the introduction of revolutionary processes and products, including a fully integrated and automated portable device for sectioning and collecting fresh tissue.

Contour MedTM, a company that manufactures and markets prosthetic devices for victims of cancer and other diseases, as well as disfiguring trauma.

In addition to the presenting companies, the agenda included several topics of interest to local entrepreneurs, angel investors and others. These panel discussion topics included: “Seed Stage Funding-Federal and State Dollars that Don’t Dilute Equity,” “Technologies that Will Change the World,” “Highlighting Arkansas Private Equity Funded Companies” and “Seed and Early Stage Venture Capital.” J.R. “Pitt” Hyde, the founder of AutoZone, was the keynote speaker at this conference.

Additional information is available at the Arkansas Venture Forum’s Web site at www.arkansasventureforum.com. The AVF is managed by the Capital Resource Corporation, a non-profit affiliate of the Arkansas Capital Corporation Group.

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**NEWS OF NOTE**

**COM STUDENTS SPONSOR ESSAY CONTEST**

College of Medicine medical students, in collaboration with the American Medical Association, sponsored an essay contest for fourth and fifth graders in the Little Rock School District. Allegra Green, a fifth-grader at Romine Elementary School, was named as the top winner in the “Get Healthy Now…Even Kids” essay contest.

Geordy Kortebein, a fifth-grader at Fulbright Elementary, received the second-place prize, with Sarah Spellins, a fifth-grader at Christ the King, receiving third place. Students in fourth and fifth grades from nine Little Rock schools submitted 283 essays for the contest, funded by a policy promotion grant from the American Medical Association and the local Arkansas Medical Society Student Chapter.

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Erin Alexander, a first-year medical student, helped arrange for 120 medical students to help with the project. Medical students assisting Erin were Allen Moseley, Christian Hester, Amy Brunt, Richard Harper and Michael Wiederhold, president of the AMA/AMS student chapter.

The UAMS students gave presentations at local elementary schools and judged the essays. The contest focused on productive health planning by asking elementary students to provide examples of a healthy lifestyle. Contest participants were required to design a daily schedule of a healthy lifestyle for kids their age and asked to provide a one-page essay supporting their plan.

Glen White, Ph.D., served as the principal investigator on a recent grant application submitted in partnership with the North Little Rock School District to the U.S. Department of Education. The title of the grant application was “Grants for the Integration of Schools and Mental Health Systems-The North Little Rock Schools Connections Project.” The total direct cost over 18 months is $154,591. Chris Rule, Paula McCarther, Shannon Watson and Ken Hall assisted White with the application.

Patti Bokony, Ph.D., served as the principal investigator on a recent grant application submitted to the American Psychiatric Foundation. The total direct cost for the project over three years is $269,969. June Eskridge, Ken Hall, and Katie Lincourt assisted Bokony with the grant application.

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(continued on pg. 11)
A recent announcement from the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) highlighted the implementation and success of the UAMS liver transplant program and state’s first liver transplant.

**IN THE NEWS**

A recent Arkansas Business online article featured Edgar Garcia-Rill, Ph.D., and the signing of a licensing agreement with UAMS and Ozark Systems Manufacturing to build and market a motorized bicycle exercise trainer (MBET). A team of UAMS researchers, led by Garcia-Rill, developed the trainer, which allows spinal cord injured patients to exercise leg muscles while seated in a wheelchair. The clinical trials are headed by Thomas Kiser, M.D., an associate professor in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. Ozark Systems Manufacturing will build and market the MBET. News coverage of the signing and the background behind the invention was carried by local news stations, KATV, KARK, KLRT and KARN, as well as the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette.

Tyra Reid, M.D., director of the autism program at the J.L. Dennis Developmental Center, was recently interviewed by local television stations KTHV Channel 11 and KATV Channel 7. The interviews focused on reports of possible biological markers for autism mentioned in press releases from the recent International Meeting for Autism Research in Boston.

A recent surgery performed by Randy Bindra, M.D., a professor in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, caught the attention of KTHV Channel 11. Bindra’s work on an injured soldier’s hand was the focal point of the local station’s story.

Thomas Horn, M.D., M.B.A., a professor and chairman of the Department of Dermatology, will be featured in article for the New York Times science section regarding his paper on intralesional immunotherapy of warts.

Jehad Albataineh, M.D., an assistant professor in the Department of Anesthesiology, recently appeared on KTHV Channel 11 to discuss medical student and resident education using a patient simulator. The story was also shown on WTSP Tampa Bay News and WFMY News out of Greensboro, N.C.

Bob Burns, Ph.D., was interviewed by the Arkansas Democrat Gazette for an article regarding biological rhythms and the daylight time change. Burns’ research focuses on chronobiology and concentrates on the use of daily biological rhythms to significantly enhance the cure rate in cancer chemotherapy.

Stacie M. Jones, M.D., an associate professor in the Department of Pediatrics, had the recent press coverage:
- Two live interviews during the Morning Drive program on KARN News Radio. The taped interviews ran in newscasts later in the day.
- Interview on KUAR Radio (NPR) for local news inserts on May 9.
- Featured on KTHV, Channel 11 regarding allergy patients, which included interviews with the patient and the mother on May 11.

Tamara Perry, M.D., an instructor in the Department of Pediatrics, was featured on KARK, Channel 4 in an interview about food allergies.

Nick Long, M.D., a professor, and Karen Farst, M.D., an instructor, in the Department of Pediatrics, were members of a panel featured on the May 24 AETN special “A Walk Upstream,” a child abuse prevention program. The 90-minute panel discussion focused on physical, emotional and sexual abuse, as well as neglect.
In Relentless Pursuit of Excellence,

Every Day
BUZZ CONTACTS

Thanks to the following list of people who serve as the contacts for the information you see in the BUZZ. Please send any information that you’d like to see in the BUZZ to the appropriate person within your department.

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Cardiology
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Dermatology
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Emergency Medicine
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Hematology/Oncology
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Internal Medicine
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The contact in the Dean’s office for submission of Buzz information is Misty Engler. Please call 686-8614 or send an e-mail to mlengler@uams.edu.

COM STUDENTS BUZZ INFORMATION LINK

An e-mail link is available for students to submit information to the BUZZ to acknowledge honors, prizes, presentations, leadership positions, and other noteworthy COM accomplishments. Go to:
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