

ALUMNI

UAMS[®]UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES

SUMMER 2013

Service Comes First for Alumni Honorees

Extraordinary service was the common thread at Dean's Honor Day April 30 as the College of Medicine recognized alumni, faculty and staff who have made their mark on the institution, Arkansas and the world.

The first-ever Dean's Distinguished Alumnus Service Awards were presented to **David Jacks, M.D. '76**, and **F. Eugene Joyce, M.D. '68**. The College of Medicine's **Kent Westbrook, M.D. '65**, received the Distinguished Faculty Service Award. Three alumni were inducted into the Hall of Fame: **John Cody, M.D. '60**; **James Wallis Marsh, M.D. '50**; and **Paul Wilbur, M.D. '76**.

Dr. Jacks, a Pine Bluff urologist, was recognized for his service to UAMS and the state. He was president of the Arkansas Medical Society and the Arkansas Urologic Society and served for many years on the Arkansas State Medical Board.

Dr. Jacks has mentored many medical students and residents and worked with the UAMS Department of Urology and campus leaders on numerous initiatives. He is the 1976 class agent and was a president of the Caduceus Club.

Dr. Joyce, a retired pathologist in Texarkana, Texas, has championed UAMS for decades. He mentored medical students and advocated for development of the residency program at the Area Health Education Center (now the UAMS Regional Center) in Texarkana.

Dr. Joyce has served on the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute Board of Directors since 2002 and was chairman in 2004. He campaigned



*Distinguished Alumnus Service Award recipient **David Jacks, M.D. '76**, is a highly regarded urologist and medical leader in Arkansas.*



*Distinguished Faculty Service Award winner **Kent Westbrook, M.D. '65**, (left) and **F. Eugene Joyce, M.D. '68**, a recipient of the Dean's Distinguished Alumnus Service Award, both have strived to advance cancer care and research in Arkansas.*

for legislation that provided matching funds for construction of the 12-story second tower that opened in 2010.

Dr. Westbrook has been a faculty leader for 40 years. The surgical oncologist worked to develop programs that coalesced into the Arkansas Cancer Research Center (now the Cancer Institute). He served as founding director

for 14 years and was chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology from 1992 to 2003.

Dr. Westbrook has been an associate dean and a member of the Chancellor's Cabinet. He served as interim chair of the Department of Surgery from 1999 to 2002 and as interim vice chancellor for UAMS Development and Alumni Affairs in 2011.

"Dr. (David) Jacks never lost sight of his roots and never failed to remember his education and training at UAMS."

- **Keith Mooney, M.D. '82**

"Frederick Eugene Joyce, M.D., believes in the mission of the UAMS College of Medicine and has provided years of loyal, dedicated support."

- **Malcolm Smith, M.D. '90**

"Whenever asked, (Dr. Kent Westbrook) has worked diligently to improve health care for Arkansans through improvements on our campus."

- **Laura Hutchins, M.D. '77**

Read about the new Hall of Fame members on page 3



A Note from the Dean, G. Richard Smith, M.D.

As someone who first stepped foot in the College of Medicine 40 years ago as a freshman medical student, and who has served on the faculty for the past 32, it is hard to express how much this institution means to me personally. I have had

the privilege of working with many wonderful colleagues – many of them fellow alumni – through the years.

I am honored to now serve as dean of your College of Medicine. I hope you will continue to stay connected with us, or that you will renew your ties if it has been a while since you visited campus, worked with us on a project, or lent your support to one of our many initiatives in education, research, patient care or service to the state of Arkansas.

It is an exciting time to be in medicine. Recent years have seen breathtaking advances in biomedical knowledge and our ability to successfully treat patients with the most complex diseases. It is also a very challenging time for us here at UAMS, and for all of you who are still in practice.

Our health care system is undergoing the most massive transformation since Medicare and Medicaid were signed into law in 1965. In Arkansas, the expansion of Medicaid to cover many more low-income citizens is very welcome news, but we still must chart and navigate the

complex new world of bundled payments and episodes of care. The Affordable Care Act also calls for cuts that will significantly reduce our clinical revenue, offsetting funds from the expanded Medicaid coverage.

