Department of Theatre gets its shot on national stage

When the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival selected UAB’s production of “In the Blood” to be performed as part of its annual festival April 14-20 in Washington, D.C., it was an affirmation of almost a decade’s worth of time and effort the department has invested in itself and its students.

UAB’s Department of Theatre has expanded steadily since 2000, growing to more than 90 majors from 35 while retaining and enhancing design and performance faculty. The quality of students has improved with the numbers, and the faculty always was considered a strength of the department by Chair Will York. These factors have enabled York to shape UAB’s reputation regionally as a place to be for excellence in the arts.

“The quality of our work has improved each year, and we’re beginning to see the fruits of that labor,” York says. “We’re receiving regional and national recognition, which is nice, and we hope to continue that trend.”

“In the Blood” represents one of the department’s biggest breakthroughs yet. The play, written by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Suzan-Lori Parks, was one of three chosen from 300 shows nationwide to be performed at the Kennedy Center. It marks the first time in 22 years an Alabama university will be represented at the national festival.

“We wanted to do an all-Greek philanthropy as a way to promote Greek unity and because we realize that we can accomplish more if we work together for a common goal,” says Danielle Wiggins, president of Alpha Omicron Pi. “We heard that Spain Rehab needed money to buy Wii game systems to use with their patients as a rehabilitation tool, and the Greek community wanted to be a part of helping them achieve that. Although

Greek chapters to raise money for Spain ‘Wii-hab’

There was a time — very recently, in fact — when parents told their children video games were good only for wasting time.

The Nintendo Wii is changing some of that thinking, and Spain Rehabilitation Center (SRC) intends to demonstrate that video games aren’t just for kids anymore. In fact, many physical therapists believe the Wii can help patients recuperate from injuries related to stroke, spinal cord and the brain.

UAB’s Greek organization chapters are raising money to help SRC purchase four Nintendo Wii systems and games for use in rehabilitation. The 16 UAB fraternities and sororities are holding a 24-hour Wii marathon Friday and Saturday April 4-5 at the Hill University Center to raise the $10,000 needed to purchase the systems, TVs and related accessories for the four SRC treatment areas.

“Truthfully, the Wii seems like the perfect tool for the rehab world,” says Robert Bruner, M.D., SRC medical director. “It’s almost like it was designed for it.”

UAB’s Greek community is excited about coming together to raise money to help the patients at the SRC.

“We wanted to do an all-Greek philanthropy as a way to promote Greek unity and because we realize that we can accomplish more if we work together for a common goal,” says Danielle Wiggins, president of Alpha Omicron Pi. “We heard that Spain Rehab needed money to buy Wii game systems to use with their patients as a rehabilitation tool, and the Greek community wanted to be a part of helping them achieve that. Although

CAST helps city’s parents, schools better communicate

Assistant Professor Tondra Loder-Jackson speaks with Birmingham City Schools’ parents about ways to improve their communication with school administrators. See the video at http://main.uab.edu/Sites/MediaRelations/articles/40773/.

A Birmingham City Schools graduate, Tondra Loder-Jackson, Ph.D., wants nothing more than to see Birmingham children experience success in the classroom. However, communication gaps between parents and educators — combined with school closing proposals and turmoil in the superintendent’s office — have created turbulence in recent years that may hinder it.
National economic outlook examined

Tom Cunningham, vice president and associate director of research for the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, will discuss the nation’s economic outlook during a special presentation Thursday, April 3 at 7 p.m. in Heritage Hall Lecture Room 102. Cunningham will examine the nation’s financial markets and how the current situation will affect the long-term economic outlook of the Southeast and the United States.

The event is free, but faculty are asked to register online at http://www.frbatlanta.org/atlantafed/econ_edu/calendar_of_events.cfm.

UAB Faculty Senate to meet April 8

The monthly meeting of the UAB Faculty Senate is at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 8 in the Administration Building Penthouse. The agenda includes special presentations by Academic Programs and Policy Director Dan Osborn, Ph.D., on the CAPP degree-planning tool, Assistant Vice President Stella Cocoris on the First-Year Experience Program, and an update on Faculty Affairs and Development by interim Associate Provost Claire Nel. A full agenda is on the Senate Web site, www.uab.edu/senate/home, under the pull-down menu for Meetings & Meetings.

Alumni offer discount for Art Garfunkel show

Art Garfunkel will perform at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 12 in the Alys Stephens Center. Tickets are $62, $52, and $28; student tickets are $10. Discounted tickets are available for UAB National Alumni Society members. Call 975-2787 or go to www.AlysStephens.org.

Blessed with what the New York Times described as a “beautiful countertenor,” Garfunkel has made an indelible mark on the music world as a solo artist and as half of the unrivaled duo Simon and Garfunkel. Garfunkel, who recently released his 12th solo album, continues to influence fans and fellow musicians worldwide.

His latest CD, “Some Enchanted Evening,” is a musical celebration of material from great 20th century songwriters Rodgers & Hammerstein, Irving Berlin, Harold Arlen, Antonio Carlos Jobim and George Gershwin.

The_resource_center, UAB's Employee Assistance Program, is committed to helping employees live healthier and happier lives; counseling and educational programs are available at no cost to employees and their family members.

Transplant recipients, donors to celebrate life

Organ- and tissue-transplant recipients celebrate with those who made their new lives possible at the annual Alabama Organ Center Celebration of Life Picnic, Saturday, April 19 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in the UAB Mini Park.

Alabama Organ Center and UAB transplant physicians, nurses, coordinators and other staff will host the several hundred people expected to attend. The picnic will include a short program hosted by donor family liaison Jane Golmeck, photo sessions and a brief ceremony at the Donor Tree that commemorates the lives of organ donors.

April is National Donate Life Month. It seeks to spotlight the need for more families to be aware of the critical, ongoing need for organ donation. More than 8,100 organ transplant recipients identify UAB as their transplant center. Visit www.uab.edu/loc to sign up for the Alabama Organ Donor Registry.

There are more than 3,000 people in Alabama waiting for a lifesaving organ.

