Heart Transplant Unit becomes a ‘Beacon’ for UAB

Darcy Ansley has a pretty good idea when it’s going to be a long day in her Heart Transplant Intensive Care Unit (HTICU). The nurse manager almost always will receive a phone call from Paige Lee, the unit charge nurse.

“I call her and tell her to put her dress on and come on in,” Lee says with a laugh. “She likes to wear a nursing dress instead of scrubs when she works the unit.”

And Ansley always comes right in with a smile on her face and ready to help her fellow nurses.

“This is a group of people who take pride in their unit,” she says. “They really set a high standard of care for their patients. They make sure everyone gets the support they need.” Ansley says “Not everything is always perfect, of course, but if it’s not they always try to make it better. They are very committed to their patients and each other.”

The HTICU is the first unit in Alabama to receive the Beacon award, and their selection is the culmination of an arduous application process with multiple criteria that had to be thoroughly verified. It was entirely staff-driven, collected, written and submitted. The application is one-inch thick and took four months to complete. It was a laborious undertaking awarded the Beacon Award for Critical Care Excellence.

The American Association of Critical Care Nurses agrees. The group recently awarded the HTICU the Beacon Award for Critical Care Excellence, which recognizes the nation’s top critical-care units for high-quality standards, exceptional care of patients and their families and healthy work environments.

“We have a great team of nurses who really take people under their wings. They make sure everyone gets the support they need,” Ansley says.

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New season kicks off at the ASC

Many parents are eager to find enriching activities for their children. Some want to find such outlets for creativity when their kids are young, and one of the more popular activities is music.

LaDonna Smith, an instructor in UAB’s Department of Music, has been teaching the Suzuki method of violin playing for more than 25 years to children ages 3 to 18. The Birmingham Suzuki Violinists Spring Concert, featuring all of her young performers, will be Sunday, May 20 at 3 p.m. in the Virginia Samford Theater, on 26th Street South at Caldwell Park.

Smith encourages children of all ages to discover, expand their love of music

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Smith says. “They get a sense of rhythm, pitch, body language and enhanced listening. They begin refining these skills and disciplines. It really makes them ready for school, because they’ve been in an instructional environment that’s very effective.”

Smith will showcase illustrious student concerto performers during their annual Birmingham Suzuki Violinists Spring Concert Sunday, May 20 at 3 p.m. The concert, which is $10 for adults and $5 for school-age children, will be at the Virginia Samford Theater, located on 26th Street South at Caldwell Park. The event is the annual fundraiser for the Birmingham Suzuki Violinists Association, and proceeds will help provide guest teachers for students and buy musical equipment.

Heart Transplant Intensive Care nurses Stephanie Sharp, left, and Tracy Gordon, right, stand with Nurse Manager Darcy Ansley under a banner congratulating their unit for being awarded the Beacon Award for Critical Care Excellence.
BRIEFS

Blazer baseball hosts UAB Employee Night

UAB is hosting East Carolina on Thursday, May 17 at 7 p.m. at University Field as part of UAB Employee Night. All employees can gain admission for $1 with a valid ID. All children 12 and under will be admitted for free.

IT and aging to be examined May 21

A free, interdisciplinary workshop will examine “Information Technology and Quality of Life Among Older Adults” May 21 from 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Wynfrey Hotel. Sara Caza of the University of Miami, a leading expert in studying the intersections of aging and technology, will be the keynote speaker.

Faculty and advanced graduate students are invited to join researchers from UAB and nearby universities to discuss the latest research in this area and examine a range of technologies that may help older adults enhance their quality of life.

Sponsors are the Center for Aging, along with AARP, COERE, Center for Social Medicine, CERT of Musculoskeletal Disorders, Center for Research in Applied Gerontology, the Minority Health and Resource Center, and the schools of Social & Behavioral Sciences, Education and Dentistry.

Direct questions to Denise Goska at dgoska@uab.edu or call 975-8550.

Cancer-disparity pilot apps accepted

The Deep South Network for Cancer Control, an NCI-funded Community Network Partnership grant, is accepting pilot-project applications.

These one-year projects will be supplemental to this community-based cancer initiative to eliminate cancer health disparities by conducting community-based participatory education, training and research; the project focuses on breast, cervix and colon cancers.

Pilot projects are to be submitted as supplements to the Deep South Network for Cancer Control (DSN). These projects are for one year and are funded at $50,000 direct for that time period. Only new investigators are eligible for this grant. All new investigators should submit an investigator letter of intent to Dr. Partridge, c/o Claudia Hardy, DSN Program Director, 1824 Sixth Ave. South, WTI -263, Birmingham, AL 35294-0113.

Letters of intent are due to Dr. Partridge’s DSN project director Edgard Partridge, M.D. no later than Thursday, May 24 at 5 p.m. Full application is due no later than Friday, June 15 at 5 p.m. E-mail your letter of intent to Claudia.hardy@ccc.uab.edu. Address the letter of intent to Dr. Partridge, c/o Claudia Hardy, DSN Program Director, 1824 Sixth Ave. South, WTI -263, Birmingham AL 35294.

Go to http://grants.uab.edu/grants/guide/techinfo/RTA-CA-07-501.html to obtain RFA-CA-07-501 for instructions regarding letters of intent and a full application.

Neuroscience Center open house is May 16

The UAB Comprehensive Neuroscience Center invites the UAB campus to a Neuroscience Core Afterschool and Open House Wednesday, May 16 at noon in BBRB Room 170. There will be two sessions.

At the first session, from 12-2:30 p.m., each of the cores will give a presentation of the services it provides. The second session, to be held from 3-5 p.m., is an open house tour of each core. Maps will be provided. Anyone interested in these services is encouraged to attend and ask questions. Refreshments will be provided.

