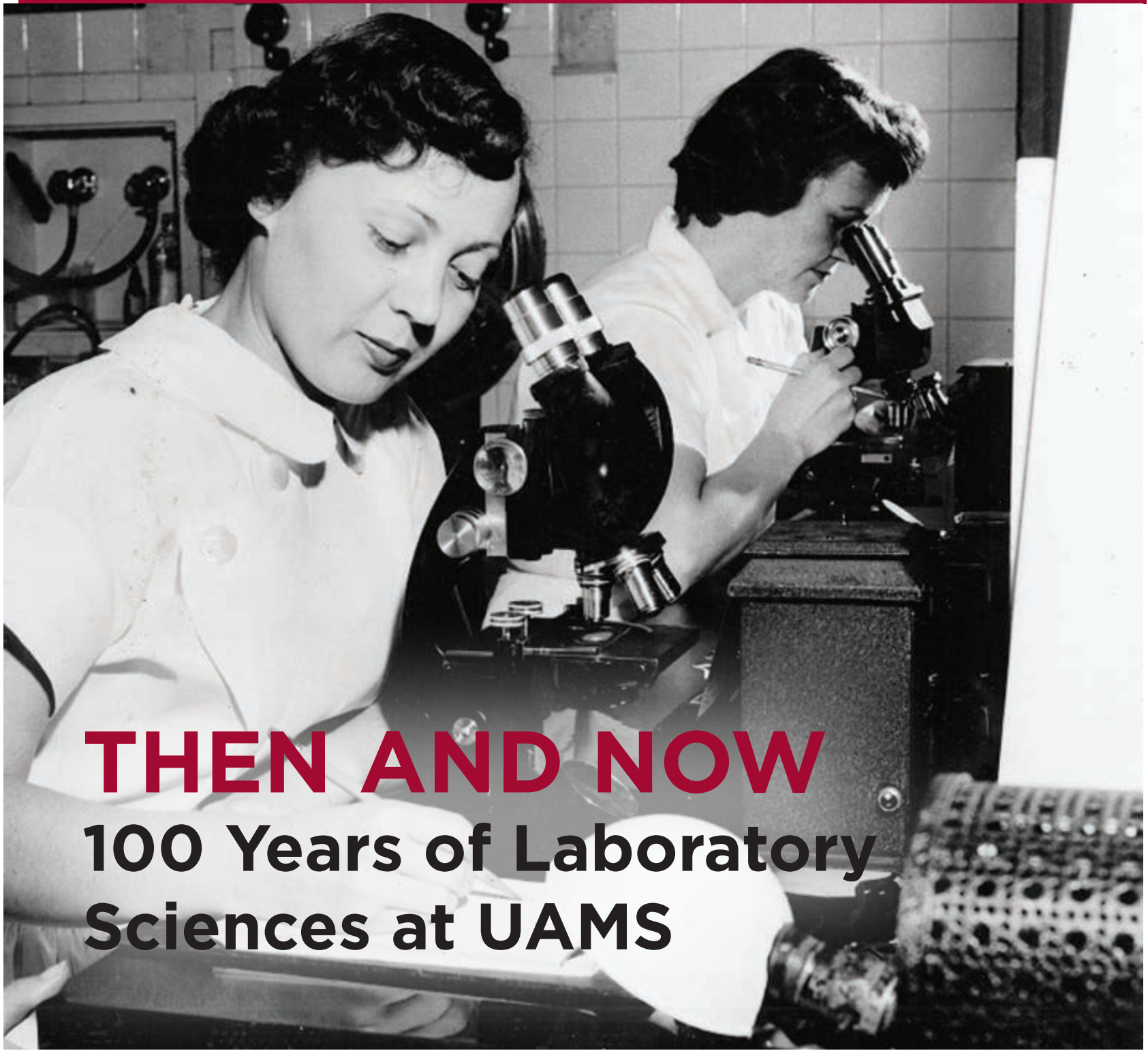


HEALTH UAMS | College of Health Professions PROFESSIONS

Fall 2018



THEN AND NOW 100 Years of Laboratory Sciences at UAMS



**COLLEGE OF HEALTH
PROFESSIONS
FALL 2018 NEWSLETTER**

**The UAMS College of Health
Professions Mission**

The mission of the UAMS College of Health Professions is to improve the health of culturally diverse populations by:

- Offering education, research and service opportunities for students in the allied health professions
- Providing students with a total educational experience that emphasizes lifelong learning
- Collaborating with other healthcare professionals to be an innovator in allied health education

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A Message from the Dean



The college welcomed 285 new students for the 2018-2019 school year. Many students attended the New Student Welcome program on Aug. 13.

