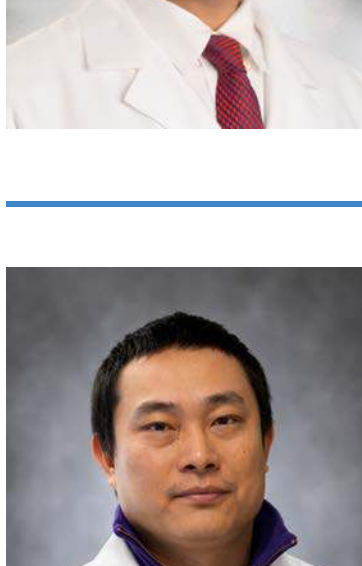




September 2026

Congratulations!



Nishank Jain, MD,
received an R01 award from the National Institutes of Health

Title: Effect of Platelet Inhibition with Ticagrelor to Reduce Inflammation and Surrogate Cardiovascular Markers in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease

Period: 09/10/2026 – 07/31/2031
Total: ~ \$3.6 million



Zhiqiang Qin, PhD,
received an R01 award from the National Institutes of Health

Title: The Transactivation of Human Endogenous Retrovirus (HERV)-K by Oncogenic Virus in HIV+ Patients and Development of Targeted Therapies

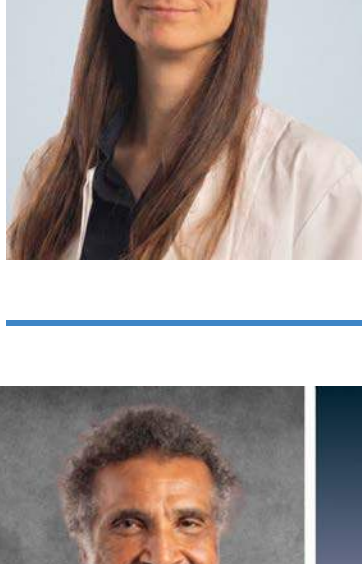
Period: 08/28/2026 – 05/31/2031
Total: ~ \$3.2 million



Susan Davis Emmett, MD,
received a U01 award from the National Institutes of Health

Title: STAR+ Trial: Expanding Access to Hearing Diagnostics and Treatment for Children in Rural Appalachia

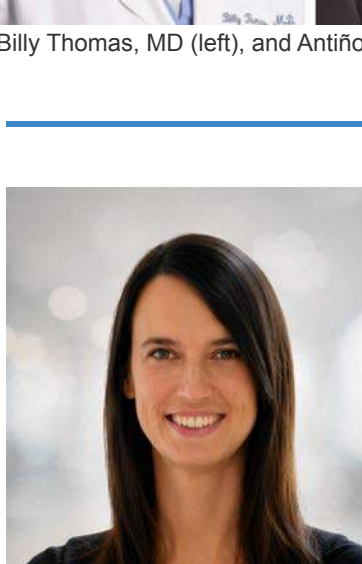
Period: 09/11/2026 – 08/31/2029
Total: ~ \$2.4 million



Clay Jackson-Littken, PhD,
received a Director's New Innovator Award (DP2) from the National Institutes of Health

Title: Harnessing innovative platforms to study and prevent Acinetobacter ventilator-associated pneumonia

Period: 09/01/2026 – 08/31/2031
Total: ~ \$2.2 million



Sanja Novak, PhD,
received an R01 award from the National Institutes of Health

Title: Microvascular integrity and its role in osteoarthritis

Period: 09/01/2026 – 08/31/2031
Total: ~ \$2.1 million



Billy Thomas, MD, and Antiño Allen, PhD,
received an R25 award from the National Institutes of Health

Title: Cancer Education and Research Program (CERP)

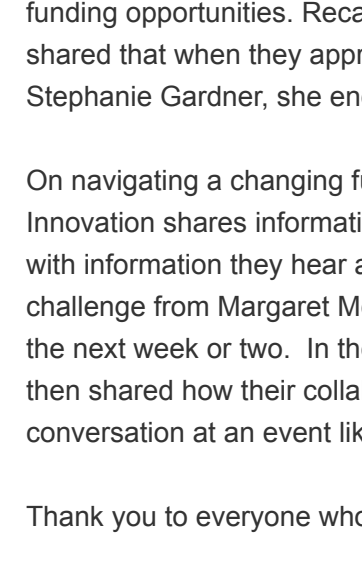
Period: 09/18/2026 – 08/31/2031
Total: ~ \$1.3 million



Ashley Clawson, PhD,
received an R34 grant from the National Institutes of Health

Title: Improving School-Parent Coordination to Prevent Nicotine Use among Rural Youth

Period: 09/01/2026 – 05/31/2029
Total: \$711,508



Jennifer Andersen, PhD,
received an award from the Health Resources and Services Administration

Title: Telehealth Network Grant Program

Period: 09/01/2026 – 08/31/2031
Total: \$300,000 (1st year)

News & Event Recaps

U of A and UAMS Research Showcase Brings Researchers Together in Fayetteville

On September 25, researchers, students and staff from UAMS, the University of Arkansas and the VA filled the Institute for Integrative and Innovative Research (I²R) in Fayetteville for the inaugural U of A and UAMS Research Showcase, a day of panel discussions, poster presentations and networking.

