2012 Benevolent Fund campaign expands its activities to bring giving full circle

UAB's 2012 Benevolent Fund Campaign begins this week with lofty goals and a mission to continue to “Give Help, Give Hope” to fellow employees and the Birmingham community.

This year’s pledge goal is $1,925,000, up from this past year's record pledge total of $1,850,212.

“UAB employees continue to demonstrate their generosity every year we do this campaign,” says Lisa Higginbotham, Benevolent Fund program manager. “Every employee can become a part of the Benevolent Fund and offer help and hope to those in need.”

The Benevolent Fund is UAB’s own system for supporting charitable health and human service agencies by providing a mechanism for 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 terms or appointed by the UAB administration. The Benevolent Fund Council is accepting nominations through May 31. For more information, visit www.uab.edu/benfund, call 934-1581 or email benevolentfund@uab.edu.

Money pledged by UAB employees supports more than 120 non-profit organizations in the Birmingham metro area, including the United Way, American Red Cross, Salvation Army, YWCA, and United Friends. Members of the council volunteered for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure event. Volunteers manned the recycle posts along the route and encouraged runners and attendees to recycle their bottles and food.

The group held a second service project in January during UAB’s Day of Service when they volunteered their time at M-Power Ministries, another agency supported by the Benevolent Fund through the United Way. Twelve volunteers completed projects.

North Central Alabama chapter of Susan G. Komen, Salvation Army and YWCA, name a few.

Beginning this past fall, Benevolent Fund council members decided to do more to help the agencies supported by participating in service projects. Members of the council volunteered for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure event. Volunteers manned the recycle posts along the route and encouraged runners and attendees to recycle their bottles and food.

The group held a second service project in January during UAB’s Day of Service when they volunteered their time at M-Power Ministries, another agency supported by the Benevolent Fund through the United Way. Twelve volunteers completed projects.

Haase promises up-tempo basketball next season

Jerod Haase isn’t one to engage in superstition, but it’s good enough for his mentor and basketball coaching legend Roy Williams, then maybe it’s good enough for him, too.

Williams ordered his North Carolina basketball team off the bus in St. Louis prior to the Tar Heels’ NCAA Tournament game against Ohio University a couple of weeks ago. His charge to his team? Spit in the Mississippi River for good luck. UNC wound up squeaking by Ohio to advance to the Elite Eight.

The next day, Haase returned to his hotel room in St. Louis after watching film with one eye toward North Carolina’s next opponent and the other on his potential hire as the new head basketball coach at UAB. Suddenly, he became superstitious.

“I thought I needed to go back to the river, so I walked back down to the Mississippi and spit in it again,” Haase says. “But that was for this job. So, yes, I spit in the Mississippi, and I’m a believer in it. It worked out well.”

Haase was introduced March 27 as the fifth coach in the 34-year history of the Blazer Men’s Basketball program. Haase, who turned 38 April 1, left his position as an assistant coach at the University of North Carolina. His goal for the Blazers, he says, is to win. And win big.

“I do not have a five-year plan,” he says. “This is not about five years from now. I hope to make the NCAA Tournament and do some damage in it. We can win, and we can win right away.”

Haase played for Williams at Kansas and has spent the past 13 years on Williams’ staff with the Jayhawks and at North Carolina. He helped the Tar Heels to national championships in 2005 and 2009. Known as a top recruiter, he also was the head coach for the junior varsity team five times in his nine-year UNC tenure.

“We are truly thrilled to have been able to attract a coach the caliber of Jerod Haase,” says UAB Director of Athletics Brian Mackin. “Having been a part of basketball at Kansas and North Carolina, he has been around winning programs his entire career, both as a player and coach. We know he will help elevate our program and excite our fans as we move forward with our program.”

“Jerod Haase is a terrific match for UAB,” says UAB President Carol Garrison. “As
Brutally honest and unflinchingly hilarious, Margaret Cho addresses our collective humanity with her provocative takes on family, sexuality, gender, body issues, not fitting in, loving ourselves and forgiving our foibles. Cho will take to the stage at 8 p.m. April 20 in UAB’s Alys Stephens Center. This performance contains adult language and content; the show is for adult audiences only. Tickets are $62.50, $48.50, $37.50; student tickets are $20. Call 975-2787 or visit www.AlysStephens.org.

Proven candidate presentations ahead

Four finalists have been selected and presentations are being made to faculty, staff and students, continuing with Linda Lucas, Ph.D., UAB interim provost, today at 9 a.m. in the UAB Alumni House. Harold Jones, Ph.D., dean of the UAB School of Health Professions, will present at 9 a.m. Wednesday, April 4 in the UAB Alumni House.

Two other candidates already have made their presentations. Carlo Montemagno, Ph.D., dean of the University of Cincinnati College of Engineering and Applied Science, made his presentation March 26.

Daniel A. Wubah, Ph.D., vice president and dean for Applied Science, made his presentation March 28.

