

STATE
of the
SCHOOL

ANUPAM AGARWAL, M.D.
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEDICINE AND DEAN
UAB MARNIX E. HEERSINK SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE, DIVISION OF NEPHROLOGY
JAMES C. LEE JR. ENDOWED CHAIR

UAB
HEERSINK
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Leadership Recruitments/Promotions

2

170 new faculty recruits

(98 clinical and 72 research intensive faculty)*

66 faculty departures

(43 clinical and 23 research intensive faculty)*

*October 2022 – September 2023

Art Exhibit Honors Providers Who Saved Artist

- A gasoline explosion in 2020 left Alabama artist Delrico Gibson with severe burns to his face and upper body.
- Thanks to the care he received at UAB, Gibson returned to making art, which was featured in an exhibition titled “Strings of Gratitude” at UAB’s Abrams-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts (AEIVA) in summer 2023.
- Sadly, Gibson died just after the exhibition closed in August. AEIVA hosted the family’s memorial for Gibson and created a book of photos of the exhibition for the memorial.



UAB Visit to the Netherlands

- Several UAB and Heersink School of Medicine leaders traveled alongside Dr. and Mrs. Marnix Heersink to the Netherlands from September 17–September 26
- To share overviews of the schools and universities and better understand areas of expertise in the Netherlands, to discuss the short papers drafted by each working group from Maastricht University and UAB, and to explore potential research and educational collaborations with colleagues in the Netherlands



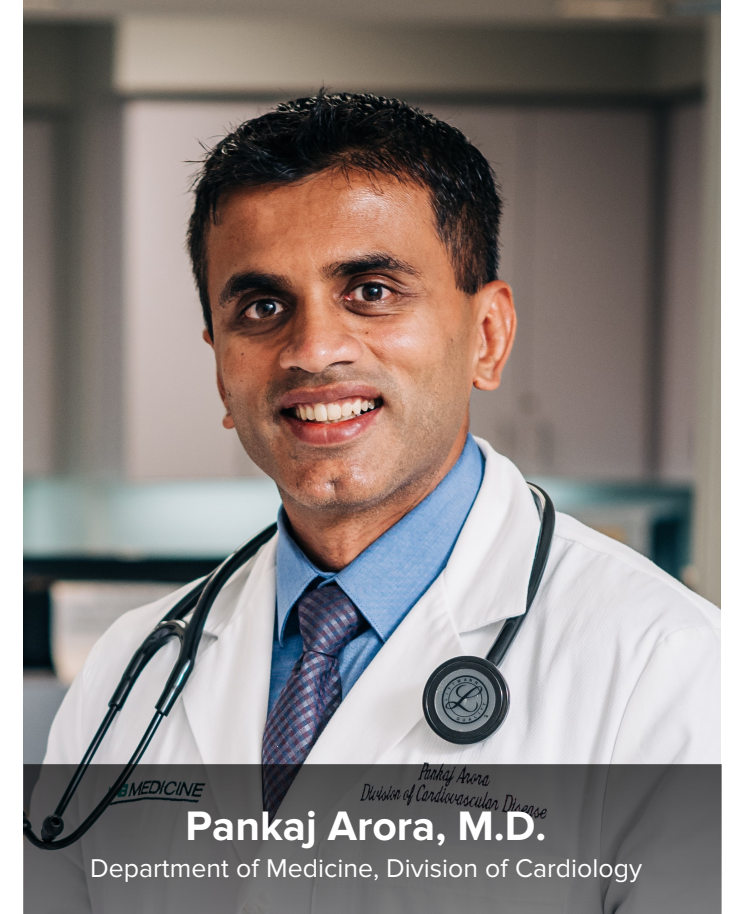
UAB and McMaster University Collaboration

- Seven UAB and Heersink School of Medicine leaders traveled alongside Dr. Marnix Heersink, to McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, for a meeting on June 29, 2023
- To share overviews of the schools and universities and highlight some of the innovative programs at each institution in global health, women's health, health care innovation and commercialization, and radiopharmaceuticals and medical imaging



Faculty elected to the American Society for Clinical Investigation

- Vikas Dudeja, M.D.
Department of Surgery
- Pankaj Arora, M.D.
Department of Medicine,
Division of Cardiology



2023 Argus Awards

- **Best MS1 Course**
Renal, Module Director(s): Mark Bevenssee, Ph.D., Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology and Eric Judd, M.D., Medicine
- **Best Educator: Patient, Doctor & Society**
Caroline Harada, M.D., Medicine
- **Best Block Leader: Fundamentals of Medicine**
Mukesh Patel, M.D., Medicine and Jeremy Walker, M.D., Medicine
- **Best Educator: Fundamentals of Medicine**
Jeremy Walker, M.D., Medicine
- **Best Educator: Cardiovascular**
Harish Doppalapudi, M.D., Medicine
- **Best Educator: Pulmonary**
James Johnson, M.D., Medicine
Kevin Leon, M.D., Medicine