I just love the start of the academic year. It is such a delight to come to work each day and be surrounded by students who want to join the ranks of the 5 million allied health professionals in the United States. Allied health professionals work in more than 80 different professions and represent 60 percent of all health care providers across the nation.

This year, we welcomed 285 new students, bringing our total student count to 593. These students want to make the world a better place, and we are honored to have them in the College of Health Professions.

Just days after the start of the fall semester, we recognized the oldest program in our college — Medical Laboratory Sciences (MLS) — as it celebrated its 100th anniversary at an Alumni Weekend luncheon. It was wonderful to recognize a program that is a pillar of our college. There is more on this program’s remarkable history later in this newsletter.

I am proud to announce that this year the college awarded more than \$66,000 in scholarship funds to 52 individuals. We will honor these students at a ceremony in November, but I want to be the first one to offer my congratulations to each of them for their academic achievements.

We would not be able to offer these scholarships without the generosity of our donors. I thank you, and our students thank you.

This is going to be a wonderful year in the College of Health Professions. I thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Susan Long, Ed.D.
Dean, College of Health Professions

Medical Laboratory Sciences Celebrates 100 years

By Yavonda Chase

The UAMS Medical Laboratory Sciences (MLS) program turned 100 this year.

The oldest program in the College of Health Professions (CHP), the then-Laboratory Training program started in 1918 as a division of the Pathology Department in the College of Medicine.

1918 was a big year — World War I ended in Europe; Woodrow Wilson was president of the United States; Congress established time zones and approved daylight savings time; and the United States Post Office Department started the world's first regular airmail service.

On the medical front, an estimated 500 million people around the world were sickened by influenza, in a pandemic that would be known as the Spanish flu. According to estimates, the Spanish flu killed between 20-50 million people, including 675,000 Americans.

And at UAMS, seven students were studying in the newly created Laboratory Training program, one of the first such programs in the United States, said Cherika Robertson, M.Ed., an assistant professor in the Department of Laboratory Sciences who spent months researching the history of the MLS program for the centennial celebration, which she also planned, that was held during Alumni Weekend.

In 1936, the program became a one-year certificate course that was accredited by the American Society for Clinical Pathology. Only two years later, it officially became the School of Medical Technology. Then, in 1941, the school graduated its first class, all of whom were women.

Six years after the first class graduated, the program moved from a certificate course to a full Bachelor of Science degree. Twenty years later, in 1967, the School of Cytotechnology was developed. Both programs were part of the original School of Health Related Professions, which formed in 1971 and became the College of Health Related Profession in 1975. Then in 2012, the college changed its name to the College of Health Professions. Also that year, the name of the Medical Technology program changed to Medical Laboratory Sciences.

Jo Kathryn Mitchell, who graduated from the program in 1955 and attended the Alumni Weekend celebration, has seen a lot of changes in the program and at UAMS over the years. Mitchell worked at UAMS when it was located near MacArthur Park and moved with the campus to its current location.

"So much has changed that it's almost overwhelming, but it's all been for the better," she said.

Medical Laboratory Sciences continued on page 4



THEN



Students peer through a microscope in the 1950s.

NOW



A Medical Laboratory Sciences student in 2016 uses a microscope to examine a specimen.

THEN



A woman draws up a sample using mouth pipetting, a common and dangerous practice in laboratory science until the 1970s.

NOW



A student micropipettes samples in 2016, a procedure that offers more accuracy and precision especially when delivering very small amounts of liquid.

Medical Laboratory Sciences continued from page 3

The field of medical laboratory sciences has evolved to include genomics, data analytics, bioinformatics, electronic health records, laboratory automation and robotics,” said Robertson. “We’ve come a long way from when technicians employed mouth pipetting,” a common practice until the 1970s in which laboratorians used their mouths to draw up patient samples in an open-ended tube, also called a pipette.

These days, much laboratory work is automated, although students in the MLS program are still taught how to conduct tests manually.

