New talent management system to be implemented

The University of Alabama at Birmingham is implementing a new applicant tracking and talent management system — BrassRing — in late 2006 and early 2007.

The new software and processes will enable job candidates to complete online applications for positions throughout the university’s academic and healthcare operations. Additionally, the software will provide an applicant tracking system that will support UAB’s compliance efforts.

Bonnie Pomfret (bottom right) goes over the details for upcoming operas with her students during a recent rehearsal. Pomfret, a veteran opera performer and director, joined UAB’s Department of Music in August and will have had just three months to prepare two operas for performance in the ASC Sirote Theater Nov. 3 and Nov. 5.

‘Fortunate’ Pomfret readies two operas for November

Get a new job. Get a new place to live. Get ready to produce two operas in three months. Pressure? What pressure?

Bonnie Pomfret, D.M.A., was a versatile soprano and veteran opera performer and director, joined UAB’s Department of Music in August with an eye toward Nov. 3 and Nov. 5. Those are the dates her fellow faculty for information on the voices she had. Then, she had to lean on her fellow faculty for information on the strengths of her students.

“The faculty here were very helpful,” Pomfret says. “I didn’t know how many of each voice type I had among the students or what skill level they had. You want to do something challenging and interesting for the kids, but your choices are limited when you just don’t know the strengths of your students.”

Pomfret has the experience to find those strengths, however.

“Due to the resignation of a wonderful director of opera, John Ray, the department found itself searching for someone with expertise in studio voice and also expertise and experience in directing operas,” explains Jeff W. Reynolds, D.M.A., chair of the Music department and conductor and musical director of the UAB Center for Aids Research (CFAR).

UAB to lead national AIDS research-outcomes network

The UAB School of Business MBA program is outstanding with ‘happy students’ and ‘smart classrooms,’ according to The Princeton Review: The New York-based education services company features the school in its 2007 edition of the Best 282 Business Schools.

Business school recognized by The Princeton Review

The UAB School of Business MBA program is outstanding with ‘happy students’ and ‘smart classrooms,’ according to The Princeton Review: The New York-based education services company features the school in its 2007 edition of the Best 282 Business Schools.

Schools in the edition are chosen based on regard for academic programs and offerings, institutional data and the candid opinions of students who rate and report on their campus experiences. In the profile on UAB, the editors quote the students describing the faculty as “inspiring, truly top-notch lecturers and researchers.”

“The Graduate School of Management at UAB is delighted that our MBA program has been recognized as one of the best in the nation,” said Dean Robert Holmes, Ph.D. “We consistently receive very high marks from our graduates and their employers on the excellence of our MBA degree program.”

See CFAR p3
Annual benefits open enrollment under way

The annual benefits open enrollment period is under way, which means that all benefit-eligible UAB employees should complete enrollment for medical, dental and vision insurance coverage and flexible spending accounts (FSAs) well before 5 p.m. CT Friday, Oct. 27.

To participate in open enrollment, employees may make all elections online at www.chips.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.-7 p.m. CT Monday through Friday. Please remember that in order to comply with federal laws regulating benefit plan participation and to retain those pre-tax features which are desired by UAB employees, changes will not be accepted after the close of open enrollment, again, that deadline is 5 p.m. CT Friday, Oct. 27.

You must participate in open enrollment if you are
• Changing your level of coverage as it relates to the single/employee plus up to 2 dependents/family option
• Adding or deleting dependents
• Changing from basic to comprehensive level of coverage – or vice versa – with the dental plan
• Dropping existing medical and/or dental coverage
• Participating in the flexible spending account (FSA) program for 2007
• Adding vision coverage

Good news comes with this year’s open enrollment – UAB will begin offering employees a new stand-alone vision plan administered by Vision Service Plan (VSP). And, there will not be any premium increases for the Viva Access or Blue Cross medical plan or the MetLife dental plan. The Viva UAB medical plan will experience a modest 5.5 percent increase in premiums. Also new for 2007... the health-care flexible spending account annual election limit will increase to $10,500. The dependent care account maximum will remain at $5,000 annually or $2,500 for married taxpayers filing separate returns. And, pharmacy co-pays will remain the same for 2007.

More on the new vision plan

New for 2007, the Vision Service Plan (VSP) offers employees coverage for routine eye exams, lenses, frames and contacts and discounts for LASIK eye surgery. VSP is a nationwide plan that offers both in-network and out-of-network coverage. Both UAB Eye Care and the University Optometric Group (the private faculty practice group at UAB) participate in the VSP network. Please remember to enroll in the VSP program during open enrollment if you wish to take advantage of this new plan offering!

