



# FOCUS

## ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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### Anderson To Speak At ABAC Commencement On Friday at 6 p.m.

Dr. Robert G. Anderson will be the guest speaker at the spring commencement ceremony at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College at 6 p.m. on Friday in Gressette Gym on the ABAC campus.

Anderson is a 1978 ABAC graduate. One of his classmates was Dr. David Bridges, who became the first ABAC alumnus to become president of the institution on July 1, 2006. Bridges will introduce his former classmate at the commencement ceremony.

Anderson continued his education with a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of



Dr. Greg Anderson will be the commencement speaker Friday at 6 p.m. in Gressette Gym.

since 1989.

Georgia in 1980 and a Doctorate of Medicine degree from the Medical College of Georgia in 1984.

From 1984 until 1989, Anderson completed a general surgery residency at the University of Kentucky and a urology residency at the University of Alabama, Birmingham hospital and The Children's Hospital in Birmingham. Anderson has been associated with a private practice at Tiftarea Urology in Tifton

Anderson has been associated with a private practice at Tiftarea Urology in Tifton since 1989. Active in the local community, Anderson is on the First Community Bank of Tifton Board of Directors, serves as chairman of the Henry Tift Myers Airport Authority and is a past Chief of Staff and past Chief of Surgery at Tift Regional Medical Center. He is also a past recipient of the prestigious Stafford Award from the Tifton-Tift County Chamber of Commerce.

The ceremony will include the presentation of the prestigious George P. Donaldson award to the top graduate who participates in the event by ABAC Alumni Association President Laura Beth Tucker.

### ABAC on the Square in Moultrie Spared From Budget Cut

Classes in Moultrie from Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College will be spared from the state budget cut, according to an announcement today from ABAC President David Bridges.

"We know there will be a significant cut in the 2011 budget but not as severe a cut as was first anticipated," Bridges said. "Our first priority was to continue to hold classes at ABAC on the Square, and we will do that."

Bridges was asked to submit a plan to University System of Georgia Chancellor Erroll B. Davis on Feb. 27, detailing how ABAC would slash \$2.4 million from its budget beginning July 1. That budget loss would have been on top of a \$1.7 million ABAC budget shortfall already called for in Governor Sonny Perdue's budget recommendation in

January.

That plan including closing off-campus learning sites in Moultrie and in downtown Tifton. ABAC has served students in Colquitt County since 1947 when ABAC professors taught classes for returning GI's.

Even though the Georgia Legislature passed the state budget before it adjourned last week, Bridges said there are still many questions about how deep the budget cut will be for the fiscal year which begins July 1.

"The Governor still has not signed the budget, and the Board of Regents will have some budget decisions to make when they meet later this month," Bridges said. "We may not know the final budget numbers until as late as June 8. We still face a budget cut, and

we have already starting making some adjustments to deal with it."

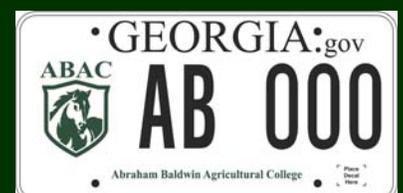
As an example, Bridges said ABAC has already eliminated the Regents' Test as a requirement. He also said the Public Service and Business Outreach Center will become more of a self supporting operation. In another budget-saving measure, some positions vacated by retirements will not be filled or will be filled at a lower salary.

"We will still do many of the things on that proposed list of cuts," Bridges said. "We may do some of them partially, and we won't do all of them at the same time."

ABAC on the Square Director Kay Powell said a full lineup of classes will be available in Moultrie during the summer term and the fall semester.

### Show Your ABAC Pride!

Sign up today for your ABAC License Plate. For more information visit the tag website at [www.abac.edu/tag](http://www.abac.edu/tag). We must have 500 applicants by July 31!



# ABAC Announces First Greek Organizations in College History

For the first time in its 102-year history, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College will have two Greek organizations on the campus.

Following months of study by the College's Greek Task Force, planning and preparation by student interest groups, and presentations to the President's Cabinet, Kappa Sigma and Alpha Gamma Rho fraternities have been approved to establish colonies at ABAC.

With ABAC's move to a four-year bachelor's degree-granting institution, student interest in Greek life increased, according to Vice President for Student Affairs Gail Dillard. She said the college began accepting proposals from Greek fraternities and sororities on April 2. The Task Force, comprised of administrators, faculty, staff, and an alumnus, reviewed the proposals, and each organization made a presentation to the Task Force and members of the Cabinet.

The Cabinet recently approved a positive recommendation from the Task Force on the two fraternities. Dillard

said the Task Force will continue to receive proposals from student groups interested in bringing Greek organizations to campus. She expressed hope that other fraternities and sororities would come forward for consideration.

