Benefits open enrollment to begin Oct. 1

Make plans now for annual open enrollment for medical, dental, vision and voluntary ADD&D insurance coverage and flexible spending accounts (FSAs) for all benefit-eligible employees of UAB.

This year’s open enrollment period will run from 7 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 1 to 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31. Packets will arrive at your home the week of Sept. 29.

The cost of health care is rising nationwide as a result of inflation, advances in health care and increased use of the benefits.

The UAB employee population faces many of the same health care issues of our nation, state and city. UAB struggles with how to balance the impact of these costs on employees and the organization. During this lean budget year, UAB administration worked diligently to minimize any additional cost passed along to employees and the organization.

The cost of health care is rising nationwide as a result of inflation, advances in health care and increased use of the benefits.

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For 2009, several plan design changes are being implemented in order to help contain overall premium increases. Pharmacy plan changes include increased generic drug utilization, which helps save both you and the plan money. Pharmacy co-pays will be increased slightly in order to offset growing pharmacy costs. A new copay level for specialty visits will be introduced under the medical plans.

There will be no premium increases or plan design changes to the dental plan in 2009.

Vision rates through VSP will increase 10 percent for 2009. In addition, the out-of-pocket co-pays for VSP will increase by $5.

To participate in open enrollment, employees may make all elections online at www.shps.com, or by using a touch-tone telephone and calling 1-800-225-0162.

If additional help is needed, customer service representatives will be available to answer questions between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. CT Monday through Friday. These options will be available beginning at 7 a.m. Monday, Oct. 1.

Until elections are effective Jan. 1, 2009. New premiums for medical, dental, vision and voluntary ADD&D will be reflected in your January 2009 payroll. FSA deductions also will be reflected in your January 2009 payroll.

You must participate in open enrollment if you are:

• Changing your level of coverage as it relates to the single/employee plus up to two dependents/family option.

Researchers to study Saturn’s moons

The NASA Outer Planets Research Program has selected UAB to help research the composition of Titan and Enceladus, two of the 52 moons orbiting Saturn, and discern the kind of life those celestial bodies may house.

Perry Gerakines, Ph.D., associate professor of physics, was awarded a three-year, $400,000 grant for the project, “Vacuum Ultraviolet Spectroscopy of Icy Mixtures Relevant to the Outer Solar System.” Gerakines will work with Amanda Hendrix, a Cassini UVIS instrument scientist from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, to measure the vacuum ultraviolet spectra of thin ice films.

“We want to understand what the Saturn system is made of because we want to understand the history of our solar system,” Gerakines says. “The chemistry around Saturn is a lot different from Earth.

Saturn’s rings stretch across this scene with the small moon Epimetheus and the smog-enshrouded satellite, Titan, which UAB researcher Perry Gerakines will be studying.

Understanding the origins of the materials

Rita Treutel is building a database for the new University Writing Web and needs materials from faculty, staff and administrators in all disciplines to make the centralized writing resource site a comprehensive resource for students.

QEP’s University Writing Web seeks materials

UA students now have the ability to write papers, take diagnostic tests and receive writing tips from their professors in a centralized, online location.

The University Writing Web, an Internet Web site developed with input from faculty and students, is online for the first time this fall. The initiative, which was developed by the University Writing Task Force as part of UAB’s Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), reflects UAB’s commitment to teaching writing at all levels and in all disciplines. The site gives students a centralized writing resource with materials provided by faculty, staff and administrators.

“Connecting our students to the expectations of their professors is a logical, easy way to address the weaknesses in writing the QEP pointed out,” says Rita Treutel, professor of English. “Right now it’s just a shell and we’ve got to flesh it out. Now, we need the faculty, staff and administration to give us their information on writing so we can upload it to the Writing Web and put together a great writing resource for faculty and students.”

Centralization is a key component

The University Writing Web combines two elements: an online presence to promote writing instruction at all levels of the undergraduate curriculum, and MyCompLab, an online program already in use at UAB.
President’s Award for Diversity: call for nominations begins

The President’s Award for Diversity honors those who have demonstrated outstanding efforts towards advancing the university’s mission of embracing diversity while maintaining academic excellence.

Visit www.uab.edu/communityweek for a list of categories and to download a nomination form. The deadline for nominations is Thursday, Oct. 23.

Direct questions to Thomas L. Alexander at communityweek@uab.edu.

Homecoming is ahead

UAB will celebrate Homecoming Week Oct. 12-18 with a host of activities, including the annual hospital Gurney Derby, parade and football game when the UAB Blazers take on the Marshall University Thundering Herd at 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18 at Legion Field. A full list of activities planned is online on UAB’s first Homecoming blog at http://blogs.uab.edu/homecoming.

UAB to end paper payslips for monthly paid employees

President Carol Garrison engaged university leaders on how to maintain the university’s priorities, progress and achievements given state budget reductions, rising energy costs and increasing benefit costs. Among the cost-savings plans that will be implemented Oct. 1 is elimination of printing and mailing payroll direct-deposit slips for monthly paid employees, who may use the Oracle Adminsystem application to access this personal information online. Find it on www.uab.edu under Information Technology—Adminsystems.

