

Compass Group Speaker Biographies September 26-28, 2024

SPEAKER BIO ~ Daisy Alapat, MD

(Friday Session)

Dr. Daisy Alapat is a UAMS Pathology Department professor and board-certified in Anatomic Pathology/Clinical Pathology and Hematopathology. She obtained her medical degree from Odesa State Medical University in Ukraine. After finishing her residency in pathology at the University of Kentucky in 2008, she completed a fellowship in hematopathology the following year at the University of Maryland. UAMS recruited Dr. Alapat to the Department of Pathology in 2009. She currently serves as the Co-director of the Hematopathology division and Medical Director of the Flow cytometry and Reference laboratory sections. Her research activities have focused mainly on clinicopathologic studies of hematopoietic disorders, including myeloma, refined characterization of idiopathic Castleman disease, lymphoid/myeloid neoplasms, and atypical/reactive lymphoid proliferations. In the field of flow cytometry at UAMS, she played a vital role in establishing a reliable and sensitive 8-color flow cytometry assay for bone marrow minimal residual disease to stratify high-risk myeloma, Lymphoblastic lymphoma, and a comprehensive annotation of the utility of CD200 in diagnosing myeloma and lymphoma.

SPEAKER BIO ~ Lela Fortune, MLSH, C (ASCP)

(Friday Session)

Lela has been with the UAMS Laboratory for 19 years. She has served as the Clinical Laboratory Manager of UAMS Laboratory Support Services, Outpatient Phlebotomy, and Reference for about 1 year. Prior to her current role, Lela served as the UAMS Reference Supervisor for 7 years and in the Chemistry Section for 11 years. She earned a Masters of Legal Studies in Healthcare from the University of Oklahoma (2019). She is passionate about quality, patients, and promoting the laboratory's impact in the hospital system. Lela lives in Sherwood, AR with her husband, Allen, and their two children, River and Molly.

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SPEAKER BIO ~ Stephanie Gardner, Pharm.D., Ed.D. *(Thursday Dinner)*

Dr. Stephanie Gardner is the senior vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost for the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), the state's only health sciences university, with colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Health Professions and Public Health; a graduate school; a hospital; a main campus in Little Rock; a Northwest Arkansas regional campus in Fayetteville; a statewide network of regional campuses. UAMS includes UAMS Health, a statewide health system that encompasses all of UAMS' clinical enterprise. It is the state's largest public employer with more than 12,000 employees, including 1,200 physicians who provide care to patients at UAMS, its regional campuses, Arkansas Children's, the VA Medical Center and Baptist Health.

Dr. Gardner serves as chief academic officer for the institution, providing leadership and resources for the UAMS education mission that includes the five colleges and graduate school, 62 degree and certificate programs, 1,537 faculty members, 3,275 students, 890 resident physicians and fellows, and five dental residents.

In 2019, Dr. Gardner was appointed as the first chief strategy officer for UAMS. In this role, she coordinates institutional strategy and strategic initiatives, which include implementation and management of the UAMS Vision 2029 strategic plan.

She's been at UAMS for 33 years, serving 12 years as dean for the UAMS College of Pharmacy before becoming provost in 2015.

SPEAKER BIO ~ Elizabeth Grasmuck, MD *(Friday Session)*

After retiring from 21 years of service in the US Navy, Dr. Grasmuck was appointed as an Associate Professor of Pathology at UAMS in 2022. She serves as the Laboratory/Pathology Service Line (LPSL) Medical Director, LPSL Quality Officer, CLIA Director, and Department of Pathology Vice Chair of Clinical Operations. She earned her medical degree from Duke University School of Medicine. Following a tour of operational medicine as a flight surgeon, she completed her residency in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology at Naval Medical Center San Diego. Dr. Grasmuck's clinical interests include cytopathology, breast pathology, and placental pathology. She is passionate about quality improvement and workplace well-being. She lives in Vilonia, Arkansas with her husband, Gras, and their seven children, Fin, Virginia, Gus, Strider, Andromache, Cap, and Garrett.

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SPEAKER BIO ~ Nancy Green, BSN

(Friday Session)

Nancy Green is the Clinical Service Manager for the Apheresis department. After graduating from Baptist System School of Nursing in 1983, she began work in the NICU where she worked for 21 years. In 2005, she transferred to the apheresis department, completed her BSN at University of Arkansas and became the manager of Apheresis in 2020. In her spare time, she enjoys cooking, gardening and spending time with family and her granddaughter, Saylor.

SPEAKER BIO ~ Susan Harley, MD

(Saturday Session)

Dr. Susan E. Harley is an Assistant Professor in the divisions of Hematopathology and Molecular Genetic Pathology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. She obtained her medical degree from Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, NC; studied Anatomic and Clinical Pathology at the University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL; and completed fellowships in Hematopathology at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, and Molecular Genetic Pathology at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN. She currently serves as director of the Molecular Pathology Resident Rotation and as section director of the Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory. Her clinical and research interests include understanding genetic changes of hematopoietic malignancies and the impact on disease diagnosis, prognosis, therapeutics, and measurable residual disease detection. In her free time, she enjoys singing in her church choir, playing the flute, reading, and interacting with her parrots.