“We urge families to talk about organ donation. It is an opportunity to give a heart, liver, lung, kidneys and other organs and also can help dozens through tissue donation,” said Dem Lalious, AOCR director. “One donor can give a second chance at life.”

For information on the picnic or organ donation, contact the Alabama Organ Center at 971-9200.

Intramural grants for health policy research

The Lister Hill Center for Health Policy is soliciting faculty applications for one-year grants of up to $30,000 to encourage and foster health policy research on the UAB campus. Examples of appropriate proposals are ones that examine the roles of financing, organization, technology or prevention, or which investigate the impact of systems of care on outcomes, utilization, cost and/or quality. The application deadline is Friday, April 18.

Application details for this opportunity are available at healthpolicy.uab.edu or from Lee Howard at leeh@uab.edu.

Faculty Development Grant Program accepting proposals

UAB is accepting proposals for its Faculty Development Grant Program (FDGP) through Monday, April 21 from all UAB full-time faculty within participating schools.

The one-year grants provide seed money for research, teaching and service-related projects that will enhance the effectiveness of individual faculty by providing funds for new efforts for which time or money generally is not available.

Applications are available from the Office of the Associate Provost for Faculty Development and Faculty Affairs, e-mail pdsco@uab.edu, call 934-0513 or pick one up in Administration Building Room 374.

A maximum of $5,000 may be requested per individual application and $10,000 for multidisciplinary collaborative proposals; the amount must be matched by schools and/or departments.

Funds will be available on Aug. 15 and must be expended by Aug. 14, 2009.

Spotlight shines on working relationships

Relationship problems often cause the most stress for individuals throughout their lifetime and are cited as one of the key reasons people miss work.

Have you ever wondered why some life-long relationships click, while others just tick away like a time bomb? Anita Neuer examines these in her presentation, “Succeeding in Love: How to make Relationships Bomb?” Neuer, a licensed professional counselor, will outline in detail what the working relationships of others look like.

Organizers say the program will affect the long-term economic outlook of the United States.
Converse, you say? Languages spoken at the Foreign Languages department’s conversation tables include Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian and Spanish. Check the UAB Reporter calendar on Page 6 for meeting times.

“Their kind of look at you at first like Who is she and why is she here?” Long says. “But the conversation tables are good for me, too. I know when my Spanish is getting a little rusty and needs some work. That’s what the table is designed to do. It’s language maintenance.”

A conversation table is a meeting time for students, outside class, to practice the language they are learning by conversing with others. The tables also provide the opportunity for fluent speakers to hone their skills. “Learning a language and continuing to speak it well is like riding a bike,” Long says. “You won’t remember how to speak it in 30 years without consistent practice.”

Laidback language learning

The department has seen a growing interest from students in these informal gatherings. Consequently, the diversity of languages spoken at the tables has expanded. Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian and Spanish all are offered. The tables meet in the Humanities Building, at the Commons on the Green, in the dorms and other places around campus.

“We used to offer only three tables, and now we’ve got about 10,” Long says. “It’s become a major job to get them all scheduled and staffed, but it speaks positively to the commitment to language learning on campus and in the community.”

Lamia Zayzafoon, Ph.D., who oversees the Arabic table, says participants come from a wide range of disciplines.

“We have students in medicine, business, anthropol- ogy, international studies and the Army, to name a few,” Zayzafoon says. “We also have heritage students — Arab Americans who want to learn the language of their grandparents.”

Zayzafoon says students who attend may read headlines of Arab newspapers or sing as a way of learning the language. Conversations focus largely on day-to-day life in an effort to set a foundation for learning one of the world’s most complicated languages.

“We talk about their major, their professions, their family, their hobbies,” Zayzafoon says. “It’s really an extension of what we are doing in Arabic 101 and 102, but it’s in a more relaxed setting.”

Foreign-language teachers, Fulbright teaching assistants, visiting students and community members moderate the conversations.

“There’s a Spanish table that meets in the dorms at night during the week that apparently has the largest attendance of all,” Long says. “Almost 25 people show up regularly to speak Spanish for an hour-and-a-half.”

“That’s invaluable to the students learning the language,” she explains. “They are doing two things — making the time to learn it and learning from someone around their age who comes from the foreign culture. They bring current cultural information into the conversation that I think the students particularly enjoy.”

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Spanish tables are the most popular with five sessions offered, including a medical Spanish conversation table conducted by department Instructor Maria Centeno.

“I have medical students who want to learn some basic concepts of communicating to Spanish-speaking people,” Centeno says. “In the medical table they learn more practical conversation and ask very particular questions. They are thinking about real problems they have to face in their careers.”

The tables have grown so quickly that Long hopes to add more Fulbright teaching assistants for the fall to meet demand.
Business launches professional sales certificate program

Applications are being accepted for a new program in the School of Business to train the next generation of sales professionals. Students who complete the Professional Sales Excellence Program in the Departments of Marketing and Industrial Distribution earn a Professional Sales Certificate in addition to the baccalaureate degree in their field of study.

Employers nationwide have demonstrated strong preference for job applicants who have completed sales programs such as this one, which is recruiting its first class of 15 students for fall 2008, says Karen Kennedy, Ph.D., associate professor of marketing and an internationally recognized sales scholar who administers the program.

“People think about a career in sales as joining an ‘old boys network,’” Kennedy said. “But a successful sales career requires specific tools. This program teaches students professional selling principles, sales management, negotiation, sales technology and business communications through classroom experiences and out-of-class interactions with sales professionals in a variety of settings.”

Students from all disciplines are invited to apply for admission to this program and for scholarship support. More information and application forms are available online at uab.edu/business.

The program also seeks corporate advisors for an executive board to help plan strategy and review progress. “Corporate sponsors will help shape the program as well as work with students in job shadowing and mentoring experiences even before a traditional job interview,” Kennedy said.

Prospective students and corporate advisors should contact Kennedy at knk@uab.edu; Tom Decal, Ph.D., at tdecal@uab.edu; or Kristen Craig at kerag@uab.edu.