Updates on medical plan design changes
• Speech, physical and occupational therapy will be covered at 100 percent when medically necessary (subject to the applicable co-pay) under all three medical plans.
• A 15-day quantity limitation will be implemented on certain types of hypnotic drugs under the Viva Access and Blue Cross programs. Examples of these drugs include but are not limited to Ambien, Sonata, Lunesta, Restoril, Halcion, Dalmane and Triazolam. This quantity limit, which follows FDA guidelines for these types of medications, is already in place for Viva UAB members.
• Under the Viva UAB plan, maternity care outside of UAB hospital will be subject to a $1,000 in-hospital deductible. The optional office co-pay for care received outside of UAB will remain at $40.

To find out more

All elections will be effective Jan. 1, 2007. New premiums for medical, dental and vision insurance will be reflected in your December 2006 payroll. FSA deductions will be reflected in your January 2007 payroll.

Annual open enrollment materials are available on the UAB Human Resource Management Benefits Web page: go to www.uab.edu/benefits and click on Annual Open Enrollment. This area includes links to the providers’ home pages as well as provider directories. Any questions concerning annual open enrollment should be directed to the UAB Benefits Department at 934-3458.

Cultural etiquette courses teach what to do – or say

Do you work with professionals from India or Japan?
Are you planning to visit one of these countries for business in the future, or are you planning to host special visitors from there?

Three upcoming Training and Development workshops will help you to understand the influence of culture on individuals and societies, suggest strategies for accessing cultural information for situations abroad or at home and give you cultural tips for various interactions such as greetings, eating, communicating and working together.

• Focus on India – Thursday, Oct. 19, 10 a.m. to noon in Medical Towers Room 419. Registration deadline is Monday, Oct. 16.
• Focus on China – Friday, Nov. 17, 3 to 5 p.m. in Medical Towers Room 416. Registration deadline is Tuesday, Nov. 14.
• Focus on Japan – Monday, Dec. 14, 3 to 5 p.m. in Medical Towers Room 419. Registration deadline is Monday, Dec. 11.

Come and start the process of understanding basic cultural dos and don’ts that will help you show respect and be respected in your interactions at home and abroad. To register online, go to www.uab.edu/trainedy, click on Quick Register, enter your Blazer ID and password, then type in the word international. Click on the left side under “Add” to register for the course(s) of your choice. If you encounter any problems, please call Mary Floyd at 934-3359.

Want to be smoke free? You can do it!

The Great American Smokeout is Thursday, Nov. 16. Wouldn’t it be great to be able to smoke-free with millions of other people across the United States?

The UAB Resource Center Wellness Program can help, with smoking-cessation classes that bring UAB employees together with professionally trained instructors in a supportive environment.

“Freedom From Smoking,” an eight-session program that will develop an individual plan for quitting, begins Wednesday, Oct. 25. If you are ready to stop smoking, this class is the place to start.

Registration is required. Call 934-2281 now to register or visit www.uab.edu/aps for more information about UAB Resource Center Employee Assistance and Wellness Program services.

A policy reminder: Non-Academic Conduct

Are you familiar with the Non-Academic Conduct Policy?

The policy expects students to adhere to state and federal laws, respect educational objectives, exhibit a regard for the rights of others and support the safety of property and persons. A detailed explanation of circumstances and remedies appears on pages 43-45 of the UAB student handbook, Direction.

You can pick up a copy at the Hill University Center (HUC) front desk or at the Student Publications office, HUC 135. Alternatively, the PDF can be downloaded at www.students.uab.edu; select Student Life. In the left column, choose Direction-Student Handbook.
President Garrison extols UAB as university on the move

October 16, 2006  UAB Reporter  3

President Garrison extols UAB as university on the move

A year that has included the average ACT score of incoming freshmen rising to 23.7, continuing development of the Quality Enhancement Plan and the opening of a state-of-the-art freshman residence hall and a modern, full-service dining facility, it’s easy to see that UAB is a university on the move.

That was the message UAB President Carol Garrison delivered to faculty, staff, students and others in attendance at her State of the University address Thursday, Sept. 28, in the Hill University Center Auditorium.

In her comments, Garrison said it is an exciting and eventful time to be at UAB, with the school moving toward its goals in its focus areas: research and scholarship, graduate/professional education, service to community and state, community support, workplace environment, and undergraduate education and engagement.

“You’ve been so much excitement over the things we’ve accomplished during the past year,” Garrison said, “and we accomplished all of these things together.”

UAB is working hard to make the undergraduate educational experience for students the best it can be, Garrison said. Part of that includes an improvement in campus life for students — an area of great progress in 2005-06 with more expected by the beginning of 2008.

