UAB President Carol Garrison has selected the Discussion Book Committee’s top choice, Field Notes from a Catastrophe: Man, Nature, and Climate Change, as the 2008 UAB Discussion Book. The book’s author, Elizabeth Kolbert, will be on campus Monday, Aug. 18, when all new freshmen will participate in freshman discussion groups. Kolbert will deliver a short presentation and participate in a panel discussion with Robert Mendelsohn, the Edwin Weyerhaeuser Davis Professor of Economics at Yale University, and Henry Pollard, professor emeritus in geophysics, University of Michigan. This event will inaugurate a year-long monthly series on different perspectives related to the significance, meaning, causes and consequences of climate change. Students will have an opportunity at New Student Orientation to purchase Field Notes at a discounted price from the UAB Bookstore. Information on essays that present alternate perspectives on global warming also will be distributed.

Introducing...the charter class of Leadership UAB

UAB’s newest group of community advisors is made up of young professionals offering their support to the university. Called Leadership UAB, the group’s annual membership class will consist of 40 to 50 people between the ages of 25 and 40 selected to represent a cross-section of Birmingham’s vibrant community.

“Enthusiasm is the key word,” said Shirley Salloway Kahn, Ph.D., vice president for Development, Alumni and External Relations. “We seek professionals who will bring experience from various corporate, civic and volunteer backgrounds.”

Leadership UAB – Class of 2008

Paige D. Albright
Paige Albright Oriental
Alyson Malone Bagby
The Malone Family Foundation
Jim W. Beatty
First American Bank
Robert A. Boehme
Tractor & Equipment Company
Daniel R. Briggs
daniel george restaurant

Field Notes from a Catastrophe is 2008 UAB Discussion Book

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Students will have an opportunity at New Student Orientation to purchase Field Notes at a discounted price from the UAB Bookstore. Information on essays that present alternate perspectives on global warming also will be distributed.
New Employee Orientation checklist available online

Training and Development has developed a “New Employee Orientation Employee/Supervisor Checklist,” to help department managers with their new employee orientation to UAB and their new department.

This checklist is available to all hiring supervisors/managers at www.hr.uab.edu in the All Printable Forms section. It gives managers/supervisors a starting outline of key topics to discuss with the new employee.

Smart managers realize that new employees need more if they are going to feel comfortable in their new jobs. Here are a few ideas:

- Send a welcome letter once the future employee accepts his or her job offer, letting the new employee know that if he/she has any questions before the official start date, it’s OK to call.
- Be the one to accompany the new employee on the first tour around the department. Many managers delegate this responsibility, but it sends a much more powerful message if you give them the special attention.
- Have frequent, brief chats/meetings the first month of employment to ensure the employee understands his/her roles and responsibilities and your expectations.
- Many performance problems begin with unclear first communications on these topics.
- Ensure that everything the new employee heard during the interview aligns with what they hear during your department orientation. Discrepancies invite suspicion.
- Explain the department’s mission, goals and challenges and model the behavior you wish to see in your new employees.

Orientation should not be an afterthought, but, rather, pre-planned — and often lasting about the same length of time as it did to hire someone. It takes very little to make a new employee think that accepting the job was a mistake, so be careful not to abandon your new employee. What might appear to take a long time in the beginning will only speed productivity later. Effective communication is the glue that holds everything and everyone together and helps foster a positive working relationship with long-term successful results.

Faculty feedback sought on tech use

UAB IT is asking faculty to provide feedback on their use of certain technologies through a brief online survey that can be accessed on the Faculty Resources tab on BlazerNET.

“Last year we were focused on the development of standards for fixed technology in the classroom, and this survey builds upon that project,” said Sheila Sanders, vice president for Information Technology. “Our office, in conjunction with that of Associate Provost Philip Way, wants to understand better which other technologies our faculty use and those they consider to be priorities for more global support.”

The survey will touch on the use of interactive response systems, such as clickers, in the classroom and increasingly popular social networking tools such as Facebook and MySpace.

Clickers are becoming an important tool in many classrooms to promote active learning, student engagement and assessment. The first part of this survey will identify where these are being used at UAB and will assess the most valued attributes in selecting a response system. The goal is to identify a standard that could potentially be used across campus and reduce the need for students to have multiple clickers for different classes.

Social collaborative tools such as MySpace, Second Life, YouTube, Mogs and instant messaging also are receiving attention for their potential to increase student engagement. The second part of this survey seeks to determine the familiarity of UAB faculty with these tools and identify the ones faculty may consider priorities for global support.

Students invited to preview college life during UAB Day

High-school sophomores and juniors are invited to participate in UAB Day activities beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday, April 19 in the Campus Recreation Center.

The event is designed to give high-school students and their parents a special preview of campus life and a closer look at the many opportunities available at UAB. Students can explore majors, will meet with faculty, interact with UAB students and learn more about admission, housing, scholarships, financial aid, student life and more.

For information, go to www.uab.edu/uabday or call the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 934-9098.

PKD center seeks P&F proposals

The UAB Recreptive PKD Research and Translation Center invites brief proposals for pilot and feasibility studies in pathogenic mechanisms, basic science and therapeutic approaches related to cystic kidney disease. Successful proposals will be supported for one year beginning in September.

Polycystic kidney disease is one of the most common genetic disorders, affecting more than 600,000 people in the United States, and is a major cause of end-stage renal disease in children and adults.

Direct costs in the amount of $50,000 per year can be requested for the pilot and feasibility study, including salary support and appropriate supplies.