“We don’t know where our students will end up, so we want to make sure they’re prepared for anything from a high-tech lab to a makeshift one in a third-world country during a mission trip,” Robertson said.

The MLS program has 46 students, including 26 who are part of the online Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) to Medical Laboratory Sciences (MLS) track, which allows technologists with an associate’s degree to earn their bachelor’s degree.

A number of these MLT-to-MLS students are in the military, which has the largest MLT associate’s degree program in the country, said Nathan Johnson, Ph.D., director of the MLS program and chair of the Department of Laboratory Sciences.

Johnson joined UAMS in November 2017 after retiring from the U.S. Air Force. His last position in the military was at the Department of Defense’s Center for Laboratory Medicine Services in Falls Church, Virginia, where he oversaw all Army, Air Force and Navy labs.

He has made the expansion of MLT-to-MLS track, which was first developed in 1998, part of his overall growth strategy for the program.

“With my background, it seemed like a natural fit to reach out to military lab techs all over the world and educate them,” he said. “This is good for them and good for the program.”

College of Health Professions Dean Susan Long, Ed.D., said that with more than 70 percent of medical decisions guided by lab tests, medical laboratory scientists are crucial to the health care system.

“The medical laboratory sciences program is a pillar of our college,” she said. “Under the leadership of Dr. Nathan Johnson, this dynamic, forward thinking group of faculty and staff is moving laboratory science forward in Arkansas and across the nation.” ■

Physical Therapy Program Receives Full Accreditation; Four Other Programs Reaccredited

The **Department of Physical Therapy** received full accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education in May 2018, just days before the first class graduated from the three-year program. The program is accredited through 2023.

Four other departments in the College of Health Professions saw their programs successfully re-accredited this past year.

Audiology and Speech Pathology received reaccreditation for eight

years from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech Pathology for the Doctor of Audiology and the Master of Science programs.

The **Cytotechnology program** in the Department of Laboratory Sciences earned reaccreditation for five years from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, Cytotechnology Programs Review Committee.

Ophthalmic Medical Technology has been reaccredited for five years by the Commission on Accreditation for Ophthalmic Medical Programs.

Radiologic Imaging Sciences received its reaccreditation, which is good for five years, from the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology. ■



Long Charts New Course for College

By Yavonda Chase

Susan Long, Ed.D., is a familiar face in the College of Health Professions.

The college's new dean joined UAMS in 1992 as an assistant professor in the dental hygiene program, where she is now a professor. In 2012, she was named associate dean for academic affairs, a position she continued to hold even as she served as interim dean for six months this year following the retirement of Douglas L. Murphy, Ph.D.

"Susan has proved herself a dedicated leader in the College of Health Professions (CHP), and I believe she will accomplish great things as dean of the college," said Stephanie Gardner, Pharm.D., Ed.D., senior vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost.

Long is the fourth dean of the college, which was created in 1971 as the School of Health Related Professions.

"Having spent over 26 years as a faculty member and administrator in the college, I am intimately aware of the opportunities and challenges of this position," she said.

Her vision for the college is based on five key priorities:

- **Expanding academic programs**

"CHP is committed to staying on the leading edge of national trends and advances in science, technology and patient care. It is important that we provide new program opportunities, when appropriate, and expand current programs as the need for additional graduates to serve the citizens of the state becomes evident."

- **Encouraging strong collaborations and partnerships**

"Already, the college has established many relationships with clinical partners, nonprofit organizations and educational institutions that are essential to our success. As we grow, it is important we maintain these relationships and add additional strategic partnerships."

- **Strategically expanding CHP's research profile**

"Several of our college's accomplished faculty are recognized experts in numerous health care fields. To strategically expand our research efforts, the college will work to identify intentional pockets of research, make strategic hires and compete for extramural funding support."

- **Increasing development and fundraising**

"I am committed to working closely with the UAMS Advancement Team to cultivate relationships for the college. We've got to stop thinking of fundraising as asking for money. Instead, it is telling the college's story and making the connection with potential donors — providing donors with opportunities to align their interests with the college's needs."

- **Fostering a commitment to diversity and inclusion**

"The college strives to create a community built



Susan Long, Ed.D.

on diversity, collaboration and belonging. Our nation is changing, and our higher education institutions need to reflect this diversity. Learning with people from a variety of backgrounds encourages collaboration and fosters innovation."