At UAMS, our research funding is tighter than ever because of federal budget cuts. And there are other factors that could significantly affect our interrelated education, research and clinical missions.

Alumni have always been vital to the College of Medicine’s ability to fulfill its mission. Your gifts of time and resources, as well as your advocacy, help to ensure that Arkansas will have the highly skilled, compassionate doctors it will need in the decades ahead, that Arkansans will always have access to the very best medical care, and that the pursuit of new biomedical knowledge and its translation into medical practice will be fruitful.

Thank you for continuing to support your college of medicine. I am looking forward to working with you.

G. Richard Smith, M.D.
Dean, College of Medicine
Vice Chancellor, UAMS



A Note from the Director, Judith McClain

One of the pleasures of publishing your ALUMNI newsletter is getting to share information about the achievements, exemplary service and generosity of alumni like you. We are particularly humbled after compiling this issue.

The dedication of alumni like **David Jacks, M.D. '76**, and **F. Eugene “Gene” Joyce, M.D. '68**, recipients of the first Dean’s Distinguished Alumnus Service Awards (a nice counterpoint to our annual Distinguished Alumnus Award but focusing explicitly on service), and **Kent Westbrook, M.D. '65**, who received the Distinguished Faculty Service Award, is deeply inspiring.

And when some 30 family, friends and others whose lives have been impacted by **James Wallis Marsh, M.D.**

'50, traveled to UAMS to celebrate his induction into the Hall of Fame, we knew more than ever how important his life’s work as a “country doc” in Warren has been.

We are also humbled by Hall of Fame inductee **Paul Wilbur, M.D. '76**, whose care for the less fortunate in Baxter County exemplifies the highest goals of your profession. New Hall of Fame member **John Cody, M.D. '60**, couldn’t be with us for the ceremony, but we were so happy to share the story of his work as a psychiatrist in Kansas and his renowned work as an artist.

There are many other examples of service and giving in this issue. And here’s the bottom line: You make us proud.

Judith McClain
Executive Director, Medical Alumni Association

Dean's Honor Day: 2013 Hall of Fame Alumni Inductees

The College of Medicine Hall of Fame recognizes both alumni and former faculty members from throughout the institution's 134-year history. The tradition began with the first 37 inductees at the college's 125th anniversary celebration in 2004, and one or more have been inducted in most years since then.

John Cody, M.D. '60, was traveling abroad and unable to attend the induction ceremony held during Dean's Honor Day on April 30. Dr. Cody was a leading psychiatrist in Kansas for many years and became known as the "Audubon of moths" for his highly acclaimed watercolors and work to raise awareness of the threat of environmental degradation. He donated 15 high-quality prints of his paintings to the college and was honored last year at a reception (shown here) at the UAMS Northwest campus, where the prints are on display.



James Wallis Marsh, M.D. '50, (above, in front row holding award) is surrounded by loved ones who gathered to celebrate his induction into the Hall of Fame. Dr. Marsh practiced family medicine in Warren for 57 years, becoming a pillar in the

community and serving as a mentor for other physicians in southeastern Arkansas. He also was an inspiration to seven family members who followed his footsteps to study medicine in the College of Medicine.



Paul Wilbur, M.D. '76, (holding award in photo at left) at the ceremony with his nominator, **Mark Williams, M.D. '99**, who was inspired by Dr. Wilbur's contributions as a family medicine

physician in Mountain Home for 22 years and his subsequent work to open the Mountain Home Christian Clinic, which has provided free, high-quality care for more than 13,000 patients since opening in 2000. Dr. Wilbur, who also has done extensive international mission work, was commended for his moral character, love and compassion.

The late Patrick Tank, Ph.D., a renowned anatomist and award-winning educator who taught and mentored more than 4,000 College of Medicine students over 34 years before his death from cancer in July 2012, was inducted posthumously.

