Welcome to the UAB Family!

Sending a child off to college…a monumental step, both for your son or daughter and for you – the parents! Within the last few weeks, I am guessing that both you and your child have experienced a range of emotions regarding the beginning of his or her college career. Of course there was excitement, enthusiasm and anticipation. But along with those feelings, there was almost certainly some fear, uneasiness and perhaps some uncertainty. Take heart – these are all very normal and natural feelings!

Throughout the roller-coaster of events and “happenings” that accompany the welcoming of each new class and the beginning of each new school year, we hope that you have found friendly UAB folks ready to assist, eager to help, and anxious to answer your questions. I am continually amazed and gratified by the enormous effort that goes into making the “UAB – world-class, major research university” feel personal…friendly…one on one. There are times when “the system” may feel intimidating, but know that we work diligently at making the experience personal for your student…and for you!

By becoming members of the UAB Parents Association, you have taken a wonderful and important first step in support of your student’s UAB experience. Thank you for your willingness to stay interested and involved in your student’s success. As we welcome your sons and daughters and nudge them toward the completion of their academic achievements, we also welcome you as an essential member of “the UAB family” as well. Call us when we can help…we stand ready to help your student achieve their goals at UAB!

Sincerely,
DeeDee Barnes Bruns
Associate Vice-President for Enrollment Management

Gina’s Baby Has Arrived!!!

Gina Hawkins, Director of New Student Orientation and head of the UAB Parents Association along with her husband Bill are the proud new parents of a beautiful baby girl.

Date: Thursday, September 2, 2004
Time: 7:04 p.m.
Weight: 8 pounds, 1 ounce
Length: 20 ½ inches long
UAB Parents Association Event
Football Tailgate!

Thanks to all who attended the Parents Association tailgate event and the UAB vs. Memphis football game. You made the event a great success! Nearly 350 parents and family members attended this fun and exciting gathering.

We hope you enjoyed meeting other parents as well as UAB administrators. UAB President Carol Garrison was among the attendees and was excited to see so many parents in attendance.

The UAB Marching Band and Cheerleaders performed before a large crowd, wrapping up the tailgate as fans began to file into Legion Field.

The Blazers played a great game and came away with a 35-28 win against Memphis improving UAB’s record to 1-0 in Conference USA play and a 2-1 overall record. GO BLAZERS!!!
UAB RECREATION CENTER

With the anticipated arrival of the new Campus Recreation Center (CRC) parents should feel better about what their students are doing in their spare time. And, since this new state-of-the-art facility is funded partially through student activity fees, students can take advantage of the assortment of amenities appealing to any fitness level, from beginner to expert, at no additional cost to you or the student.

The CRC will offer users a variety of services including a uniquely designed pool area, four indoor courts, including one multipurpose court, a distinctively designed indoor track, and 18,000 square feet of weights and cardio equipment. Catering to all fitness needs, the CRC will also include a five-story climbing wall, game room, and a juice bar to power up or cool down.

Students also have opportunities for employment and leadership within the Campus Recreation Center. With 20 different types of jobs, students can do anything from being an intramural official or hiring fellow students to promoting programs to their fellow students. Designed around students’ busy schedules, the CRC will be open seven days a week. Monday - Thursday 5:30 a.m. - 11 p.m; Friday 5:30 a.m. - 9 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m. - 9 p.m; Sunday 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. For more information, call the Office of Campus Recreation at 205.934.8224.
We know that parents are very concerned about their children's future and want to help in any way they can. We know that parents have a strong desire to see their children succeed in their professional pursuits. Moreover, we know that parents are the key influence regarding career decision-making in the lives of children.

We also know that students are generally too busy taking classes to be thinking about their career plans. Usually they wait until the last minute before they seriously address this very important matter. Parents have a particularly favorable advantage in promoting the benefits of sound career planning to their children. We urge parents, therefore, to assist the career counselors in the UAB Career Services office in emphasizing the importance of utilizing the resources we offer.

As each semester draws to a close, students start making their way into the Career Services office to see about getting a job. For many of those who wander in right before graduation, in desperation mode, this represents the first and only visit they've ever made to the Career Services office. To them, pursuit of their professional goals is nothing more than simple job hunting.

