



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS

College of Education
& Health Professions



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION &
HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Leading with Care

MAGAZINE + ANNUAL REPORT 2022





Twenty-five years ago, the College added “health professions” to our name to reflect the diversity of our academic and professional programs. The College, which has been part of the U of A since its founding, marked the [silver anniversary](#) of our current name in various ways, including a “25 Ways We Care” series on our social media channels. The series highlighted 25 of our unique programs, initiatives and projects.

A Caring College

\$564,262

Scholarship awards
(Academic year 2021-22)

1,332

Degrees awarded
(Academic year 2021-22)

523

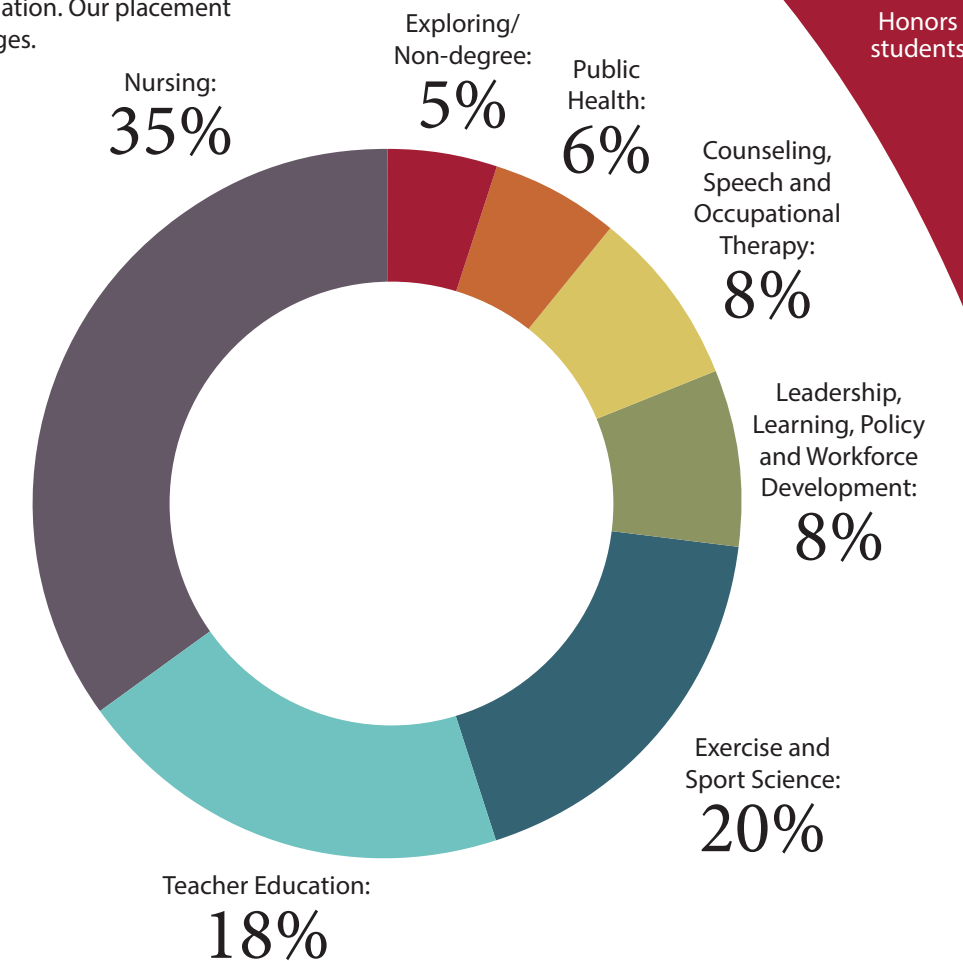
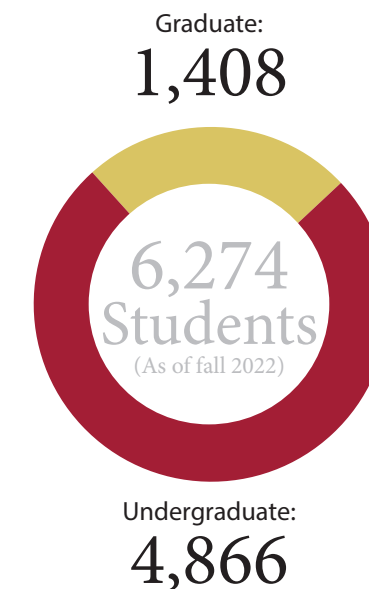
Honors students

Postgraduation Success

Across all undergraduate degree programs, 90% of our students reported working, continuing education, or enlisting in military/volunteer service within six months of graduation. Our placement rate ranks highest among all academic colleges.

