Many patients with spinal cord injuries didn’t have a bright future in 1969 when Samuel Stover, M.D., joined UAB. Stover says that because of continued improvements in medicine, the recent dip in gas prices doesn’t change the need to aggressively pursue alternative fuel sources, says UAB researcher Fouad H. Fouad, Ph.D., who is leading a School of Engineering team to develop a hydrogen cell-powered transit bus that is expected to be operational in Birmingham next summer.

The Birmingham Hydrogen Fuel Cell-Powered Bus Project is under the direction of UAB and involves four other teams to design, manufacture, demonstrate and evaluate a 30-foot prototype bus in the heat, humidity and streets of Birmingham.

“Really, Birmingham is the perfect area to test a vehicle like this,” says Fouad, chair of the Department of Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering. “With air conditioning we’re going to be putting some load on the vehicle, and when you test a new technology you really want to test it in the most strenuous environment you can. If it’s not going to work in this environment...”

UAB chosen as one of ‘Best Places to Work in Academia’

UAB is ranked No. 5 nationally in the “Best Places to Work in Academia” survey of life science researchers published in the November issue of The Scientist magazine. UAB ranked 47th last year, skyrocketed to the top of the rankings with high scores in the survey’s categories of job satisfaction, pay, tenure and research resources.

The magazine credited UAB’s rapid rise in the rankings to its strong interdisciplinary approach to research, reflected in its 17 university-wide research centers, and state-of-the-art facilities like the Richard C. and Annette N. Shelby Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research Building, which opened in 2006.

“This is a welcomed endorsement of the collegial, interdisciplinary approach to research that has always defined UAB,” said UAB President Carol Garrison.

According to The Scientist, the most important factor in a strong work environment cited in this year’s survey was the relationship with co-workers and mentors.

“UAB has a long tradition of collaboration,” said Robert Rich, M.D., dean of the UAB School of Medicine. “Our centers are based on cross-departmental relationships and interdisciplinary study, enabling researchers from disparate fields to tackle problems together. Not only is this a more effective approach, but the collaboration builds interpersonal relationships among faculty, post-docs and graduate students.”

UAB ranks 27th nationally in total federal research funding, attracting more than $400 million annually; was among the top 20 in funding from The National Institutes of Health in 2006 (the last year rankings were available); and is home to one of the original NIH-designed Comprehensive Cancer Centers. The university’s highly interdisciplinary, collaborative culture has a track record of producing groundbreaking research in the sciences, medicine and engineering. For example, last year, UAB scientists were the first to use iPS cells (induced pluripotent stem cells) harvested from skin cells to treat disease in an animal model, curing sickle cell anemia in mice. The university’s Remote Sensing Lab is using state-of-the-art satellite imaging to both discover ancient Egyptian settle-

Engineering charged to develop new hydrogen bus

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Spinal cord-injury patients receive hands-on experience

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Mentors needed for student program

UAB Career Services is seeking volunteers for its mentoring program for all UAB sophomores and juniors in spring 2009. The program fosters relationships between UAB students and alumni, faculty, staff and community partners. All career fields are welcome.

If you are interested in making a difference in a UAB student’s life, please call Laura Weems at 934-4324 or e-mail lwemems@uab.edu. More information is available online at www.careerservices.uab.edu.

Questions about menopause answered

Menopause isn’t “a change;” but a transition that can start in your 30s or 40s and last into your 50s or even 60s. UAB employees can talk about staying healthy through menopause and beyond during OB/GYN’s monthly lunchtime gathering at noon Wednesday, Nov. 12 in The Kirklin Clinic fifth floor conference room.

Robert Holley, M.D., Division of Women’s Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery, will lead the discussion and answer questions.

Space is limited, so call 996-2229 to make your reservation today. Lunch is provided. Open to UAB employees only.

T’ai Chi, meditation can help you with stress management

Learn to manage stress through T’ai Chi and meditation during free lunchtime courses offered by the UAB Resource Center.

Counselor John Quenulli teaches the introductory meditation class for stress management that begins Tuesday, Nov. 4 and meets every Tuesday through December. This simple, ancient practice has been shown in many studies to alleviate the mental, emotional, and even physical effects of stress, to help with pain management and generally improve quality of life.

