

## Leadership/Administrative Service

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### **Time Allocation: 15%**

Dr. Willis has excelled in leadership and administration roles since becoming faculty. She became the assistant Child Neurology Program Director in 2013 and then became the Child Neurology Program Director in 2014. During this time, she has strengthened the program and made several improvements. She has successfully recruited top applicants each year since becoming the program director. In addition, Dr. Willis was nominated and elected into the Arkansas Leadership Council for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Recently, she became a MS Partner in Care, a prestigious honor given by the National MS Society to those providers who are deemed superior providers for those with MS. Through these honors, Dr. Willis has led a Pediatric Demyelinating Clinic at Arkansas Children's Hospital, providing superior care to pediatric patients with multiple sclerosis and other central demyelinating disorders. In addition to these roles, she is involved in several committees throughout the hospital, including ACH's first Stroke Committee as well as the Physician Champion EMR committee.

### **Highlights:**

- 1. Child Neurology Program Director**
  - a. Recruited top applicants since becoming PD in 2014**
  - b. Successfully guided two residents who were off cycle (one on extended leave and one on probation). Both now with prestigious fellowships to start 2017 and 2018.**
  - c. Improved clinical rotations including creating new electives**
  - d. Mentored Child Neurology residents during preliminary pediatric years**
  - e. Continue to obtain continued accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) without citations for the UAMS Child Neurology Residency Program**
  - f. Attended ACGME course for new program directors in 2015 to better serve in this position.**
- 2. Director of Pediatric Demyelinating Clinic**
  - a. Only Pediatric Demyelinating Clinic in Arkansas**
  - b. Treats patients through age 20 for central demyelinating disorders such as multiple sclerosis, optic neuritis, transverse myelitis and ADEM.**
  - c. Clinic one half day per month**
  - d. Elected member of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society Arkansas Leadership Council**
    - i. Meets every other month to help provide education and resources to patients with MS and MS providers in the state of Arkansas**
  - e. Recently chosen as a Multiple Sclerosis Partner in Care in 2017**
    - i. First pediatric neurologist in state of Arkansas to receive this honor**
    - ii. Only second neurologist to get this honor in state of Arkansas**
    - iii. Only 292 Partners in Care in US with only 7 specialized in Pediatric MS**
  - f. Participant in monthly teleconference on interesting pediatric demyelinating cases**
- 3. Stroke Committee**

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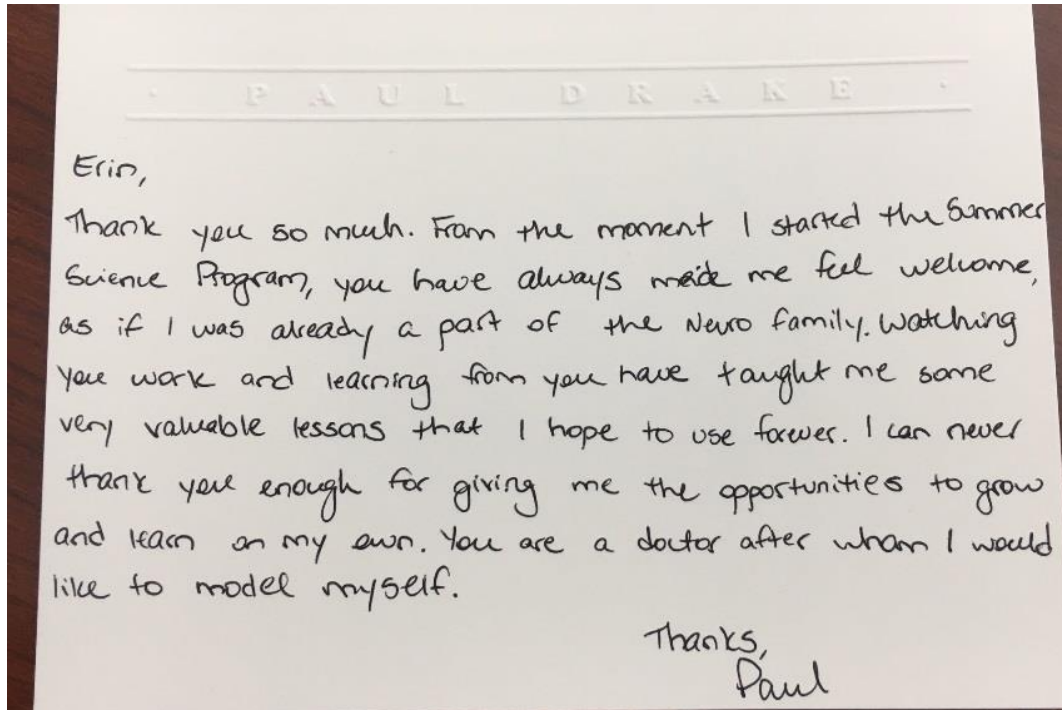
- a. **Co-founder of the Arkansas Children's Hospital Stroke Committee**
    - i. **Primary developer of the current stroke protocol used at ACH**
  - b. **Developer of an abbreviated neurological examination for nurses to perform after suspected diagnosis of pediatric stroke patients, providing better continuity of care**
  - c. **Primary investigator for ACH's involvement in the International Pediatric Stroke Study (IPSS)**
- 4. Other**
- a. **Neurology Physician Champion for the Outpatient EMR Committee**
  - b. **Child Neurology Program Evaluation Committee**
  - c. **Child Neurology Clinical Competency Committee**
  - d. **Attended UAMS Commencement 2016 and scheduled to attend May 2017 as well**