Students

Our College's fall 2022 undergraduate growth is up by 8.4%. We continue to have the largest two departments on campus: The Department of [Health, Human Performance and Recreation](#) has 1,769 students and the [Eleanor Mann School of Nursing](#) has 2,165 students.



A Message From The Dean

Dear Colleagues, Students, and Friends,

I joined the U of A in 2008 as a professor of higher education, and I feel privileged to now serve as interim dean of the College which has meant so much to me. It has been exciting to partner with faculty, staff, and students to advance our goals.

We often call ourselves the [College of the Caring Professions](#). We care for our students and provide them with high-quality, innovative, and meaningful educational experiences. We care through our research to advance the understanding of issues in education and health. We care for the communities in Arkansas and beyond. This mission shaped my message for the year – WE CARE.

Over the summer, we launched the [WE CARE initiative](#), an acronym for Wellness and Education Commitment to Arkansas Excellence. It revolves around three priorities that support innovative research, outreach, and educational

programs throughout our College. To date, we have funded more than 25 proposals through the initiative, including the first Deans Seminar that will focus on a complex societal issue at the intersection of education and health.

This year also marked the silver anniversary of our College's name change. In 1997, the College of Education was renamed the College of Education and Health Professions to reflect the diversity of its academic and professional programs more accurately.

Some of our departments also made significant changes, which you'll read about in these pages. For example, the

Exercise Science Research Center reopened with expanded wet lab capabilities in muscle biology and a new gait biomechanics lab. The 2022 magazine is abundant with positive stories about student and faculty success, the College's caring alumni, and research that helps people thrive.

We hope you're inspired by how WE CARE.

Kate Morris



▲ Development Update

[Tory Gaddy](#) was named Director of Development for the College over the summer. She manages our growing portfolio of major gifts, cultivates new donor relationships and assists in fundraising to support the College. Tory added Associate Director of Development Seth Duell to the team in October. Reach out to Tory or Seth with questions about gifts or fundraising efforts in the College, gaddy@uark.edu or sduell@uark.edu.

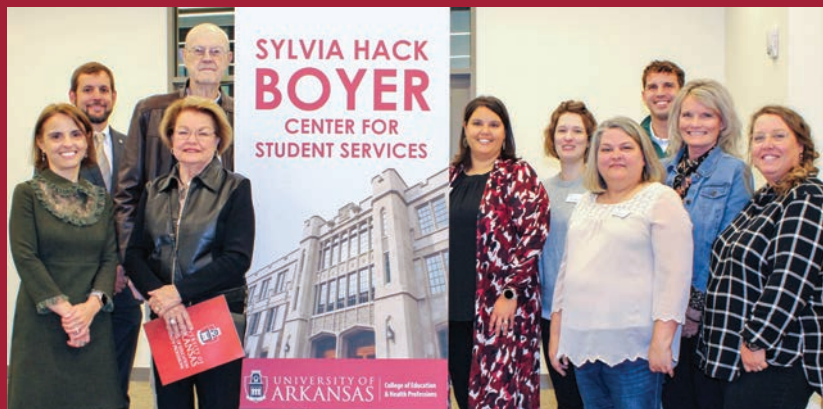
► Senior Scholars

The College of Education and Health Professions held its [annual awards ceremony](#) on April 25, recognizing more than 100 outstanding students and alumni. These Senior Scholars were honored for having a 4.0 GPA.



▲ COEHP Commencement

In May, 561 College of Education and Health Professions students participated in the 2022 Spring [Commencement](#) ceremony at Bud Walton Arena. They joined more than 4,400 other graduates to become the newest alumni of the University of Arkansas.



From left: Interim Dean Kate Mamiseishvili, Matthew Ganio, Sylvia Hack Boyer, Tommy Boyer, Elizabeth McKinley, Erica Langley, Denise Bignar, Corey Johnson, Cindy Folsom and Katie Winkler.