For information on the provost search, go to www.uab.edu/uvaprovost.

Total compensation statement online

Employees now have online access to their UAB Total Compensation Statement on the new “My UAB Total Compensation Statement” site.

Go to www.myubastatement.com to view a PDF of your statement. Choose the “Register Account” link at the bottom left of the page. Enter your Social Security number with no dashes and your birth date in MMDDYYYY format. Then create a username and password between six and 20 characters using letters and numbers; the password is not case-sensitive.

The first time you register, you’ll be asked for an email address and for answers to two security questions. These will be used if you forget your password at a later time.

You can access the site any time from March 30 through May 31. You will not receive a statement in the mail this year; it is available online only.

UAB Football invites you to spring practice

See the Blazers’ new look on the gridiron. Join them for Spring Practice 2012 held from 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, 5 to 7 p.m. each Friday and 10 a.m. to noon each Saturday at the Football Practice Field behind the 7-11 Building. The Spring Game will be held Saturday, April 21. For more information, visit uabsports.com.

UAB changes its delivery address

UAB Shipping & Receiving has relocated to make way for the new baseball field at Railroad Park. The new location and address change for deliveries: University of Alabama at Birmingham, 3201 First Ave. North, Birmingham AL 35222. This information will be reflected automatically on purchase orders and bid documents.

Office classes now are shorter, topic-specific

New Microsoft Office 2010 classes beginning in April will be short and focused on specific topics to save you time. Topics will include basic functions and formulas in Excel, working with tables in Access, adding visual interest to Word documents and more. See class offerings and register online at www.uab.edu/traindev.

Campus Restaurants to host Easter Day Brunch April 8

Join UAB Campus Restaurants for their fifth annual Easter Day Brunch Sunday, April 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Commons on the Green. Enjoy the all-you-care-to-eat $6.99 meal and then enjoy a relaxing afternoon with your family on the campus green. There will even be a Jelly Bean counting contest and a coloring contest for the little ones! For more details and to view the menu, visit www.uab.edu/dining.

UA System to host Honors Research Conference April 13

UAB, UA and UAH will co-host the 10th annual UA System Honors Research Day from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, April 13 in Tuscaloosa. Posters and oral presentations from all disciplines will be displayed. First, second, and third place prizes will be awarded in each division.

Alvarez elected president of SGO

Ronald Alvarez, M.D., professor and director of the UAB Division of Gynecologic Oncology, was elected the 44th president of the Society of Gynecologic Oncology during its annual meeting on women’s cancer this past week in Austin, Texas.

The SGO is a national medical specialty organization of physicians and allied healthcare professionals with more than 1,600 members trained in the comprehensive management of women with reproductive tract cancers.

Looking to get away? Grab a book

Have the likewise hollowed of pellon got you stuck inside other than out basking in the sun? Or, does your razor-thin budget slash hopes of a spring-cation?

No worries. You can still enjoy the season and travel clear across the country, hobnob with aristocrats or carry on a made-for-TV romance—all without leaving your home. Books can transport you to your destination of choice, UA literary experts say.

Two UAB professors of creative writing have a list of suggestions such as The Coal Life, a book of poetry by UAB assistant professor of English Adam Vines. Visit www.uab.edu/news for other ideas.

“World’s Largest” documents giants in small town America

Hundreds of small towns across the United States claim “world’s largest” things, from 15-foot fiberglass strawberries to 40-foot concrete pheasants. “World’s Largest” visits 58 such sites and profiles one town’s five-year struggle to build the world’s largest lava lamp.

UAB’s Alys Stephens Center and the Sidewalk Film Festival will present a screening of “World’s Largest,” at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 12 in Uthe center. Tickets are $10, $8 for students. Call 975-2787 or visit www.AlysStephens.org.

Dr. Traci Bratton, the University of Alabama at Birmingham’s associate provost for Public Relations & Marketing to highlight and explore the University of Alabama at Birmingham Office of Mission: The UAB Reporter is published biweekly by the University of Alabama at Birmingham Office of Public Relations & Marketing to highlight and explore the interests, objectives and achievements of UAB and its faculty and staff. Deadline: News items must be submitted by noon Monday the week prior to publication and are used at the discretion of the publication staff.
About the RAVE Program
The UAB RAVE Program provides disability-management services when an employee’s job performance, job stability or promotional opportunities are affected by a physical, mental or emotional impairment. Through an innovative partnership between UAB and the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, the UAB RAVE Program assists employees and their departments, job-seekers going through the application process and employees returning from long-term disability or medical leave. The RAVE Program is a one-stop shop for information and assistance on disability issues.

Bobby Barnes

Bobby Barnes was doing his best to give good instructions to co-worker Bobby Barnes, and Barnes did his best to lend Carr’s every word. “There’s a chair on the right … OK, we’re going to go through a door on the left … There’s garbage can to your right.”

