

# UAB Graduate School News & Events

Summer 2005

## *Words of Wisdom From Someone Who's Finished*

The UAB Doctoral Hooding and Commencement Ceremony held every May and December at the Alys Stephens Center for Performing Arts, will be held this **May 7th at 10:30 a.m.** Doctoral candidates, along with the President, Provost, Vice-Presidents, Deans, Mentors, and Faculty, take part in a convocation and celebration of the candidates' accomplishments. Julie Bryant, Director of Operations for the Graduate School, says, "Having the Hooding Ceremony separate from the commencement ceremony in the Bartow Arena gives a more intimate venue for the candidates and their families."

Candace Rogers, Doctor of Science in Nursing with a major in Nursing Education Administration (December 2004), gave us her views on the dissertation process, her graduate school experience, and the hooding ceremony.

**GS:** *How did you organize your dissertation material?*

**CR:** I used color-coded index cards. Since my dissertation was a qualitative research study, I also maintained a journal, which included the schedule and logistics of the study, a contextual log, an analytical log, a reflexive (personal) log, and a methodology log (codebook).

**GS:** *How did you prepare for the Graduate School formatting/review process?*

**CR:** I checked the format of my committee-approved (with post-defense revisions completed) dissertation with the requirements in the UAB Guide page by page. Since I knew that certain items, such as IRB approvals, would need to be included with the final dissertation, I compiled a notebook where I kept those forms. When I met with Laura, I took a copy of my dissertation and all the forms that the guide indicated I would need. The process went quickly and smoothly because I had everything that I needed with me.

**GS:** *What was your most positive Graduate School experience?*

**CR:** Having Dr. Juanzetta Flowers serve on my committee. She was always a positive, caring, supportive person who always provided me with encouragement and positive feedback. She is someone I admire and is one of my role models. She will always have my respect, admiration, and appreciation.

**GS:** *What advice would you give to those who are getting ready to graduate and go through the final steps of the dissertation process?*

**CR:** The dissertation process can seem to be an awesome task. You may become frustrated and even want to give up, but do not. Keep your eyes focused on the prize (graduation). You have a committee to assist you. Make good use of them. Also, the Graduate School offers classes specifically designed to help you through the process. Sign up for them. These are all things that can make your journey toward defense and graduation a lot easier. The goal of both your committee and the Graduate School is to assist you in developing a quality product (dissertation) that you, your committee and school, as well as the university can be proud of. Best wishes as you take the final steps to achieve that goal.

**GS:** *What did you think about the Hooding Ceremony?*

**CR:** It was exceptional. It was conducted in a beautiful setting and was quite different from regular graduation ceremonies. Family, friends, and professional colleagues who saw pictures taken at the ceremony have commented on how beautiful it was. Thank you for helping to make that day special. It was appreciated by all.

**GS:** *Is there anything else you would like to say about your graduate school experience?*

**CR:** Only to say thank you again to all who assisted me. I was under a great deal of stress, but I found that by carefully following all the instructions, I was able to complete the process smoothly.



**Candace M. Rogers, D.S.N. & Laura Burchfiel (Graduate School Staff)**

[www.uab.edu/graduate](http://www.uab.edu/graduate)

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## Summer and Fall Offerings: *Professional Development Program*

### Summer Sessions (May 9 - August 14)

**GRD 702-6Q: Writing up Research.** Thur., Jun 1-Aug 10, 5:30pm-9:40pm. Questions to Ms. Abney 934-8129. (3 hr)

**GRD 703-2S: Style and Grammar for Writers** (Second language writers). Sat, Jun 1-Aug 10, 9:40am - 1:50pm. Questions to Dr. Austin 975-6539. (3 hr)

**GRD 704-00: Specialized Instruction.** Individualized Instruction. For questions, dates, and call numbers, call Ms. Baird 975-6511, Ms. Abney 934-8129, or Dr. Austin 975-6539. (1-9 hr)

**GRD 704A-00: Specialized Instruction: Pronunciation & Accent Improvement Workshop.** Pronunciation class with scheduled individual or small group meetings with the instructor. Jun 1-Aug 10, 5:30pm-9:15pm. For questions, email Ms. Shadix at [jshadix@uab.edu](mailto:jshadix@uab.edu). Class size limited. Permission of instructor required. (3 hr)

**GRD 707-VT: Presenting Effectively.** One-day workshop. Tue, May 10, 2005, 9:00am - 5:00pm. Lunch provided. Questions to Dr. Austin 975-6539 or Ms. Abney 934-8129. (1 hr)

**GRD 711-VT: Special Topics: Word Processing for Theses and Dissertations.** Designed to give graduate students hands-on practice with formatting a thesis or dissertation. Two half-day workshops, Thur, May 19 and May 26, 1:00pm-5:00pm. Questions to Ms. Baird 975-6511. (1 hr)

