City fit, trim due in part to UAB’s Good Health Program

Programs administered by the UAB School of Nursing have contributed to the City of Birmingham’s recognition as one of America’s healthiest companies by the Wellness Councils of America (WELCOA).

Birmingham’s Working Well initiative, which incorporates the School of Nursing-administered Good Health Program, received WELCOA’s prestigious Gold Award for its rigorous health-promotion standards and its commitment to improving the health and well-being of employees.

Birmingham designed the 15-year-old Working Well initiative as an umbrella system that includes the university-administered Good Health Program, Medical Services Unit and Back School.

Data collected by the School of Nursing quantifies the programs’ success—and reveals the reasons Birmingham was selected for the award.

Michael Weaver, Ph.D., UAB School of Nursing professor and principal investigator of the Good Health Program, says the recent progress report presented to the city shows excellent progress in several key areas. Examples include:

- Individual and group counseling with a registered dietitian: Workers who took advantage of this program reported an average weight loss of 3.8 pounds within one to two months after the counseling began.
- The Active Plus program: This program is an intense exercise and nutrition program for employees with diabetes. Employees in this program reported an average loss of 7.5 pounds and lowered their systolic and diastolic blood pressure. They also reduced their total cholesterol by 10 units and increased their HDL (good) cholesterol by 5.5 units. All of this occurred within 15 weeks.
- The Eat Smart group nutrition class: Employees in this class had an average weight loss of nine pounds and a one-half inch waist-circumference reduction.

“These results are encouraging, given the difficulty that individuals have even to maintain their weight,” Weaver says.

Ann Thompson, director of Office Personnel for the city, says the health benefits of the program for the city’s employees who participate are noticeable.

“These lifestyle changes ultimately result in fewer doctor visits, lower costs for prescription medications and, of course, a reduction in health-care costs,” Thompson says.

“Our Wellness Program definitely worked!” Weaver concludes.
State ethics filing deadline set for April; form on BlazerNET

UAB employees who meet certain criteria are required to file their annual economic interests form with the Alabama Ethics Commission by April 30 — and, this year, the form is being made available by UAB through BlazerNET instead of being mailed to employees’ homes.

Faculty and staff who meet a certain salary threshold, or whose job includes management of state funds in certain capacities, must file a Statement of Economic Interests form on an annual basis, said UAB Chief Human Resources Officer Cheryl E.H. Locke. Such employees are receiving formal notice of this requirement in a letter sent to their home address; the letter instructs employees to log on to BlazerNET to download and print the form. Once in BlazerNET (blazer.net.uab.edu), employees should click on the Employee Resources tab and click on the link in the Human Resource Management channel.

Once the form is completed, employees should return it to the State of Alabama Ethics Commission, P.O. Box 302300, Montgomery AL 36130-2300.

“This filing is one part of the Ethics Commission’s efforts to ensure compliance with state conflict of interest laws and proper handling of taxpayer dollars,” Locke explained.

The filing is mandated by the Code of Alabama, 1975 Section 36-25-14. Summarized, the requirements as they apply to UAB state that:

• Persons whose base rate of pay at any time dur- ing calendar year 2005 would have annualized to $50,000 or greater are required to file, even if employment during the year was for a period as short as one day.

• Persons under that salary threshold whose job includes authority for procurement or investments are required to file.

• The Ethics Commission has exerpted persons whose pay and benefits come primarily from UAB Hospital from the filing requirement.

Further description of commission and its requirements can be found online at www.ethics.alalinc.net.

Artist Robert Irwin is 2007 Visiting Scholar

Artist Robert Irwin has been awarded the 2007 Ireland Distinguished Visiting Scholar Prize at UAB. Irwin will lecture on “The Nature of Abstraction” Wednesday, March 28 at 5:30 p.m. in the Alys Stephens Center Jemison Concert Hall. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Irwin also will meet with honors program and art students and UAB Department of Art & Art History faculty.

Irwin is a pivotal artist in American art, says James Alexander, professor of art at UAB. The scope of his work includes serious explorations into the disciplines of visual perception, human psychology, architectural space and philosophy. His work as an artist and theoretician is a demonstration of the symbiotic relationship between the arts and sciences in the search for newer understanding of the human condition.

“For more than three decades Irwin has explored the boundaries of what is art and has challenged his view- ers to redefine their role as passive observers to a more active and inquisitive role,” Alexander says. “Irwin’s works are not merely to be viewed but rather to be experienced and constructed through a process of observation and recall.”

Auction is March 28

A public auction will be held Wednesday, March 28 at 9 a.m. to dispose of surplus used equipment in the University Stores Warehouse, 1405 2nd Ave. S.

A special chair and office furniture sale will take place Friday, April 6 at 9 a.m.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. on the day of the sale. Items available for sale may be viewed Monday-Tuesday, March 26-27 from 8:30 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 4:30 p.m. each day.

The warehouse will be closed to the campus March 21-23 in preparation for the auction. For additional information, contact Equipment Accounting at 934-3344 or 934-5144.