Barnes was helping Barnes as he tried to navigate this way through the Penthouse of the Administration Building wearing a blindfold and using a walking cane. The exercise was part of a disability-training exercise hosted by the UAB RAVE Program in partnership with the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services. The half-day course, titled Understanding Disability, provides the latest information on disability etiquette techniques and politically correct language regarding disabilities. The course also teaches appropriate ways to interact with individuals with visual, hearing and physical impairments in workplace situations and interviews.

The exercise was quite an interesting experience for Barnes.

“This truly gives you a whole new and different perspective,” says Barnes, an employee relations specialist in Human Resources. “Even when Ben said, ‘The wall is on your right,’ in my mind, I was picturing myself running in to it. His instructions were good, but I couldn’t escape having the feeling that I was not in control of what was happening to me.”

More than 20 HR employees participated in a series of simulated disability situations to better understand the work-related difficulties often facing individuals with disabilities. Participants were encouraged to look at their own biases towards individuals with disabilities, which may unknowingly prevent them from fostering an inclusive workforce, and to begin thinking of the possibilities of working with and hiring individuals with disabilities.

“In the UAB Strategic Plan one of our goals is to create a positive, supportive and diverse environment in which our students, faculty and staff can excel,” says Chief Human Resources Officer Alesia Jones. “This training is just one way that we are doing that. It helps develop appreciation for the value and contributions of a significant segment of our society, while providing unique insight into everyday challenges faced by persons with disabilities. Advancing this perspective throughout the UAB community is essential because it promotes and supports the university’s commitment to equal opportunity in education and employment.”

This session was the second one the RAVE Program has hosted this year, says Sherri Moultrie, HR disability representative and coordinator of the event. In her position with RAVE, Moultrie often contacts recruiters, hiring managers and others in the UAB community to advocate for persons with disabilities.

Moultrie says she attended the disability awareness training offered by the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services this past year and was excited about bringing the training to UAB.

“We’ve received positive feedback from attendees and the experiential learning definitely has been a favorite,” Moultrie says. Employees also took part in several other disability-awareness activities, including those for mobility and speech impairment.

Leslie Dawson, senior vocational rehabilitation counselor with the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, says the role-playing games are a great activity for help people learn to overcome anxiety from interacting with people with disabilities.

“Part of the training is on etiquette where we teach some of the basic things you need to do to help someone with a visual impairment or somebody who is hearing impaired,” Dawson says. “People want to know, ‘What do I do? How do I interact? When do I offer to help? Am I doing too much to help?’ What does this person need? We give some practical solutions or ways to do that. The training is designed to help people be more at ease and comfortable interacting with different types of disabilities.”

The training also includes the latest information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act and proposed federal initiatives that soon may be mandated.

“That’s another aspect of this that is helpful to me — this training relates to my job,” Barnes says. “I get calls on disability issues, reasonable accommodations and that sort of thing. The law seems to always be changing, so it’s good to get a refresher.”

Moultrie says she hopes these training sessions will make available to departments throughout UAB in the near future. “That’s certainly our goal,” she says.

Cardiac rehab reduces death rate, but is underutilized

After two heart attacks and 10 stents, Rick Vinson had a decision to make — do nothing and likely die from heart disease like his father or take a chance at having a long life.

Vinson chose the latter. After receiving his last stent in October 2010, he entered a cardiac rehab program at UAB. Since then he has dropped 20 pounds, his cholesterol has dropped to 141 from 135 and his triglycerides are down to 149 from 465.

Unfortunately, many heart patients never get the chance reap the benefits of cardiac rehab.

“Research has shown fewer than 20 percent of patients eligible for cardiac rehab are actually referred to a program,” says Vera Bittner, M.D., section head, Preventive Cardiology, medical director of the UAB cardiac rehab program and co-author of a January 2012 scientific advisory for the American Heart Association on increasing referral and participation rates in cardiac rehab.

“A recent analysis from the Medicare database estimated that there is a 35 percent reduction in mortality among people who attended cardiac rehab compared to those who did not,” Bittner says. “And other research studies have shown a 15 to 25 percent reduction in the number of recurrent heart attacks in people who have been to cardiac rehab. These definitively are not negligible health benefits.”

Bittner gave a presentation on the benefits of cardiac rehab titled “Cardiac Rehabilitation: Why Break a Sweat?” during the 2012 American College of Cardiology Scientific Sessions in Chicago Monday, March 26.

Within five years of an initial heart attack, 15 percent of men and 22 percent of women ages 45-64 and 22 percent of men and women older than 65 will suffer another heart attack or fatal coronary event. Outpatient cardiac rehab offers a cost-effective, multidisciplinary approach to reduce risk factors for patients who have had a first cardiac event and helps restore them to health and prevent this from happening again, Bittner says.

The UAB RAVE Program in partnership with the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services recently hosted a training disability exercise for HR employees. The half-day course — Understanding Disability — provided the latest information on disability etiquette and politically correct language regarding disabilities. The course also teaches appropriate ways to interact with individuals with visual, hearing and physical impairments in workplace situations and interviews. The RAVE Program hopes to make this course available throughout campus soon.