The popular T’ai Chi class taught by Counselor Alesia Adams begins Thursday, Nov. 6 and meets each Thursday through Dec. 18. T’ai Chi is a slow-motion exercise with movements that gently build strength and flexibility, improve balance and help you relax. Students will learn how to reconnect with their physical body to regain confidence, trust and courage to meet the challenges of life.

The class is appropriate for all ages and levels of fitness, and no experience is necessary. Comfortable clothes and flat shoes are recommended.

Both classes meet from 12:10 p.m. until 12:50 p.m. at the Resource Center in Suite 330, 21 Office Plaza South at Magnolia Office Plaza, 2112 11th Ave. South.

Registration is required, but employees may begin attending classes at any point. Call the Resource Center at 934-2281 for more information or to register, and visit www.uab.edu/rdp for a map and directions.

Attend one of these classes and be entered into a random drawing for a Resource Center T-shirt that will be given away in each class during December. Attend all scheduled sessions of a class during November and December to receive a free Resource Center T-shirt.

The Resource Center EAP provides counseling and wellness programs for UAB employees and their family members. Counseling is available for a variety of issues, including grief, depression, stress, relationships, divorce, abuse, addictions, work-related problems and many others.

The Resource Center also assists faculty and staff in supervision of employees who are experiencing job-performance issues. UAB Resource Center services are strictly confidential and are provided at no cost to UAB employees and their family members.

Pilobolus Dance Theatre at ASC

The Alys Stephens Center will present Pilobolus Dance Theatre at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15 at the Alys Stephens Center. This show may contain nudity. Tickets are $75, $55, $45 and $35; students $20. Call 205-975-2787 or visit www.AlysStephens.org.

Audience members who saw Pilobolus at the Alys Stephens Center four years ago are still talking about the company’s trademark weight sharing or “combined bodies” choreography. Their movie-themed human sculptures during the Academy Awards a few seasons ago introduced a whole new audience to the magic of Pilobolus.

Pilobolus (crystallinus) is a sun-loving fungus that grows in barnyards and pastures. A feisty little thing only 1/4 inch tall, it can toss its spores nearly eight feet — right over a cow. Pilobolus, the arts organism, germinated in the fertile soil of a Dartmouth College dance class in 1971. What emerged was a collabora-
New Metabolic Tracker can optimize weight loss efforts

Using weight can bring feelings of exhaustion—and frustration. Typically, those first 10 pounds melt away like butter in the microwave. At that point it's human nature to think, “This is going to be easy.” Then the disappointment sets in. You're still working out, you haven’t added any calories to your diet, but the weight loss suddenly stops.

"Many people hit that plateau where they just can’t lose any more, and they can’t figure out why," says Brooks Wingo, fitness specialist with EatRight Weight Loss Management Services. "That’s a very common problem. But we think we’ve found a way to help people break through that barrier.”

The EatRight Weight Management Program can quickly and accurately determine how an individual's metabolism affects his or her ability to lose or gain weight and then use that information to plan a successful weight-loss strategy with its new Metabolic Tracker program. The program uses a device called SenseWare® that determines energy balance, a major determining factor in weight change. A positive energy balance means weight gain, a negative energy balance leads to weight loss.

"This will help us pinpoint where we need to tweak their program to help them start losing weight again,” Wingo says. “Now we really can individualize a program and figure out exactly what we need to change.”

Tracking calories, sleep
SenseWare, which was developed using research with UAB collaboration, is the high-tech key to the program. The SenseWare device is an armband and wristwatch display that is worn around the bicep 24 hours a day. Participants enter the foods they eat into an online database, and the built-in software on the armband tracks caloric expenditure minute by minute. It also tracks the number of steps a wearer takes, how long they sleep and the efficiency of that sleep. The Metabolic Tracker program may even provide the first real evidence that metabolism is being affected by problems that could be addressed medically, including sleep issues.

That makes the sleep-tracker function especially unique and important. “SenseWare can tell when you’re laid down, when you woke up and whether or not you had any breaks in your sleep pattern,” Wingo says. "That's extremely helpful because many people that struggle losing weight don’t sleep well. Poor sleep can lead to increased appetite and unplanned snacking."

How it works
Users can connect their SenseWare armband to their computers and receive a complete report on their caloric intake, including how many calories they burn minute-by-minute and other information. The information is displayed in graphs and also can be viewed online immediately by EatRight fitness specialists, dietitians and physicians. This enables EatRight specialists to help patients achieve the proper balance of carbohydrates, protein, fat and calories.

