Seminar series for new faculty off to good start

Stephen Yoder’s experience in corporate law is unquestioned. His 30 years in practice mean countless stories, experiences and insight that would be valuable to any UAB business student interested in corporate governance or the legal environment of business.

Because Yoder, an attorney, did not have an opportunity to teach courses as part of his graduate and professional training, the first-year adjunct professor in the School of Business jumped at the opportunity to enroll in the Excellence in Teaching Seminar Series for New Faculty offered for the first time this spring.

The seven-class seminar series was developed for faculty in their early years of teaching and aimed especially at those with no formal training in educational instruction.

“I needed this course because I needed to learn about teaching,” says Yoder, J.D. who is scheduled to become an assistant professor in August. “It was a perfect course for someone like me who is supposed to have mastered the substance but has to deliver it in an effective way.”

The series, which will be offered annually, is sponsored by the Office for Faculty Development and Faculty Affairs.

Julia Austin, Ph.D., director of educational services, is the coordinator and instructor. Course topics include student learning and long-term retention, designing a course syllabus, enhancing lectures, effective teaching approaches and techniques, challenging students and interesting situations and evaluating and grading.

Preparing faculty

The goal of the series was to help new faculty gain useful knowledge about teaching and learning while giving them opportunities to network with new faculty and experienced master teachers.

“The overall objective is to prepare faculty to be both effective and efficient in their early years of teaching,” says Claire Peel, Ph.D., interim associate provost for Faculty Development & Faculty Affairs.

“Faculty learn about student-learning styles, creating a clear and concise syllabus, preparing lectures and active learning experiences and ways to evaluate student learning.”

Ten schools participated in the seminar series, providing the new faculty with an opportunity to learn from such well-respected UAB faculty as Joe March, Ph.D., associate professor of chemistry; Dale Reno, Ph.D., chairman of Physiology and Biophysics; Wesley Granger, Ph.D., associate professor of respiratory therapy; and Jim Martin, Ph.D. associate professor of physics.

Austin says her goal was to provide the new faculty with quality information and guidance on structuring their courses.

“We really wanted these seminars to help faculty, not just be something they had to attend and do,” Austin says. “We wanted to help new faculty learn more about effective and efficient teaching strategies.”

Yoder says the guest lecturers demonstrated techniques that worked well for them in the classroom – and gave the participants excellent advice.

“They are students of the subject of teaching,” he says. “One thing I found particularly interesting was how powerful prepared faculty, not just be something they had to attend and do.”

UAB packing up for service trip to Iquitos, Peru

A group of UAB faculty, staff and students are traveling to Peru in May to continue work to build wells for four villages near Iquitos. This well in Llanchama, found broken by the group last year, was the community’s source of clean water.

The project is the combined effort of the schools of Engineering and Public Health and the UAB chapter of Engineers without Borders.

Nurses’ mock court examines patient-care practices May 14

Becky Langner has been a nurse for 34 years — nearly 30 of those here at UAB.

During that time she’s attended numerous continuing education classes, but none compared with the mock court session she participated in this past December.

“This was absolutely the most fun and interesting way I’ve experienced learning in a long time,” says Langner, a staff nurse in Critical Care. “I’m a research buff anyway. This experience was really different, really informative for nurses and really fun.”

UAB nurses have the opportunity to be a part of the same sort of experience Wednesday, May 14 when the Evidence Based Nursing Practice Council hosts another Nursing Mock Court Session in Margaret Cameron Spain Auditorium.

The session, part of the annual Nurses Week celebration, will be a repeat of the popular one held in December 2007 during which Langner and fellow nurse David James argued for open visitation in intensive-care units, based on research conducted around the nation.

Other topics argued and discussed included medication errors and wireless technology, such as cell phone use at the bedside. Open ICU visitation and medication errors will be repeated mock court topics.

“These are issues that are very prevalent in nursing,” says Shannon Graham, advanced nursing coordinator and co-founder of the event along with Judy White in UAB Hospital. “The great thing about the Mock Court is that it takes EBP in nursing research and puts it into an easy to understand and fun format for bedside staff nurses. This helps them not be so intimidated when answering a research question.”

Court is in session

The mock court proceedings mimic a real-life courtroom. There are opposing sides, attorneys and witnesses. Additionally, there is a bailiff, court reporter, jury, jury foreman and judge.
BRIEFS

Would you lead a meaningful dialogue about the weather?

Volunteer facilitators are needed for the Freshman Discussion Group to be held from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 11 following a presentation about UAB’s 2008 Discussion Book topic, led by its author.

This year’s selection is Field Notes from a Catastrophe: Man, Nature, and Climate Change, by Elizabeth Kolbert. E-mail Juanita Nizamore at jnizamor@uab.edu by May 1 to volunteer; facilitators will receive a copy of the book, and training sessions will be held Aug. 14 and 15.

The complex issue of climate change encourages the exchange of different perspectives on cause, significance, consequences and best responses. Kolbert, a former reporter for the New York Times and staff writer for the New Yorker since 1999, has provided a readable introduction to climate change that supports UAB’s mission to educate its students to be knowledgeable participants in a global society.

Joining Kolbert in the panel discussion will be Robert Mendelsohn, the Edwin Weyhracher Davis Professor of Economics at Yale University, and Henry Pollard, professor emeritus in geophysics, University of Michigan. Afterward, freshmen will divide into small groups of around 20 students and participate in discussion groups led by UAB President Carol Garrison, Provost Eli Capilouto and other volunteer facilitators.

Use or lose your personal holidays

UAB’s policy on personal holidays, last updated in 2004, requires non-hospital bi-weekly-paid full-time regular employees to take any unused personal holidays by the last biweekly pay period with a June pay date. This year, that means employees in this category must take their personal holidays by the end of the June 21 pay period or they will be forfeited automatically.

The new personal holiday balance for the 2008/2009 period will be reflected on the June 22-July 5 pay period statement. Personal holidays must be taken prior to notice of termination; they will not be paid as terminal leave or during the period of notice.


The policy for monthly paid employees and hospital employees remains unchanged. If you have any questions, please contact the Benefits Office at 934-3458.

UAB to host TIAA-CREF sessions

A consultant from TIAA-CREF will be at UAB May 13-15 and June 3-5 for individual employee-counseling sessions in the HR Benefits department in the Administration Building Suite 264. Employees should make an appointment; visit the TIAA-CREF Web site at www.tiaa-cref.org/moc or call Tonya Damon-Holland toll-free at 1-800-842-2003 ext. 333.