Cardiac rehab reduces death rate, but is underutilized.
**UAB 2012 Summer Camps offer something for everyone**

**ARTS**

**Alys Stephens Center’s ArtPlay “Kids on Stage” Drama Camp**

Session I: “Disney’s 101 Dalmatians, Kids”

Phone: 975-4769
Email: atplay@uab.edu
Website: www.ArtPlayASC.org
Ages: 7-12
When: June 6-15, Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with extended-care options.
Description: Campers will be introduced to many aspects of theater with a variety of fun, intense classes. They will learn theater games, improvisation, warm-ups, concentration exercises, voice and diction, terminology, acting and stage production, all while developing a character and rehearsing for a full stage production at the end of camp.
Cost, how to register: $350. Register online at www.ArtPlayASC.org or call 975-4769

Session II: “Disney’s Aristocats, Kids”

Phone: 975-4769
Email: atplay@uab.edu
Website: www.ArtPlayASC.org
Ages: 7-12
When: June 18-25, Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with extended-care options.
Description: This three-day camp will introduce kids to acting and stage production, all while developing a character and rehearsing for a full stage production at the end of camp. 
Cost, how to register: $350. Register online at www.ArtPlayASC.org or call 975-4769

Session III: “Thoroughly Modern Millie, Jr.”

Phone: 975-4769
Email: atplay@uab.edu
Website: www.ArtPlayASC.org
Ages: 7-14
When: June 23-27, Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with extended-care options.
Description: A week-long camp for high school students, focusing on basic elements of marching percussion.
Cost, how to register: Cost is $250. Applications available at www.uabpercussion.com

**UAB Music Camps**

**UAB Music Beginners Percussion Camp**

Phone: 975-5823
Email: Director Gene Famborough, gfambro@uab.edu
Website: www.uabpercussion.com
Ages: Rising grades 6-8
When: 9 a.m. to noon June 6-8
Description: A three day camp for beginner school students, focusing on basic elements of playing drums (including drum set)
Cost and how to register: Cost is $125; application deadline is May 15. Applications available at www.uabpercussion.com

**UAB Music Summer Drumline Camp**

Phone: 975-5823
Email: Director Gene Famborough, gfambro@uab.edu
Website: www.uabpercussion.com
Ages: Rising grades 9-12, and recent high school graduates.
When: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 11-15, lunch included.
Description: A week-long camp for high school students, focusing on basic elements of marching percussion.
Cost and how to register: Cost is $250; application deadline is June 1. Applications available at www.uabpercussion.com

**Ada Long Creative Writing Workshop**

Phone: 934-8573
Email: ada.long@uab.edu
Website: www.uab.edu/literature/creative-writing-workshop
Ages: Rising grades 9-12
When: June 18-22; 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m
Description: Learn what forensic scientists and crime scene investigators do. Receive hands-on training with collecting evidence, dusting for fingerprints, searching for blood stains, analyzing DNA evidence, interpreting DNA profiles and examining files and magnots.
Cost, how to register: $199 per student plus $50 non-refundable registration fee

**UAB Summer Music Camp**

Phone: 975-2263
Email: janneeta@uab.edu
Website: www.music.uab.edu
Ages: Grades 6-12
When: June 10-16
Description: This week of music-making opportunities includes a full band experience, small ensemble participation and training in music theory, literature, and conducting. Campers can choose to stay in UAB dorms for a full residential camp experience, or commute to camps for daily camp sessions.
Cost: Residential tuition is $425 before April 27; $450 after April 27. Commuter tuition is $300 before April 27; $325 after April 27.

**UAB Music Technology Summer Camp**

Phone: 975-8722
Email: slpmusic@uab.edu
Website: www.uab.edu/music/academics
Ages: Grades 7-12
When: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 25-29 and July 9-13
Description: During this five-day camp, students will work in UAB's state-of-the-art music technology lab, learn about audio recording, live sound production, MIDI and audio sequencing, music notation and much more. Additionally the camp will enhance students’ awareness of college and career opportunities in the field of music technology.
Cost, how to register: Cost is $325 for one week or $650 for both weeks. Register online at www.uah.edu/music/academics

**Ada Long Creative Writing Workshop for High School Students**

Phone: 934-8573
Email: James Briendel, director, Ada Long Creative Writing Workshop, briendel@uab.edu
Website: www.uab.edu/english/events/ada-long-creative-writing-workshop
Ages: Rising grades 9-12
When: 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. June 1-22 with lunch provided
Description: This three-day camp introduces high-school students to the basics of writing computer programs in the Java language.
Cost, how to register: $300, maximum capacity 15 students. To register, visit www.cis.uab.edu/programs/camps/compsf

**UAB Java Computer Programming**

Phone: 934-8006, 934-2213
Email: camps@cis.uab.edu
Website: www.cis.uab.edu/programs/camps
Ages: High-school students
Dates: July 23-27, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Cost: $380. Space is limited to 15 students.
Description: This camp introduces high-school students to the basics of writing computer programs in the Java language.
Cost, how to register: $380, maximum capacity 15 students.

