

# FOCUS

## **Vollmer Transforms ABAC Campus in Three Years**

ABAC President Mike Vollmer was the guest of honor at a surprise party Thursday afternoon in the Donaldson Dining Hall to celebrate the accomplishments of his presidency during the last three years.

The Pennsylvania native took over as the college's chief executive on July 1, 2001. Since then, he has been involved in a whirlwind of activity including opening the \$1 million Red Hill Athletic Center, cracking the concrete on the \$1.5 million Pedestrian Mall, using a bulldozer to push over a tree to open the construction on the \$32 million ABAC Place apartments, opening the \$7.1 million Ag Sciences Building, securing funding for the \$6.2 million Health Sciences Building, and getting ABAC placed on the list for the \$10 million renovation of Tift, Herring, and Lewis halls.

Vollmer was presented with a High Five Award from the faculty and staff and an oversized \$100 bill with his face in the center section. The dining hall sound system pumped out "Hail to the Chief" as Vollmer entered the building.

Other accomplishments of the Vollmer era include the donation of a \$1 million golf course to the college, the gaining of a \$500,000 Goizueta Foundation grant, the securing of \$200,000 from the Board of Regents to initiate a new campus master plan, the \$1.2 million renovation of Howard Auditorium, the renovation of the Chapel, the gift of a Steinway Piano from the Staffords, the introduction of the one-stop shop for Enrollment Services in the Student Center, the use of PDA's on campus, the upcoming new phone system, and two campus electronic signs.

Vollmer serves as chair of the Tifton/Tift County Chamber of Commerce



*Emory Johnson, Bertha Daniel, and Fran Kinchen present President Vollmer a special High Five Award at Vollmer's anniversary celebration.*

and has recently been elected to serve on the Georgia Humanities Council. He was appointed to serve on the Governor's HOPE Scholarship Task Force and hosted the Board of Regents on the ABAC campus for the first time in 20 years.

During his tenure, Vollmer has also seen the college achieve its highest enrollment ever and set the stage for new campus signage which will be in place by Aug. 1. Most remarkably of all, the college enjoyed this unprecedented growth at a time when ABAC's state budget has been slashed by millions of dollars. Year Three is about over. What will Year Four in the Vollmer Era bring?

### **Grand Opening in Sylvester**



ABAC will officially open its new classroom in Sylvester on July 20 at 4 p.m. The classroom will be located in the Governmental Building on Highway 82. Everyone is invited to the ribbon cut.



### **Holiday July 5**

The college will be officially closed for the Independence Day holiday on July 5. All offices will reopen at 8 a.m. on July 6.

## Promotions for ABAC Faculty Approved by University System

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia recently approved the promotions of six faculty members at Abraham Baldwin effective Aug. 1, 2004.

Katrina McCrae and Jewrell Rivers were promoted to the rank of assistant professor from instructor. Lorie Felton, Dr. Joseph Njoroge and Susan Wilson was promoted to the rank of associate professor from assistant professor. Dr. Kay Weeks was promoted to the rank of professor from associate professor.

McCrae, who has been a faculty member at ABAC since 1999, teaches in the Division of Science and Mathematics. She received a B.S. degree in Biology from Brewton-Parker College and an M.S. in Biology from Georgia Southern University.

Rivers, who began teaching in the Division of Social Science in 2001, earned his B.S. in Psychology and his M.S. in Sociology from Valdosta State

University.

Felton, who has been a faculty member at ABAC since 1993, teaches in the Division of Agriculture and Forest Resources. She holds a B.S. degree in Ornamental Horticulture and her M.S. in Horticulture from Auburn University.

Njoroge received his B.A. in Political Science and Economics from the University of Tennessee, an M.A. in Political Science from Eastern Kentucky and a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Tennessee. Njoroge has taught at ABAC since 2000.

Wilson has taught in the Division of Social Science since 2000. She received her B.S. in Vocational Home Economics and her M.S. in Textiles and Clothing from Colorado State University and her Ed.S. in Education Administration and Supervision from Valdosta State University.