◀ Boyers Visit BCSS

The [Sylvia Hack Boyer Center for Student Services](#) (BCSS) is a full-service hub for advising and student success initiatives for undergraduates in the College. It was established in 1994 through a generous gift from Tommy and Sylvia Hack Boyer. This fall, the [Boyers visited BCSS](#) to learn more about the center's expanded services at its new location in The CORD (Cordia Harrington Center for Excellence). BCSS has extended help desk hours and application workshops for competitive entry programs. The College's Doctor of Occupational Therapy program partnered with BCSS this year to offer unique occupational therapy knowledge and skills. The pilot program contributed to the success and retention of undergraduate and online students.

- Extend the College's national prominence by encouraging collaboration to address complex challenges in education and health.
- Advance the University's land-grant mission by caring for Arkansas and Arkansans.
- Embrace an organizational culture that is agile, adaptable, responsive, and caring.

How WE CARE

#coeHPWECARE

Interim Dean Kate Mamiseishvili and the College's leadership team announced a new initiative, [WE CARE](#), that revolves around tangible ways faculty and staff can collaborate within the College and across the state to address complex challenges in education and health. WE CARE, an acronym for Wellness and Education Commitment to Arkansas Excellence, furthers three priorities for the 2022-23 academic year.



Leaders Who Care From left: Drs. Michael Hevel, Mary Margaret Hui Cunningham, Kate Mamiseishvili, Matthew Ganio, and Lewatis McNeal.



◀ **Full STEAM Ahead**
The College was part of a kick-off event in Dumas, Arkansas, to celebrate a [\\$1.25 million, five-year grant](#) that will support STEAM education (science, technology, engineering, art and math) for students there. Dr. Michael Daugherty, a professor of STEM Education in the College's Department of Curriculum and Instruction, is a key collaborator on the project. He presented teachers with a starter set of tools needed to deliver STEAM education in the elementary grades, like hammers, miter saws, drills and other items using WE CARE funds. The program is for rising sixth graders at Reed Elementary, a rural and low-resource school.



▲ Welcome Announcement

Interim Dean Kate Mamiseishvili announced the WE CARE initiative at the College's fall welcome back event for faculty and staff. The festivities continued that evening at the Fayetteville Public Library's event center. COEHP graduate students volunteered in the children's craft area, which was a big hit among families.



▲ Writing Retreat

The College held its first WE CARE writing retreat at Mount Sequoyah Center over Fall Break. The event, led by Drs. Chris Goering and Michael Hevel, offered faculty an opportunity to connect with colleagues, participate in movement activities, and enjoy multiple blocks of focused writing time. An editor panel — made up of Drs. Sean Connors, Christine Holyfield, Kevin Roessger and Jonathan Wai — shared writing strategies with the group. An authors reception was the last event of the day.



From left: Drs. Craig Schmitt, Paul Calleja, Michelle Gray, Angela Smith-Nix and Amanda Sullivan

Caring in the Classroom

The College offers 18 bachelor's degree programs, 20 master's degree programs, two educational specialist degrees, 11 doctoral degree programs, and 14 certificate programs. We collaborate with the U of A Global Campus to offer 24 of these programs online.

▲ Teaching Excellence

Our Department of Health, Human Performance and Recreation earned the 2022 Daniel E. Ferritor Award for Departmental Excellence in Teaching at the U of A. The award recognizes a department across campus that best exemplifies teaching excellence for that academic year. Winners are selected based on the department's sustained commitment to teaching excellence, faculty development, student success, and student learning assessment.



John Osborn and Anita Hart-McNair, co-education directors at Arkansas Lighthouse Charter School in Jacksonville, meet with Allison Prewitt, an IMPACT director of support.

▲ Impacting Arkansas Students

One of our College's outreach programs, [IMPACT Arkansas Fellowship](#), supports K-12 education in the state by building leadership capacity in high-needs schools. As of 2022, there are 128 fellows from 89 schools, 59 public school districts and charter school districts, and they are represented in all education service cooperative regions and the Arkansas Public School Resource Center. The 22 fellows who graduate in December 2023 will impact an estimated 800 teachers and 8,000 students. Ninety-six percent of IMPACT graduates remain in Arkansas education. The program started in 2016.