'77 Alumnus Smith Named College of Medicine Dean

Richard "Rick" Smith, M.D. '77, a longtime faculty member and chair of the Department of Psychiatry for the past 12 years, began serving as dean of the College of Medicine and vice chancellor of UAMS on May 1.

Dr. Smith was appointed by UAMS Chancellor Dan Rahn, M.D. He succeeds **Debra H. Fiser, M.D. '77**, who stepped down to return to the Department of Pediatrics, where she had been a faculty member and leader prior to her seven years of service as dean of the college.

Dr. Smith was the founding director of the UAMS Psychiatric Research Institute, which opened in December 2008 to combine comprehensive inpatient and outpatient care, research and educational programs in one location. Long active in research, Dr. Smith developed several highly regarded programs, including the Division of Health Services Research, one of the nation's largest research groups dedicated to mental health and substance abuse.

He also was the first director of the Veterans Administration Health Services Research and Development (VA HSR&D) Field Program for Mental Health in Little Rock in 1990-1999 and served as principal investigator on numerous grants funded by the National Institute for Mental Health (NIMH) and other entities for over two decades.

Dr. Smith was the founding director of the Arkansas Center for Health Improvement and a leader in securing the state's tobacco settlement to improve health care.

The Jonesboro native received his bachelor's degree in chemical biology from Rhodes College in Memphis. After graduating from the College of Medicine in 1977 he stayed at UAMS for his internship and residency in psychiatry. He continued his training with a fellowship in psychiatry and internal medicine at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, N.Y. Dr. Smith returned to UAMS as a faculty member in 1981. He became the Marie Wilson Howells Professor and Chair in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences in 2001.

Founders Society Supports Groundbreaking Nanomedicine Research

The College of Medicine Founders Society is supporting world-class translational research into nanomedicine applications that could provide new hope for cancer patients and others using breathtakingly small particles and lasers for non-invasive, ultra-sensitive early diagnosis and treatment.

The organization allocated the past year's general endowment proceeds to the Arkansas



Dr. Zharov

Nanomedicine Center and the internationally recognized work of its director, Vladimir Zharov, Ph.D., a professor in the Department of Otolaryngology

– Head and Neck Surgery.

Dr. Zharov, who was the keynote speaker at the Founders Society's annual dinner on May 1, has propelled UAMS to the forefront of institutions working in the field of nanomedicine since his recruitment to UAMS in 2000. The college established the Arkansas Nanomedicine Center in 2012 to support collaborative, multi-institutional research with vast potential for addressing

complex medical problems.

The scale of nanomedicine and nanoparticles can be difficult to fathom. A nanometer is one

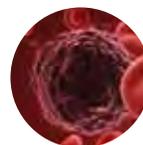
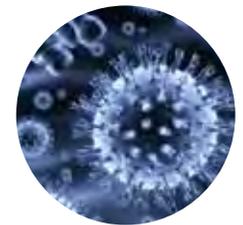
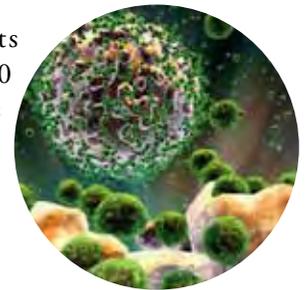
A nanometer is one billionth of a meter, which is like comparing the size of a marble and the planet Earth.

billionth of a meter, which is like comparing the size of a marble and the planet Earth. A red blood cell might be 6,000 to 8,000 nanometers in diameter. A nanoparticle is typically just

one to 100 nanometers in size.

With over \$100 million in total gifts to endowments since 1994, the Founders Society generates about \$4.5 million annually in proceeds for the College of Medicine's initiatives in education, research and clinical care. The Founders Society also supports a general endowment that provides a special annual allocation, such as this year's gift to the Arkansas Nanomedicine Center.

Since July 2010 alone, 301 generous alumni and friends, foundations, corporations and other organizations have become new members of the College of Medicine Founders Society by virtue of their cumulative gifts of over \$10,000 to the college's diverse endowments.



