

ABAC Public Relations

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FOCUS

Regents Appoint Interim Chancellor for USG

Corlis Cummings, senior vice chancellor of support services for the University System of Georgia, has been named by the Board of Regents as interim chancellor of the state's 34 institutions of public higher education. Board Chair J. Timothy Shelnut made the announcement last week after a special meeting of the board, conducted via conference call.

"Ms. Cummings has the full confidence of this board and we are delighted she has accepted this leadership opportunity," said Shelnut. "She has the proven experience and skills to keep the System moving forward. More importantly, she works effectively with the regents, is well liked by the University System Office staff and the campus

presidents, and can hit the ground running to lay the groundwork for the next chancellor. She is definitely the right person for the job and we will be counting on her a great deal."

In addition to overseeing her current responsibilities as senior vice chancellor, Cummings will provide overall executive leadership for the University System. Her responsibilities in assisting with the transition will begin immediately, as she works with Chancellor Thomas C. Meredith until his departure.

"This is a tremendous responsibility and I am honored to have been asked by the Board to serve in this role," said Cummings. "I am looking forward to working with the regents and Dr. Meredith to ensure a smooth transition for the

next chancellor. During this critical period, we also will focus strong attention on maintaining close contact with the Governor, members of the General Assembly, and with those state agencies whose work intersects with ours."

Cummings is the first female and the first African-American to serve as a chancellor of the University System of Georgia (interim or permanent).

Fall Conference Kicks Off Year on Wednesday

This year's fall faculty preview and planning conference begins Wednesday at 8 a.m. in the lobby of the Cordell Conference Room of the Carlton Center with a continental breakfast sponsored by local financial institutions.

At 8:30 a.m., Interim President Tom Call opens the conference followed by introduction of new faculty and staff. All persons to be recognized should sit in the first two rows of the Cordell Conference Room.

The theme of this year's conference is "Student Success: We All Make It Happen." Call will address that topic at a 10 a.m. general session. Stan Gatewood from UGA will talk about identity theft and other security issues at 10:45 a.m.

A free lunch provided by SODEXHO will be held in the Donaldson Dining Hall from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. SODEXHO replaced ARAMARK as the food service provider on campus on July 1. SODEXHO also runs the physical plant, custodial services, and grounds maintenance at the college.

Concurrent sessions on a veritable plethora of topics ranging from Stress Management to How to Plan For Retirement will be held in one-hour blocks during the afternoon.

New faculty and staff begin their orientation session today.



Senator Visits ABAC On The Square

Senator Johnny Isakson visited ABAC on the Square in Moultrie on Thursday for an update on activities at ABAC's Moultrie campus. Talking with Isakson were Moultrie English Instructor Alice Slocumb, Isakson, ABAC on the Square Director Kay Powell, Interim President Tom Call, and Development Director Melvin Merrill.



Stan Gatewood will speak on IT security at the Fall Preview and Planning Conference on Wednesday.

Gatewood to Speak Wednesday On IT Security

Stan Gatewood, the Chief Information Security Officer for the University of Georgia, will be one of the keynote speakers at ABAC's Fall Preview and Planning Conference.

Scheduled for the Cordell Conference Room at 10:45 a.m. on Wednesday, Gatewood will speak on all elements of IT Security.

Gatewood was named one of the InfoSec Industry's Top 25 Security Professionals in 1999 and is one of the leading experts on information security, infrastructure protection, and electronic privacy.

This seminar will be jam-packed with important information that will apply to professional and personal use of computer programs, the internet, and e-mail.

FOCUS Goes Weekly

Beginning with this week's edition, the *FOCUS* will be emailed to you on a weekly basis. If you want a printed copy of the publication, simply click on the web site address provided each week by Administrative Assistant Pam Leonard.

Send all news items for the *FOCUS* to Leonard at pleonard@abac.edu by noon on Thursday prior to Monday's edition. Items could include articles you have published, trips you have made to attend professional conferences, speaking engagements on behalf of the college, television or radio stories you have participated in, births and deaths in your immediate family, awards and honors you have received, and other similar items.

Items of a routine nature which are a usual part of your job which happen on a regular basis are probably not going to make the *FOCUS*.

Keep those e-mails coming our way.

Deadline Approaching for Ambassador Applications

Students who would like to serve as public relations and admissions representatives for Abraham Baldwin can apply to become ABAC Ambassadors. Applications are available in the Public Relations Office on the second floor of Tift Hall and are due in that office by noon on Aug. 30.