2023 Argus Awards

- **Best Educator: Gastrointestinal**

Cathy Fuller, Ph.D., Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology

- **Best Educator: Renal**

Eric Judd, M.D., Medicine

- **Best Educator: Neurosciences**

Victor Sung, M.D., Neurology

- **Best MS2 Course**

Neurosciences, Module Director(s): Robin Lester, Ph.D., Neurobiology; Victor Sung, M.D., Neurology; Michael Lyerly, M.D., Neurology; Scott Pruett, M.D., Ph.D., Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurobiology; Taylor Preston, M.D., Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurobiology; Kenneth Fallon, M.D., Pathology; Teresa Wilborn, Pharm.D., Ph.D., Pharmacology & Toxicology; William Brooks, Ph.D., Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology

2023 Argus Awards

- **Best Educator: Musculoskeletal & Skin**
William Brooks, Ph.D., Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
- **Best Educator: Endocrine Systems**
Hussein Abdullatif, M.D., Pediatrics
- **Best Educator: Reproductive Systems**
Shweta Patel, M.D., Obstetrics & Gynecology
- **Best Educator: Hematology/Oncology**
Jori May, M.D., Medicine
- **Best Educator, Preparation for Residency**
Kevin Leon, M.D., Medicine
- **Best Clinical Department, Birmingham Campus**
Pediatrics

2023 Argus Awards

- **Best Clinical Educator, Birmingham Campus**
Jessica Fazendin, M.D., Surgery
Lisa Willett, M.D., Medicine
- **Best Clinical Department, Huntsville Campus**
Surgery
- **Best Clinical Educator, Huntsville Campus**
Joseph Fiore, M.D., Obstetrics & Gynecology
- **Best Clinical Department, Montgomery Campus**
Medicine
- **Best Clinical Educator, Montgomery Campus**
Valerie Waddell, M.D., Obstetrics & Gynecology
- **Best Clinical Department, Tuscaloosa Campus**
Pediatrics
- **Best Clinical Educator, Tuscaloosa Campus**
Heather Taylor, M.D., Pediatrics

2023 Argus Awards

The following were awarded via a nomination/selection process and were also announced during the 2023 Argus Awards ceremony:

- **ICM CSS Award**
Michael Lyerly, M.D., Neurology
- **The Dale J. Benos Award for Educational Excellence**
Inga Kadisha, Ph.D., Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology
- **Excellence in Career Advising**
Heather Taylor
- **Best Resident Educator, Birmingham Campus**
Mary Smithson, M.D., Surgery
- **Best Resident Educator, Huntsville Campus**
Lauren Kois, M.D., Family Medicine

2023 Argus Awards

The following were awarded via a nomination/selection process and were also announced during the 2023 Argus Awards ceremony:

- **Best Resident Educator, Montgomery Campus**
Yihao Sun, M.D., Internal Medicine
- **Best Resident Educator, Tuscaloosa Campus**
Josh Washington, M.D., Family Medicine
- **Best Community-Based Educator, Birmingham**
Bryce Hunt, M.D., Family Medicine
- **Best Community-Based Educator, Huntsville**
Zaria Murrell, M.D., Surgery
- **Best Community-Based Educator, Montgomery**
Gregory Waller, M.D., Obstetrics & Gynecology
- **Best Community-Based Educator, Tuscaloosa**
Joseph Wallace, M.D., FACS, Surgery

Leading the way in Parkinson's Disease

- Gut microbiome is involved in multiple pathways in the pathogenesis of Parkinson's disease.
- Published in *Nature Communications*, a wide imbalance in microbiome composition in persons with Parkinson's disease.



Haydeh Payami, Ph.D.

Professor, John T. & Juanelle D. Strain Endowed Chair



J. Victor Garcia-Martinez, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Microbiology

- Effective August 1, 2023
- Dr. Garcia-Martinez's research primarily focuses on HIV and more recently on clinically relevant respiratory infections such as COVID-19, respiratory syncytial virus, and tuberculosis

Brian Samuels, M.D., Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences

- Effective October 1, 2023
- Respected clinician-scientist who has served as the Dennis Endowed Professor in Glaucoma Research, Director of the Glaucoma Division and the Glaucoma Fellowship, and Chief of Staff of UAB Callahan Eye. He has also been the department's interim chair since January 1, 2022.