Call for apps: CIFA

The UAB General Clinical Research Center (GCRC) has established a training program for senior fellows committed to careers in clinical investigation. Recipients of this Clinical Investigator Fellowship Award (CIFA) will receive two years of mentored training in clinical investigation. During the award period, trainees will develop and submit an application to the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Through the NIH K30 program, awardees may elect to participate in either the formal didactic training offered from the Clinical Research Training Program (CRTP) or the Master’s of Science in Public Health (MSPh) Award recipients will need 75 percent protected time to conduct clinical research, with $40,000 per year per fellow provided through HS-GEF and pharmaceutical company funding and the remainder provided by the fellow’s department or division.

Trainees will be selected through a competitive review process, depending on the quality of applications submitted and availability of funds. Candidates are asked to submit a letter of applica- tion, a copy of the candidate’s curriculum vitae, support and letters from immediate supervisor, department/division head and proposed mentor to Larry W. Moreland, M.D., program director, no later than April 12. Direct questions to Moreland at larry.moreland@ccu.uab.edu or 934-4852.

Auction is March 28

Detailed information regarding the CIFA program may be accessed through the Pittman GCRC Web site at www.gcrc.uab.edu.

Room tech demos to begin March 20

The proposed new team rooms for student learning and collaboration are on display by Educational Technology Services in Education Building Room 238. These areas are designed to meet the technological and collaborative needs of informal study groups and projects, and students and faculty are encouraged to visit, explore and comment on hardware, software, furniture, configuration and other aspects.

The rooms are open for evaluation during the regular business hours. Someone will be present to demonstrate the technology and answer questions at these times:

• Tuesday, March 20, 9-11 a.m.
• Thursday, March 22, 2-4 p.m.
• Thursday, March 22, 9-11 a.m.
• Thursday, March 29, 2-4 p.m.
• Tuesday, April 10, 9-11 a.m.
• Thursday, April 12, 2-4 p.m.
Civitan-Sparks Clinics celebrating 40 years of service

A lan Percy, M.D., pauses for a minute to think about which story he wants to tell to illustrate how the Civitan-Sparks Clinics has made a difference in someone’s life. “It’s not easy for him to come up with just one.”

“There are just so many running through my head,” he says.

Finally he settles on one about a young girl who was brought to a primary-care clinic for under-served populations that was set up by the Civitan-Sparks Clinics. The clinical program initially was developed to help support the many needs families may face when a child is impacted by developmental disabilities, including those sometimes associated with prenatal substance exposure.

Percy and his team first identified the girl as someone they would like to examine at Children’s Hospital, but were never able to make contact. At that time the girl’s family was told she had Huntington’s disease, a progressive neurodegenerative disorder.

By chance the girl and her caregiver came to the Civitan-Sparks Clinics several years later. Percy’s team was able to tell the girl’s caregiver that the disorder she had was benign familial chorea, which is treatable, unlike Huntington’s disease.

“The was a great moment being able to tell the girl’s grand mother that she didn’t have the debilitating disease,” Percy says. “We were able to correct a misconception and provide the grandmother with somewhat of a brighter outlook for the child.”

The Civitan-Sparks Clinics is celebrating stories like this, which highlight its success in research and its commitment to patients and community, with its 40th anniversary celebration and the Simpson-Ramsey Lectureship Monday, March 19. The events will take place in the Children’s Harbor Bradley Center from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

The day will feature new research by keynote speaker Darrey De Vivo, M.D., professor of neurology and pediatrics and director emeritus of the pediatric neurology service at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City. Other participants in the program include Stephen Cederbaum, M.D., chief of genetics at UCLA, and UAB Genetics Professor Larry Rutledge, M.D. They will discuss topics related to newborn screening. A panel discussion featuring consumers and health professionals will round out the day’s events. For a complete schedule, visit www.csc.uab.edu and click on the Simpson-Ramsey Lectureship link.

Serving Alabama and beyond

The Civitan-Sparks Clinics has been in existence in some form since 1962, when it was known as the Diagnostic Clinic. The interdisciplinary clinics offer comprehensive diagnosis, evaluation and treatment of the needs of children and adults with mental retardation and developmental disabilities. The clinics serve all of Alabama, providing a full-service clinical program, including primary health and dental care. The clinics also are well-respected for the needs of children and adults with mental retardation and developmental disabilities.

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“Research, education, service

Many of the Civitan-Sparks Clinics’ services and training programs are part of the federally funded University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education Research and Service that has served the people of Alabama for 40 years.

“Research, education and service are our priority areas,” Dixon says. There are a number of research projects under way, Dixon says, including one on autism in which they are training children to better understand facial emotions; the lack of such understanding is a deficit in Autism Spectrum Disorders. The training involves the use of computer games featuring avatars. “We believe this will help the children be more socially aware of emotions and their meanings,” says Dixon. Harris says the celebration is a great time for the clinics to thank those who have been a part of the important work generated through their operation—and to look forward to the future.

“It’s a time of celebrating those accomplishments and thanking the community for its continued support of what we do,” she says. “It acknowledges that we’re all working in this together, and it’s a way of expressing our appreciation for entrusting us with these responsibilities.”

GCL candidates to offer visions

Four candidates for the Global and Community Leadership Honors Program director position will be setting out their visions for the program in presentations over the next few weeks. The presentations will be held in the Administration Building Penhouse Conference Room 1.