The initial application should not exceed two single-spaced pages and is due by 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 1, and the decision on these applications will be made April 22. Full-length applications are due Aug. 15, and funding will begin Sept. 1.

For more information on submission of the proposals and deadlines, please visit www.rpkdc.uab.edu. Direct questions to Montella Kerby at mkerby@uab.edu, Lisa Guay-Woodford, M.D., at lguay@uab.edu or Joanne Murphy-Ulrich, Ph.D., at murphy@uab.edu.

T32 research training fellowships available

NIEHS/NRSA fellowships are available beginning July 1 for a research training program in surgical oncology.

Trainees will pursue an independent two-year research project in the laboratory of an accomplished scientist experienced in physiology, pathology, microbiology, immunology, molecular biology, or epidemiology with guidance provided by a clinical mentor in surgery. This training program is designed to provide research training for surgical residents interested in pursuing academic careers in surgical oncology-related disciplines.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents who have completed the M.D. degree and two years of post-doctoral training. Interested applicants should submit curriculum vitae, three letters of recommendation and a personal statement detailing their career interests.

Direct questions to Carolyn L. Waddox, administrative associate for Kirby I. Bland, M.D., program director, UAB Department of Surgery; call 934-2889 or e-mail cmaddox@uab.edu.

Deadline for applications is Wednesday, April 30. UAB is an equal opportunity employer, and applications from qualified under-represented minorities and women are strongly encouraged.
Weather has not slowed construction on the Hazelrig Salter Radiation Oncology Facility and the adjoining Women and Infants Center, says Robert Sharpe, project manager and director of Hospital Construction.

“That’s progressing very well, and it’s progressing on sched- ule,” Sharpe says of the 540,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility located at the corner of Seventh Avenue and 16th Street. “The rain we’ve gotten so far this year really hasn’t significantly impacted our construction schedule.”

The University of Alabama System Board of Trustees approved the overall budget for the remainder of the project at its most recent meeting. The budget includes the interior fit-out, which comprises all of the interior components such as the finishes, doors, walls, floor covering, ceilings and lights.

The design-build team Brasfield and Gorrie and architects Gresham, Smith and Partners have been working on the final design of the interior.

“Now that the interior fit-out budget has been approv- ed, work will begin in April,” Sharpe says. “The shell and core of the west structure of the building should top out later this month. The east structure will top out in April.”

The exterior work, or sheathing, is under way and will continue for months. When the exterior is completed, the contractors can begin work on fitting out each floor; the third floor of the nine-story building will be first.

Bridge under construction

The bridge connecting the facility with the North Pavilion also is under construction. Because of code and structural requirements, the bridge is a separate struc- ture from the Hazelrig/Salter Women and Infants North Pavilion buildings.

“We will complete it this year, but we won’t actually extend it into the North Pavilion until next year,” Sharpe says. “It’s separated from both buildings by expansion joints.”

Construction of the structure containing the Hazelrig-Salter facility and Women and Infants Center is sched- uled for completion in January 2010. Occupancy is scheduled for the spring 2010. In order to maximize construction and operating efficiencies, the new struc- ture will house one of the premier comprehensive cancer facilities in the Southeast, the state-of-the-art Women and Infants Center and offices for physicians.

UAB team in finals of Alabama Launchpad competition

A UAB team has been chosen to advance to the finals of the Alabama Launchpad business plan competition and vie for $175,000 in seed capital.

Intellectrode, led by psychology Professor Franklin Author, Ph.D., is one of eight teams chosen from a field of more than 40 entries to compete in the final round set April 13-14, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in The University of Alabama Bryant Conference Center. The competition is open to the public.

Teams will present their business ideas to a panel of judges with experience in venture capital and tech- nology start-ups. These teams are competing for a grand prize of $100,000 cash plus additional in-kind services. Second and third place winners will receive $50,000 and $25,000, respectively.

“This is an alternative form of economic development – encouraging knowledge-based start-ups through the commercialization of Alabama technologies,” said EDPA President James P. Hayes. Intellectrode is engaged in the development, manu- facture and sale of neurotechnology to the research market for neuroscience and pharmaceutical research and development and hopes to expand its products into other markets and applications. The fields of knowledge initially include electrophysiology, elec- tronics and software.

Finalists also include five teams from The University of Alabama and one each from Alabama A&M Uni- versity and The University of Alabama in Huntsville. Business plans advocated represented ideas in infor- mation technology, biotechnology, medical devices, electronics and green technology.

“This group illustrates that the universities in Ala- bama are involved in cutting-edge programs that have commercial potential across a number of different industry categories,” says Glenn Kistler, director of Alabama Launchpad.

Alabama Launchpad was formed in 2006 by Eco- nomic Development Partnership of Alabama and six universities – the four finalists plus Auburn Univer- sity and Alabama State University.

Two other teams from UAB made it to the semifinal round:

• FindASpeaker.org – Craig Huggard, student, electrical engineering
• Photonics Innovations – Sergey Mirov, Ph.D., professor, natural science and math

To learn more, visit www.alabamalaunchpad.com.

Graham, Clark among Scholarship of Teaching grant recipients

Cecilia Graham, Ph.D., and Diane Clark, DSc/Ph.E., have been eager to change the way their Pathology and Pharmacology for Movement Disorders courses are taught.

The UAB Scholarship of Teaching Grant program is giving them the resources to restructure the classes, which are foundational courses in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program.

Graham and Clark are incorporating active learning and critical thinking activities into the curriculum by adding an online component and interaction with patients.