WII-HAB

CONTINUED from page 1

You can experience ‘Freedom from Smoking’ in April

R eady to quit smoking and need a plan to help?

“Freedom From Smoking” is a six-week smoking cessation class with 10 or more participants who also are ready to stop. The class, which begins April 16, helps smokers create a supportive environment to break their addiction.

Each smoker who joins this class will develop an individual plan for quitting. In the class, emphasis will be on long-term freedom from smoking. The participants will identify the pitfalls of relapse and carefully plan to prevent it.

The class includes the latest skills for good stress management, weight control, assertive communication and exercise — skills repeatedly shown to help people succeed.

Instructors will teach a step-by-step method for changing behavior and quitting smoking. This group-approach uses positive thinking, alternative behaviors, one-on-one help, rewards and group support. Because the success relies heavily on group support and participation, a minimum of 10 participants are needed to schedule a class.

Beginning April 16, classes meet each Wednesday through May 21 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the UAB Resource Center Classroom, located at 2112 11th Ave. South, Suite 330. Registration is required for this class.

Another Wii

Another group in Spain Rehab also wants to purchase a Wii for its patients

Christina Olson, M.D., whose clinical interests include spinal-cord injury, multiple sclerosis and performing-arts medicine, recently received a grant from the Christopher and Dana Reeve Paralysis Foundation specifically for adapted technology. The goal is to make technology accessible to individuals with spinal-cord injuries.

Phil Klebine, assistant director of research services at SRC, is leading the effort to determine the type of equipment to purchase with the grant funds. He says one of the purchases will be a Wii.

“We are setting up a room with three individualized stations. We’re going to have a laptop, regular desktop PC and a Wii system,” Klebine says. “We want the patients to see how they can use these items for work, school and entertainment, which the Wii certainly provides. It will be fun for everybody, and it will make the job more fun for our professionals, too.”

Brunner says patients of all ages and varieties of injuries will be able to rehab with the Wii. Other rehab hospitals in the northeast United States and Canada have begun using the gaming console to help those who have suffered strokes, spinal-cord and traumatic brain injuries.

Sports games are the most popular of the hundreds of gaming titles that promote balance, coordination, upper and lower body strength and help build endurance. Many of those interactive games also force people to stand upright and use motions they would use if they were playing the games on an actual tennis court, boxing ring or baseball field.

Both Brunner and Klebine hope UAB will be able to participate in research studies with patients in the future to better gauge the effectiveness of the Wii in promoting recovery.

“This is going to be a big benefit to our patients and it’s going to give them additional motivation during their rehabilitation process,” Brunner says. “I eventually see where we could carry rehabilitation from the gym to the room. Down the road, who knows, they may do so effective we might have Wiss in all patient rooms.”

This class is open to all UAB employees and their family members at no cost. Call 934-2281 to register, or visit the UAB Resource Center online at www.uab.edu/cap for more information about their services, a schedule of current and upcoming programs (including Tai Chi and Meditation classes for Stress Management), and a map and directions to the Resource Center office.
**UAB pioneer inducted into state's nursing hall of fame**

Shirley Hester's professional life has been dedicated to advancing the health of women in Alabama.

“I love it. I love what I do,” says the nurse practitioner in OB/Gyn. “Even as a little girl, I always wanted to be a nurse. I've never wanted to do anything else.”

Hester was honored recently for her achievement in health care with induction into the Capstone College of Nursing Hall of Fame. The hall of fame honors those whose work and accomplishments have brought honor and fame to the profession of nursing and the State of Alabama.

Hester attended a black-tie event in Tuscaloosa as part of the induction ceremony. “It was a tremendous honor that I will treasure always,” she says.

**Teacher, researcher**

Hester’s role in improving women’s health care at UAB and in Alabama is expansive. She’s been a teacher of nurses, a health-care provider for patients and a front-line researcher in the ALTs cervical dysplasia and HPV vaccine trials.

Hester was a major contributor to the development and implementation of the OB/Gyn Nurse Practitioner Program at UAB. In fact, she was a pioneer. She was one of the first OB/Gyn nurse practitioners in Alabama, working with others to start a nurse practitioner program to train rural, public-health nurses to perform health screenings and physical exams, including pap smears.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s, nurse practitioners began going to rural Alabama, working in doctor’s offices, rural clinics and health departments to aid women who had limited access to the proper health care they needed. This was during a time when Alabama had one of the highest death rates for cervical cancer.

“Training other nurse practitioners has been the thing I’m most proud of in my nursing career,” she says. “It is very rewarding to see them out there helping women across the state every day.”

Hester was the clinical director of the OB/Gyn nurse practitioner program at UAB for 10 years until it moved to the School of Nursing. She also was the program’s director and research following that transition.

Her research studies primarily have focused on oral contraceptives and the prevention of cervical dysplasia. She has been involved in two groundbreaking research trials.

The ALT5 study changed the standards for pap smear screening, and the Merck HPV vaccine Gardasil received FDA approval after clinical trials in which Hester administered the vaccine to patients.

**Administered HPV vaccine**

Hester began research work with HPV in the early 1980s and administered the vaccine to women during the clinical trials that ended in 2005. Merck’s experimental vaccine targeting the four strains of the sexually transmitted HPV that is most likely to cause cervical cancer or genital warts was 99 percent effective in preventing infection with the viral strains and 100 percent effective in preventing cervical cancer, precancerous lesions or genital warts.

**Educated Comprehensive Cancer Center**

Hester’s role in developing the first colposcopy program in the state — as her work in the clinical trials with the HPV vaccine — has helped save lives.

“Shirley literally contributed to the first attempts at controlling a major cause of cancer deaths in Alabama to its potential eradication with vaccines,” Partridge says. “She has made a remarkable contribution to research in pre-invasive and invasive cervical cancer.”

Hester continues to see patients on two other HPV studies and helps them manage their health programs. She recruits patients to the program, schedules them and provides the care they need. She doesn’t plan to slow down any time soon.

