

**UAMS News Bureau**

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**News Release**  
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**Four UAMS Early Career Faculty Receive Research Awards**

LITTLE ROCK — Four early career UAMS researchers were recently selected to receive KL2 Mentored Research Career Development Scholar Awards.

The KL2 Scholar program provides two years of research training to junior faculty. It provides 75 percent salary support and up to \$25,000 per year for research, tuition, travel and education. The scholars, all from the UAMS College of Medicine, are:

- **Lisa Brents**, Ph.D., instructor, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology.  
  
Her research is focused on improving buprenorphine treatment of opioid use disorder during pregnancy by reducing fetal exposure to an active metabolite of buprenorphine, norbuprenorphine.  
  
KL2 project title: *The Metabolic and Pharmacodynamic Profile of Deuterated Buprenorphine*
- **Rosemary Nabaweesi**, Dr.P.H., M.B.Ch.B., M.P.H., assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics, Center for Applied Research and Evaluation (CARE).  
  
Her research is focused on injury-related infant mortality prevention and reduction of health disparities for rural and underserved populations.  
  
KL2 project title: *Developing Safe Sleep Interventions for Rural Underserved Communities*
- **Carolina Schinke**, M.D., assistant professor, Department of Internal Medicine, Myeloma Institute.

Her research is attempting to determine yet undiscovered pathologic pathways in multiple myeloma and to identify new therapeutic targets.

KL2 project title: *The Role of Pl-IF 19 as a Promoter of Tumorigenicity and Therapeutic Target in Multiple Myeloma*

- **Sufna John**, Ph.D., assistant professor, Department of Psychiatry.

Her research is examining the impact of early childhood education factors on the effectiveness of therapy services for preschool-aged children who present with disruptive behaviors.

KL2 project title: *Improving Outcomes for Young Children with Behavior Disorders: A Coordinated Care Model*

Fifteen KL2 Scholar applications were reviewed by a study section (committee) made up of faculty members from UAMS and other research institutions. Five finalists were interviewed by senior members of the panel.

This year's awards are supported by UAMS institutional funds provided to TRI, and funding from Arkansas Children's Research Institute and the UAMS Psychiatric Research Institute.

UAMS is the state's only health sciences university, with colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Health Professions and Public Health; a graduate school; hospital; northwest Arkansas regional campus; statewide network of regional centers; and seven institutes: the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute, Myeloma Institute, Harvey & Bernice Jones Eye Institute, Psychiatric Research Institute, Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging and Translational Research Institute. It is the only adult Level 1 trauma center in the state. UAMS has 2,834 students, 822 medical residents and six dental residents. It is the state's largest public employer with more than 10,000 employees, including 1,200 physicians who provide care to patients at UAMS, its regional campuses throughout the state, Arkansas Children's Hospital, the VA Medical Center and Baptist Health. Visit [www.uams.edu](http://www.uams.edu) or [www.uamshealth.com](http://www.uamshealth.com). Find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) or [Instagram](#).

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