UAB Parents’ Association
73 Family Members Strong and Growing

I am pleased to announce that we have 73 families in our inaugural year of the Parents’ Association. We are excited that you have joined this group as your involvement is so important to your student’s academic success.

Our first newsletter, the Dragon’s Den, is here! Can you believe it is already October? The newsletter will be produced twice a year (fall and spring) to keep you abreast of events and news on campus.

I welcome your comments on what you would like to read in upcoming newsletters. We want this to be as informative as possible.

Regina C. Willis
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First Parent Association Event
Football Tailgate!

Recently, we hosted our first annual parents’ tailgate event in conjunction with the UAB/Pittsburgh football game on September 14th. The event was a huge success with more than 65 parents & friends in attendance.

UAB deans from each academic school mixed and mingled with UAB parents and friends. It was a great opportunity for parents to meet one on one with UAB deans in an informal setting.

The tailgate event concluded with the UAB Marching Band and Cheerleaders performing before a huge crowd of fans prior to the game.

We have had nothing but positive feedback from those who attended. Sorry we could not guarantee a win, (UAB lost 26-20.) Thanks to all who attended!

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Upcoming Parents’ Association Events
January/February UAB Home Basketball game and dinner, date TBA
April 12 “Parents’ Springfest”
More details to follow
Meet our New President
Dr. Carol Garrison

Carol Garrison, Ph.D., has been elected president of The University of Alabama at Birmingham. She is an alumna and former faculty member. She began her presidency on September 9th.

The University of Alabama System Board of Trustees voted unanimously to name Garrison UAB’s sixth president.

“Dr. Garrison is, by every measure, a perfect fit for UAB,” said trustee John Russell Thomas, who chaired the search committee. “She is an innovator, a collaborator, and a visionary administrator.”

In nominating Garrison for the position, Chancellor Portera cited highlights of her background that bear an “uncanny” similarity to the goals and mission of UAB.

UAB Enrollment Hits a New High

Total fall 2002 enrollment at the University of Alabama at Birmingham increased by 6 percent over the previous year, from 14,695 to 15,579. Undergraduate enrollment rose 5.5 percent, from 9,954 to 10,501; graduate enrollment rose 8.76 percent for the same period, from 3,766 to 4,096.

Freshman enrollment saw a 13.1 percent increase over last year with 1,471 students in the 2002 entering class. The average age of incoming freshman is 18.8 years, continuing a trend at UAB toward more traditional-aged students.

Did you know?.....

- 1,471 is the total freshmen enrolled this fall which is a 13% increase from last year
- 21.93 is the average ACT score AND 3.11 is the average high school grade point average of the Fall 2002 incoming freshmen class

Leadership

Each year opportunities are presented to students to get involved with the university and community. These programs provide great opportunities to acquire skills in teamwork, leadership, public speaking and interaction with the community. Encourage your student to get involved with one or more of the following programs:

Orientation Leaders

UAB Orientation Leaders assist in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of New Student Orientation. Orientation Leaders play a vital role in helping new students make a smooth transition to their new learning environment. This knowledgeable and spirited group of students is dedicated to helping each student find his/her place in UAB’s inclusive community.

To become a UAB Orientation Leader, students must:
- have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher
- have attended UAB for at least one semester
- attend a mandatory interest session
- complete an application with two letters of recommendation
- be currently enrolled at UAB
- interview with members of the New Student Orientation staff
- attend two-hour meetings every Friday starting in February

Applications for the 2003 Orientation Leaders will be available in HUC 531 starting mid-October with an application deadline of January 10, 2003. Applications can also be obtained online at our web site students.uab.edu.

This program offers a $600 stipend for the summer semester. If there are any questions regarding the Orientation Leader Program, please feel free to contact Stacy Patel at (205) 975-7999.

Ambassadors

The Ambassadors serve as the hosts and hostesses at officially recognized activities of UAB.
Opportunities for Your Students

Twenty students are selected each year to serve as Ambassadors. Membership is open to all students of UAB (graduate or undergraduate) who have been full-time students for at least two semesters immediately prior to selection.

