



ABAC Public Relations

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July 18, 2005
Volume XLIV, Issue 2
www.abac.edu

FOCUS

ABAC Place Apartments Earn Design Award

For the second time in as many years, an Abraham Baldwin College facility has earned a prestigious design award. ABAC Place, the new student housing community, has been named a 2005 Project of Distinction in the Education Design Showcase sponsored by *College Planning and Management* magazine.

The ABAC Agricultural Sciences Building was recognized as an Outstanding Design – Specialized Category, from *American School and University* magazine in 2004.

“This is an impressive accomplishment for ABAC,” said Interim President Tom Call. “We’re pleased to have two of our buildings earn design awards. However, the real test of the buildings is how the faculty and students respond to them. Again, they are both winners.”

The college needed a housing solution that modernized and increased on-campus housing facilities to encourage enrollment growth. Most units are four-bedroom, two-bath with a completely furnished kitchen, living area and bedroom. Students can also access the internet and cable television in their rooms. The 835-bed facility has been very popular, at 100 percent occupancy for fall 2004 and again for fall 2005.

According to the design nomination, the community consists of two four-story residential buildings and the single-story town center built on a narrow site with a dramatic slope. The building configuration and design was used to create a new residential community while connecting the pedestrian mall with the sports complex. The design met all of these challenges and maintained the architectural character of the college.

With the 10,000 square-foot John Hunt Town Center, residents can enjoy 24-hour access to the fitness center and computer lab, an activity room, wide screen television viewing area, a community room, leasing and management offices, ATM machine and Value Transfer Station, a convenience store, and a



ABAC Place has been recognized for Outstanding Design by American School and University magazine.

prominent clock tower.

The ABAC Place community is also well landscaped with pedestrian areas that include a gazebo with grills, fountains, planters, seating and congregating areas, event lighting, and a white sand volleyball court.

The ABAC Foundation sponsored the

mammoth \$32 million project, the largest privatized housing development at a two-year college in the United States. Ellis, Rickett & Associates was the architectural firm for the project. Place Properties was the developer. The facility was built by Alcon & Associates and Jones Construction Company.

ABAC Orientation This Week

Three orientation sessions for the fall term at ABAC will be held this week. The evening orientation session for the Tifton campus is on Tuesday from 4 – 9 p.m. in the Ag Sciences building. ABAC offers 48 different classes for this fall’s evening curriculum.

On Wednesday, ABAC on the Square in Moultrie will hold its registration and orientation session beginning at noon. ABAC on the Square offers 34 classes for the fall term.

An orientation on Thursday is scheduled for entering freshmen for fall semes-

ter. The orientation fee is \$30, and pre-registration is encouraged.

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.

All first-time entering freshmen must attend one of the orientation sessions. The final orientation is on Aug. 18. Fall term classes begin Aug. 22.

Call Admissions at 391-5001 for info.



Ambassador President Megan Brannen leads a tour of prospective students and their parents recently at Open Campus Day. Applications are now being accepted for Ambassadors for the 2005-06 year. This elite group plays an important role in recruitment for the college.

Hoffman Named Dining Hall Director

Miami, Fla. native Kurt Hoffman is the new director of the Donaldson Dining Hall for Sodexho at ABAC.

Hoffman earned a Bachelor's degree in Finance from the University of Miami. He has worked for colleges and universities across the south for 29 years, including the University of Tennessee, University of North Carolina – Pembroke and Chapel Hill, Gordon College, and his alma mater – the University of Miami.

Under Hoffman's management, the dining hall will undergo renovations within the building and with the food service. Sodexho replaced Aramark as the food service provider for the campus on July 1.

"Sodexho will have food that is fresh. Students will see their food cooked right in front of them in some cases. We want food services to grow with the college," Hoffman said. "My impressions of ABAC have been good. I like the people here. The college is showing potential and I am excited about being a part of it."

Apply Now for ABAC Ambassadors

Students who would like to serve as public relations and admissions representatives for Abraham Baldwin College 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.

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.

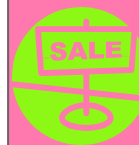
The Ambassadors assist at various campus functions, such as Open Campus Day, Homecoming, Honors Day, Cordell Lectures, the President's Club Banquet, fundraising events, and more.

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, which last from 30 - 45 minutes, are mandatory. Students should adjust their class schedules in order to attend the meetings.

For more information, contact Public Relations Director Mike Chason or Administrative Assistant Pam Leonard at (229) 391 - 5055.



On Sale at the Bookstore

The ABAC Bookstore staff has cleaned out the stockroom to make room for new items. Manager Tracy Dyal said a sale area which includes clothing, novelty items, and school supplies priced at a 30 percent discount has been set up. Stop in and shop the sale, and check out the new fall items as well.

Saturday Class for Fall

ABAC will offer an English 1101 class on Saturdays during fall semester. The course will meet from 9 a.m.-noon. Wendy Harrison will be the instructor.

Portrait Photography Class July 25

Portrait Photography will be offered at ABAC on July 25 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Class participants will learn how to use location, props, lighting, and intimate details to capture special moments. Emphasis will be placed on the role equipment and technique play in producing high quality photographs. The fee is \$39, and pre-registration is required.



the Public Service & Business Outreach Center at 391-5070 to register.