The cores that will be represented:

- Alabama Neuroscience Blueprint Core Center — K.A. Roth, M.D., principal investigator
- Core B - Molecular Engineering — Director Scott Wilson, Ph.D.; Co-directors Jianhua Zhang, Ph.D. and Michael Brenner, Ph.D.
- Core C - Cellular & Molecular Neuropathology — Director Steven Carroll, M.D.; Co-directors Andra Frost, M.D., Jayne Ness, M.D.
- Core D - Neuroimaging — Director Kent Kessler, Ph.D.; Co-directors Lucos Pozzo-Miller, Ph.D. and Kurt Ziam, Ph.D.
- Core E - In Vivo Physiology and Phenotyping — Director J. Michael Wyss, Ph.D.; Co-director Timothy Nagy, Ph.D.
- Core F - Cellular & Synaptic Physiology — Director David Sweatt, Ph.D.; Co-director Lori McMahon, Ph.D.
- Neuroscience Core Center — J. Habib, Ph.D., principal investigator
- Core A - Behavioral Assessment Core — Director J. Michael Wyss, Ph.D.
- Core B - Molecular Detection Core — Director Kevin A. Roth, M.D.
- Core C - Protein Interaction Core — Director Bill Becht, M.D.
- Mental Retardation Research Center — A. Perry, M.D., principal investigator
- Core B - Reconfigurable Technologies Core — Co-directors Michael Brenner, Ph.D. and Anne Theibert, Ph.D.

- Core C - Developmental Neurobiology Imaging & Tissue Processing — Co-directors Lucas Pozzo-Miller, Ph.D. and Harold Sontheimer, Ph.D.
- Non-Human Primate High-Field MRI System — Director Paul Gamlin, Ph.D.

For more information, call Angela Schmucker at 934-8344 or e-mail her at Aschmeck@uab.edu.

UAB girls’ basketball summer camps

UAB will offer several girl’s basketball camps this summer, and employees will receive a $25 discount on camp costs with proof of employment.

- Individual Camp – June 24-27 is for girls age 8-high school seniors. The costs are $325 for residents; $329 for commuters; and groups of 10 or more receive a $10 discount per camper.
- Day Camp – July 9-12 is for girls age 5-12. The fee per-camper is $160. Camp will start daily with a drop off period from 8:30-9 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m.
- Team Camp I – June 22-24 is for high school, middle school and AAU teams. The costs are $175 for residents; $125 for commuters. Each team must have at least seven players. The camp will provide meals and housing for one coach per team. Additional coaches/chaperones are $60.
- Team Camp II – July 27-29 is for high school and AAU teams. The costs are $175 for residents; $125 for commuters. Each team must have at least seven players. The camp will provide meals and housing for one coach per team. Additional coaches/chaperones are $60.

For more information, go to the UAB Athletics Web site, which is accessible from www.uab.edu.

BRIEFS

Bagpipers led the procession as the students file into their seats during the 2007 Spring Commencement ceremonies. About half of the 1,100 May graduates took part in the ceremonies. The speaker for the event was UAB Honors Program student Anand Iyer, 21, of Anniston, who recently won the Maria Leonard Graduate Fellowship, one of only 23 national awards presented by Alpha Lambda Delta. Richard J. Whitley, M.D., professor of pediatrics, microbiology, medicine and surgery, received the UAB President’s Medal, which recognizes scholarly distinction and service to the university.
Health Professions is national model for allied health education

Being a top-tier program is a good thing. But for UAB School of Health Professions Dean Harold Jones, Ph.D., it’s a starting point — not a destination. “UAB is on everybody’s short list,” Jones said. “But we want to be recognized as the leader. Emphasis on the.”

“We want to influence debate on health-professions education and health care, we want to be asked to the table,” he said. “So program by program, department by department, we focus on that target and develop the leadership to make it happen.”

In the five years since Jones came to UAB, some fundamental changes have occurred that convince him the School of Health Professions will achieve that vision — and help shape the future of health care in America. Numbers are part of the story. Enrollment has grown from 1,800 from 1,100 during that time, qualifying it as the “fastest growing school on campus,” he says. Jones, the third dean of the 38-year-old school, is most proud to note that, “we’ve done this while diversifying the student body and improving the academic profile of accepted students.”

The quantity and quality of research and education is also integral. The school has ranked No. 1 or 2 in National Institutes of Health research funding among schools of allied health, as they are generally known, since rankings began in 1979. Jones said. And its professional programs also are highly placed in U.S. News and World Report rankings of top academic programs. But it has been attention to service — to students, the UAB Medical Center, the local community and the health-care industry — that has helped elevate SHP as a national model for integrating allied health education into tertiary health centers.

In the mix

The School of Health Professions, one of six schools that comprise the UAB Academic Health Center, educates the health-care professionals and technologists who maintain and improve the quality of health care and the systems through which it is delivered. The school offers 21 programs, accredited by 13 agencies, that lead to one-of-a-kind programs because we are able to leverage university resources in niche areas to do what others can’t. That’s the reason we’ve achieved and given back to the academic health center and UAB.”

The success of this synergistic approach is evident in numerous programs that are built on the strengths of other UAB schools while also maintaining a forward-looking focus on the needs of the health-care industry. “We have to look at the workforce needs of the state and provide those consistent with UAB’s mission and make them unique to our strengths.” Jones said.

“We have a lot of one-of-a-kind programs because we are able to leverage university resources in niche areas to do what others can’t. That’s the reason we’ve achieved and given back to the academic health center and UAB.”

Learn more about SHP online at

www.uab.edu/shrp

The School of Health Professions magazine is available online at main.uab.edu/SHRP/Default.aspx?id=76971

Since its beginning as the School of Community and Allied Health in 1969 to its eventual evolution to the School of Health Professions in 2006, the school has been faced with the challenge of creating a successful mix of health-care programs in an ever-evolving industry.

“There are more than 100 programs that could fall into the rubric of allied health. The question is: What do we do specially well?” Jones said. The answer lies in integrating its curricula with the most prominent or cutting-edge programs at other UAB schools while also maintaining a forward-looking focus on the needs of the health-care industry.