Weeks, who has been an ABAC faculty member since 1979, teaches in the

Division of Humanities. She earned her B.A. degree in Theater from Doane College and her M.S. in English from Valdosta State University. In 2002, she received her Ph. D. in English from the University of Georgia.



**McCrae**

**Rivers**

**Felton**



**Njoroge**

**Wilson**

**Weeks**

## Six ABAC Faculty Members Receive Tenure Status from USG



**Arnold**

**Cash**

**Elad**



**Fitzgerald**

**Golden**

**Senapati**

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia recently approved the tenure of six faculty members at Abraham Baldwin effective Aug. 1, 2004. Those receiving tenure are **Rebecca Arnold, Eric Cash, Dr. Renata Elad, Anthony Fitzgerald, Wanda Golden and Dr. Sukanya (Su) Senapati.**

**Arnold**, assistant professor of Nursing, has been a faculty member at ABAC since 1994. She received her M.S.N. and B.S.N. degrees in Nursing from Valdosta State University.

**Cash**, assistant professor of English/Journalism, has been an ABAC faculty member since 1999. He earned his Ed.S in Math Education from Geor-

gia State University and his B.S. in Mathematics from Emory University.

**Elad**, assistant professor of Ag Economics, began teaching in ABAC's Division of Agriculture and Forest Resources in 1999. She earned her Ph.D. and M.S. degree in AG Economics from the University of Georgia and her B.S. in Agronomy from the University of Jos, Nigeria.

**Fitzgerald** joined the ABAC faculty in 1999. He holds two Masters' degrees, one in public administration from Jacksonville State University and another in criminal justice from Valdosta State University. He also received a B.S. degree in psychology and an A.S. in Law Enforcement from the University of New York. He is currently working on his Doctorate in Education.

**Golden** has been a member of the ABAC faculty since 1999. She is assistant professor and Division Chair of Nursing. She received her MSN in Nursing-Adult Health/Education and her BSN IN Nursing from Valdosta State University. She received her A.D. in Nursing from ABAC.

**Senapati**, assistant professor of English, has taught in ABAC's Division of Humanities since 1999. She holds a Ph.D. IN English from the University of South Florida; a M.A. in English from the University of West Florida; and a

M.A. in English/American Literature and a B.A. in English/History from Utah State University.

Tenure may be granted to a faculty member who has served at least five years as an assistant professor and has shown the potential for making significant contributions to the college and in the professor's field. Tenure also recognizes the professor as a permanent member of the college faculty.

## OITS Catches Lots of Viruses

Dr. Chrystle Ross reports that when the OITS staff instituted the new MailScanner, viruses started being caught left and right at the server level. She said from April 14-30, a total of 4,999 messages contained one or more viruses.

From May 1-31, a total of 6,558 messages contained one or more viruses. Those viruses were caught and disposed of.

Who ya' gonna' call? Great job!



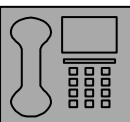


## From ABAC to Atlanta

Through the technology of Georgia Statewide Academic Medical System (GSAMS), the Georgia Supreme Court heard a case live on television from Bowen 103 at ABAC last week. Dr. Amy Willis coordinated the setup. Attorneys Betty Walker Lanier (above) and Rob Wilmont represented their clients before the court. Willis said the Georgia Supreme Court is scheduled to hear another case on July 13. The court used a similar setup to hear a case last summer.

## Palmer Resigns Admissions Post

Angie Palmer has resigned her position as Director of Admissions at ABAC, effective July 9. She is returning to her former position as Chief Operating Officer of Health Systems Management in Tifton. Palmer joined the ABAC staff in 1998 as a program coordinator in the Public Service & Business Outreach Center. She became Evening & Off Campus Programs Director in 2000, and Admissions Director in 2002. We wish her well in her return to the corporate world.



## Training Almost Completed

Cindy Jones said the training for the new phone system is almost complete. No sessions will be held this week, but a tentative session is set for next week. Implementation of the system is still on hold because of ongoing dialogue between the University System and BellSouth.