UAB to host end of month stamp unveiling of ’09 Black History Month stamp Oct. 2

The UAB Department of History and the School of Social & Behavioral Sciences will host an unveiling ceremony for the U.S. Postal Service Black History Month Commemorative Stamp for 2009.

The reception will be held Thursday, Oct. 2 at the Sheraton Birmingham Hotel. The event honors the Journal of African-American History as part of the 93rd annual convention of the Association for the Study of African-American Life and History (ASALH). Oct. 1-5 at the Sheraton Birmingham Hotel.

The convention will bring together national and local leaders in the fields of education, history, public policy and civil rights to celebrate the 2008 Black History theme “Carter G. Woodson and the Origins of Multiculturalism.” For more information about the convention, including the schedule of activities, speakers and the ASALH, visit the Web site at www.asalh.org.

Teaching with Technology series starts Oct. 3

Faculty will share personal experiences in teaching with technologies available to them at UAB during the Oct. 3 session “Tools to Assisting in Assuring the Integrity of Student work.” No registration is required – just stop by Heritage Hall Room 104 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. to meet with other faculty teaching with technology.

Register for one-day lab safety workshop

Occupational Health & Safety will offer a one-day course on laboratory safety Wednesday, Oct. 22. In-depth discussions and demonstrations will be offered on biosafety, chemical safety, hazardous materials, waste and general safety for anyone who works in or supervises a laboratory. There is a $25 fee for UAB employees ($75 for non-employees). Class size is limited. Call 934-2487 to register.

New resource for faculty development

A new Faculty Development Web site has been created to benefit kidney, liver and pancreas transplantation at UAB. It is distributed free to UAB employees. Office managers should report changes in the number of copies needed by calling 934-3030. Requests permitted with prior approval.

Online: The UAB Reporter can be found online at www.uab.edu/reporter, including the previous 12 months’ issues. Issues since September 2003 are online at www.mhsl.uab.edu/ubp.
New particle-collider test may reveal ‘subatomic world’

When scientists on the Swiss-French border completed the world’s largest particle-collider test Sept. 10, beaming protons all the way around a 17-mile tunnel in an experiment they believe will provide data that will lead toward understanding the makeup of the universe, UAB’s Perry Gerakines was paying close attention.

Gerakines and many scientists around the world have been following the developments of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) and are monitoring the physics experiment with high hopes. Gerakines believes this is one of the most important scientific experiments ever conducted.

The next big test was to be Oct. 21, when scientists on the Swiss-French border——the Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN)——will create a high-energy collision. But a technical glitch has forced scientists to shut down the huge particle-smashing machine for at least two months. The goal is to eventually recreate conditions in the first trillionth of a second after the Big Bang dawned, when scientists believe the universe was a bunch of fundamental particles and light spectra, from visible light to gamma rays.

“SaturN

Continued from page 1

on these moons tells us about the origin of Saturn and the origin of the solar system and the origin of the materials in the solar system — where they come from, why they are the way they are and how they got to be that way,” Gerakines says.

Gerakines will conduct measurements of ices similar to the ones NASA scientists expect on the surface of the moons. Gerakines and Hendrix then will compare the lab results to the measurements Cassini has made.

“It’s like we’re making up this book of spectra, and then we will compare this book to what we actually see around Saturn in order to identify what may be there,” Gerakines says.

Titan similar to Earth?

NASA launched the Cassini orbiter and the Huygens probe in 1997 equipped with an array of sophisticated instruments and cameras able to collect images in varying conditions and light spectra, from visible light to the infrared. The Cassini spacecraft entered orbit around Saturn to begin the first in-depth, up-close study of the ringed planet and its domain in June 2004. Cassini is reaching the end of its planned four-year tour of the Saturn system — but now will conduct an extended mission called the Cassini Equinox Mission. Saturn’s rings, moons and its dynamic magnetosphere along with Titan’s surface and atmosphere continue to give scientists a treasure trove of information about our galaxy’s history.

Cassini’s observations of Titan have given scientists a glimpse of what Earth might have been like before life existed. They now believe Titan, which is similar in size to Mercury, possesses many parallels to Earth, including lakes, rivers, channels, dunes, rain, snow, clouds, mountains and possibly volcanoes. “Titan’s atmosphere is full of brown haze that is made up of interesting hydrocarbon compounds and light that is supposed to look like. Can you use ‘I’ in it? Is it OK to put graphs in it? Do you have a separate handbook at a cost near $100 for the 2007-08 academic year, so they are receiving a $30 break this year and extended online access.

What Pearson did is package them together, giving students access to MyCompLab and other resources online. “One of the things this Writing Web has is the archive that covers writing in all the undergraduate disciplines,” she says. “For example, a student can click on the Social & Behavioral Sciences link, then click on Psychology and then click on Review of Undergraduate Disciplines. There they will find a document, or documents that would tell them some of the conventions and dos and don’ts. But we’re still building the database and need more disciplines to send us their information.”

“The framework is there,” Treutel adds, “but we’re doing all we can do. Now we’re depending on our faculty to help us make it something outstanding.”

Documents posted on the University Writing Web — both samples from faculty or works in progress from students — are the property of the writer, not Pearson.