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Better than good

Even those things that SHP does well can become expendable as new opportunities arise, Jones said. Some basic programs offered at community colleges have been jettisoned from UAB’s curriculum and replaced with more specialized, value-added training that separates the basic practitioner from the advanced.

“By not duplicating excellent community college training programs that now are available to Alabama’s students, we can concentrate on offering higher-level health-professions programs, a member of which are unique within the state,” Jones said.

For example, three new programs Jones expects to be able to offer by fall 2008 may increase the student body only 100-150 students, they will strengthen the school’s national reputation for innovation and leadership in health-professions education.

First is an executive doctoral program for senior-level managers. This extends beyond the management practice emphasis in the school’s highly ranked master’s program to focus on applied health-care research for senior-level managers.

The second program under development is a genetics-counseling track that will produce qualified counselors in this booming field. Jones said UAB’s experience and resources in the study of genetics makes this a natural extension of its curricula.

Biotechnology education to create a trained workforce for high-tech industry is the third. Expansion in the biomedicai industry, in Alabama and across the country, relies on the ability of these companies to employ specially trained workers.

“When we think about our programs, we consider the opportunities for our graduates, the demand in the system for their skills and the pay differential for those skills,” Jones said.

“If we didn’t, we wouldn’t be doing a service to our students.

Robert Corley tapped to head new honors leadership program

Robert Corley, Ph.D., has been named director of the Global and Community Leadership Honors Program at UAB.

The Global and Community Leadership Honors Program is a new program designed to provide unique learning opportunities for students throughout their academic experience.

Students will be able to participate in special honors courses and learning experiences relating to global and community issues to prepare them for leadership roles.

For the past 14 years, Corley, an assistant professor of history, has directed the UAB Center for Urban Affairs. He has served on the honors council of the UAB Honors program since 1989.

“Dr. Corley’s experience with UAB and what the university seeks from its honors students make him a perfect choice to develop this initiative.” — Eli Capilouto, D.M.D.

“I want to thank and congratulate Dr. Philip Way (associate provost of Undergraduate Programs) and the entire search committee for their thorough and successful search.”

Corley earned his bachelor’s degree from Birmingham-Southern College and his master’s degree and doctorate in history from the University of Virginia. Active in leadership roles throughout his career, Corley is on the Alabama Poverty Project Board, which he chaired from 1997-2004.

He is president of the Cahaba River Society Board and is a member of the Leadership Birmingham board and executive committee and the Region 2020 board.

He was a member of the Birmingham Board of Education for 10 years and its president from 1990-92. Corley was the regional director of the National Conference of Christians and Jews from 1984-93.

Corley also was a member of Birmingham Mayor Richard Arrington’s Task Force that created and designed the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute (BCRI). In 1989, he became a founding member of the BCRI Board of Directors and its executive committee, serving as the board’s treasurer; his service on the BCRI Board ended in December 1999.

“Dr. Corley’s experience with UAB and what the university seeks from its honors students make him a perfect choice to develop this initiative.” — Eli Capilouto, D.M.D.

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Corley earned his bachelor’s degree from Birmingham-Southern College and his master’s degree and doctorate in history from the University of Virginia.
Tilden to chair HHS human research advisory committee

T he U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Mike Leavitt has appointed UAB Research Compliance Officer Samuel J. Tilden, M.D., J.D., to chair the Secretary’s Advisory Committee on Human Research Protections (SACHRP). The 11-member committee provides recommendations on the responsible conduct of research involving human participants, reviews activities of HHS offices and agencies responsible for human participant protection in biomedical and behavioral research and advises on policy and on program development and implementation.

Tilden, professor of pediatrics with subspecialties in pediatric critical care and pulmonology, was director of the Division of Pediatric Critical Care and medical director of the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Children’s Hospital for 12 years and was consultant for 10 years for the UAB Hospital Cardiac Surgery Intensive Care Unit.

“I confronted many of the same issues relating to ethics and law in both of those roles, dealing with the whole spectrum of infants, children, and adults,” he says. “That experience fostered my interest in this field. I went to law school at night and to the University of Houston one day a week for a graduate law degree, and I developed expertise in the combination of law, bioethics, and regulation.”

This skill set, along with his experience as a clinical investigator and member of the UAB Institutional Review Board (IRB) for Human Use, qualified him to become the university’s second Research Compliance Officer in 2002. Two years later, as a result of a site visit by the federal Office of Human Research Protection, the UAB IRB was placed under his authority. Also as an outgrowth of that site visit, UAB applied for accreditation by the Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs (AAHRPP). Tilden recently guided the university through a self-assessment phase and is awaiting an AAHRPP site visit scheduled for Aug. 8-10.

Tilden, who credits Senior Vice President and School of Medicine Dean Robert Rich, M.D., with recommending him for appointment to SACHRP, was a committee member for less than a year before being named to chair the panel. “Being named chairman was a vote of confidence by the agency for my early participation, but also was a fairly intimidating, big responsibility in a high profile arena,” he says. “After chairing my first meeting, I was gratified to receive positive feedback from the agency and attendees.”

Tilden says SACHRP has completed important work in recent months. “Based on our recommendation, Secretary Leavitt asked the Institute of Medicine to evaluate research in prisoners, and its report was published this year by the National Academy of Sciences. We have just forwarded him our recommendations on research in children, and his action is pending.”

Tilden was instrumental in the formation of a SACHRP subcommittee on research in individuals with impaired decision-making capacity, primarily a population with medical disorders that result in incompetence, such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s.

“As academic and industry researchers seek to find treatments for these disorders, we face tough ethical and legal issues that have never been adequately addressed,” he says. “There are no regulations specific to this area.”

LADONNA SMITH

CONTINUED from page 1

Included in the program is Mendelssohn’s “Concerto in e minor,” the “Accolay Concerto, Hungarian Dance” by Brahms and a selection of Irish and American fiddle tunes in the style of Barrage.

