

Arkansas Chapter *Awards 2026*

ACP ARKANSAS

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

ROBERT W. BRADSHER JR.

MD, MACP, FIDSA



Dr. Robert W. Bradsher Jr. is a consummate Internist in the finest Oslerian tradition—an astute clinician, gifted educator, accomplished researcher, and dedicated mentor whose influence has shaped Internal Medicine throughout Arkansas and beyond.

Over a distinguished 45-year career in Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases, Dr. Bradsher has trained more than 1,000 Internal Medicine physicians and countless medical students at UAMS. As Residency Program Director from 1994–2007, he trained more than 280 Internal Medicine and 55 Medicine-Pediatrics physicians. His legacy continues through former trainees who now lead Internal Medicine residency programs across Arkansas.

A devoted member of the American College of Physicians since 1979, Dr. Bradsher has served in numerous leadership roles, including Governor of the Arkansas Chapter, and was elected to Mastership in 2012. His contributions have been recognized with the Robert Shields Abernathy Laureate Award and numerous honors for clinical and teaching excellence. If you were to ask him his greatest achievement, the only item on his CV he would mention would be his wife and four wonderful children.

Dr. Bradsher is admired for his humility, integrity, and compassion, and his greatest legacy is reflected in the physicians he has inspired and the patients and communities he has served.



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ACP ARKANSAS OUTSTANDING EARLY CAREER PHYSICIAN AWARD

SHEENA CARLLEE, MD, FACP



Dr. Sheena CarlLee is an accomplished physician-educator, academic leader, mentor, and advocate for Internal Medicine. As an Associate Professor at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and Program Director of the UAMS Washington Regional Internal Medicine Program, she has played a pivotal role in expanding graduate medical education in Northwest Arkansas.

Since graduating from UAMS College of Medicine in 2014, Dr. CarlLee has demonstrated exceptional dedication to patient care, medical education, scholarship, and physician development. She has mentored countless medical students, residents, and early-career physicians while earning multiple teaching and mentoring recognitions.

Her scholarly work includes publications, educational grants, and national presentations addressing medical education, healthcare disparities, vaccine hesitancy, and community engagement. A Fellow of the American College of Physicians and active member of the Arkansas Chapter Governor's Council, Dr. CarlLee exemplifies the values of leadership, service, professionalism, and lifelong learning.

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ACP ARKANSAS OUTSTANDING EARLY CAREER PHYSICIAN AWARD

ISHITA GUPTA, MD



Dr. Ishita Gupta is an exceptional Internal Medicine physician and emerging leader whose clinical excellence, compassion, scholarship, and leadership distinguish her as an outstanding award candidate. As an attending physician at St. Bernards Medical Center in Jonesboro, Arkansas, she also serves as Chief Resident, reflecting the trust and respect of her faculty and peers.

Dr. Gupta is recognized for her sound clinical judgment, evidence-based care, clear communication, and exceptional humanism. She consistently provides compassionate, patient-centered care while inspiring colleagues to uphold the highest standards of medicine.

A prolific scholar, Dr. Gupta has authored 45 peer-reviewed publications, presented nationally and internationally, and collaborated with institutions including Mayo Clinic and Boston University. Her honors include the ACP National Abstract Award, American College of Gastroenterology Outstanding Poster Presenter Award, and Arkansas Medical Society Best Resident Award in Internal Medicine.

Through her clinical leadership, scholarship, mentorship, and quality improvement efforts, Dr. Gupta exemplifies excellence in Internal Medicine and the promise of an outstanding physician leader.

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ACP ARKANSAS WOMAN PHYSICIAN LEADERSHIP AWARD

ANNE MONTGOMERY, MD, FACP



Dr. Anne Montgomery is an outstanding physician, educator, leader, and advocate serving as Associate Program Director for the UAMS/Washington Regional Internal Medicine Residency Program and Medical Director of the Washington Regional Plaza Internal Medicine Clinic.

Since joining Washington Regional in 2021, she has transformed ambulatory education by developing a comprehensive curriculum incorporating simulation, communication training, and evidence-based Internal Medicine. She is highly regarded for her teaching and mentorship, including her commitment to supporting women physicians and advancing equity in medical education.

As Medical Director, Dr. Montgomery has developed clinical workflows, safety protocols, and faculty development initiatives while championing compassionate, evidence-based patient care. She creates meaningful opportunities for residents to serve underserved communities through food insecurity initiatives and a free medical clinic.

A Fellow of the American College of Physicians and member of the Arkansas Governor's Council, Dr. Montgomery exemplifies excellence in service in the Internal Medicine community.

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ACP ARKANSAS TEACHING & MENTORSHIP AWARD

JOHN MARK P. PABONA, MD, FACP



Dr. John Mark P. Pabona serves as Research Director and Core Faculty for the Internal Medicine Residency Program at CHI St. Vincent Hospital in Hot Springs, Arkansas, and is the Founder and Medical Director of Embrace Eternal Beauty Aesthetics and Wellness. He completed medical school at the University of the Philippines–Manila and Internal Medicine residency at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons at Harlem Hospital Center.

Dr. Pabona has transformed the scholarly culture of his residency program through exceptional mentorship, education, and leadership. He makes research accessible and meaningful, guiding residents through study design, IRB processes, data analysis, abstracts, publications, and presentations while fostering confidence, curiosity, and critical thinking.

An accomplished physician-scientist, active researcher, and reviewer for ACP national abstract competitions, Dr. Pabona leads by example. His dedication has increased resident participation in research, quality improvement, journal clubs, and regional and national presentations. Through his mentorship, he empowers future physicians to pursue academic excellence and lifelong learning.