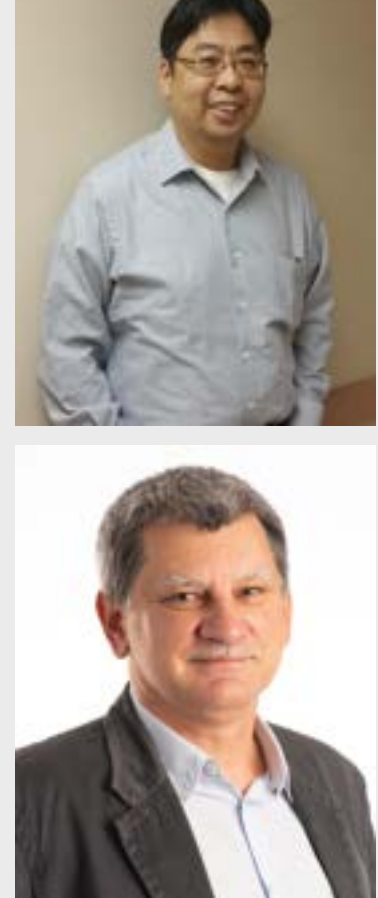
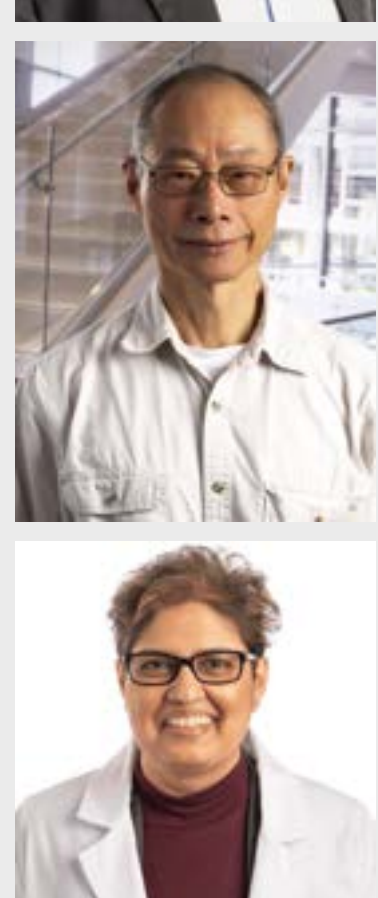


## Congratulations!

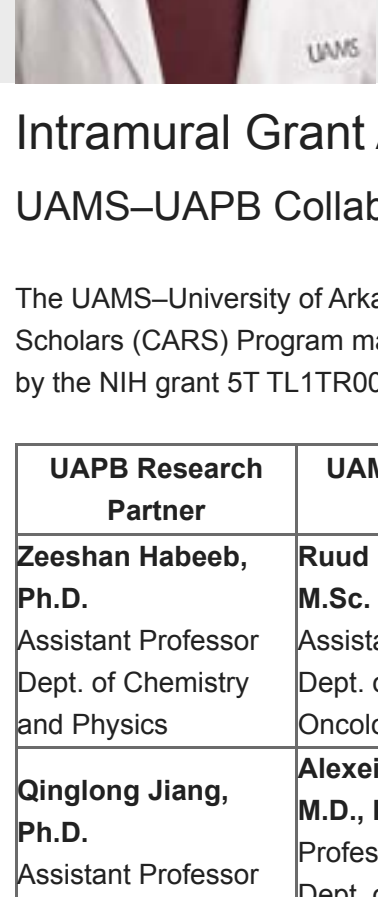
### Extramural Grant Awards



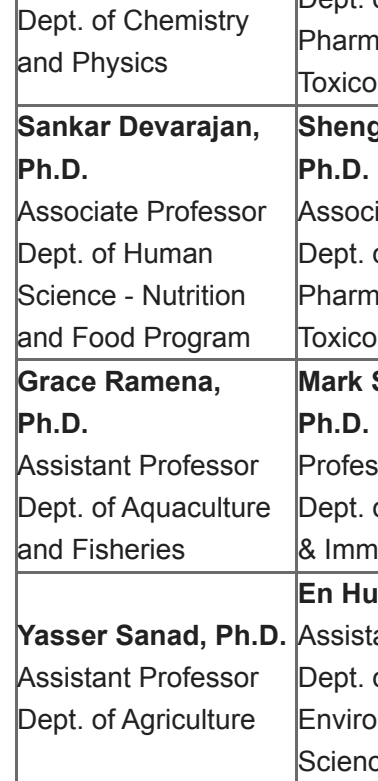
**Charles O'Brien, Ph.D.**, received a Phase II Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) award from the National Institutes of Health.  
"Center for Musculoskeletal Disease Research (CMDR)"  
Period: 4/1/2023 – 01/31/2028  
Total: \$11,475,000