The candidates are Robert Corley, Ph.D., director of the Center for Urban Affairs at UAB; Trudier Harris, Ph.D., associate chair of English at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Sheri Spaine Long, Ph.D., chair of Foreign Languages at UAB; and Bradley Newcomer, Ph.D., associate professor and SHP Honors Program coordinator of the Department of Diagnostic and Therapeutic Sciences at UAB.

Times and dates are:

• Corley: Thursday, March 22, 8 a.m.
• Newcomer: Tuesday, March 27, 8 a.m.
• Long: Tuesday, March 27, 9 a.m.
• Harris: Monday, April 2, 7 p.m.

Everyone interested is invited to attend. Please RSVP to Lori Miles at lmliles@uab.edu. If you have any questions, please call 996-7190.

International Research Center and consumer coordinator for the Civitan-Sparks Clinics.

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FOLLOW A TEAM OF UAB BIOLOGISTS led by Charles Amiel, Ph.D., and James McClintock, Ph.D., as they study predator-prey dynamics in the Antarctic marine community, exploring the undersea forests to collect macroalgae, sponges and more.

Goal: The Antarctica Web site is a way for the UAB community and the public at large to interact with researchers while they are exploring the mysteries of Antarctica. The UAB team is receiving correspondence from home and around the world.

Newest features: In addition to blogs, the Web site features other media sharing capabilities, including videos, photos and other interactive media.

Web Communications, a part of the UAB Office of Public Relations & Marketing, provides a full range of Web development and consulting services to the UAB community, from strategic planning and graphic design to content development and programming. Visit our Web site at www.uab.edu/webcenter to learn more about what we can do for you.
Resource Center to aid returning soldiers, families

If you know someone who has fought in a war zone, you've probably heard stories. There's the one about the man who, after returning to civilian life, saw the helicopter flying over his barn and shoved his wife to the ground, as he was trained to do while on active military duty. Or the former soldier – an electrician – who worked frantically to restore power to the night the lights went out, insisting his family stay down on the ground the entire time.

The time, the place and the reaction may vary with the date and location of the conflict, but there is an everman quality to each tale. Rick Crow, a general mechanic in Campus Maintenance, has his own story.

“My moment was at a Birmingham Barons baseball game the spring after coming back from Afghanistan,” Crow says. “The game was over and we were leaving, and they shot the fireworks off…”

It’s tough for Crow to finish his thought. Crow, who was in Afghanistan for 11 months and 23 days from 2004-05 as part of an Army National Guard unit, says his group was fortunate: All 200-plus members that left for duty together returned home alive. During his time in Afghanistan, he says, his unit may have come under attack 25 times, usually with long-range shells.

“It’s the same noise,” Crow says of the fireworks, pointing out the chill bumps that form on his arms as he remembers. “You just don’t always hear the blast before it goes off.”

Transition difficult

Many at UAB have been affected by the increased deployment of troops to the Middle East. Since the terrorist attacks of 2001, Alabama has sent more Army National Guard troops to Iraq and Afghanistan than any other state except Texas, according to figures from the National Guard Bureau.

As of December 2006, nearly 6,300 Alabama Army Guard soldiers had been deployed in and around Iraq since Sept. 11, 2001; another 787 Alabama soldiers have been deployed in Afghanistan, for a total exceeding 7,000. Many of those deployed are UAB employees or the family members and loved ones of UAB employees.

Grimes’ 20th Special Forces Group headquarters in Birmingham was one of the first units deployed to Afghanistan following the 9/11 attacks. They worked with Coalition partners and the Northern Alliance to capture, secure and maintain strategic assets all across Afghanistan like the airbase in the city of Bagram, which still is the main base of special operations in the country for Coalition forces today.

Crow’s unit worked in the mountains of Afghanistan some 6,000 feet above sea level and three hours away from Bagram. Part of their mission was to help the struggling economy of the region by offering money to locals to build schools. They also provided medical treatment for Afghans and served as goodwill ambassadors.

Both credit UAB for assisting in their transition to their civilian lives and jobs.

“UAB was just so good to me,” Crow says. “I had people here in the Administration Building sending me care packages and e-mailing me while I was there, just checking in. And then, to make it possible for me to come back here in the same job I had before . . . words can’t tell you how grateful I am for UAB’s support.”

Grimes, too, says UAB was supportive, and he praises the school for setting a responsible example to other employers.

“That treatment forged a bond between me and my civilian employer that will not easily be broken,” Grimes says. “I feel a strong kinship to UAB for the way I have been reintegrated and treated in a positive way. I wish other employers would follow UAB’s example.”

The Resource Center Employee Assistance Program provides counseling and a variety of services to UAB employees and their family members at no cost to participants. To learn more or register for this program or others, call 934-2281 or visit www.uab.edu/acp.

Money saver

Not only has the program helped many of the city’s employers adopt a healthier lifestyle, it’s saved them – and the city – money. The return on investment for the city, according to its figures, is that every $1 spent on the Good Health Program has saved $10, including an estimated $4 million annually.

In fact, Weaver says, the city’s numbers show, as a percentage, medical costs in fiscal year 2005 (41.7 percent of its benefits budget) are the same as 1985 (almost 40 percent).

“That’s pretty good, given the historical medical rate of inflation,” Weaver says. “There’s no way to say that all of that was due solely to the Good Health Program, but it’s an example that the program was a part of helping to moderate those increases.”