“We will be introducing our new class of 3-year-olds, as well as some of the most accomplished teens in our area” Smith says. “It’s a very eclectic and diversified program of Birmingham’s extraordinary youth violinists.”

Smith developed her own interests in music at a very early age. She began playing piano at age 7 and later moved to violin. Thirty years later, as a solo artist specializing in free improvisation, Smith has cut a number of original CDs and toured Europe, China, Japan and even Siberia.

In fact, next month, Smith will be performing with Russian guitarist Misha Feigin during concerts in Germany, Holland and Poland.

“I started touring this music in 1978,” she says. “It’s spontaneous composition in the moment. I listen to my musical partner, and the music is created on the spot.”

Smith credits her parents for opening the door to music to her when she was young. She says that’s when she began to develop her own musical style and tastes.

“I enjoyed tinkering around and making up my own stuff,” Smith says. “I had an inclination for improvisation, which now is my artistic specialty. I first recorded in composition in college, so I’ve also written and recorded a number of instrumental and choral pieces.

“My vocation is teaching young people to enjoy music,” she says. “Aside from teaching violin, I enjoy teaching Music Appreciation at UAB.

Every teacher has his or her own method of teaching. Some like group instruction; some prefer one-on-one teaching. Smith says there are many different approaches to teaching violin, but for beginning young students, she prefers the Suzuki method. It is named for Shinichi Suzuki, a violinist, educator, philosopher, and humanitarian who believed the purpose of music was to “develop a fine heart.”

The Suzuki Method has the distinct advantage of starting children early when they are most receptive to learning a language, their motor skills are developing, and they have the time and necessary parental support.

Of course, teaching younger children isn’t always easy, but it’s a task that doesn’t bother Smith.

“A love of a family that creates a love of music.”

For more information, visit www.birminghamsuzukiviolists.org and www.the-improvisor.com/transmuseq/

Mary Alice Bilbo practices with other violinists at a recent rehearsal in UAB Hulsey Center. Bilbo and her fellow Birmingham Suzuki Violinists are holding their annual Spring Concert Sunday, May 20. For info on how to be a part of this group, visit www.birminghamsuzukiolists.org

BEACON AWARD

CONTINUED from page 1

ous task handled largely by nurses Janet Herring and Angie Ballenger.

Beacon award criteria include innovation/excellence in recruitment and retention, education, training and mentoring, evidence-based practice and research, patient outcomes, creating and promoting healing environments and leadership and organizational ethics.

Caring for patients

The HTICU differs from many critical-care units.

Patients often are on the unit for months – sometimes for more than a year – before receiving their heart or lung transplant. After surgery, patients are not transferred to another floor for recovery. Instead, they spend their recovery period with the same nurses who admitted them, and patients are discharged straight from the HTICU.

Once, nurses arranged for a police officer to come and give a patient their driver’s test because they were spending their 16th birthday on the unit. The staff also follows up with patients and families after they leave, sometimes attending funerals, birthday parties and wedding anniversaries.

This past Christmas, the unit started both a Remembrance Tree and Bereavement Tree, inviting patients and their families to send ornaments for the trees. The response was overwhelming.

“Some of the youngest ones aren’t quite ready, but you learn to be patient and wait,” she says. “Each child develops at a different rate, but once they’re ready to go, you’re ready to take them. They’re nurtured by love, the love of music and the love of being with each other.

“It’s a love of a family that creates a love of music.”

For more information, visit www.birminghamsuzukiolists.org and www.the-improvisor.com/transmuseq/
Engineering will test vehicle-weight system to improve road safety beginning fall 2007

A n applied research project at UAB may help law enforcement curb the expensive and hazardous problem of illegally oversized and overweight trucks on the nation’s highways.

This project to install and test the latest generation weigh-in-motion system (B-WIM) on Alabama highways also will be the first of this European technol- ogy in the United States.

In the simplest terms, a B-WIM system is analogous to using radar to measure speed and position sensors installed under the deck of a bridge transform the bridge into a portable platform weight scale, and real- time technology can aid the user in identifying noncompliant overweight vehicles. A vehicle initially detected by the B-WIM system as a possible violator would be routed to a permanent or temporary weigh station to determine if the load complies with the law.

“Our highway bridges and pavement will last longer with less maintenance if the large trucks comply with the size and axle-weight limitations established by law,” said Wilbur “Bill” Hitchcock, Ph.D., professor in the UAB Department of Civil, Construction & Environmental Engineering and the principal investigator on the project. “Unfortunately, full adherence does not occur voluntarily, resulting in the need for a comprehensive enforce- ment program.

Implementation ahead

This is a project of the University Transportation Center of Alabama (UCTA). A multi-campus team of researchers from UAB, the University of Alabama and the University of Alabama in Huntsville will test and evaluate the potential extended use of B-WIM system technology in Alabama during the next 18 months.

The technology is produced by CESTEL, a company in Canada. A UCTA was observed first in field operations by the touring Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and American Association of State Transportation Officials (AASHTO) teams.

The research team is consulting with engineers in Slovenia to learn about how B-WIM technology is applied there and is collaborating with Alabama Department of Transportation representatives, world- wide technology experts, equipment ven- dors, trucking industry representatives and other stakeholders.

Several attributes have made this technol- ogy a priority for investigation by govern- ment and industry officials. It is invisible to traffic crossing the bridge; it can be installed without damaging the pavement or interfering with traffic; and it can be moved from one location to another with- out disassembling the equipment. As of the results Field-testing at selected Alabama bridges is expected to begin in late 2007 and early 2008, Hitchcock said. During that time, data recorded from the equipment will be compared to actual measurements taken on the vehicles.

Successful use of B-WIM technology is expected to provide other benefits:

• Reducing the number of vehicles that must stop for weigh-ins will enhance productivity of compliant vehicle operators.
• Fewer stops reduce emissions created by deceleration, idling and accelera- tion of compliant vehicles.
• Overall road safety is improved by limiting unsafe and non-compliant vehicles.
• Data generated can be used to support pavement design, bridge/structural design, transportation planning and traffic safety.