95,000-square-foot building that should near completion by January 2008 on the northwest corner, followed by a new amphitheater next to the Campus Recreation Center.

“We’re well on our way to completing the Campus Green,” Garrison said. “Half of the Campus Green already is done, and in a year and a half you’re going to see continuous green space there.”

Garrison acknowledged the accolades schools and programs have received from media and professional and educational associations plus the phenomenal success in research and scholarship that garnered national rankings.

“You’ve done great things at this institution,” Garrison said to faculty and staff. “I really and truly believe we’re making a difference — for the students, patients and people across the state.

“There is no doubt that UAB is on the march.”

A more comprehensive report on President Carol Garrison’s State of the University address can be found online at www.uabwhitereporter.com.

Brown Bag series examines caring for elderly parents

Are you part of the “sandwich generation,” feelingculchened from responsibilities for your own family and increasing responsibilities for your aging parents?

Then make plans to attend one or all of the November series of lunchtime lectures on topics central to caring for elderly parents during this Brown Bag Lunch Series. (November is National Family Caregivers Month and National Alzheimer’s Disease Awareness Month.) Each session will meet from noon until 1 p.m. at the UAB Resource Center. Bring your lunch, drinks and dessert will be provided.

• Nov. 1 “Caring for the Caregivers” presented by Barbara Habermann, Ph.D., associate professor, School of Nursing.

• Nov. 8 “The Endless Days and Restless Nights of Alzheimer’s” presented by Billie Piggott, Alzheimer’s of Central Alabama and UAB Alzheimer’s Disease Center.

• Nov. 15 “H.E.L.P. The Healthy Elders Liaison Project,” a community partnership dedicated to promoting and preserving the health of the elderly, senior adults, and “Community Resources for the Elderly,” presented by Wendy Booth, School of Nursing faculty.

Participation is free, but registration is required; call 934-2281. Directions and more information about this and other Resource Center Employee Assistance Program and Wellness Program services are available by visiting www.uab.edu/eap.

NEW MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CONTINUED from page 1

UAB is committed to creating a positive, supportive and diverse work environment in which faculty and staff can excel. “We believe implementation of the BrassRing technology and associated streamlined processes will help us in achieving these goals,” Locke said.

BrassRing LLC is a software and e-recruiting innovator and service provider headquartered in Massachusetts, with offices across the United States and in Europe. BrassRing has earned a number of prestigious industry awards, including, in May of 2004, the “Best Human Resources Product or Service” in the Software and Information Industry Association’s Codie Awards competition.

Once online, the new system will be accessible from both www.uab.edu and www.uabhealth.org. More information about the new system and training on its usage will be communicated as the implementation project progresses.

Blazer Hall, the Commons on the Green and the Campus Recreation Center have made the Campus Green a hot spot for students, faculty and staff. Next comes the new Academic Building, a five-story, 25 YeaRS aGo (UAB Archives, Vol. 6 No 7, 1981)
Cahaba River is natural resource, educational tool

Trips to the Cahaba River for many in the UAB community are calming, enlightening and sacred. It’s a love affair with the stream, its natural beauty and the importance it holds in the area that has led several current and former UAB employees to embrace its presence as one way to give back to the greater local community.

Many have elected to be a part of the Cahaba River Society, a group dedicated to improving water quality, water supply and the habitat that sustains the health of the river system, its biological diversity and human uses (such as for drinking water, recreation and education) for generations to come.

“I’ve been involved for many years with the Cahaba River Society because of my academic and research interests,” says Milsdy Lahr, Ph.D., associate dean of Engineering, who was on the board of directors for six years, including one year as president. “It’s just a beautiful river. Alabama is blessed with incredible natural resources, so much so that we often take them for granted.

The Cahaba River is one of those resources.”

The Cahaba River is roughly 140 miles long, starting in St. Clair County and rolling down near Selma. The river has more species of fish per mile than any other river in St. Clair County and rolling down near Selma. The river

Scientists say the pollutants from growth and development on the banks serve one-fourth of the state’s population.

“Sedimentation coming in from development is the primary problem right now,” says Ken Marion, Ph.D., professor of biology. “Bare areas get the hard rains and turn the river into a mud hole that smothers the insects and fills in the little crevices and crevices in the rocks on the bottom. The food chain is then affected, and if the food is affected negatively, that affects everything else.”

The Cahaba River Society is Alabama’s largest watershed conservation organization and is recognized nationally for river stewardship.

