The University of Alabama at Birmingham

The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) is an internationally renowned research university and academic health center. UAB prides itself as being the premier medical facility in the state and region. The centerpiece of the UAB Health System is UAB Hospital, one of the largest and most advanced in the nation. It was established in 1945, as the teaching hospital for what is now the UAB School of Medicine.

The University’s academic programs at all levels – from undergraduate through post-doctoral – are nationally and internationally acclaimed, ranking in the top 100 globally for the life sciences in the Academic Ranking of World Universities. The academic medical center is Alabama’s leading institution devoted to the education of medical professionals, the investigation of new discoveries, the translation of those discoveries from bench to bedside, and the provision of high-quality patient care.

Driven by an intensely collaborative and entrepreneurial character, UAB is one of the leading economic engines of the State, with a budget of approximately $2.5 billion and a statewide economic impact exceeding $5 billion annually. UAB is Alabama’s largest single employer with more than 23,000 employees (including over 2,000 faculty members); it supports more than 61,000 jobs statewide—one of every 33 Alabama jobs.

UAB’s outstanding School of Medicine is now a central feature of a complex campus with an enrollment of almost 18,000 undergraduate and graduate students. In addition, UAB includes schools in Public Health, Optometry, Dentistry, Nursing, and Health Professions. Together with the School of Medicine, this creates a dynamic academic health care environment. In addition to its strong healthcare programs, UAB includes a College of Arts and Sciences, a School of Engineering, a School of Business, a School of Education, and a Graduate School.

Additional Facts on The University of Alabama Birmingham

- Since 2008, UAB’s Center for Clinical and Translational Science has invested $1,521,566 in 54 pilot projects; recipients have garnered $55,866,551 in new grants, a return on investment of 36:1
- UAB Hospital is the third largest public hospital in the United States.
- 391 UAB physicians are on the Best Doctors in America list in 2015-2016.
- UAB is consistently ranked among the most diverse universities nationally by the Princeton Review.
- 124,000+ individuals in underserved communities reached through cancer awareness and education programs from UAB’s Deep South Network for Cancer Control.
- UAB is one of 7 inaugural NIH designated Centers for AIDS Research.
- 5,000 new patients per year are treated at the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center.
- UAB is a founding partner in Innovation Depot, the largest high-tech incubator in the
Southeast, which had an economic impact of $1.33 billion between 2009 and 2014.

- There are currently 18 new drugs in the pipeline for the Alabama Drug Discovery Alliance, a UAB-Southern Research Partnership.
- UAB has one of the only two Level 1 ocular trauma centers in the United States.
- UAB was the first hospital in Alabama to be certified as a Comprehensive Stroke Center by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association and the Joint Commission.

*For more information, please visit: http://www.uab.edu/didyouknow/

Population Health in Alabama

Alabama has benefited from significant advances in economic development and health care over the past half century. However, many rural and inner-city communities have not shared fully in that growth. Despite a vibrant technology sector, major growth in automotive manufacturing, and other successful industrial recruitment, Alabama is home to some of the most economically distressed counties in the nation. There are major disparities in health outcomes, and the state overall ranks poorly in many health indices.

The physician workforce of the state, especially in primary care, is an area of significant concern and effort. UAB, housing the state’s largest medical school, has responded with a number of successful initiatives. Rural scholars programs, centered in the Tuscaloosa and Huntsville regional campuses, are nationally recognized models for producing rural primary care physicians. A strategic plan for primary care, initiated in 2011 with funded infrastructure and programmatic growth, led to the Primary Care Scholars program, primary care scholarship support, and the establishment of Alabama’s first statewide Area Health Education Centers program, which is administratively based in DFCM. A recent external review of the Department of Family and Community Medicine has contributed to the vision of an expanded scope and activity for the department.

The School of Medicine

UAB School of Medicine is a multi-campus medical school with the main campus in Birmingham and three regional campuses: Huntsville, Montgomery, and Tuscaloosa. There is a Family Medicine residency in each of these communities as well as in Selma, Alabama. The School of Medicine has nearly 900 students, 1,200 residents and fellows, and more than 1,300 faculty who attract more than $200 million in NIH funding through 26 academic departments, some of which rank in the top 10 nationally. It is the faculty home for The Kirklin Clinic, a multi-disciplinary medical home, UAB University Hospital, and Children’s of Alabama.