“The course pretty much has been lecture-based with PowerPoint presentations,” Graham says. “The students need to be challenged more. Now they will have an online component to engage in prior to class. During class they will interact with patients and ana- lyze case studies. The students will be able to discuss concepts with each other and faculty and apply what they are actively learning.”

Graham and Clark submitted a proposal to the UAB Scholarship of Teaching Grant Program, and it was selected along with seven other programs to receive grants for their classroom instruction.

The purpose of the grant program is to provide resources for faculty who are advancing the scholar- ship of teaching. It focuses on the development of critically reflective knowledge about teaching and learning, requiring faculty to frame and systemati- cally investigate questions related to student learning, teaching methods and educational theory.

Graham says students will be tested to measure their class engagement and improvement in critical thinking skills.

“We hope to get the students past superficial learning and memorization and engage them in deep learning,” she says. “This will enable them to get a deeper under- standing of the concepts of the courses.”

Graham says she and Clark are excited about the potential for the class and the impact and value it will have for the students. “This change wouldn’t be pos- sible without the grant,” Graham says. “We certainly are appreciative.”

Others receiving grants include Joan Grant, D.S.N., in the Nursing Adult/Acute Health, Lisa Baker, Ph.D., in Anthropology and Social Work; Thomas Nordlund, Ph.D., in Physics; Ellen Buckner, D.S.N., in Family/ Child Health and Caregiving; Diane Tucker, Ph.D., in the Science and Technology Honors Program; Stacey Cofield, Ph.D., in Biostatistics; and Laura Talbott- Forbes, Ph.D., in Human Studies.

Information about the grant requirements and process is available online at http://main.uab.edu/Sites/provost/articles/31900/.

Three are winners in the ‘07 Discussion Book essay contest

Prizes were awarded to employee Charles Kinnaird, student Kevin Shultz and frowmark Abihehek Hantha for their essays on Rick Bragg’s All Over but the Shoutin’. Read the winning entries online at http://main.uab.edu/Sites/DOEC/Document/book38440/ or click on the UAB Discussion Book link on the UAB Home Page.

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SON taking apps for new AMNP program

UAB’s School of Nursing is still accepting applications for the first semester of its new Accelerated Master’s Entry to Nursing pathway (AMNP) for students earning second degrees.

The program, which begins May 7, is funded in part from a $1 million strategic investment in the School of Nursing by the UAB Health System. It is an intensive 27-month program designed to introduce 45 new nurses annually into the work force, says Norman Keltner, Ed.D., program coordinator.

The joint venture with UAB Hospital will enable the students to fulfill the post-graduate, registered nurse residency requirements. Pre-licensure graduates of the program also will have the opportunity to work at the hospital while completing the requirements for the master’s degree.

“The School of Nursing is excited to be partnering with the UAB Health System to respond to the growing nurse shortage,” Keltner says. “Admission to the School of Nursing is a very competitive process, thus we tend to get outstanding students. The AMNP program will extend that tradition of bringing in and graduating the best and brightest into the health-care field at UAB Hospital and beyond.”

Nurses are the front line for patient needs, and projections are there will be an even greater need for nurses in the coming years. More than 1.2 million new and replacement nurses will be needed by 2024, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Of that number, federal analysts project more than 700,000 of those jobs will be newly created RN positions that will account for 40 percent of all new jobs in the health-care sector.

Attracting students

The first class of nurses that graduate from the AMNP program in 2010 will be in addition to almost 300 students graduating annually through the baccalaureate and graduate programs offered by UAB.

One of the reasons the School of Nursing pursued the program was due to the number of college graduates enrolling in the BSN traditional program, says Pamela Autrey, Ph.D., the school’s assistant dean for student affairs. Autrey says the program is attracting returning students in their mid to late 20s and early to mid 30s, who are motivated to make a career change, and recent college graduates who want to bridge their current degree to the nursing profession.

“Almost one-third of the students in our incoming nursing classes were second degree-seeking students.” Autrey says.

With the AMNP program we are able to move the majority of these students from the traditional four-year setting and get them on the fast track to a nursing career with a master’s degree in hand. This is a big plus for both our bachelor’s program and these students.”

Cecilia Ohman, student nurse recruiter for the program, says the first class includes students with a variety of backgrounds. Exercise science majors, biology majors, chemistry majors and a person with a doctorate in education are among the group.

“I’ve had people seek us out even before we advertised the program asking if this program is real,” Ohman says.

“The program has so many advantages, including having the residency built into the program. It’s a demanding two-year program, but it’s one that is drawing an enormous amount of interest.”

Need for CNLs

Graduates of the program are considered clinical nurse leaders (CNL). They will receive the same number of clinical hours an undergraduate nurse would receive, with additional clinical hours linked to masters’ coursework. But their responsibilities are somewhat different from a traditional registered nurse in the hospital setting. The program is unique in that it is designed collaboratively with the UAB Hospital and the Health System.

The CNL designs, implements and evaluates patient care by coordinating, delegating and supervising the care provided by the health-care team, including licensed nurses, technicians, and other health professionals. The CNL concept was developed by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) to augment leadership at the bedside and extend the SoN tradition of graduating the best and brightest into the health-care field.

Healthcare is consuming an awful lot of resources in this country. It’s projected we will spend $4 trillion a year in health care in just six years. Hopefully by adding more leaders at the bedside we can improve these deficiencies.”

There still is limited space available for the first class of the AMNP this summer.

For more information on the requirements of the program and how to register visit http://main.uab.edu/sites/nursing/programs/36755 or contact Ohman at 934-5491 or cuohman@uab.edu.