**Humanities**

**Ada Long Creative Writing Workshop for High School Students**

Phone: 934-8573
Email: James Briendel, director, Ada Long Creative Writing Workshop, briendel@uab.edu
Website: www.uab.edu/english/events/ada-long-creative-writing-workshop
Ages: Rising grades 9-12
When: 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. June 1-22 with lunch provided
Description: This three-day camp introduces high-school students to the basics of writing computer programs in the Java language.
Cost, how to register: $300, maximum capacity 15 students.

**Business**

**UAB Camp CSI: Birmingham**

Phone: 934-2809
Email: glivols@uab.edu
Website: www.uab.edu/justice-sciences/camp-csi
Ages: 10-12 grade (includes rising 10th graders and graduated seniors)

4 UAB Reporter April 2, 2012
UAB Children's Creative Learning Center Camp
Email: jummer@uab.edu or akirk@uab.edu
Website: www.uab.edu/cclc/enrichment-programs/3-6-year-olds
Ages: Children ages 3-12
When:
• Week 1: Monday-Friday, June 4-8
• Week 2: Monday-Friday, June 11-15
• Week 3: Monday-Friday, June 18-22
• Week 4: Monday-Friday, June 25-29
• Week 5: Monday-Friday, July 2-6 (closed July 4)
• Week 6: Monday-Friday, July 9-13
Hours: 7:30 a.m. to noon
Description: This year's theme is “Engineering Innovation: Full STEAM Ahead!” The program will focus on science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics. Children will enjoy authentic opportunities where they engineer their own learning.
Cost: ages 3-6: $175 weekly; ages 7-9: $150 weekly for workshop only; $175 weekly for workshop + individualized reading or math; $200 weekly for workshop + individualized reading + individualized math; ages 10-12: $150 weekly for workshop; $175 weekly for workshop + social skills course
How to Register: Visit www.uab.edu/cclc/enrichment-program/3-6-year-olds

After Camp Care: Information about registration can be found on the website.

UAB Red Mountain Writing Project Middle School Writing Camps
Phone: 934-7896
Email: Tonja Perry, writingcamp@uab.edu
Ages: Grades 5-8
Camp cost: Registration fee $50 plus weekly cost $165 (week one is $150) with lunch and materials provided.

Week 1: Writing with Math Mania, May 29-June 1
Let the Math Mania begin. This week will begin with an exploration of the many books where math concepts play center stage in idea and organization development. You will get to participate in many number investigations that teach you how to efficiently describe in words how you solve problems.

Week 2: The Art of Poetry, June 4-8
This week, study works of art and learn to see like an artist. You’ll mix your writer’s palette with figurative language, sensory details, precise word choices, vivid imagery and honest emotion. Create pieces of art inspired by your poems, or write poems inspired by your art.

Week 3: The Literature Connection, June 11-15
This week will have you analyzing literature in ways you may have never experienced. Participate in a book blog, create a Facebook page for a character, and publish critiques with such media as podcasts.

Week 4: Campaign Away!, June 18-22
The presidential election year 2012 is on its way, and this week’s campers will learn the framework to campaigning and how writing makes a campaign. Through various games, simulations, guest speakers and media literature, learn how to best craft your own campaign.

UAB Red Mountain Writing Project College Bound
Phone: Tonja Perry, 934-7896
Email: writingcamp@uab.edu
Website: www.cmwp.org
Ages: High schoolers
Dates: Writing for the ACT, June 4-8; Writing a College Admission Essay, June 11-15;
Cost: $150 for each class; $20 lunch (optional); $5 parking (optional).
Description: This camp, offered through the UAB School of Education helps prepare students for college.

UAB Spanish Camp
Phone: 934-4652
Email: kristachambless@uab.edu
Website: www.uab.edu/languages
Ages: 5-10 years old
When: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 23-27
Description: This is a one-week camp designed to teach the Spanish language and Hispanic/Spanish cultures with fun, interactive methods. The camp provides enriching recreational and social activities that promote positive interactions with others.
Cost: $195

Science
CQORD Summer Science Camps for Middle School Students
Phone: 934-5171
Email: CQORD@uab.edu
Website: www.uab.edu/cqord
Ages: Rising 6-8 graders
Dates: June 11-July 27
Cost: $175 for the first camp, $75 to add a second camp.
A $50 registration fee is applied toward the total cost of camp.
Description: CQORD offers six exciting science camps weekly for six weeks. Children can use high-tech instruments to monitor air and water quality, dive into the gene pool and investigate the role DNA plays in living creatures, conduct tests to discover the effects of exercise on the body, embark on a week-long adventure to explore the molecules that are involved in everyday life and spend a week exploring the wonders and magic of chemistry all while using state-of-the-art equipment in real laboratories.