The Razorback Teacher Creed	
Who Am I?	I am...
Knowledgeable, Loving, Patient, and Kind.	
What Do I Value?	I value...
All students, All cultures, All beliefs, All means ALL	
What Do I Do?	I practice...
Acceptance, Integrity, and Perseverance	
<u>I AM A RAZORBACK TEACHER!</u>	

The Razorback Teacher Creed ►

The U of A held its fifth annual Teacher Induction Convocation this year, honoring 236 students who have committed to the profession. Students from 13 teacher education programs across three U of A colleges were represented at the celebration. Twenty one faculty presented pins to the newly admitted teacher candidates. The College's Office of Teacher Education provided the pins, which read, "Knowledgeable, Skillful, Caring, Professional."



Photos courtesy Blk Elk Media

▲ Outdoor Leadership Minor

The College has a new undergraduate [Outdoor Leadership minor](#). The outdoor leadership field is dynamic in terms of jobs, economic development, and highly sought-after lifestyles. Students can earn professional certifications, gain various skills through field-based experiences, and hone their leadership qualifications.



▲ Classroom Collaboration

Karmen Bell, a clinical instructor, works with students in her Instruction and Assessment of Writing class at [Peabody Hall](#). She and JL Jennings, director of field placement, were recently awarded WE CARE funds from the College to establish DOPE! Diversifying our Public Educators, a resource group for teacher candidates of color who are seeking K-12 licensure at the U of A.

This fall, 222 student teachers are interning in 47 school buildings in Northwest Arkansas. These future teachers will dedicate more than 13,650 hours of service this academic year to local schools while developing meaningful teaching practices. Field experience is an essential component of our teacher education programs. Students gain valuable experience applying theory to practice by working in schools each semester.

◀ Gifted Student Study

Dr. Jonathan Wai in our Department of Education Reform studies education policy through the lens of psychology. [Dr. Wai](#), assistant professor and 21st Century Endowed Chair in Education Policy, is a pioneer in studying how gifted students are identified in schools. This year, he and several other Education Reform [researchers](#) found that high-achieving students from disadvantaged backgrounds are half as likely to be placed in Arkansas schools gifted programs as their more affluent peers. They advocate for the schools to [screen all students](#) to help determine gifted program eligibility rather than relying on the current nomination process. Dr. Wai's program of research has contributed to several other areas, including improving STEM education and achievement, developing spatial talent for vocational and STEM fields, and better understanding the educational backgrounds of leaders. His work has been featured multiple times in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *The Economist*, *Scientific American*, *Nature*, and *Science*.





Two of our nursing students, Hannah Falk and Anna Erich (wearing black masks), work with Child Life Specialists on the pediatric floor at Gemelli University Hospital in Rome, Italy.



Left to right: Nursing students Keira Leggett, Matthew Pham and Zara Shallwani

Caring in the Clinic

Students in our college gain valuable hands-on experience through clinical practicums, internships, and simulation labs before graduation.

▲ Nurses Study Abroad

The U of A Rome Center is now [open to our nursing students](#). In addition to panel discussions and site visits, students learn through practicums at the prominent Gemelli University Hospital. Serving as the European hub for the university, the Rome Center is in the renowned palace of Palazzo Taverna, giving students an engaging experience in the heart of the city's rich culture. The center offers educational experiences that supplement the traditional classroom.



◀ New Nursing Executive Director

Dr. Jessie Casida, an internationally-known nurse scientist, has been named the new executive director of our Eleanor Mann School of Nursing and the George M. and Boyce W. Billingsley Endowed Chair in Nursing. Dr. Casida joined the U of A from Johns Hopkins University. In addition to his clinical expertise as an advanced practice registered nurse, he has excelled in scholarship and leadership related to nursing. Dr. Casida maintains an active research program and studies leadership and organizational culture in the healthcare system. He said EMSON is poised to be the go-to nursing school for students who want to advance their careers beyond direct patient care provider roles. He is developing programs to help nursing students launch meaningful and impactful leadership careers.



▼ Room for Reading

The College offers speech-language therapy and hearing services for children — and unique interventions for adults — through the on-campus [Speech and Hearing Clinic](#). The clinic also serves as a training and research lab for undergraduate and graduate students in our Communication Sciences and Disorders program. This year, the program hired [Stephanie Hicks](#), a certified speech-language pathologist and certified academic language therapist specializing in children with reading delays and dyslexia.

◀ The Razorback mascots dropped by the clinic in the fall to “test” the equipment.