The faculty is world renowned, in research, education and clinical care. Many of the faculty lead professional organizations, edit national and international journals and publish groundbreaking research. With nationally competitive educational programs in both primary care and the medical specialties, the students are among the most accomplished in the nation, passing exams and boards at rates higher than the national average. They also are leaders in the community and in student medical organizations. Its historical success in its teaching mission is reflected in the fact that 80% of physicians in Alabama owe their training to the UAB School of Medicine.
UAB’s University Hospital provides patients with a complete range of primary and specialty care services, as well as the most up to date treatments and innovations in health care. As an academic health system, UAB is a major center for clinical and translational research. As one of U.S. News and World Report’s Best Hospitals and a winner of the Women’s Choice Award, UAB is a national leader in patient care, research and training. Medscape recently named Alabama in its top three best places to practice medicine, primarily due to the reputation of, opportunity at and impact of UAB.

UAB School of Medicine ranks 23rd nationally in NIH research funding and in the top 10 for all public institutions. Total research expenditures at UAB exceeded $528 million in fiscal 2016.

UAB Primary Care Education

The UAB School of Medicine (SOM) has 3 regional clinical campuses (Tuscaloosa, Huntsville, and Montgomery). There is a Family Medicine residency in each of these communities as well as in Selma, Alabama. Approximately 186 students are admitted to the SOM each via a holistic admissions process. The SOM has an integrated curriculum where basic science and clinical principles are taught in parallel. While every student has a robust experience in family medicine and in the ambulatory clinical care setting, the SOM felt it was critical to develop a specific curricular track in primary care which provides additional emphasis on primary care principles and experiences. Starting in 2017, prospective students can apply to the Primary Care Track which will be based on the Tuscaloosa campus. This campus has demonstrated innovation in primary care training by launching a longitudinal integrated curriculum. In this model, students will meet the required core 3rd year clerkship educational objectives using an LIC model that includes following a panel of patients in a community ambulatory practice. Students admitted to this track will also receive primary care mentorship during the preclinical phase of the curriculum as well as unique clinical rotations and opportunities to engage in population health in the senior year. This unique track coupled with the existing Primary Care Scholars program will allow the SOM to recruit competitive applicants interested in primary care and be a critical source of primary care physicians in the future.

Vision, Culture, Mission & Values

Through innovation and dedication to excellence, UAB and UAB Medicine attract the best and brightest employees and faculty and are a preferred provider of care.

Vision

The School of Medicine is committed to being one of the nation’s premier institutions for research, training and patient care and being recognized as such by faculty, students and patients regionally and nationally by other schools of medicine and research universities. Excellence in each of its primary missions—education, clinical care, and basic, translational and clinical research—is essential to this recognition. With the School of Medicine, the Health System will create highly innovative, well-coordinated interdisciplinary services and partnering relationships that serve as a model for health
education and service.

Mission

To improve the health and wellbeing of society, particularly the citizens of Alabama, UAB will provide innovative health services of exceptional value that are patient and family centered; a superior environment for the education of health professionals, and support for research that advances medical science. Central to its educational mission are the enhancement of new knowledge through clinical and basic biomedical research and the provision of outstanding medical care and services.

UAB is the largest academic medical center in Alabama and one of the largest academic medical centers in the United States.

- UAB’s nationally ranked Heart and Vascular Services provides the full spectrum of cardiovascular care and performs the most advanced cardiovascular, peripheral vascular, and thoracic surgery procedures available
- The UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center provides oncology treatment and care and performs some of the nation’s most advanced cancer research, utilizing the largest cyclotron in a U.S. academic medical center
- As the only Adult Level I Trauma Center and as the only Comprehensive Stroke Center in Alabama, UAB Hospital is equipped to handle any medical emergency
- The level IV Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit is the only one of its kind in Alabama, caring for the sickest newborns in the state and region
- UAB’s Comprehensive Transplant Center is a national leader in kidney transplants
- The UAB Callahan Eye hospital was the first level I ocular trauma center in the nation and is the only one in Alabama

UAB Clinical Operations

The University of Alabama (UA) System, which is composed of UAB, the University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa), and the University of Alabama in Huntsville, was created in 1969. A single Board of Trustees governs the three autonomous campuses. The School of Medicine evolved from the Medical College of Alabama, which was relocated to Birmingham in 1945.

