

## Congratulations!

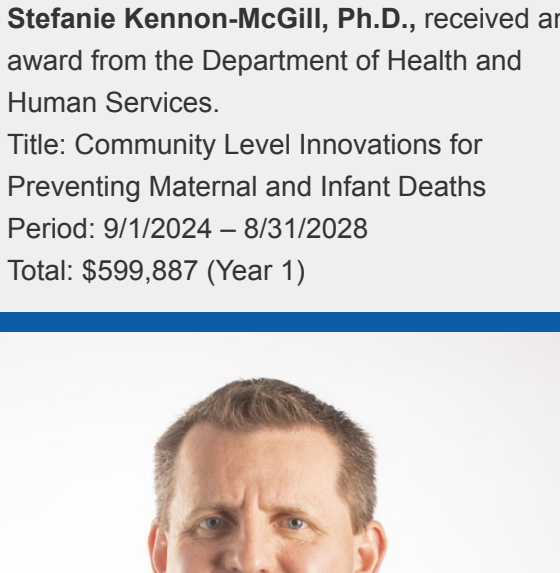


**Wendy Nembhard**  
Ph.D., MPH, FACE




**Carol Cornell, Ph.D.**


**Wendy Nembhard, Ph.D., MPH, FACE, and Carol Cornell, Ph.D.,** received an award from the Department of Health and Human Services.  
 Title: DP24-004, PRC, Core: Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Research Centers  
 Period: 9/30/2024 – 9/29/2029  
 Total: \$5,000,000  
*(This is a correction to the July newsletter)*



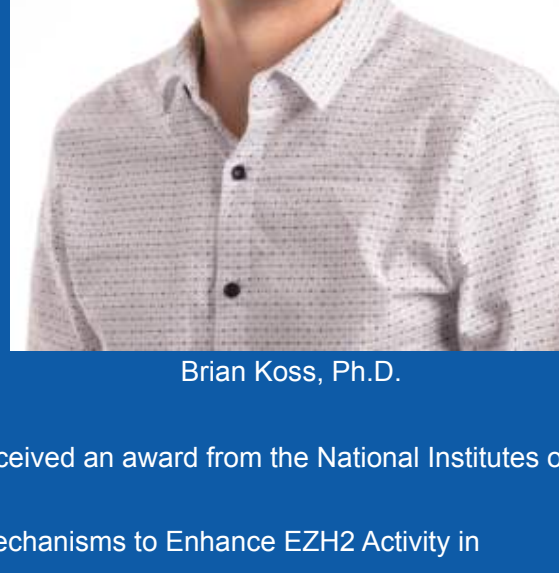
**Stefanie Kennon-McGill, Ph.D.,** received an award from the Department of Health and Human Services.  
 Title: Community Level Innovations for Preventing Maternal and Infant Deaths  
 Period: 9/1/2024 – 8/31/2028  
 Total: \$599,887 (Year 1)



**Boini Marius Nagalo, Ph.D.,** received an award from the National Institutes of Health.  
 Title: Novel Strategies to Enhance Drug Delivery and Tumor Immunogenicity in Pancreatic Cancer  
 Period: 9/1/2024 – 8/31/2027  
 Total: \$1,377,000 (Year 1)