**GRD 717-MC: Principles in Scientific Integrity.** Pass/Fail. M-F, May 9-May 27, 2005, 2:00pm - 4:40pm, BBRB 170. Questions to Dr. Vollmer 934-4805. (3 hr)

**GRD 722-6P: Discovering Language Through Culture.** Pass/Fail. Second language English speakers. Wed, Jun 1-Aug 10, 5:30pm-9:40pm. Questions to Ms. Abney 934-8129. (3 hr)

### Fall Semester (August 18 - December 14)

**GRD 700-2S: Culture and Speaking in the U.S.** Second language English speakers. Pass/Fail. Sat, Aug 18-Dec 14, 9:30am-12:00pm. Questions to Ms. Abney 934-8129. (3 hr)

**GRD 701-7P: Presentation and Discussion Skills.** Pass/Fail. Wed, Aug 18-Dec 14, 5:30pm-8:00pm. Questions to Dr. Austin 975-6539. (3 hr)

**GRD 702-2S: Writing up Research.** Sat, Aug 18-Dec 14, 5:30pm-9:40pm. Questions to Ms. Abney 934-8129. (3 hr)

**GRD 704-00: Specialized Instruction.** Individualized Instruction. For questions or call numbers, call Ms. Baird 975-6511, Ms. Abney 934-8129, or Dr. Austin 975-6539. (1-9 hr)

*(Fall courses continued)*

**GRD 706-C1: Grants and Fellowships 101.** One-day workshop. Sat., 9:00am-5:00pm, Sept. 10, 2005. Lunch provided. Questions to Dr. Austin 975-6539 or Ms. Baird 975-6511. (1 hr)

**GRD 715-C1: Preparing TAs to be Effective Teachers.** *(Department recommendation required).* Pass/Fail. Class meetings: Sat, Aug 16, (9:00am - 5:00pm), Aug 20 (9:00am-1:00pm), Sept 16 (5:00pm-8:00pm), Dec 2 (5:00pm-8:00pm). Questions to Ms. Baird 975-6511, Ms. Abney 934-8129, or Dr. Austin 975-6539. (2-3 hr)

**GRD 717-6N: Principles of Scientific Integrity.** Pass/Fail. M-, Aug 18-Dec 14, 2:00pm-4:40pm, BBRB 170. Questions to Dr. Vollmer 934-4805. (3 hr)

**GRD 720-P7: Effective Communication Skills.** (Second language English speakers). Thur, Aug 18-Dec 14, 5:30pm-8:30pm. Questions to Ms. Abney 934-8129. (3 hr)

### NEW COURSE!

#### Accent & Pronunciation Improvement Workshop Summer 2005

Accented speech can cost confidence, performance, and job opportunities.

If improving English pronunciation is on your agenda, contact Jonghee Shadix at 215-0936 or [jshadix@uab.edu](mailto:jshadix@uab.edu).

For more details regarding Professional Development courses, see the UAB Class Schedule, visit the GRD web site ([www.uab.edu/profdev](http://www.uab.edu/profdev)), or contact Julia Austin at 975-6539 or [jaustin@uab.edu](mailto:jaustin@uab.edu)

### Graduate School Deadlines:

#### *To Graduate in Summer or Fall 2005*

MPH, MSPH, DrPH, and MSN students: Check with your Graduate Program Directors for other deadlines, which differ from those of the Graduate School.

**May 6 (Summer); Aug. 17 (Fall):** Deadline to change residency

**May 6 (Summer); Aug. 17 (Fall):** Admission to candidacy due (Doctoral students require 2 semesters)

**June 10 (Summer); Sept. 9 (Fall):** Application for degree due

#### Plan I

**July 8 (Summer), Nov. 4 (Fall):** Last day for public defense (Committee approved version due in Graduate School **no later than 10 days following the defense**)

#### Plan II

**July 29 (Summer), Dec. 2 (Fall):** Last day for receipt of final papers



## 2005 UAB Graduate Student Research Days Winners

This year's Graduate Student Research Days competition, sponsored by the Graduate School, GSA, and Sigma Xi, was held on March 3 & 4 in the HUC Great Hall. There were 150 student participants and 57 faculty judges. At the Graduate Awards Luncheon, 41 of those students received cash awards in recognition of exemplary presentation of scholarly research. For more information, visit the Graduate Student Research Day web site at [www.uab.edu/graduate/researchday](http://www.uab.edu/graduate/researchday).