Please contact Treutel to obtain the URL for and password to the University Writing Web and to submit writing instructions or sample documents. She can be contacted at rtreutel@uab.edu or 941-4230.

Perry Gerakines and Doug White inspect lab equipment in the Department of Physics. Gerakines says the LHC tests near the French-Swiss border are critical experiments. critique their papers, engage in peer review, online tests, take diagnostic tests to answer the question they so frequently ask her — Professor Chapman, what are you looking for in this paper?”

“What are the key benefits of the Writing Web?

• It houses MyCompLab, where students can plug in their assignment, take diagnostic tests to pinpoint their deficiencies, compose their papers, engage in peer review, online tests, take diagnostic tests to

• It houses grammar exercises, a composing portfolio, writing tips and other features.

• It recommends exercises to students after they complete diagnostic tests, pinpointing their deficiencies and giving individualized instruction.

• Students have access to NoodleBib, a bibliography tool that helps generate bibliographies based on styles. It is a feature professors can turn on or off.

• Students can be contacted at rtreutel@uab-edu or 941-4230.

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Properties of the moons

Gerakines hopes that he and NASA scientists will be able to learn about the properties of the moons — such as how gravity they are and what they are made of — by looking in detail at the ultraviolet spectrum of these objects.

Gerakines and a graduate student will build a UV spectrometer and any other equipment needed to make the key. The measurements of the ions will occur in the UV spectrometer, which will calculate the amount of ultraviolet and visible light transmitted or absorbed.

“We hope to show that the vacuum ultraviolet spectra obtained by Cassini reveal the presence and physical properties of trace ice components such as carbon dioxide, ammonia, or methane on the surfaces of Saturn’s moons,” he says.

What’s the LHC testing?

“The LHC is going to create a high-energy collision. Two of those bunches are going to be allowed to collide with each other. Then they’ve got detectors that are going to look at the bits and pieces that come out of these collisions. ‘It’s going to take a while, but they’re going to examine the measurements they make out of these collisions, and hopefully it’s going to be able to tell us something about the fundamental properties of the forces that govern the universe.”

He expects the project to give particularly good insight into the subatomic world.

“Protons, neutrons, electrons, the existence of mass, how the forces of nature interact on that scale,” he says. “We will have a better understanding of the forces of nature and that will allow us to understand the origin of the forces we know today, and allow us to manipulate those and understand the inner workings of things like the sun and the stars and things that involve these high energies and nuclear interactions.”

Other skeptics have theorized a byproduct of these collisions could be micro black holes, subatomic versions of collapsed stars whose gravity is so strong they can suck in planets and other stars. Gerakines says those fears are unfounded.

The next big test was to be Oct. 21, when scientists on the Swiss-French border——the Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN)——will create a high-energy collision. But a technical glitch has forced scientists to shut down the huge particle-smashing machine for at least two months. The goal is to eventually recreate conditions in the first trillionth of a second after the Big Bang dawned, when scientists believe the universe was a bunch of fundamental particles and light spectra, from visible light to gamma rays.

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Steele’s historical research speaks to current issues

Brian Steele has a review article in this fall’s Presidential Studies Quarterly and a new article to be published in the Journal of Southern History this November. Steele reviews a new book on Thomas Jefferson and, combined with his other historical research on Jefferson, raises questions of relevance to current debates on executive power in a democracy.

**OPEN ENROLLMENT**

**Continued from page 1**

- Adding or deleting dependents.
- Changing from basic to comprehensive level of coverage - or vice versa - with the dental plan.
- Dropping existing medical, dental and/or vision coverage.
- Enrolling or changing voluntary AD&D coverage.
- Participating in the flexible spending account (FSA) program for 2009.

In addition to your packet, annual open enrollment materials will be available beginning Oct. 1 on the UAB Human Resources Benefits Web page: go to www.uab.edu/benefits and click on Annual Open Enrollment. This area includes links to the VIVA, Blue Cross Blue Shield, MetLife and Vision Service Plan (VSP) home pages, as well as provider directories. Informational materials also will be available on the SHPS Web site.

To learn more about UAB’s benefit plans and open enrollment, make plans to attend an upcoming Benefits Fair. The fairs will be held Wednesday, Oct. 1 from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the North Pavilion Hospital Atrium and Thursday, Oct. 2 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the HUC Great Hall conference rooms A and B.

Any questions concerning annual open enrollment should be directed to an HR consultant or to the UAB Benefits Department at 934-3458 or benefits@uab.edu.

Quick guide:

To participate in open enrollment, employees may make all elections online at www.shps.com, or by using a touch-tone telephone and calling 1-800-225-0162.

Customer service representatives will be available to answer questions between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. CT Monday through Friday. These options will be available beginning at 7 a.m. Monday, Oct. 1.
Property in downtown Birmingham, especially adjacent to UAB’s campus, doesn’t become available very often. So when the UAB Health System had a chance to acquire the 17 1/2-acre Highlands campus from HealthSouth in 2006 it jumped at the opportunity. The $35.8 million purchase price on the property, which was appraised at $95.2 million, was a nice bonus.

UAB Health System has worked fervently to restore what is now UAB Highlands in the two-plus years since its acquisition says Bo Cofield, associate vice president and chief operating officer of UAB Highlands. Many parts of the Highlands campus have been remodeled and updated with modern technology, ensuring that health-care providers have the equipment and instrumentation needed to aid in patient care.