Continued from page 1

“We’re hoping by the end of this master’s program the students will have a better picture of the global issues in nursing care and be able to attack those issues head on as they enter the health-care workforce,” Keltner says.

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“This is cutting-edge technology,” says Jeffrey Foster, associate director for administration and finance with the SCIB.

“There are not many groups doing this type of research. To the best of our knowledge the UAB-based consortium is the only entity putting forth this effort.”

Wayne State is supplying UAB with data from real car crashes to develop and refine the models. Once the computer models are finalized, scientists at UAB will be able to test the outcome of an infinite number of crash scenarios.

The SCCB approach to the research is developing the whole-body model prior to extraction of component models rather than the opposite way. This will ensure accurate representation between the local and global models.

Subsequently, SCIB-member institutions can adjust and modify the regional models according to their experimental boundary conditions.

They also will be able to input material properties using the methods being developed in the UAB and Wayne State projects and input loading conditions to determine if the regional model predictions match experimentally obtained data.

Auto industry interested in child-based research

Foster says there has been a big push for automakers to address child-injury prevention, and the auto industry is watching this research closely.

Representatives from Chrysler and Ford attended the SCIB 10th annual Scientific Symposium in December 2007 where the project was discussed.

“Most safety designs are for average-sized adults, and children are just different,” Foster says. “Children are not simply small adults. They have different bone mass, body density, constantly changing centers of gravity and their tissues have properties that are different than those of adults.

“To our knowledge, this is the first project to assess the physical responses to a car crash that will use a computer-generated simulation of a child’s entire body. Hopefully by September we will have some models for the industry to review.”

The SCIB is a unique, multidisciplinary alliance of world-class engineers, physicians and scientists working collaboratively to achieve a significant reduction in crash-related injuries and deaths. For more on the SCIB and the UAB ICRC, visit www.uab.edu/scib/.
Research sheds light on mean girls, bullies, cliques

Girls who gossip and exclude others from their cliques often are labeled as popular by their classmates, and more than half of all high-school cliques are defined along racial lines, according to UAB sociologist Casey Borch, Ph.D.

Borch co-authored a study with Antonius Cillesen, Ph.D., at the Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen and the University of Connecticut, to determine how aggression, popularity and academic achievement influenced membership in cliques. The study will be published as a chapter in the forthcoming book Modelling Dyadic and Intersubject Data in Developmental Research later this year.

The researchers surveyed nearly 600 boys and girls in the fourth through the 12th grades in a public school system in a working-class community in the Northeast from 1995-2004. The study found that physical aggression helped popularity in the earlier grades but not as the children grew older. Membership in physically aggressive cliques tended to decline over time, whereas membership in cliques where students gossiped, spread rumors and excluded others — which is called relational aggression — remained constant.

In fact, the study found that behaviors such as gossiping and spreading rumors increased the perceived popularity, or social visibility, of the students, Borch says.

“So how well known you are is enhanced by one’s ability to be relationally aggressive,” he says. “Many of the popular kids may not be well liked, but they are relationally aggressive and their peers think that they are popular. So it makes some sense that relational aggression is a chosen tactic used by adolescents interested in popularity.

“The mean-girls effect suggests that girls engage more in this type of behavior more than boys,” says Borch. “And as a result, they do, but the people who gain more from this behavior are minority boys. Minority boys who are relationally aggressive gain a lot more popularity over time than any other group, although, they were less likely to use the behavior.”

One surprising finding was that in the fourth grade about 50 percent of the cliques were of mixed race and ethnicity, so the researchers compared the lists to determine whether students’ feelings were reciprocated. The study subjects also were asked to identify the overtly aggressive classmates — those who regularly started fights, said mean things or bullied others — and those who gossiped, told rumors or excluded others from a group. Then students were asked to rate the school’s cliques on popularity, social preference and overt and relational aggression.

“Clique’s aren’t necessarily bad,” says Borch. “It just depends on the kind of clique a child is in. The common misconception is that they [cliques] are inherently bad — that kids in cliques exclude other people, that they are separatists or they’re somehow disconnected from the larger network as a whole — and that fundamentally is not true.

“Kids are good social observers,” says Borch. “They know who the aggressive kids are and who’s popular. So listen to your kids. If they say someone is trouble, they may very well be.”

Blackboard technologies to be upgraded in August

The learning management system at UAB will be upgraded Aug. 9-12, and all courses in Blackboard (Bb) Vista 3 will move to Bb Vista 4.

The look and feel will be similar and courses will retain all the information held there. The upgrade will offer some new features that can be used for assessments, assignments, creating community and grading:

• Blogs, journals and peer reviews
• Grading forms (rubrics), improved assessment statistics
• Greater abilities to associate course goals with assessments, create custom instructions, review the question statistics, grade distributions and descriptive statistics for each assessment
• Categorize Web links

This upgrade to Bb Vista 4 also will position UAB to rate the school’s cliques on popularity, social preference and overt and relational aggression.

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LEADERSHIP UAB

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Children’s Health System

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Boll & Bingham LLP

Brooks Emory
Red Mountain Bank

Ashley K. Falkenburg
Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail

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Postdocs invited to learn and lunch
Postdocs are invited to the “Balancing Life and Science” luncheon Tuesday, March 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Shelby Building Room 105. Faculty members will discuss how to balance life away from the research bench, including marriage, family and finances. The luncheon is sponsored by UAB Postdoctoral Association and the Office of Postdoctoral Education.

Sexual addiction lecture is March 20
UAB’s Resource Center Employee Assistance Program will host the luncheon lecture “Sexual Addiction” Thursday, March 20 from 11:30 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. in West Pavilion Room E. Steve Moore, a program coordinator with UAB’s Center for Psychiatric Medicine, is the guest speaker for this final lecture in the luncheon series on addiction.