President Megan Brannen will lead the Ambassadors during the upcoming year.

An interview session will be held for prospective Ambassadors from 1-5 p.m. on Sept. 1 in the Tift Hall Conference Room. ABAC Ambassadors are a select group of students chosen for their enthusiasm, leadership ability, and communication skills who represent ABAC in Tifton and across the state of Georgia.

The Ambassadors assist at various campus functions, such as Open Campus Day, Homecoming, Honors Day, Cordell Lectures, the President's Club Banquet, fundraising events, and more. The Ambassadors also spend time in October representing the college at the Sunbelt Expo at Spence Field near Moultrie.

ABAC Ambassadors must maintain a 2.5 cumulative grade point average. They must also spend at least 30 hours per semester fulfilling their Ambassador duties and attend a mandatory weekend retreat on Sept. 9-11, where they will learn public speaking strategies, public relations skills, and communication techniques.

Weekly meetings are held on Mondays at 4 p.m. The meetings are mandatory. Students should adjust their class schedules in order to attend.

For more information, contact Public Relations Director Mike Chason or Administrative Assistant Pam Leonard at 391-5055 or Recruitment Coordinator Ali Csinos at 391-5015.

Final Orientation Sessions This Week

Three orientation sessions for the fall term at ABAC will take place this week.

The evening orientation session for the Tifton campus is today from 4-9 p.m. in the Ag Sciences building.

On Tuesday, ABAC on the Square in Moultrie will hold its registration and orientation session beginning at 4 p.m.

An orientation on Thursday is scheduled for all entering freshmen attending ABAC in the fall. There is an orientation fee of \$30, and pre-registration is encouraged. Students who have not paid the orientation fee must be at the J. Lamar Branch Student Center at 8:30 a.m. Those who have already paid can report at 9:30 a.m.

Registration for other new and returning students will take place on Friday beginning at 9 a.m. This applies to all returning students who did not pre-register in spring, new students needing to register, and students who have to take placement tests on Thursday.



Large crowds are expected on Thursday and Friday for the final orientation and registration before fall semester classes begin.

FOCUS ON



Bam Pirkle

Beginning with this week's issue, the FOCUS will spotlight a faculty or staff member each week. Complete the information sheet which was emailed to you last week or visit <http://www.abac.edu/pr/request/>

Bam Pirkle is the administrative secretary to the Director of College Services and Human Resources. She has been a part of the ABAC family since Aug. 6, 2000.

She received a Bachelor's degree in art history from Georgia State University in 1968. She also holds the Certified Professional Secretary (CPS) and the Certified Administrative Professional (CAP) designations.

Pirkle has served on the International Association of Administrative Professionals as a past Tiftarea Chapter president. She is the current secretary. She is also a member of the Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity, Tiftarea Chapter, where she currently serves as president and past General Advisor to the Valdosta State University chapter. Her hobbies include reading and gardening. She is married to Harold, marketing manager at Pike Creek Turf, and is the mother of two grown daughters who live in Atlanta.



Smoking Receptacles In Place This Week

Brand new no smoking signs and new cans for ash and trash will be placed about the campus this week. Sodexho's Jack Larry is shown with one of the new receptacles. Remember, no smoking within 25 feet of the entrance to any building according to the new City of Tifton policy. Please adhere to this policy and encourage students to deposit their butts in the appropriate receptacles.

Bookstore Open This Saturday

The ABAC Bookstore will be open from 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. this Saturday for students who want to take care of their book needs before classes begin. The store will also be open Aug. 22-26 from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Friday.

Parker Named New Student Recruiter

Megan Parker is the new student recruiter in the ABAC office of Enrollment Services.

Parker received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Speech Communication from Valdosta State. She worked as a sales representative before coming to ABAC.

Parker hopes to help build up enrollment in the bottom half of the state by visiting high schools and career fairs to promote the college.

"I'd like to help increase enrollment and reach next year's enrollment goal, as well as bring quality students to the campus of ABAC. I love ABAC, and I am excited about bringing new students to the college," Parker said.

ABAC Goes to Australia Next Summer

The land of koalas and kangaroos will be the highlighted destination for a travel package in the summer of 2006 offered by the Public Service and Business Outreach Center at Abraham Baldwin.

Program Coordinator Vonda Fenn said the 17-day journey begins on June 1, 2006 and includes stops in Fiji, Australia, and New Zealand. The trip is open to anyone who would like to attend at a cost of \$4,699 per person (double occupancy).

