



FOCUS

Morgan Wins Donaldson Award at Spring Graduation

Andrew G. Morgan, an agriculture education major from Daisy, received the highest honor presented to a graduating student from Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College at the spring graduation ceremony. On behalf of the ABAC Alumni Association, ABAC Interim President Tom Call presented Morgan with the George P. Donaldson Award for outstanding scholarship and leadership.

Donaldson served as president of ABAC from 1947 - 61. Morgan's award included a plaque and a check for \$500 from the ABAC Ag Alumni Council. The award is based on a combination of academics and extra-curricular activities.

While at ABAC, Morgan was a member of several organizations, including



Interim President Tom Call congratulates Donaldson Award winner Andrew Morgan after the recent spring graduation.

the Student Government Association, Campus Activity Board, and the Student Judiciary, where he served as chief justice. He was involved in skeet

shoots and tractor pulls, assisted in fund raisers for the ABAC Fillies basketball team, built and maintained a water garden on the campus, and helped in the Ms. ABAC pageant.

Morgan was a member of the FFA, the Georgia Association of Educators, AET, Forestry/Wildlife, the College Democrats, and the student cheering section known as the Rowdies. Morgan maintained a 3.46 grade point average on a 4.0 scale and plans to transfer to the University of Georgia. He hopes to teach vocational agriculture near his hometown. He is the son of Larry and Wanda Morgan.

A total of 163 students participated in the ceremony, which featured a speech by one of the graduates, Kaedy Cawthon, an early childhood education major from Jackson.



Temptations Dazzle Dollars Patrons

The Temptations performed before a sold out audience at ABAC's Donaldson Dining Hall Friday at the annual Dollars for ABAC Scholars Benefit Banquet and Show. The high energy show had some members of the audience dancing in the aisles as the Motown legends sang all their classic hits.



The Original Temp

Otis Williams, the only original member of The Temptations still with the group, signs autographs and gets hugs as he exits the stage at Friday's Dollars for ABAC Scholars. Williams has been a member of The Temptations for 44 years.



Memorial Day Service May 30

The annual ABAC Memorial Day Service to honor those who have paved the way for freedom for the United States of America will be held around the flag pole in front of Tift Hall on May 30 at 8:30 a.m. All faculty, staff, administrators, and students are invited to attend the brief ceremony.

ABAC to Host FSU Grad Students Tuesday

Florida State University graduate students will be on the campus of ABAC on Tuesday as part of the FSU Higher Education Administration program. This practicum is for students who are studying in the Student Affairs area and are midway through the master's degree program. The FSU students will also tour Mercer University, Wesleyan College, and Fort Valley State University.



Women's Tennis Ties for 10th in Nation

The Golden Fillies' tennis team of Coach Alton Hudgins tied for 10th place in the recent national tournament in Tucson, Ariz. Florencia Torrez advanced to the national semifinals at number one singles. The Fillies had earlier won the Georgia State Championship. Hudgins was named Coach of the Year, and Torres was named Most Valuable Player of the tournament. Congratulations to the Fillies on a fine year.



Flowers at the Front Door

Sodexo employees are keeping the front entrance to the campus full of color as we head into the hot months of summer. The area around the new directional signs and the campus sign has been quite attractive over the past few weeks.

ABAC Summer Term Kicks Off on June 6

Registration and orientation for summer term at Abraham Baldwin will be held June 2 beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the J. Lamar Branch Student Center. There is an orientation fee of \$35 for firsttime students, and pre-registration is encouraged. Those who have already paid the orientation fee can report at 9:30 a.m.

Registration for other new and returning students will take place on June 3 beginning at 9 a.m. Summer term classes begin June 6 and end July 25.

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. For additional information, contact the Financial Aid Office at (229) 391-4910.

Fee payment deadline for students who have already pre-registered for summer term is May 27. If payment is not made by this time, students will lose their classes and have to register again.

For additional information about the summer term or to request an application, contact Enrollment Services at (229) 391- 5001, or visit the ABAC web site at www.abac.edu.

No SAT Required for ABAC Admission This Fall

Beginning with the fall term of 2005, students will no longer have to submit SAT or ACT test scores when applying for admission to any two-year public college in Georgia. This applies to all high school graduates who have been out of high school for five years or less. Those graduates out of high school for more than five years were already exempt from SAT or ACT testing.

This pilot program, developed by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, is geared to expand admission in these colleges and give everyone a chance at higher education.

Beth Saxon, ABAC Director of Admissions and Registrar said, "Students who previously wanted to attend ABAC, but did not have SAT or ACT scores, can now do so."

With the elimination of the SAT and ACT requirements, the pilot program

will require a student to have a high school diploma or GED. Students can apply to ABAC with either a college preparatory or technical high school diploma. At ABAC, they will undergo placement testing.

Students who do have SAT scores and have completed the college preparatory curriculum can exempt placement testing.

Saxon said, "We have already had calls from high school counselors asking for clarification on this change resulting in more students wanting to apply to ABAC."

Students need to be sure that they have completed and sent in an application with the \$20 fee, high school transcript or GED scores, any transcripts from post-secondary schools attended, and a medical form.