Cofield recently discussed some of the clinical coverage, technology and history of Highlands with the UAB Reporter.

Q: How has the transition from HealthSouth to UAB worked for you so far?
A: Very well. Many committed staff members stayed on with UAB after we acquired the hospital, and we’ve obviously added many more as our volume has grown. Our focus on quality and safety, patient satisfaction and fiscal responsibility has been embraced by our staff, our medical and surgical faculty and the community that seeks care here. As we keep growing, those we serve can expect a continuing commitment along these lines.

Q. How many clinics are available at UAB Highlands, and what are some of the clinics and services available?
A. The Medical Office Building attached to UAB Highlands houses seven outpatient clinics: The Workplace, the UAB Orthopedic Surgery clinic, UAB’s Gynecologic Oncology clinic, a newly established UAB Rheumatology clinic, a community-based ENT clinic and two community-based Ophthalmology clinics.

Q. What are some of the technologies available to patients at Highlands?
A. UAB Highlands has added several technologies to the campus since its acquisition. The most important for our patients is the ability to view lab results, radiology images, clinic notes and other important patient-specific information that are part of the UAB Health System electronic information system and medical record.

Q. What kind of care does Highlands’ Emergency Department provide?
A. High-quality, compassionate and efficient care. Our physicians are the same as those who provide service at University Hospital, but our clinical focus is on lower acuity services like minor lacerations, sports injuries, orthopedic injuries and general medicine patients. While we’re not always as busy as some other emergency departments in the city, our volume is growing to the point where some patients do have to wait for a room.

Q. What kind of feedback are you getting from patients on the quality of care provided at Highlands?
A. The feedback we are receiving is largely positive. The UAB focus on providing quality healthcare to those we serve is our unwavering commitment to the community. As our volume grows, we will do everything we can to make sure our already high patient satisfaction scores remain so.

Q. What things do you hope to see happen to enhance UAB Highlands’ commitment to quality care and growth in the coming years?
A. First, we need to continue to grow our volume in many areas – especially those already well established on this campus like Orthopedics.

As we grow, we will continue to make facility and technology investments that will improve our integration with the rest of the UAB Health System by adding new imaging modalities, updated surgical capabilities and compassionate medical services.
Special Lectures

Tuesday, Sept. 30
3:30 pm History Department Colloquium. Fishing the seas: The hazards and dangers of fishing in the North Atlantic, Prof Colin Davis (History); Heritage Hall Room 106.

Wednesday, Oct. 1
4 pm UAB Center for Clinical & Translational Science. Computational simulations, visualization and virtual reality with applications to biomedical research, education and training, Chair Bharat Soni (Mechanical Engineering); Finley Conf Ctr.

Friday, Oct. 3
10 am UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center. A synopsis of the Johns Hopkins University-UAB Cervical Cancer SPOR€, Assoc Prof Warner Hub (OB/GYN); West Pavilion-E.

Monday, Oct. 6
6 pm UAB Dept of English Alumni Lecture Series/UAB African-American Studies. Social responsibility and the writer, Sonia Sanchez, renowned poet and activist; UAB Spencer Honors House. For more info, call 4-4250.

Tuesday, Oct. 7
Noon Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center. Neuromaging studies in mild cognitive impair- ment, Dr Ronald Petersen (Prof, Neurology, Mayo Clinic); Finley Conf Ctr.

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.

Meetings

Tuesday, Sept. 30, Oct. 7
9 am Chinese Conversation Table: HB - 3rd fl “The Hub”, Humanities Building. Junsong Chen, jschen08@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

10 am International Women’s Group, provides activities to meet the cultural and social interests of the international community. Smolian International House. 4-1205 or lforeignlangs@uab.edu.

11 am Arabic Conversation Table: HB - 3rd fl “The Hub”, Humanities Building. Ms. Dima Zeiden, dnz00@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

12:30 pm Meditation, UAB Resource Center Classroom, Suite 330, Call 4-2281/ www.uab.edu/ead for more info.

2 pm Spanish Conversation Table: Intermediate/Advanced; HB - 3rd fl “The Hub”, Humanities Building. Centeno centeno@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

3 pm Spanish Conversation Table: Level Beginner; HB - 3rd fl “The Hub”. foreignlangs@uab.edu.

7 pm Conversational English Classes levels 1 – IV, offered free to those interested in enhancing their conversational English skills. Smolian International House. 4-1205/ carola@uab.edu.

Wednesday, Oct. 1, 8
10 am Conversational English Classes levels 1 – IV, offered free to those interested in enhancing their conversational English skills. Smolian International House. 4-1205/ carola@uab.edu.