Data also can be used to alter a fitness program to produce the most appropriate intensity level to burn maximum calories. "After a couple of days I can look at it and say, 'OK, you tell me you’re exercising everyday from 9 to 10, but you’re not exercising quite as hard as I would like for you to.' So then I can send you an e-mail or give you a phone call and tell you to increase this exercise a little bit,” Wingo says. "Or one of our dietitians can call you and say 'You're a little heavy on the sugar lately' or 'You're not getting in quite as much water as we'd like, let's change that up.'

"Now we can work together all the way along instead of relying solely on monthly checkups."

Who can benefit?
Anyone interested in losing weight can benefit from the Metabolic Tracker program, Wingo says, including those just beginning a weight-loss program.

"This is for anybody. That includes those who have tried every diet in the book but can’t get the weight off or don’t feel like a diet is going to work for them. This will help us see the whole picture as far as diet and exercise—and give people a greater chance at being successful."

EatRight participants who join the Metabolic Tracker program will pay $85 per week for two weeks or $72.50 per week for four weeks for the rental of the SenseWare device, initial training and device setup, access to the Web site, individual consultation with a registered dietitian or fitness specialist, and a detailed weight-loss plan. The program will cost non-EatRight participants $142.50 per week for two weeks or $101.25 per week for four weeks. SenseWare may also be purchased to own at a cost of $550 for EatRight participants and $650 for non-EatRight participants.

Contact EatRight at 934-7053 for more information on joining the program; learn more online at www.uab.edu/eatright.
The costumes fill two racks in her office, and the posters and programs for the opera are going through their final proofing stages. This, says Kristine Hurst-Wajszczuk, is the final push. “This part — the labor and childbirth — is less fun for me,” the UAB opera director concedes. “Rehearsing the music and the drama is what fulfills me.”

Those rehearsals are in the final stages as Hurst-Wajszczuk and the Department of Music ready the famous Christmas opera “Amahl and the Night Visitors” for performance in Hulsey Music Hall later this month. She is directing the 45-minute opera made famous when it aired December 24, 1951, on NBC as the first opera ever written exclusively for television.

Today, “Amahl and the Night Visitors” is the most frequently performed English-language opera in North America. “It’s a Christmas story told from a different vantage point that anyone can understand,” says Hurst-Wajszczuk. “There’s a poignant moment where his mother is saying, ‘When will you ever stop telling lies? Our life is so difficult as it is. I’m a widow and I don’t have any money to feed you. And Amahl, being the wonderful kid he is, comforts his weeping mother by saying, ‘Don’t worry. If we must go begging, I’ll be a great beggar.’”

He then tells this story about how much fun it’s going to be and how he’ll dance and shout, and she’ll sing so loudly people will throw money at them just to make them go away. Even in the face of awful prospects from his mom’s point of view he sees it as a great adventure.”

Hurst-Wajszczuk first saw “Amahl and the Night Visitors” as a freshman in college at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, N.J. The opera was an annual tradition at the school. “In a lot of ways I feel like I grew up musically with Amahl,” Hurst-Wajszczuk says. “He also is unique in that he was one of the few opera composers who included stage directions in the text.”

His productions also were traditional, beautiful and extremely detailed. “I was in a production of Offenbach’s ‘The Tales of Hoffman’ in which Act II had a built-to-scale replica of the Paris Opera House on stage that was uncanny in its realism. The whole production was truly unbelievable and a visual feast,” Hurst-Wajszczuk says. “Menotti excelled at that. He conceived of every production as visually beautiful. In almost any scene you could have taken a photograph and said, it was perfectly composed.”

Six performances set
More than 50 UAB music students will take part during the course of six performances this month. Philip Copeland, director of the UAB Chamber Choir, is directing the opera chorus.

UAB Opera will present “Amahl and the Night Visitors” in six performances. The first two are free noon matinees Wednesday, Nov. 19 and Friday, Nov. 21 in the Mary Culp Hulsey Recital Hall. Those are for area school children. UAB students, faculty and staff are free Sunday, Nov. 22 at 7:30 nightly at the Hulsey Recital Hall; tickets are $5 and can be purchased at the door.

Free Sunday, Nov. 23 performance at 2:30 p.m. at Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church
Free Sunday, Nov. 23 performance at 6 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church
Soot's findings have been available to his day. Soot's first-hand look at the new wave of treatment for patients with spinal cord injuries this past month and when he attended the opening of the new Assistive Technology Laboratory in the Spain Rehabilitation Center named in his honor.