Our challenge in the Career Services office is to demonstrate to students the huge difference between career development and job hunting. For too many of our students, career development is a foreign concept. Even though they chose to come to college because they saw a link between their college degree and career success, they really are no more serious about their career than to relegate it to mere job hunting.

For most important things in their lives, they know they have to plan and prepare and even do a little research. But, somehow, when it comes to their careers, they suddenly get lazy. They suddenly feel a great need to take all kinds of shortcuts. Most people, it seems, exert more time and energy planning their vacations, their weddings, and their purchases of automobiles and homes. But when it comes to their careers, planning is something they generally don't think they need to do. When it comes to their careers, it's all about job hunting.

They answer ads in the newspaper, they scan job lists, they post their resumes on the internet, they go through staffing agencies, they rely on on-campus recruiting, and they fill out applications in the HR department. And they have deluded themselves into thinking that they're really doing something.

Career development, on the other hand, is about setting a career goal and selecting the right major based on that goal. It's about exploring career opportunities and researching various industries and companies. It's about developing an early passion for a career and engaging in worthwhile activities that will help build knowledge, experience, skills and credibility while still in college. It's about knowing what you want to do and pursuing that objective.

Career development is about not being at the mercy of the job market. It's about being the initiator in the job market, not the responder. As we see our students head out into the job market, we have not observed that they encounter difficulty or failure because the market is bad or because they lack qualifications. The reason they fail is because they lack focus and because they have replaced real career development with mindless job hunting.

Students can take charge of the direction of their lives. They can learn to manage their careers. They can be successful in their pursuit of a rewarding profession if they will begin early enough devoting the necessary time and energy to the process. They must not wait until the last minute.

We invite you, as parents, then, to be partners in preparing your students for their career success. Help us communicate to your students the true nature of the services we provide them. Remind them that we are not a placement service or a headhunter. We're not about job hunting. We're about career development. It is our desire to help them become responsible and informed career seekers. We stand ready to provide the resources, the tools, and the training they need to prepare them for today's competitive job market.

If you or your student would like more information about the career development process, please contact Career Services at 934-4324 or careercenter@uab.edu.
UAB Student Leadership Opportunities!

The Office of Student Leadership has many opportunities and activities throughout the year. Your son or daughter can get a complete calendar listing of our upcoming events in the Student Life Academic Planner available in any of the Student Life offices in the Hill University Center. Below are some of the organizations that our office offers to your UAB student!

Undergraduate Student Government Association
The USGA provides programs and services for undergraduate students in the Schools of Arts & Humanities, Business, Education, Engineering, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Social and Behavioral Sciences, and the Division of General Studies. The goals of the USGA consist of providing a means for expression of student needs, providing an experience in democratic living, encouraging individual responsibility, and fostering a spirit of loyalty and unity within the students towards each other as well as the University. The USGA also represents student issues, concerns, and views to the administration. Through the USGA, students can make changes within the university, thereby ensuring a pleasant undergraduate experience.

LeaderShape Institute
In 1999, UAB Student Leadership began sending students through the LeaderShape Institute, a nationally recognized leadership institute for college students in the United States. Since then UAB has progressed to a “campus-based” session of LeaderShape and annually selects 10-15 students to attend this outstanding program. LeaderShape is a six day experience described as “intense fun in a relaxed learning environment” that focuses on leaving students with a commitment to leading with integrity that can result in extraordinary change. All students are welcome to apply! Applications are available each spring semester in our office.

Volunteer Program
Service to the Birmingham community is very important to the Office of Student Leadership and the Volunteer Program. Once each semester there is a campus-wide outreach day called “Into the Streets.” It draws over 1000 students annually. There are also on-going service projects, monthly service projects, and Volunteer fairs held each semester. During Spring Break, the Office of Student Leadership and Volunteer Programs take a group of 18 students from UAB to work with Habitat for Humanity for a week. Recent trips have been to Oklahoma City, Wilmington and Miami.

Leadership and Service Council
All leadership and volunteer programs within our office are organized and led by members of the Leadership and Service Council. The students that attend LeaderShape become part of the Leadership and Service (LSC) Executive Board. These students plan events such as the Fall and Winter Leadership Retreats, Into the Streets, Emerging Leaders Program, Monthly Service Projects, and much, much more.