Noon French Conversation Table: Commons on the Green cafeteria. Look for the French flag in the side dining room! Catherine Danielou at danielou@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

8 pm Italian Conversation Table; HB - 3rd fl “The Hub”, Humanities Building. Arnaldo Cicciotti cicco@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

Thursday, Oct. 2, 9
1 pm Arabic Conversation Table: HB - 3rd fl “The Hub”, Humanities Building. Ms. Dima Zeiden, dnz00@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

2 pm Medical Spanish Conversation Table: Level Intermediate/Advanced; HB - 3rd fl “The Hub”, Humanities Building. Centeno centeno@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

6:30 pm Spanish Conversation Table: Level Intermediate/Advanced; Starbucks Coffee Shop, 11th Ave at 5 Points S. Centeno centeno@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

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

Friday, Oct. 3, 10
11:30 am Arabic Conversation Table: Blazer Hall. Ms. Dima Zeiden, dnz00@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

Noon La Reunion Spanish Conversation Table: Level Intermediate/Advanced; Cafeteria at HUC, Amador Jimenez-Garrido amador@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

Noon Japanese Language Table: Commons on the Green. Mako Cook makocook@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

12:30 pm Russian Conversation Table; HB - 3rd fl “The Hub”, Humanities Building. Marina Lysenkova marina_lysenkova@yahoo.com or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

Exhibits

Mervyn H. Sterne Library. Censorship in schools and libraries: An exhibit by the Long Island Coalition against Censorship. The exhibit ends Oct. 4. The exhibition presents 30 illustrations with accompanying text on the history of censorship in the United States during the past 150 years. For more information on Banned Books Week, visit the American Library Association’s page at www.ala.org/ala/. tickets are $35; students $20. Call 5-2787 or visit www.ub.com for more info.

Films

Tuesday, Sept. 30
8 pm Foreign Film Series. The Yacoubian Building, an Egyptian film in Arabic with English subtitles. The film portrays the complex, corrupt and beautiful stories of the residents of central Cairo who live in the crumbling, once-decadent Yacoubian Building. Hussey Recital Hall.

Thursday, Oct. 9
7 am-5 pm UAB Hospital Auxiliary. Gold buy-back sale; West Pavilion Atrium.

Friday-Saturday, Oct. 10-11
7 pm Alys Stephens Center. American String Quartet. In their 32nd season, the American String Quartet celebrates with a program of American music. They have served as the resident quartet at the Aspen Music Festival since 1974 and the Manhattan School of Music since 1984, have performed in all 50 states, and appeared in virtually every important concert hall throughout the world. Tickets are $35; students $20. Call 5-2787 or visit www.ub.com for more info.

8 pm Alys Stephens Center. An acoustic evening with Lyle Lovett and John Hiatt, on stage together. Continue the experience before both shows in the ASC Haskell Courtyard and party with live music, Dreamland Bar-B-Que and beer. Tickets are $95, $75, $65 and $55; students $20. Call 5-2787 or visit www.ub.com for more info.

Sunday, Oct. 12
3 pm Music. UAB Wind Symphony an Symphony Band, directed by Sue Samuels. Jemison Concert Hall. Call 5-2787 for more info.

UAB Sports

Oct. 2: UAB Football vs Memphis, Legion Field, 7 pm
Oct. 3: Women’s Volleyball vs UTEP, Bartow Arena, 7 pm
Oct. 4: Men’s Soccer vs Tulsa, West Campus Field, 7 pm
Oct. 5: Women’s Volleyball vs Tulane, Bartow Arena, 2 pm
Oct. 8: Men’s Soccer vs Alabama A&M, West Campus Field, 7 pm
Oct. 10: Women’s Soccer vs Rice, West Campus Field, 7 pm
Oct. 13: Women’s Soccer vs Houston, West Campus Field, 2 pm

13th St. S. Admission is free. Through May 9. 4-0815.

WBHM-FM, 90.3 Fresh Air with Terry Gross can be heard 3-4 pm daily on 90.3 WBHM-Birmingham, and 91.5 WSGN-Gadsden, your station for NPR News and classical music, Fresh Air is NPR’s Peabody Award-winning weekday magazine of contemporary arts and issues. It offers some of the most intelligent interviews, reviews and commentary heard on radio, and features interviews with prominent cultural and entertain- ment figures, as well as distinguished experts on current events.
An Acoustic Evening with
LYLE LOVETT & JOHN HIATT
October 10 & 11
Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.

Seeing the interplay and immense talent of Lovett and Hiatt might just be the highlight of the season!

Birmingham Chamber Music Society presents
AMERICAN STRING QUARTET
October 10 & 11
Fri. & Sat., 7 p.m.

There is a different program each night, so reserve your seats for both!

THE BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA & PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND
October 18
Saturday, 8 p.m.

Sharing the stage for the first time in “Down by the Riverside,” music dedicated to New Orleans.

Birmingham Music Club presents
TURTLE ISLAND QUARTET & the ASSAD BROTHERS
October 19
Sunday, 7 p.m.
Prelude discussion, 6 p.m.

The world’s finest guitar duo shares the stage with our favorite jazz/classical ensemble.

*UAB Faculty & Staff Receive a Discount on these shows!

(205) 975-ARTS
www.AlysStephens.org
1200 10th Avenue South

Sponsored by Davis Architects, City Stages, Reg’s Coffee House, Live 100.5, WBHM, Dreamland Bar-B-Que, The Birmingham News, University of Alabama at Birmingham, and Viva Health.

Sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Wyatt Rushton Haskell, WBHM, The Birmingham News, University of Alabama at Birmingham, and Viva Health.