Justin Turner, M.D., Ph.D., will serve as Chair of the Department of Otolaryngology

- Effective May 31, 2024
- Dr. Turner is a tenured Professor, Vice Chair for Research, and Director of the Vanderbilt Smell and Taste Center in the Department of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.
- His clinical practice is focused on management of inflammatory sinus disease and skull base neoplasms. In addition, Dr. Turner directs the Vanderbilt Sinonasal Diseases Research Lab.



Cristina Magi-Galluzzi, M.D., Ph.D., will serve as Chair, Department of Pathology

- March 4, 2024
- She is board-certified in anatomic pathology with clinical expertise in the pathological diagnosis of genitourinary diseases, including prostate, bladder, testicular, adrenal and kidney malignancies.



James Cimino, M.D., Chair of the Department of Informatics and Data Science

- Effective January 1, 2024
- Dr. Cimino is Distinguished Professor of Medicine whose research interests include medical concept representation, clinical decision support and electronic health records.

Gathering for a Better Tomorrow

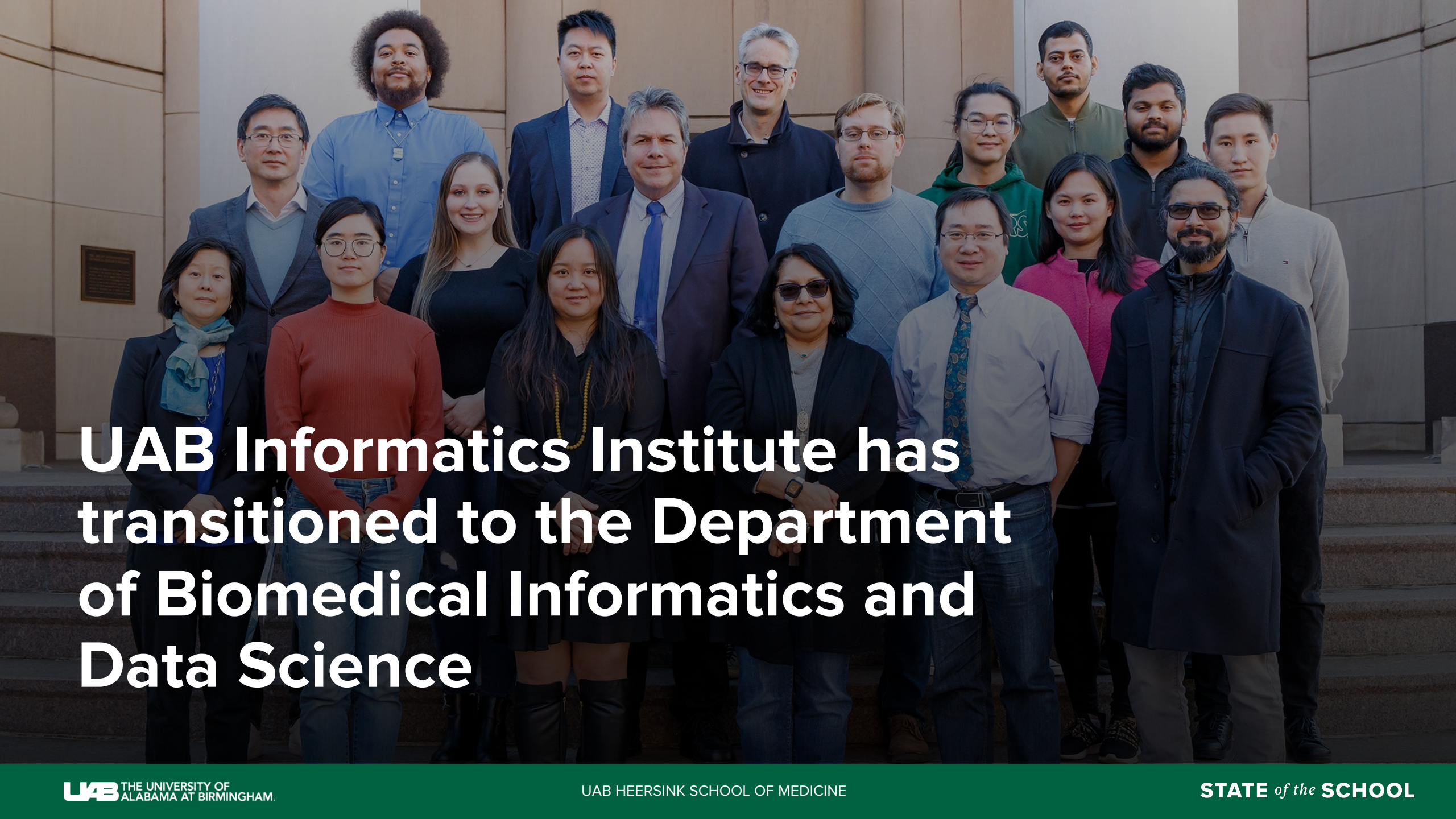
- All chairs retreat
- Strategic Research Retreat held by the Office of Research