“I’ve always worked,” she says. “I love what I do and want to continue to do it.”

**Nanotechnology training program begins, research underway**

The first four students recently began their study and research in a new NIH-funded graduate training program created to train a highly skilled workforce able to apply nanoscale materials to biosensors for early diagnosis, biomedical implants and regenerative medicine.

This is the first pre-doctoral training program in Alabama to be funded by the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering, and it is led by Physics professor Yogesh Vohra, Ph.D., director of the UAB Center for Nanoscale Materials and Biointegration.

The program’s goal is to reduce the time from discovery of a new nanotechnology tool or material to its application in medical devices, tissue engineering and biosensors.

Vohra says, “Students are expected to take interdisciplinary courses in this program in order to take nanotechnology from design to clinical application.”

Some of the projects students are working on with faculty include:

- Using polymers containing nano-fibers to enhance vascular grafts
- Using nanoparticles to deliver a drug to a tumor inside a body
- Applying coatings of nanomaterials to implants to reduce the wear of the surface
- Applying of nanomaterials to implants to reduce the wear of the surface

Nanoscale materials are assembled at the scale of one billionth of a meter and they exhibit fundamentally different physical, chemical and biological properties. The enhanced properties of materials due to nanostructuring will play a key role in future advances in materials research, scaffolds for tissue engineering, novel materials and coatings for biointegration, nanoparticles for biomedical imaging and biomarkers of disease.

The interdisciplinary program, Nanotechnology in Biosensors and Bioengineering, is funded by a five-year $645,830 institutional training grant awarded by the National Institutes of Health-National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering.

**CAST**

CONTINUED from page 1

“Moralé is probably low in some of the communities,” says Loder-Jackson, assistant professor of education. “It’s important that the communication lines are open and honest dialogue is taking place.”

Loder-Jackson, in partnership with the Birmingham City Schools Family Involvement Program, is working to foster better communication between parents, teachers and administrators at urban schools through the Community and Schools Together (CAST) project.

The goal of the project, which is housed within the UAB Center for Urban Education, is simple: increase parent involvement at urban schools and enhance academic achievement of students.

“Our task is to find ways to strengthen the relationship between the schools and their communities, specifically the relation-ship between the schools and the parents,” Loder-Jackson says. “CAST is especially important now given some of the things going on in the school district.”

**Acting out**

Loder-Jackson, the principal investigator for CAST, and two colleagues presented a Reader’s Theater skit about parent participation in schools at the school district’s Parent Camp.

Loder-Jackson, Tonya Perry, Ph.D., and Michael Brooks, Ph.D., wrote their skit using actual statements made anonymously by parents during focus groups, and they performed it for more than 80 parents and district staff. The comments reflected many communication issues parents identified, ranging from the inability to get a teacher to return repeated messages to perceived mistreatment by support staff in the front office. The skit also noted parents’ positive experiences with their schools.

“This project gives a voice to parents, and that’s important because their primary concern is their child’s education,” Perry says. “And from UAB’s standpoint, one of the great things about the project is that the university conducted the research and is bringing the results of it back into the community. The schools, parents and students all should benefit.”

**Proactive program, proactive parents**

Brooks, a professor in the Department of Human Studies, says schools, parents and students can benefit mutually through collaborative efforts. Failure to work together creates problems, he says.

Brooks likes that the program is proactive, and he says that as an African-American he feels obligated to help the urban community improve school and community relations.

“There’s not much research being done that brings out the voice of the urban community,” Brooks says. “Because of UAB’s involvement in community and its commitment to diversity, this project is a good fit.”

Mechelle Rice-Fields, coordinator of the Family Involvement Program for Birmingham City Schools, says UAB is aiding the school system’s effort to empower parents with information. That, she says, makes parents more proactive in their child’s education and increases the chances of success.

“UAB is giving parents a needed forum to express their concerns and build a bridge with the city schools to improve communication,” Rice-Fields says. “The parents are concerned about the education of their children. UAB is introducing them to other available resources that will strengthen education in the community as a whole.”

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NAOMI E. BONNER
Lecture to examine war, history of Gulf region conflict

Why did the United States invade Iraq? French-Lebanese journalist Antoine Sifre will respond to the question by recalling the history of the region, from the Sykes-Picot Accord of 1916 to today. During a free, public lecture in English at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 5 in UAB Humanities Building Room 105. Sifre is the author of a series of studies on the Arab world for the French government. He has written works on religion, Islam and Judaism and more. In 2006, in collaboration with Nicole Bacharan, he published a book on the Middle East, Américains, Arabes: la confrontation, (Seuil, 2006) as well as Vers l’Orient compliqué (Grasset, 2006).

The event is sponsored by the UAB Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures and the Alliance française of Birmingham.

Jason Campbell to be roasted for charity

Washington Redskins quarterback and former Auburn University quarterback Jason Campbell will be roasted by former Auburn teammates during the third annual UAB Liver Center Dinner April 7. Former Auburn quarterback Stan White and local ABC 33/40 television personality Pam Huff will be guest emcees. Other speakers and guests will include San Francisco 49ers linebacker Dontarrious Thomas, Miami Dolphins running back Ronnie Brown, Seattle Seahawks wide receiver Ben Obomanu, former Auburn offensive coordinator Al Barges and Danny Lindsey, former Auburn center.

The evening will begin with a reception at 6:30 p.m. in the Westin Hotel Grand Ballroom, with dinner at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $200 per person; tables begin at $2,500. For information, call 975-5602.

The money raised through the UAB Liver Center Dinner enables physicians and scientists to continue to address the public health challenges – and the devastating effects on patients – of viral hepatitis and other liver diseases, as well as their complications. During the past two years, volunteers have raised nearly $50,000 for the UAB Liver Center, providing much-needed funding for education, research and new technologies.

Paul Hubbert, Alabama Education Association executive secretary, will receive the inaugural Paul Hubbert Legacy of Courage Award, and the Honorable Bettyte Fine Collins, Jefferson County Commission president, will receive the inaugural Bettyte Fine Collins Community Advocacy Award; these awards recognize their advocacy efforts for those living with liver disease.