Rick Crow, a general mechanic in Campus Maintenance, is one of many in the UAB community to have served in the military since 9/11. Crow served in Afghanistan for less than a year and says there definitely is a transition period for soldiers once they return home. The Resource Center Employee Assistance Program hopes to help with that transition with a program on March 28. To register for the event, call 934-2281.

Regarding returning soldiers and their families, a recent survey of 3,475 veterans showed that 31 percent have depression, 23 percent have post-traumatic stress disorder and 11 percent have substance abuse problems. In fact, 18 percent of those who have post-traumatic stress disorder are likely to have suicidal thoughts.

“All of our employees who have answered the call to serve our nation at home or overseas is an investment I can applaud,” Grimes says. “It’s so easy to keep our focus on the battlefront that we take our eyes off the front; people who return or are evacuated to the rear and ultimately face the challenges of reintegrating back into their civilian lives.”

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Upcoming events

Perlman to headline Viva Starlight Gala
Violinist Itzhak Perlman will perform Saturday, March 31 at 7 p.m. during the Viva Health Starlight Gala in the Alys Stephens Center. The pre-performance cocktail reception will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Undeniably the reigning virtuoso of the violin, Perlman – who is beloved for his charm, humanity and talent – was granted a Kennedy Center Honor in 2003 celebrating his achievements and contributions to the cultural and educational life of the nation.

The Starlight Gala is an elegant evening of exceptional music, great food, drinks and celebration. Proceeds from the event support future programming for the Alys Stephens Center.

Two ticket packages are available: the Grand Gala Evening with cocktail reception and performance in the Alys Stephens Center. For more info, call Fran 967-0303.

Tuesday, March 20
1 pm Neurobiology. Androgen receptor polyglutamine toxicity in SBMA motor neuron degeneration. Dr Albert La Spada (Director, Center for Neurogenetics & Neurotherapeutics, University of Washington, Seattle); SHEL-1015.

Friday, March 23
Noon Friday Noon Conference. Senior talks.
Satish Shanbhag and Amanda Salanitro; WP-E.

Noon Vascular Biology/Hypertension Program. Conduction artery function in hypertension. Dr Michel Safar (Prof, Centre de Diagnostic Hospitalier Dieu, Paris, France); BBIB-170.

Noon UAB Center for Aging/GRECC Scientific Seminar. The Alabama long-term needs assessment study: A comparison of younger (55-64) and older (65+) adults, Prof Patricia Sawyer (Gerontology, Geriatrics & Palliative Care); VA Aud.

Final Defenses

Monday, March 19
9 am Biomedical Engineering. Competition in multilateral vision is attribute-specific. Candidate Jon Grossmann, WOBB-1st fl.

10 am Biology. Relative stability of clones over two decades and the role of mumps in preventing resistance and evolution of streptococcus pneumoniae. Candidate Dorothy Broughton Payne; CH-274.

1:30 pm Education Curriculum & Instruction. Mirror; Mirror; Mirror. A phenomenological study of the role of reflection in teaching. Candidate Amy Ferguson Morgan; Sterne Library-Director’s Conf Rm.

Tuesday, March 20
Noon Pharmacology & Toxicology. Mutations in the carbonyl-terminus of bile acid CoA:Acyltrans- ferase alter protein activity, enzyme stability and the interaction with Pex5, Candidate Nathan Styles; VH-C.

Thursday, March 22

Friday, March 23
1 pm Neurobiology. Molecular determinants of picrotoxin inhibition, Candidate Brian Erkkila; SHEL-1015.

Meetings

Monday, March 19
5:25 pm Power Yoga. UAB Marshall Conference Center. For more info, call Fran 967-0303.

Tuesday, March 20
10 am International Women’s Group. Smolian Int’l House. 4-1205/awowens@uab.edu.

UAB Resource Center Wellness Program. Stress management through meditation; The Resource Center. Call 4-2281 for more info or visit www.uab.edu/ural.

4:30 pm Spanish conversation table; Commons on the Green dining room (look for the Spanish fan).

Wednesday, March 21
10 am Conversational English classes, levels 1-4; Smolian Int’l House. 4-1205/awowens@uab.edu.

UAB French conversation table; Commons on the Green cafeteria (look for the French flag). Come to speak French and make new friends! For more info, Catherine daniellou@uab.edu.

5:25 pm Power Yoga; UAB Marshall Conference Center. For more info, call Fran 967-0303.

Thursday, March 22
12:10 pm UAB Resource Center. Tal CN- Stress management through movement; The Resource Center. Call 4-2281 for more info or visit www.uab.edu/ural.

5:15 pm Beginning Chinese class. Smolian Int’l House. 4-1205/awowens@uab.edu.

6:30 pm SMART recovery group meetings; not a 12-step or religious program. Any addiction or habit can be helped. Southside Baptist Church. Call WL Fulcher 870-775-9338.

7 pm Conversational English classes, levels 1-4; Smolian Int’l House. 4-1205/awowens@uab.edu.

8 pm Stammtisch conversation table, for anyone who speaks German. Giuseppe’s Cafe, 925 6th Street South. For info, agestl@uab.edu.

Friday, March 23
7 am Falun Dafa exercises, an ancient Chinese exercise that brings harmony & health. UAB Mini Park, 4-8295.