CQORD Summer Science Institute for High School Students
Phone: 934-5171
Email: jmyss@uab.edu
Ages: Students entering grades 10-12
When:
• SSI I – June 4-8 and June 11-15; “Fundamentals of Cellular and Molecular Biology”
• SSI II – June 22-26 and July 23-27; “Advanced Principles of Molecular Biology and Neuroscience”
• SSI III – June 1-Aug. 3; “Research Internship”
Description: Students are placed in research laboratories to work on their own original project under the supervision of UAB faculty and a staff mentor.

UAB ChemBridge Summer Chemistry Camp
Phone: 934-5171
Email: coord@uab.edu
Website: www.uab.edu/chembridge
Ages: Rising 9th grade students
Dates and hours of camp: July 2-6 and July 16-20, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.
Description: This camp is designed to introduce rising 9th grade students to chemistry and its applications through experiments, demonstrations, and activities. Different chemical topics are addressed each day throughout the camp.
Cost, how to register: $150 for either week.
Registration information is available at www.uab.edu/chembridge

Materials Camp at UAB
Phone: 975-3271
Email: genau@uab.edu
Website: www.uab.edu/engineering/departments-research/mst/materials-camp
Ages: Rising grades 11-12
When: June 25-29
Description: This is an opportunity for students considering a career in engineering or applied science to explore the world of engineering materials. Participants will get hands-on lab experience with plastics, metals, ceramics and composites, visit a local foundry, work in teams to design and build the best model rocket using high-tech composite materials, and much more.
Cost, registration: Program is free, but application process is competitive. Online applications are available on the website and are due April 15

UAB OpticsBridge Physics Camp
Phone: 934-5171
Email: coord@uab.edu
Ages: Incoming high school freshman
When: July 30-Aug. 3
Description: This camp provides incoming high-school freshman with a program in optics and physics to encourage them to pursue optics and physics in high school, college and as a career. Students in this program learn the basics of how to put together telescopes, microscopes and other simple optics systems.
How to register: Email coord@uab.edu for an application.
Cost: $150

Athletics
UAB offers a variety of camps for children and teens in football, baseball, basketball, softball, soccer and volleyball. UAB offers both day and overnight camps.

Brian Shoop Baseball Camps: 934-5171
UAB Summer Basketball: 934-3402
UAB Girls Basketball: 934-2048 or 934-2027
Youth Football: 934-7586 or www.uabfootballcamps.com
Softball: 975-7800 or www.uabsoftball.com
UAB Boys Soccer: 870-0194 or www.uabsockercamp.com
UAB Girls Soccer: 934-4797 or www.uabsoftball.com
UAB Volleyball: 975-8010 or www.uabvolleyballcamps.com

Cheerleading, Dance
Elementary Cheer and Dance Camp
Website: main.uab.edu/Sites/students/life/athletic-support/cheer/33226/
Ages: 7-12
Dates: June 12-14 and July 9-11
Cost: $60
Description: Learn cheers and dances from UAB's nationally-ranked cheerleaders and Golden Girls. Attendees will receive a UAB Cheer and Dance Camp T-shirt, a snack each day and a special visit by the UAB mascot, Blaze.

UCFA/UDA Summer Camps
UAB also will host several cheerleading and dance camps sponsored by the Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCFA) and the Universal Dance Association (UDA).
Universal Dance Association (UDA) Camp I
Dates: June 7-10
Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCFA) Cheer Camp I
Dates: June 13-15
UDA Dance Camp II
Dates: June 11-14
UCFA/UDA Cheer Camp II
Dates: June 26-29
To register, or for more information, visit main.uabs.edu/Sites/students/life/athletic-support/cheer/33226.
Judging regional science fair not easy, but it is rewarding

Judging #40 science fair projects in less than six hours might seem like a burden to some, but it’s not for Roger Gilchrist, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology.

"Judging the projects is an uplifting experience," Gilchrist says of the Central Alabama Regional Science and Engineering Fair (CARSEF), hosted on UAB's campus in March. "This type of fair is the only one that generates original data in order to make concise conclusions, and it makes our science fair unique. It makes it truly experimental. And some of the medicine and health projects — you wouldn’t believe. Some students are doing doctoral-level graduate work, and they’re in high school.”

Gilchrist’s passion for science is evident when he talks about CARSEF — the state’s largest regional fair, which is hosted and coordinated each year by UAB’s Center for Community Outreach and Development (CORD). It’s clear the student work fuels Gilchrist’s desire to help Alabama students improve.

"It does excite me to really see kids engaged in the sciences and mathematical computation," Gilchrist says. "All the national testing shows those are deficiencies. This is one way we’re trying to help fill in those gaps."

And it’s a multi-phased effort.

