UA Board of Trustees approves Bachelor’s degree program in Emergency Medical Sciences – On November 2, the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees approved a new bachelor’s degree program in the Department of Emergency Medical Sciences. The proposal goes next to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board in January or February. If all goes well there, we anticipate that the first students will start summer or fall semester in 2013. The program aims to educate leaders in the EMS profession to plan and evaluate EMS programs, facilitate the delivery of EMS and community health services, manage EMS organizations, plan and manage disaster services, provide and manage patient care in advanced practice settings, and educate EMS professionals.

Timely Matters

November 16, 11:30 – College of Health Professions Potluck, Student Study Center, Building 6A. Contact your department administrator if you haven’t signed up for a dish yet.

November 15, 8:30-12:30 – Developing Others. UAMS Employee Development Workshop. Go to 2012 Training Schedule for more information or contact Michelle Phillips (mwphillips2@uams.edu).

December 14 – Last day for students to drop courses or withdraw

December 18 – Grades for graduating students due in the Registrar’s office

December 21 – Grades for all other students due in Registrar’s office

December 21 – Semester ends

December 24 and 25 – Christmas holiday observance; no classes, and CHP offices will be closed.

Changes in UAMS academic policies are approved – The UAMS Council of Deans recently approved changes to two policies that apply to students. The Title IX Non-Discrimination Statement was updated to include the terms “gender identity” and “gender expression.” The change was actually prompted by a decision several months ago by the CHP Executive Committee to include gender identity and gender expression in our college’s non-discrimination statement. Tom Pilgreen, associate dean for student success, led the way in efforts that ultimately resulted in the changes to UAMS’s policy. Second, the Student Needlestick/Sharps Injuries policy was updated to include current recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and to provide guidance for students who complete clinical rotations outside the Little Rock area. Again, CHP instigated some of the changes. Recommendations by our needlestick/sharps injuries task force back in January 2012 were considered in updating the UAMS policy. The CHP task force included Harold Shray, chair (Emergency Medical Sciences), Carla Coley (Imaging and Radiation Sciences), Jennifer Hoelzeman (Dental Hygiene), and Karen Hunter (Laboratory Sciences). Thanks, folks, for leading the way!