“Being a part of UAB, we like to get involved in the community,” Marion says. “We like to think of our faculty and staff as really being involved in the community in all kinds of ways. UAB has always prided itself in that sort of way. Being involved in the CRS is a way to improve and maintain the quality of life in our community as far as recreation and scenic beauty.”

UAB also uses the Cahaba River as a teaching tool; the

Neuroimaging symposium set

The Center for the Development of Functional Imaging (CDFI), in collaboration with the Department of Vision Sciences, the Vision Science Research Center (VSRC) and several industrial sponsors, will host the Frontiers in Neuroimaging Symposium Thursday and Friday Oct. 19 and 20 at the DoubleTree Hotel in downtown Birmingham.

The symposium will bring together a group of worldwide scientists to discuss the latest advances in fMRI, MRI, NMR spectroscopy and optical imaging techniques for functional brain imaging. Leslie Ungeleride, Ph.D., chief of the Laboratory of Brain and Cognition at the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), will be the keynote speaker.

The speaker list includes Kamil Ugurbil, Ph.D., from the Max Planck Institute, Germany; Roger Toetell, Ph.D., from Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard University; Doug Rothman, Ph.D., from Yale University; Rani Menon, Ph.D., from the Roberts Research Institute, Canada, among others.

Registration is open and the symposium welcomes all UAB faculty, staff and students.

For more information or to register go to www.neuroimagingfrontiers.org or call Debbie Whitton at 934-2057. The Web site has detailed program information and updates.

Some of the UAB faculty and staff who currently or recently have served on the Cahaba River Society Board of Directors or have provided significant volunteer time to the society include:

• Robert Corley, Ph.D., director of the Center of Urban Affairs
• Jennifer Harper, Ph.D., assistant professor of engineering
• Milsdy Lahr, Ph.D., associate dean of the School of Engineering
• James Lowery, a UAB retiree from Institutional Studies and Services
• Ken Marion, Ph.D., professor of biology
• Max Michael, M.D., dean of the School of Public Health
• Debbie Pezzillo, School of Education program coordinator

UAB faculty members (from left to right) Milsdy Lahr, Ken Marion, Bob Corley, Debbie Pezzillo and retiree James Lowery stand along the Cahaba River at a canoe entrance just off Interstate 459. Several UAB employees, including the ones above, are members of the Cahaba River Society, a group dedicated to improving water quality, water supply and the habitat that sustains the health of the Cahaba. “It’s just a beautiful river,” Lahr says of the 140-mile long waterway. Marion, a professor of biology, says UAB faculty use the river as a teaching tool for college, middle- and high-school students.

University has worked through the years with middle- and high-school students on water testing and water-quality issues as part of mentoring programs. Biology and engineering programs also use the river in their undergraduate curricula.

“We have about three different environment-oriented courses that we offer in biology with labs that actively bring students to the river to look at the diversity of insects and fish,” Marion says. “We look at habitats. It teaches some of the students about what a nice little jewel this is and how the changes that are occurring are negatively affecting the river.”

Max Michael, M.D., dean of the School of Public Health, says his involvement in the group goes beyond seeing the beauty of the river protected.

“One of the reasons I enjoy doing it there is clearly a connection between the CRS environmental activism and public health,” he says, “and what the CRS stands for is important public health issues.”

If you want to learn more or become involved in the CRS, visit www.cahabariversociety.org.

POMFRET CONTINUED from page 1

operas. “In that search, Dr. Pomfret, rose to the top, and in a relatively short amount of time was charged with the task of assembling the many, many facets to produce the operas.”

“Operas are very exciting. They have been chosen. Reynolds continues. “And in the true tradition of the theater they have risen to the occasion — quickly auditioning and memorizing their parts and doing whatever it takes to ensure the show goes on.”

Veteran director, performer

Pomfret spent a little more than 18 months on a Rotary Fellowship in Berlin, going to operas three nights a week while taking graduate courses at the conservatory. Later, while completing her doctorate at Indiana University, she studied stage direction, learned to schedule and run rehearsals, worked backstage, assisted directors and performed numerous other tasks that translate to her job today.

As a soloist, Pomfret has performed music from the 12th to her job today.

“We all have the stage bug,” she says. “We love to perform. And I’ve been very fortunate to be employed full time doing something I’ve loved my whole life.”

Love stories

About 20 students will be involved in the two UAB operas, which Pomfret says have some of the same themes, but are very different. “Both are very difficult works,” she says. “Puccini is traditional, melodic, blood-and-guts opera. The Bernstein is an interesting blend of typical opera music and a much more contemporary style.”

Pomfret is kicking around a publicity line for the opera, both of which are love stories. “Il Tabarro” takes place on a barge and “Trouble in Tahiti” is set in the suburbs.