SPEAKER BIO ~ Ashley Henry, BSMT (ASCP)

(Friday Session)

Ashley serves as the Clinical Laboratory Manager for the Molecular Diagnostics, Microbiology, and Cytogenetics laboratories at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), a position she has held since 2018. With a Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology from UAMS, Ashley's career began in Transfusion Medicine, where she spent 12 years contributing to the Blood Bank and interoperative cell salvage program. Her journey continued with a leadership role in the Point of Care department before she assumed her current position. Boasting over twenty-two years of experience, Ashley's expertise is integral to the efficient management and successful oversight of daily laboratory operations at UAMS.

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SPEAKER BIO ~ Jennifer Laudadio, MD, FCAP

(Friday Session)

Dr. Laudadio is board certified in Anatomic Pathology/Clinical Pathology and Molecular Genetic Pathology. She completed residency training at the Medical University of South Carolina and fellowship training at Oregon Health and Science University. After beginning her faculty career at Wake Forest University, she joined UAMS in 2013. She served for 5 years as residency program director and was CLIA medical director from 2015-2020. In November 2020 she was named Chair of the Department of Pathology and Director of the Laboratory/Pathology Service Line. She is the Aubrey J. Hough Distinguished Chair in Pathology. Her professional interests include clinical applications of molecular diagnostics, quality improvement, GME, and CME. She currently serves as a Trustee of the American Board of Pathology. She is Chair of the Molecular Genetic Pathology Test Development and Advisory Committee for ABPath and Vice-Chair of the Graduate Medical Education Committee for the Association of Academic Pathology. She has served on committees for the Association of Molecular Pathology, College of American Pathologists, American Board of Pathology, and Association for Pathology Chairs. She is a former president of the CAP Foundation.

SPEAKER BIO ~ Haley McAloon, BS

(Friday Session)

Haley McAloon is the Clinical Laboratory Supervisor for the Cell Therapy Lab at UAMS. Graduating from Northeastern University in Boston, MA with a degree in Biology, Haley found her way into clinical laboratory science thanks to an internship opportunity through Northeastern's co-op program. Starting as a student worker in the central receiving department of Tufts Medical Center in downtown Boston, Haley worked her way up to a full-time employee in the receiving department, before transitioning to the chemistry lab to work as a medical technologist. Upon moving from Massachusetts to Arkansas, Haley joined the Cell Therapy Lab at UAMS as a lab procedure technician in December of 2019. In September of 2022, Haley transitioned to the supervisor role. Her non-professional interests include working out, playing video games, going to brunch, and hanging out with her pets.

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SPEAKER BIO ~ Jeanette Ramos, MD
(Friday Session)

Dr. Ramos is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology and is the course co-director for Disease and Defense for the UAMS College of Medicine. She earned her medical degree from Saint Louis School of Medicine and completed her residency in Anatomic/Clinical Pathology at the University of Kentucky. After completing a Hematopathology fellowship at UAMS, Dr. Ramos stayed at UAMS as faculty, focusing on hematopathology and autopsies. In addition to being a course co-director, Dr. Ramos serves in several medical school committees and is the co-chair of the UAMS College of Medicine Quality Improvement Committee.

SPEAKER BIO ~ Summer Stigaulde, BS HTL (ASCP)
(Friday Session)

Summer Stigaulde is the Anatomic Pathology Manager at UAMS. Her departments include the Surgical Pathology lab, Histology lab, Immunohistochemistry lab, Slides & Blocks department, and Cytology lab. She received her bachelor's degree in biology with a chemistry minor from Texas A&M University-Texarkana. She started her career in pathology nearly 14 years ago at a 185-bed hospital and obtained her HTL (ASCP) certification in 2012. She worked as a pathologist assistant and senior histotechnologist for 6 years before moving to Little Rock. Before coming to UAMS in 2021, she worked at a private AP lab as a lead tech and lab coordinator. She traveled to various states setting up technical histology labs and training histotechs. Summer enjoys traveling and spending time with her fiancé and three kids, Kenzie, Embery, and Gaven.

SPEAKER BIO ~ JACOB WOOLDRIDGE, MD
(Saturday Session)

Dr. Wooldridge is an Assistant Professor in the department of Pathology in the division of Hematopathology with a secondary appointment in the department of Biomedical Informatics. He completed his medical school and residency in AP/CP at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, TX after which he completed fellowships in Hematopathology at Columbia University as well as Clinical Informatics which was split between Stony Brook University and UAMS. In addition to covering the hematopathology service, Dr. Wooldridge serves as the informatics lead for the lab and also serves as the Associate Program Director for the UAMS Clinical Informatics Fellowship Program.

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SPEAKER BIO ~ Aaron Wyble, MD
(Friday Session)

Dr. Wyble is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pathology and Medical Director of the UAMS Blood Bank and Cellular Therapy Laboratory and an Associate Medical Director in the Division of Transfusion Medicine Services. He is the CLIA Director for point of care testing at The Orthopaedic and Spine Hospital. He is passionate about education in Transfusion Medicine and Clinical Pathology and is the current Chair of Clinical Pathology Education and the Director for the Transfusion Medicine Rotation. Dr. Wyble is Board Certified in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology and in Transfusion Medicine. He received his medical degree and completed his residency at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, TX. He also completed his fellowship at the New York Blood Center in New York City.