Other UAB engineering faculty involved as project manager Fouad H. Fouad, Ph.D, department chair; Nasim Uddin, Ph.D, Virginia Nisipjka, Ph.D, Jason Kirby, Ph.D., and Talat Abu-Amer, Ph.D.

UAB debuts new fMRI

U AB dedicated its new research-spe- cific fMRI (functional magnetic resonance imaging) scanner April 30 in the new UAB Functional Neuroimaging Laboratory (1121 Health Sciences, 3rd floor). MRI facility, located in the Civitan International Research Center, will be used for neuroscience research.

An fMRI scanner provides researchers with detailed images of brain activity stimulated by visual, auditory or tactile cues. UAB scientists will use the highly specialized scanner to study conditions such as autism, neuro-developmental diseases, Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease and schizophrenia.

“This MRI is a valuable tool and an important addition to UAB’s research capability in neuroscience,” said Harold W. Soetemhein, Ph.D., professor of neu- rowlogy and director of the Civitan Center. “There are only about 12 head- on scanners in the country, and this machine paves the way for truly excit- ing opportunities to unravel the riddles surrounding developmental disorders, memory loss, mental illness and other neurologic conditions.”

This scanner is specially configured for neuroimaging applications and will be used primarily for research. UAB has two whole-body 3 T MRIs used primarily for clinical diagnostic services.

GRANTS & CONTRACTS

The Office of Grants & Contracts has changed the methods used to report grants and contracts awarded. Only the following will be listed: all new grants and contracts, competing continuations, competitive renewals, supplements and amendments or modifications that add additional funds. Grants for which the name of the principal investigator will be listed, not all key personnel. The words “Confidential Title” will replace the words “Confidential Title” of all grants awarded made by industry sponsors. For multi- year awards, the total amount for all year will be listed as will the entire project period.

For more information, contact Grants & Contracts Administration at 934-5266.

New/Renewal/ Competing Continuation


Herman Foushee (Health Behavior) Anniston Community Health Survey CDC/ Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry Anniston Community Health Survey $11,848 9/15/2006- 9/14/2007


William Killiam (Obstetrics & Gynecology) Trial of Strategies to Enroll Pregnant Women onto ART


Amendment/Modification/ Supplement


Max Michael III University Community Consortium for Antrim Environmental Health Research Jacksonville State University/ Agency for Toxic Disease Substance and Disease Registry $2,639 9/15/2006-9/14/2007


Bradley Yoder Cilia and Cystic Kidney Disease NIDDK $47,940 2/1/2007-1/31/2008


May 14, 2007  UAB Reporter 5
Upcoming events
Resource Center offers tips on caring for elderly parents
UAB’s Resource Center Employee Assistance Program is offering a brown-bag lunch series Thursday, May 17 and Wednesday, May 23 to examine topics related to caring for elderly parents.

Certified Elder Law Attorney Anne Moses will discuss the legal aspects of caring for elderly parents and other family members from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 17 in UAB Hospital West Pavilion Room E.

George Graham, director for the Council on Aging, and Valerie Childers of the County Office of Senior Citizens, will discuss community services and programs available for seniors from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. May 23 at the UAB Resource Center, Suite 130, 1717 11th Ave South.

Registration is requested as space is limited. Call the Resource Center at 934-2281 to register or request more information.

The Resource Center, UAB’s Employee Assistance Program, provides counseling and wellness programs for UAB employees and their families. Resource Center services are provided as an employee benefit by UAB and are available at no cost to UAB Employees and their family members. Visit the Resource Center Web site www.uab.edu/ea for more information about the UAB Resource Center Employee Assistance and Wellness Program, the services offered, directions to the office and a schedule of current and upcoming programs.

‘Everyday Ethics’ seminar is May 18
Everyone encounters ethical dilemmas – and how to handle them is a very personal choice.

Now UAB’s Training and Development department is offering a new three-hour workshop designed for managers, supervisors and employees to understand the importance of ethics in the workplace.

Set for Friday, May 18 at 8:30 a.m., “Everyday Ethics” will cover how ethics and values are the underlying character of any good organization and provide the foundation for improved decision-making. Participants will learn to identify common workplace situations and discuss tools and techniques for working through ethical situations.

The seminar will be held in room 41-B in the Medical Towers Building. Register online at www.uab.edu/traindev.

Free skin cancer screening May 18
UAB dermatologists will provide free skin cancer screenings, May 18 from 1 to 4 p.m. at The Kirklin Clinic.

Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the U.S. In fact, about one million Americans are diagnosed annually with skin cancer.

Although everyone is at risk for skin cancer, many types can be prevented. Doctors recommend that people avoid the sun during the hottest hours of the day – between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Also, they suggest using a sunscreen with SPF of 15 or higher. Hats, sunglasses and protective clothing are also good ways to shield the skin.

To reserve a time for a screening, call (205) 934-9999. Appointment slots are limited.

Syllabus
Monday, May 14

UAB Noon Monday Conference, RBC disorders, Asst Prof Melissa Baird (Hematology/Oncology), WP-E.

Hematology/Oncology Research Conference. Basic clinical insights from the study of translation, Prof David Bedwell (Microbiology), WT1-214.

4 pm Anesthesiology. Less invasive hemodynamic monitoring, Assoc Prof Philip J McArdis (Anesthesiology) and Arthur Boykin (Housestaff); JT-906.

Tuesday, May 15

8 am Neurology GRs. Two challenging patient populations commonly presenting to the epilepsy monitoring unit, Rotem Epilepsy (Housestaff); WP-E.

9 am Geographic Medicine GRs. The molecular mechanisms of placental malaria erythrocyte invasion, Graduate student Matthew Jones (Geographic Medicine); BBRR-206.

11 am Laboratory Medicine. Leukocytapheresis: parameter problem or heart disease? Diane Peterson (Housestaff); WP-D.

Noon General Medicine Noon Conference. Clinical problem-solving, Faye L’Emire (EMC); WP-E.