In the leadership panel, Margaret McCabe (U of A), Dr. Daniel E. Voth (UAMS) and Hugh Churchill (I²R) discussed opportunities for the two institutions to work together, highlighting the [Razorback Research Catalyst](#), a joint U of A–UAMS program designed to foster sustained multidisciplinary research collaborations and position teams for larger external funding opportunities. Recalling the early conversations about the program, Dr. Voth shared that when they approached UAMS Provost and Chief Strategy Officer Dr. Stephanie Gardner, she encouraged them to “think big” about funding the program.

On navigating a changing funding landscape, Dr. Voth said the Division of Research & Innovation shares information as it receives it and encouraged researchers to reach out with information they hear at seminars and events. The leadership panel closed with a challenge from Margaret McCabe: Go beyond “let’s chat” and set a specific meeting within the next week or two. In the following discussion, Center directors from both campuses then shared how their collaborations began, often with a simple introduction or conversation at an event like this one.

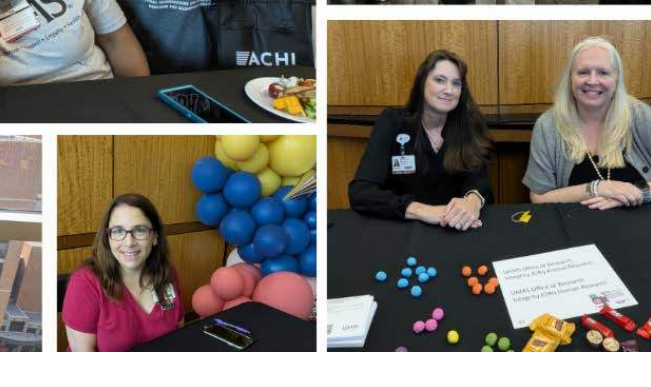
Thank you to everyone who joined us. We look forward to continuing these collaborations.



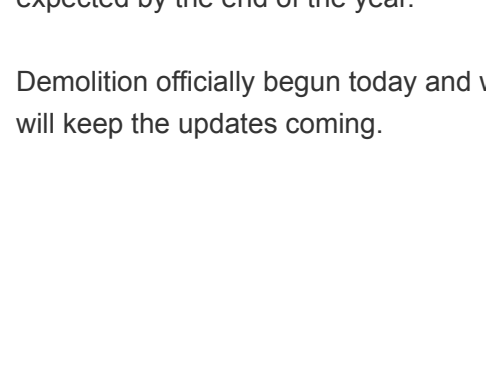
More from the NW Campus

[New Publications from Northwest Medical Students and Residents:](#) Check them out!

National Postdoc Appreciation Week Recap



2026 National Postdoc Appreciation Week



What an amazing week (Sept. 21-26) recognizing the dedication and contributions of our Postdoctoral Scholars!

Postdocs play a vital role in advancing research and discovery, whether they are working with samples in the laboratory, analyzing data, or engaging with patients in clinical settings. Their efforts have a meaningful impact on science, medicine, and our community.

Join us for our next **Postdoctoral Society Meeting on October 16th**.

[RSVP](#)

Research Faculty Orientation 2026: A Look Back

The Research Faculty Orientation 2026, held on August 27, was a great day of connecting with new and returning faculty, learning about the resources available to support their research, and sharing what the Division of Research & Innovation has to offer. Directors from our offices also attended the TRI Research Expo, which followed the orientation.