The South Pacific adventure includes a chartered bus from Tifton to Atlanta, round trip airfare, cancellation waiver and insurance, hotel accommodations, departure tax, and 19 meals.

From the paradise island of Fiji to the Great Barrier Reef, the trip spotlights outdoor activities such as a visit to the

world's largest colony of Little Penguins as well as cultural events such as experiencing a performance inside the historic Sydney Opera House.

The remarkable scenery in New Zealand was best showcased in the Lord of the Rings movie trilogy, and travelers will have plenty of photo opportunities at Queenstown, Mt. Cook, Christchurch, and in a gondola ride to the Skyline Restaurant.

For more information, contact Fenn at (229) 391-5070 or e-mail her at vfenn@abac.edu.



GC President Resigns

Gordon College President Larry Weill has resigned effective Sept. 16 to accept the dean of academic affairs position at Hopkinsville (Ky.) Community College. University System of Georgia Chancellor Thomas Meredith said he would immediately launch the search for a new president. He also announced that Dr. Robert Vaughan, Jr., vice president for academic affairs at Gordon, has been named to serve as interim president.

Golden Named GA Chiefs' President

Bryan Golden, Chief of Police at Abraham Baldwin, was recently sworn in as the new president of the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police (GACP) at a banquet in Savannah.



Bryan Golden

Golden has been a member of the GACP since 1992.

Before becoming president, Golden held offices as fourth vice president to vice president, a requirement for anyone to obtain the presidency. He was elected for the position in 2001 and ran for the office before being named as president.

"It's like running for a political office. You had to have a platform and had to be an active member in the association," Golden said. His platform concen-

trated on enhancing membership benefits and strengthening programs already provided by the GACP.

Golden will serve as president of the GACP for a year. "My job is to be the official spokesperson, set agendas for our monthly meetings, and run those meetings throughout the year," Golden said. Upon completion of his term, he will serve as past president and then be off the executive board of the GACP.

Golden received his bachelor's degree in history from North Georgia College and a Master's degree in public administration from Columbus State University.

In his 18-year career, Golden worked for the Dawson Police Department, the Worth County Sheriff's Office as a criminal investigator, and with the Tift County Sheriff's Office in the drug squad before becoming chief of police at ABAC in 1992. He is also an adjunct instructor for Columbus State.



Breakfast at ABAC Place

The Community Assistants at ABAC Place treated Interim President Tom Call and his Cabinet to breakfast on Tuesday at the John Hunt Town Center. The new CA's also made Call an honorary CA for the year.

Sodexo Has New Phone Numbers

Sodexo Dining Services and Plant Operations have joined the rest of the campus in using the VOIP phone system. Below are their numbers. The numbers can also be found in the directory on the phone under "offices of dining services" and "offices of plant operations".

Dining Services	5170	Plant Operations	5180
Lisa Surrency	5170	Kim Green	5180
Kurt Hoffman	5172	Mark Struss	5182
Dan Miller	5173	Elronda Jolly	5183
FAX	5171	Mike McLean	5184
		John Tanner	5185
		Duane Weeks	5186
		Ray Woods	5187
		Terry Clark	5188
		Jack Larry	5189
		FAX	5181

Turn the Page



**Buckle
Your Belt
Tight: You'll
Need It!**

Beginning with this week's issue, the FOCUS will offer a weekly book review titled Turn The Page. If you have a book you would like to review, send NO MORE than six short paragraphs to mchason@abac.edu by Wednesdays at noon. Choose one you liked or didn't like, and tell us why. Your review may be edited for space considerations. Public Relations Director Michael Chason opens the season with Dean Koontz' *Velocity*. By the way, the Baldwin Library has a brand new section of bestsellers available.

Reading *Velocity* by Dean Koontz gave me chills during the hottest day of a south Georgia scorcher of a summer. That tells you something. I love mysteries and suspense but don't usually read books that scare me. Be warned. This is a scary and sometimes gory book.

The June, 2005 release was my first Koontz book. It's available along with a lot of other new fiction in the Baldwin Library. If you want your hair to stand on end, check it out today.

The key person in the novel is Billy Wyles, bartender. He listens to a lot of stories but seldom contributes his own. There's a reason for that. His true-life adventure is more horrifying than any barfly could ever conjure up.