A TIAA-CREF consultant will be available to answer questions about your financial matters and help you:

• Understand the importance of protecting your assets from inflation.
• Understand the basic types of investment choices available.
• Learn about TIAA-CREF retirement income flexibility.
• Select your TIAA-CREF options.
• Choose the distribution of benefits.

Check in at the HRM second floor reception desk when you arrive for your appointment.

TIAA-CREF is a tax-sheltered annuity program that offers the individual a choice as to the distribution of the total deposit to be placed in TIAA (fixed annuity), CREF (variable annuity) and CREF (mutual funds). UAB matches the individual employee’s contributions up to 5 percent of gross monthly pay (not to exceed $210,000 annual UAB salary). Eligibility for matching is limited to full-time regular monthly-paid employees.

Register for service-learning series finale

A review of service-learning at UAB is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 30 in the Sterne Library Henley Room. Stefan Kertesz will introduce The Albert Schweitzer Service Learning Fellowship Program, and an open discussion will examine aspects such as community partnerships, faculty incentives, assessment tools, course designation and other topics participants may raise.

Register for the luncheon online at http://main.uab.edu/show.asp?durki=103574.

State ethics filing deadline is April 30

UAB employees who meet certain criteria are required to file their annual economic interests form with the Alabama Ethics Commission by April 30. The forms will be available through BlazerNET.

Faculty and staff who meet a certain salary threshold, or whose job includes management of state funds in certain capacities, must file a Statement of Economic Interests form on an annual basis, said UAB Chief Human Resources Officer Cheryl E.J. Locke. Such employees are receiving formal notice of this requirement in a letter sent to their home address; the letter instructs employees to log on to BlazerNET to download and print the form. Once in BlazerNET (blazernet.uab.edu), employees should click on the Employee Resources tab and click on the link to the Human Resource Management channel. Once the form is completed, employees should return it to the State of Alabama Ethics Commission, P.O. Box 302300, Montgomery AL 36130-2300. The filing is mandated by the Code of Alabama, 1975 Section 36-25-14. Summarized, the requirements as they apply to UAB state that:

• Persons whose base rate of pay at any time during calendar year 2007 would have annualized to $50,000 or greater are required to file, even if employment during the year was for a period as short as one day.
• Persons under that salary threshold whose job includes authority for procurement or investments are required to file.
• The Ethics Commission has exempted persons whose pay and benefits come primarily from UAB Hospital from the filing requirement.

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

Stress management class offered May 7

Resource Center EAP Counselor Alecia Adams is hosting a “Stress Management Blitz” class Wednesday, May 7 from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. in West Pavilion Room E. The class is free to all UAB employees and members, and participants are welcome to bring lunch. Registration is required; call 934-2281 to register, or visit the Resource Center at www.uab.edu/eap for more information.

Curious readers get Curious George

UAB student Lauren Hamrick reads to children at the UAB Child Development Center as part of a David Stewart series of service-learning projects. Students participated in one-on-one tutoring sessions with the children throughout the semester. On April 21 they conducted the final tutorial session, including a conference with the children’s parents to showcase the tutorial experience.

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Online: The UAB Reporter can be found online at www.uab.edu/reporter. Including the previous 12 months’ issues, issues since September 2001 are online at www.uab.edu/.

Commencement to go Green & Gold Saturday, May 3

I will be a sea of green and gold Saturday, May 3 as about half of the university’s 2,083 spring graduates take part in commencement in Bartow Arena.

“Our new green commencement robes are a new tradition at UAB,” said Doug Rigney, Ph.D., vice president of student affairs.

“During the past few years we have seen the opening of the Campus Recreation Center, the Dining Commons, Blazer Hall, our freshman residence hall, and Heritage Hall, our new academic classroom building,” said Rigney. “School spirit has never been higher, and this new commencement tradition reflects that.”

The commencement address will be given by technology entrepreneur Julie Hanna, who also will receive the UAB National Alumni Society Distinguished Alumna of the Year award. During the ceremonies, Herman D. Bolden, chair and president of Southern Coach Parts Co., will receive the honorary degree Doctor of Humanities.

School of Engineering to offer interdisciplinary doctorate

A new Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Engineering will begin enrolling students in the fall to help meet a growing demand for graduates with multidisciplinary research capabilities.

The doctoral program, which will include tracks in environmental engineering and computational engineering, will prepare engineers to solve complex problems in teams that include scientists.

Students will gain the skills needed to succeed as independent and productive investigators in multidisciplinary analysis and design, with applications across a wide spectrum of science, engineering, health and medical fields.

The demand for engineering graduates with these skills has increased dramatically in the past decade, and UAB is well positioned to meet this demand, said Engineering Dean Linda Lucas, Ph.D.

Recent investments in enabling technology and high-performance computing laboratories will provide the tools students need. The UA System Board of Trustees approved the program Friday, April 11. For information on the program, including application instructions, visit www.eng.ua.edu or contact Kim Hazelwood at 996-5167.

Undergraduate degree in neuroscience proposed

An explosion in growth in neuroscience during the past two decades fuels the demand for researchers and neuroscience health professionals. A proposal by UAB to offer an undergraduate degree in neuroscience has been approved by the UA System Board of Trustees and now will go to the Alabama Commission on Higher Education for approval.

The proposed degree program will provide a broad, challenging sequence of courses in biology, psychology, chemistry, mathematics and physics. It also will feature introductory and advanced classes in neuroscience. UAB anticipates graduates of the program will have academic, intellectual and research skills that will make them highly competitive for professional schools in health-related sciences and research.

UAB expects to enroll 15 students in the program, which will be administered by the Department of Neurobiology in the School of Medicine and the Department of Psychology in the School of Social & Behavioral Sciences. The program also will draw from the schools of Optometry and Natural Sciences & Mathematics.

Students in the program will have unique opportunities to work with top UAB neuroscience faculty and participate in original research projects.

In 2006, UAB created a Comprehensive Neuroscience Center to develop a world-class program in interdisciplinary neuroscience research, clinical care and education. UAB is home to the Alabama Neuroscience Blueprint Core facility, a research program funded by the National Institutes of Health that will link investigators from universities and institutions across the state and region. A 2006 grant of $8.6 million over five years provides six shared core facilities for scientists working in neuroscience. UAB was one of only four institutions nationally to receive NIH Neuroscience Blueprint funding.

Doctorate of science in administration to debut

UAB will offer an Executive Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) in Administration within the School of Health Professions to train a new generation of leaders incorporating analytical skills required to manage today’s complex health-care organizations.