"Now, not only can patients live a much longer life, but they can participate in that life so much more," Soots says. "Much of that has to do with better medical care, but much of that also is due to the technology available to help them. This facility is a prime example of that. It will help people with neurological problems of many kinds."

The lab, located on the third floor of the Center for Psychiatric Medicine, features state-of-the-art equipment that can enhance the quality of life for people with spinal cord injuries. Patients have the ability to get hands-on use of the assistive technology and devices in the lab to help them learn to live and function with greater independence. For example, a patient who has a spinal cord injury may be able to use a wheelchair and ride a bike, or she may be able to use a computer and communicate with others.

Furthermore, the lab is equipped with state-of-the-art technology that can help patients with spinal cord injuries to become more independent. For example, a patient who has a spinal cord injury may be able to use a computer and communicate with others.

Brain tumor drug made from herpes virus passes next hurdle

A new anti-brain tumor agent developed by James Markert, M.D., Ph.D., at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) has shown promising results in clinical trials.

The drug, G207, is a herpes virus that is being used to kill brain cancer cells. The drug was tested in patients with glioblastoma, the most aggressive type of brain cancer. The results showed that the drug was safe and effective, and that it could be used to treat patients with glioblastoma.

"This was the first test of G207 injected directly into the brain and the results are promising," said James Markert, M.D., professor and director of neurosurgery and principal investigator in the trial. "The drug appears to be safe and effective, which is the primary goal of the study."

"We're also seeing an immune response from the body," Markert says. "White blood cells are triggered by the presence of the virus and when they arrive at the tumor, they appear to augment the attack on the tumor cells."

Markert has been examining the herpes simple virus as a potential brain cancer therapy since arriving at UAB in 1996 and previously during a fellowship at Mass. General Hospital, in Boston. Previous studies have shown the virus only affects tumor cells and is harmless to other cells in the body. Earlier studies of a single dose of G207 delivered to the tumor also showed no adverse effects from the drug.

"The herpes virus has been well studied, how reliable is it — in this case, how reliable is the battery and range of operation of the bus."

**Supplemental power**

A lightly used bus called the ECO-Bus originally manufactured by EV America was purchased from California to use as the test vehicle for the project. The bus, which originally was completely electric, is being re-modified and rebuilt into a 30-foot, low-floor vehicle. It will run mainly on batteries with 16-kilowatt fuel cells supplying additional power in this first phase of the study.

The efficiency of the bus will be compared to regular diesel and natural gas buses in the BCTA fleet.

Initial performance and operational data will be collected while operating the vehicle on the National Center for Asphalt Technology's 7-mile oval test track at Auburn. The team will develop and evaluate operations, performance and maintenance requirements on the streets of Birmingham after the controlled testing.

BCTA will coordinate closely with UAB to test and evaluate the fuel cell bus on a variety of routes.

"The Federal Transit Authority is very excited about this project and discovering how the fuel cell combined with the battery technology will work and how efficient and reliable it can be," Fouad says.

**Safe for environment**

Other School of Engineering faculty members assisting Fouad in this study are: Jay Goldman, Ph.D., Jason Kirby, Ph.D., Robert Peper, Ph.D., Virginia White, Ph.D., and Andrew Sullivan, a research engineer. Each has extensive experience in vehicle simulation, testing infrastructure development, storage, transit planning and evaluation.

Hydrogen-fuel cells generate power quietly and efficiently without polluting the environment. Heat and water are the only by-products, making it an ideal energy-producing resource.

"There are many possible benefits to this research and certainly one of the biggest is environmental. We don't have the emissions and greenhouse gases. You resolve all of the environmental problems on one end, but you also have a source of renewable energy. We also wouldn't be dependent on oil and gas coming from foreign countries, and there's no question that's important for the potential of replacing the bus industry with this technology," Fouad says. "There's no use having it."

"But I'm just so happy that the program continues. I'm happy with Spain and Dr. Jackson for making it much, much better. I think it would be disappointment if the goals we've had for Spain through the years were really instigated by Dr. Stover. He put a lot of honor and integrity into our speciality, as well as into helping us understand our major concern is our patients." Stover says he hopes the next phase of the project will be more fuel-cell dominant with the research vehicle being supplemental. Fouad says it's possible high-tech lithium batteries could be one source of power for the project.