CARSEF draws participants from 18 Alabama counties — many of which are bolstered through the education efforts of CORD. Its staff visits teachers throughout the year to provide training and encourage students engage them in the competition. CORD summer camps attract hundreds of students and also set the stage for the science fair. These students work in UAB laboratories, learning research from private investigators and UAB students.

"We find some of the projects that come out of UAB labs are highly competitive, high-end research," Gilchrist says.

While that is an important note, Gilchrist also says the best projects are not limited to just the middle- or high-school students who participate in the UAB summer camps. Many of the projects are born in the garages and basements of students in the counties assisted by CORD, he says.

"There wouldn’t be much of a fair without the participants’ enthusiasm, parental support, and guidance and discipline from the science teachers in the schools," Gilchrist says. "They play a tremendous part. Those schools have to have a fair, and the students have to win those fair to enter CARSEF. The teachers in those schools must organize and get it judged, and CORD supports them throughout the year. Between fairs, CORD shares with the science teachers ways they can become a participating member.

"That’s how the fingers reach into the community," Gilchrist adds. "We’re building many strong relationships because of our commitment to go to them rather than have them come to us."

Judging the event

More than 90 UAB faculty, post docs, graduate students, other university professors and community science leaders were judges for this year’s regional fair, led by Gilchrist. CORD’s Kevin Jarrett and Tune Wibbel, Ph.D., in biology.

This year marked Gilchrist’s 11th year as the coordinator of the judges. Though 90 percent of them were affiliated with UAB, he also pulled volunteers from Samford University, Jefferson State Community College, Birmingham-Southern College, Southern Company, The McWane Science Center and the U.S. Air Force and Navy.

Categorical judging teams of four or more judges are organized in the Senior (high school) and Junior (middle school) divisions. Projects are submitted in one of 10 categories — biology, chemistry, medicine and health, social and behavioral sciences and environmental and earth science in life sciences; and engineering, physics, math and computer science and energy and transportation in the physical sciences.

Judges with graduate degrees or professionals judge the senior division, and graduate students, community leaders in other school systems and UAB honors students judge the junior division.

The goal of the judges is to make sure each student who participates in the fair has an opportunity to talk with one of them one-on-one about their project. Each team of judges interviews the students whose work they consider to be the top projects. Afterward, all of the judges discuss and debate the projects and select winners.

The top three finishers in each category in each division advance to the Alabama Science and Engineering Fair; it will be held later this month at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. Four overall winners in the CARSEF Senior Division advance directly to the INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair set for May 13-18 in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Gilchrist says the students who participate in CARSEF often inspire the judges.

"When you go to interview somebody so enthusiastic about what they did, sometimes it’s hard to tell the student you have to go to the next project," Gilchrist says. "They’re tugging on your arm, ‘But I wanted to tell you this.’ They’re so excited, and that’s uplifting. And from what I hear, parents and participants’ favorite part is hearing from the judges. It’s a chance to bolster their child’s ego. That interview is very fundamental. In anything they’re going to do and put their effort into, they’ve got to be able to have courage in order to describe or present their ideas in a persuasive way and make themselves competitive in any market.”

The judges, Gilchrist says, are happy to help provide that positive reinforcement.

In fact, he says, many of the judges routinely come back each year because helping area students maintain and increase their enthusiasm for science is a career stewardship they believe strongly in supporting.

"Many other judges have found something incredibly important and exciting about our scientific inquiries, and it’s what guided them to go and achieve what they have achieved," Gilchrist says. "And they’re looking at being a judge as a golden opportunity to pass that on to somebody else.

"We’re always trying to put this positive light on the areas that have been long and dear to our hearts," he adds. “That’s why we’re scientists.”

BENEVOLENT FUND

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that included hanging curtains in exam rooms, hanging pictures, cleaning carpets, sanitizing the waiting room chairs and tables, washing windows, patching wall papered areas, installing a toiler dispenser, grounds keeping, organizing the stock room, purging outdated medicines and donating new toys and books to the waiting area.

The help was invaluable to the clinic, says Blanche Kay McIntyre, director of the health center at M-Power.

"It means a lot to the M-Power staff and patients to know that so many people are willing and able to help us with our mission," McIntyre says.

The next service project is scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 7 at the new YWCA of Central Alabama Woodlawn Urban Garden. Volunteers will help plant their garden.

Courtney McDonald, annual giving manager in the Office of Annual Giving, says these types of projects have been an important way of showcasing to Benevolent Fund donors the opportunity these agencies can provide the community.

"The more knowledge that is out there for our employees about the Benevolent Fund and the agencies it supports, the better our chances are of showing the UAB community how these agencies can help," McDonald says. "If our employees can see first-hand the benefits of these agencies, we hope that will only encourage them to continue to support the Benevolent Fund. It lets them see that the money they are pledging and donating is being put to good use.”

The Benevolent Fund also has added another component to help employees learn more about the agencies it supports — lunch and learn workshops.