Religion

Tuesday, March 20
Noon Medical Center Christian Fellowship Meeting. WP-B. All welcome. Mark 647-5177 or Blair 951-3826.

Wednesday, March 21
Noon Employee-led Bible study: Interfaith Chapel-West Parish. 12:15 pm Latter-day Saints Student Association. Scripture study and discussion; HUG-413. All welcome. For more info, Andrew 822-9338.

7 pm Catholic mass; St Stephen Church, 1515 S 12th Ave. 933-2500.

Sunday, March 25
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, Varadna Prabhu 383-9805. 1501 15th Ave S, Apt 20, Bham.

Exhibits

Mervyn H. Sterne Library. Black Innovators. Show runs through March 31. Library hours: 7:30 am-11 pm Mon-Thurs; 7:30 am-7 pm Fri; 9 am-5 pm Sat; 1-11 pm Sun.

The Samuel Ullman Museum. Home of prominent Birmingham civic leader and poet. Open by appointment only, 4-3328.

Visual Arts Gallery. Works by Jason Varone. The exhibition features works from several series, each of which explore the dissemination of information and the relationships between terminology, cognition and creation. Using materials recombinated from streaming news footage, documentary films and topographical maps, Varone creates large-scale digital prints and works that exist on the margins of time-based media. 900 13th St. S. Admission is free. Call 4-9815.
AsC presents Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy

The AsC presents Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy, with artistic director Neil Goldberg, for three shows, at 8 p.m. Friday, March 23 and at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, March 24. Kid-friendly tickets are $10. The AsC Social Club will host an ice cream social at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 24. For information on the AsC Social Club call 934-0862.

Cirque Dreams has been called a “circus to blow your circuits” and “a mind-tingling spectacle.” USA Today called it, “Dazzling, a fantastic tale in an enchanted jungle.” This event is an exhilarating journey the entire family can experience together. The international cast of graceful aerialists, spine-bending contortionists and vine-swinging characters bring this jungle dream to life with striking visual effects. Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy is a nonstop, action-packed two-hour adventure performed in two acts that stretches the imagination beyond the realm of possibilities and brings seemingly impossible feats to the stage. Live music, dazzling feats and stunning special effects combine for a show that’s hard to forget.

Neil Goldberg’s Cirque Productions is the first American company to produce cirque-style shows, pioneering the New York Times to call today’s leading “theatrical impresario and circus maestro.”

Blazer sports

March 20: UAB Softball vs. Mississippi State, 6 p.m., George Ward Park
March 20: UAB Baseball vs. Troy, 7 p.m., Young Memorial Field
March 21: UAB Baseball vs. Alabama A&M, 7 p.m., Young Memorial Field
March 22: UAB Softball vs. North Florida, 4 & 6 p.m., George Ward Park
March 23: UAB Men’s Tennis vs. Memphis, 1:30 p.m.
March 23: UAB Baseball vs. UNC-Asheville, 7 p.m., Young Memorial Field
March 24: UAB Softball vs. UTEP, 1 & 3 p.m., George Ward Park
March 24: UAB Baseball vs. UNC-Asheville, 2 p.m., Young Memorial Field
March 25: UAB Softball vs. UTEP, 1 p.m., George Ward Park
March 25: UAB Baseball vs. UNC-Asheville, 1 p.m., Young Memorial Field

Cord enrolling students for Summer Science programs

Members of the UAB community are invited to enroll their children in the annual Summer Science programs conducted by the Center for Community Outreach and Development (CORD); the deadline for enrollment is April 1.

Summer Science camps are available for children currently enrolled in the fifth through eighth grades. Students in grades 9-12 can enroll in the Summer Science Institute.

Since its inception in 1999, the Summer Science Institute has drawn in some of the best students in the area, with total enrollment nearing 150 students last year. Now in its third year, the Summer Science Camps enrolled more than 300 middle school students last year.

These programs empower students in the Birmingham area to excel in science and technology, says CORD director and professor of cell biology Michael Wyss, Ph.D.

“We provide outstanding hands-on experiences and in-depth understanding of the content, tools and processes of science and thus provide children with a foundation for and engagement in a lifetime of science learning and success,” says Wyss. “This will facilitate learning in future science, technology and math classes.”

The courses use state-of-the-art scientific tools to teach the students to design, conduct, analyze and present their own science studies. The sessions also develop computer skills. All sessions are in small group formats with a student-teacher ratio of less than 5 to 1.

The camps are led by UAB faculty and postdoctoral fellows, with the assistance of UAB graduate and undergraduate honors students and area teachers.

The weeklong classes will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday from June 18 through August 3.

The Summer Science Institute, which also runs from June 18 through August 3, consists of two-week long courses (Fundamental and Advanced Molecular and Cellular Biology) and, for high-school juniors and seniors, an eight-week-long research internship in a UAB scientist's laboratory.

To enroll your child, call CORD at 934-5171 or visit www.uab.edu/cord. Help your child discover the joy of science this summer.

Post-modern Japanese dance, lecture is April 5

The UAB Department of Art & Art History will present a free butoh performance and lecture by master butoh artist Deborah Mauldin Thursday, April 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the UAB Mary Culp Hulse Recital Hall.