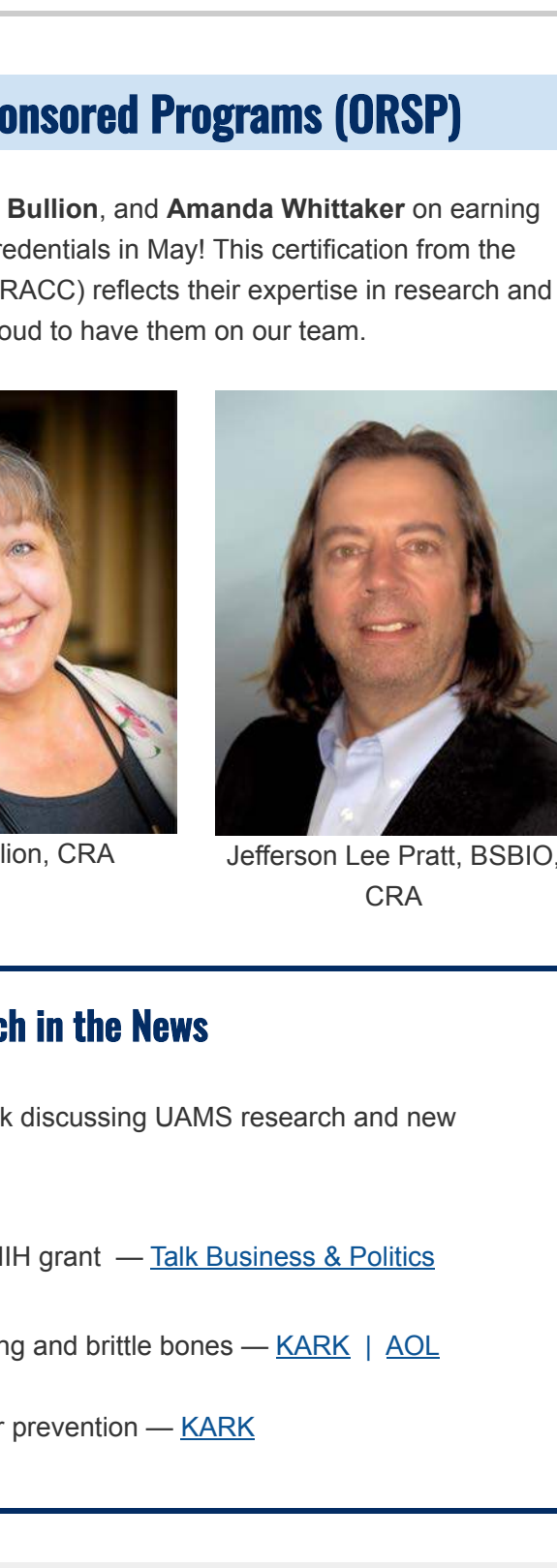
Can you spot the directors and staff members from the different offices in the Division of Research & Innovation? Check out the photo collage below and see how many you can find!



Biomed I Atrium Repair Underway

You may have noticed scaffolding going up in the Biomed I atrium. Repairs are officially underway. A contractor will remove and replace damaged drywall, address past water damage, and repaint, with completion expected by the end of the year.

Demolition officially begun today and will keep the updates coming.



Because the atrium needs to stay clear of personnel during repairs, departments should plan to hold classes normally held in B205/207, as well as any holiday gatherings, in alternative spaces. Thank you for your patience as we work toward getting the atrium back to a great space.

IACUC Site Visits Coming in October

The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) will conduct site visits of animal housing and use areas in October. Committee members will visit vivariums and animal use labs on the UAMS and Arkansas Children's campuses.

From the R & I Team

Office of Research Regulatory Affairs (ORRA)

FDA Regulatory Roundup

The Office of Research Regulatory Affairs (ORRA) is launching the FDA Regulatory Roundup to share FDA-related updates with the research community.

This month: On August 27, 2026, the FDA issued a warning letter to a clinical investigator citing lapses in oversight, including consent form errors, protocol deviations, and incomplete study records. The letter is a good reminder that Principal Investigators are responsible for protecting research participants and the integrity of their data.

[Read the full summary.](#) →

Questions about FDA-related or other research matters? Contact the [Office of Research Regulatory Affairs](#) (ORRA). We are here to help investigators and their teams protect both participants and their data.

Office of Research Integrity (ORI)

Kudos to **Kelly Fountain** (left) and **Tracie Wilson** (right) on having their poster, “A Key Component to an Effective Research Program is Education,” accepted for the Society of Clinical Research Associates (SOCRA) Annual Conference!

Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP)

Congratulations to **Jefferson Lee Pratt**, **Dawn Bullion**, and **Amanda Whittaker** on earning their Certified Research Administrator (CRA) credentials in May! This certification from the Research Administrators Certification Council (RACC) reflects their expertise in research and sponsored programs administration. We are proud to have them on our team.

Amanda Whittaker, CRA

Dawn Bullion, CRA

Jefferson Lee Pratt, BSBI, CRA

UAMS Research in the News

Dr. Erika Petersen featured on KATV Daybreak discussing UAMS research and new treatments — [KATV](#)

UAMS Cancer Institute receives \$2.3 million NIH grant — [Talk Business & Politics](#)

UAMS receives \$2.4 million grant to study aging and brittle bones — [KARK](#) | [AOL](#)

UAMS lands \$3.1 million grant to study cancer prevention — [KARK](#)

Video Recordings Available for Recent Virtual Seminars

1. [From Portal to Submission: Navigating the ORSP Proposal Support Journey](#): Andrea Ham, BS, CRA
2. [Microsoft Word Tips & Tricks](#): Eric Rathman, MS, ELS
3. [SciENcv Common Forms – Tips and FAQs](#): Nicole Schartz, PhD
4. [AI for Discovery – Accelerating UAMS Research](#)
5. [UAMS Research Security Program](#): Nicole Schartz, PhD ([PowerPoint Slides](#))

[Archived Seminars](#)

Useful Links

[Grant Life Cycle](#)

[Research Portals](#)

[Core Facilities](#)

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