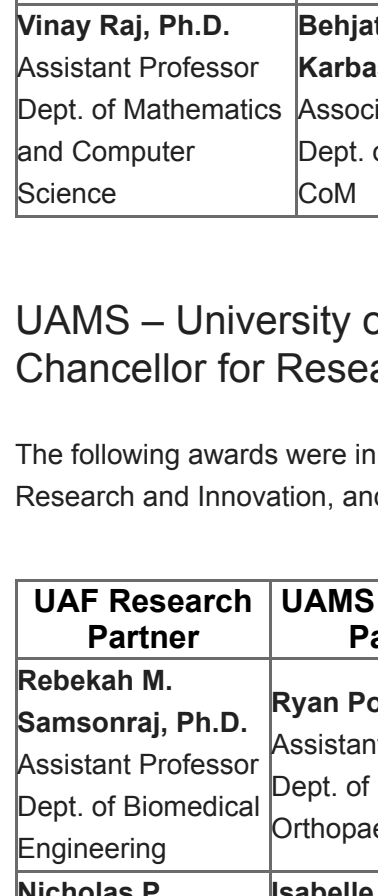
**Fang Zheng, Ph.D.**, received an R01 award from the National Institutes of Health.  
"The role of the endothelial NPYR1-TRPC3-ET1 signaling axis in neurovascular coupling dysfunction"  
Period: 03/01/2023 – 02/29/2028  
Total: \$1,876,975



**Vladimir Lupashin, Ph.D.**, received a renewal of his R01 award from the National Institutes of Health.  
"Characterization of mammalian COG complex-interacting Golgi trafficking machinery"  
Period: 04/01/2023 – 03/31/2027  
Total: \$1,638,172



**Chia Lee, Ph.D.**, received an R21 award from the National Institutes of Health.  
"Modulation of Agr system by ClpC chaperone in *S. aureus*"  
Period: 03/01/2023 – 2/28/2025  
Total: \$420,750



**Rushita Bagchi, Ph.D.**, received a Career Development Award from the American Heart Association.  
"HDAC11 in Diabetic Cardiomyopathy"  
Period: 04/01/2023 – 03/31/2026  
Total: \$231,000

## Intramural Grant Awards

### UAMS–UAPB Collaboration Award Recipients

The UAMS–University of Arkansas Pine Bluff (UAPB) Connect Arkansas Research Scholars (CARS) Program made the following awards: the program is partially supported by the NIH grant 5T1L1TR003109 awarded to Nancy Rusch, Ph.D.

UAPB Research Partner	UAMS Research Partner	Project
<b>Zeeshan Habeeb, Ph.D.</b> Assistant Professor Dept. of Chemistry and Physics	<b>Ruud Dings, Ph.D., M.Sc.</b> Assistant Professor Dept. of Radiation Oncology, CoM	Therapeutic potential of cell-penetrating peptide delivery systems
<b>Qinglong Jiang, Ph.D.</b> Assistant Professor Dept. of Chemistry and Physics	<b>Alexei Basnakian, M.D., Ph.D., D.Sc.</b> Professor Dept. of Pharmacology & Toxicology, CoM	3-D nanobeads for sustained-release cisplatin
<b>Sankar Devarajan, Ph.D.</b> Associate Professor Dept. of Human Science - Nutrition and Food Program	<b>Shengyu Mu, M.D., Ph.D.</b> Associate Professor Dept. of Pharmacology & Toxicology, CoM	Antihypertensive effects of unique rice bran and sweet potato extracts
<b>Grace Ramena, Ph.D.</b> Assistant Professor Dept. of Aquaculture and Fisheries	<b>Mark Smeltzer, Ph.D.</b> Professor Dept. of Microbiology & Immunology, CoM	Endolysins with antimicrobial activity against <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> for treatment of osteomyelitis
<b>Yasser Sanad, Ph.D.</b> Assistant Professor Dept. of Agriculture	<b>En Huang, Ph.D.</b> Assistant Professor Dept. of Environmental Health Sciences, CoPH	Antimicrobial activity of bacteriophages as food preservatives
<b>Vinay Raj, Ph.D.</b> Assistant Professor Dept. of Mathematics and Computer Science	<b>Behjatolah Karbassi, Ph.D.</b> Associate Professor Dept. of Pathology, CoM	Role of membrane-bound glycans in exosome-macrophage interaction

## UAMS – University of Arkansas Fayetteville (UAF) Vice Chancellor for Research & Innovation Collaboration

The following awards were initiated by John English, Ph.D., UAF Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation, and Shuk-Mei Ho, Ph.D., to promote joint research programs.