► Therapy Dogs

Our College has various professors whose research agendas focus on pediatric autism spectrum disorder. These faculty members teach in multiple academic programs across the College, including special education, nursing, occupational therapy, speech-language therapy and counseling. They all collaborate on studies to improve pediatric autism spectrum health outcomes and increase services available to the community. Dr. Michele Kilmer, a certified pediatric nurse practitioner and assistant professor in our nursing school, is training Griffin, a black Labrador retriever, with both

therapy and service dog techniques designed to promote prosocial behavior and emotional regulation in children with autism or developmental delays. She is investigating the effect of animal-assisted therapy with a highly trained canine while working to assist children whose families may not be able to afford and care for a service dog. If successful, Griffin's training and activities could be a prototype upon which animal-assisted therapy programs can be built. Dr. Allison Scott, also in nursing, is working with golden retriever Bella to research how therapy dogs can ease anxiety among students.





▲ Service + Learning

For five years, our Communication Sciences and Disorders program has [partnered with Washington County Head Start](#) through a service-learning course that benefits both groups. Dr. Lisa Bowers arranges for graduate students training to become speech-language pathologists to evaluate the language, motor, and vocabulary skills of preschool-age children who attend local centers. Our graduate students gain valuable experience working with young children and observing classrooms in various settings. The partnership allows the centers to complete these screenings promptly and reduce teacher workload.

▼ RazorBug Diploma Tour

The inaugural RazorBug Diploma Tour celebrated graduates of online degree programs by delivering their diplomas to their hometowns in Razorback style. The tour crossed 43 counties in three weeks and delivered 16 framed diplomas to graduates living throughout Arkansas. John Kelly, who has devoted the last 16 years to educating children and adults in eastern Arkansas, was among those to [receive his diploma](#). Kelly earned a doctorate in adult and lifelong learning online from our College.



Dr. John Kelly (left, center) receives a framed diploma from Dr. Michael Hevel, COEHP interim associate dean for research, strategy, and outreach, during the diploma tour through eastern Arkansas.

Caring in the Community

Our College offers a variety of education and health service programs to benefit Arkansas and beyond. [Outreach initiatives](#) include the Center for Children and Youth, the Education Renewal Zone, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Arkansas A+, Arkansas Teacher Corps, Office for Education Policy, Office of Innovation for Education, and Early Care and Education Projects. Disability-related outreach and services include Autism Support Program, UA Currents, and Partners for Inclusive Communities.



◀ ARTeacher Fellowship

The College is home to the Center for Children & Youth, winner of the Governor's Arts Award for arts in education. One of CCY's flagship programs is the [ARTeacher Fellowship](#), offering area secondary teachers a rich three year experience in integrating visual and performing arts into the core curriculum to deepen and invigorate student learning. The program is organized by CCY in collaboration with Crystal Bridges Museum and Walton Arts Center.



▲ Camps for Kids

Our College hosts several free camps for children in the summer. [Camp Connect](#) is an art based day camp program for kids ages 5-12 who have autism. At [Literacy Camp](#), participants are paired with U of A graduate education students, matched to target learning areas in reading that need improvement or enrichment. Students who participate in [Young Writers Camp](#) have a chance to exercise their writing muscles and creativity.