With over \$100 million in total gifts to endowments since 1994, the Founders Society generates about \$4.5 million annually in proceeds for the College of Medicine



*Above left: Bobbie and **Jack Blackshear, M.D. '68**, of Little Rock visit before dinner with graduating senior **Arthur Formanek III**, of El Paso, Texas, who received the Class of 1968/Hank Jordan, M.D., Scholarship.*

*Above right: Founders Society and Dean's Society members **Sarah Carter, M.D. '65**, and **Michael Carter, Ph.D.**, of Tumbling Shoals are strong supporters of the College of Medicine.*

*At left: UAMS Chancellor **Dan Rahn** welcomes Founders Society members to the annual dinner.*

Phonathon 2013

The signs say it all. Scholarships definitely matter to College of Medicine students, and this year's 131 Phonathon volunteers and all of our scholarship recipients want alumni to know how much your generosity is appreciated. To date, \$60,000 in gifts and pledges has been received as result of the three evenings of calling in early March and a follow-up mailing, and we know from past experience that the total will continue to grow in the months ahead.

The students at the center of the group photo holding the "Scholarships Matter!" sign are **Kelsey Lancaster** of Sherwood and **Scott Fleck** of Russellville, this past year's freshman alumni representatives. They worked for months in advance to rally volunteers and to secure food and prizes for participants.

Fleck noted that scholarships help to reduce the burden of student debt – which averaged \$139,044 for College of Medicine students who graduated

in 2012. "Scholarships make it possible for some Arkansans to attend medical school, and they make it a little easier for so many students. We hope that the scholarship funds we raise will make a difference for some of the students coming behind us."

"Our classmates have a strong attitude for service," said Lancaster. "Many classes before us have left a legacy, and this is one of the ways for our class to do the same."



'04 Alumnus Memorial, '10 Grad Dedicated to Residents' Wellbeing



An endowment in memory of a beloved 2004 alumnus who died tragically during his anesthesiology residency is supporting a new award dedicated to supporting the mental health of residents.

Residents' wellbeing is the shared goal for **Deidre Wyrick, M.D. '10**, who is the inaugural recipient of the Marc E.

Wise Resident Education Award, and Julleah Johnson, Ph.D., the late Dr. Wise's widow.

"I lost my husband unexpectedly to suicide seven years ago," said Dr. Johnson, who worked with other family members and friends of Dr. Wise to create the endowment. "I believe that suicide is so often preventable when issues such as alcohol and substance abuse, job stress, depression and other mental health conditions can be addressed."

Mental health and substance abuse among residents is a nationwide concern. "Residency training is demanding work with long hours," said **James Clardy, M.D. '86**, a professor of psychiatry and associate dean for graduate medical education in the College of Medicine. "It is very stressful and sometimes makes residents feel isolated from their family and support systems."



*The late
Marc E.
Wise, M.D.
'04*

UAMS and the Department of Psychiatry offer comprehensive mental health and counseling services for residents. Additionally, the UAMS Medical Staff Health Committee protects patients from exposure to impaired residents or physicians while providing appropriate advocacy for those who are participating in effective treatment programs.

Dr. Wyrick, a third-year surgery resident and committee member, wanted to contribute in this area after watching a loved one deal with the professional repercussions and stigma of a past substance abuse problem. In August, she will use funds from the Wise award to attend the Professionals in Residence program at a nonprofit Hazelden Treatment Center in Minnesota, where she will learn from experts and meet

patients to learn about addiction treatment from their perspective.

After returning to UAMS, Dr. Wyrick will share information with the Medical Staff Health Committee and directly with residents. "I hope to relate, resident-to-resident, with anyone who might be fearful of coming forward for treatment," she said. "My message is, 'People are here to help you.'"

For more information or to contribute to the endowment, visit giving.uams.edu or email Art Horne, executive director of development, at AHorne@uams.edu.

'90 Grad Honored for Service to Nation



Col. Bobby Jones, M.D. '90, (right) receives a Certificate of Appreciation, signed by President Barack Obama, from Maj. Gen. Mark J. MacCarley, Chief of Staff for the Army Training and Doctrine Command, at a May 3 retirement ceremony at Fort Stewart, Ga.