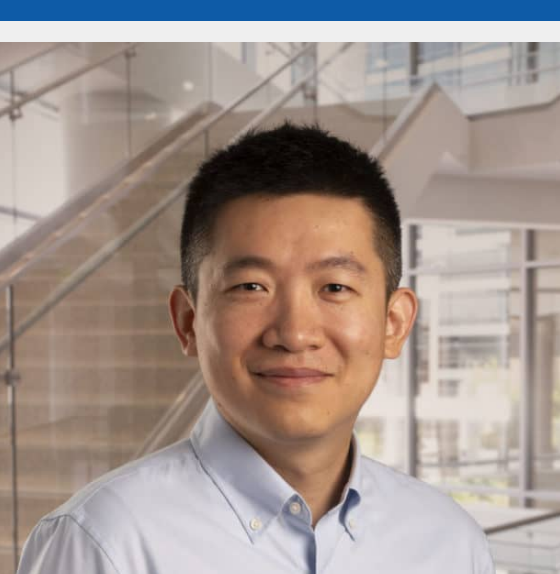


**Alan Tackett, Ph.D.**

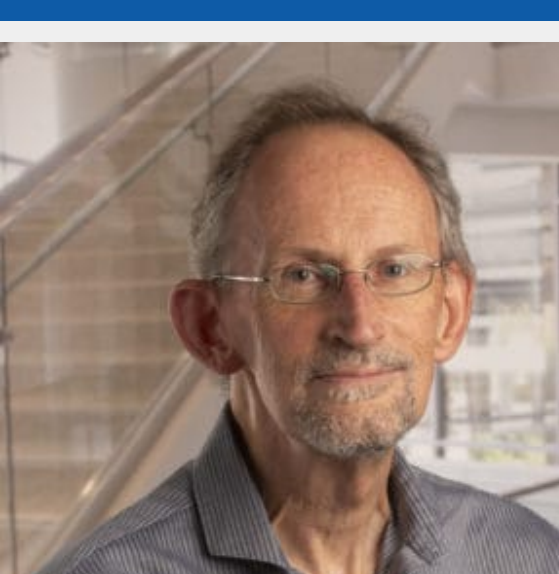


**Brian Koss, Ph.D.**

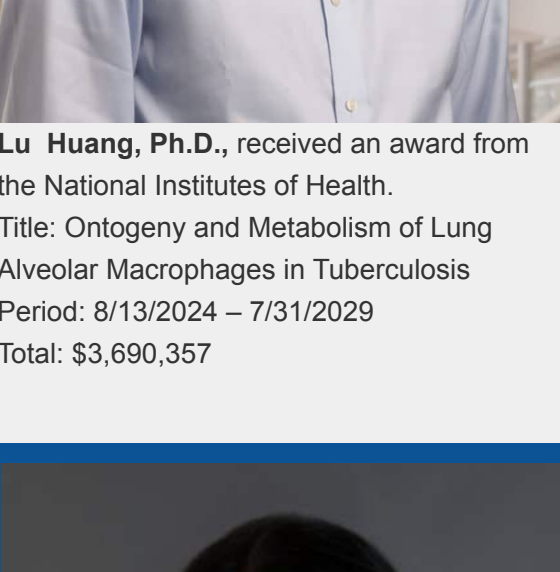
**Alan Tackett, Ph.D. and Brian Koss, Ph.D.,** received an award from the National Institutes of Health.  
 Title: Leveraging Cancer-Evolved Resistance Mechanisms to Enhance EZH2 Activity in Adoptive T Cells  
 Period: 8/1/2024 – 5/31/2026  
 Total: \$393,401(Year 1)



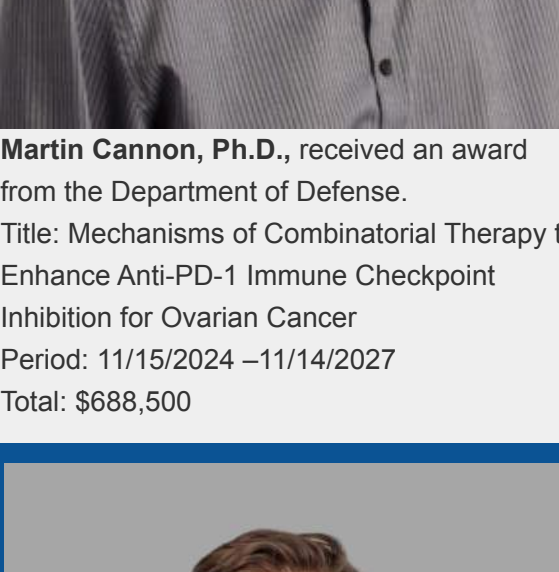
**Lu Huang, Ph.D.,** received an award from the National Institutes of Health.  
 Title: Ontogeny and Metabolism of Lung Alveolar Macrophages in Tuberculosis  
 Period: 8/13/2024 – 7/31/2029  
 Total: \$3,690,357



**Martin Cannon, Ph.D.,** received an award from the Department of Defense.  
 Title: Mechanisms of Combinatorial Therapy to Enhance Anti-PD-1 Immune Checkpoint Inhibition for Ovarian Cancer  
 Period: 11/15/2024 – 11/14/2027  
 Total: \$688,500



**Mandana Rezaeiahari, Ph.D.,** received an award from the National Institutes of Health.  
 Title: Understanding Utilization of Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support Using Social Network Analysis  
 Period: 9/1/2024 – 4/30/2028  
 Total: \$624,623



**Katherine Deck, B.S.,** received an award from the National Institutes of Health.  
 Title: Kidney-Resident Memory CD8+ T Cells Promote Hypertension and Memory Salt Sensitivity  
 Period: 9/30/2024 – End Date  
 Total: \$77,890  
 Mentor: Shengyu Mu, M.D., Ph.D.