### **Program Director:**

Dr. Willis was a graduate of the Child Neurology Program at UAMS/ACH from 2009-2012. After becoming faculty, she quickly became assistant program director from 2013-2014 and then Program Director in 2014. Dr. Willis is responsible for five neurology residents, one per year over their five year residency program (two years categorical pediatrics and three years child neurology). Dr. Willis had to learn this position very quickly and used guidance from the UAMS GME office and other program directors as well as attending a course for new program directors at the annual ACGME conference in San Diego in 2015. As program director, she has made improvements to the monthly rotations of the child neurology residents as well as the adult neurology residents that rotate through ACH. New rotations have been created under Dr. Willis' guidance with goals and objectives written for each one. At the beginning of her position, she was faced with two residents who became off schedule, one for academic probation and another for a family emergency. Dr. Willis successfully worked with both residents to assure that they returned to active training and at this time, both are scheduled to successfully complete residency within the next year. In addition, both residents have obtained fellowship positions at prestigious institutions after graduation. Since becoming program director, Dr. Willis has also successfully recruited top applicants for the child neurology program each year. The program is currently thriving and is in full compliance with the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). Dr. Willis recently received another letter of notification from the ACGME stating that the program remains in full accreditation with no citations. Below is an example of a resident applicants thoughts after interviewing with the program and Dr. Willis:

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### **Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Service:**

Dr. Willis became interested in multiple sclerosis and demyelinating disorders during her residency training. She spent a month at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN during her fifth year of residency to obtain knowledge on these disorders and then during her first year as an attending, she did a half day clinic in the Adult MS Clinic at UAMS to further her skills. She became active in the MS Society and also participates in monthly calls organized by the MS Society that focuses on difficult pediatric MS cases, allowing for providers nationwide to collaborate together. She now is the Director of the Demyelinating Clinic at ACH and sees patients one half day per month of pediatric patients with MS and other central demyelinating disorders. Prior to Dr. Willis, the closest specialist in these conditions was in Alabama, leading to difficulties for these patients concerning not only diagnosis but also treatment. Now the patients have a physician here at ACH who provides comprehensive care, allowing these patients to feel comfortable despite this chronic diagnosis. In 2016, she was nominated and then elected into the Arkansas Leadership Council for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. This council provides not only support for those living with MS, but also provides education to physicians across the state who care for patients with MS, including primary care physicians, neurologists, therapists and nurses. Towards the end of 2016, Dr. Willis applied to become a National MS Society Partner in Care, a position awarded to physicians who provide comprehensive and complete care. In 2017, this title was awarded to Dr. Willis. With this honor, she becomes the second Neurologist and the first Child Neurologist in the state of Arkansas to be awarded with this title. These accomplishments have allowed Dr. Willis to gain not only a local presence but a regional and national one as well in one of her main areas of interest.

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### **Stroke Committee:**

Dr. Willis is the co-director of the Arkansas Children's Hospital Stroke Committee and co-developer of the stroke protocol for the hospital, the Arkansas Children's Hospital Stroke Alert System (ASAP). This committee is comprised of multiple members from the hospital including neurology, neurosurgery, emergency department, PICU, cardiology, radiology, interventional radiology, transport services and hematology. The committee meets every 1-3 months to review previous stroke alerts, revise the stroke protocol and determine ways to improve the care of pediatric patients at ACH with acute strokes. The current protocol in place allows for rapid identification of acute strokes and guides management for both nurses and physicians, both in the acute phase and the following days after the stroke. Through this committee, Dr. Willis is also the principle investigator for Arkansas Children's Hospital involved in the International Pediatric Stroke Study (IPSS). This study was initiated in 2003 to perform international collaborative research aimed at understanding, preventing and improving outcomes in pediatric stroke.

### **Other committees:**

Dr. Willis is the Neurology Physician Champion for the Outpatient EMR Committee, committed to improving the experience of patients and families in outpatient settings. Dr. Willis meets regularly with the committee, disperses information back to her neurology colleagues, and also reviews outpatient satisfaction scores for the neurology section. Dr. Willis is also a member of the Child Neurology Program Evaluation Committee that meets once yearly to formulate goals for the Child Neurology Program and the Child Neurology Clinical Competency Committee that meets twice yearly to review the academic advancement of the child neurology residents.