Colonel Bobby W. Jones, M.D. '90, was honored at two ceremonies this spring for his leadership in internal medicine and 28 years of exemplary service as a Medical Corps officer in the U.S. Army. Dr. Jones retired after a career that earned him the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service and many other military awards.

Col. Jones served most recently as the First U.S. Army Command Surgeon at Fort Gillem, Ga., and Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., where he ensured the medical readiness and demobilization of more than 170,000 service men and women and oversaw the preparation and deployment of more than 100 Army Reserve and National Guard medical units. The Alzheimer native has served in many medical posts, with operational and combat deployments to the National Training Center, Joint Readiness Training Center, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and Iraq.



Brandon Thurow, M.D. '09, recently received the Chris Hackler Award for Excellence in Medical Ethics from

the UAMS University Hospital Medical Ethics Committee. Dr. Thurow, who practices at the Throneberry Family Clinic in Conway, received the award for his work while a resident at the UAMS Area Health Education Center (now the UAMS Regional Center) in Pine Bluff. The award is presented annually to both a resident and a faculty member in recognition of exemplary actions in medical ethics and leadership in promoting thoughtful analysis and discussion of ethical standards affecting patient care.



Billy Thomas, M.D. '80, was honored by Just Communities of Arkansas this spring for his efforts to promote diversity

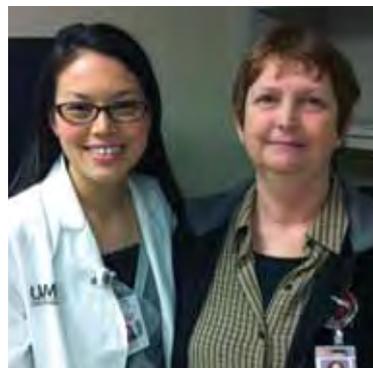
and to get people to reach across cultural lines. Dr. Thomas is a professor of pediatrics and UAMS vice chancellor for diversity and inclusion and director of the Center for Diversity Affairs. He received the organization's Joseph H. Biltz Award.

We are delighted each spring to help College of Medicine freshmen connect with alumni in our Day with a Doctor program. This year, 60 of you volunteered, and we are grateful for your willingness to share your insights with the next generation of physicians. Thanks to you, we've been able to offer this popular program since 1988. Here are some of the comments we received from students.



*"The Day was a success!" wrote Josh Guindon (left), who shadowed **David Hays, M.D. '93**, (right) and **Kenneth Robbins, M.D. '82**, (not pictured) at Radiology Consultants in Little Rock. "I learned a lot and was thoroughly intrigued by the field of interventional radiology."*

***Renee McGraw, M.D. '02**, (right) welcomed four students to the Physicians for Women Clinic in Hot Springs, including Joshua Booth (pictured), who described his time there as an "extremely helpful and wonderful experience." Adrienne Hatchett (not shown) said that Dr. McGraw and a colleague "were very welcoming and more than open to answer any questions concerning health care and the lifestyles of women in medicine."*



*"It was great working with Dr. Frazier at Arkansas Children's Hospital," Rachel Stamp-Siegfried said of her day with pediatric cardiologist **Elizabeth Frazier, M.D. '81**.*

