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August 5, 2026

News & Announcements

NIH Reminder on Foreign Components and International Collaborations

In May 2026, NIH issued [NOT-OD-26-084](#), reminding researchers of its definition of a **foreign component** and the importance of disclosing international research activities. Foreign components may include research conducted at foreign sites, use of foreign facilities or resources, support from foreign entities, or international collaborations that result in **co-authorship with individuals at foreign institutions**. Investigators should disclose potential foreign components to their NIH sponsor as soon as they are identified.

Researchers may reach out to **Andi Ham** ACHam@uams.edu or **Nicole Schartz** NSchartz@uams.edu for guidance on reporting foreign components.

Additionally, under [UAMS Policy 4.4.26](#), employees must disclose and obtain approval from the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation before entering into agreements with foreign entities or participating in certain activities involving foreign entities. Researchers engaged in international activities or considering foreign collaborations should complete the **UAMS International Activities Form** [here](#) and contact Nicole Schartz with any questions.

Nominations Open: 2026 Chancellor's Awards of Faculty Excellence

UAMS is accepting nominations and applications for the 2026 Chancellor's Awards of Faculty Excellence, recognizing outstanding faculty across education, scholarship, clinical innovation, mentorship, teamwork, and community engagement.

Deadline: 11:59 p.m., Sept. 18

Eligibility: Self-nominations and colleague nominations both welcome

Details & application: [Center for Faculty Excellence website](#)

Questions? Contact Wendy Ward, Ph.D., associate provost for faculty, at ward@uams.edu.

Awards will be presented at a future Academic Senate meeting. If you applied or were nominated before, you are encouraged to try again this year!

New Podcast From BioVentures *Episode 20 - TTO to TTO with Arkansas State University*

In this episode of the BioVentures Podcast, we sit down with Luna Acosta, Director of Technology Transfer at Arkansas State University, for a discussion on the evolving role of university technology transfer. We explore emerging trends, including the growing influence of AI in research commercialization, the importance of customer discovery and industry partnerships, and how tech transfer offices are shifting their focus from counting patents to measuring real-world impact. Discussions cover the funding landscape, the continued importance of the Bayh-Dole Act, and why collaboration between Arkansas institutions is essential to building a stronger innovation ecosystem.

[Listen to Episode 20](#)

Education Opportunity: Fall Certified Research Specialist Training Schedule

The Fall Schedule is available for viewing on the ORI website.

The Office of Research Integrity has posted its 2026 Fall schedule of Certified Research Specialist required courses, running August through October. Sessions include Essentials (Aug 10), General Research Ethics Parts 1 & 2 (Aug 19 & 26), Reportable New Information and the IRB (Sept 28), Writing SOPs (Oct 13), Protocol Deviations (Oct 14), and Developing a Research Protocol (Oct 21).

[View the CRS schedule](#)

The Advanced Certified Research Specialist required courses for Fall 2026 are also posted, including Research Misconduct (Aug 17), Research Ethics: Beyond the Basics (Sept 16), and Data Sharing (Nov 2).

[View the AdvCRS schedule](#)

Now Open: 2027 UAMS Medical Research Endowment Fund Applications

Applications for the 2027 UAMS Medical Research Endowment (MRE) Fund are now open. Key information is summarized below.

AWARD DETAILS

- Maximum award: \$25,000
- Deadline: **August 30, 2026**
- Funding start: February 1, 2027

ELIGIBILITY

Permanent, full-time UAMS faculty at the rank of Assistant Professor or above. Faculty who received an MRE award last year (as PI or Co-Investigator) are not eligible for this cycle.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

- Early-stage investigators
- Start-up or seed efforts in new research areas
- Projects with strong potential for extramural funding
- Established investigators pursuing new research directions

[View Full Guidelines](#)[Submit Your MRE Application](#)

Upcoming Events

BioVentures Innovation Day

Aug. 19, 2026 | 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM | Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute (12th Floor)

This one-day event will bring together researchers, faculty, students, trainees, staff, entrepreneurs, investors, and industry partners to celebrate innovation, build meaningful connections, and explore how ideas can move from discovery to real-world impact.

Whether you are developing new technologies, interested in commercialization, looking to connect with Arkansas's growing innovation ecosystem, or simply curious about what's next in healthcare innovation, Innovation Day is an opportunity to learn, network, and engage.

Spots are limited. Please complete the interest form to RSVP and save yours.

[Register Now](#) | [View Event Flyer](#)

Sip & Science

Researchers connect with community in casual conversations

Aug. 20, 2026 | 6:00 - 8:00 PM | Hibernia Irish Tavern

Panel of Speakers



Michael Cucciare, PhD
Professor,
Department of Psychiatry



Melissa Zielinski, PhD
Associate Professor,
Department of Psychiatry



Ashley Acheson, PhD
Professor,
Vice Chair for Research,
Department of Psychiatry

[Add to Calendar](#)

Center for Musculoskeletal Disease Research Distinguished Lecturer Series

Title: "Emerging Functions for Nerves and Schwann Cells in Bone Homeostasis, Bone Regeneration, and Osteoarthritis"

Aug. 21, 2026 | 12:00 - 1:00 PM | Biomed II, Rayford Auditorium

Speaker: Erica L. Scheller, DDS, PhD, Associate Professor, Division of Bone and Mineral Diseases, Washington University School of Medicine, Executive Director, Washington University Center of Regenerative Medicine, Past President, International Society of Bone Morphometry

* Lunch will be provided to the first 30 participants

UAMS Research & Innovation Research Orientation & TRI's Research Expo

Aug. 27, 2026 | 3:00 - 6:00 PM | Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute (12th Floor)

The combined event is Aug. 27 in the Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute, 12th Floor, with the UAMS Research & Innovation Research Orientation from **3:00 - 4:00 PM** and the TRI Research Expo from **4:00 - 6:00 PM**.

At the Orientation, gain insights about the pivotal role UAMS Research & Innovation programs play in research. All are welcome; no RSVP required.

At the Expo, network with colleagues and chat with representatives from over 50 research services across UAMS, Arkansas Children's Research Institute, and the Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System. Learn about the full suite of TRI career development, research, and clinical trial services for investigators. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and beverages.

[Register for the Expo](#)

Past Weekly Updates and Newsletters

Weekly Updates

[July 22, 2026](#)
[July 15, 2026](#)
[July 8, 2026](#)
[June 24, 2026](#)
[June 17, 2026](#)

Newsletters

[July 2026](#)
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Learn about the innovative work of UAMS investigators over the past year.

Daniel E. Voth, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Research
and Innovation

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