Butoh has been called shocking, provocative, spiritual, erotic, grotesque, violent, cosmic, nihilistic and cathartic. Born of the 1950s avant-garde and Fluxus movements, butoh was a resistance to the general establishment and to a rigid social system. Not every one considers it a dance form, Cummings said.

Admission is free and open to the public. The event is part of the Jemison Lecture Series.
Harlan M. Sands, J.D., has been named the new associate provost for Administration and Finance at UAB. His appointment is effective June 1. Sands now is the associate vice president for research and executive director of the Florida International University Applied Research Center.

“Harlan’s diverse experience associated with the operation and financial management of complex entities will be invaluable in his new role overseeing the administrative and financial operations associated with the academic and research activities at UAB,” said Provost Eli Capilouto, M.D. M.D. “What impressed me the most is that his interest in this position was driven mainly by his passion and commitment to our educational and research mission and the critical role that service by the provost’s office in meeting these goals.”

At Florida International University, Sands solidified and expanded the research center’s relationship with the U.S. government in developing, testing and evaluating environmental cleanup technologies as well as expanding the center’s role in addressing emerging environmental and energy-technology challenges in Latin and South America.

Sands has been at FIU since 1999 as a lecturer in the department of criminal justice, assistant dean of finance and budget for the College of Health and Urban Affairs and later associate dean. He led the Hemispheric Center for Environmental Technology for two years before assuming his current position. Sands’ experience also includes more than 10 years on active duty with the U.S. Navy, including a stint as a White House presidential aide, and three years as an assistant public defender in Miami.

Sands earned his bachelor of science degree in economics from the Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania. He then earned a master’s degree in finance from George Washington University and a juris doctorate from George Mason University.

“The opportunity to join a nationally and internationally recognized research university and a tremendous honor,” Sands said. “I look forward to working with the UAB leadership team as it continues to advance the university’s educational and research agendas and build upon UAB’s successes.”

UAB has retained the title for Richard B. Marchase, Ph.D., to vice president for research and economic development. Marchase previously held the title vice president for research for the new title more clearly reflects the nature of his role within the university and the community as UAB’s point of contact for economic development activities, said UAB President Carol Garrison.

“UAB places a very strong emphasis on research activities that develop new technologies and marketable discoveries that will change Alabamians’ lives for the better,” Garrison said. “In his capacity as vice president for research, Dick has played a key role in helping us expand our efforts in research and technology transfer, particularly through his oversight of the UAB Research Foundation.

“Thanks to his efforts and those of his team, we have increased our emphasis on attracting additional federal funds in these areas, and on growing new jobs,” she said. “We are proud of the pivotal role that UAB played in helping to transform Birmingham from a steel-based manufacturing center into a thriving, knowledge-based economy.”

Marchase’s role as the university’s primary external point of contact for research and economic development, he coordinates UAB’s efforts with such groups as the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama, Birmingham Metropolitan Development Board, Alabama Development Office and others. He also is charged with facilitating strong relationships and collaborative efforts with research groups and other universities within the state.

Velinda Block is new chief nursing officer for UAB Hospital

Velinda J. Block joined UAB Hospital as chief nursing officer March 5. Block, who has been vice president of patient-care services since 1997 at St. Louis Children’s Hospital, an affiliate of Washington University in St. Louis, began her career at the bedside as a staff nurse in the neonatal intensive-care unit at Athens Regional Medical Center. She has risen through the ranks of clinical and hospital administration at a number of institutions, including Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville and T.C. T. Children’s Hospital at Erlanger Medical Center in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Block has overseen numerous clinical departments, including nursing services, pharmacy, the emergency unit, transplant programs and patient-care information systems. Block also provided leadership leading to St. Louis Children’s Hospital achievement of Magnet Designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) in 2005.

“Velinda Block, during the past 23 years, has been active in clinical, research and administrative capacities, and she is highly regarded by her fellow practitioners and administrators,” Michael Waldrum, M.D., CEO of UAB Hospital. “We’re very pleased she has accepted this position.”

Block earned her bachelor’s degree from the Medical College of Georgia School of Nursing and her master’s from the Vanderbilt School of Nursing. She also is a certified in nursing administration by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau nursing honor society, the American Organization of Nurse Executives, American Nurses Association, and National Association of Children’s Hospitals and Related Institutions.

Her other professional contributions include publications in a number of peer-reviewed journals, including the Journal of Obstetric, Gynecologic and Neonatal Nursing and Journal of Nursing Administration.

DIVERSITY

CONTINUED from page 1

American faculty and EEO-1 level administrators:
• A requirement that all search committees for tenured or tenure-track faculty, to the extent practicable and educationally sound, have African-American representation.
• An agreement to send announcements of faculty and EEO-1 administrator level position searches to the UAB African-American Faculty and/or Staff Association with an invitation to identify possible recruits and for the next five years to provide the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) a list of faculty vacancies in the event that the SREB, if it so chooses, will notify graduates of the SREB Doctoral Studies Program of those vacancies.
• An agreement that, for the next five years, UAB will distribute annually to the SREB doctoral scholars list provided by Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE), to the extent one exists and ACHE distributes it, to vice presidents and deans, with a request that they attempt to contact the SREB Doctoral Fellows within applicable fields of study, and invite them to apply for positions at UAB that may be applicable to the SREB scholars’ field of study.
• An agreement to meet at least twice annually for the next five years with the elected leadership of the UAB African-American Faculty Association and African-American representatives from UAB’s staff to receive recommendations on best practices and policies for increasing diversity on the faculty and at the senior administrative levels of the institution and on the retention of such faculty and administrators. The purpose of this meeting will be to renew and exchange ideas and information about best practices.
• An agreement to attend, the next five years, a statewide meeting sponsored by the University of Alabama System for representatives of public bachelor degree-granting institutions, voluntarily to attend and discuss information about the recruitment and retention of African-American and other under-represented groups and to continue to identify effective and constitutionally permissible recruitment and retention practices.