## Staff Forum to Meet

The Staff Forum will meet on June 30 at 3 p.m. in Section A of the Cordell Conference Room. Refreshments will be served following the meeting.

## Murphy to Retire

Jennifer Murphy, Records Coordinator II in the Office of Enrollment Services, has announced that she will retire from her position on June 30. She joined the ABAC staff on July 1, 1977 and has worked in several locations on campus including Procurement and the Registrar's Office. Best wishes for a long and happy retirement.



## Dining Hall Hours

The Donaldson Dining Hall serving hours for the next two weeks are as follows:

### June 21-25

#### Monday-Thursday

Breakfast 7-8:30 a.m.  
Lunch 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Dinner 4:30-6 p.m.

#### Friday

Breakfast 7 a.m.-8:30 a.m.  
Lunch 11:30 a.m.- 1p.m.

### June 28-July 2

#### Monday-Friday

Breakfast 7-8:30 a.m.  
Lunch 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Dinner 4:30-6 p.m.

## Catalog on Web

The 2004-2006 ABAC Catalog is now available on the web. From [www.abac.edu](http://www.abac.edu), go to College Catalogs. The printed catalogs are not on campus yet, but should arrive soon.

## Master Planners Here for Tuesday Meeting

Representatives of Sasaki Associates, Inc., from Watertown, Mass., will be on campus Tuesday and Wednesday to begin initial steps toward a new master plan for the campus. They will headquarter in the new classroom in Town Hall. Please assist them in whatever way you can. If you have questions about the visit, contact Michael Chason, who is coordinating the ABAC end of the master plan.

## Willis, Barton High Five Winners



Joyce Willis was the winner of the ABAC High Five Award for the week ending June 11. and Michelle Barton was the High Five winner for the week ending June 18. Both are Admissions Specialists in Enrollment and Student Services. They were nominated along with seven others in that office for all their hard work in carrying out the "One-Stop."

A comment from their nomination form: "They have all worked hard and done an excellent job with the 'one stop' philosophy, which is very beneficial to all of our students. During the week of June 1-4, these ladies put in many long, hard hours for Evening, Moultrie, and Day Summer Orientation/Registration, and an Early Bird Orientation/Registration for fall."

Willis and Barton will each receive a certificate of appreciation and a t-shirt from the ABAC Bookstore. Their names will also go into the monthly drawing of the four weekly winners. The monthly winner will receive a gift certificate for \$50, which can be used at a number of local merchants.

Submit your nominations for faculty and staff members who have gone above and beyond the call of duty for this week's High Five winner. Nomination forms are available on the Human Resources page of the ABAC website.

## All Types of Financial Aid Available for Fall

Financial aid in all shapes and sizes is still available for students who have yet to apply for the fall semester at ABAC.



Jenelle Handcox, Director of Financial Aid, said, "Anything that students are eligible for is currently still available for fall." Among those awards still available are the Pell Grant, HOPE Scholarship and various loans.

Handcox said, "There is one big change in regard to financial aid this year. In the past, meal plans were part of the financial aid package, but with the opening of ABAC Place apartments, students are no longer required to have a meal plan. Therefore, financial aid is not requiring students to choose a meal plan as part of their application process."

Students interested in financial aid can go about filling out the application in two ways. First, students can come into the office of Financial Aid and pick up an application or they can go onto

ABAC's website and fill one out via the Internet.

The processing of financial aid requests varies depending on the method by which a student applies. Students who apply via the Internet generally know in two weeks, while those who use the paper application take about four weeks. There is another two weeks involved for applications to be processed in the financial aid office.

"We are still processing applications for fall on a day-to-day basis," said Handcox. She said approximately 70 percent of ABAC students receive some type of financial aid, which includes grants, loans, scholarships, work-study, and more.

For more information on applying for financial aid for fall semester 2004, visit the office of Financial Aid located on the second floor of the J. Lamar Branch Student Center, call the office at (229) 386-3235, or visit the website at [www.abac.edu](http://www.abac.edu).