The program will combine distance learning and on-campus instruction, to facilitate participation by working executives throughout Alabama and the nation. Beginning in June 2009, the degree program will enroll at least 12 executives per year in the course of study.

The new degree will be closely related to and build upon the existing Doctor of Philosophy in Administration—Healthcare Services program at UAB. That program, and the related Master of Science in Health Administration, have attracted students throughout the nation and worldwide. The new Executive D.Sc. will offer an applied instructional component to complement the academic Ph.D. program. For information, e-mail phda@uab.edu. The UA System Board of Trustees approved the program Friday, April 11.

Literary magazine PMS wins national essay honor

PMS: Prosemennoir, a national literary magazine published by the UAB Department of English, has been recognized by The Best American Essays series for 2008 published by Houghton Mifflin.

The winning work is "Cracking Open," a memoir by Patricia Brieschke. The memoir appeared in the seventh edition of PMS in 2007. It is the third essay from PMS that has been selected for the annual prize anthology in four years.

PMS is a journal of women’s poetry, memoirs and short stories and is published annually. The editor-in-chief is Linda Frost, Ph.D., associate professor of English at UAB. Essays from PMS have been selected for inclusion in both issues of the new anthology The Best Creative Nonfiction series published by WW. Norton & Co.

The 2008 edition of PMS: No. 8, which is on sale, is a collection of African-American women writers. The guest editor is award-winning poet Honoree Fanonne Jeffers. Other featured writers in the eighth edition include Nikki Giovanni, Edwidge Danticat and Lucille Clifton, and an interview with Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Natasha Trethewey.

Educational assistance re-certification reminder

Employees are required to re-certify themselves and eligible dependents/spouse annually before the fall semester if they wish to take part in the Educational Assistance Program for the next academic year.

Failure to re-certify each year will mean that credit will not be given for the educational assistance benefit. Please note that the student’s BlazerID will be required to re-certify. Employees must make sure they have the BlazerID prior to the certification deadline.

Online registration for the benefit can be found under the Educational Assistance section of the Oracle self-service menu. Log in to Oracle via www.uab.edu, select Benefits at 934-4545.

April 28, 2008 UAB Reporter 3
Disaster readiness focus of new study

Researchers with the UAB Social Work Program and Children's Hospital are conducting a study to determine the level of at-home disaster preparedness among families who have children with special health-care needs.

The study focuses on families who have children on daily medication, use electrical devices as part of at-home care and rely on devices to aid in mobility such as wheelchairs. These subjects are being compared to normal controls to assess the levels of preparedness.

Lisa Baker, Ph.D., assistant professor of social work, and Mark Baker, M.D., department of pediatrics/emergency medicine, are co-principal investigators for the study. They say previous studies show many parents are not prepared to provide for their family's basic needs in the event of a natural or man-made disaster.

"Current research tells us that less than one-third of families are prepared in the case of a disaster, and we know children with special health-care needs pose a special concern for families," Lisa Baker says. "We wanted to conduct this study to look at the families of children with special medical needs to see if they are any more prepared."

**Preliminary results**

Study participants have been selected at random from patients at Children's Hospital. Baker says they want to know if families have a written communication plan, a personal disaster kit and a medical plan for their child.

Half of the families surveyed are given information giving them detailed steps on how to become prepared. The other families are given a personal disaster kit donated by the Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency and the Jefferson County Citizens Corps, along with the education materials showing how to continue developing a full disaster plan. The study will have enrolled 400 families at its completion. Almost 100 families have been surveyed, and Baker says the preliminary results mirror previous studies from around the country.

"What we're finding is not much different from what the research has told us," she says. "About 11 percent of families have a written communication plan in place. About 18 percent of the families have a personal disaster kit."

**What is a disaster?**

A disaster is any exposure to a hazard that threatens personal safety, disrupts family and community functioning and results in personal and societal loss. Disasters include tornadoes, flooding, severe weather, earthquakes and wildfires, as well as terrorist attacks, bombings and chemical or biological exposures and spills.

Mark Baker says previous disasters have shown a disruption in services can cause great strain on families of children with special health-care needs and on pharmacies and emergency rooms.

"Some of the things we've seen after previous disasters is that families with children that require special care run out of medication or they need to access emergency departments more frequently to obtain medication refills or treat medical problems that arise," he says. "These families may be the most vulnerable in the sense that they are more likely to utilize special-needs shelters or emergency departments during a disaster."

Baker says now is the best time for families in the South to formulate a disaster plan for their families.

"All families should take a few minutes to get prepared before our severe weather season really gets in gear," he says. "Taking planning steps now can go a long way to preventing problems during a crisis."

**Educational intervention**

Part of the study includes an educational intervention to see if the level of at-home preparedness improves. Lisa Baker says families will be contacted a few months after they filled out the initial survey.

"For the families that received a kit we want to know if they needed to access anything in it and for what purpose," she says. "We also want to know if the kit is still intact in the home. We also want to know if those who did not receive a kit have taken steps to make their families better prepared."

"These results really are to inform how we can better prepare families and find out what is going to be the intervention that actually encourages the families to get prepared. We know there's been some large-scale media information out there encouraging families to be prepared, but many are still struggling with that."

For information on UAB’s policies and procedures during any emergency or severe weather situation, please visit the UAB Emergency Information Web page at www.uab.edu/emergency. The page also contains links to internal and external emergency support and information resources.

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**What should be in your disaster supplies kit?**

Assemble and store supplies you need in an easy-to-carry container like a backpack or duffel bag.

Items to include are:

- A supply of water in sealed, unbreakable containers.
- A supply of non-perishable packaged or canned food and a non-electric can opener.
- A change of clothing, rain gear and sturdy shoes.
- Extra supply of diapers and powdered formula for families with infants.
- A favorite toy, stuffed animal and coloring book for children.
- Blankets, duct tape, utility knife and toilet tissue.
- A first-aid kit and prescription medications, nebulizers, inhalers, etc.
- A battery-powered radio, flashlight and plenty of extra batteries.
- Credit cards and cash.
- An extra set of car keys.
- A list of family physicians.
- A list of important family information; the style and serial number of medical devices such as pacemakers.
- Special items for infants, elderly or disabled family members.


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**Mock Court**

CONTINUED from page 1

Each team has to perform a thorough literature search and be able to defend their view with valid evidence. Witnesses are questioned by attorneys about the research findings. This enabled the nurses to gain an understanding of the levels of scientific research, statistics and its clinical relevance.

The jury deliberates in an open forum and the jury foreman solicits staff nurse thoughts and opinions to reach a verdict. The judge then entertains the verdict and issues orders to change the current standards of care and enhance their practice environments. In mock court sessions, the nurses are presented with evidence and asked to support their view in a courtroom setting.