UAB is a research university and academic health center that discovers, teaches and applies knowledge for the intellectual, cultural, social and economic benefits of Birmingham, the state and beyond.

Diversity is important to the accomplishment of this mission. Accordingly, UAB renews its commitment to diversity to fulfill its educational mission.

Sincerely,
Carol Z. Garrison
President, UAB

BENEVOLENT FUND

CONTINUED from page 1

them. Some common contributions include:
• one hour’s pay per month (just 12 out of 2,080 hours for a full-time employee)
• 1 percent of annual pay per month
• a continuous fixed amount each month
• a one-time payroll deduction or gift by check

“As UAB employees and citizens of Birmingham, ultimately this comes down to helping people around us who really need it,” says, David Precise, UAB Benevolent Fund Manager. “With my job in particular, I get the chance to look into the eyes of people who receive our assistance, and I am confident in saying that our employee donations make huge impact on people’s lives every single day.

“At UAB, being a HERO really makes a difference.”

The Benevolent Fund is UAB’s own system of supporting charitable, service and health agencies by providing a mechanism for UAB employees to help those in need in the Birmingham area. Decisions regarding the solicitation and distribution of funds are made by a council of UAB employees who are elected by fellow employees to serve two-year renewable terms or appointed by UAB administration to serve indefinitely.

For more information, visit www.uab.edu/benfund online or call 934-1381.
Children

Children's study: age 11-15 who currently wear glasses needed to compare the lens coatings on 2 pairs of glasses. Requires 4 visits during a 3-month period and a pair of glasses at no cost. March 4-6734.

Do you know who cares for your child's teeth? UAB Pediatric Dentistry is conducting a study on the reduction of back pain. FDA approval for a 5-year study evaluating the effectiveness of new toothpaste. Compensated $65/yr. Sara/Call UAB Dental Research 410-7306.

Children and adolescents age 6-17 with autism and severe behavioral problems, such as tantrums, aggression and self-injurious behavior, they may be eligible for a research study that is being conducted by the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. Lemeshia 4-2484. All study related procedures are performed at no cost. Compensated up to $150. You may be ineligible to participate in this study if you have been previously enrolled in a study that investigated the use of a non-rated medication at the national level.


Healthy girls 10-17 years old needed for a research study of an investigational herb for acne. You may have never had herpes (fleets, blisters or genital herpes), you may qualify. Compensation. Christie 996-4385.

Children's study: age 8-11 who currently wear glasses or less of milk of lime are needed to participate in a study evaluating the effects of diet and the use of lip-balm on dental decay and fluoride uptake. Compensated. Laura Lee 5-5664.

Healthy African-American, Caucasian, and Hispanic women ages 40-70 who currently take estrogen replacement therapy or hormone therapy. You may have a child age 5-11? Do you have an interest in preserving your reproductive health for life? If you said “yes” to both questions, call Loretta, 1-866-996-MOMS.

Healthy women 40-50 with 2 new investigational medications for hyperlipidemia. Compensated. Anita @ 4-1620 or Dana 996-4015.

Adults without HIV to participate in a study of cognitive and everyday skills. Volunteers must be healthy adults age 19-65. Compensation. Ronda 5-2179.

Men currently taking oral contraceptives who have heart problems or smoke you will not be eligible. Dr. Miriam 996-4874.

Healthy women 40-50 with mild arthritis. Compensated. 939-5273.

Healthy men and women who are self-identified Caucasians and African-Americans ages 40-70 who currently take estrogen replacement therapy. Compensated. Julie Callahan 4-0658.

Healthy African-American, Caucasian, and Hispanic women ages 45-60 who are self-identified Caucasians and African-Americans. You may be experiencing stress urinary incontinence. If you have been at least 1 year since your last menopause, in good physical health for 3 months, and looking for symptom relief after treatment with surgery or medication, you may be eligible to participate in the Atlantic study. Compensation. Joan 996-4998.

Teenage girls 14-19 and their mothers needed for focus group interviews. Group will meet for 2 sessions. Compensated. 996-2484.

Are you concerned about your child becoming more overweight? UAB Pediatric Optometry is interested in enrolling children in an observational study of researchers studying the progression of nearsightedness in children. If your child is 8-14 years old,征得同意 may qualify. Compensation. Dr. David Askenazi 996-9781.

Do you have a vasectomy? Your child may qualify for a research study at UAB Department of Dermatology and be eligible to receive investigational medicatio

Adults aged 19-65 who currently take oral contraceptives who have heart problems or smoke you will not be eligible. Dr. Miriam 996-4874.