Fulbright faculty workshop scheduled

Faculty are encouraged to attend a workshop on the U.S. Fulbright scholars program to be held Thursday, April 3, from noon to 1 p.m. in the UAB School of Nursing Building Room G207.

UAB faculty and recent Fulbright scholars Lynda Harrison, Ph.D., professor of nursing; and John Van Sant, Ph.D., associate professor of history, will lead the discussion. Information provided will include advice on selecting countries, making contacts abroad, writing a successful application, developing projects and other general tips and tools.

Space is limited, and registration is required; please RSVP by April 7 to nbak@uab.edu.

General information about the Fulbright Program is available online at http://exchanges.state.gov/education/fulbright/about.htm.

Special Lectures

Tuesday, April 1

Neon Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center Lecture Series.

Functional losses in mild cognitive impairment, Director Virginia Wadley (Dementia Care Research Program); Finley Conf. Ctr.

4 p.m UAB Brain Tumor Treatment and Research Program Seminar. Radical treatment paradigms developed for primary glioblastoma multiforme: Are radioresistant diseases a buzzword or a breakthrough? Ass Prof Martin Johnathan (Pharmacology & Toxicology); Finley Conf. Ctr.

Wednesday, April 2

7 p.m UAB Writers’ Series. Poe Balentine. Balantine is the author of two poetry collections, “Things I Like About America” and “101 Minutes to Christ.” His two novels are “God Oozers Us All” and “Decline of the Laurels.” Welsh Ensemble will perform excerpts from the 2007 Bronze ForeWord’s Book of the Year Award for Literary Fiction. Spencer Honors House.

Saturday, April 5

5 p.m UAB Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures and the Alliance Française of Birmingham. Why did the United States invade Iraq? French-Lebanese journalist Antoine Sifre will respond to the question by recalling the history of the region, from the Sykes-Picot Accord to today, during a free, public lecture. Humanities Bldg Room 105.

Monday, April 7

7:30-4 p.m UAB Hepatitis Disparities Research Symposium. From discovery to delivery. DoubleTree Hotel. For more info, info@uabhmc.com or call 877-MHHC-UAB.

Wednesday, April 9

Noon UAB Sparkman Center for Global Health Seminar Series. A hole at the waterline of rotavirus gastrenteritis? The unfolding story of the rotavirus vaccination program and its epidemiological implications, Dr Daniel Payne (epidemiologist, National Center for Immunization & Respiratory Diseases, CDC); Ryals Bldg-107.

Thursday, April 10

Noon Office of the Associate Provost for Faculty Development & Faculty Affairs. Fulbright Faculty Workshop. This presentation is provided by UAB faculty members and recent Fulbright scholars Lynda Harrison (Nursing) and Assc Prof John Van Sant (History). Information will include advice on which country to apply to and how to make contacts abroad, the benefits of applying, how they developed their projects, and tips and tools to make a successful application. Space is limited, registration required. RSVP by April 7 to rnik@uab.edu, School of Nursing-G207.

Friday, April 11

10 a.m UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center. Integrated multidisciplinary clinical care program: Planning and implementation, Director Edward Partridge (UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center) and Assc Director Martin Heslin (Clinical Programs, UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center); WP-E.

11:45 a.m UAB Haddin Humanities Forum. Justifying James the Greater. Interpreting the disciples of Santiago as Pilgrim and Moor-slayer, Ass Prof John Moore (Foreign Languages & Literatures). Moore will discuss James the Moor-hating, or Santiago, who often is depicted in Spanish art and literature both as a peaceful pilgrim and as a sword-wielding killer. The presentation will explore the relationship between the extreme poles of these representations and describe the relationship the two images have retained in Spain and beyond. Strome Library- Henley Room. For more info, call 4-2290.

Meetings

Monday, March 31, April 7

Noon Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables. Arabic conversation table; HB-3rd fl The Hub. For more info, lazyaz@uab.edu or foreign-langs@uab.edu.

5:25 p.m Power Yoga; UAB Marshall Conference Center. For more info, call 987-0303.

Tuesday, April 1, April 8

10 a.m International Women’s Group. Smolian International House. 4-1205/awowens@uab.edu; 5:25 p.m Power Yoga; UAB Marshall Conference Center. For more info, call 987-0303.

3 p.m Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables, Spanish Conversation Table; HB-3rd fl The Hub. centeno@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

Wednesday, April 2, April 9

10 a.m Conversational English classes, levels 1-4; Smolian International House. 4-1205/awowens@uab.edu.

8 p.m Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables, Italian conversation table; Rast Hall-3rd Floor Study Lounge. For more info, Belita Falk at belitalf@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

Thursday, April 3, April 10

12:10 p.m Chi – Stress Management through Movement; The UAB Resource Center. Call 934-2281 or visit www.uab.edu/ead for more info.

3 p.m Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables, Medical Spanish Conversation Table; HB-3rd fl The Hub. marina@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu; 5 p.m Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables, Chinese Conversation Table; HB-3rd fl The Hub. maxin@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu; 6:30 p.m SMART recovery group meetings; not a 12-step or religious program. Any addiction or habit can be helped. Southside Baptist Church. Call WL Fulcher 975-7755 for details.

8 p.m Stammtisch conversation table, for anyone who speaks German; Giuseppe’s Cafe, 925 8th Street South. For info, agres@uab.edu.

Friday, April 4, April 11

12:30 p.m Foreign Language & Literatures Language Tables, Russian Conversation Table; HB-3rd fl The Hub. marina@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

Religion

Tuesday, April 1, April 8

Noon Medical Center Christian Fellowship Meeting. WP-B, All welcome. Blair 216-8571.

Wednesday, April 2, April 9

Noon Employee-led bible study; Interfaith Chapel-West Pavilion.

12:15 p.m Letter-day Saints Student Association, Scripture study and discussion; HUC-413. All welcome. For more info, Andrew 622-9588.

Sunday, April 6, April 13

10 a.m Catholic mass, St Stephen Church, 1515 S 12th Ave. 933-2500.