“I’m thinking about ‘Love on a Barge and Love in the Bures: Two Desperate Housewives,’” Pomfret says, laughing, again.

“Did you know…

Did you know that the UAB Health System has been recognized as one of the 100 “most wired” hospitals in the nation for seven years in a row by Hospitals and Health Networks, the journal of the American Hospital Association?

UAB...an internationally renowned research university.
New/Continuing

Continuation

Investigators seeking support for research or extramural activities are required to file a Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form with the appropriate signatures along with the proposal submission. More information can be found at www.uab.edu/oirf.
Syllabus

Monday, Oct. 16

Noon Monday Noon Conference. Endocarditis and Shingella Disease (Infectious Diseases); WP-E.
Noon Hematology/Oncology Research Conference. Lower extremity and pelvic sarcoma—The cancer invasion: Part 2, Asst Prof Katri Salenius (Medicine); WTI-214.

Tuesday, Oct. 17

8 am Neurology GRs. Neurostimulation for treatment of epilepsy, Dr. Martha Morrell (Prof, Neurology, Stanford University School of Medicine); WP-E.
Noon Pharmacology & Toxicology. Exosome biogenesis: A mechanism for HIV latency in CD4+ and polarized protein sorting, Dr. Stephen Gould (Prof, Biological Chemistry, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine); VH-C.
Noon CNCR/Nutrition Sciences. GLP-1, gastric bypass surgery, Dr. Joseph Vittinghoff, Clinical Hospital, Spain; RPHB-407.

General Noon Meeting

Noon Conference. Asst Prof Stan Massie (Medicine); WP-E.

4 pm UAB Brain Tumor Treatment and Research Center. Recruiting cells and stem cell compartments in mouse models of brain tumors, Dr. Eric Hato (Fellow, Neurosurgery, New England & Cell Biology, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center); Freyie Cord Ctr.

Wednesday, Oct. 18

8:15 am Optometry Residency Conference. Clinical procedures GRs: Injections and suturing, Assoc Prof Kathryn Banks; WP-E.
8:30 am UAB Cardiac Sev. Recruiting: Patient Profile, Dr. Jamie Cason, Clinical Asst Prof Bethany Martinez and Clinical Assoc Prof Lisa Schifanella (Optometry, University of Florida Coral Reef Ctr).
Noon Medical GRs. Aquaporin water channels: From atomic structure to clinical medicine, Dr. Peter Agre (Nobel Laureate, prof, biology, vice chancellor for Science & Technology, Duke University Medical Center).
3 pm Cell Biology. Basic and clinical insights from the study of translation termination, Prof David Bedwell (Microbiology); BBIRR-170.

Thursday, Oct. 19

8 am Rheumatology GRs. Clinical conference; WP-E.
9 am UAB Center for the Development of Functional Imaging. Two-day Frontiers in Neuroimaging symposium. The focus for this year’s symposium is on recent findings in neural mapping, especially in primates, and the latest techniques by which this mapping can be accomplished, such as MRI, MPR, NMR spectroscopy, and optical imaging. Doubletree Hotel. For more info, call 4-2037.
Noon Atherosclerosis Research Unit/ Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism. HDL structure, metabolism, Dr. Frederick deBeer (Jack M. Gill Professor, chair, Internal Medicine; UAB Health System-Cochrane Blvd). For more info, call 4-2043.
Noon Atherosclerosis Research Unit/ Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism. HDL structure, metabolism, Dr. Frederick deBeer (Jack M. Gill Professor, chair, Internal Medicine; UAB Health System-Cochrane Blvd). For more info, call 4-2043.

Final Defenses

Monday, Oct. 16

9 am Health Behavior. Fourth graders’ self-reports of fruit and vegetable intake at school lunch: Does treatment assignment affect adherence, Candidate Kathy Harrington; RPHB-209.
3 pm Cell Biology. KLF4 regulates Notch1 expression and signaling during epithelial transformation. Candidate Zhaid Liu; BBIRR-170.
9 pm Biomedical Engineering. Bilateral mechanical heart valves: Potential for blood damage. Candidate Brandon Reed Travis; SHEIL-817.

Wednesday, Oct. 18

10:30 am Art & Art History. Tendency toward disorder: A reconstruction of the contributions of Robert Smithson. Candidate Stacey Michelle Taylor; Education Bldg-238C.

Thursday, Oct. 19

3 pm Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics. Phosphorylation of scaffolding protein in capsid assembly, Candidate Chi-Yu Fu; Finney Cord Ctr.