Noon Pharmacology & Toxicology. Analysis of the hedging signaling pathway in pancreatic adenocarcinoma, Graduate Assistant Adam Stieg (Pharmacology & Toxicology); VH-C.

Noon Microbiology. Receptor editing in health and disease, Dr Martin Wiegert (Pathology-Committee on Immunology, University of Chicago); BBRR-170.

4 pm UAB Brain Tumor Treatment & Research Program. Astrocytoma therapy of human origin, Asst Prof Sergio Kaliberov (Radiation/Oncology & Radiobiology); FInny Conf C.

Wednesday, May 16

3 pm Cell Biology. Role of presinens in cell signal- ing neuronal survival and AD pathology, Dr Nikolaos Robakis (Prof, Neurobiology; AF Sloan Professor for Alzheimer’s Disease’s Research, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine); BBRR-170.

Thursday, May 17

8 am Rheumatology GRs. Clinical conference; WP-D.

Noon Pulmonary GRs/Critical Care Medicine. Pulmonary arterial hypertension; Endothelial dysfunction, peripheral or heart disease? Dr Steven Katwai (Faculty, Research); Finny Conf.

Noon Molecular & Cellular Pathology. Utility of real-time PCR for the early diagnosis of invasive fun- gal infections, Assoc Head Stephen Moser (Clinical Microbiology); MCCA.

Noon Geriatric Noon Conference. Diagnosis and management of Parkinson Disease in the geriatric patient, Director David Standaert (Center for Neurodegeneration and Experimental Therapeutics); WP-Bd Rm.

Noon Neuroendocrinology Research Unit. Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism. Regulation of cholesterol exit from the arterial plaque, Dr Sergio Fazio (Prof, Medicine, Vanderbilt University Medical Center); BBRR-170.

1 pm Neurobiology/The Center for Genealogy in Medicine. Conversations between glia, neurons and blood vessels in the retina, Dr Eric Newman (Distinguished McKnight University Professor, Neuroscience, University of Minnesota); SHELL-1015.

4:30 pm UAB Center for Metabolic Bone Disease Special Seminar. Product informant: A Teammu incontinence education project, Asst Student Biology and

Gerontology Education Program Scholarship Awarded, and Innovative treatment for post-prostatectomy incontinence, Prof Patricia Grodes (Gerontology, Geriatrics and Palliative Care); VA-Aud.

Meetings
Monday, May 14
5:25 pm Power Yoga: UAB Marshall Center Conference. For more info, call Fran 967-0303.

Tuesday, May 15
10 am International Women’s Group. Smolan Int’l House. 4-1205/awowens@uab.edu.

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

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

Wednesday, May 16
10 am Conversational English classes, levels 1-4; Smolan Int’l House. 4-1205/awowens@uab.edu.

Noon French conversation tables; Common on the Green cafeteria (look for the French Fans) to speak French and make new friends! For more info, Catherine daniouel@uab.edu.

3-5 pm UAB Office of Human Research. UAB Clinical Research Open Forum. Topics of discussion will be: the legal approval process (FAPI), implementation. StiltMinder live and available CDA help. For more information, contact Lashel B Cameron at lashelb@uab.edu.

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

Thursday, May 17
12:10 pm UAB Resource Center. Tai Chi-Stress manage- ment through movement; The Resource Center. Call 4-2281 for more info or visit www.uab.edu/ea.

5-7 pm Local Chapter of the American Academy of Professional Coders. Assoc Prof Paul Matz (Neurosurgery) is the speaker. John Whittaker Bldg. Approved for 2 CEUs.

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

6:30 pm SMART recovery group meetings; not a 12- step or religious program. Any addiction or habit can be helped. Southside Baptist Church. Call HL Fuchter 975-7755 for details.

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

8 pm Stammhochsprachentag table; for anyone who speaks German; Giuseppe’s Cafe, 925 8th Street South. For info, agrest@uab.edu.

Friday, May 18
7 am Fulin Dafa exercises, an ancient Chinese exer- cise that brings harmony & health. UAB Mini Park, 8-8:30.

Religion
Tuesday, May 15
Noon Medical Center Christian Fellowship Meeting, WP-B. All welcome. Mark 647-5177 or Blair 951-3826.

Legacy of locations
AB Administration Bldg. BDB Batchel Bldg. BBRR Bevill Biomedical Research Bldg. CH Campbell Hall GYBB Community Health Services Bldg. CPM Center for Psychiatric Research HUC Hl University Ctr JT Jefferson Tower HKGB Kaufman Genetics Research Bldg. LHL Lister Hill Bldg. LHR Lyons-Harrison Research MCLM McCallum Building MCSA Margaret Camper Space Aud. MP North Pavilion RB Ryals Building SB Birxey Building TKB The Kirklin Clinic URO University Blvd Office Bldg. VH Volker Hall WP West Pavilion WOB Weirn Building ZRB Zborz Building

Further information may be found on the UAB Daily Calendar at www.uab.edu/calendar.

CALENDAR

6 UAB Reporter May 14, 2007
Alys Stephens Center announces 2007-08 season of performances

Rachel Lee on March 9. Pianist Leif Ove Andsnes completes the series April 20. All shows in this series feature Preludes, enlightening 30-minute discussions of the program in the intimate Reynolds-Kirschbaum Recital Hall, one hour prior to show time. A Classical Pass for those 30 years or under, for any show in this series, is $15.


On Oct. 27, Edgar Meyer, Sam Bush and Jerry Douglas take to the stage to open the Harbert Management Corporation American Voices Series. "Keb' Mo" continues the series Nov. 10, and the Indigo Girls top off the series Jan. 27.


The ASC Special Events keep coming with "Reflect & Rejoice: A Community Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr." Jan. 20 and with the Alys Stephens Center Viva Health Starlight Gala April 5. A guest artist will be announced this fall.