Social work career fair set for March 21
UAB will host a Social Work Career Day in the Hill University Center Great Hall from 9 a.m. to noon Friday, March 21. More than 20 organizations will disperse their mission statements and hiring needs both with social work majors and other UAB students eager to explore entry-level and other positions. At least two MSW programs also will participate in this event.

SOPH to host health literacy presentation
Russell Rothman, a visiting professor for the Pfizer Visiting Professorships in Health Literacy/Clear Health Communication, will discuss issues related to the serious implications of low health literacy during a presentation March 26. Faculty and students are invited to attend the 2 p.m. presentation “Health Literacy: What Health Care Providers Should Know,” in the HUC-Alumni Hall. Max Michael, M.D., dean of the School of Public Health will host the event.

Rothman is the director of the Vanderbilt Program on Effective Health Communication. He collaborates with nationally recognized clinician-scientists, nurses, researchers, educational researchers and members of the community literacy programs in order to study and promote trends related to health literacy.

Contact Joy Deupree at deupreej@uab.edu for more information.

Author Gary Okihoro to present English Alumni Lecture
Columbia University Professor Gary Y. Okihoro will discuss the origins and significance of ethnic studies during the annual UAB English Department Alumni Lecture Wednesday, March 26 at 7:30 p.m. in UAB Mary Culp Housel Recital Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

Okihoro is a professor in the department of inter-national and public affairs at Columbia. He is the author of 10 books relating to African and Asian-American ethnic studies. His books include Common Ground: Reimagining American History and The Columbia Guide to Asian American History.

Special Lectures
Tuesday, March 18
11:30 am UAB Postdoctoral Association/Office of Postdoctoral Education, Balancing life and science luncheon to discuss cultural adjustment, time management and financial management with experienced faculty members. SHEL-105.

Wednesday, March 19
3:30 pm UAB Psychology 2000 Colloquium Series. Behavioral interventions to promote healthy cognitive aging, Doctor Karlene Ball (Center for Translational Research on Aging and Mobility); Campbell Hall-327.

Thursday, March 20
9-11 am UAB Shaken Baby Prevention Program/ UAB Women’s and Infants’ Services. The happiest kids on the block, Dr Harvey Karp (Aast Prof. Pediatrics, UCLA School of Medicine). See how to make fussy babies calm, calm babies serene. The happy sleep and boost toddler cooperation while shrinking tantrums. MCSA. Nursing CEs available.

Noon Emergency Medicine/Injury Control Research Center Seminar. Guest presents: Epidemiology of injuries from terrorism, Dr Richard Sattin (Prof. School of Medicine, Medical College of Georgia); Faculty Office Tower, 12th floor.

Friday, March 21
9 noon UAB Social Work Program. Social work career day. The career fair offers an opportunity for more than 20 organizations discuss their missions and their hiring needs with social work majors and other UAB students eager to explore entry-level and other positions. At least two MSW programs also will participate in this event. HUC-Great Hall.

Friday, March 28
10 am Maternal & Child Health UAB Network Seminar Series. Emerging issues in health care: Latino populations, Panel presenters: Assoc Prof Isabel Scarmici (Preventive Medicine) and Edwina Taylor (Executive Director, Cahaba Valley Health Care Consumer Representative); Bradley Conference 4th fl of Children’s Harbor.

Defenses
For a complete list of defenses and other Graduate School events, visit the Calendar of Events located in the student section of the Graduate School Web site at www.uab.edu/graduate.

Meetings
Monday, Feb. 18, Feb. 25
Noon Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables. Arabic conversation table; HB-3rd fl The Hub. For more info, lazyatoll@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.
5:25 pm Power Yoga: UAB Marshall Conference Center. For more info, call 967-0303.
8 pm Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables. Spanish conversation table; Rast Hall, 3rd fl study lounge. Amador Jimenez amador@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

Tuesday, March 18, March 25
10 am International Women’s Group. Smolian International House, 4-1205/ihouse@uab.edu.
12:10 pm Stress Management through Meditation. The UAB Resource Center. Call 934-2281 or visit www.uab.edu/eap for more info.
5 pm Power Yoga: UAB Marshall Conference Center. For more info, call 967-0303.
8 pm Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables. Spanish conversation table; Rast Hall, 3rd fl study lounge. Amador Jimenez amador@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

Wednesday, March 19, March 26
9 am New panel: Arsenal group (both 2 years) WP-Conf Ctr. Questions? Call Freda 5-2337/fcentor@uabmc.edu.
10 am Conentional English classes, levels 1-4; Smolian International House, 4-1205/ihouse@uab.edu.

Noon Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables. Arabic conversation table; HB-424 conference room. For more info, lazyatoll@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

Wednesday, March 19, March 26
9 am New panel: Arsenal group (both 2 years) WP-Conf Ctr. Questions? Call Freda 5-2337/fcentor@uabmc.edu.
10 am Conentional English classes, levels 1-4; Smolian International House, 4-1205/ihouse@uab.edu.