Hills and Dales Estate Trip this Fall

The ABAC Arts Connection invites you to board a chartered bus and travel to the Hills and Dales Estate in October (date TBA). This beautiful property in La Grange has a unique history which spans over 170 years.

The centerpiece of the Estate is a beautiful Georgian-Italian villa, designed by noted architects Hentz & Reid for textile magnate Fuller Callaway, Sr. Completed in 1916 the home blends with the splendid formal boxwood gardens planted much earlier in the mid-

19th Century by Sarah Ferrell. Trip participants will explore the educational exhibits, gift shop, and grounds, as well as take a guided trip of the home and the gardens.

ABAC students, members of the Tift County Council of Garden Clubs, and all members of the Tift County Arts Council will enjoy a discount. The trip fee will include bus ticket, gourmet lunch, house ticket, garden ticket, and refreshments. Call Polly Huff at 391-4818 to make your reservation.

Washington Plans Political Career After ABAC



ABAC SGA President Ellis Washington, 111 is a serious-minded student who has definite plans for his future. Those plans culminate with the presidency of the United States.

From Student Government Association President at Abraham Baldwin College to President of the United States – that is the plan of Ellis Washington, III. A political science major from Tifton, Washington has big plans for a career in politics at ABAC and beyond.

His interest in politics started at the age of five while watching the January 20, 1993 inauguration of Bill Clinton. And it has grown ever since.

Washington had the opportunity to visit the epicenter of politics, Washington, D.C., in 1998. “I visited the Capital and went on both the Senate and House of Representatives floor, as well as seeing all the important artifacts of the city,” Washington said.

His other social and political influences include Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; Reverend Billy Graham, President Ronald Reagan, his parents, and Jesus Christ.

At ABAC, he wants to make the SGA accessible to everyone. “I would like to make this an organization that believes in an open-door policy where students can come by and relate their questions and concerns to their student leaders.”

The implementation of this idea was


the key element of Washington’s campaign platform, “Building A Better ABAC Together.”

“I want to make student life on campus more diverse and prepare students for the transition of the college to a four-year institution, focusing on academic excellence and retention,” Washington said.

At ABAC, Washington not only serves as SGA President, but is active in a wide array of other organizations including the Inter-Activities Council, the Campus Activities Board, the Concert and Jazz Band, Honors Club and the ABAC Ambassadors. He is also the past president of the Political Science Club.

After graduating from ABAC, he plans to attend Morehouse College and proceed to Harvard or Georgetown, obtaining a Doctorate in Law. Upon completion of his education, he would like to practice law, before running for a state representative’s slot and then for Georgia governor. Ultimately, he plans to be President of the United States.

Washington is the son of Ellis and Diane Washington of Tifton and has a sister, DeSherika, who attends Tift County High School.



No Air Conditioning

Floyd Wright has announced the campus air conditioning system will be turned off on July 22 from 10 p.m. until approximately 3 p.m. on July 23 to replace valves on the water system. This maintenance will affect the entire campus except ABAC Place during the weekend.


Wright also said that work on the campus lines which will supply air conditioning to the new Health Sciences Building has been scheduled for July 29-31. The process will not affect domestic water for drinking and restrooms, but will shut down the air conditioning supply to Britt Hall, Gray Hall, Conger Hall, the Chapel, and the Music Building. Work will begin on Friday afternoon and go through the weekend to have the system running on Monday morning.

Next FOCUS August 1

The next issue of the FOCUS will be emailed on Aug. 1. Send information for this edition to pleonard@abac.edu by noon on July 28.

Celebrating Birthdays

<u>July</u>	
18	Jimmy Ballenger
19	Keetra Branch
23	Jeff Newberry
24	Donna Miller
25	Buffie Edwards
25	Joy Godin
25	Pam Leonard
25	Lois Moon
27	Tracey Dicks
27	Betsy Leonard
27	Alan Murphy
28	Linda Horton
30	Melanie McDaniel
31	Larry Cannon
31	Frank Palmer
31	Darby Sewell
<u>August</u>	
1	Jo Ann Paulk



ABAC Family

Tom Call and **Mike Chason** gave an update on ABAC to the Tifton Exchange Club on July 11.

Julie Conner and **Alan Kramer** joined other volunteer coaches in the community to administer a sports clinic for the YMCA Athletic Fellowship fundraiser on July 16.

Calendar of Events

Tuesday, July 19

4 p.m.—Evening New Student Orientation (Ag Sciences Building)

Wednesday, July 20

7 a.m.—Training for Used Car Salesmen (Cordell Conf. Room A/B)

Thursday, July 21

Today—Fall Term New Student Orientation

Friday, July 22

11 a.m.—Police Academy Graduation Rehearsal (Cordell Conf. Room)

3 p.m.—Police Academy Graduation (Cordell Conf. Room)

Saturday, July 23

6:30 p.m.—Church of God by Faith Banquet (Dining Hall)

Monday, July 25

Today—Last day of summer term Classes

Tuesday, July 26

Today—Final exams

7 a.m.—Nutrition Conference (Cordell Conf. Room/ Conger 319)

Wednesday, July 27

Today—Final exams

Saturday, July 30

11 a.m.—Hutchinson Family Reunion (Dining Hall)