Buy your tickets now
Ticket packages are now on sale for the Alys Stephens Center's upcoming season. For season tickets, or for a brochure, call 975-2787, toll-free 1-877-278-8457, go to the ASC Box Office or log on to www.AlysStephens.org.

Subscription packages range from $28-$301. Special discounts and offers are available for UAB students, faculty and staff and for groups of 10 or more. Gift cards are available. Single tickets go on sale Monday, Aug. 13.

Returning this season is the Alys Stephens Center's widely popular "It's Your Choice" subscription package offering the public the opportunity to create a personal mix of shows. Select any five regular performances, add the total ticket cost and then subtract 10 percent for a special package created for each patron's personal tastes.

UAB to host TIAA-CREF sessions for employees

A consultant from TIAA-CREF will be on site at UAB June 12-14 for individual employee counseling sessions.

Schedule your appointment today with a TIAA-CREF consultant who will be available to answer questions about your financial matters.

The sessions will be held in the HR Benefits department (Suite 270) in the Administration Building, 701 20th St. S.; employees should make an appointment, then check in at the HRM second floor reception desk.

To schedule an appointment, visit the TIAA-CREF Web site at www.tiaa-cref.org or call Mike Odom toll-free at 1-800-842-2003 ext. 3522.

Wednesday, May 16

Memorial Field, 1 pm
May 19: UAB Student Council. We will have a session on singing and teaching the Hare Krishna way where everyone is welcome to join. For more info, Varadraj Prabhu 383-9805, 1015 Ave S, Apt 20, Bham.

Sunday, May 20

5 UAB Hindu Student Council. We will have a session on singing and teaching the Hare Krishna way where everyone is welcome to join. For more info, Varadraj Prabhu 383-9805, 1015 Ave S, Apt 20, Bham.
Radio proves good choice for Pennington

By accident, she says. Like so many who pursue a career in broadcast journalism, she had her sights on a role in television news.

Then she volunteered to host a half-hour radio news program at WOUB-FM at Ohio University. “And I was sucked in,” she says.

It turned out to be a good move for Pennington, now an announcer and producer at WBHM-FM 90.3. Pennington recently won the Douglas L. Cannon Broadcast Journalism Award for Excellence in Medical Writing from the Medical Association of Alabama for her stories on “The MOMS Project” and “Me and AIDS.” It’s the second year in a row Pennington has been selected a Cannon award recipient.

Pennington, who hosts the local portion of “All Things Considered” Monday through Friday from 3-7 p.m., also recently was named Best Specialized Reporter. Her story “AIDS: The Epidemic in Alabama” won an Alabama Associated Press Broadcast Award and an RTNDA Edward R. Murrow Award.

“It’s an honor that those stories were selected,” Pennington says.

Chasing her future with fervor

Once Pennington decided radio would be her future, she chased it with fervor. Former NPR “Morning Edition” host Bob Edwards – one of the more famous broadcasters in NPR’s history – learned firsthand how badly she wanted a career in it.

Renovations were taking place back at WOUB during Pennington’s tenure there, and students were allowed to write messages on the walls before they were painted. Pennington took a black marker and wrote in big block letters, “I’m going to have Bob Edwards’ job.”

Edwards happened to be a guest of WOUB for its 50th anniversary party a few months later. Guess at which table he was seated? At Pennington’s table – seated next to her.

One of Pennington’s friends told Edwards the message she had written on the wall, and Edwards couldn’t resist leaning toward Pennington and saying, “So, you’re the one that wants my job.”

“I was mortified,” says Pennington, who admits she is shy. “But, really, I loved Bob Edwards. He always had such a warm presence on the air. That’s what I strive to be like on the air.”

Pennington says she sometimes wonders what it would be like if she had followed her television aspirations. “Every now and then I think it would be cool to do live shots,” she says, noting that she also likes shooting video.

But at the end of the day, the intimacy and anonymity radio provides is what she yearns to have. Plus, her job enables her to do the work she really enjoys.

“I want to be able to continue to tell community stories that matter,” she says. “I don’t want to ever get to a point where my reporting is derivative or not connecting with the heart of the community.”

To listen to Pennington’s award-winning stories, visit the staff section of www.wbhm.org.

Chawla helps to shape prestigious engineering review journal

The list of books written and edited by Krishan Chawla, Ph.D., is impressive. So is their impact.

Metal Matrix Composites, Ceramic Matrix Composites, Mechanical Behavior of Materials... the list goes on. And each of the 12 textbooks he has written or edited is used in classrooms throughout the English-speaking world.

Now Chawla, a professor in Materials Science and Engineering, is overseeing a new venture as editor of the journal.

“Morning Edition” host Steve Chiotakis was named Best Reporter and Best Anchor in the state and “All Things Considered” local host Rosemary Pennington was honored as Best Specialized Reporter for her coverage of science. Pennington’s “AIDS: The Epidemic in Alabama” won for Best Documentary.

Chiotakis’ feature on using sports computer games to teach academics won for Best General Sports and his story “Paying for Progress,” about the economic incentives offered to developers, won the Best Hard-News Feature story. Chiotakis also won Best Use of Tape for “Holy Night,” his sound montage from the nativity scene at Briarwood Church.

Chiotakis and WBHM News Director Tanya Ott shared the award for Best Coverage of a Spot News Story for their stories on the Alabama church fires, and freelance reporter Dale Short was named Best Commentator for his reflections on a record collection lost to water damage.

Pennington’s reporting on AIDS and methamphetamine also won the 2007 Douglas L. Cannon Broadcast Journalism Award for Excellence in Medical Writing from the Medical Association of Alabama. This is the second year Pennington has been recognized with this award.

Additionally, WBHM was recognized as the Best Media Outlet for Local Artists by the Alabama Underground Awards. This award is for “Tapestry,” WBHM’s locally produced arts and culture program heard Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. and rebroadcast Saturdays at 11:30 a.m.

“Once again, the talents and efforts of the work done by the WBHM news team has been recognized and rewarded,” said WBHM General Manager Mike Morgan. “Our news and production team continues the station’s commitment to produce high-quality, substantive, sound-rich programming that helps listeners better understand issues of importance.”