## Fall Freshman Orientation Set For Thursday

Orientation for new freshmen students at Abraham Baldwin will be held Thursday beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the J. Lamar Branch Student Center.

There is an orientation fee of \$35, and pre-registration is encouraged.

"Pre-registration is a plus," said Dr. Maggie Martin, Director of Student Development. Those who have paid registration fees report at 9:30 a.m.

There will be planned activities for students to get acquainted with future classmates during orientation, as well as a time for parents to get all their questions answered. "Parents can meet with the administrators while students can meet with their advisor and see what each major entails.

It's a great question and answer time for parents," said Martin.

There will also be orientation leaders available to assist students. Martin said, "Each student leader participating in orientation is a part of one club or another. A wide range of student leaders will be represented so if students have any questions, they can get a club member's viewpoint."

For this orientation session, ABAC is expecting to host 200-300 students and 150-200 parents.

"This orientation is the best one to attend because students have a better chance at getting the classes they need due to the wide selection available," said Martin.

Two more freshmen orientation sessions are scheduled prior to the beginning of the fall term on Aug. 23. The next session is on July 22, and the final session is on Aug. 19. All first-time entering freshmen must attend one of the orientation sessions.

Students who need assistance paying for their college education can still apply for financial aid, but they must be prepared to pay initially and be reimbursed for the aid that they qualify for at a later date. Fee payment deadline for fall semester is Aug. 11. For additional information, contact the Financial Aid Office at (229) 386-3235.

For additional information about the fall semester or to request an application, contact Enrollment Services at (229) 386-3230, or visit the ABAC web site at [www.abac.edu](http://www.abac.edu).



## ABAC Golf Course Ready for the Summer

The Forest Lakes Golf Club, owned by the ABAC Foundation and operated by ABAC, is ready for the summer season. The nine-hole course is open from 8 a.m.-7:30 p.m. seven days a week.

Danny Cravey, manager and superintendent of the club, said, "The course is in good shape. There are a bunch of improvements being done on the course. We are putting down cart paths, as well as laying sod and installing drainage."

The Monday through Friday fee for the general public is nine holes for \$12 and 18 holes for \$18. ABAC students, faculty, staff, administrators and senior citizens over 60 can play nine holes for \$10 and 18 holes for \$15.

The weekend fee for the general public is \$14 for nine holes and \$20 for 18 holes. ABAC students, faculty, staff, administrators and senior citizens over 60 can play nine holes for \$12 and 18 holes for \$17 on weekends. The rental fee for a set of clubs is \$5. The par 72 course plays 6,500 yards over 18 holes.

The course, valued at \$1 million, was donated to the ABAC Foundation in January, 2002 by the Tifton ophthalmologist Larry Moorman and his wife, Debra. Moorman said they decided to donate the golf course to ABAC because it will work well with the college's golf club and turf programs.

## ABAC Public Relations

ABAC 30, 2802 Moore Highway  
Tifton, GA 31793-2601  
(229) 386-3264

### Notes of Thanks

We would like to thank the ABAC Family for all the cards, calls, and prayers during the loss of my mother. Times like these prove the people of ABAC are truly special.

Howard & Debra McCrary

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The last administration of the National SAT for the 2003-04 year was given on June 5 to 168 students from over 22 different school districts. Thanks to the following who helped make the administration a success: Bernice Hughes, Margie Senkbeil, Debbie Riner, Rita Wade, Annie Sims, Reginald Hardeman, Jenelle Handcox, Arlene Bailey, Ellen Resta, Sherin Nixon, Jack Larry, Ken Giager, Bernice Corbin, Anita Williams, and Ray Saxon,

Dr. Maggie Martin

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The last administration of the National ACT was June 12. A total of 32 students took the test from over 16 different school districts, including one from Florida. Thanks to Arlene Bailey, Margie Senkbeil, Bernice Corbin, and Public Safety for helping to make the administration a success.