Women ages 40-50 and 50 who are self-identified Caucasians and African-Americans. You may have a child age 5-11? Do you have an interest in preserving your reproductive health for life? If you said “yes” to both questions, call Loretta, 1-866-996-MOMS.

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For Sale

Appliances & Electronics

- Samsung DVD recorder in box, $75; Panasonic fax machine in box, $40; Singer sewing machine, $350; 32" Sony Bravia TV, $325; 22" Panasonic display, $205/obo; PlayStation 3, 6GB, brand new in original unpacked box, $700/bidi. Man 223-8480.


- Madella electronic breast pump, paid $300, asking $150. Pimpy 941-2490.

- Free plane manual: control column will need to move by the middle of the March. 487-8423.

- Ivory wedding gown, size 16, with shelf bust, $40; asking $55/obo. Kenmore stove, in good cond, 1.5-yr- old, $250/OBO. Debbie 558-0527.

- Hickok Smoke det., new and unfinished, and light finish, $75. Peter 4-4211.

- French doors, steel clad, open to exterior, internal grids, new, never, $475. Emily Aries 901-8916.

- Baby items: Eddie Bauer wood bassinet, $75 (originally $130); Fisher Price Ocean Wonders Aquarium Mobile, $75 (originally $125). New at items are 6 months old, from non-smoking Andy 6-2922.

- Ladies soccer pants & shorts, $5/ea, can Only be sold 930-8612.

- Black & Decker cordless drill, flash light, and circular saw, used, catalog as BD 14 L 18, $5 - 40. 476-8389.

- Pair of love birds, green, 6 mos-old, $45, inc cage. Lisa 529-0567.

- New set of 15” chrome wheel & w/aps and locks, 1 set of 10, 9700-Michelin tires, all for $80. Paul 4-9032/431-5341.

- Sports & Fitness

- 4-wheeler, bought Jul 7, rarely used, only weight, $80/obo. April 322-7997.

- 98’ Springfield travel trailer, 27’ long, Asking $3500/obo. E-mail photos. Peggy, 256-1922.

- Gulf Shores—gulf front, 2 BR/2 BA, bubble views, $260,000; 2 BR, 2 BA, Gulf shores, $209,000. Jerry 369-1102.

- Gulf Shores—condo, 2 BR/2 BA, 2 BR/2 BA, $265,000; 2 BR/2 BA, $299,000. Steve 4-7883/972-9223/colliers@uab.edu.

- Mountain Brook—2 BR/2 BA, $263,000; 3 BR/3 BA, $379,000. Jerry 369-1102.

- For Sale

- For Rent

- UAB Cardiology Center seats all types of urinary and fecal incontinence as well as pelvic organ prolapse and other pelvic floor conditions. To determine if you qualify and to better understand your condition and offer our best treatment and therapies. UAB Orthodontic Department provides services to adults, children and adolescents. Also see our new patients. Call Sandra Hampton, 4-4536.

- The South Central Health for Occupational and Environmental Medicine provides comprehensive health services to UAB employees. We are located at 930 S 25 St, Ste 151. We offer routine medical services to the building. We have an on-site pharmacy and offer patient education and health education facilities. To schedule an appointment with a physician (Dr Nishi C. Banar) at Dr T. Michael Harrington, or Dr Robert E. Kryl call 4-7900.

table's chairs for rent. 215-5867.

Spanish Tutor: Native Speaker UAB Graduate. Great rate! 985-9190. UAB tutoring offers Spanish tutoring at any level. Also experience teaching. Great rates. 985-7209.

Special event sitter: I will watch your chil-
dren/adult home for weddings, parties, vaca-
tions, or special events. I'm a master's in education and have 10 years of experience working with children in a pediatric dept. Part time and evenings/weekends. 985-6247.

Heating & air conditioning: licensed, bonded, and reliable commercial & residential services: reliable, affordable rates. 285-201-9470.

We will design & maintain your lawn gardening: Nice cameras, nice, clean place... Offer you, the pet lover, the opportunity to have timeless pet photo detailing, window tint, alarms, tires, rims, oil changes & a lot more. 323-7027.

Compare prices; create/edit existing resumes; translate both ways, all topics. Reasonable rates. 655-8588.

I have a master's in education and 25 years experience. I will housesit, PAL/LSW, housekeeper/babysitter. 908-6953. I will supply you with all your land-
scape needs. Shrubs, bark and mulch, etc. 99-206-21.


Computer repairs: Home and business computers/networks. Microsoft-certified technician to address your com-
puter needs. 903-497-0789.

Need help with the English language? UAB offers tutoring for international students at any level, $15/hr. Sharan 912-329-4061.

Want to learn more about nutritional supplements? Call Lawanda Buckhannon at 841-7087.

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Join thousands of employees by contributing to the UAB Benevolent Fund that supports:

- United Way of Central Alabama
- Employee Emergency Assistance Program
- Community Health Charities
- Independent Agencies

In 2006, the Benevolent Fund contributed to more than 140 non-profit organizations and assisted 150 UAB employees through the Emergency Assistance Program. Campaign 2007 kicks off on Thursday, March 15, and representatives in your area will offer you the chance to contribute. Giving to the Benevolent Fund is a personal decision, but one we hope you choose to make.

For more information, call the Benevolent Fund Office at 934-1581 or visit our Web site at www.uab.edu/benfund.