The UAB Health System was created in 1996 with a Joint Operating Agreement between the University of Alabama Health Services Foundation, P.C. (UAHSF), a 501(c) (3) faculty practice plan, and the UA Board of Trustees. The UAB Health System consists of UAB Hospital (which includes UAB Highlands, the Spain Rehabilitation Center, the Hazeldig-Salter Radiation Center, the Center for Psychiatric Medicine, and the UAB Women and Infants Center), the Kirklin Clinic (designed by I.M. Pei), and the Kirklin Clinic at Acton Road, UAB Urgent Care, the Callahan Eye Hospital, Valley Foundation, Ophthalmology Services Foundation, VIVA Health (a 90,000 member health plan), as well as affiliates Medical West and Baptist Health (in Montgomery). The flagship UAB Hospital, a key partner with the School of Medicine, is the
largest hospital in the State, and is among the largest hospitals in the country (1,157 beds). It is the only Alabama hospital listed for 23 straight years in the US News and World Report’s Best Hospitals survey (every year since the issue’s inception). It is also a four-time certified Magnet Hospital, ranked #1 locally in patient satisfaction, and home to the State’s only level 1 adult trauma center. Managed by the UAB Health System since 2005, Medical West Hospital is a 310 bed licensed facility located in Bessemer, Alabama. Medical West offers a full range of inpatient and outpatient medical and surgical services, ICU services as well as Inpatient Rehabilitation and Geriatric Psychiatric services. They also operated the State’s first Free Standing Emergency Room located in Hoover, Alabama. Several UAB Medicine Departments such as Orthopedic Surgery, Cardiology, Ophthalmology, Anesthesia and Neurosurgery provide services at Medical West. The UAB Health System, which consists of more than 17,000 employees, has over 81,000 discharges, more than 1.2 million patient visits to outpatient clinics, more than 278,000 ER visits, and $3.2 billion in revenue.

UAB Medicine was created in 2009, not as a formal entity, but as an operating model with the School of Medicine, the UAB Health System, and the UAHSF. Together, these three powerhouses collaborate closely through an executive management structure called the Joint Operating Leadership (JOL). Through this tight partnership, UAB Health System collaborates closely with the School of Medicine and the UAHSF under the banner of UAB Medicine to provide world-class quality care to serve the region and beyond and to provide a rich environment for research and teaching.

These partners cemented their collective vision with the establishment of AMC21 as the roadmap for the organization to become the “preferred academic medical center of the 21st century.” The goal is to be preferred for delivery of outstanding patient care, for scientific discovery and biomedical research, and for the teaching and training of professionals. Recent changes to AMC21 include updates in the areas of genomics, informatics and population health, and an increase in the size of the system as a whole. The JOL has undertaken a formal review of AMC21 to create an updated strategic plan that builds on past experiences and that more closely integrates the activities of the clinical, research and educational enterprises.
As illustrated in the figure below, the UAB Medicine strategic plan is based on four pillars: Engagement, Quality, Financial Stability and Advancement of Knowledge. In addition there are foundational elements that are pivotal to the success of the whole enterprise.

Leadership

In 2013, Selwyn M. Vickers, M.D., F.A.C.S., was appointed Senior Vice President for Medicine and Dean of the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine. A member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine, Vickers is a world-renowned surgeon, pancreatic cancer researcher, pioneer in health disparities research, and a native of Alabama. Previously, he served as the Jay Phillips Professor and Chair of the Department of Surgery at the University of Minnesota Medical School, although his formative years as a young faculty member were spent at UAB, beginning in 1994; he directed the section of gastrointestinal surgery from 2000 – 2006.
Department of Family and Community Medicine

Alabama was a significant in the early days of the specialty of Family Medicine. Dr. William Willard, author of the “The Willard Report” and widely known as the “Father of Family Practice,” served as the founding dean of the College of Community Health Sciences at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. Gayle Stephens, MD, served as chair of Family Medicine in Birmingham and along with Marion Bishop DrPH also as Dean of the School of Primary Care at the University of Alabama Huntsville during the specialty’s first decade.

The Department of Family and Community Medicine (DFCM) has been a part of the School of Medicine since 1975, and has been a recognized leader in the fields of clinical care, premedical education, practice-based research, and student health services. The department’s mission is as follows:

*The Department of Family and Community Medicine is dedicated to excellence in primary care through its clinical, educational and research programs. We embrace the School of Medicine’s commitment to creating an inclusive environment that values diversity and differing perspectives and experiences.*

DFCM is home to highly-trained faculty and staff who provide clinical, educational and research activities in Family Medicine for the entire UAB community. The Department’s educational mission continues through its work with medical students in all four years of medical school, with a family medicine clerkship and a number of special topics courses in addition to faculty mentorship of student scholarly activity. DFCM leads development of the School of Medicine’s Primary Care Scholars Program, launched in the spring 2013, with 18 scholars currently enrolled. Clinical services are available for all ages in the Family Medicine Faculty Clinic and for all UAB students in the Student Health Services Division.