Noon Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables. Arabic conversation table; HB-424 conference room. For more info, lazyatoll@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

3:30 pm Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables. Spanish conversation table; HB-3rd fl The Hub. Amador Jimenez amador@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.
5:25 pm Power Yoga: UAB Marshall Conference Center. For more info, call 967-0303.
8 pm Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables. French conversation table; Commons on the Green cafeteria (English for the French flag). For more info, danelorsh@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.
12:10 pm Tai Chi – Stress Management through Movement, The UAB Resource Center. Call 934-2281 or visit www.uab.edu/eap for more info.
2 pm Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables. Medical Spanish Conversation Table; HB-3rd fl The Hub. center@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.
4 pm Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables. Chinese Conversation Table; HB-3rd fl The Hub. maxvinr@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

Thursday, March 20, March 27
Noon Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables. French conversation table; Commons on the Green cafeteria (English for the French flag). For more info, danelorsh@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.
12:10 pm Tai Chi – Stress Management through Movement, The UAB Resource Center. Call 934-2281 or visit www.uab.edu/eap for more info.
2 pm Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables. Medical Spanish Conversation Table; HB-3rd fl The Hub. center@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.
4 pm Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables. Chinese Conversation Table; HB-3rd fl The Hub. maxvinr@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

Friday, March 21, March 28
7 am Falun Dafa exercises, an ancient Chinese exercise that brings harmony & health. UAB Mini Park, 4-8295.
Noon Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables. Japanese language table; Commons on the Green cafeteria. For more info, makookoo@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.
12:15 pm Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables. Spanish conversation table; Commons on the Green cafeteria. For more info, makookoo@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

Religion
Tuesday, March 18, March 25
Noon Medical Center Christian Fellowship Meeting. WP-B. All welcome. Blair 216-8571.

Wednesday, March 19, March 26
Noon Employee-led Bible study; Interfaith Chapel-West Pavilion.
12:15 pm Litter-day Saints Student Association, Scripture study and discussion, HUC-413. All wel-come. For more info, Andrew 822-9338.

Sunday, March 23, March 31
10 am Haitic mass; St. Stephen Church, 1515 S 12th Ave. 933-2500.
5 pm Catholic mass; St Stephen Church, 1515 S 12th Ave, 933-2500.
5 pm UAB Hindu Student Council. We will have a session on singing and feasting the Hare Krishna way where everyone is welcome to join. For more info, Varadraj Prabhu 383-9805, 1901 15th Ave S, Apt 20, Bham.

Exhibits
Mervyn H. Sterne Library. 750 Years for Equality: The Women’s Rights Movement 1848-1998. The exhibit ends April 30, Library hours: 7:30 am – 11 pm Mon- Thurs; 7:30 am-7 pm Fri; 9 am-5 pm Sat; 11-1 pm Sun.
The Samuel Hillman Museum. Home of prominent Birmingham civic leader and poet. Open by appoint-ment only, 4-3328.
Visual Arts Gallery. Christopher Lowther: “Rope Revisited” and Other Works. Lowther, a new faculty member at UAB, will present a series of challenging projects questioning society’s conformity. The exhibit will feature “Rope Revisited,” a reinterpretation of the dark Hitchcock work, and “Cowboy Cruising.” Lowther’s wry adaptation of the climactic scene in Sergio Leone’s classic, The Good, the Bad and the Ugly. 900 13th St. S. Admission is free. Through April 4, 4-0185.
Domestic violence workshop for health, law professionals set

Nurses, medical staff and police officers can learn more about responding to domestic violence and facilitating the relationship between law enforcement and medical staff during a workshop, “Domestic Violence: Law Enforcement and Health Care in Partnership from the Crime Scene to the Emergency Room,” to be held Wednesday, March 19 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in West Pavilion Room E.

Three hours of CEUs will be provided for nurses, social workers and LPCs. Law-enforcement officials may use their certificate to apply for post credit. The workshop is free, but participants are asked to register; call 934-2281. Visit the UAB Resource Center Web site at www.uab.edu for more information.

VAG exhibits works of Christopher Lowther through April 4

A suite of four installation works by Christopher Lowther, assistant professor of new media at UAB, will be exhibited in the Visual Arts Gallery through April 4.

In “Cowboy Cruising,” Lowther re-edits and re-cuts the climactic scene of Sergio Leone’s “The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly,” reduc- ing it to a series of shared glances between the film’s three protagonists. In “Rope Reconstructed,” Lowther commissioned a scale model of Hitchcock’s famous set so that he could reveal the bedroom, absent in the entire film, that is shared by the film’s two lead characters, Brandon and Philip, Levine said.

In “A Queer Shadow,” the viewer encounters an interactive video installation. In “Rebel Love,” re-edits of Nicholas Ray’s classic film “A Queer Shadow,” the viewer encounters a complex and challenging exhibit that deals with contemporary issues and themes, said UAB Visual Arts Gallery Director Bert Levine. It is the largest multi-installation project to occur at the Visual Arts Gallery.

The works include “Cowboy Cruising,” “A Queer Shadow,” “Rope Reconstructed” and “Rebel Love: A Woman Scorned.” In each work, Lowther takes a key aspect or symbol of cinema and deconstructs it to reveal its hidden meanings.

The Happiest Kids on the Block: How to make fussy babies calm, calm babies serene, improve sleep and boost toddler cooperation while shrinking tantrums

Harvey Karp, M.D.
Assistant Professor Pediatrics,
UCLA School of Medicine
Thursday, March 20, 2008
9 am to 11 am
Margaret Cameron Spain Auditorium
19th St S and 7th Ave S
Nursing CEU’s Available

Sponsored by:

Shaken Baby Prevention Program

Women’s and Infants’ Services

March 17, 2008 UAB Reporter 7
Ball wins 2008 Ireland Prize for Scholarly Distinction

Psychologist Karlene Ball, Ph.D., has won the 2008 Carolyn P. and Charles W. Ireland Prize for Scholarly Distinction.