"It was a great way to learn," says Mary Anne Degges, advanced nursing coordinator for Cardiovascular Services. "I think it allowed for open, non-threatening discussions regarding best practices. It was interesting to hear other viewpoints from nurses. I think some people who came in with a particular viewpoint on an issue may have changed their minds. Others were reinforced."

"It was a great way to learn," says Mary Anne Degges, advanced nursing coordinator for Cardiovascular Services. "I think it allowed for open, non-threatening discussions regarding best practices. It was interesting to hear other viewpoints from nurses. I think some people who came in with a particular viewpoint on an issue may have changed their minds. Others were reinforced."

"It was a great way to learn," Degges was in the audience for the first mock court, but she has volunteered to sit on a jury for the May 14 session.

"I decided to be more involved this time," she says.

**Another trial in fall**

Graham says another mock trial already is in the planning stages for the fall. In fact, Langner is mentoring two other nurses as they prepare to present evidence on a new topic.

Graham hopes the mock trial proves to be an innovative, creative and useful approach to introducing the concepts of evidence-based practice, making it a friendlier topic for nurses.

"It can be difficult to get nurses excited about evidence-based practice because so many nurses are turned off by the idea of research," Graham says.

"Holding a mock court session is an exciting way to promote EBP that engages nurses to understand and utilize the principles of research to both promote change and enhance their practice environments. In the end, that benefits the nurse and their patients."

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** campus news**

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Mark Baker and Lisa Baker are conducting a study to determine the level of at-home disaster preparedness among families who have children with special health-care needs.
Xylitol’s ability to prevent cavities in adults to be tested

The natural sweetener xylitol has been touted by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry for its effectiveness in reducing cavities in children. Now UAB dental researchers will test its effectiveness in adults through a National Institutes of Health-funded study.

The School of Dentistry is enrolling adult participants into a study of the natural sweetener xylitol, which has shown great success in reducing cavities in children. Study members must commit to using five xylitol mints five times a day throughout the three-year course of the study.

Researchers believe xylitol can be effective in a number of ways. It doesn’t feed the plaque-forming bacteria that cause cavities, and it stimulates more saliva.

Sonia Makhija, D.D.S., director of the study and assistant professor in the Department of Diagnostic Sciences, says the clinical trial will consist of two groups: a group that is given the xylitol-containing mints and a placebo group that will receive a different mint. Participants will be randomly placed in one of those groups. Makhija and Gilbert say the participants will not know which group they will be in, but say those enrolled in the placebo group could see positive results.

“Even if you get assigned to the placebo group you stand to benefit because the mints do stimulate saliva, and we know that saliva helps prevent dental decay,” Makhija says. “People with a dry mouth tend to develop more tooth decay.”

Regular dental visits still needed

Gilbert also stresses that if the mints work they won’t eliminate the need for all dental care. Everyone should still see a dentist regularly for routine checkups and cleaning.

“A successful study means the mints will prevent dental decay in adults. It doesn’t mean they would eliminate all problems,” Gilbert says. “This would add to or complement your routine care.”

To learn more about the study or how to enroll, call Andrea Eiring, coordinator for the study at 532-7374.

What is xylitol?

UAB is one of three national sites conducting the xylitol trial; the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill are the other sites.

Xylitol is a five-carbon sugar alcohol derived primarily from forest and agricultural materials. It has been used since the early 1960s in infusion therapy for post-operative, burn and shock patients, in the diet of diabetic patients and as a sweetener in products aimed at improved oral health (such as chewing gum).

Xylitol in FDA-approved and is available over the counter in many forms, such as mints, chewing tablets, lozenges, toothpastes, mouthwashes and cough mixtures. Xylitol chewing gum has been shown to be effective as a preventive agent; however, the usefulness of other xylitol products has not been studied.

An inexpensive, available source of prevention like xylitol could have a revolutionary impact on dental care and dental costs.

PERU

CONTINUED from page 1

The group will make the trip to the country May 29 and work in the country for 10 days, says Mark Koopman, one of the founding members of the chapter and a research assistant in the Department of Physics.

This past year, the group traveled to Peru and assessed the situation on the picture when they see how these folks are living and how they prepare their water. Koopman says the goal this year is to begin implementing the strategies, including construction of wells.

“It was critical last year to see the situation on the ground,” Koopman says. “This year we’re starting to put some things in place. That probably will continue for another year or so.”

Better quality of life

The World Health Organization and UNICEF estimate more than 20 percent of the world’s population is still using unsafe sources of drinking water, and the resulting illnesses and death can devastate communities in developing nations such as Peru.

“All of the villages depend on river water or very shallow groundwater, just a few feet deep, that is influenced by the river. Water testing carried out during last year’s trip indicated that most of this water is contaminated,” says Mindy Lator, Ph.D., director of Environmental Health Engineering and faculty advisor for Engineers without Borders. Lator and Carlos Orizuela, Ph.D., a Spanish professor and native of Peru, are among the 12 making the trip.

“Health records in the area show a lot of gastrointestinal problems and intestinal parasites,” Lator says. “We hope to provide the villages with a clean water source. We want to put in good quality wells that will last, and we’re working with the Lions Club in Iquitos to oversee main-
**Special Lectures**

**Wednesday, April 30**
11:30 am UAB Human Resource Management. Faculty Development: Service Learning Lunchtime Series. Stefan Kertesz will introduce The Albert Schweitzer Service Learning Fellowship Program and an open discussion will examine aspects such as community partnerships, faculty incentives, assessment tools, course designation and other top- ics students may select. Sterne Library Henley Room. To register, go to http://main.uab.edu/show.asp?durki=103574.

3:30 pm Psychology 2000 Colloquium Series. Applying a neural model of addiction to obesity. Assoc Prof Rosalyn Weil (Psychology); CH-327.

**Thursday, May 1**
11:30 am UAB Human Resource Management. Faculty Development: SBS Luncheon Forum on Academic Integrity. A forum for SBS faculty, under- graduate and graduate students to examine the issue of academic integrity and ways to infuse academic integrity as an important part of UAB Culture. Hill University Center Great Hall A-B. To register, go to http://main.uab.edu/show.asp?durki=103574.

**Friday, May 2**
noon Medical center Christian fellowship meeting. Thursdays, May 1, May 8
10 am International Women’s Group.

**Friday, May 9**
10 am UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center. How human cytomegalovirus deals with stress: Proteomic and metabolomic studies. Dr Thomas Shenk (James Eikins Professor, Molecular Biology, Princeton University); West Pavilion-E.