On the Birmingham campus alone, the department employs 9 clinicians and 33 staff who are devoted to family medicine patient care and to the health and welfare of UAB students. In addition, 5 affiliate faculty provide patient care in UAB PrimeCare satellite clinics, over 100 physicians serve as preceptors and course instructors for third- and fourth-year medical students and nearly 100 have worked with the research network. The UAB Health System also continues to maintain Family Medicine Residency programs in Huntsville and Selma and medical student programs in Huntsville, Montgomery and Tuscaloosa, each with their own faculty and staff.

The Department is home to the Alabama Practice-Based Research Network, the only such network in the state. The APBRN coordinates practice-based research on a local, regional and national scale. UASOM was ranked #10 nationally in primary care in 2011 and the department is proud to be a strong contributor to the primary care mission of the University.

The Alabama Statewide Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Program is home in the DFCM and includes 5 centers representing all 67 counties in Alabama. The AHEC mission is to enhance access to quality health care, particularly primary and preventive care, by improving the supply and distribution of healthcare professionals via strategic partnerships with academic programs, communities, and professional organizations. The Alabama Statewide AHEC continues to link medical students to primary care providers, providing housing stipends, through the MD-MPH program and the Family Medicine Clerkship/Rural Medicine rotations.
Opportunity

The UAB School of Medicine is seeking a visionary and enthusiastic leader who will develop a strong vision for family medicine at UAB to serve as its next chair of the Department of Family and Community Medicine. The chair is responsible for leading the educational, research and clinical missions for the department. The chair reports to the Senior Vice President and Dean of the School of Medicine.

Specific Responsibilities: Chair, Department of Family and Community Medicine

- Lead the strategic planning, growth and development of the Department
- Oversee the department faculty and ensure high levels of interactive clinical service, teaching and research missions
- Develop and manage the budget for the department, ensuring that resources are allocated in a way that achieves goals
- Expand the current size of the department to support efficiency and care for UAB and Birmingham communities, and support the Birmingham-area family medicine residency
- Oversee recruitment, management, professional development and retention of faculty and staff. Establish an environment of mentoring and support
- Support the UAB Strategic Plan with direct roles in the 4 Pillars of strategic importance with special focus on population health, community engagement and workforce development for Alabama
- Oversee the development of a new UAB Family Medicine Residency Program in the Birmingham metropolitan area
- Serve as ambassador for family medicine and raise its profile within UAB, Birmingham and Alabama. Function as the central UAB academic leader and champion for family medicine across all UAB campuses and affiliated family medicine residencies. The department through the chair should support, encourage and lead family medicine faculty development and scholarly activity at Birmingham and affiliated sites.
- Collaborate with current UAB faculty in other departments in research and scholarship most relevant to primary care, such as the Division of General Internal Medicine, the Division of General Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, and the Division of Geriatrics. Seek collaborative relationships with biostatistics and epidemiology.
- Build a strong network of community alliances and support and draw upon this network to shape the future of the department

Qualifications:

- M.D. or D.O. degree
- Progressive administrative and operational experience, preferably in an academic medical center setting in positions such as residency program director, division chief or vice chair
- Ability to articulate a clear vision for guiding and preparing the department for the coming changes to value based care and current trends in the field of family medicine
- Track record in scholarly achievement and prior success in obtaining extramural funding
- Understanding of and enthusiasm for the tripartite mission of the UAB School of Medicine, along with knowledge of the culture of academic medical institutions in general
- Understanding of the value of medical education and of the recent and emerging trends
• Strong ability to collaborate on topics such as population health and health outcomes which span the entire clinical enterprise
• Builder of programs. Proven experience in providing strong leadership, oversight, and strategic direction
• Demonstrated ability to recruit and retain a diverse faculty at all levels
• A foundation in financial management with the ability to make sound judgments in a resource-constrained environment; ability to develop and implement the budget effectively, aligning resources with strategic priorities

Personal Qualities and Competencies:

• Commitment to and champion for family medicine as a discipline within academic medicine and for family medicine across the state of Alabama
• Optimism and a high energy level
• A style that fosters and supports change and innovation, with an ability to delegate yet maintain overall control
• A penchant for diplomacy and the capacity for inclusive leadership; a real appreciation for consultation and collaboration, and the patience to build consensus
• Ability to build productive relationships with a wide variety of stakeholders
• Sensitivity to the culture, needs, and aspirations of the community
• Commitment to community service and serving the diverse healthcare needs of the city, state and region

