## **Advising and Guidance**

All new students attend a College of Health Professions welcome-orientation session in which student services are described. Topics covered include College policies, financial aid, counseling, and other issues. The UAMS Catalog is available on the College of Health Professions website. A departmental orientation session is also held for all new students in the Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences. A copy of Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences Student Handbook is given to each student and reviewed during orientation. Any questions students have may be directed to a faculty member at any time during the program. New students are asked to sign a document stating that they have reviewed and understand departmental policies. These signature pages are retained in each student's permanent file. Advising on academic, professional and career issues is available from a faculty member at any time during the program. In addition, the program director has an open-door policy. Appointment may be made with any faculty, but not required. Counseling for personal problems is available from UAMS and is discussed during orientation. Students with specific academic deficiencies are offered academic counseling by the instructor or can request assistance from the UAMS student success center. Tutors in each topic are available at no charge to the student. Confidentiality and impartiality are maintained in accordance with the equal opportunity policy statement and the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act addressed in the UAMS Catalog. All information contained in student files is kept confidential and not released without the student's written permission. Faculty shred any information containing student grades or other identifying factors before discarding.