**Meetings**

**Tuesday, April 29, May 6**
10 am International Women’s Group. Smolian International House, 4-1205/ ihouse@uab.edu.

**Thursday, May 1, May 8**
12:10 pm Mindfulness Meditation. The UAB Resource Center. Call 934-2281 or visit www.uab.edu/ eap for more info.

**Radiation Safety training course coming to campus**

The UAB Radiation Safety Program of Occupational Health and Safety is offering a Radiation Safety Training Course in two sessions — an online portion that can be taken at any time and a two-day, in-person portion. The in-class portion of the course will be held Friday, May 2 from 1 to 5 p.m in the School of Nursing Building Room G02B. An examination will be given May 16. Call 934-4751 or 934-2487 for the exam location.

Both the online and in-class portions of the course must be completed before the written examination can be taken. The course is intended for laboratory technicians who have never attended a formal training course or those using radioisotopes for the first time.

The topics covered in the online portion of the course include those mandated by the Alabama State Board of Health Office of Radiation Control. To: www. healthsafe.uab.edu and select “Education & Training,” then select Radiation Safety Training to complete the online portion.

The in-class portion of the course is offered quarterly on two non-consecutive days. People must attend both in-class days. Registration for the in-class portion of the course is required no later than Thursday, May 1.

A certificate of training will be awarded to those who complete both portions of the course, who complete the written examination with a grade of 70 percent or more, and who submit a baseline blood sample. Completion of this basic course will not meet the training requirements to obtain radioactive material license- sure at UAB.

To register or for more information, call 934-4751 or 934-2487.

**T’ai Chi, meditation could help manage stress — try it**

The UAB Resource Center is offering free lunchtime classes to teach you to manage stress through T’ai Chi and meditation. T’ai Chi is a slow-motion exercise with movements that gently build strength and flexibility, improve balance and, at the same time, help you relax. The introduction class is Thursday, May 1, and the class will meet each Thursday through June. Resource Center Counselor Alois Adams is the instructor.

The Mindfulness Meditation for Stress Management class will begin its meetings Tuesday, May 6, and meet each Tuesday for the first 6 weeks of the quarter. Resource Center Counselor John Quenelle leads a brief discussion of this ancient practice, which has been shown in many studies to alleviate the mental, emo- tional and physical effects of stress to help with pain management.

Both classes are free for UAB employees, but reg- istration is required. Classes meet from 12 to 1 p.m. until 12:50 p.m. in Suite 330, 21 Office Plaza South at Magnolia Office Park, 2712 11th Ave. South. Call 934-2281 or visit www.uab.edu/eap to register or for more information.

**Egyptologist to speak at UAB Friday, May 2**

Egyptologist Edwin “Ted” Brock will discuss the reconstruction of the sarcophagus of Pharaoh Ramses VI, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Friday, May 2 in Heritage Hall Room 106. Admission is free and open to the public. Brock’s lecture is sponsored by the Office of the Dean of the UAB School of Social Behavioral Sciences and the UAB Laboratory for Global Health Observation.

Brock and his team reconstructed a sarcophagus from one of the largest tombs in the Valley of the Kings. Ramses’ sarcophagus was pieced together from 250 fragments likely broken and scattered in the pharaoh’s tomb by ancient tomb robbers. Ramses VI ruled nearly 3,100 years ago.

**Defenses**

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

**Exhibits**

Mervyn H. Sterne Library. 150 Years for Equality: The Women’s Rights Movement 1848 - 1998. Library hours: 7:30 am-11 pm Mon-Thur; 7:30 am-7 pm Fri; 9 am-5 pm Sat; 1-11 pm Sun.

The Samuel Unlimited Museum. Home of prominent Birmingham civic leader and poet. Open by appoint- ment only. 4-4278.

Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences. Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America’s Women Physicians, LH-3rd Fl. For info, call 4-4475.

Visual Arts Gallery. Bachelor of Fine Arts Spring 2008 Show. This exhibition features works by students graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. 900 13th St. S, Admission is free. Through May 9. 4-0815.

**Special events**

Tuesday, April 29
5:30 pm UAB Gospel Choir. A choir from Israel and students in the UAB Gospel Choir will perform together as part of a musical cultural exchange to be directed by Kevin Tuner. The public is invited. For more info, call Joyce 879-0416. Hulsey Recital Hall.

Wednesday, April 30
11:30 am UAB Health System. Physician Appreciation Day luncheon to recognize their patients for care and contributions to the advance- ment of medical knowledge. West Pavilion Atrium.

**Friday, May 2**
10 am Catholic mass. All welcome. Blair 216-8571.

West Pavilion.

**Saturday, May 3**
8 pm UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center. Second annual Fiesta Ball. All proceeds raised from the eve- ning will be used to fund a young cancer researcher at UAB. Tickets for the dance are $35 per person and $60 per couple. They may be purchased in advance by calling (205) 934-0034. For an extra $30, guests may purchase a table centerpiece to be displayed during the event in honor or memory of a loved one who has battled cancer. Ted’s, downtown Birmingham.

**Tuesday, May 6**
6 pm UAB BookTalk. Lost City Radio, by Daniel Alaron. The discussion will be led by Prof Bill Hutchings (English); Sterne Library-Henley Room.

**Wednesday, May 7**
11:30 am UAB Resource Center Employee Assistance Program. Stress management work- shop and Joy of Stress video: Life is Short (So Wear Your Party Pants), in recognition of National Mental Health Awareness Week. The Alabama chapter of the American Mental Health Counselors Association has organized a “Stress Management Blast!” and there are more than 40 stress management workshops being offered statewide this week. West Pavilion Room E. Free to all UAB employees and family members. Call 934-2281 to register or visit www.uab.edu/eap for more information.

**Sight and study discussion; HUG-413. All wel- come. For more info, Andrew 822-9338.**

**Sunday, May 4, May 11**
10 am Catholic mass. St Stephen Church, 1515 S 12th Ave. 933-2500.

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

5 pm UAB Hindu Student Council. We will have a session on singing and feasting the Hare Krishna way where everyone is welcome to join. For more info, Varadraj Prabhu 389-9805. 1501 15th Ave S, Apt 20, Bham.

**UAB Sports**

**May 7:** UAB Baseball vs Jacksonville State. Young Memorial Field, 4 pm

**May 7:** UAB Baseball vs Jacksonville State. Young Memorial Field, 6:30 pm
UAB Camps: What are your kids doing for the summer?