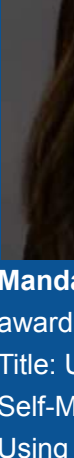

## News and Upcoming Events

### RESEARCH & INNOVATION CENTRAL HUB

## Open House

**SEPTEMBER 10 - TUESDAY**  
**8:30-10:30**  
**CENTRAL BLDG - 1ST FLOOR - 037**  
**ADIACENT TO ELEVATORS**

**Join us in our new location to socialize, network, meet our teams, and take a breakfast break.**

Division of Laboratory Animal Medicine  
 Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee  
 Institutional Review Board  
 Office of Research Information Systems  
 Office of Research Regulatory Affairs  
 Office of Research & Sponsored Programs  
 Office of Sponsored Programs Administrative Network  
 Science Communication Group

[rsip@uams.edu](mailto:rsip@uams.edu)

### Pivot-RP: Identifying Extramural Funding Opportunities!



We are excited to announce that the Division of Research and Innovation has acquired a subscription to Pivot-RP by Clarivate Analytics, LLC. Pivot-RP is a leading global platform for discovering funding opportunities, designed to help research organizations enhance their funding strategies and secure more resources. By leveraging AI and comprehensive scholarly profiles, Pivot-RP matches researchers with relevant financial support and offers valuable funding and policy insights for strategic planning.

[Click to create an account](#)

Your **username** is your **UAMS email** and select a password of your choice

[Click to learn more information about Pivot-RP and additional resources](#)

### Join us for a virtual training session on Pivot-RP!


This session will provide valuable information on creating a profile on PIVOT and utilizing advanced search tools to discover funding opportunities.

**Session Details:**  
 Date: September 10th  
 Time: 12:00 – 1:00 PM


**Microsoft Teams link:**  
[Join the meeting now](#)  
 Meeting ID: 256 767 627 014

### From BioVentures

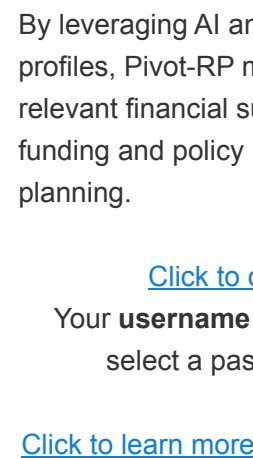
Click the links below to find out more!



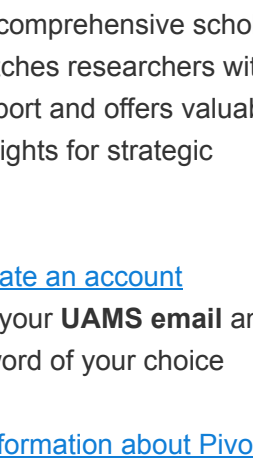
[2024 BioVentures Interns Learn Tech Transfer Firsthand](#)



[HSIE Commercialization Training Program to Receive \\$950K Over 5 Years](#)



[ACTIVE: Meet the 2024 Cohort Participants and Read Their Stories](#)



[The First Episode of the BioVentures Podcast](#)

### Calling All Postdocs!

[Click to RSVP](#)  
[National Postdoc Town Hall Registration Link](#)  
 Contact: Moe Elsrif, Ph.D.