Sponsored by AT&T, Patty McDonald, The Birmingham News, KISS FM, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Viva Health.
Austin’s dedication goes beyond duties in Genetics

James Camel can point to many virtuous traits of Scott Austin, but he especially admires the love and dedication Austin shows his wife and children. That’s why Camel was so appreciative when he Austin helped the Department of Genetics during a mini-crisis - that came right after Austin’s wife gave birth to their third child.

A resident was in need of an official letter of offer from the department, and Austin was the person who could make the offer happen.

“Scott was the only person within the department who knew the scenario and the Graduate Medical Education rules that afforded us an opportunity to make an offer to an incoming resident and at the appropriate classification for which they truly were qualified,” says Camel, administrative director of genetics. “He came into work, drafted the letter, put it in the mail and made one resident very happy. Afterwards, Scott dashed home, secured his children and brought them to the hospital to see their new sibling.

“Scott showed he was a loving husband, a wonderful dad and a dedicated employee.”

But there is more to Austin’s selection as September’s Employee of the Month than his willingness to help in time of crisis.

“Truly,” he says, “it was no big deal. I just had to run by for a few minutes.” Austin always is eager to help students and his co-workers get their jobs done efficiently, and he manages many important roles within the department.

Austin is involved with patient presentations for the medical school activities. He contacts families, confirms dates and often is the person to greet them and take them to the lecture hall, something he says gives him an opportunity to get to know the patients personally.

Austin has many other duties: He coordinates summer research interns for the Graduate Medical Education rules that afforded us an opportunity to make an offer to an incoming resident and at the appropriate classification for which they truly were qualified,“ says Camel, administrative director of genetics. “He came into work, drafted the letter, put it in the mail and made one resident very happy. Afterwards, Scott dashed home, secured his children and brought them to the hospital to see their new sibling.

“Scott showed he was a loving husband, a wonderful dad and a dedicated employee.”

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Austin has many other duties: He coordinates interdisciplinary graduate programs into the post-doc and residency programs, coordinates summer research internships for junior and senior level undergraduate students and coordinates two Genetics Grand Rounds per month.

The latter involves a great deal of engagement by Austin. He has to set and resched-ule dates with speakers and acquire and maintain required materials for CME accreditation.

“Scott is an invaluable resource,” says Nathaniel Robin, M.D., professor of genetics and pediatrics. “But these only are a few of Scott’s activities. What makes him stand out is the remarkable consistency of his work. He is thorough and precise in every-thing he does, which obviously is an incred-ible relief for those that rely on him. And Scott is willing to go above and beyond. He is a professional, working until his job is complete.”

Austin began his working career at UAB in 2002 and has been in Genetics since 2003. He was promoted to program manager in October 2007. He says his love for UAB and the example set forth in the department by its leadership make his job enjoyable and engaging. “Most of my working life outside of college has been spent at UAB,” Austin says. “The people in this department are extremely dedicated, which makes it easy for me to love that I do and strive to achieve high standards.”

Richter named James Marion Sims Endowed Chair

Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecol-ogy Holly E. Richter, Ph.D., M.D., has been named to the James Marion Sims Endowed Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology in the School of Medi-cine at UAB. The appointment was made by the University of Alabama System Board of Trustees at its Sept. 19 meeting. As director of the UAB Division of Women’s Pelvic Medicine and Recon-structive Surgery, Richter has led the program to national prominence as a center of excellence in patient care, edu-cation and research. In 2001, with Richter as principal investigator, UAB was one of only three sites funded by the National Institutes of Health to participate in both the NIDDK Urinary Incontinence Treat-ment Network and the NICHD Pelvic Floor Disorders Network.

She has presented at a number of scien-tific meetings, including the Society for Gynecologic Surgeons, the American Ur-ogeynecologic Society, the International Continence Society and the International Consultation on Incontinence. She also has had 117 publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals and has been an ad hoc reviewer for a number of peer-reviewed publications, including the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology and International Urogynecology Journal. Richter earned her bachelor’s and doc-torate at the University of Manitoba, Canada, in 1977 and 1981, respectively, and her medical degree at UAB in 1992. Richter has been a member of the faculty in the UAB Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology since 1996.

The endowed chair is named in memory of the late Sims and was established in 1985 to support important medical research, with particular emphasis on obstetrics and gynecology.

School of Engineering’s Waldron helps build new bridge

UAB Assistant Professor of Engi-neering Chris Waldron, Ph.D., is in his first semester at UAB. He previously worked for the firm that designed and built the new Minnesota Interstate 35W Bridge that replaced the structure that collapsed in summer 2007, killing 13 people.

The engineering professor, whose interest is the life cycle and durability of bridges, said the new Minnesota Bridge uses state-of-the-art technology to prevent a future collapse over the Mississippi River.

“The new bridge is structurally redundant, and so if one component of the bridge fails, it is less likely that the structure will collapse the way the old 35W Bridge did,” Waldron said.

“The old bridge was not structurally re-dundant, so when the plates that held the bridge components together failed as the experts speculate happened, the entire structure came down.”