UAB entities offer a variety of educational, artistic and athletic camps for children, from preschool age to rising high-school seniors. A brief description and contact information are provided here to help you plan summer activities.

Athletics Summer Sports Camps
UAB offers both day and overnight camps in a multitude of sports. For more details on dates, cost and registration, visit the Web site at www.uabsports.com and click “camps” or call: Youth Football Camp - 934-7586 Baseball Camp - 934-5182 Mike Davis Summer Basketball Camps - 934-3402 Audra Smith Girls Basketball Camps - 934-2048 Softball Camps and Clinics - 975-7800 Boys Soccer Camp - 870-0194 Girls Soccer Camp - 934-4797 Synchronized Swimming - 975-2785 Volleyball Camps - 975-9879

Children’s Creative Learning Center
Phone: Lynn Kirkland, Ed.D., 934-8358 Address: Rocky Ridge Elementary School Web site: www.ed.uab.edu/cclc Ages: 4-12 Dates: June 2-July 11 The program features reading, writing, science and math enrichment workshops. The children also can attend special workshops to learn art, chess, poetry and more. See the Web site for tuition and registration information. The program is sponsored by the UAB School of Education in partnership with the Hoover City Board of Education. Call or visit the Web site, www.ed.uab.edu/cclc, for more details.

UAB Spanish Summer Camp
Phone: UAB Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures, 934-4652 Address: Hulsey Center for the Arts and Humanities, 950 13th St. South Web site: www.uab.edu/foreiglang/spanishsummer-camp.html Ages: 5-12 Dates: June 2-6 Immersion Spanish classes are made fun through dance, drama, storytelling, crafts, cooking and art. To register, or for more details, visit the Web site at www.uab.edu/foreiglang/spanishsummer-camp.html.

UAB Department of Theatre “The Ransom of Red Chief”
Phone: 934-5273 Address: Alys Stephens Center, Odeus Theatre Web site: theatre.hum.uab.edu Ages: 6-12 Dates: June 5-14 The summer children’s show is “The Ransom of Red Chief” by O. Henry, adapted by Lee Shackelford.

Summer Treatment Program
Phone: 934-5471 Address: Community Education South, 1220 50th St. S Web site: circ-uabAttendance.com E-mail: Bart Hodgens at bhodgens@uab.edu Ages: Children age 6-12 Dates: June 16-July 25 The Summer Treatment Program is for children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), Asperger’s syndrome, oppositional defiant disorder and other behavioral disorders. The cost is $2,600. Space is limited.

CORD Summer Science Camps for Middle School Students
Phone: 934-5171 Address: 933 19th St. South E-mail: CCORD@uab.edu Web site: www.uab.edu/cord Ages: Entering grades 6-8 Dates: June 16-27 and July 7-25 The UAB Center for Community Outreach Development (CORD) offers six exciting camps where children can analyze data from local plants, use high-tech instruments to monitor air and water quality, investigate the role DNA plays in living creatures, conduct tests to discover the effects of exercise on the body, study molecules using state-of-the-art equipment or explore the magic of chemistry.

Middle School Computer Science Camp: Introduction to Game Programming with Alice
Phone: 934-8643 Web site: www.cis.uab.edu/programs/camps E-mail: camps@cis.uab.edu Ages: Entering grades 7-9 Dates: July 28-August 1 During this one-week camp taught by faculty of the Department of Computer & Information Sciences, students will learn common programming constructs, basic algorithm design and storyboarding of movies/games. Projects will involve the creation of video games and movies. Alice is an interactive 3D-programming environment. The cost is $250 per camper.

Shakespeare Workshop for Teens
Phone: Dennis McLennon, 934-8300 Address: Alys Stephens Center E-mail: mclennon@uab.edu Web site: theatre.hum.uab.edu Ages: Entering grades 1-12 Dates: June 16-20 Cost: $200 UAB Theatre and the Alabama Shakespeare Festival are presenting this one-week, Shakespeare-intensive drama workshop for teenagers led by faculty and staff. The workshop is for young actors who want to dig deeper into their characters, add more complexity to their movement, achieve new levels of theatrical expertise and investigate what meanings the Bard put within his lines. Students will perform a Shakespearean piece at end of the camp. Register by June 9. The cost is $200 per camper.

CORD ChemBridge for 9th Graders
Phone: 934-5171 Address: 933 19th St. South E-mail: jmwyss@uab.edu Web site: main.uab.edu/cord/show.asp?durid=38595 Dates: July 7-18 ChemBridge gives upcoming high-school freshmen an exciting journey into big-time chemistry, including stimulating hands-on experiments with UAB faculty and staff explaining the chemistry behind the experiments. The camp is great preparation for high school biology, chemistry and physics. Participants will conduct experiments, analyze the data, prepare results and present data at the closing ceremonies. The experiments also can be used to design a competitive presentation for the Central Alabama Science and Engineering Fair that UAB hosts each March. The camp is sponsored by the UAB School of Social & Behavioral Sciences and the Department of Justice Sciences.

CORD Summer Science Institute
Phone: 934-5171 Address: 933 19th St. South E-mail: roxa@uab.edu Web site: www.uab.edu/cord Ages: Entering grades 9-12 Dates: June 16-Aug. 1 The CORD Summer Science Institute lets high-school students conduct hands-on laboratory experiments in biology, cellular and molecular biology and biochemistry.

Camp CSI: Birmingham Day-Camp
Phone: Jason Lavelle, Ph.D., at 934-2069 Address: University Boulevard Office Building, 1201 University Boulevard E-mail: jglass@uab.edu Web site: www.uab.edu/criminaljustice Ages: Grades 10-12 Dates: July 14-18 This day camp teaches high-school sophomores, juniors and seniors the reality behind the forensic science depicted on television dramas like CSI and NCIS. Students receive hands-on-training on such topics as DNA analysis, hair and fiber analysis and fingerprint, footwear and tire tread identification. Space is limited to 20 students on a first-come, first-serve basis. Registration deadline is July 1. Cost is $199 per camper plus a $50 non-refundable registration fee. The camp is sponsored by the UAB School of Social & Behavioral Sciences and the Department of Justice Sciences.

High School Computer Science Camp Series
Phone: 934-8643 Web site: www.uab.edu/programs/camps/ E-mail address: camps@cis.uab.edu Ages: Entering grades 10-12 Dates: July 7-11, July 14-18, July 21-25 This series of summer camps taught by UAB faculty introduces students to various topics in computing. The three-week-long camps provide opportunities for students to learn about Java, robotics, and computer graphics. Students may enroll for the complete three-week term or select individual topics. Tuition for each week is $280 or $500 for all three weeks. Several merit-based and need-based scholarships to cover camp tuition are available.