In Memoriam

1930s

Thurman Shuller, M.D. '39,
McAlester, Okla., Nov. 24, 2012

1940s

Art B. Martin, M.D. '42,
Fort Smith, Jan. 27, 2013

James Guthrie, M.D. '44M,
Camden, May 2, 2013

John Forrest Henry Jr., M.D. '44D,
Little Rock, Feb. 8, 2013

Bonner Lewis Shinn, M.D. '44D,
Dallas, March 21, 2013

Benjamin F. Scott, M.D. '45,
Memphis, Jan. 13, 2013

James T. McAllister, M.D. '48,
Little Rock, Jan. 20, 2013

1950s

Tom Ed Townsend, M.D. '50,
Pine Bluff, June 7, 2013

Walter G. Klugh Jr., M.D. '53,
Hot Springs, Jan. 23, 2013

Mary Blakely Winburn, M.D. '54,
Fort Myers, Fla.,
Feb. 17, 2013

Betty A. Lowe, M.D. '56,
Little Rock, March 5, 2013

John L. Chapin, M.D. '56,
Conway, April 7, 2013

Marion Jack Henry, M.D. '57,
Corpus Christi, Texas,
Nov. 14, 2012

Keith Eardley, M.D. '57,
Ormond, Fla., Nov. 23, 2012

Daniel Christman, M.D. '57,
Rogers, May 8, 2013

Deane G. Baldwin, M.D. '58,
Little Rock, Feb. 25, 2013

Larry Estes Farris, M.D. '58,
Conway, April 12, 2013

1960s

Bob G. Smith, M.D. '62,
Springfield, Mo., Nov. 5, 2012

Johnson J. Baker III, M.D. '62,
Cammack Village, Jan. 17, 2013

Jerry Frankum, M.D. '62,
Heber Springs, March 29, 2013

Jimmy C. Porter, M.D. '64,
Benton, March 18, 2013

Gerald Wayne Johnson, M.D. '66,
Crosssett, Dec. 6, 2012

Jim Bethea, M.D. '67,
Fort Worth, Texas, Nov. 14, 2012

Melvin "Larry" Belknap, M.D. '67,
North Little Rock,
Jan. 5, 2013

1970s

Donald A. Laurenzana, M.D. '70,
North Little Rock,
Jan. 15, 2013

William T. Branch, M.D. '71,
Tampa, Fla., Dec. 5, 2012

Sterling B. Williams, M.D. '73,
Ph.D. '12,
Silver Spring, Md., May 19, 2013

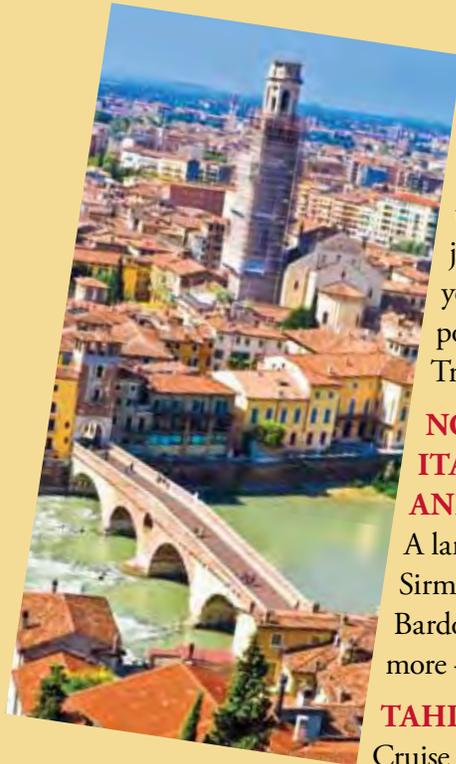
Alfred William Keller Jr., M.D. '76,
North Little Rock,
March 5, 2013

1980s

Roger K. Hairston, M.D. '89,
Texarkana, Jan. 17, 2013

Robert Lynn Brand, M.D. '89,
Harrison, Feb. 3, 2013

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Whether you savor continental culture or sand between your toes, there's a wonderful journey waiting for you through our popular Alumni Travel Program.

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A land tour of Sirmione, Milan, Bardolino, Padua and more – Oct. 11-19, 2013

TAHITIAN JEWELS:

Cruise to the South Pacific and the lush tropical paradises of Moorea, Bora Bora, Tahiti and more – March 25-April 6, 2014

Also coming in 2014: Greek Isles Odyssey (May 14-22); Baltic Marvels (Aug. 13-21); Accent on the Adriatic (Oct. 20-28)

For more information, visit Medicine.uams.edu/alumni.

Don't wait too long; these trips often sell out quickly!

ALUMNI '13 WEEKEND

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

AUGUST 23-24, 2013

Class reunion for years ending in 3 and 8

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