### Session 1 – Physical Sciences & Engineering

1st Place

Choo Keong Ong  
Civil & Environmental  
Engineering

2nd Place

Rohan More  
Biomedical Engineering

3rd Place

Andrei Kondrat'yev  
Physics

### Session 2 – Life Sciences

1st Place

Robert Axtell  
Microbiology

2nd Place

Mariya Sweetwyne  
Cell Biology

3rd Place

Sinu John  
Biochemistry & Molecular  
Genetics

### Session 3 – Social & Behavioral Sciences and Public Health

1st Place

Kelly Finan  
Epidemiology

2nd Place

Agnelina Wittich  
Medical Sociology

3rd Place

Sameer Gupta  
Public Health

### Session 4 – Life Sciences

1st Place

David Krzywanski  
Environmental Health Science

2nd Place

T. Scott Isbell  
Pathology

3rd Place

Denise Kothe  
Microbiology

### Session 5 – Physical Sciences & Engineering

1st Place

Miguel Nunez  
Clinical Dentistry

2nd Place

Neha Butala  
Biomedical Engineering

3rd Place

sarah Park  
Biomedical Engineering

### Session 6 – Arts and Humanities

1st Place

Michele Forman  
Art History

2nd Place

Nilanjana Majumdar

### Session 7 – Life Sciences

1st Place

Kevin Nash  
Pathology

2nd Place

Lori Mattison  
Pharmacology/Toxicology

3rd Place

Emily Brantley  
Cell Biology

### Session 8 – Social & Behavioral Sciences and Public Health

1st Place

Joann Roosenberg  
Nutrition Sciences

2nd Place

Charu Aggarwal  
Public Health

3rd Place

Muktar Aliyu  
Epidemiology

### Session 9 – Life Sciences

1st Place

Carrie Elzie  
Pathology

2nd Place

Kristin Hennessy  
Physiology & Biophysics

3rd Place

Xue Zhang  
Integrative Biomedical Sciences

### Session 10 – Physical Sciences & Engineering

1st Place

Amber Sawyer  
Biomedical Engineering

2nd Place

Amol Khotpal  
Materials Sciences &  
Engineering

3rd Place

Ramprasad Venkataraman  
Mechanical Engineering

### Session 11 – Life Sciences

1st Place

Matthew Alder  
Microbiology

2nd Place

Pushkar Phadke  
Pathology

3rd Place

Paul Mangan  
Microbiology

### Session 12 – Mathematics and Computer & Information Sciences

1st Place

Ying Liu  
Computer & Info. Sciences

2nd Place

Travis Ptacek  
Biology

3rd Place

Leonard Jowers  
Computer & Info. Sciences

### Session 13 – Mathematics and Computer & Information Sciences

1st Place

Jing Zhang  
Computer & Info. Sciences

2nd Place

Suman Roychoudhury  
Computer & Info. Sciences

3rd Place

Yin Liu  
Computer & Info. Sciences

### Session 12 – Mathematics and Computer & Information Sciences

1st Place

Xiaoqing Wu  
Computer & Info. Sciences

2nd Place

Vijay Velusamy  
Computer & Info. Sciences

3rd Place

Wei Zhao  
Computer & Info. Sciences



## 2005 Barker Awardees Named

The Samuel B. Barker Award for Excellence in Graduate Studies, named for UAB's first graduate dean, Dr. Samuel Booth Barker, was conceived in 1995. Each Spring since then, two students (one at the master's level and one at the doctoral level) who will graduate in the spring, summer, or fall of the calendar year, may be nominated for the Barker Award by their department's graduate program director. The Dean of the Graduate School chooses the final recipients from the group of nominees. The winners' names appear on plaques outside the Graduate School office as continuing evidence of their accomplishments.

This year, both recipients accepted their awards at the Graduate Student Research Day Awards Luncheon, held on March 11 in the HUC Great Hall. Acting Provost Eli Capilouto was the guest speaker.



**Paula Chandler-Laney**, Psychology--Behavioral Neuroscience, accepts the 2005 Barker Award at the doctoral level from Graduate School Acting Dean James B. McClintock.

**Rosie O'Beirne**, Anthropology, accepts the 2005 Barker Award at the master's level from Graduate School Acting Dean James B. McClintock.



## Rich Named Associate Dean

Dr. Susan Rich has been named Associate Dean for the Life Sciences of the Graduate School. Dr. Rich holds a PhD in Microbiology and Immunology from Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas and is also Professor in the Department of Microbiology. She was previously Assistant Dean for Postdoctoral Education at Emory University School of Medicine.

## Notes from Jan:

Working on a thesis or dissertation? Here are two things you can do to reduce stress and frustration: 1) attend the *Word Processing for Theses and Dissertations Workshop* on May 19th & 26th from 1:00 to 5:00., and 2) attend the next *Staying Afloat While Preparing a Thesis or Dissertation Seminar* on June 7th from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. To reserve a seat in either class, email me at [jbaird@uab.edu](mailto:jbaird@uab.edu)

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