The Freshman Index will be eliminated from the admission procedure as

another part of this program. The Freshman Index is a University-System-specific mathematical formula that combines a student's high school grade point average and SAT or ACT scores into a single index for determining eligibility to the 34 colleges and universities in the state.

An internal analysis of student academic performance within the University System of Georgia concluded that a student's grade point average was an accurate predictor of freshman grades in two-year colleges.

Traditional freshmen desiring to attend a four-year institution will still be required to take the SAT or ACT as part of the admissions criteria. The effects of the pilot admissions program will be evaluated in three years.

Saxon said, "My advice to anyone who has graduated high school within the last five years is to apply to ABAC."



Pedestrian Mall Nears Completion

Development Director Melvin Merrill said the Pedestrian Mall project is nearing its conclusion. He said June 1 is the projected date for completion of the new walkway which reaches almost all areas of the campus.

PSBOC Features

Theater Trip June 11

For anyone who loves musical theater, ABAC is offering a trip to see "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" at the Historic Cotton Hall Theater in Colquitt on June 11.

The trip is open to anyone who would like to attend. The cost is \$79 per person, and full payment is due with reservation. Members of the travel group will receive roundtrip transportation, a lunch buffet and a live performance of "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn."

For more information about the trip, contact Vonda Fenn, Program Coordinator of ABAC's Public Service & Business Outreach Center, at 391-5070, or e-mail her at vfenn@abac.edu. Reservations are on a first-come first-serve basis. Space is limited to the first 45 passengers.



Alumni Board Here

The Officers and Board of Directors of the ABAC Alumni Association will be on campus Tuesday for their spring meeting in the Development-Alumni House. If you see these former students on campus, please welcome them back to their alma mater.

PSBOC Offers Music Classes

The Public Service and Business Outreach Center will feature music classes as part of the summer class offerings at ABAC.

The first of these classes is the "Piano Magic Play by Ear Workshop." This class is for anyone who has always wanted to learn to play the piano, but never had the time. Participants will learn about the keyboard, chords, melody, and emotion. Prior experience is not necessary.



This class will be held June 7 from 6 – 9 p.m. in the Yow Forestry Wildlife building, Room 108. There is a fee of \$69 in advance or \$79 at the door.

A "Beginning Guitar Basics for Adults" class will also be part of the music programs offered this summer. This course is designed for those just starting to play guitar. Participants will learn the basic scales and chords in most keys and will work from instructor-generated handouts.

Students should bring an in-tune guitar and a notepad for each session. The class will take place on Mondays, June 6 – 27, from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. in the Yow Forestry Wildlife Building, Room 105. There is a fee of \$49.

Call the PSBOC at 391-5070 to register. Be sure to ask about discounts for ABAC faculty and staff.



For Great Service

ABAC Interim President Tom Call recently presented Javier Gonzalez and Bertha Daniel Service and Appreciation plaques on behalf of the College Assistance Migrant Program at the college. Gonzalez is CAMP/HEP Director, and Daniel is Director of College Services.

Regents Reappoint the Chancellor

Chancellor Thomas Meredith has been reappointed for another one-year term by the Board of Regents.

The Regents have also named Dr. Thomas A. Wilkerson, vice president for academic affairs and professor of speech at Spartanburg (S.C.) Methodist College, as president of Bainbridge College, effective July 1. He has served in his current position since 1997. Prior to assuming that role, he

spent 29 years in the University System of Georgia. His last USG post was as vice president for academic affairs and professor of speech at South Georgia College from 1984 to 1997.

The Regents have also appointed two presidential search committees for Kennesaw State and Gwinnett State. KSU President Betty Siegel retires Jan. 2. Gwinnett State is scheduled to open in 2008.

Georgia Two-Year Colleges Educational Bargain

Even with the upcoming five percent tuition increase the University System of Georgia (USG) will implement this fall, Abraham Baldwin and other two-year colleges in Georgia are ranked as the 41st lowest in tuition costs among two-year colleges within 49 states.

These two-year institutions are ranked annually by the Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board. As far as students are concerned, this is an improvement from the 2001-2002 study where Georgia's two-year college tuition was ranked 35th in the U.S.

Tuition and fees at the USG's two-year institutions are ranked 13th among the 16 Southern Regional Educational Board (SREB) states this year. In the 2001-2002 ranking, two-year institutions in Georgia were ranked ninth in this survey.

The Board of Regents has set this small tuition increase for the upcoming academic year to promote admission access and keep tuition costs affordable. Tuition and fees for a full-time student who is a Georgia resident attending ABAC will be \$1,013 per semester beginning with the fall term.

Beth Saxon, Director of Admissions and Registrar said, "The two-year colleges still have the lowest tuition in the state, making it a bargain to attend ABAC even with the tuition increase. I believe some students will still come to ABAC and other two-year institutions because of the cost."

Students who live in the new ABAC Place apartments this year will pay an extra \$300 per semester which can be used in the dining hall or in the John Hunt Town Center convenience store.

Fall semester classes begin Aug. 22

Staff Development Luncheon a Success

Over 50 ABAC staff members attended a workshop luncheon hosted by the Staff Development Committee on May 13. Lisa Forsee led the presentation which focused on professionalism.