Ada Long Creative Writing Workshop
Phone: Tina Harmon, 934-5833 Address: UAB Spencer Honors House E-mail: tmharris@uab.edu Web site: www.uab.edu/english/longcw Ages: Grades 10-12 Dates: June 2-20 Students apply by submitting an application. Applications will be considered until all spaces are filled. Working closely with established novelists, essayists and poets, students will explore various genres, including poetry, fiction and memoir. Gain professional writing experience drafting and critiquing original works, participate in a public reading of their work and enjoy visits to local cultural and historic sites. Students can elect to receive one hour of college credit for the course. The program is sponsored by the UAB English Department in collaboration with the UAB Honors Program.

Engineering Camp – University Adventures Begin in Engineering
Phone: 934-5410 Address: UAB Höhen Engineering Building E-mail: parksi@uab.edu Ages: Entering grades 11-12 Dates: July 16-20 The one-week program will introduce students to engineering fundamentals and the disciplines of biomedical, civil, electrical, materials and mechanical engineering. The camp includes in-class training and laboratory experiences. The cost is $100 per camper. The deadline to register is Friday, May 23.

April 28, 2008 UAB Reporter 7
Deakle makes research protocols easier for radiation oncology

Melissa Deakle’s job is one with little room for error. As project coordinator in the Radiation Oncology Chair's Office, she must gather information from doctors, dosimetrists and therapists conducting research studies and submit it to the study sponsors. The information has to be very specific and often must be presented on a very stringent timeline.

“If I submit something late,” she says, “everyone will know about it.”

In her four-plus years as project coordinator, there hasn’t been a late radiation treatment submission yet. And that’s just part of the reason Deakle has been named April’s Employee of the Month.

“Melissa is one of those first-rate performers whom others respect and depend upon,” says Kristina Sinclair, research administrator in Radiation Oncology and Deakle’s supervisor. “In her role she has become a centralized figure for not only members of the research staff, but peripheral staff and faculty within and outside of our department and institution.”

Mark Hyatt, chief medical dosimetrist, says Deakle takes ownership in her job and exemplifies high confidence in the work she performs. Hyatt especially appreciates her diligence in collecting research data, saying Deakle has made the job for many in his department much easier.

“Melissa has greatly improved the process, communication and workflow within the treatment planning area by providing easy access to documentation needed for all research protocols,” Hyatt says. “She goes above and beyond to ensure information provided is correct, complete and accurate before submitting for review.”

Deakle says she is able to be successful because she continually works to simplify the process in collecting research data she needs.

“I have to ask for so much information from everybody,” she says. “I figure the easier I make their job, the easier it is to do my job correctly.”

Positive energy

Deakle has been an asset on projects far beyond those defined in her primary role. She contributes greatly with her intellectual abilities, her positive energy and her dependable nature.

“Melissa is just highly dedicated and extremely dependable. She makes every effort to provide the highest quality services to her employer. I feel quite fortunate to have her as part of our team,” Deakle says she is thankful to work with people she enjoys, adding that their drive and dedication make it fun to come to work. While she is appreciative of the employee of the month honor, she says, “It’s the department that makes me shine.

“I just believe strongly in doing the very best you can at your job, no matter what that job is,” she adds. “I would be failing my department, our patients and myself if I did not come into work every day and do my job to the very best of my ability.”

UAB Faculty Senate elects new officers, representatives

Elections were held to select a new chair-elect and secretary of the UAB Faculty Senate plus academic unit representatives and their alternates for the June 1 to May 31, 2009 term. Associate Professor Mark Lockheart, M.D., will become chair-elect, and Senior Assistant Librarian Jennifer Long (Mervyn Steen Library) will remain secretary in the new term. Chair-elect Warren Martin, Ph.D., will replace outgoing Chair Pat Greep, Ph.D.

Elected senators for the new term are Professor David Chieng, M.D., Academic Health Center Joint Departments; Associate Professor Thomas Wimsatt, M.D., Academia Health Center Joint Departments; Associate Professor Gale Temple, Ph.D., Arts & Humanities; Professor Seung-Dong Lee, Ph.D., Business; Professor John Coke, D.D.S., Dentistry; Associate Professor Retta Evans, Ph.D., Education; Professor Sally Anne McNerny, Ph.D., Engineering; Associate Professor Kay Clements (Health Professions), Assistant Professor Liz Lurker (Laster Hill Library), Assistant Professor Ivan Maya, M.D., Medicine; Associate Professor Robert Holley, M.D., Medicine; Assistant Professor Rakesh Kapoor, Ph.D., Natural Sciences & Mathematics; Assistant Professor Anthony Roberson, Ph.D., Nursing; Associate Professor Michael Loop, Ph.D., Optometry; and Assistant Professor Sudesh Shevda, Ph.D., Public Health.

Alternate senators for the new term are Associate Professor Helen Kim, Ph.D., Academic Health Center Joint Departments; Assistant Professor Omar Hamied, M.D., Academic Health Center Joint Departments; Assistant Professor John Moore, Ph.D., Arts & Humanities; Associate Professor Philip Musa, Ph.D., Business; Associate Professor Madelyn Cnaor, D.M.D., Dentistry; Assistant Professor Linda Foster, Ph.D., Education; Assistant Professor Hassoon Moore, Ph.D., Engineering; Assistant Professor Kathleen Foley, Ph.D., Health Professions; Assistant Professor Gabe Rios, Laster Hill Library; Assistant Professor Balajunda Kapoor, M.D., Medicine; Assistant Professor Erik Body, M.D., Medicine; Assistant Professor Purushotham Bangalore, Ph.D., Natural Sciences & Mathematics; Professor Ellen Buckman, D.N.S., Nursing; Professor John Classe, O.D., Optometry; and Assistant Professor Meredith Kilgore, Ph.D., Public Health.

The names of the senator and alternate senators representing Social & Behavioral Sciences were not available at press time; neither was that of the school’s FPPC representative.

Please visit the Faculty Senate Web site at www.uab.edu/senate/home for more information.
**Women**

**Southern Lesbians needed for research study.** Lesbian women living in the South are invited to participate in a university-sponsored study to explore the role of social support from friends, family, and communities on their health and well-being. Participants will answer a short anonymous survey and be invited to participate in focus groups and in-depth interviews. You will be compensated for your time, and the information you provide will be kept strictly confidential. 5-2524.