UAF Research Partner	UAMS Research Partner	Project
<b>Rebekah M. Samsonraj, Ph.D.</b> Assistant Professor Dept. of Biomedical Engineering	<b>Ryan Porter, Ph.D.</b> Assistant Professor Dept. of Orthopaedics, CoM	High-resolution molecular profiling of senescence-associated extracellular vesicles from human mesenchymal stem cells
<b>Nicholas P. Greene, Ph.D.</b> Dept. of Health, Human Performance and Recreation	<b>Isabelle Racine-Miouse, Ph.D.</b> Assistant Professor Dept. of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, CoM	Supplement for: Power training as a non-pharmacological therapeutic approach in cancer-induced cachexia
<b>Young Hye Song, Ph.D.</b> Assistant Professor Dept. of Biomedical Engineering	<b>Nukhet Aykin-Burns, Ph.D.</b> Associate Professor Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences, CoP	Development of 3D bioprinted decellularized scaffolds for studying osteoclast metabolism
<b>Yuchun Du, Ph.D.</b> Associate Professor Dept. of Biological Sciences	<b>Jia Liu, Ph.D.</b> Associate Professor Dept. of Microbiology & Immunology, CoM	Collaborative Investigation of the Mechanisms of Type I Interferon Expression Regulation in Uninfected and Virus-Infected Human Cells


## Three Top Cited UAMS Publications in 2022

**Total Times Cited: 109**  
**Title:** COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy: Race/ethnicity, trust, and fear  
**Citation:** Willis, DE et al., *CTS-CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE*, Volume: 14 Issue: 6 Pages: 2200-2207 DOI: 10.1111/cts.13077. NOV 2021  
**Corresponding author:** McElfish, PA, Univ Arkansas Med Sci Northwest, Coll Med, 1125 N Coll Ave, Fayetteville, AR 72703 USA.  
**UAMS authors:** Willis, Don E.; Andersen, Jennifer A.; Bryant-Moore, Keneshia; Selig, James P.; Long, Christopher R.; Felix, Holly C.; Curran, Geoffrey M.; McElfish, Pearl A.

**Total Times Cited: 125**  
**Title:** Prevalence and Characteristics of Autism Spectrum Disorder Among Children Aged 8 Years - Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network, 11 Sites, United States, 2018  
**Citation:** Maenner, MJ et al., *MMWR SURVEILLANCE SUMMARIES*., Volume: 70 Issue: 11 Article Number: 11 Published: DEC 3 2021  
**Corresponding author:** Maenner, MJ, CDC, Natl Ctr Birth Defects & Dev Disabil, Atlanta, GA 30333 USA.  
**UAMS authors:** Hudson, Allison; Baroud, Thaer; Lopez, Maya; Schwenk, Yvette D. Univ Arkansas Med Sci, Little Rock, AR 72205 USA

**Total Times Cited: 75**  
**Title:** Phase separation drives aberrant chromatin looping and cancer development  
**Citation:** Ahn, JH et al., *NATURE* Volume: 595 Issue: 7868 Pages: 591+ DOI: 10.1038/s41586-021-03662-5; Published: JUL 22 2021  
**Corresponding author:** Wang, GG, Univ N Carolina, Sch Med, Lineberger Comprehens Canc Ctr, Chapel Hill, NC 27515 USA.  
**UAMS authors:** Storey, Aaron J.; Mackintosh, Samuel G.; Edmondson, Ricky D.; Byrum, Stephanie D.; Tackett, Alan J.J Univ Arkansas Med Sci, Dept Biochem & Mol Biol, Little Rock, AR 72205 USA

### Student Research Day, March 7, 2023



The much-anticipated Student Research Day took place on March 7, 2023, simultaneously at the Little Rock and Northwest campuses. The event was a resounding success, with an estimated 500 participants attending throughout the day. Student Research Day provided an excellent platform for students to showcase their research talent and projects, highlighting their hard work and dedication. It commenced with a keynote speech by John D. Carpten, Ph.D., and featured 178 student presenters who registered to display their research posters. The day culminated with the Three Minute Thesis (3MT) final competition and award ceremony.

The collaborative effort between the Division of Research and Innovation, Academic Affairs, Graduate School, and Northwest Regional Campus was instrumental in making Student Research Day possible. We also thank everyone who volunteered to judge posters!