"It is vitally important that all of these areas be addressed for the college to grow and succeed," she said. "At the end of the day, my highest priority is learning and the student experience."

"The real measure of the college's success is reflected by our graduates who have been challenged through their educational experiences to become competent, caring and compassionate health professionals."

This is an exciting time to be entrusted with the leadership of the college, Long said.

"As treatment innovations and technical advances change the landscape of allied health practice, the opportunities for those in allied health fields seem limitless. I am honored to be the dean of the College of Health Professions, and I am dedicated to serving our students and faculty, as well as the people of Arkansas." ■



Ruth (left) and Shirley Wood attend a banquet for the Physical Therapy Class of 2018, the first group to graduate from the doctoral program. Shirley donated funds to create the Ruth Wood Endowed Physical Therapy Student Award in honor of her older sister.

Honoring a Sister is at Heart of Physical Therapy Gift

By Yavonda Chase

Doris Ruth Wood always believed an education was important, so much so that she worked her way through college in Indiana and again through the Mayo Clinic School of Physical Therapy in Minnesota.

"She never let a lack of funds get in the way of her education," said Shirley Wood, Ruth's younger sister.

With determination, Ruth graduated in August 1951 and embarked on a successful career as a physical therapist, largely practicing in Texas until her retirement in 1984, when she moved to Eureka Springs. She was heavily involved with the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) from 1952 to 1995, during which time she held elected positions at the state, national and international levels.

The organization bestowed multiple awards on Ruth for her dedication, including the Mary McMillan Lecture

Award, which is the most distinguished honor an active APTA member physical therapist or life member can receive. She also was named a Catherine Worthingham Fellow, which is the association's highest membership category.

When Shirley thought about how

best to honor Ruth, she suggested a gift to the Mayo Clinic School of Physical Therapy, but Ruth had other ideas. She wanted to help the newly created physical therapy program at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

"Ruth told me that Mayo, as a long-established program, already had considerable support," said Shirley Wood. "She wanted the donation to go to UAMS because the program was new and would need the help."

Shirley also decided on a different type of award. Instead of creating an endowed scholarship, she donated funds for an endowed gift — the Ruth Wood Endowed Physical Therapy Student Award, which would help the recipient become involved in professional activities.

"As I thought about how to honor Ruth for her many contributions

to the field of physical therapy, as well as to thank her for her support of and impact on me, I looked for a way that would represent her values and that she would think meaningful," said Shirley.

"It seemed a fitting tribute to Ruth to help young people get involved in the APTA and encourage them to start giving back from the very beginning of their careers."

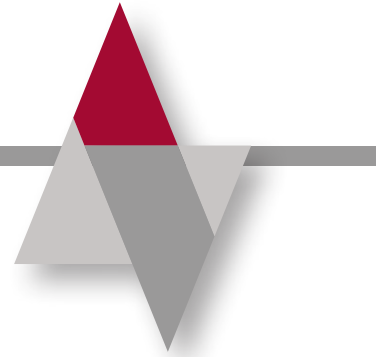
Susan Long, Ed.D., dean of the College of Health Professions, said the endowed gift is the first of its kind in the college.

"We are so grateful to Shirley and Ruth Wood for this incredible gift," Long said. "Involvement in professional associations is such an important part of health care professionals' careers. I am so pleased that we should be able to give this award to a deserving physical therapy student in 2019."

The award includes a financial-need component, which Shirley said was inspired by how hard Ruth had to work to pay for her education. Their family simply didn't have the means to help, and financial aid wasn't readily available at that time.

"Hopefully, the award will help those who might otherwise not have the opportunity to become professionally involved as students. If it encourages them to make a positive difference in their chosen field, then Ruth's legacy will have been well served." ■

2018 Dean's Society Grants



The College of Health Professions Dean's Society was established in 2011 to enhance and strengthen programs in education, research and service within the college.

Each year, the Dean's Society awards several grants to faculty and students. This year, nearly \$20,000 was awarded to five projects.

1) Visuospatial Abilities And Success in A Physical Therapy Program: Is There a Relationship? — Christopher Walter, D.P.T., Ph.D.; Denise Compton, Ph.D.

The purpose of the pilot study is to examine whether a battery of visuospatial tests can predict student success in laboratory-based courses in a physical therapy curriculum.