Meetings

Monday, Oct. 16

5:25 pm Power Yoga: UAB Arts Annex. For more info, call Fran 967-0303.
6:30 pm Power Yoga: UAB Arts Annex. For more info, call Bonrie 823-6622.

Tuesday, Oct. 17

10 am International Women’s Group. Smolan Int’l House. 4-1205/awbons@uab.edu.

Noon UAB Resource Center Wellness Program. Stress management through massage. UAB Resource Center. Call 4-2281 for more info or visit www.uab.edu/rep.
4:30 pm Spanish conversation table; Humanities Bldg-339; HUB lounge (look for the Spanish fan). For more info, Maria Jesus Centero, centero@uab.edu

Wednesday, Oct. 18

10 am Conversation English classes, levels 1-4; Smolan Int’l House. 4-1205/awbons@uab.edu.

Noon French conversation table: Commons on the Green cafeteria (look for the French flag). Come to speak French and make new friends! For more info, Catherine daniel@uab.edu.

Noon UAB Resource Center Employee Assistance Program. The Joy of Stress brown bag lunch. A series guaranteed to make you laugh while also providing stress management tools. Participants are encouraged to bring their lunch while the Resource Center will provide drinks and dessert. The Resource Center. Call 4-2281 for more info or visit www.uab.edu/rep.
5:25 pm Power Yoga: UAB Arts Annex. For more info, call Fran 967-0303.
6:30 pm Power Yoga: UAB Arts Annex. For more info, call Bonnie 823-6622.

Thursday, Oct. 19

12:10 pm UAB Resource Center. Tai Chi-Stress management through movement. The Resource Center. Call 4-2281 for more info or visit www.uab.edu/rep.
5:15 pm Beginning Chinese class. Smolan Int’l House. 4-1205/awbons@uab.edu.
6:30 pm SMART recovery group meet- ings; not a 12-step or religious program. Any addiction or habit can be helped. Southside Baptist Church, Call Wil, Fukker 977-7755 for details.
7 pm Conversation English classes. levels 1-4; Smolan Int’l House. 4-1205/awbons@uab.edu.
8 pm Stammtisch conversation table; Commons on the Green (look for the German fan). Giuseppe’s Cafe, 925 8th Street South. For info, agester@uab.edu.

Friday, Oct. 20

7 pm Falan Dafa exercises, an ancient Chinese exercise that brings harmony & health. UAB Mini Park, 4-8295.

Religion

Tuesday, Oct. 17

Noon Medical Center Christian Fellowship Meeting. WP-B. All welcome. Mark 547-5117 or Blair 951-3826.

Wednesday, Oct. 18

Noon Employee-led Bible study;
Interfaith Chapel-West Pavilion.
12:15 pm Latter-day Saints Student Association - President's Study and Discussion - HUC-413. All welcome. For more info, Andrew 822-9338.
7 pm Catholic Mass - St Stephen Church, 1015 S 12th Ave, 933-2500.

Sunday, Oct. 22
5 pm UAB Hindu Student Council. We will have a session on singing and feasting the Hare Krishna way where everyone is welcome to join. For more info, Varadaj Prathu 383-9805, 1501 15th Ave S, Apt 20, Birmingham.

Friday, Oct. 20
6:30 pm UAB Dept of Art & Art History - Inside hidden mountains presented by performing artist Laurie Anderson from the 2006-2007 Pauline Ireland Visiting Artist. The film “Hidden Inside Mountains,” written and directed by Anderson, was screened in Japan at World Expo 2005 on the largest Astrovision screen in the world. An original score was written and recorded by Anderson with additional vocals by singer/performer Acumen. Admission is free. A dinner with Anderson follows the screening. Tickets to the dinner are $100 each. Call 205-934-4941 for questions or tickets to the dinner, MCW Center, IMAX Dome Theater.

Saturday, Oct. 21
10 am & 11:30 am ASC Kids' Club. Bully Brigade of Belvedere Boulevard, a children's puppet theatre show performed by the Dane Peterson Theatre Series. The gang at Belvedere Elementary has two real problems on its hands. Michelle and her buddy Joey, with his musical abilities, rally their friends into a brigade vowing to end big, bad bullies, not just at their school, but also throughout the world. The ASC Kids Club is recommended for ages 5-12, however all ages are welcome. Tickets are $8. For tickets, call 5-2787 or visit www.AlysStephens.org.
8 pm Music: UAB Fall Choral Concert featuring UAB Concert Choir, Chamber Singers and Women’s Chorale, directed by Aiset Prof Philip Copeland. Jemison Concert Hall. For more info, call 5-2787.