5 p.m Catholic mass, St Stephen Church, 1515 S 12th Ave. 933-2500.

5 p.m 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, Varadag Prabhu 383-9805. 1501 15th Ave S, Apt 20, Bham.
WBHM strengthens midday program schedule

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isteners in Birmingham and North Central Alabama now will be able to hear The Diane Rehm Show: Here and Now and Talk of the Nation as WBHM-Birmingham strengthens its midday program schedule with additions and changes.

WBHM will air some programs at new times, and will remove classical music from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fresh Air will move to noon and All Things Considered now will begin at 3 p.m.

“This is a change that is part of our five-year strategic plan and even though it’s earlier than we anticipated we now believe the time is right, given a number of circumstances,” said Program Director Michael Kral.

“Strengthening our NPR News and information program—programming the best public service we can offer and in the best long-term interest of WBHM and our listeners.”

For a complete schedule of programming visit www.wbhm.org.

New weekday programs

• The Diane Rehm Show (9-11 a.m.) offers listeners thoughtful and lively conversations with many distinguished people of our times. Each week, more than 1.7 million listeners across the country tune in to the program, which has grown from a small, local, morning call-in show in Washington, D.C., to one of public broadcasting’s most-listened-to programs.

Guests include many of the nation’s top newsmakers, journalists and authors. Recent guests include former President Bill Clinton, General Tommy Franks, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Tute Andrews and Toni Morrison. Newsweek magazine calls the program one of the most interesting talk shows in the country. The National Journal says Diane Rehm is “the class act of the talk radio world.” Each hour includes dialogue with listeners who call to Rehm’s virtual community and take part in a civil exchange of ideas.

Visit her site at wamu.org/program/dt.

• Here & Now (11 a.m.-noon) is public radio’s midday news magazine hosted by Robin Young. For one energetic hour each weekday, Here and Now combines the best in news journalism with intelligent, broad-ranging conversation to form a fast-paced program that updates the news from the morning and adds important conversations on public policy and foreign affairs, science and technology, the arts and more.

The guest roster boasts such notables as Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist David Halberstam, professor Anita Hill, actor and director John Malkovich, authors Isabel Allende, Jonathan Safran Foer, Marilyn Robinson, CNNB Washington correspondent John Harwood, jazzman Sonny Rollins and actress Jane Fonda.

Saturday, April 12

8 pm Alys Stephens Center. Art Garfunkel. Garfunkel has made an indelible mark on the music world as a solo artist and as half of the unrivaled duo Simon and Garfunkel. Garfunkel, who recently released his 12th solo album, continues to influence fans and fellow musicians worldwide. Tickets are $62, $52 and $28; student tickets are $10. Discounted tickets are available for UAB National Alumni Society members. Call 5-2787 or go to www.Aly Stephens.org.

Sunday, April 13

3 pm Music. UAB Piano Ensembles Concert. Free admission. Hulsey Recital Hall.

UAB Sports

April 2: UAB Baseball vs Alabama, Regions Park, 6:30 pm

April 3: UAB Softball vs Mississippi Valley State, George Ward Park, 6 pm

April 4: UAB Baseball vs Presbyterian, Memorial Field, 1 pm

April 5: UAB Baseball vs Presbyterian, Young Memorial Field, 2 pm

April 6: UAB Softball vs Tulsa, George Ward Park, 3 pm

April 6: UAB Softball vs Tulsa, George Ward Park, 1 pm

April 6: UAB Baseball vs Presbyterian, Young Memorial Field, 1 pm

April 9: Men’s Tennis vs Alabama, Brook Highland, 3 pm

April 9: UAB Baseball vs Samford, Young Memorial Field, 6:30 pm

April 10: UAB Softball vs Western Kentucky, George Ward Park, 4 pm

April 10: UAB Softball vs Western Kentucky, George Ward Park, 6 pm

April 12: Men’s Tennis vs Morehead State, Brook Highland, 2 pm

April 13: Women’s Tennis vs Middle Tennessee, Brook Highland, 11 am

Exhibits


The Samuel Ullman Museum. Home of prominent Birmingham civic leader and poet. Open by appointment 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 issues of identity. The exhibit will feature "Rope Revisited," a reinterpretation of the dark Hitchcock work, and "Cowboy Cruising." Lowther’s show is the climax of the climactic scene in Sergio Leone’s classic, “The Good, the Bad and the Ugly.” 800 13th St. S. Admission is free. Through April 4-2-18.

Films

Saturday, April 5

8 pm UAB Foreign Language Film Series. Ali Zauru. A Moroccan film that finds magical beauty in street children’s bleak reality in Casablanca. The film is in Arabic and French with English subtitles. The running time is 98 minutes. Hulsey Recital Hall. Admission is free. For more info, call 4-4552.

Special events

Tuesday, April 1

7:30 pm Music. UAB Clarinet Choir. Free admission. Hulsey Recital Hall.

Thursday, April 3

11:30 am UAB Pre-Law Advisory Board. Trial by Fire chill cook-off. Teams representing law firms in Birmingham submit their entry to the profession submit their own chili recipes and will compete for the top prize. A panel of local court judges will select the winner. Monies raised at the event will benefit scholarships for students in the UAB Pre-Law Program and provide funds for the award-winning, undergraduate mock trial team’s travel expenses. Regions/Harbert Center Plaza, corner of 6th Avenue North and 20th Street North.

7:30 pm UAB Computer Music Ensemble. Electric Orpheus, a concert of new works of electro-acoustic music and multimedia by UAB student composers. Hulsey Recital Hall. Free admission. For more info, call 4-7378.

7:30 pm UAB International Scholar & Student Services and Birmingham Episcopal Campus Ministries. Slaves among us. There are more than 50 million victims of human trafficking, and modern day slavery in the world today. Each year it is estimated that there are 1 million new victims of human trafficking. Estimates are that as many as 80% of those in slavery are female and more than half in slavery are children. Kimberly Smith, President of Make Way Partners, a locally based Christian mission agency will talk about efforts to prevent and combat human trafficking and all forms of modern-day slavery. Trinity Commons: 1170 11th Ave. South, across from the UAB Honors House.