Nomination/Application Procedures

Confidential review of applications, nominations and expressions of interest will begin immediately, and will continue until an appointment is made. To be ensured full consideration, please email a curriculum vitae and a bullet point summary of the leadership roles you have held, the scope of your responsibilities, and your major accomplishments, to:

Philip Jaeger
Isaacson Miller Search
pjaeger@imsearch.com

UAB is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer committed to fostering a diverse, equitable and family-friendly environment in which all faculty and staff can excel and achieve work/life balance irrespective of, race, national origin, age, genetic or family medical history, gender, faith, gender identity and expression as well as sexual orientation. UAB also encourages applications from individuals with disabilities and veterans. A pre-employment background check investigation is performed on candidates selected for employment.

Physicians and other clinical faculty candidates who will be employed by the University of Alabama Health Services Foundation (UAHSF) or other UABMedicine entities, must successfully complete a pre-employment drug and nicotine screen to be hired.
The Community

UAB’s decades long partnership with its community and State has led to the economic, cultural and social renaissance of Birmingham – the State’s largest metro area with a population of just over 1 million – as the city has grown from a primarily steel-based economy to a thriving nexus of R&D, medicine, banking and other services industries. Since 1911, Children’s of Alabama has provided specialized medical care for ill and injured children. Ranked among the best pediatric medical centers in the nation by US News & World Report, Children’s provided care for youngsters from every county in Alabama, 41 other states and eight foreign countries last year. With more than 2 million square feet, it is the third largest pediatric medical facility in the U.S. Children’s of Alabama is the only medical center in Alabama dedicated solely to the care and treatment of children. It is a private, not-for-profit medical center that serves as the primary site of the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) pediatric medicine, surgery, psychiatry, research and residency programs.

The area is also steeped in the arts and culture. The Birmingham Museum of Art is the largest art museum in the southeast. In addition, Birmingham is home to the state’s major ballet, opera, and symphony orchestra companies including the Alabama Ballet, Alabama Symphony Orchestra, Birmingham Ballet, Birmingham Concert Chorale, and Opera Birmingham.

UAB’s Alys Stephens Center serves as Birmingham’s home for the performing arts and an anchor of the burgeoning Cultural Arts District – hosting performances by the Alabama Symphony Orchestra as well as diverse, top-billed acts from Itzhak Perlman to Smokey Robinson to Kristen Chenowith. The metro area’s vibrancy and diversity continues garnering national attention and has been hailed as a top travel destination by Zagat, National Geographic Traveler, The L.A. Times, NBC’s Today Show, and Forbes.

The Birmingham area is also home to some of the country’s best high schools. The Jefferson County International Baccalaureate School in Irondale was ranked first in Alabama and 8th in the U.S. in the 2016 Washington Post study of America’s Most Challenging High Schools. The school remains among the nation’s top five high schools. Local schools that have been rated among America’s best in various publications include Mountain Brook High School, Homewood High School, Vestavia Hills High School, and the Alabama School of Fine Arts. The metro area is also home to three highly regarded preparatory schools: Saint Rose Academy, The Altamont School, and Indian Springs School.
With endless river ways, 22 million acres of lush forests and diverse vistas that range from Gulf Coast beaches to Appalachian cliffs, Alabama is a paradise for those who love the great outdoors. Recreational opportunities abound and the scenery is exquisite.

From the majestic mountains of North Alabama to the sugar-white sands of the Gulf Coast beaches, outdoor lovers will find Alabama a great place. In fact, Birmingham has more green space per capita than any city in the country.

Outdoor entertainment is one of the main attractions to Birmingham. The addition of Birmingham’s Railroad Park and the new Rotary Trail give the city more green space per capita than any other city in the country, so outdoor recreation is easily accessible.

Championship golf, hiking and mountain biking are virtually year-round sports, along with fishing in what is known as the “Bass Capital of the World”. Alabama’s location at the southern end of the Appalachian mountain chain provides the unique opportunity to hike in some of the most diverse and beautiful woodlands in the nation.

Whether you want peaceful seclusion, an adrenaline rush or bustling night life, you will find it on Alabama’s Gulf Coast. For years, Gulf Shores and Orange Beach remained a hidden vacation treasure, but more and more families are discovering the 32 miles of soft sand and clear waters that lace the edges of Alabama’s southern border to the Gulf of Mexico.

www.informationbirmingham.com
www.birminghamal.org
www.10best.com/destinations/alabama/birmingham/neighborhoods