Sunday, Oct. 22
1 pm School of Engineering. Annual open house. Departmental presentations every half-hour beginning at 1:30 pm. Join us to see all the School of Engineering has to offer! For more info, contact Beth Briggs in 5-2424, BEC-lobby.

Theatre UAB’s ‘Playboy of the Western World’ to open Oct. 18
Theatre UAB will present “The Playboy of the Western World,” written by John Millington Synge and directed by Lisa Channer, Oct. 18-21 at 7:30 pm and Oct. 22 at 2 pm in the Alys Stephens Center Studio Theatre. When an itinerant, young stranger disrupts pastoral County Mayo with his wild, fanciful tales, the townsfolk fall prey to his dubious charms. Synge captures the lyrical quality of the Irish language in glorious, colorful language, making it as appealing now as it was shocking at the turn of the last century. There is a 2 pm matinee show Oct. 22, ASC Sirote Theatre.

Wednesday, Oct. 18
10 am-2 pm Human Studies/UAB Student Life, OktSOBERfest. Alcohol. You think you know it all... but you have no idea. Food, fun activities, music and great prices. Outside UAB Commons Dining Hall (rail location is Blazer Hall). Call 9-9059 for more info.
7 pm Dept of English Annual Alumni Lecture. Swimming down the gutter of time with Laurence Sterne and the Scribnerian, Dr Melvyn New (Prof, English, University of Florida). New will discuss the life and work of Laurence Sterne, an 18th century writer best known for his bawdy and outrageous comic novel “The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman.” The jokes were made popular by London society. The event is free and open to the public. For more info, call 4-4250, Hulsey Recital Hall.

Special events

Wednesday, Oct. 18-22
7:30 pm Theatre UAB. The Playboy of the Western World. Directed by Visiting Associate Professor Lisa Channer. Dublin erupted in riots over the 1879 premiere of this explosive comedy, with its satirical and sordid presentation of the lives of Irish country folk. A groundbreaking play of the 20th century, Synge’s work is now considered a masterpiece of poetic drama. When an itinerant, young stranger disrupts pastoral County Mayo with his wild, fanciful tales, the townsfolk fall prey to his dubious charms. Synge captures the lyrical quality of the Irish language in glorious, colorful language, making it as appealing now as it was shocking at the turn of the last century. There is a 2 pm matinee show Oct. 22, ASC Sirote Theatre.

CSW seeking your ‘Suits 4 Success’
The UAB Commission on the Status of Women will be sponsoring a weekend “Suits 4 Success” clothing drive Nov. 6-10 to collect lightly worn women's clothes for My Sister's Closet, an outreach program of the YWCA of Central Alabama that assists women who need career clothes for job interviews and job employment. For your convenience, there will be drive-up locations on the east and west ends of campus:

Monday, Oct. 23 & Monday, Oct. 30
8 am - 5 pm
MEDICAL TOWERS-419

Monday & Tuesday
Oct. 30-31
8 am - Noon
UAB Hospital New Employee Orientation
LNB-1st Floor

Donation receipts will be available at each location.
For more information contact Laura Vogtle at 934-7326 or e-mail vogtle@uab.edu
Baker walking 60 miles (again) to aid breast cancer research

Lisa Baker, Ph.D., admits she didn’t know if she could go through with it. After all, who really likes showering in a tractor trailer and sleeping on the ground after walking 20 miles a day?

And did we mention that the assistant professor in the UAB Department of Social Work has to do it two nights in a row and follow it up with another 20 miles of walking?

Baker has done just that for two consecutive years, taking part in the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Three-Day Walk. It’s 60 miles in three days, and while it’s never easy, she says, it’s always rewarding.

“It’s a life-changing experience,” she says, “and it’s worth every blister.”

Baker will participate in her third three-day walk — and second in a row — in Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 20-22.

“The Komen Foundation is just fantastic,” Baker says. “The opportunity to participate in something like this, something bigger than yourself, is just indescribable.”

The Komen Foundation typically schedules 12 three-day walks a year. The first one this year was in Boston in August, and an event has been held every weekend except for one since. The final walk of the year will be in San Diego the weekend of Nov. 10-12. Last year’s walks raised more than $30 million combined.

Baker and her friend Angie Thomson first decided to participate in the three-day walk in 2004 in Boston. Baker, who exercises regularly and has taken part in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure 5Ks in the past, says her desire to take part in the walk was in part because of her mother’s battle with breast cancer. Thomson also has a friend with two young children who is in the middle of her own breast-cancer fight. That’s given both women plenty of motivation.

“We do it for everybody who’s fighting this disease, and we do it so our kids hopefully won’t have to struggle with it,” Baker says.