Friday, April 4

5:30 pm Music. UAB Steel Drum Band, directed by Gene Fambrough. Hulsey Recital Hall. Free admission.

Monday, April 7

7 pm Music. UAB Faculty Recital featuring Paul Mostoller, baritone and Yakov Kisman, pianist. Reynolds-Kirschbaum Recital Hall. Free admission.

Tuesday, April 8

6 pm UAB BookTalk. As I Lay Dying, by William Faulkner. The discussion will be led by Asst Director William Rushin (UAB Honors Program). Sterne Library-Henley Room.


Friday, April 11

7:30 pm Music. UAB Chamber Ensembles featuring UAB Guitar Ensemble and Jazz Combos. Hulsey Recital Hall. Free admission.

Young brings more than 25 years of eclectic broadcast experience to her role as host. She is a Peabody Award-winning documentary filmmaker and has been a correspondent for the Discovery Channel, CBS, ABC, and NBC’s Today.

Visit the site at www.here-now.org.

• Talk of the Nation (1:3 pm) links the headlines with topics on people’s minds, providing a springboard for listeners and experts to exchange ideas and pose critical questions about major events in the news and the world around them. Each day, Talk of the Nation combines the award-winning resources of NPR News with the vital participation of listeners. The result is a spirited and productive exchange of knowledge and insight that delves deeply into the news and ideas of the day.

Monday through Thursday, host Neal Conan invites callers to discuss areas of topical interest, including politics and public service, education, religion, music, and health care. Talk of the Nation goes behind the headlines with decision-makers, authors, thinkers, artists, and listeners around the world, who become part of the conversation.

Each Friday, journalist Ira Flatow is joined by listeners and studio guests to explore science-related topics— from subatomic particles and the human genome to the Internet and earthquakes. Flatow offers in-depth discussion with scientists and others from all walks of life, giving listeners the chance to hear from the people whose work influences their daily lives.

Visit the site at www.npr.org/programs/totu.
Rec Center’s travelin’ man took circuitous route home

Bill Pierce loves to travel. Always has. It’s one of the reasons he was ecstatic about joining SunGuard Workflow Solutions as a senior systems analyst after graduating from UAB in 1998.

“I was one of Delta’s frequent flyers,” he says. “Avis always was upgrading me to Cadillacs, which was pretty nice.”

Now in his second career as UAB’s assistant director of Campus Recreation for Outdoor Pursuits and Climbing Wall, Pierce continues to travel the country, just not quite as frequently. And instead of racking up frequent flyer miles or driving Cadillacs, he’s ferrying faculty, staff and students across the country in vans for the popular Outdoor Pursuits program. His colleagues laud his passion, his effervescent personality and his ability to lead others, and those qualities led to Pierce’s selection as March’s Employee of the Month.

Brian Cooper, director of Campus Recreation, says the enthusiasm Pierce brings to his position affects the Campus Recreation Center staff daily.

“Bill’s passion for the job is so contagious that we all stop in his office each morning to get our daily boost of energy,” Cooper says. “The relationships he builds with employees and participants in the UAB Trip Series are ones we all envy.”

Student worker

Pierce has been building those relationships at UAB for more than 15 years. It was 1991 when Pierce, then a UAB student, began to take charge of the outdoor adventure program. A year later he was the main trip leader, and by 1995 the program was wholly his.

He earned his computer science degree in 1998 and continued to run the trip program despite getting a full-time job with SunGuard. He intended to give the position up, but every time he tried, he just couldn’t do it.

“My goal always was to train a student to lead the trips, and I trained a student and he was really good; but then he graduated,” he says. “I knew if I left and he graduated, the program would die. I just couldn’t leave it.”

The scenario replayed again a few years later, prompting Pierce to leave his SunGuard sales position and join UAB full time when his position was created.

“I was traveling all the time and away from my family,” he says. “They weren’t getting the attention they needed. Working here affords me that opportunity, plus, I love it here at UAB. I’m getting to do what I love. It’s my job to develop students and see them go.”

Outdoor diversity

Pierce tirelessly markets his trips to faculty, staff and students. Whether it’s canoeing the Blackwater River in Florida, hiking on the Appalachian Trail, snow skiing in Colorado, touring in Waterton-

Take two Outdoor Pursuits in April

Make plans to spend the day canoeing on the Cahaba River or hike the Walls of Jericho, known to many as the Grand Canyon of the South.

Depart at noon Friday, April 4 for the canoe trip. The pre-trip meeting and deadline for registration is at 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 1. The cost is $25 for students, $30 for faculty/staff and alumni and $35 for non-UAB affiliates.

The hiking trip departs at noon Saturday, April 5. The pre-trip meeting also is scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday April 1. The cost for this trip is $15 for students, $20 for faculty/staff and alumni and $25 non-UAB affiliates.

Pre-trip meetings will take place in Room 290 of the Campus Rec Center. For more information, call UAB Outdoor Pursuits at 996-4913 or Outdoor@uab.edu.

Glacier Lakes International Peace Park in Canada or driving across country to the Grand Canyon for five days of hiking, Pierce still is getting to travel and teach others about the outdoors.

His ability to connect with trip participants is uncanny, says Jason Powers, associate director of programs for Campus Recreation. “Bill’s No. 1 priority is to provide a positive outdoor experience to everyone who partakes in his trip offerings,” Powers says. “Bill has a great understanding of how effectively to instruct, guide and communicate to the very diverse participant he encounters.”

Pierce’s Outdoor Pursuits program has a significant international contingency. And, it’s not uncommon to see participants ranging in age from 18 to 60.

“This variety in age and language barriers could create a significant challenge to integrate the group, but not with Bill,” Powers says. “He is terrific at finding subtle ways to make every member of a group feel important.”

Pierce has plenty of stories about his trips. His favorite is the backpacking trip to the Grand Canyon, particularly when international students go. The two-and-a-half day drive across the country amazes them, he says. And seeing the Grand Canyon leaves them in awe.

