Amy Wenger Named Vice Chancellor of UAMS Northwest Regional Campus

LITTLE ROCK — The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) has named Amy Wenger, MHSA, vice chancellor of its Northwest Regional Campus, effective Dec. 1.

She succeeds Pearl McElfish, Ph.D., who announced last year she was stepping down from the vice chancellor position to focus on her role as the director of community health and research and serve as the associate director of community outreach and engagement at the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute.

Wenger has held multiple leadership roles at UAMS since 2005. She is currently vice chancellor for regional campuses and will continue to oversee that area while UAMS formulates a plan for new leadership. Prior to that, she served as the chancellor’s chief of staff, as administrator for several areas including women’s health, surgical specialties and the department of nursing and as business officer for both nursing and the Psychiatric Research Institute.

“Amy’s long and varied experience working with programs and leaders across our institution and state makes her the perfect choice to lead our efforts in Northwest Arkansas,” said Cam Patterson, M.D., MBA, UAMS chancellor and CEO of UAMS Health. “I am very grateful to Amy for accepting this new role and to Pearl for her leadership of the Northwest Regional Campus for the past five years.”

A Northwest Arkansas native, Wenger lives in Fayetteville with her husband, Aaron, and children, Abel and Ava.

The UAMS Northwest Regional Campus includes 290 medical, pharmacy, nursing and health professions students, 64 medical and pharmacy residents, two sports medicine fellows, and 1,000 community-based faculty. The campus has nine clinics including a student-led clinic and physical, occupational and speech therapy. Faculty conduct research to reduce health disparities.

UAMS is the state's only health sciences university, with colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Health Professions and Public Health; a graduate school; hospital; a main
campus in Little Rock; a Northwest Arkansas regional campus in Fayetteville; a statewide network of regional campuses; and seven institutes: the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute, Harvey & Bernice Jones Eye Institute, Psychiatric Research Institute, Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging, Translational Research Institute and Institute for Digital Health & Innovation. UAMS includes UAMS Health, a statewide health system that encompasses all of UAMS' clinical enterprise including its hospital, regional clinics and clinics it operates or staffs in cooperation with other providers. UAMS is the only adult Level 1 trauma center in the state. U.S. News & World Report recognized UAMS Medical Center as a Best Hospital for 2021-22; ranked its ear, nose and throat program among the top 50 nationwide for the third year; and named five areas as high performing — colon cancer surgery, diabetes, hip replacement, knee replacement and stroke. Forbes magazine ranked UAMS as seventh in the nation on its Best Employers for Diversity list. UAMS also ranked in the top 30% nationwide on Forbes’ Best Employers for Women list and was the only Arkansas employer included. UAMS has 2,876 students, 898 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, Arkansas Children's, the VA Medical Center and Baptist Health. Visit www.uams.edu or www.uamshealth.com. Find us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube or Instagram.

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