Faculty Affairs

- Promotion guidelines for team science and innovation/entrepreneurial activities
 - New Academic Clinician Track
 - New faculty mentoring program for assistant professors
-
- Annual Faculty Association Networking event





UAB Informatics Institute has transitioned to the Department of Biomedical Informatics and Data Science

Global Health Update: Goals in Action

Promote GH Education

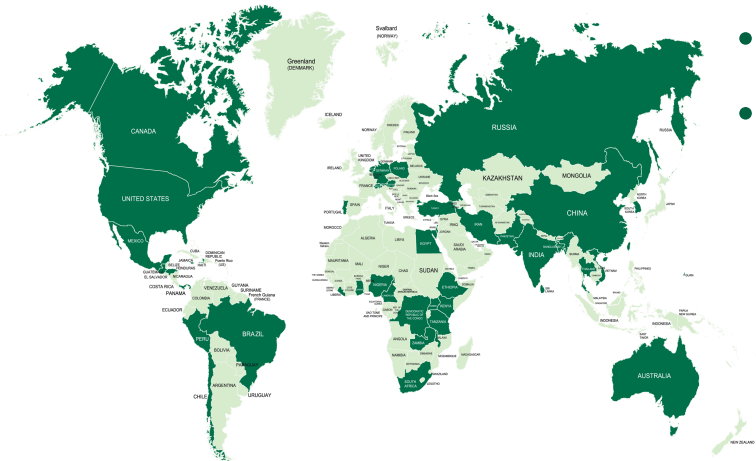
- MSc in GH launched
- GH Consortium (McMaster, others)
- Specialty GH Fellowships
- Internships/Electives

Promote GH Research and Partnerships

- Inaugural Symposium (≈N400, 38 countries)
- International grants/contracts (\$26M in '23)
- Identified key partners, countries/regions
- Pilot grants (n=8) – RFA open
- Seminar series
- Research-in-progress (monthly)
- Telehealth strategy and pilot grant

Nucleate GH in Heersink

- MHIGH team
- International advisory board
- Steering Committee
- Communications
- School engagement survey
- Faculty Retention/Recruitment
- Advocacy @ UAB and globally
- New endowments: \$1M in 2023 + \$1M in progress)



Marnix E. Heersink Institute For Biomedical Innovation

Academic Programming

Certificate in Artificial Intelligence in Medicine

- 30 student currently enrolled

Masters of Science in Healthcare Innovation

- Fully approved
- Program launching spring 2025
- Marketing/Recruitment Campaign in development

Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence in Medicine

- Program approval underway
- Partnership with Maastricht University established
- Spring 2025