Baker finds plenty of encouragement along the way over those three days she commits to this cause.

It’s not uncommon for people to set out in front of their houses with signs and cheer for the walkers, or for some who have lost a loved one to the disease to show up each day of the walk to provide drinks and encouragement.

“In Boston there was this man who had two daughters and one of those old Volkswagen vans from the ’60s. They would drive the whole race route and play music and cheer the walkers on,” Baker says. The man had lost his wife to breast cancer.

“It just fills you up when you see things like that,” Baker says. “You really get so much more out of it than what you put in to it.”

And all the camping and showers in a tractor trailer? “Believe me, you’re just thinking ‘Oh, this feels so good,’” Baker says. “You just want a pillow and a patch of ground.

“Besides, what we’re doing is nothing in comparison with what millions are going through fighting this disease every day.”

Glenn Feldman was appointed the fourth director of the Center for Labor Education and Research (CLEAR) Oct. 1 and recently finished editing and writing a chapter for the book History and Hope in the Heart of Dixie — a tribute to Feldman’s former teacher Wayne Flynt.

Feldman is an accomplished author and historian, having written and edited seven books, each one with its own special meaning for him. This one, he says, is a sentimental favorite, and most of the essays in the book are by Flynt’s former students.

“Each book you write for a different reason, but this was the least we could do for Flynt,” Feldman says. “He’s just a role model in virtually every aspect of a person’s life. His work ethic is amazing. His commitment to making his state and region a better place to live in is just so admirable. I think his application of his understanding of Christianity and what it means in terms of improving the lives of other individuals instead of spending a lot of time judging their deficiencies is something we can all learn from.”

Feldman has now moved on to his next project — another book.

“Right now I’m trying to work on exploring how the South changed from being a Democratic stronghold to being a Republican stronghold,” Feldman says with a laugh. “That’s probably going to take me a while.”

Glenn Feldman

Feldman, who exercises regularly and has taken part in the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Three-Day Walk in Atlanta, Ga. The duo will be walking in the event — which covers 60 miles in three days — for the third year in a row Oct. 20-22.

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Fibromyalgia patients needed to examine whether new saw-related treatments are efective when used with FM. Women, diagnosed with FM, age 19-60, are being recruited. Women with FM, who are interested in participating in this study, may be eligible to participate in a physical exam at no cost. Compensation up to $300.

Healthy women age 65 & older needed for study of estrogen replacement therapy to prevent Alzheimer’s disease. May be eligible for treatment: may be symptom free or may have a history of neurodegenerative disease. Take part in a fully-compensated study that involves telephone calls, a 30-minute clinic visit, and completion of questionnaires and measuring height and weight. Compensation up to $250. 5-73981/866-435-7370.

Incontinence study compares two treatments for urinary incontinence after surgery for prostat- e cancer. Men may be eligible if they are still experiencing urinary leakage or incontinence after their prostate surgery. 5-73981/866-435-7370.

Healthy African-American men age 19 and older needed for an 8-week study on weight loss and diet to prevent diabetes. 2) overnight admissions to UAB hospital. Men should be interested in participating in a self-management research study that involves no cost. Compensation: up to $250. 5-7238 ext 3.

Do you have high blood pressure? Are you interested in participating in a multi-level, 20-week study to identify the effects of diet on risk factors for heart disease. Men and women age 19-75? You may participate in a national clinical trial to study the effects of diet on risk factors for heart disease. 5-4809.

Healthy Caucasian and African-American men needed for an 8-week study on weight loss and diet to prevent diabetes. 2) overnight admissions to UAB hospital. Men should be interested in participating in a self-management research study that involves no cost. Compensation: up to $250. 5-7238 ext 3.

Do you have any symptoms of schizophrenia, they may be eligible for a study evaluating an investigational drug to treat a schizophrenia disorder. The information is confidential, and study participants may be eligible to receive investigational medication at no cost, study participation, and reimbursement. Mimi 502-9967.

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Recruiting adult men and women for dental health research related to the oral microbiome and diet. Services provided at reduced fees. Call UAB Dental School at 4-0630.

Are you a native spanish speaker? Are you interested in participating in a multi-level, 20-week study to identify the effects of diet on risk factors for heart disease. Men and women age 19-75? You may participate in a national clinical trial to study the effects of diet on risk factors for heart disease. 5-4809.

Do you have a child ages 6-10? Are you interested in participating in a study on children’s eating habits? Are you interested in helping children eat healthier? Your child may be eligible to participate in a study examining health and monetary compensation. Mimi 502-9967.


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