"We resolve all of the environmental problems on one end, but you also have a source of renewable energy. We also wouldn't be dependent on oil and gas coming from foreign countries, and there's no question that's important for the potential of replacing the bus industry with this technology," Fouad says. "There's no use having it."

"But I'm just so happy that the program continues. I'm happy with Spain and Dr. Jackson for making it much, much better. I think it would be disappointment if the goals we've had for Spain through the years were really instigated by Dr. Stover. He put a lot of honor and integrity into our speciality, as well as into helping us understand our major concern is our patients." Stover says he is humbled by the honor. The greater satisfaction, he says, is that the Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation continues to reach for innovative ways to help their patients.

"It's an honor for people to remember me 14 years after I retired and feel I was worthy of having anything named after me, let alone a very nice technology laboratory," Stover says. "It's a facility that can help to do things that I always wished I could do but didn't have the technology to do."

"But I'm just so happy that the program has continued on and continued to get better. I think it would be disappointment for any program of the department to have things not be at least maintained. I'm pleased with Spain and Dr. Jackson for making it much, much better."
**Wednesday, Nov. 12**

**3:30 pm** UAB International Scholar & Student Services/ Wednesday, Nov. 19

**10 am** Comprehensive Cancer Center. Targeted therapy in pancreatic cancer. Lecturer in translation, Assoc Prof Juan Pablo Arnoletti (Surgery); West Pavilion Rm E.

**11:45 am** Haddad Humanities Forum. Discussing Howard Zinn’s book “Active Nonviolence and the American Dream.”

**Tuesday, Nov. 11, 18**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group, provides activities to meet the cultural and social interests of the international community.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Wednesday, Nov. 19**

**3:30 pm** UAB International Scholar & Student Services/ the Japan-America Society of Alabama. Smolian International House. Open to the public.

**Special Lectures**

**Thursday, Nov. 20**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table. HB - 3rd fl “The Hub,” Humanities Building. Junsong Chen, jichen08@uab.edu or foreignlangs@uab.edu.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Monday, Nov. 23**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Thursday, Nov. 26**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Friday, Nov. 27**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Monday, Nov. 30**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Thursday, Dec. 3**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Friday, Dec. 4**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Monday, Dec. 7**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Thursday, Dec. 10**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Friday, Dec. 11**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Monday, Dec. 14**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Thursday, Dec. 17**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Friday, Dec. 18**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Monday, Dec. 21**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Thursday, Dec. 24**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Friday, Dec. 25**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Monday, Dec. 28**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.

**Thursday, Dec. 31**

**9 am** Chinese Conversation Table.

**10 am** International Women’s Group.

**12:10 pm** Tai Chi meets Education for Everyone. Virtual colonoscopy.
WBHM-FM, 90.3

WBHM-Birmingham and 91.5 WSGON-Gadsden broadcast NPR News and information programming as well as classical music, 24 hours a day. NPR News programs offer a thorough, in-depth approach to the news of the day. NPR's local stations carry NPR News and information programming as well as classical music, 24 hours a day. NPR News programs offer a thorough, in-depth approach to the news of the day. NPR's local stations carry NPR News and information programming as well as classical music, 24 hours a day. NPR News programs offer a thorough, in-depth approach to the news of the day. NPR's local stations carry NPR News and information programming as well as classical music, 24 hours a day. NPR News programs offer a thorough, in-depth approach to the news of the day. NPR's local stations carry NPR News and information programming as well as classical music, 24 hours a day. NPR News programs offer a thorough, in-depth approach to the news of the day. 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Mary Alice Crum has been a leader throughout her 26 years at UAB. So it seemed only natural that her position as interim Lab Medicine Administrative Manager turned into a permanent arrangement in August. But being named UAB’s Employee of the Year? That came as a shock.

Sherry Polhill, administrative director of Hospital Labs, surprised Crum with the good news in a recent managers meeting.

“I’ve just been astounded with everybody’s response to it,” Crum says. “It’s a wonderful honor. I’m very humbled by it.”

A reception was held in Crum’s honor Nov. 5. Family from the Montgomery area and friends from Birmingham came to celebrate with her, along with her fellow co-workers.

Crum says it’s exciting and uplifting to work at an institution with so many physicians who are at the top of their field – and with co-workers determined to do good work every day.