A dinner and lecture will be held Thursday, May 1 at 6:45 p.m. in the Alys Stephens Center upper lobby. Cocktails will be served at 6 p.m. in the Stephens Center downstairs lobby. Tickets are $29 each. For more details, or to RSVP, contact the University Events Office at uabevents@uab.edu.

The Ireland Prize is awarded annually to a full-time faculty member in the school of Arts and Humanities, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, or Social and Behavioral Sciences for their professional and academic achievements and contributions to the university and local community. Made possible by the Caroline P. and Charles W. Ireland Endowment for Scholarly Distinction, the prize comes with a $5,000 cash award.

Ball joined UAB in 1996 and is an internationally renowned experimental psychologist who studies cognitive aging. She directs the UAB Center for Research in Applied Gerontology, and she is associate director of the UAB Center for Aging in the School of Medicine.

“This is a great honor,” Ball says.

Ball has studied the visual and cognitive correlates of mobility problems of older adults with an emphasis on driving skills for more than 20 years. Her research focuses primarily on the development and testing of assessment measures and cognitive rehabilitation programs for older adults.

“We have been evaluating cognitive training programs for many years now.” Ball says. “We’re working with several industry partners, trying to find the best way to deliver these kinds brain-fitness programs.”

One of those partners is State Farm. UAB is teaming with the insurance company to conduct a study to assess benefits for participants in the training program. The tests measure the effectiveness of the training programs on driving safety and mobility. State Farm is inviting its Alabama customers who are 75 and older to participate. Interested participants are enrolled in the study after contacting UAB.

“We started this study three or four years ago when we were just looking to see whether or not a screening test would predict who would have more insurance claims in the future,” Ball says. “Now, we’re offering State Farm-insured drivers the training program.

“We are hoping to help insurance companies and state departments of motor vehicles think about this issue on a broad scale: looking closely at answering the question: What’s the best way to keep older adults safely on the road? I think if we can come up with a program to provide older adults incentives to maintain or improve their cognitive fitness it will benefit everyone,” she says.

Ball’s research has resulted in the development and continued investigation of a test called Useful Field of View (the UFOV® test), which measures visual attention and identifies older drivers at risk for having traffic accidents.

One of the common misconceptions about driving problems associated with older age is that it is solely due to diminished vision, she says. Research has shown that a more prevalent problem is diminishing skills in how quickly some older adults process information and their ability pay attention to multiple things at once.

“These kinds of visual processing abilities can decline with age independently of how well you see,” Ball says. “There are a lot of people with excellent vision who are having a hard time keeping up with the cognitive demands of driving. Those are the people who tend to end up crashing.”

Ball has co-authored many papers resulting from a multi-site clinical trial (the ACTIVE study), supported by the National Institute on Aging and the National Institute on Nursing Research, which found that older adults benefit from training to improve reasoning, memory and speed of processing. Later papers report that improvements in cognitive function resulted in everyday benefits, including improved health-related quality of life and reduced driving difficulty.

UAB to honor four Outstanding Women on March 20

Four local women will be honored by UAB as Outstanding Women for 2008 during a ceremony Thursday, March 20 at 4:30 p.m. in the Bartow Arena Green and Gold Room.

The UAB Women’s Center and the UAB Women’s Studies Program present the awards annually during Women’s History Month. The awards are designed to honor female members of the UAB and Birmingham communities who have mentored or served other women, taken a courageous stance or overcome adversity. Candidates for the award are nominated by Birmingham residents and selected by a committee of university women.

The 2008 winners are faculty member Belita Faki, student Valerie Gribben, staff member Beth Hosmer and Outstanding Woman in the Community Sandra Schoenhofen. Pam Bounelis, Ph.D., will receive the Susan D. Marchase Outstanding Woman Administrator Award.

Faki is a Ph.D. candidate and an instructor of Spanish and Italian in the UAB Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures. “Courageous, a great teacher, a caring and committed person, a mentor and a great role model” is just one of testimonials for Faki’s nomination. She helped create a student-abroad program to Florence, Italy, in conjunction with the Department of Art and the School of

Gribben, a senior, created a volunteer organization called Healing Words that has trained about 150 volunteers to read to patients at area hospitals and nursing homes. Gribben also is a novelist, and her book, Fairy tale, was published by Junebug Books in 2003. In addition, she was named to the USA Today 2007 All-USA College Academic First Team as one of the top 20 students in the United States. Gribben is an English major with a minor in chemistry. She plans to attend medical school after graduation.

Hosmer is at a gynecology nurse at UAB Highland’s and one of the founders of the CanSurvive GYN Cancer Support Group for women battling ovarian cancer. The group promotes awareness and provides patient support regarding ovarian and other gynecological cancers. Hosmer is credited for her tireless efforts to serve patients battling cancer, offering prayers and support, and visiting with patients and their family members.

Bounelis is assistant dean for biomedical research in the School of Medicine. She is cited for her work in research and facilities planning and obtaining extramural funding to support the initiatives. One nomination letter said, “She has been a creative contributor to each of her responsibilities, and these contributions have been essential to the success of the School of Medicine and Joint Health Sciences.”

Schoenhofen has been credited for mentoring other women and for her work with organizations such as Greater Birmingham Ministries, which she helped establish. She also has worked with the organization Mothers Against Violence, offering support to mothers who have lost their children to violence.

Obituaries

Assistant Professor Karin A. McCloskey (Pediatrics), Nov. 20, 2007.

Retired Program Specialist I Bertha K. Branham (UAB Special Studies), Feb. 11.