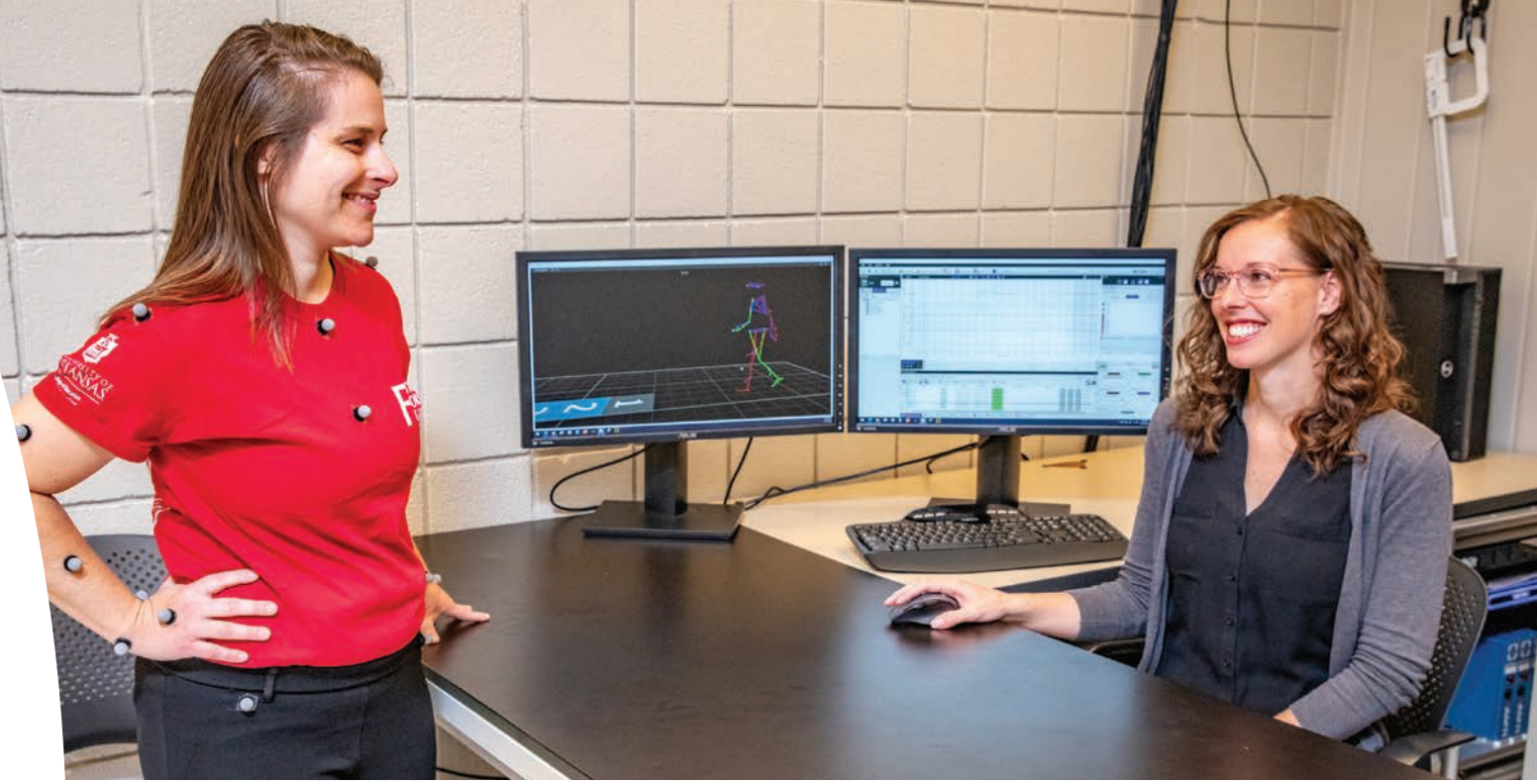
◀ A Scholar and Soldier

Derrick Johnson, a master's student in our [Counselor Education and Supervision program](#), represented scholarship recipients at our annual College luncheon for benefactors and students. Derrick is currently completing his practicum at The Joshua Center in Rogers. He's also in the Army National Guard and the ROTC program. Derrick received the Donald R. Rye Memorial Scholarship, the Kim Gibson Renner Endowed Scholarship, the Warren F. and Judith G. Housley Endowed Award, the E. Russell Baster Award, and the Arthur F. Moore, M.D. Scholarship.



◀ Occupational Therapists

The first [Doctor of Occupational Therapy program](#) cohort will graduate in December 2022. The OTD program is a joint offering between our College and the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, the first collaboration of its kind at the U of A. At UAMS, students have 7,000 square feet of hands-on learning space. A split-level house on the U of A campus offers an everyday life training ground.