### Poster and Presentation Winners

**Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute Special Award for Outstanding Cancer Research Project**

1<sup>st</sup> place: Hayley Sabol  
2<sup>nd</sup> place (tie) : Mason McCrury and Matthew Thompson  
Postdoc: Kirk West, Ph.D.

**Bhuvan Award**

1<sup>st</sup> place: Jessica Kelliher  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Farhana Sumya  
3<sup>rd</sup> place: Matthew Thompson

**Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Awards**

1<sup>st</sup> place: Carol Morris  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Soumiya Pal

**General Awards**

Graduate Students:  
1<sup>st</sup> place: Aric Anloague  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Farhana Sumya  
3<sup>rd</sup> place: Naiha Ahmad

Clinical Fellows:  
1<sup>st</sup> place: Obeid Shafi, M.D.  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Catey Abbott, D.O.  
3<sup>rd</sup> place: Alex Belote, D.O.

Professional Students:  
1<sup>st</sup> place: Davis Campbell  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Delice Kayishunge  
3<sup>rd</sup> place: Fatimah Al-Doori

**Research & Innovation Travel Awards**

Aric Anloague  
Obeid Shafi  
Davis Campbell

## News and Upcoming Events

### Commercialization Retreat, May 5

BioVentures will hold a Commercialization Retreat on May 5, from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, at the Jo Ellen Ford Auditorium located at the Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging. This event, hosted by BioVentures in collaboration with the Division of Research and Innovation, will feature presentations from UAMS Chancellor Cam Patterson and Sarah Goforth, Executive Director of the University of Arkansas Office of Entrepreneurship and Innovation, focusing on the commercialization of UAMS discoveries to advance treatments for patients. All UAMS faculty, staff, postdocs, and graduate students interested in this field are welcome to attend. [Click here to register](#)

### NEW\* Leadership Development Fund

We are pleased to announce a \*NEW\* Leadership Development Fund for supporting UAMS faculty leadership development. This is a joint project between Faculty Affairs and the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation. Wendy Ward, Ph.D., and Shuk-Mei Ho, Ph.D., are spearheading this initiative. The program is designed to support faculty to gain leadership skills by attending external training programs (click [here](#) for a list of potential programs). Questions: [FSHerd@uams.edu](mailto:FSHerd@uams.edu)

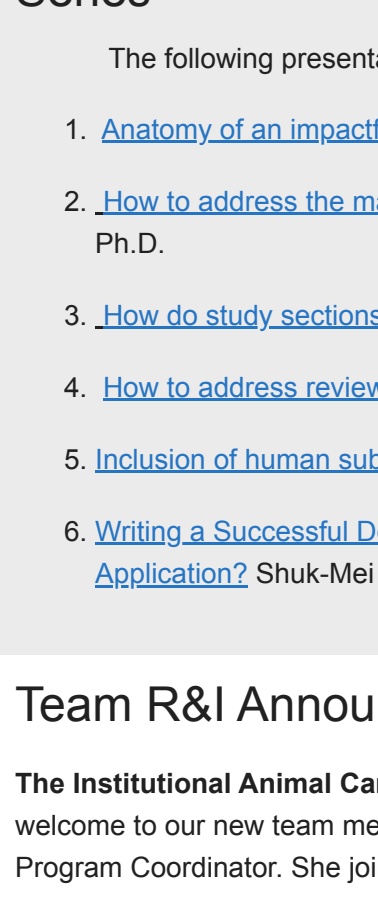
### NIH Extramural Nexus

Are you proposing to use key biological and/or chemical resources such as cell lines, specialty chemicals, antibodies, or other biologics in your application? Learn more about authentication plans here: [The ABCs of Authentication Plans](#).

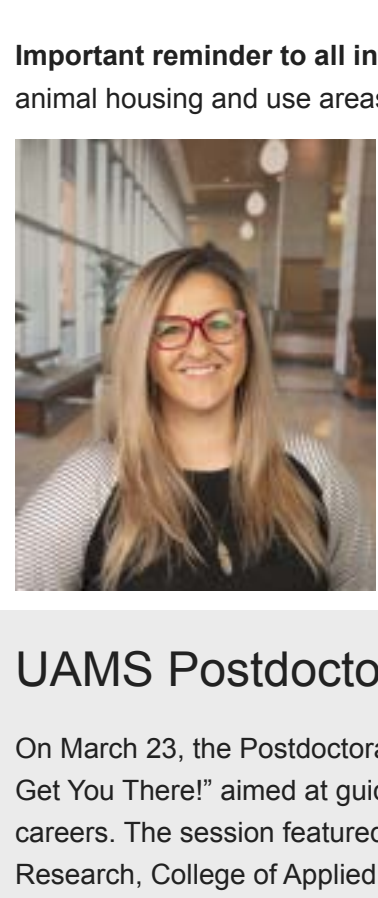
## Upcoming UAMS Research Academy Workshops

The Division of Research and Innovation, under its [UAMS Research Academy](#), is offering two parallel workshop series to help faculty and staff sharpen their skillsets in grant-writing and post-award management. All presentations are recorded and will be available to view on the Research and Innovation website.