“It’s great to read about advances in health care and to know UAB is the one that dictated those advances,” Crum says.

And my staff, they are all part of my family. They always care, they do right, they own their work and they work as a group – that’s the four core values for UAB Hospital and they live it every day.

That’s what makes it such a pleasure to work with them.”

Masters every task

The old saying “a jack of all trades and a master of none” doesn’t apply to Crum. She masters them all.

Crum has managed or supervised eight laboratories in her 26 years at UAB, including running multiple labs at once – and she’s done it quite well. Just a couple of years ago, while managing the molecular diagnostics and immunology lab she was called upon to supervise the clinical microbiology lab during the search for a new supervisor. That supervision lasted more than three years before she was asked to do it again at the beginning of this year. Then, she received the promotion this summer.

“I guess you can teach an old dog new tricks,” Crum says.

Crum, known as Mac by her co-workers, never has backed down from a task, no matter how heavy the burden, says Stephen A. Moser, Ph.D., associate director of Clinical Microbiology. He cites her ability to oversee the clinical microbiology lab in addition to the molecular diagnostics and immunology lab simultaneously as a key example.

“The clinical microbiology lab was in turmoil with a change in supervision, and although this is not an area within her technical expertise she was undaunted and instrumental in establishing order and discipline,” Moser says. “I have seen many management styles and personalities. Mac stands out as one of the very best in her management style and dedication to high-quality patient care.”

Crum’s leadership and management style are cited frequently by her colleagues as strengths. She says her management methods are simple.

“The people I work with know how I value quality, and hopefully I give them positive reinforcement for that,” she says. “I try to treat each person fairly and respect their strengths. That’s what I try to do.”

Prestigious honor

One of the goals of the UAB Strategic Plan is to create a positive, supportive and diverse work environment in which faculty and staff can excel. And the Employee of the Month program is part of that strategy. The program was established in 1977 for the purpose of recognizing non-academic personnel for their accomplishments. It runs from August 1 through July 31.

All full-time and part-time employees of the university, including hospital, academic, administrative and other support areas, are eligible to receive the award. All recipients of the Employee of the Month prize are eligible for Employee of the Year.

UAB is the largest employer in Alabama, employing some 19,000 people across the state, making the selection of Employee of the Month a prestigious honor. Employees are recognized as an outstanding employee for their dedication, hard work and contributions to UAB’s success.

The Employee of the Month Committee requires at least three letters of nomination or support for a candidate. Letters must detail why the employee exemplifies what’s best about UAB, giving examples of their good work. Those who nominate employees can encourage their co-workers and colleagues to join them in sending letters of nomination.

Nominations may be submitted by e-mail to Jason Turner, chair of the Employee of the Month Committee, at jturn1@uab.edu or through campus mail at Employee of the Month Committee, AB 360, 0103. You can also visit the Employee of the Month Web site at www.uab.edu/eom for more information.

Employees of the Month for FY 2007-08

- August — Faye Carroll, Hematology & Oncology
- September — Mary Alice “Mac” Crum, Hospital Labs
- October — John Tyler, Hospital Maintenance
- November — Robin Bryant, Academic Programs
- December — Ada Mailhot, School of Public Health
- January — Lydia Cowser, Foreign Languages
- February — Gredda Bailey, Enrollment Services
- March — Bill Pierce, Campus Recreation
- April — Melissa Deakle, Radiation & Oncology
- May — Albert Tousson, Cell Biology
- June — Mary Leopold, General Studies
- July — Minnie Randle, Philosophy
**Men**

Do you or someone you know have cystic fibrosis? The UAB Center for Nursing Research has a research study in need of participants with CF. To join the site in a survey regarding CF and quality of life, visit the site [here](search@ccc.uab.edu). For the latest news on CF, visit [CF News Network](www.cfnetwork.org).

Are you a male veteran? You may be interested in a research study at the Birmingham VA Medical Center. Participation in this study includes completion of a diagnostic examination, lab testing and metabolic testing at no charge. Compensation for participation will be $300. For more information, contact 205-934-3738.

Are you a male veteran? You may be eligible to participate in a new on-line research study. Patrick hubman, Ph.D., is seeking male veterans of any age who have experienced pain related to fibrosis? Visit the [website](https://www.coronascan.org) for more information. Patrick can be reached at 404-344-2161.