Dr. Maggie Martin

### Celebrating Birthdays



#### June

- 21 Tom Call
- 21 Charles Harvey
- 22 John McFarland
- 23 Janet Weaver
- 23 Ja'Nay Windmoller
- 24 Jerry Edwards
- 25 Lee Taylor
- 26 Sandra Giles
- 27 Ramonda Holton
- 28 Michele Farrar
- 29 Renata Elad

#### July

- 4 George Farmer
- 4 Eugene Slack
- 5 Wendy Harrison

### Next FOCUS July 5

The next edition of this prized publication will appear on your email on the morning of July 5. Info for this edition should be sent to Pam Leonard at [pleonard@abac.edu](mailto:pleonard@abac.edu) by noon on July 1.

### Positions Open

#### Albany State:

- Dean, College of Education (deadline 8/15)
- Asst/Assoc Professor of Art
- Asst/Assoc Professor of Music Ed
- Asst/Assoc Professor of Biology
- Asst/Assoc Professor of Physics (deadline 7/2)
- Director of Student Life (deadline 7/12)

#### Albany Technical

##### (Dougherty Campus):

- General Education Instructor
- Admissions Director
- Recruiter/Admissions Counselor
- Fatherhood Program Coordinator

#### Darton:

- Director of Admissions  
Salary \$45,000-65,000

#### Valdosta State:

- Director of Human Resources

#### North Virginia Community College:

- Provost, Woodbridge Campus (deadline 7/16)

Contact Human Resources for details.

### Care & Concern

Mike Curry is recuperating after undergoing surgery to correct a problem with his neck. Herb Hendrix's wife, Karen, is also recuperating after having heart surgery last week. Please keep both these members of the ABAC Family in your thoughts and prayers.

### ABAC Family

**Dr. Maggie Martin** provided a special arranged administration of the National ACT on June 13 to one person.

**Troy Spicer** co-authored a chapter, "Nursing Perspectives in the Care of Persons with HIV Infection," in the textbook titled *AIDS and other Manifestations of HIV Infection*. Working with Spicer were Richard Sowell, Dean of the College of Health and Human Services at Kennesaw State University, and Arlene Lowenstein, Professor in the Graduate Nursing Program at Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions. They believe the chapter is unique in that a widely read and well respected medical textbook intended for a physician audience devotes a full chapter to discuss the discipline of nursing.

### Orientation T-Shirts on Sale



The 2003-04 New Student Orientation T-shirts are on sale at a cost of \$3 each. The shirts are 100 percent cotton and are available in sizes XL, XXL, and XXXL at the Student Development Center.

### Flags Stay at Half Mast



Governor Sonny Perdue has issued an executive order that the flags at state facilities should remain at half mast through July 4 in memory of former President Ronald Reagan.

### Calendar of Events

#### Monday, June 21

Today-Natural Resources Conservation Workshop

#### Tuesday, June 22

Today-Natural Resources Conservation Workshop

9 a.m.-Institutional SAT

7 p.m.-Gideons Dinner (Magnolia Room)

#### Wednesday, June 23

Today-Natural Resources Conservation Workshop

11:30 a.m.-Faculty/Staff Luncheon (Magnolia Room)

#### Thursday, June 24

Today-Fall Orientation

Today-Natural Resources Conservation Workshop

#### Friday, June 25

Today-Natural Resources Conservation Workshop

#### Saturday, June 26

6 p.m.-Weeks Party (Pool)

7 p.m.-Cummings/McRae Wedding Reception (Dining Hall)

#### Sunday, June 27

12:30 p.m.-Richardson Class Lunch (Magnolia Room)

#### Wednesday, June 30

Today-Midterm deadline for withdrawal without penalty

11:30 a.m.-Faculty/Staff Luncheon (Magnolia Room)

3 p.m.-Staff Forum (Cordell Conf. Room A)

#### Thursday, July 1

7 p.m.-Weldon/Soto Wedding Rehearsal (Chapel)

#### Friday, July 2

6 p.m.-Weldon/Soto Wedding (Chapel)

#### Sunday, July 4

Noon-Raley Class Lunch (Magnolia Rm)

#### Monday, July 5

Today-Campus Holiday

8 a.m.-Ga. Chiefs Assoc. Class (Student Courtroom)