Dillard said that current ABAC students who have a Regents' Grade Point Average of 2.25 or higher are eligible for participation in a Greek organization on campus. For incoming freshmen, requirements will be based on the high school GPA. Both Alpha Gamma Rho and Kappa Sigma also have services in place to assist their members academically.

Kappa Sigma and Alpha Gamma Rho are well into the recruitment process for their colonies. The two groups are also heavily involved in campus and community events such as Relay for Life and intramural sports.

"A Greek Council will be formed to deal with any other requirements or qualifications involving the current and

future Greek organizations at ABAC," said Dillard.

Cain Thurmond, an agricultural business/agricultural economics major from Jefferson, will serve as chapter president of Alpha Gamma Rho; and Brent Wagner, a business administration major from Roswell, will serve as president of Kappa Sigma.

"The fraternities will have individual areas at ABAC Place where they can hold meetings, recruit, and work on activities," said Dillard. "We will also have Greek housing at ABAC Place. This is a very good move for the college. We expect only positive things from these two fraternities."



## Reddick Uses Love for the South as Inspiration

Dr. Niles Reddick, Vice President for Academic Affairs at ABAC, released his first novel in April.

Reddick, a native of Lowndes County, used his love for the South and his family as the inspiration for his first novel.

"My great grandmother, Charlotte Peacock Reddick, and her family settled Pavo, where the book is set," Reddick said. "Pavo means Peacock in Latin, and the main character of the book is Max Peacock, named for my family."

He started writing his book while he served as the Dean of Humanities and Social Science at Motlow State (Tenn.) Community College and finished after taking his current position at ABAC in 2007. Reddick finds writing therapeutic; the spark for writing this book came from someone making him mad at work.

"After finishing my first book of short stories, I had written a chapter for my next book and didn't know where to go next," Reddick said. "Then someone made me mad at work, and I sat down at my computer and started writing."

The title of the book came to Reddick while he was in church in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

"We were singing 'Amazing Grace' and when we sang 'and grace will lead



you home' it hit me 'Lead Me Home' would be the title of my book," Reddick said.

The release of Reddick's novel recounts a young man's journey back to his roots with lots of humor, soul-searching, and surprises. Max Peacock returns home to

attend his great Aunt Catfish's funeral. After the funeral, events take various humorous twists and turns in the life of the citizens of the rural town of Pavo.

When Max returns to his home in Nashville, Tenn., he discovers while he has been gone, his wife, Jaden, was witness to a horrific crime against a homeless woman. Jaden is also pregnant with their first child.

Reddick lives in Tifton with his wife, Michelle, and two children, Audrey and Nicholas. Author of the short story collection, "Road Kill Art and Other Oddities," he was a finalist for an Eppie Award in fiction.

For more information, visit Reddick's website at [www.nilesreddick.com](http://www.nilesreddick.com). "Lead Me Home" is available for purchase at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com), [www.roseheartbooks.com](http://www.roseheartbooks.com) or in any bookstore, including the ABAC bookstore.

## Stallions' Season Ends in State Tournament

The ABAC baseball season ended on a disappointing note Saturday when the Golden Stallions fell in the first round of the Georgia Junior College Athletic Association state tournament.

Coach Steve Janousek's team lost to the South Georgia College Tigers 10-2 and 8-1 in a doubleheader in Douglas. ABAC ends its season with a record of 21-33.



## Green Named Distinguished Ambassador of the Year

Bernard Green, a freshman Business Administration major from Tifton, was voted Distinguished Ambassador of the Year by his peers. Green accumulated 113 hours of service over the year, well over the required 70 hours. Green will also serve as the 2010-2011 President of the ABAC Ambassadors.

# ABAC Stallions Aim For National Title in Plano, Texas



The Golden Stallions of ABAC will travel to Plano, Texas this week for the NJCAA national tennis tournament. ABAC gained its berth with the Region XVII championship on April 17. Coach Alan Kramer's team finished third in the national tournament in 2009. Members of the squad include  
 First Row (L to R): Leif Shuman, Romain Vieillard, Rasid Winklaar  
 Back Row: (LtoR): Coach Dale White, Billy Griffin, Derrick Taylor, Carlos Perez, Martin Cedervqvist, Tyler Johnston, Coach Alan Kramer.

## ABAC Professor Makes Second Trip to China

Dr. Eddie Seagle helped to bridge the gap between ABAC and China in 2009 when he took eight students there for classes, presentations, and a tour of the country. In recent weeks, the ABAC professor of agriculture and



Dr. Eddie Seagle presented lectures concerning agronomy and turfgrass during his recent visit to China.

and environmental horticulture crossed that figurative bridge again with another China trip.

On this journey, Seagle taught 35 general managers from China's golf clubs and 25 Sun Yat-sen University students about agronomy and turfgrass through the Business Management Institute - China at Nan Sha Golf Club in Guangzhou.