## National Postdoc Appreciation Week

September 16-21, 2024  
 SPONSORED BY THE DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

**Monday, Sept 16** **Coffee and Doughnuts drop-in**  
8:30 - 10:30 am, Biomed I Atrium




**Tuesday, Sept 17** **Grant Writing workshop, lunch provided**  
12:00 - 1:00 pm, Biomed II Room 155-2

**Wednesday, Sept 18** **Career Panel**  
3:00 - 4:00 pm, Biomed II Room 155-2

**Thursday, Sept 19** **National Postdoc Association Town Hall**  
2:00 pm, Zoom  
Register at [nationalpostdoc.org/2024NPAW](#)

**Friday, Sept 20** **UAMS Postdoc Town Hall, lunch provided**  
1:00 - 3:00 pm, Biomed II Room 155-2  
**Happy Hour**  
5:30 Fessler Hall (311 E Capital Ave)

**Saturday, Sept 21** **Pinnacle Trail Hike**  
9:00 am

### "K to R Transition Workshop"

We are thrilled to invite you to a presentation by **Dr. Jyothi Arikath**. Dr. Arikath is the Health Science Administrator and Program Officer at NIAID and she will discuss NIH K99/R00 funding mechanism.

**Date:** September 3, 2024  
**Time:** 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM (central time)  
**Virtual Presentation:** [Join the meeting now](#)

### More upcoming events!

Click the links below to find out more!

- [September 12, 2024: Research Expo And UAMS Research & Innovation New Faculty Orientation](#)
- [September 25, 2024: UAMS Showcase of Medical Discoveries: The Center for Studies of Host Response to Cancer Therapy](#)
- [February 25, 2025: Student Research Day](#)

## Updates from R & I Team

### Welcome Lisa Smith to the Research & Innovation Team!

We are pleased to share that Lisa joined us as the Executive Assistant III to Dr. Daniel Voth, Vice Chancellor of Research and Innovation, on August 1.

With over 30 years of experience working in various departments within the College of Medicine—including Internal Medicine, Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine, Pediatrics, the Center for Birth Defects Research, Psychiatry, the Center for Addiction Research, and most recently Microbiology & Immunology—Lisa brings a wealth of expertise to our team.

Outside of work, Lisa enjoys traveling, reading, and spending quality time with family and friends. We are excited to have her on board and are confident that her extensive background and warm personality will be a great asset to our team.

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Lisa!

### Division of Laboratory Animal Medicine (DLAM)

#### DLAM Biomed Animal Housing Relocation: October 11-14

DLAM will be moving Biomed animal housing and support places the weekend of October 11-14th. If you have any questions, please contact Christy Simecka or Robin Mulkey.

### Welcome Melaney Gee, DVM, DACLAM

Please welcome **Dr. Melaney Gee, DVM, DACLAM**, Clinical Veterinarian, Associate Professor in DLAM.

"I have recently returned to Little Rock, which is my hometown. I am glad to be back and working as a Clinical Veterinarian with DLAM. This is a full circle career path for me, as I completed my graduate work at UAMS in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, prior to attending veterinary school at Louisiana State University. I have spent the last 24 years working at Wake Forest University School of Medicine supporting research programs using many different animal models.

I am excited for the opportunity to be back at UAMS, to learn more about the research programs, models in use, and investigative teams working here. I am also looking forward to reacquainting myself with the community here in Little Rock, especially finding fellow tennis players, and exploring the hiking trails, rivers and lakes of Arkansas."

### Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP)

#### Welcome new ORSP member!

**Wendy Stimler, BBA, CRA, CRA,** will be joining the Research & Sponsored Programs team in the role of Senior Grants Administrator on September 1, 2024. Please help us welcome Wendy to our team!

### Office of Research Regulatory Affairs (ORRA)

**Laura Adkins, MAP, CCRP, CCRA, CRS, AdvCRS,** Director of the UAMS Office of Research Regulatory Affairs, was proud to present "History of Research Regulations" during the August 2024 CRS Research Essentials Class.

She is also honored to have an article published in the August 2024 issue of the Society of Clinical Research Associates (SOCRA) Source, titled "Best Research Documentation Practices (GCP, GDocP, ALCOA+): Tips, Tricks, and Tools from a Monitoring Perspective."

### Office of Sponsored Programs Administrative Network (OSPAN)

#### Congratulations to Angie Brock and Christina Hamilton!

**Angie Brock, CRA,** has accepted a new position as the OSPAN Assistant Director for Administration.

Ms. Brock began her career at UAMS in 2007, working within the College of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics. She served in the Birth Defects Research and Prevention, and also serving in the Pediatric Accounting office on the ACH campus. Over the course of nine years, she held various positions responsible for research administration, human resources activities, financial oversight, and overall department operations.