Retired Professor Theodore I. Koulourides (Denistry), Feb. 16.

Behavioral study of cognitive function: people age 40-80 needed to participate in behavioral study to explore the effects of diet and meditation on the brain. For more information call 205-934-9862. Compensated. $500.

Men (50 & older) and women (80 & older) with diabetes: You may qualify for a research study of people at risk for heart attack or stroke. If you have any of the following: heart disease, cholesterol problems — high “bad” cholesterol and/or low “good” cholesterol, heart attack before age 60, or smoked cigarettes within the last year. You may be eligible to participate in a study to help test these conditions. L-877-IBD-DOCS.

Healthy adults age 19-65 needed for Lichstein study: Investigators are studying the effect of the commonly used local anesthetic lidocaine, on normal sensation and pain. The study will involve a 30 minute visit to the health care center, Lichstein, or Licheneld, where they will be given a dose of lidocaine. Debbie Owen 2-5044.

People with ulcerative colitis or crohn’s disease needed: If you have been diagnosed with either of these, you may qualify to participate in a study to explore the effects of diet and medication on compensation may be provided. Miriam 5-425-0117.

Healthy adults age 19-65 needed for Lichstein study: Investigators are studying the effect of the commonly used local anesthetic lidocaine, on normal sensation and pain. The study will involve a 30 minute visit to the health care center, Lichstein, or Licheneld, where they will be given a dose of lidocaine. Debbie Owen 2-5044.

Healthy adults age 19-65 with 12 years of education or less needed to participate in a study to explore the effects of diet, Pencil and paper testing, 3 visits over the course of 1 year. Compensation. Miriam 5-8217.

Right-handed healthy volunteers and persons with heart disease needed: People with atherosclerotic plaque who are age 19-65 needed for a research study to map brain activity while performing fine motor activities. The study procedures include a clinical interview, computer- administered cognitive tasks, ultrasound imaging, and a functional MRI scan. Study duration is 24 months. Compensation: $27,000.

Adults age 19 to 64 with insomnia are needed for a research study of an investigational new drug for insomnia. Participants will receive at no cost, study related medical exams, laboratory tests and ECG at no cost. Receive lung function test at no cost. Compensated. 4-9281.

Do you have blood pressure problems? Are you age 19-75? You may participate in a research study that involves measuring the safety and effectiveness of a new investigational medication. Two visits required. Eligible study participants will receive study medication, blood pressure checks, physical exam, laboratory test, and no travel compensation. Study duration is 1 year. Compensation. 9-4112.

Do you have high blood pressure? Are you age 19-40? Are you 6 months-3 yrs old? Are you an African American women? People age 19 or older may be eligible for a research study of an investigational drug. Study duration is 24 months. Compensation: $27,000.

Adults age 19-60 who routinely go to bed late or have difficulty falling asleep or staying asleep are being offered for a sleep study at the UAB Sleep Research Center. The study is a 7 day sleep log that includes a sleep diary, paper and pencil testing, 3 visits over the course of 1 year to evaluate sleep characteristics. Compensation $900.

Adults age 60-75 needed for a strength exercise training study to improve muscle function and mobility. Subjects will exer- cise 2-3 days/week for 57 weeks and undergo assessments for strength, balance, fatigue, and bone density, blood and muscle analyses, and diet analysis. 996-7933.

Do you have high blood pressure? Are you age 35-65 and on more than 2 blood pressure medications? Eligible participants will receive up to $100 compensation for participating in a medical procedure or you pre-diabetes, you may qualify for a research study using an investigational new drug. Study duration is 24 months. Compensation: $27,000.

Smokers & ex-smokers are you 40 years of age? Do you have trouble breathing or have a persistent cough? You may participate in a study to educate women with osteoporosis needed. Postmenopausal women age 45-89 with osteoporosis needed to study the risk of fracture in older women. You may be eligible to participate in a longer paid interview. To take the anonymous survey and may be invited to par- ticipate in a study on bone health in women with osteoporosis. You will be eligible to receive $200 upon completion of the survey. Study duration is 12 months. Compensation. Rakesha 4-9893.

Have you been diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis? People age 19 or older may be eli- gible to participate in a study to evaluate the effects of a new investigational disease modifying agent and medications at no cost. Compensated. Lynn 4-1174.

Do you or someone you know have cystic fibrosis? The UAB Center for Nursing Research has developed a UAB Health System-based approach to care that patients experienced by patients with CF. Visit the site for details or contact the study coordinator to take part in a new on-line research study. Patrick hubbard@cf.uab.edu.

Healthy men & women older than 14 years old may be good physical health & diagnosed with mild-mod- erate Alzheimer’s disease needed to study the disease progression and treatment of the disease. Three visits required. Call 800-995-6662 to participate in a study on transportation impacts on people with epilepsy.

Do you have sleep apnea or chronic insomnia? You may be eligible to participate in a study to help test the use of an CPAP device. Visit the site for details or contact the study coordinator to take part in a new on-line research study. Patrick hubbard@cf.uab.edu.

Do you have a woman age 40 & older who has had a hysterectomy? You may be eligible to participate in a 14-week research study to determine the safety, effectiveness, and tolerability of an investigational drug. Diabetes screening, supplies, lab exams, and physical exam at no cost. Compensation: $30. Dr. Park 996-1448.

Do you have high blood pressure? Are you age 19-75? You may participate in a research study that involves measuring the safety and effectiveness of a new investigational new drug for hypertension. Receive at no cost: physical and exercise exam, lab exams, and study medication at no cost. Compensation. 4-3987.
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Viva Health Starlight Gala

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