



FOCUS

ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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ABAC to Operate State Museum of Agriculture

At the request of the Office of Planning and Budget and the Governor's Office, Dr. David Bridges, president of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, is working with legislators, local elected officials and members of the Georgia Agrirama Development Authority to move management and operations of the State's Museum of Agriculture (Agrirama) to ABAC.

The museum, which sits on a 95-acre site on Interstate 75 in Tifton near the ABAC campus, will be operated as a part of the 102-year-old college's academic and educational mission. ABAC is a State College of the University System of Georgia.

Bridges said the addition of the Agrirama property presents "both challenges and opportunities.

"The Agrirama and ABAC share overlapping missions with respect to education and preservation," Bridges said. "The College is known for its aca-



A press conference with President Bridges was held Friday to discuss the movement of operations of the State Museum of Agriculture to ABAC.

demographic programs in agriculture, forestry, wildlife, natural resources, and family and consumer sciences. "With the recent introduction of the Rural Studies

program, ABAC is expanding its program offerings in the Rural Studies area to include the humanities, the social sciences and business and economic development."

ABAC initiated a Rural Studies bachelor's degree program in the fall of 2009. Bridges believes the museum could figure prominently into the curriculum of that degree.

"The Agrirama might make a perfect laboratory for a rural history class," Bridges said.

Bridges added, "We are always looking for ways to enhance the education of our students, economic development and support the community in which we serve. I believe ABAC has a lot to offer the Agrirama. Likewise, this museum has a lot to offer ABAC, the community and the State of Georgia."

The Agrirama opened on July 4, 1976. Today it includes a traditional 1870s farm community and an 1890s progressive farmstead. Features include a sawmill, blacksmith shop, schoolhouse, feed and seed store, print shop, drug store, grist mill, and a turpentine still.

The only steam powered train in regular operation in Georgia operates on a 1.3 mile railroad system at the museum. During the fall term, ABAC students helped to renovate the Vulcan Iron Works steam locomotive, which began its working life in 1917.

"Obviously, much remains to be done," Bridges said. "We've just begun to work out the details."

Prayer Service for Haiti Noon Today in Chapel

The BCM will lead a prayer and sharing service today at noon in the ABAC Chapel of All Faiths in honor of those affected by the recent disaster in Haiti. ABAC clubs will also be taking up donations during the next few weeks to donate to the American Red Cross. Checks should be made out to the Student Government Association.



Baldwin Player Auditions Tonight at 7 p.m.

The Baldwin Players at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College will offer a new twist on this spring's production with "An Evening of Storytelling" directed by Dr. John Galyean, Associate Professor of Humanities in the School of Liberal Arts.

Auditions will be held today and Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Conger Hall 319. All ABAC students and citizens of the area are welcome to try out. Auditioners are asked to perform a brief one to two minute interpretation of a story or portion of a story.

Possible story types can include fairy

tales, mythology, folk tales, childhood memories, family stories, stories specific to a culture or region of the world, or stories accompanied by music. Participants can stand, sit, move, dance, mime, or do whatever is appropriate to the story.

Production dates for "An Evening of Storytelling" are March 4 - 6 so the rehearsal period will be short and intense. For more information on auditions, contact Galyean at 229-391-4960 or via e-mail at jgalyean@abac.edu.



Relay for Life Meeting Thursday at 11:30

Route 66: Driving to a Cure

Relay For Life ABAC Team Meeting Thursday at 11:30 a.m. in the ABAC President's Dining Room (Georgian Room).

Please RSVP to Donna Webb at dwebb@abac.edu or 391.5016.

ABAC Athletics Hall of Fame Tickets on Sale Now

Tickets for the third annual ABAC Athletics Hall of Fame are on sale now. Tickets for the induction ceremony and lunch are \$30. Don't miss Boo Weekley, the 1991 ABAC national championship softball team, Joseph Grist, Harley Klepfer, and Jim Sparks being inducted into the Hall of Fame! Contact Shirley Wilson at swilson@abac.edu or 391-4932 to purchase your ticket today.

Job Opportunities

- Lieutenant – Assistant Chief of Police
- Part-time Clinical Instructor, School of Nursing & Health Sciences
- Part-time Credentialed Faculty

Fillies Annual Pancake Breakfast On Saturday

The Fastpitch Fillies Softball Team at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College will hold the 9th annual Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's on Saturday from 8 – 10 a.m. Tickets for the breakfast are \$5 each.

Interested persons can purchase a ticket from Coach Donna Campbell or any of the Fillies team members. Menu items will include pancakes, bacon, and choice of beverage.

For more information or to purchase a ticket, contact Campbell at 391- 4929 or via e-mail at dcampbell@abac.edu.

The 2010 Counselor Workshop will be on campus Jan. 27-28. Counselors from across the State will be in attendance. Make sure if you see them around campus you give them a warm ABAC welcome.

Ambassadors Connect With ABAC Alumni



The ABAC Ambassadors devoted over 300 hours in November to a calling campaign partnership with the Office of College Advancement. The group made over 3,000 calls. While making the calls, the Ambassadors also looked up current addresses of alumni to update the database.

Staff Forum Meeting Set For January 27

The first Staff Forum meeting of spring term will be held on Jan. 27 in the Health Sciences building in rooms 237 and 238. The meeting will take place at 3:30 p.m.

Staff will learn how to reserve facilities on the campus. The scheduling of a facility at ABAC is a part of the new training requirements. Changes within the scheduling process when requesting a facility warrant this training.

Food will be served at the training session. Please take this opportunity to encourage all staff members to attend.

Mark your calendar for Celebrate ABAC Weekend March 5-6!

Printing Approval Needed Prior To Ordering

ABAC has invested a lot of time, effort, and money into the design and trade marking of the brand new logos for the college. In an effort to regulate consistency and branding of these logos all printed materials for the college must go through the printing approval procedure in place.

President David Bridges asks that all printed materials for the college come to Public Relations Assistant Ashley Williamson for approval. A contract for all business cards and letterhead has been issued to Creative Printing through a bid, so those items must be ordered from that company. Anyone wishing to order these items can email Williamson at awilliamson@abac.edu with the information for the card.

Any print item will need to have a printing approval slip attached to the invoice or purchase order in order to be paid. All items without the printing approval slip will not be processed for payment.

For more information, call Ashley Williamson at 391-5057.

ABAC Birthdays

January

20 Joann Brannen

20 Paul Willis

21 Don Allen

22 Lelan Moretz

24 Debbie Cromer



The FOCUS is a weekly electronic publication produced by the ABAC Public Relations Office.

Ashley Williamson Writer and Layout
Mike Chason Writer & Editor
Please submit any information to Ashley Williamson at awilliamson@abac.edu by **Thursday at noon** for inclusion in the next FOCUS.

Don't Forget the Winter
Edition of Stallion Day
is Feb. 13. Fall in love
with ABAC!