“It’s great to spend five days backpacking and hear them say, ‘It just gets prettier the deeper you go.’”

Visit http://studentaffairs.uab.edu/CampusRecreation/outdoor.html to learn more about Outdoor Pursuits, including information on the climbing wall in the Campus Rec Center.

Obituaries

Administrative Associate Joann Crye (Genomics, March 11.
Retired Professor Henry J. Holley (Electrical & Computer Engineering, April 16. 8 UAB Reporter March 31, 2008
Are you a postmenopausal woman at increased risk for breast cancer? You may be eligible for a breast cancer prevention study. Jann 5-1080.

Are you overweight (BMI > 30) woman age 45-60 who is not on blood pressure meds needed. Call Eila Maddox 5-1980.

Are you presently experiencing vaginal itching, burning, or discharge? You may qualify for a study involving a new genital herpes study. Nancy 4-9502 or Dr. Gnann 5-6440.

Are you a woman living in HIV with a child under the age of 7? (Senior Woman Enjoying Exercise Together) You may qualify for a study to investigate the impact of daily and extended exercise on the well-being, health and quality of life of women age 19 or older with 11 yrs education needed. Jo Ann 4-1976 /888-534-0367.

Are you an adult under the age of 71 who may qualify for a research study of people with type 2 diabetes and are not taking diabetes medication to sleep, but who continue to have difficulty sleeping. A thorough sleep evalua-

Are you over age 45 currently diagnosis (within 5) with Type 2 diabetes needed for a study to evaluate insulin resistance. Participants receive a brief medical exam and study medication. Compensation. 5-2422.

Are you a woman living in HIV with a child under the age of 7? (Senior Woman Enjoying Exercise Together) You may qualify for a study investigating the impact of daily and extended exercise on the well-being, health and quality of life of women age 19 or older with 11 yrs education needed. Jo Ann 4-1976 /888-534-0367.

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For Sale

Appliances & Electronics
Brother (6-11) FFC-300MC serial com- puter port: fax, copier, printer, scanner; addressee: 636-9077. 10 UAB reporter 31 March 2008

For Sale

10

Furnishings
4 brokers Clark 6 outdoor bed chairs, $250; cherry highboy, $150, both in good cond; mahogany solid-wood front door, needs a little touchup, $450. L. 438-5741/5767/MeadowCurris.com.

1991 Buick Regal GS 100, one owner, cond. red/ tan leather, 90,000 mi, 2001, $4,100. 10-0777.

97 Buick Roadmaster, 131,000 mi, 2WD, long bed, mechanical relia- bility; $3,300. L. 438-5741/5767/MeadowCurris.com.

97 Ford Ranger XLT, 100,000 mi, auto- matic, camper shell, bedliner, cond. good, $2,900. 4-1333.

97 Ford Explorer, 68,200 mi, auto, 4WD, $1,300. Max 6-6944/296-1805.

99 Mercury Grand Marquis, 73,500 mi, white, auto, cond. fair, $2,500. Max 6-6944/296-1805.


1997 Ford F-150 Lariat, 115,000 mi, car, mechanic re- pair. 11-0997.

5000 cubic feet of 14 kg Uline polyethylene, 2 angled, $10 each. L. 438-8394/936-4875.

1998 Honda CRV, dark gray/black, esc, cond. 99,000 mi (almost all inter- state), 611-7677.

Pentium page layout services.

1 house east of Shades, 1st shots, $100/ea. Vickie 925-9273/744-4410/602-4142.

453-4677.

Onetouch III 320GB external hard drive, $90/drive Western digital 250Gb Passport hard drive

Exc cond, 49,500 mi (almost all interstate). 4-9886.

Exc cond, 47,000 mi, auto- tooth, 89,000 mi, $3300/obo. mgpsy@uab.edu/243-9698.

$2999. 4-1333.

1 owner, exc cond, red/ white, 73,300 mi, while, $2,900. L. 438-8394/936-4875.
UAB Orthodontic Department provides services to children, teens, and adults. We are accepting new patients. Call Sandra Hampton, 4-4536.

The Center for Occupational Health is one of 16 NOSH- supported Centers in the United States. We provide health and wellness resources that are essential needs of professionals working in occupational health. To find out more visit the website for us at uab.edu or visit our Web site at www.uab.edu/occ.

UAB Family Practice Center is accepting new WPA patients: a team of male and female practice physicians for primary care of the entire family. Located in Pinson/Trussville area, specializing in preventive care services for children and adolescents. See your primary care provider.

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delturb@uab.edu

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graphy in your home, the ability to provide gramof- nic services of art. Visit www.pestpetprofessionals.com.

Home inspections: Statelicensed and fully certified. We offer free estimates. Call 911-5454. Affordable necessary rates.

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nus cards, resumes, flyers or much more? Call 492-3151/ www.acsletter.

Show repairs: We condition our leather coats, belts and briefcases. 951-0036.

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Home and office cleaning: not just another cleaning service, cleaning what the other guys left behind. No job small. Call a phone for a deep down real clean. 848-7075.

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Library services

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Murdies, texturing, faux finishing, and color consultation. Peggie 611-7478.

Need catering? Call Jeff, 515-9326 for wed-
ings, teas, receptions, parties or any special event. References. Larry 533-7475.

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tions, decks. Home improvements: repairs and services. Reasonable rates, references avail-
able. Larry 533-7475.

Create a simple yet elegant wedding or other event with a professional band. We will provide additional instruments up to a full string quartet. We play classical, Celtic and light popular tunes. Reasonable rates, references available. Karen 418-3932/ K encontrar.com.

Need car repair or small/large? Anything from tune-ups to performance parts. Contact us.

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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 2007, the Benevolent Fund contributed to more than 140 non-profit organizations and provided more than $150,000 to 138 UAB employees in crisis through the Employee Emergency Assistance Program.

Campaign 2008 will take place throughout the month of April 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 www.uab.edu/benfund.