Waldron described the new bridge’s post tension concrete design as critical in its safety. He explains the safety design of the new bridge and shares his thoughts on engi-neering education in a video posted at main.uab.edu/Sites/MediaRelations/articles/3207.
**Women**

**Are you a postmenopausal woman at risk for increased bone density?** You may be eligible for a breast cancer prevention study. Contact: Jena 5-2780.

**Are you on oral contraceptives?** If you are women who have regular menstrual cycles you may be eligible. You will be asked to record your symptoms and side effects each month. Compensated:$400.

**Men**

**Are you a veteran?** Are you aged 50 or older and have been exposed to herbicides or Agent Orange? You may be eligible to participate in the study. Contact: Dr. Matthew L. Slaughter, 996-9000 ext. 500.

**Are you a woman?** Do you get up at least 30 minutes of moderate activity most days of the week? If so, you may be eligible to participate in a research study examining the effects of exercise training on physical fitness and functional ability. Contact: 4-5697.

**Do you or someone you know have cystic fibrosis?** The CF Foundation has developed a web site that describes the CF gene and provides information about CF care. Contact: 996-9622.

**Are you a woman age 65 or older?** You may be eligible to participate in a study of bone density and eating disorders. Contact: 4-6241.

**Do you have upper back pain?** You may be eligible to participate in a study of the effects of being in a Care Team for the participant and volunteers. Compensated $80 for 4 visits. Contact: BammanLab/STRIVE_II.htm.

**Are you a woman age 65-94 with a history of heart disease and being a non-smoker for 5 or more years?** You may be eligible for a study that is designed to determine the effectiveness of a new treatment medication to control blood pressure. Contact: 4-6241.

**Are you a woman age 50 or older with no history of heart or breast cancer?** You may qualify for a study on health-related quality of life. You may also be eligible to participate in an exercise program consisting of weight training and treadmill walking. Compensated up to $500. Contact: 3-8088.

**Are you interested in exercise?** If you are at least 16 years old and healthy, you may be eligible to participate in a study to map brain activity while performing decision-making tasks. Contact: 996-9368.

**Are you a woman?** Do you want to improve your memory and decision-making skills? Contact: 4-5697.

**Are you a woman 19 to 45 years old?** Are you being treated for polycystic ovary syndrome? You may be eligible to participate in this study of the effects of an investigational drug for patients with polycystic ovary syndrome. Contact: 4-5697.

**Are you a woman age 50 or older with a history of breast cancer?** You may qualify to participate in a study to educate women with spinal cord dysfunction about their sexual function and multiple sclerosis about their sexual function. Contact: 4-5697.

**Are you a woman age 40 to 65?** Are you planning to have a hysterectomy? You may be eligible to participate in a study to determine the relationship between neurologic function and multiple sclerosis due to their sexual function and multiple sclerosis due to their sexual function. Contact: 4-5697.

**Do you have or do you know of a woman who has a history of breast cancer?** You may be eligible to participate in a study to determine the effectiveness of a new treatment medication to control blood pressure. Contact: 4-6241.

**Are you a woman age 65 or older?** Are you interested in your child’s fitness? Are you interested in your child’s fitness? Contact: 4-5697.

**Are you a woman?** Do you get up at least 30 minutes of moderate activity most days of the week? If so, you may be eligible to participate in a study to determine the relationship between neurologic function and multiple sclerosis due to their sexual function and multiple sclerosis due to their sexual function. Contact: 4-5697.

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Appliances & Electronics
Whirlpool apr washer/dryer, like new, $252 @C Gulf Refrigerator, $750; 6 wood corner cabinet, $50, 864-834-9399.
32” Zenith TV, beautiful wood console cabinet @K, $250. Centerville’s Sound, stereo sound, cable sound, $200, 598-7320.
Vintage Sansui amplifier 2000X with manuals, in original box, $450, 598-7320.
90” George zyguen saxophone, $450; 64” upright piano, brown, $300, 481-598-0040; 60” mini piano, $450, 481-598-0040.
3-piece “Enforcer” drum set, mounted, gray used, $1300/bb. Jesse Daniels 4-5245-7577.

Sports & Fitness
10” UAb reporter
10-piece “enforcer” drum set-used, $60 ($80 new); Schwinn men’s bicycle, red, see Angel 587-0777.
10” UAb reporter
15” center console fishing boat, $13,500, 2-stroke engine, 14 feet, 4 staterooms, 2 toilets, 2 showers, Bimini top, Full bimini, anchor, use passport, $7500, 527-1024.
10” UAb reporter
“Freshwater” use only, extra pole holders, custom interior lights. 6-512-8787 thumbsup@uab.edu.
10” UAb reporter
16-445 UAb Custom Townhouse, $600, lots of extra, 691-789-1526.
10” UAb reporter
24” Mohawk canes, little used, tandem seating, $250, seni our use, 4JX. Peter 4-345-0939/ 3056.