Are you currently taking medications for your high blood pressure and still have blood pressure too high? Eligible participants may qualify for an investigational new drug for high blood pressure treatment. For more information, call 800-996-9813.

Do you have heart problems or smoke? You may qualify to participate in a study of new medications for patients with heart disease. Participants will receive medication, lab testing, and a monetary incentive is offered at follow-up testing. Compensation is $500. For more information, call 4-9281.

If you have any of the following symptoms, you may be eligible to participate. The study looks at the effects of the prenatal environment on disease progression. Participants visit once a year for pencil & paper memory testing & a neurological exam. Compensated $50/visit. 4-3847.

**Women & Men**

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Classifieds

Apparatuses & Electronics

Mitsubishi HD Projection 95” widescreen TV in card master, 4-yr-old, exc, cond, paid $280 will take $80, 385-364-0451. Terry 937-5691.

Slide-in oven/range, good condition, stoves & stoves new, $300. G. erikson, 281-331-3243.

For Sale

For Rent

Ablerent

Birmingham—2 BR 1BA condo, 185 Allen Dr, 5-yr-old, clean, move-in ready, $75,000. 245-6911.

Birmingham—all brick 3 BR 1BA townhome, 2 garages, lots of room, very nice and quiet area, 3 BR 1BA, 1 bath, near Trussville shopping, 130M, 745-2165.


Center Point/Sun Valley—4 BR upstair 2/BA, LX, large eat-in kitchen, new appliances, 3-car storage building, 2 garage, 2 family rooms, 2 BR 1BA downstairs, screen deck, large front & back yard, great neighborhood, $110,000. 862-1333.

Covenant Heights—3 BR 1BA, large, LR w/ 2 DR rooms, corner lot, brick house, 4 BR 1BA. 11920 26th St, 995-3999.

Doxie/Borzoi/Gardens—2 1/2 BR townhome, indoor & outdoor, pets allowed, $1250. 207-1600. 216-481-7098.

Gulf Shores Pines—gulf in front, next to beach, asking $159,000. 5-784-6613.

For rent—1 ABD reporter, 2 BR 1BA apt near University of Alabama, lots of work, worth $3500 in excellent condition, asking $12,000. 306-7523/yourpersonalassistant@uab.edu.

November 10

Covington—1 BR 1BA, 3 BR 2BA home, 4 BR 2BA—great historic home 2 blocks from Engineering Bldg, 5 BR 2BA (under construction), sitting room, LR, DR, den, lots of storage, 1 1/2 miles from I-65, laundry, new double-sided fireplace, under construction, sitting room, double-sided fireplace, $1225. 746-9311.

Downtown—1 BR 1BA, 2 BR 1BA apt near UAB or downtown, separate entrance, pool, asking $499, $275 04-2119/ 1050 1100.

Pleasant Valley—2 BR dated, 2 BR 1BA, 3 BR 1BA—great historic home 2 blocks from Engineering Bldg, 5 BR 2BA (under construction), sitting room, LR, DR, den, lots of storage, 1 1/2 miles from I-65, laundry, new double-sided fireplace, under construction, sitting room, double-sided fireplace, $1225. 746-9311.

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THE CLAIRE LYNCH BAND & RALPH STANLEY & THE CLINCH MOUNTAIN BOYS
November
14
Friday, 8 p.m.
Two Bluegrass legends together for one incredible performance.

PILOBOLUS DANCE THEATRE
November
15 & 16
Their trademark weight sharing or “combined bodies” choreography, energy, and humor keep audiences roaring for more!

THE SMOTHERS BROTHERS with JOHN PIZZARELLI*
November
23
Sunday, 7 p.m.
After 50 years of performing together, the Smothers Brothers are still described as one of the most successful comedy teams in history.

An Afternoon with FRANK STITT & WARREN ST. JOHN
November
30
Sunday, 3 p.m.
Celebrate the launch of Frank Stitt’s new book, Bottega Favorita, as he is joined on stage by Warren St. John, author of Rammer Jammer Yellow Hammer. Ticket includes a signed copy of Stitt’s book and a post-show reception.

*UAB Faculty & Staff
Receive a Discount on this show!

Season
Sponsored by: The Birmingham News, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Viva Health

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The Claire Lynch Band & Ralph Stanley & the Clinch Mountain Boys
November 14
Friday, 8 p.m.
Two Bluegrass legends together for one incredible performance.

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