Funding for this event was provided by the committee through the ABAC Foundation. Door prizes were donated by Emory Johnson of the ABAC Bookstore, Lang Printing, Staples, Longhorn's, and the President's Office.

Attendees' evaluations were positive, calling for more opportunities of this kind in the future.

ABAC Public Relations

ABAC 30, 2802 Moore Highway
Tifton, GA 31793-2601
(229) 391-5055

New Website Feature

A Transfer Credit Equivalency Search is now available on both the Admissions and Registrar's web pages of the ABAC website. With just a few clicks, students and advisors can determine if an ABAC equivalent has been determined for a course from another school.



Next FOCUS on June 6

The next issue of the FOCUS will be emailed on June 6. Send information for this edition to pleonard@abac.edu by noon on June 2.

Celebrating Birthdays

May

- 27 Troy Spicer
- 29 Tamara Dennis
- 30 Linda Meyer
- 31 Sarah Clement
- 31 Donnie Thompson

June

- 5 Willis Hyde
- 6 Jenelle Handcox



ABAC Family

Eric Cash and student volunteers from the staff of "The Stallion" hosted an informational seminar and layout and design workshop for the newspaper staff from Turner County High School on May 6. Items addressed included story generation, interviewing, ethics, and hands on tutoring sessions with the Quark Express and PhotoShop design programs.

Dr. Maggie Martin attended the Counseling Directors' Association's Crisis Task Force meeting at Macon State College on May 13. She also administered the Test of Spoken English to eight students on May 14.

Michael Chason was the guest speaker at the annual T.A.L.K. graduation ceremony for the eighth grade leadership program at Eighth Street Middle School and Tiftarea Academy on May 16. He also called the names of all the graduating seniors at Tift County High School during Saturday's ceremony.



Six Flags Discounts Available for ABAC Employees

Tickets for \$15 off any day all season for Six Flags over Georgia are available in the ABAC Human Resources Office. Each is good for six people. The tickets may also be used for \$6 off the admission price for White Water. The offer may not be used with any other discount or on senior citizens or children's tickets. Contact Jane Thompson at 391-4888 or jthompson@abac.edu for more information.

Congratulations!



John and Sarah Settini are the proud parents of a new baby boy born on May 17. Niccolò Burton Settini weighed 8 pounds, 7 ounces. Best wishes to all!

Positions Open

ABAC:

- Coordinator for Residence Life
Salary \$22,000-25,000
(deadline 6/17)
 - Admissions Recruiter & Counselor
Salary \$26,000-27,500 (deadline 6/3)
- Contact Human Resources for details.

Note of Thanks

The new National SAT was administered on May 7 to 120 students from over 20 schools and two states. Thanks to the following who helped make the test a success: Annie Sims, Joyce Willis, Bernice Hughes, Phyllis Kester, Rita Wade, Arlene Bailey, Ellen Resta, Margie Senkbeil, Anthony Fitzgerald, Bernice Corbin, Jack Larry, Anita Williams and the ABAC Police.

Dr. Maggie Martin

Note of Sympathy

The ABAC Family expresses sympathy to Dr. Joseph Njoroge whose sister, Mary Nduta Too, passed away on May 10 in Londiani, Kenya.

Sympathy is also extended to the family for former ABAC nursing faculty member Vivian Cowart who passed away on May 15. Please keep both these families in your thoughts and prayers.

Calendar of Events

Monday, May 23

8 a.m.—Ga. Dept. of Corrections Class (Cordell Conf. Room A & C)

Tuesday, May 24

8 a.m.—Ga. Dept. of Corrections Class (Cordell Conf. Room C)

7 p.m.—Sara Dutcher Senior Piano Recital (Chapel)

Wednesday, May 25

8 a.m.—Ga. Dept. of Corrections Class (Cordell Conf. Room C)

8:30 a.m.—Len Lastinger Primary School Teachers Workshop (Cordell Conf. Room A)

Thursday, May 26

8 a.m.—Ga. Dept. of Corrections Class (Cordell Conf. Room C)

11:30 a.m.—Older Americans Banquet (Dining Hall)

Friday, May 27

8 a.m.—Ga. Dept. of Corrections Class (Cordell Conf. Room C)

8:30 a.m.—Women's Perspective Event (Dining Hall)

Saturday, May 28

6 p.m.—Weeks Party (Pool)

Tuesday, May 31

Today—May-Mester Classes End
4 p.m.—Evening New Student Orientation (Ag Sciences Building)

Wednesday, June 1

Today—May-Mester Finals

Thursday, June 2

Today—Summer Term Orientation

Friday, June 3

Today—Fall Early Bird Orientation

Saturday, June 4

Noon-Kinchen Luncheon (Magnolia Room)

2 p.m.—Lockett/Range Wedding Reception (Dining Hall)

Sunday, June 5

2 p.m.—PSBOC Alaska Trip Reception (Cordell Conf. Room A)

Monday, June 6

Today—Summer Term Classes Begin
8 a.m.—DHR/DFCS Training (Cordell Conf. Room A & C)