PhD in Artificial Intelligence in Medicine

- Program approval process will begin fall 2025
- Tentative launch fall 2025

Innovation Initiatives

Healthcare Innovation Bootcamp

- Ongoing

Healthcare Executive AI Summit

- Launching March 2024

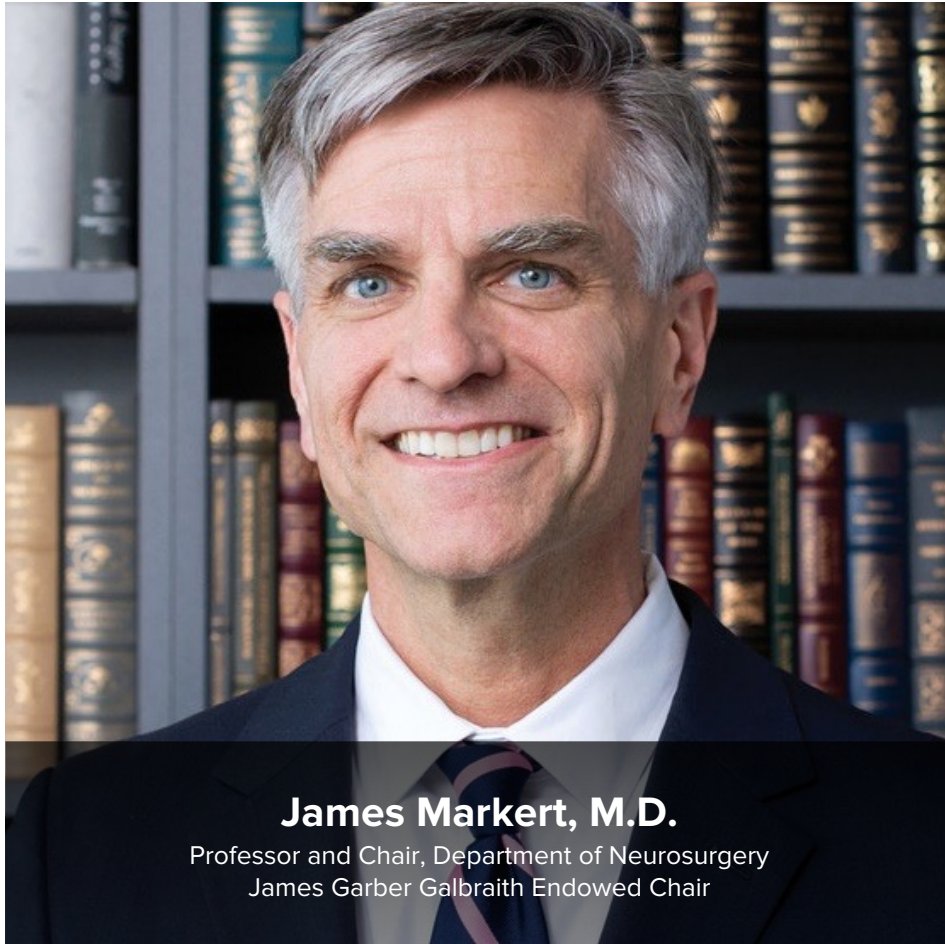
Community and Entrepreneurship Program

- Hosted in Dothan, AL, spring 2023
- 40 Delegates completing the program

Symposia & Innovation Grand Rounds

- Hosting monthly Innovation Grand Rounds and quarterly symposia in AI, Digital Health, and XR
- Hosted the country's first metahealth symposium
- Hosted AI and Digital Symposia

Anniversaries

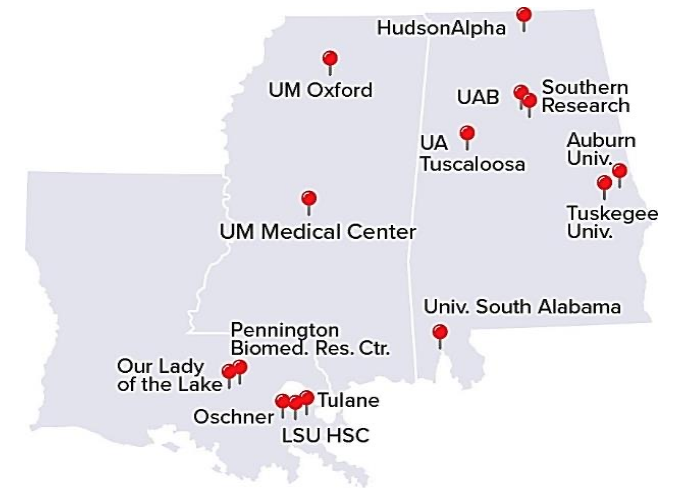


- Neurosurgery celebrates 10 years as a department

Center for Clinical and Translational Science Celebrates 15 years



Robert Kimberly, M.D., Co-Director; Orlando Gutierrez, M.D., Co-Director; Jennifer Croker, Ph.D., Senior Administrative Director



Anniversaries



COMPREHENSIVE DIABETES CENTER

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

- Celebrating 15 years of diabetes research with the UAB Comprehensive Diabetes Center



Anath Shalev, M.D.

Professor, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism,
Director of UAB Comprehensive Diabetes Center

Nationally Ranked 2023-2024 U.S. News & World Report

27

- # 1 Hospital in Alabama
- # 10 Rheumatology
- # 13 Obstetrics & Gynecology
- # 15 Ear, Nose & Throat
- # 19 Rehabilitation
- # 39 Cardiology & Heart Surgery
- # 44 Diabetes & Endocrinology
- # 47 Geriatrics
- # 50 Gastroenterology/GI surgery

- Other “High Performing” ranked specialties: Cancer, Pulmonary/Lung Surgery, Neurology/Neurosurgery, Urology, Orthopaedics



Only National Cancer Institute designated Comprehensive Cancer Center within a four state region



One of the best cardiovascular programs in the country



One of the busiest transplant programs in the country

UAB Media Highlights

264 stories

posted in UAB News featuring the UAB Heersink School of Medicine

24,000 media hits

24,000 media hits in local, regional, national, and international publications

*October 2022 – September 2023

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THANK YOU FOR JOINING US, TODAY



The University of Alabama at Birmingham