Caring Through Research

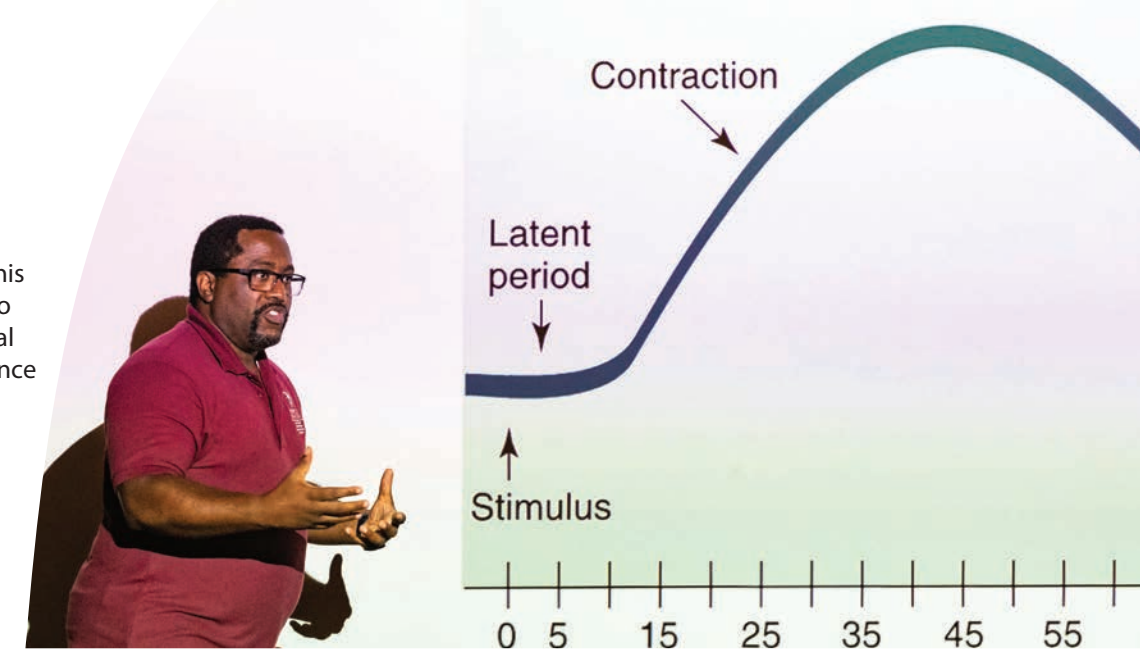
Our faculty are internationally known for their research and scholarship.

▲ Exercise Science Research Center Expansion
 The Exercise Science Research Center added gait biomechanics and expanded its wet lab capabilities for work in muscle biology this year. The center includes the research efforts of nine faculty and their teams. Research focuses on concussion; physical activity; thermoregulation and hydration; aging, sarcopenia and Alzheimer's disease; muscle biology; and biomechanics.



► Muscle and Bone Research

Dr. Tyrone Washington, pictured in his classroom on campus, was invited to lecture at the Emory Musculoskeletal Institute's 3rd International Conference on Musculoskeletal and Neural Interactions this summer. He spoke about his research on the intersectionality of age-related sarcopenia and obesity on skeletal muscle plasticity.



▲ Arkansas Senate Honors Education Reform

Researchers in our [Department of Education Reform](#) testified before the Arkansas Senate in early 2022, and legislators passed a resolution at the meeting, recognizing the department's achievements. The [resolution](#) praised the department's research and various service projects, including those related to arts integration, trauma-informed public charter schools, education about the Holocaust, and STEM curricula. The department's mission is to advance education and economic development by improving academic achievement in elementary and secondary schools.

► Gender Effects of COVID-19

Professor Gema Zamarró's research on the unequal effects of COVID-19 is helping inform policy decisions at the federal and local levels. [Dr. Zamarró](#), 21st Century Endowed Chair in Teacher Quality in our Department of Education Reform, extensively researched the gender differences in couples' division of childcare, work and mental health during the pandemic, racial differences in in-person learning and teachers' increased burnout, intentions to leave the profession, and actual turnover in Arkansas. She continues to study these topics. The Brookings Institute also featured research she co-authored about how the pandemic changed teachers' commitment to remaining in the classroom. This timely and policy-relevant research agenda has been featured over 85 times, including in *Scientific American*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Time* magazine, and 40/29 TV, among others. Her goal is to help reduce the adverse effects of the pandemic for years to come.



Center faculty (from left) Mance Buttram, associate director of research, Page Dobbs, interim director, and Alex Russell, associate director of technology.



◀ Baby Tech

Does new technology impact how parents bond with their newborns? Gabrielle Krupa and Sutton Bauman explored this question in their [honors thesis research](#), focusing specifically on AI-assisted technologies beginning at birth. Krupa, a senior communication sciences and disorders major, and Bauman, a senior communication sciences and disorders major with a background in human development, worked with several sets of new parents throughout the project. Each received a SNOO — a smart bassinet that senses a baby's movement and discomfort.

Gabrielle Krupa (right), Sutton Bauman and mentor Dr. Fran Hagstrom examine the SNOO app in the family room of Hagstrom's lab. This article originally appeared in A+, the Honors College magazine.