For Rent
10” UAb reporter
19” ProCraft 16.5’ bass boat, $10,900, 567-9524.
10” UAb reporter
2000 Toyota Corolla CE, 4-cyl, 40,000 mi, all shots up, $4650, asking $2500, must be insured with all the papers and lifetime warranty work. Dale 853-0939.
10” UAb reporter
Weedeater bed w/police & fire sirens, $100, inc mattress. 2 toddler beds
10” UAb reporter
futon/sofa $300; oak table & 4 chairs, $50; dining room set, entertainment center like finish, like new, paid $10,000, asking $5500.
10” UAb reporter
’07 Honda Civic LXi PM. 567-9524
10” UAb reporter
suede, $45; small pond pump, filter, water plant stations, 3 shampoo bowls with attached under: salon furniture, reception desk, 4 edu.
10” UAb reporter
. 5-2688/ 256-591-9161.
10” UAb reporter
1999 Toyota Camry, black & metallic, 4-cyl, automatic, 28,600 mi, all shots, $5000, priced to sell, $3900/obo. phowell@uab.edu
10” UAb reporter
2000 toyota tacoma/edu
4-cyl, 1.8 liter, asking $3,500/obo. 5-2688/ 256-591-9161.
10” UAb reporter
’94 Buick Regal custom—rustic mountain cottage seeks new owner, incredible historic character, updates. Boyd 807-0626 MLS #403055.
10” UAb reporter
10” UAb reporter
Southside/UAB area—great historical home 2 blocks from UAB for the Troy man; 2 br, 1 ba, 1526 sq ft, close to UAB under construction, no lift, DR, den, kitchen, large living room/2036-1948.
10” UAb reporter
206—street parking, 2 BR/1 BA area, corner unit with enclosed deck, large laundry/work room.
10” UAb reporter
2 BR/2 BA, corner unit with enclosed deck, large laundry/work room.
10” UAb reporter
2 BR/2 BA condo, Unit 409, 969-2743.
10” UAb reporter
2 BR apt at Bristol Southside condo—walk to UAB, charming 3 BR/2 BA, $1020/mo, lease, deposit. 866-886-9943/
10” UAb reporter
UAB continuum Center—specializes in professional and expert care of STDS and vagi. Screening for genital herpensis also available.
10” UAb Career Development Services
UAB—employers, want you! Want to help you find a satisfying career. All services are confidential, free (except where noted and designed only for people with disabilities). We provide career consulting, personal and career assessment, interview skills training, job identification & spouse/partner relocation. Call 4-7439 or e-mail 4-7439.
10” UAb Career Development Services
The Resource Center.

Furnishings
Green flora sofa and 2 matching chairs with matching ottoman, $150, seller is good condition, $200. GOOD condition, can send pictures. Aim 4-0207/ aer@uab.edu

Moving sale: salon furniture, reception desk, 4 stations, 5 shampoo bowls with attached under: station furniture, reception desk, 4 edu.

Futon/sofa, used, no large area storage, tan microfiber, must sell, $260. 940-6474.

Moving sale: furnishing, decorative tools, etc. 674-4997/mkmt@uab.edu

2 toddler beds. Little Tykes train bed, hard to find, $100, excellent condition, also very nice fire station bed w/pole & fire sign, $100, inc matress, 386-6723.

Futon/sofa, used, has no large area storage, tan microfiber, must sell, $260. 940-6474.

For Sale

10” UAb Reporter
September 29, 2006

CLASSIFIEDS

Sale $
Traveling: from your type to TVs, exas, etc., with all the necessary.

Home improvements: Specializing in high-end construction, remodels, new construction, kitchens, bathrooms, fireplaces, patios, tile, garages. References available, quality assurance.

Expert trade work: 247-39, free roof repair, free roof repair, trimming, trimming and grouting and leveling as well as new carpet and room installation.

Window repair: You're going to love it. Maintain your own roof and get it 10% off your current roof. Open your old movie home (MS tape) to 411-8865-3001. Keep your memories safe for a lifetime. 610-491.

Brick: masses: in all specialty, brick, brick, and concrete needs, masonry, block, brick, brick, etc. Every 10 years, reference. Lamy 533-4732.

Create a simple yet elegant wedding or other event with soap carvings, topiaries, personalized items with your event with music from Live Oak Avenue, KCH 625-48-99. Reasonable rates. Keryn 817-8381. WeddingDesigns@uab.edu.

Professional videography: Gavin Phillips has more than 35 years experience filming weddings, special events and other special occasions. Competitive rates. 566-1830/933-5185 or gavin@philipps.com.

Need car repair small or large? Anything from turn-ups to performance parts. Convenient to UAB. Call Charlie 401-4945.

Climb & big small events: Weddings, par- ty, entertainment, 50 days, planning service. 30 years experience. Free estimates. 532-0536.

Handyman services: remodeling, tile, decks, any home repair or remodeling needs. No job too small. 18 years experience. References. Lamy 533-4732.

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At UAB, diversity is a core value and strength—and fostering it is one of the major objectives of our strategic plan. We realize that our success depends upon encouraging people with different backgrounds, experiences, and viewpoints to collaborate with an interdisciplinary approach, and we work actively to promote a multicultural environment.

- UAB is home to nearly 4,000 minority students—more than 35 percent of our student population—and more than 7,000 minority employees.
- The Princeton Review rated UAB fourth in the nation for its diverse student population, which includes social and ethnic diversity and interaction between students of different backgrounds.
- UAB received a grant from the Ford Foundation for Difficult Dialogues, a program to support scholarship, teaching, and civil dialogue about difficult political, religious, racial, and cultural issues in undergraduate education in the United States.