Applicants must possess an overall grade-point average of 2.5 and should be able to begin training for their duties upon selection. Applications will be available in the Office of Student Leadership (HUC 440) in November.

For the summer semester, a stipend of $400 is given, and for the fall and spring semesters a stipend of $600 is given (each semester). If there are any questions regarding the Ambassador Program, please feel free to contact Andrea Miller Pound at (205) 934-8020.

TrailBlazers

TrailBlazers is a select group of students dedicated to aiding the enrollment process at UAB through participation in university tours, open houses, and college day programs. The organization is comprised of energetic, outgoing and responsible students with the desire to represent and promote UAB.

TrailBlazers provide an opportunity for students with a common interest in meeting and assisting UAB’s prospective students, and building leadership and organizational skills. Trailblazers attend mandatory training sessions, a leadership retreat, monthly meetings, and monthly dinner socials. Students commit three semesters to the TrailBlazer program and are offered attractive stipends at the conclusion of each semester.

To become a UAB TrailBlazer, students must:
- display an enthusiastic commitment to UAB
- have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher
- have attended UAB for at least one semester
- attend a mandatory interest session
- complete an application with two letters of recommendation
- interview with members of the Undergraduate Admissions Staff

Applications for the 2003-2004 school year will be available on January 7, 2003, with a due date of January 28, 2003. For the summer semester a stipend of $400 is given, and for the fall and spring semesters a stipend of $500 is given (each semester). If there are any questions regarding the TrailBlazer program, please feel free to contact Jennifer Laughlin at (205) 975-7518.

LeaderShape

LeaderShape is an interactive, energizing, and unique leadership experience targeting college students that no other program can match. Students spend six days focusing on these themes: “Building Community”, “The Value of One, The Power of All”, “Challenging What Is, Looking To What Could Be”, “Bringing Vision To Reality”, “Living and Leading With Integrity”, and “Staying in Action”. Students who participate in LeaderShape form the executive committee of the Leadership and Service Council, which organizes events such as Into the Streets, the Winter Leadership Retreat, the Emerging Leaders Program, and many others.

On June 2-7, 2003, LeaderShape will be held at the new retreat center at Camp Sumatanga in Gallant, Alabama.

Applications will be available in HUC 440 starting February 10, 2003, and are due March 17, 2003. If there are any questions regarding the LeaderShape Program, please feel free to contact David Precise at (205)934-8020.
Dr. Eli Capilouto Appointed Interim Provost

Eli Capilouto, former dean of UAB’s School of Public Health, has been named interim provost effective October 1. “Dr. Capilouto has all the qualities we sought in this important position,” President Garrison said. “He is highly regarded on campus as a visionary leader who exercises good judgment, fairness and consensus-building to move organizations forward. His understanding of UAB is both broad and deep. He’s a great addition to the team, and he will do a superb job.”

“I’ve been at UAB my entire professional career and it is an honor to be able to return service to this university which means so much to me,” Dr. Capilouto said. “I look forward to working with Carol Garrison, our deans and faculty, so that together we can keep UAB on an upward course.”

Dr. Capilouto has had a long association with UAB, where he earned graduate degrees in dentistry and public health. He received a doctorate in health policy and management from Harvard, where he received a Robert Wood Johnson Dental Scholars Award, a National Center for Health Services Research Fellowship, and the Charles Wilinsky Award for academic achievement.

John Walsh Speaks at UAB October 26, 2002

The UAB Lecture Series presents “America’s Most Wanted” host John Walsh and his lecture, “A Passion for Justice: An Evening with John Walsh,” at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, October 26, at UAB’s Bartow Arena, 617 13th Avenue South. The lecture is free and open to the public. For information call (205) 934-8225.


Important Dates to Remember

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<td>Classes Begin</td>
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<td>Assigned Time Registration</td>
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<td>Open Registration</td>
<td>Last Day to Drop w/o Paying Tuition &amp; Fees</td>
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<td>Thanksgiving Holidays</td>
<td>Last Day to Add a Class</td>
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<td>Classes End</td>
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<td>Final Exams</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Holiday</td>
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<td>Commencement Ceremony</td>
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<td>Grades Available on ACCESS</td>
<td>Last Day to Withdraw with a “W”</td>
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