▲ New Center for Public Health & Technology

Three faculty members in our [new Center for Public Health and Technology](#) were awarded nearly \$2 million in funding from the National Institutes of Health to study issues related to addiction. Broadly, the center's work seeks to add to the understanding of how technologies (online, digital, social, wearable, among others) promote positive health behaviors and reduce disease burden, as well as examine the challenges associated with technology, including the propagation of misinformation and promotion of harmful health behaviors.

Nothing, not all
the armies in the
world, can stop
an idea whose
time has come



▲ Accessible Healthcare

Nursing alumnus Judd Semingson, whose healthcare career spans nearly 25 years, is the [CEO of Community Clinic](#). When the first clinic was established in 1989, volunteer doctors saw patients once a month. This year, the organization is adding an 18th clinic in Centerton, has grown to over 325 employees, and has served approximately 42,000 patients. The clinics offer comprehensive primary, dental, pediatric, behavioral, and other health care services. Semingson is committed to the organization's goal of making healthcare accessible to all, regardless of their ability to pay.



Caring Alumni

Our alumni improve the lives of people every day across Arkansas, the country and the world. Our College's graduates teach children from preschool through adulthood, help deliver babies and provide care and comfort to the elderly. They direct recreational programs that boost health and rejuvenate the spirit, and they help those who have lost the power of speech to regain it.

▲ FDA Approved

Spencer Jones was working the night shift on a busy medical-surgical floor when the [idea for a breakaway device](#) for IV catheters was born. His invention, SafeBreak® Vascular, was recently approved by the FDA. The technology prevents IV dislodgement, which helps patients, nurses, and medical facilities bottom lines. Jones, who graduated from our nursing school, now runs Lineus Medical, two blocks off the Fayetteville Square. More than half of his employees are University of Arkansas students or alumni.

► Hall of Honor

Instructor emerita Susan Mayes was inducted into the Fayetteville Public Education Foundation's 2022 Hall of Honor this fall. A U of A alumna, she taught for 35 years in our Department of Health, Human Performance and Recreation. Susan spent the first 10 years of her career as a physical education teacher in Fayetteville Public Schools. She has received collegiate, state and regional awards recognizing her impact on numerous students.



▲ Exertional Heat Stroke Prevention

Athletic training alumna Yuri Hosokawa is one of Japan's leading experts on exertional heat stroke, and she helped establish medical protocols for Tokyo's 2020 Olympic and Paralympic games. Dr. Hosokawa is director of the Safety and Performance Optimization lab at Waseda University. Her research helps prevent Japanese athletes from suffering the complications of exertional heat stroke, but she's also applying the knowledge and methods developed in sports medicine to occupational settings. Firefighters and police officers are benefitting from her research.



Hope Ballentine
Faculty Distinguished Rising
Teaching Achievement Award



G. David Gearhart
Faculty Distinguished Public
Service Achievement Award



Monroe A. Harrison
Andrew J. Lucas Alumni
Service Award

▼ Outstanding Alumni

The College named three [Outstanding Alumni Award winners](#) in 2022.



Angela Chang Chiu, director of integration and business transformation at Lifebridge Health System in Baltimore, uses her clinical knowledge and business acumen to guide and mentor others. Fluent in five languages, she has made a global impact on health while advancing evidence-based nursing and health promotion.



Sara Hensley was appointed city manager of Denton, Texas, in March 2022, bringing her more than 20 years of public service and leadership experience to the position. Her experience includes director roles in parks and recreation departments from various cities nationwide, including San Jose, California; Virginia Beach, Virginia; and Phoenix, Arizona.



Lynn Meade is an instructor in the U of A Communication Department, where she has taught since 2003. She serves as a co-director for the Wally Cordes Teaching and Faculty Support Center, where she helps design programs to assist faculty with their scholarship of teaching. She conducts teaching seminars for the Department of Communication, the Graduate School and the Teaching and Faculty Support Center.

◀ Arkansas Alumni Association Awardees

The Arkansas Alumni Association hosted the [77th Alumni Awards Celebration](#) in November. Three faculty and alumni from our College earned awards at the event: Hope Ballentine, G. David Gearhart and Monroe A. Harrison. The awards recognize those who bring national and regional prominence to the U of A and the Arkansas Alumni Association through their research, exemplary public and community service, and valued leadership.



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