"I visited a course in Foshen that was under construction to provide advice and input," said Seagle. "I also had the opportunity to visit Philip Shippey, an ABAC intern, at the South China Botani-

cal Garden in Guangzhou where he is completing an international internship experience this semester."

Seagle said China only has 350 golf courses, with another 350 courses under construction. The first course in China opened in 1985. In comparison, there are 450 courses in Georgia. Seagle plans to return to China for next year's program and hopes to go back as frequently as

invited in the capacity of teacher, advisor, and consultant.

"It's an exciting educational opportunity, not just for myself, but for the students as a learning and cultural experience, resume builder, and networking opportunity," said Seagle.

Seagle will retire from ABAC on Aug. 1 with over 32 years of teaching experiences.

"Teaching at ABAC has been most exciting," said Seagle. "The last days here have been just as great and enjoyable as the first. I have truly been blessed."

## Memorial for Claxton, Miller on Wednesday

The School of Business will hold a memorial service at 3 p.m. on Wednesday in the Chapel of All Faiths for former faculty members Betty Claxton and Paul Miller.

Claxton served in the Division of Business Administration as an Associate Professor of Business Administration for 34 years, from Aug. 1, 1963 to Jan. 1, 1997.

Miller was an Assistant Professor of Marketing and Management for the college from Aug. 1, 1988 to June 1, 2008.

## Graduation Reception Friday at ABAC

A graduation reception for students, faculty and staff will be held prior to graduation on Friday in the Gressette Gym Rotunda at 4:30 p.m.

Students are invited to take this opportunity for pictures with favorite faculty members and enjoy some light refreshments and leisure time before the graduation ceremony at 6 p.m. in Gressette Gym.



## Barrel Race For Cure Raises Money For Cancer Research

The Barrel Race for a Cure was a successful fundraiser for the ABAC Horse Barn, bringing over 60 riders to campus to compete. The event raised almost \$575 for breast cancer research and education.



## Late Night Pancake Supper Tonight

The annual Student Government Association Pancake Breakfast will be held tonight at the Donaldson Dining Hall from 9 – 10 p.m.



Cooks and servers, please do not wear flip flops or open-toes shoes.

To volunteer to serve or cook, contact Bernice Hughes at

[bhughes@abac.edu](mailto:bhughes@abac.edu)

or by calling 5140.

## ABAC Birthdays

- 3 Joshua Pavon
- 4 Nancy Brannen
- 5 Kathryn Branch
- 5 Kenneth Murphy
- 5 Kerry Waldon
- 6 Stephanie Coney
- 7 Gerald Williams
- 7 John Davis
- 8 Krystle Williams
- 9 Pathelyn Smith

## Staff Forum Meeting on Wednesday at 4 p.m.

A Staff Forum meeting will be held on Wednesday from 4– 5:30 p.m. in room 237 of the Health Sciences building.

The main purpose of the meeting is to officially introduce and explain the different components of the staff evaluation form that is currently under consideration. The new process will be very different than the current process, and the evaluation form itself will have significant changes.

The final 15 minutes of the meeting will be allotted to give everyone a brief explanation of the components of the new form. Those attending the session will be given a copy of the form and allowed to comment.

Other points on the agenda will include the closing out of some year-end business, recognizing the Jackson Staff Award nominees, introducing new employees, and the final fundraiser update for the 2009-2010 year.

Notify Dr. Amy Willis at [apwillis@abac.edu](mailto:apwillis@abac.edu) if you can provide refreshments.

## ABAC Colloquium Series Every Fourth Monday

The Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) is starting a faculty and staff lecture/colloquium series. The presentations will be held the fourth Monday of each month from 4-5 p.m. in Carlton 202. Faculty and staff may present on any topic of interest to them. The topics can be teaching and learning related, or if you have a research interest or special hobby, you may present on it as well. A wide variety of topics will make the series even better. A description and listing of all future presentations can be found at

[abac.edu/ctl/ColloquiumSeries.cfm](http://abac.edu/ctl/ColloquiumSeries.cfm)  
Contact Joy Godin at [jgodin@abac.edu](mailto:jgodin@abac.edu) or call 4834 if you are interested in presenting.

## ABAC Family

Mike Chason was the emcee for the Tift County High School Academic Awards ceremony on Thursday night.

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

Ashley Williamson • Mike Chason  
Writer and Layout Writer & Editor

Please submit any information to Ashley Williamson at [awilliamson@abac.edu](mailto:awilliamson@abac.edu) by **Thursday at noon** for inclusion in the next FOCUS.

## Job Opportunities

- Comptroller
  - Director of Human Resources
  - Part-time Clinical Instructor
  - Assistant/Associate Professor of Crop Science
  - Full-time Faculty Positions
  - Part-time Credentialed Faculty
- Full listings can be found at**  
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