Koontz unfolds Billy's story piece by piece as the yarn develops. The centerpiece of the plot involves a killer, who for whatever reason, picks Billy to make choices. No matter what choice Billy makes, somebody dies a gruesome death.

The book is a page-turner. Things happen to Billy you wouldn't wish on your worst enemy. Just when you think he's going to outwit the killer, the bad guy turns the tables on him.

On the next dark and rainy night, pick up *Velocity*. Then sleep with the lights on.

— Michael Chason
ABAC Director of Public Relations



President Goes to TCHS

Interim President Tom Call visits with Tift County High School assistant principals Helene Dutcher and Cynthia Oliver during an ABAC-sponsored breakfast at TCHS for the faculty and staff. Also representing ABAC at the event were Mike Chason, Ali Csinos, and Megan Parker.

Note of Sympathy

The ABAC Family expresses sympathy to Buffie Edwards whose brother, Staff Sgt. Carl Ray Fuller, was killed on July 24 near Baghdad.

Sympathy is also expressed to Stephanie Coney, whose father passed away on Aug. 6. Please keep both these families in your thoughts and prayers.

Note of Thanks

ABAC Faculty & Staff,

Thank you for the card, prayers, and concern for my son Stephen during his recent surgery. He is at home and is healing very well. It is very touching to see the outpouring of concern that the faculty and staff of this fine institution show to fellow employees and their families. Again, thank you and God bless you all.

Ernest, Diane, & Stephen Kelly

Celebrating Birthdays

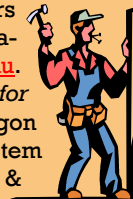
August

- 16 Amy Williams
- 17 Brenda Keller
- 18 Bobbie Baldree
- 21 Javier Gonzalez
- 21 Alan Kramer
- 22 Rod Brown



Placing Work Orders

To place work orders with Sodexo Plant Operations, go to www.abac.edu. Look under *Faculty/Staff for Facilities Management*. Logon to the Web Request System with your personal ID & password. Employees

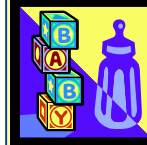


are currently setup with their e-mail prefix as their logon ID (for example, jdoe), and the password is 12345. After logon, the password can be changed under the *Manage Your Account* option. Passwords are case sensitive.

Then select the type of service request you would like. Fill out the form and submit. You will receive a work order number via email to verify the work request had been processed.

ABAC Family

Dr. Doug Waid, William Moore, and Anthony Fitzgerald represented ABAC at the Literacy Volunteers Carnival of Knowledge quiz bowl on July 28. On other teams were Dr. Gaye Elder, Dr. Libby Campbell, and Mike Chason. Diane Kilgore and Dr. Caroline Helms helped to coordinate the event.



Congratulations!

Scott and Julie Bullington are the proud parents of a baby boy born Aug. 9. Dillon Scott Bullington weighed 6 lbs. and 11 oz.

Doug and Becky Waid are the proud grandparents of their first grandchild. Charles Thomas Cavanaugh was born Aug. 3 weighed 6 lbs. and 14 1/2 oz.

Congratulations to all!



Regular Hours Resume Today

Summer hours have ended, and the college returns to the regular 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. schedule Monday through Friday as of today. Business casual dress (no jeans) will still be allowed on Fridays.

Positions Open

ABAC:

- Web Programmer, OITS
Salary \$28,000-\$35,000
(deadline 8/23)

Albany State:

- Human Resources Director
- Vice President for Student Affairs (deadline 8/19)
- Vice President for Institutional Advancement (deadline 8/19)
- Associate VP/Chief Information Officer for Information Technology (deadline 8/19)

Southern Poly:

- Men's Head Basketball Coach
Salary \$35,000

Contact Human Resources for details.

Calendar of Events

Monday, August 15

- 8:30 a.m.—New Faculty Workshop (Cordell Conf. Room A)
- 4 p.m.—Evening New Student Orientation (Ag Sciences Building)
- 6 p.m.—Hunter Safety (Cordell Conf. Room B)

Tuesday, August 16

- 8:30 a.m.—New Faculty Workshop (Cordell Conf. Room A)

Wednesday, August 17

- 8:30 a.m.—Fall Faculty/Faculty Staff Conference (Cordell Conf. Room)
- 11:30 a.m.—Faculty/Staff Luncheon (Dining Hall)

Thursday, August 18

Today—Orientation

Friday, August 19

Today—Orientation/Registration

Monday, August 22

Today—Fall term classes begin