2) Providing Quality Laboratory Results at Community Health Fairs — Lindsey Gilbert, M.Ed.; Jason Key, M.Ed.; Nathan Johnson, Ph.D.; Cherika Robertson, M.Ed.; Amber Teigen, M.MSc.

This project aims to increase student competence and confidence in providing quality laboratory test results while providing access to health screenings to and monitoring the prevalence of cardiovascular indicators in an underserved minority population in Little Rock in a health fair setting.

3) A Longitudinal Study of Student Stress in Physical Therapy and Physician Assistant Students — Angel Holland, D.P.T., Ed.D.; Tiffany Huitt, Ph.D.; Amber Teigen, M.M.Sc.

The purpose of this pilot study is two-fold: 1) evaluate and characterize stress levels in CHP physical therapy students and physician assistant students throughout the first and second years of their academic program; and 2) explore the relationship between student stress levels and GPA.

4) An Interprofessional Fluoride Varnish and Silver Diamine Fluoride Program — Melissa Clark, Pharm.D., M.P.H.; Claire Tucker, M.Ed.

This project aims to screen children for cavities at the UAMS Head Start Program and provide silver diamine fluoride as needed.

5) Use of Imaging to Validate Increased Neural Connectivity Following Hearing Aid Use and Brain Training In Older Adults with Hearing Loss — Aryn Amlani, Ph.D.; Naveen K. Nagaraj, Ph.D.; Gopee Krishnan, M.Sc.; MM Kishan, M.Sc.

The goal of this preliminary study is to validate the changes in brain's neural connectivity following brain training and hearing aid use in older adults with hearing loss. This project is a collaboration between researchers at UAMS and Manipal Academy of Higher Education in Manipal, India.

For more information on becoming a Dean's Society member, please contact Christine Gronwald, associate director of annual giving, at cgronwald@uams.edu or (501) 686-7203. ■

“I can't overstate the importance of the Dean's Society to the college,” said College of Health Professions Dean Susan Long, Ed.D. “Funds provided by Dean's Society members allow our faculty and students to pursue research projects that are vital to our academic mission.”

College Names 4 New Associate Deans in 2018



Wade Anderson, MBA



Phyllis Fields, M.Ed.



Reza Hakkak, Ph.D.,



Tina Maddox, Ph.D.

This year has been one of change for the College of Health Professions. In addition to the appointment of a new dean, four associate deans have been named, each one bringing years of experience and leadership to their position.

The first change occurred in January when **Wade Anderson, MBA**, joined the college as associate dean for administrative affairs, replacing longtime administrator Bill Woodell, who was retiring.

Anderson earned a Bachelor of Science in Finance from Southern Nazarene University in Bethany, Oklahoma, and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix. For the past 17 years, he has served in multiple executive leadership positions in the Apollo Education Group, a company that owns and operates higher learning institutions, including the University of Phoenix.

As associate dean for administrative affairs, Anderson is responsible for the fiscal oversight of the college. Among his principal duties are budgeting, financial management, contracts management, personnel management, space planning, inventory management, and the preparation of a variety of reports for regulatory and other agencies.

Phyllis Fields, M.Ed., who had served as assistant dean of student affairs since 2014, was promoted to associate dean for student affairs, effective July 1.

Fields holds an Associate of Science degree from University of Arkansas-Pulaski Tech, a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and a Master of Education degree from UA Little Rock. She also completed the UAMS Leadership Institute in 2013.

In her position, Fields provides strategic leadership for coordinating, planning, implementing and evaluating activities that promote student success and engagement, recruitment efforts, academic support services, leadership development and campus life enhancement.

Reza Hakkak, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Dietetics and Nutrition, was named associate dean for research, effective July 1. Hakkak will continue to serve as department chair, a position he has held since 1998.

Hakkak is an experienced researcher and internationally recognized scholar who has contributed significantly to the discipline of nutritional sciences through his research, professional leadership and distinguished service.

As the college's first associate dean for research, Hakkak is responsible for providing strategic leadership for the planning, development and implementation of research and faculty mentoring.