The next lunch and learn, which will be from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 25 in the Hill University Center Great Room Hall A, will focus on child care.

Higginbotham says the quarterly service projects and lunch and learn workshops will enable UAB employees to further connect to the agencies they support through the Benevolent Fund.
Slim works to provide high-quality, finished product

Elbert “Slim” Harris always goes into every work project with a plan, and part of that plan always is to develop a checklist.

“Learning to plan comes from the parent he received from his mother. The checklist was a gift given to him as part of his years in the U.S. Air Force during the Cold War of the 1970s when he was a self-described missle cop at Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota.

“I was a security policeman, and any time there were warheads that needed to be changed or regular maintenance to be done, I had to do it. He says. “We had a checklist we had to follow to ensure we stayed on protocol, and if you followed the checklist, you wouldn’t go wrong. That’s how I do some of these jobs. I set up a checklist and follow the steps. When you’ve finished the steps, you have a finished product — something you can be proud of.”

Co-workers say Harris consistently produces work that’s worthy of showing. Whether it’s scrubbing the floors of the School of Business building, changing light bulbs, cleaning restrooms or just keeping the building in top working order, Harris always delivers high-quality work — work that is worth of his selection as March’s Employee of the Month.

Harris, a senior group leader in Building Services, says his selection is a reflection of his 12-person crew, whom he says he relies on to ensure that no stone goes unturned.

“The crew I’ve got working with me is top notch,” Harris says. “We work together pretty well as a team. What I can’t catch they catch for me. They keep me well-informed of everything going on. They’re what makes things work out right for me.”

Jenise Prather-Kinsey, Ph.D., professor and chair of the accounting and finance department in the Business-Economics Complex, has watched Harris study his work carefully and take great pride in doing a good job.

“I have watched Slim study the stains in my carpet and research fabric content before deciding on how best to clean the carpet,” Prather-Kinsey says. “He then tries on his knees with a putty knife scraping marks off the tiled floors. He takes extra care to remove fresh spots and stains from our carpeting and is regularly in touch with our building administrator about the status of projects and work in progress. Slim is responsive, responsible, humble, attentive to detail and always embodies a spirit of gratitude.”

Harris is appreciative of the compliments, but humbly says he’s just doing his job.

“My main function is to make sure that all of our employees have what they need to do their job,” Harris says, “and that includes a clean, pleasant environment to work in.

“Just try to do the best job I can,” he says. “But I try to satisfy myself first. If I can’t satisfy myself, how am I going to satisfy the other employees? It’s got to be right for me first.”

Harris’ discipline — and the nickname Slim — also comes from years of tae-kwon-do training.

He began learning the martial arts in the Air Force in 1973, and his North Carolina friend and fellow soldier Larry Lewis gave him the nickname Slim after watching him throw kicks during their training.

“He said it looked like something off of a Bruce Lee poster,” Harris says. “He took to calling me Dakota Slim, since we were stationed in South Dakota. Slim has managed to stick with me all these years.”

Harris fought competitively for 10 years beginning in 1976. He won the first tournament he entered in South Dakota during the nation’s bicentennial celebration and instantly was hooked. He continued to compete when he came home to Birmingham before leaving competition in 1986.

The discipline he learned along the way has helped shape him, Harris says. Learning a martial art takes a high amount of discipline. Colleagues say Harris is very meticulous and always has the goal of making his fellow employees feel pride in their surroundings.

“Always is on top of any situation,” says Warren Martin, Building Services manager. “When you find a team player like Mr. Harris, he becomes an asset to the department and the management team. I am very appreciative of his hard work.”

Harris is approaching 10 years of employment at UAB and another milestone — his 60th birthday in July. He has no intentions of slowing down anytime soon.

“I’m going to work for a few more years because I’m basically healthy, just a little nutty,” Harris jokes. “I enjoy my job and giving everyone a finished product. When you do it well, and it shows, that’s a plus. It makes you feel good.”

BASKETBALL

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A native of South Lake Tahoe, Calif., Haase played basketball for the University of California in 1992-93 and then transferred to Kansas. He helped lead the Jayhawks to three consecutive conference titles and finished his career ranked in the top 10 among school leaders in assists, three-point field goals and steals.

He started 99 of 101 games at Kansas and scored 1,264 points, averaging 12.5 per game and reaching double figures 74 times. While at KU, Haase was a candidate for the Naismith and Wooden Awards.

Haase was a first-team GTE Academic All-American as a senior, a second-team Academic All-American as a junior and an academic all-conference selection three times. The Jayhawks’ Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year, Haase later earned a master’s degree in business at KU in 2000. One of his goals, he says, is to provide the complete post-secondary education experience to his players.

“The fact that our kids are going to graduate is important to me,” Haase says. “The fact that we’re going to do things the right way and in a first-class manner is important to me. They’re going to be held accountable in the classroom. They’re going to be held accountable for doing things the right way and representing themselves, the team, the university and the city of Birmingham in the right way, as well.”

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