**Women needed for vaginal bacteria study.** If you are a self-identified lesbian ages 19 and older, ages 19-50? Women needed for vaginal bacteria study. Call Jena Faust 5-1980.

**Women needed for vaginal bacteria study.** Are you a postmenopausal woman at increased risk for breast cancer? Are you presently experiencing vaginal discharge or odor, or have had recurrent episodes of BV in the past 12 months, call Joy, 4-4498. Women: do you have bacterial vaginosis (BV) again and again? If you have had at least 2 diagnoses of BV in the past year, call Loretta, 1-866-NOMO.

**Women needed for estrogen replacement study.** Are you a non-smoker who has a family history of breast cancer and has had a hysterectomy and/or bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy? You may be eligible for a study examining the role of estrogen replacement therapy on Alzheimer’s disease and dementia. If you are interested in participating, call Christi 4-9281.

**Women needed for study of exercise therapy.** Have you or someone in your family ever had a stroke or heart attack? You may be eligible to participate in a 9-month study to determine if exercise therapy can improve the outcome of patients with CAD. Participants will be tested at baseline and after the intervention period of the study, and they will be compensated for their time and travel. 5-8177.

**Healthy African American men and women ages 19-65 needed for a study on osteoporosis and its related conditions.** Are you a healthy volunteer who would like to help researchers determine the effective-ness of mints containing fluoride to help treat these conditions. l-877-IBD-DOCS (4236). Men & women needed for a study examining the role of estrogen replacement therapy on Alzheimer’s disease and dementia. If you are interested in participating, call Christi 4-9281.

**Women needed for study of estrogen replacement therapy.** Do you have type-2 diabetes and are not taking diabetes medication or you have pre-diabetes? If you have type 2 diabetes and are not taking diabetes medication or you have pre-diabetes, you may qualify for a research study that involves taking an investigational drug. Diabetes screening, super- vision, study drug, and reimbursement for time and travel are provided. Mirati 8-2194.

**Healthcare professionals needed for HIV vaccine study.** Are you an HIV-infected person who would like to participate in an investigational study of a new drug for HIV infection? The drug is being administered in conjunction with an experimental vaccine. If you are interested in participating, call Kenneth Saag 888-534-0367/5-2174.

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For Sale

Appliances & Electronics
Kirby vacuum cleaner & shampoo attachments, new, $175,00 for $70, only used once.

DVD car portable dual monitor system, good condition, $900, carry case & all cables, $1,600.


Wireless router, $40.

Convenience

For Sale

Innovative Metals, $75,0 in stock, new, carry case & all cables, $1,600.

For Rent

The UAB Condominium Center sees all types of unfair and finical deception as well as peculiar practices, and asks are you happy? Can we live? Can we laugh and enjoy ourselves and thank you. Let us call and evaluate your condition and time of available. We can take your name and number, make an appointment, and give you a free, no-obligation quote.

For Rent

UAB Career Development Services. UAB Employee Career Development Services can help you find a satisfying career. All services are confidential, except where noted and located.

For Sale

Classifieds

For Sale

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For Rent

UAB Career Development Services. UAB Employee Career Development Services can help you find a satisfying career. All services are confidential, except where noted and located.
Looking for a childsitter to work on your house? We are specializing in framing, painting, sheetrock repair, and doors and windows.

Concreting, concrete work, and paving.

Excellent house cleaning service to clean your home or business, weekdays and weekends. Over 20 years experience.References. Dina 652-0850.  


Advantages from Professional - Recipes from a brick deck building, it can all be done. If you're looking to spruce up your home give me a call: 354-3160 x 289-6704. 


Pencil Pet Portraits offers you, the pet lover, the opportunity to have timeless pet photographs taken. Offers you, the pet lover, the opportunity to have timeless pet photographs. Dale 648-0912/238-1546. 

childcare/nanny services provided from 6 am-8 pm. 219-625-2385. References. 

Children/kids years of experience. Karen 871-8383/Kmcdowell205@msn.com. 

Children/kids years of experience. Karen 871-8383/Kmcdowell205@msn.com. 

We specialize in remodeling in room additions: kitchen/bath, tile, drywall, decks, exterior/interior work. No job too small. Excellent references. Christie 337-0552/368-0121.

Imagination That... They're not just four walls anymore! 680-0078. 24-hour emergency service.

brick mason: We offer pasture boarding for 3-and 6-yr-old, Tues-Wed. from 1:30-5:30 pm. Working mom needs reliable child care. References. 910-0864. 


About this classified Fraud alert for 4th person to drive anywhere. Working hours are 8-430, M-F. 4-2819-291.
FACES of UAB

DARSHANA JHALA, M.D.
SURGICAL PATHOLOGIST
INDIAN CLASSICAL MUSIC VOCALIST

What fascinates you most about your work?
The most interesting aspect of my job is nailing down difficult or puzzling cases for a correct diagnosis and helping patients receive the correct treatment.

What inspired your interest in music?
The credit goes to my dad, who gave me the most precious thing: singing! I have always loved to sing. My dad saw this and put me in a music class when I was six years old.

What led you from music to medicine?
In India, you can enroll in music school while you are in medical school—although this is very uncommon. It takes at least seven years to complete the degree in classical vocal music. Again, my dad supported me and said I could do both. My husband, Nirag Jhala, also inspires me. He is a great supporter and the reason I came to the United States.

What do you enjoy most about singing?
When I sing, I feel I fully exist—I have lived those hours to the fullest extent!

Have you had many chances to perform?
I was the youngest participant in the history of classical vocal competition to win the first prize in my home state of Gujarat. I also was a winner on Mohfil, a regional program similar to Indian Idol or American Idol and one of the earliest TV music competitions in India. I am a graded artist for All-India Radio and frequently performed on TV. In February, I was the only U.S. soloist invited to perform on the same stage in India with internationally recognized music directors and singers from Bollywood. I also was asked to join Shruti, a nationally known group for light music, at a very young age, and I sang for the first time in a movie when I was 14.

How has your music influenced your approach to medicine?
I have seen and understood life and death through the eyes of both a doctor and an artist-singer. The doctor knows the reality and fragility of the existence of a human being while the singer and poet brings out the depth, sheer beauty, and piety of the human existence.

Hometown: Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India
How Long at UAB?: 5 years
Most Recent Album: Tara Namamaa
Performances: 12-15 times a year, mainly in Birmingham, Baltimore, New Jersey, New York, and India; Jhala’s songs also air on TV Asia, an Indian cable channel in the United States.

Visit www.uab.edu/uabmagazine to hear Jhala sing, explains the uniqueness of Indian classical music, and describe her favorite songs.