WBHM serves the Birmingham area and North Central Alabama at 90.3 FM. To learn more about programs available on WBHM, visit www.wbhm.org.

The staff of WBHM Public Radio recently collected nine Alabama Press Association Awards – more than any other television or radio station in the state – and three regional Edward R. Murrow Awards for Excellence in Journalism.

“Morning Edition” host Steve Chiotakis was named Best Reporter and Best Anchor in the state and “All Things Considered” local host Rosemary Pennington was honored as Best Specialized Reporter for her coverage of science. Pennington’s “AIDS: The Epidemic in Alabama” won for Best Documentary.

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WBHM serves the Birmingham area and North Central Alabama at 90.3 FM. To learn more about programs available on WBHM, visit www.wbhm.org.

Reporters, programs at WBHM awarded

The list of books written and edited by Krishan Chawla, Ph.D., is impressive. So is their impact.

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Now Chawla, a professor in Materials Science and Engineering, is overseeing a new venture as editor of the prestigious International Materials Reviews, a journal published jointly by U.S.-based ASM International (formerly the American Society of Metals) and the U.K.-based Institute of Materials. The journal publishes peer-reviewed, authoritative and critical assessments on topics relating to all aspects of materials science and engineering.

“We publish review articles only by authoritative and world-renowned authorities,” Chawla says. “In other journals people can submit unsolicited manuscripts, but not in this one. Here we commission people to write.”

And it’s not an easy process.

The journal prints six times a year and the editorial board, which Chawla now leads, meets twice a year to brainstorm about the most important areas of the materials industry. Then they contact those working in the areas of interest to see if they would be willing to write a review for the journal.

“Writing a review article is much more time-consuming than an original research paper,” Chawla explains. “The reviewer has to be very critical. He or she must review what already has been published. People aren’t always willing to commit to such an effort because it takes a lot more time to write a review article.”

But that’s also why ASM International is considered to be the premier materials-related professional society in the world, Chawla says.

Chawla was appointed editor of International Materials Reviews this past August, and his appointment is open-ended. The journal covers technologies affecting the metals, ceramics, composite materials and electronic materials. Topics range from use to theory and practice of extraction, production, fabrication, properties and behavior of materials. Each issue contains two to three reviews assessing years of research in a particular field.

Chawla, who has been at UAB for 10 years, was one of 13 faculty members honored this past year with the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. He consistently receives superb evaluations from materials and engineering students despite a reputation for being demanding.

“This has been a great place to me for 10 years,” Chawla says. “It’s very, very encouraging personally and professionally to be able to excel in these kind of intellectual efforts here at UAB.”
Children

UAB Adolescent Medicine is looking for boys and girls to join their month long study to assess their mood-related symptoms and interests. Your child could be a great fit for the study if they meet the following criteria:

- Age 8-17 years old
- Healthy and taking no medications
- Scottish descent

The study involves participation in 6-8 visits, over 6 weeks. Participants will be compensated. Compensation: $300 - $500 per visit.

Men

Incontinence study compares two treatment options for urinary incontinence due to prostate cancer. This study involves a 1-2 hour phone interview and 3-4 visits. Participation is compensated. Compensation: $400.

Healthy African-American men and women ages 19 and older needed for a 1-year study on weight loss. This study involves a 1-2 hour phone interview and 3-4 visits. Participants will be compensated. Compensation: $400.

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For Sale

Appliances & Electronics
GE electric self-cleaning stove, white, new, never used, $325. 996-7805/662-2751.
Dryer (maytag) white, front loading, old, exc cond, need to sell, $150. Sherrika 786-4645/sherrikabmcuyat.com.

Automobiles
1997 Chevrolet SL S4 4x4, automatic, exc con, 3rd-dr, pr, pl, cd, keyless entry, 133,000 miles, runs perfectly, $3,750.783-7734.
1993 Honda ACCORD LX 5,000, mot, pr, automatic, 4-cyl, 4-dr, cd, ac, pdv, pl, keyless entry, good cond, asking $12,200. Alan 620-5787/2536-2519.
1994 Nissan Xterra, black, exc condition, pd, 4x12, pr, pl, cd, am, exc cond, need to sell, $15,000. Peter peluca2002@hotmail.com.
1994 Dodge Ram 150, charcoal crew, cab, 5-7/4, l, heater, overhead storage, power windows, remote keyless entry, $4,499,000. 744-4414.
55 gallon fish aquarium with stand and good cond, $700. 222-0239.
Sports & Fitness
approx 8,’ very good cond. Ray 335-8134.
(2) concord liberty Star lift
(2) 120 gallon propane tanks
Jessie 4-5400 or e-mail good home: jessie@jtm.com.
Bedroom
Sealy queen mattress + box + frame and stered wing back chair, $75; queen beige color), immaculate, $1000. 613-0068.
Comforter, bed skirt, pillow; perfect cond, $150. Dale 853-0939.
Miscellaneous
Granite countertops, $900, 1-week time-share, $95; loveseat, $250, British colonial style, casual dining set, $500; 2
work. Dale 853-0939.

classified

 3260, dark silver metallic/alcanatara, 6-apartment, $315,000. 837-8559.
FPs, big yard & sweet porch, 1217 17th Ave.
Vestavia ByOwner.com #3258. 913-7307.

For Rent
Southside—1 BR 2 BA, CH, total electric, huge living room, W&D conn, kitchen outfitted with cabinets, eat-in/corner/ton
in kitchen, 5 min to UAB, reduced to $50,000, MLS#322315. Rebecca 404-684-2973.

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UAB Baseball vs. East Carolina

UAB EMPLOYEE NIGHT

THIS THURSDAY - 7:00 PM
Young Memorial Field

ALL EMPLOYEES GET IN FOR $1.
KIDS UNDER 12 ADMITTED FREE!

www.uabsports.com - 975-UAB1