### Grantsmanship Seminar Series



**Tips and Tricks for Productive Scholarly Writing**  
**Amy M. Franks, Pharm.D.**  
Professor and Chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice  
College of Pharmacy  
Thursday, April 20, 2023; Virtual: 12-1 p.m.  
[\(Zoom Link\)](#)



**Managing Multiple Projects**  
**Hari Eswaran, Ph.D.**  
Professor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology  
Department of Biomedical Informatics  
College of Medicine  
Thursday, May 18, 2023; Virtual: 12-1 p.m.  
[\(Zoom Link\)](#)

### Research Administration, Grants Management, and Regulatory Affairs Seminar Series



**Three Ways Entrepreneurship Can Help Your Lab, Lessons from UAMS Technologies**  
**Kevin W. Sexton, M.D.**  
President, BioVentures, LLC  
Associate Professor, Department of Surgery  
College of Medicine  
Tuesday, April 11, 2023; Virtual: 12-1 p.m.  
[\(Zoom Link\)](#)



**It Depends: Life in Research Administration**  
**Suzanne Alford, DPA, CRA**  
Director, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs  
Tuesday, May 16, 2023; Virtual: 12-1 p.m.  
[\(Zoom Link\)](#)

## View Research Academy Grantsmanship Seminar Series

The following presentations have been archived and are available for viewing:

- [Anatomy of an impactful Specific Aims page](#) Mark Smeltzer, Ph.D.
- [How to address the main review criteria in your research strategy?](#) Marjan Boerma, Ph.D.
- [How do study sections review your proposal?](#) Alan Tackett, Ph.D.
- [How to address reviewers' comments?](#) Charles O'Brien, Ph.D.
- [Inclusion of human subjects in your research](#) Wendy Nembhard, Ph.D., MPH, FACE
- [Writing a Successful DoD Grant Application – How is it different from an NIH Application?](#) Shuk-Mei Ho, Ph.D.

## Team R&I Announcements

**The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Office** is extending a warm welcome to our new team member, Ms. Lakeyia Cleveland. She will serve as a new Program Coordinator. She joined IACUC on March 27, 2023.

**Important reminder to all investigators:** IACUC is conducting semiannual site visits to animal housing and use areas in April.



**The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs**  
welcomes Scarlett Rice, B.S., as a Grants Administrator. Scarlett has been with UAMS since 2016 and previously held positions in OSPAN and the Center for Health Literacy. Scarlett's intelligence, work ethic, organizational skills, and sense of humor are already being put to great use in our office.

## UAMS Postdoctoral Society

On March 23, the Postdoctoral Society hosted a session titled "What Got You Here, Won't Get You There!" aimed at guiding postdoctoral researchers in successfully advancing their careers. The session featured a presentation by Philip Clifford, Ph.D., Associate Dean of Research, College of Applied Health Sciences, and Professor of Kinesiology and Nutrition at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. Clifford provided three practical steps postdoctoral researchers can take to successfully advance their careers.



## Institutional Review Board (IRB) Roundtable

In response to researcher requests, IRB Associate Director Pam Killebrew has launched a monthly educational series called "IRB Roundtable" in the UAMS IRB Northwest office. These sessions allow investigators and staff to attend planned lecture topics, bring questions to discuss, or just listen to the conversation for CRS or AdvCRS elective credit. These sessions are offered in person at the UAMS Office for Community Health and Research in Springdale and are also available via Zoom. The sessions are informal, and conversation is encouraged. For more information about the IRB Roundtable and/or to be added to the list to receive the Zoom link for each session, please email Pam at [killebrewpamela@uams.edu](mailto:killebrewpamela@uams.edu).

The March session will focus on the CLARA submission forms, and a future session will focus on submitting the Human Subjects Determination form.

## Open Positions

Would you like to join the Research and Innovation team? [Apply here!](#)

## Support Research and Innovation

Remember UAMS Research & Innovation in your charitable giving!

Give Online Today!

## UAMS

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

Division of Research and Innovation

Biomedical Research Bldg. II

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