In 2016, she transitioned to the role of Senior Research Administrator and Team Lead within the Office of Sponsored Programs Administrative Network (OSPAN), where she led a team of Research Administrators in pre- and post-award grant administration campus-wide. She obtained her CRA designation and served in the Senior RA role until beginning her new position as Assistant Director on July 1, 2024.

Ms. Brock brings 17 years of experience at UAMS to her new role and is excited to continue serving the research community.

**Christina Hamilton** has accepted a new position as the OSPAN Assistant Director for Training and Education.

Christina has been a research administrator in OSPAN since joining UAMS in April 2017, starting as an Associate Research Administrator and advancing to Senior Research Administrator over the years. Prior to UAMS, she spent ten years working for nonprofit organizations, including the American Heart Association and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, where she specialized in training and education, communication, and supporting healthcare professionals.

At UAMS, Christina initially supported the College of Public Health and continues to do so, in addition to her work with the Translational Research Institute. She has also established a strong track record campus-wide, supporting numerous large and complex proposals for various colleges and departments. In a previous interview for the Research and Innovation Division's "Up Close and Amazing" feature, Christina noted, "It can be challenging to find a common language between all of the different roles that touch a grant – from the PI to the program officer to the research administrator to the grants accounting specialists, everyone looks at the grant from a different perspective. It can be hard sometimes to find where everything intersects and everyone speaks the same language."

In her new role as Assistant Director for Training and Education in OSPAN, Christina will continue to address these challenges and bridge gaps.

### Welcome Takudzwa Mandizha and Dawn Bullion to OSPAN!

**Dawn Bullion** is joining us from the University of Mississippi, where she is currently a Research Administrator. Her career includes post-award accounting, grant writing, life-cycle administration as a PI, and proposal development and submission. She has worked in sponsored programs administration at both the University of Minnesota and the University of Mississippi.

Originally from Minnesota, Dawn has lived in Oxford, MS, for the last 17 years. She enjoys traveling, expanding her culinary skills, rescuing animals, and spending time with her three grandchildren.

**Takudzwa Mandizha** holds an MBA and a BBA in Management from Sulusi University (Zimbabwe). He is an experienced professional with a strong background in data analytics, project management, financial compliance, and process streamlining. Utilizing his Master of Science in Business Analytics from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, Takudzwa has worked across various industries, including roles at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and BNY Mellon.

He is currently pursuing a Graduate Certificate in Research Administration at Emmanuel College. On a personal note, Takudzwa is passionate about sports, traveling, and experiencing different cultures, and he enjoys reading on diverse topics.

### Video Recordings Available for Recent NIH Seminars!

1. [Overview of the NIH Review Process](#)
2. [Alternative Careers in Science](#)
3. [NIH Grants Process and Finding Funding Opportunities, and The Program Officer Career Path](#)

[Archived Seminars](#)

### Useful Links

- [Grants & Funding](#)

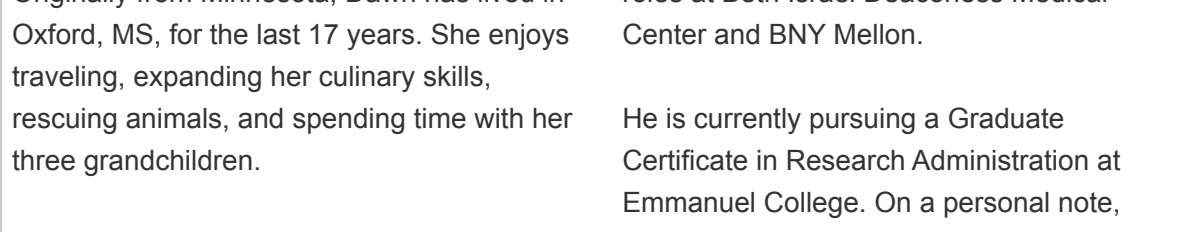
[UAMS Research Support Teams](#)

[Research Core Facilities](#)

[Anonymous Feedback or Questions for Us](#)

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Stay updated with the latest Research & Innovation news!



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