UAB Ambassadors
The UAB Ambassador Program consists of 20 students that represent the university at most university-related functions and events. These students serve the university as the official hosts and hostesses of UAB. The Ambassador program has students from all areas of the university including graduate and undergraduate students, as well as Truman scholars and EMSAP scholars. Applications are available in the Office of Student Leadership each fall during the first part of December.

Greek Life
The Office of Student Leadership houses 16 fraternities and sororities. These organizations all have a similar purpose: to offer an opportunity for close friendships and to teach its members leadership through the experience of working with others on common goals and projects. Every fraternity and sorority encourages and expects above average scholarship. Each organization encourages participation in varied activities, which in turn offer unlimited and valuable experiences. All organizations recruit members in different ways depending on that organization’s national guidelines.

For information on any activities listed above, or regarding any student organization that is recognized on UAB’s campus, please feel free to contact the Office of Student Leadership at (205) 934-8020 or by email at uableadership@uab.edu.

Andrea Miller Pound
Assistant Director of Student Leadership
We Want You! Please take a moment and volunteer your time with the UAB Parents Association.

UAB Parents Association Volunteer Profile

Last Name: ____________________  First Name: _______________________  MI: _______

Home Address: _______________________________________________________________

City: _____________________  State: _______  Zip: _________  County: _______________

Work Phone: (____) __________________       Home Telephone: (____) __________________

E-mail: ______________________________________________________________________

Fax number: __________________________________________________________________

What is the best way to contact you? _______________________________________________

Please indicate in the space provided the area(s) in which you would like to serve.

_____ “Parent to Parent” Panel (panel discussion member during New Student Orientation)

_____ Parent Orientation (membership recruitment table during Parent Orientations)

_____ Fall move-in for incoming freshmen (provide information and refreshments as parents move their students into residence halls)

_____ UAB Days (panel speaker and welcome parents to UAB)

_____ Honor symposium (panel speaker and welcome parents to UAB)

_____ UAB Annual Parents’ Fund

_____ UAB Ambassador selection committee member

_____ Identify prospective students in your area

_____ Committee member

_____ Fall-Football tailgate and game

_____ Winter-Basketball and reception

_____ Spring-Springfest and UAB Day

Please Return to:
UAB Parents Association
Hill University Center, Room 531
1400 University Blvd.
Birmingham, AL 35294
UAB Homecoming festivities will kick off Sunday, November 7th and run through Saturday, November 13th. Homecoming brings out the Blazer spirit every fall with a full week of exciting activities and favorite campus traditions! Days of contests and parties lead up to a parade, pep rally, and bonfire on Friday, plus the football game on Saturday.

There are must-see events for students, faculty, parents, alumni, and the community. This year’s Homecoming activities promise to be full of excitement, spirit, and UAB pride. This is just the thing for a proud UAB Parents Association member!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UAB HOMECOMING 2004 Schedule of Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, November 7th</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, November 8th</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, November 9th</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, November 10th</strong></td>
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<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, November 11th</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Following Stompdown</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, November 12th</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Following Dragon March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Following Pep Rally</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, November 14th</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(at half-time the spirit competition awards will be given out)</td>
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</tbody>
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### Important Dates to Remember

#### Fall Semester 2004
- Last Day to Withdraw with a “W”: October 20
- Assigned Time Registration (Spring 2005): November 8 – 12
- Phone/Web Registration (Spring 2005): November 8 - Jan 3
- Open Registration (Spring 2005): November 15 - Jan 3
- No Classes Held: November 24
- Thanksgiving Holidays: December 6
- Last Day of Class: December 7 - 8
- Open Days: December 9 - 15
- Final Exams: December 18
- Commencement Ceremony: December 19
- Grades Available on ACCESS: December 19

#### Spring Semester 2005
- Classes Begin: January 4
- Registration After Classes Begin: January 4 - 12
- Financial Aid Disbursement: January 6
- Last Day to Drop w/o Paying Tuition and Fees: January 11
- Last Day to Add a Class: January 12
- 1st Payment Deadline: January 13
- Martin Luther King Holiday: January 17
- Final Payment Deadline: February 15
- Last Day to Withdraw with a “W”: March 8
- Spring Break: March 27 – Apr. 2
- Last Day of Class: April 25
- Open Days: April 26 - 27
- Final Exams: April 28 – May 4
- Commencement Ceremony: May 7
- Grades Available on ACCESS: May 8