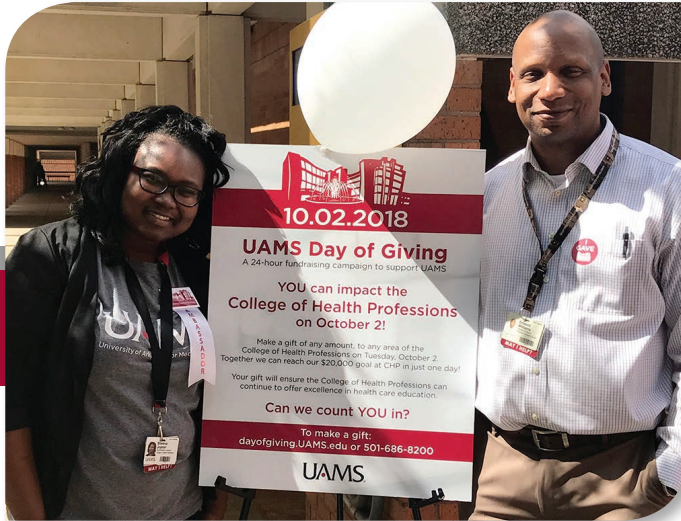
Tina Maddox, Ph.D., the program director for the Dietetic Internship in the Department of Dietetics and Nutrition, was named associate dean for academic affairs, effective Sept. 1. She will retain leadership of the Dietetic Internship while a search is conducted for her replacement.

Maddox earned a Bachelor of Science in Dietetics from the University of Central Arkansas in 1993, a Master of Science in Dietetics from UCA in 1994, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Nutrition from Texas Woman's University in 2009. She joined UAMS in 2010.

As associate dean for academic affairs, Maddox is responsible for overall administrative leadership for academic matters in the college. General responsibilities include new program development and approval, program quality, educational methods, regional and specialty accreditation, assessment and evaluation of students and programs, faculty development and mentoring, and policy development and implementation.

She replaces Susan Long, Ed.D., who became dean of the college in June. ■

CHP Celebrates a Successful Day of Giving



Sheena Joyner, an executive assistant in the Department of Dietetics and Nutrition, and Edward Williams, M.P.A.S., chair of the Department of Physician Assistant Studies, help with CHP's fundraising efforts during the Day of Giving.



10.02.2018

#UAMSDAYOFGIVING

What a day!

UAMS held its second annual Day of Giving on Oct. 2. In 24 hours, UAMS raised more than \$518,000, exceeding the goal of \$400,000!

The College of Health Professions also met its goal, raising more than \$20,000 during the day — an achievement that wouldn't have been possible without the support of our wonderful alumni, faculty, students and friends. Thank you for your support!

Other notable achievements from the day include:

- **100 percent participation from the CHP Advisory Board;**
- **100 percent participation from CHP programs in appointing ambassadors to help plan and execute the day;**
- **The CHP Dean's Society gained at least seven new members.**

The college also would like to thank the following individuals, businesses and organizations for pledging match challenge gifts to

boost our fundraising in specific areas. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

- **Judy Waller-Breece and U.S. Pizza Company** — \$10,000 for the Dietetics and Nutrition programs
- **CHP Advisory Board** — \$1,500 for the CHP General Scholarship Fund
- **Arkansas Dental Hygienists Association** — \$1,500 for the ADHA Scholarship Fund
- **Nathan Johnson, Ph.D.** — \$1,750 for the Medical Laboratory Sciences program of which he is program director

"I am thrilled at the response to the Day of Giving," said CHP Dean Susan Long, Ed.D. "I want to thank our faculty, staff and students who worked at our donation table by the Student Center. I also want to thank all of the donors who believe in our college and are helping us as we educate the next generation of allied health professionals." ■



Kattelyn Smith, a CHP Student Council member representing the Nuclear Medicine Imaging Sciences program, shows off Day of Giving swag.



Volunteers from the college signed up donors at a table near the Student Center. Shown here are Catherine Warren, M.Ed., associate professor in Department of Dental Hygiene; Deborah Taylor, executive assistant in the CHP dean's office; and Mary Ellen Nevins, Ed.D., interim chair of Department of Audiology and Speech Pathology.

Thank You Donors!

*Red denotes Dean's Society members

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But don't just take our word for it.



“To me, this scholarship has not only provided financial support, but also encouragement in my last year at UAMS.”

- Natalie Williams,
*Diagnostic Medical Sonography
program and recipient of the
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