



FOCUS

ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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Snow Selected As Chief Operating Officer of ABAC Foundation

Jodie Rayl Snow has been named Chief Operating Officer of ABAC Foundation, Inc. at ABAC, according to an announcement by President David Bridges.

"Jodie brings a solid background and knowledge of ABAC to the position," ABAC President David Bridges said. "I believe her new ideas will bring energy, creativity, and enthusiasm to the COO position."

A Fitzgerald native, Snow received her Associate of Science degree from ABAC in 2000, a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Georgia in 2002 and Juris Doctorate and a Master of Business Administration from the Stetson University College of Law in 2006. Prior to joining the ABAC administration in 2012 she served as an Assistant State



Attorney for the Second Judicial Circuit of Florida in Tallahassee. Snow also worked for four years at McGahee & Perez, P.L. in Clewiston, Fla. from 2007-2011.

Snow is excited to return to her alma mater.

"I am thrilled to be joining the ABAC family. Ever since I graduated from ABAC I have

dreamed of coming back and now that dream is a reality," Snow said. "I am excited about working with the students, staff, faculty, fellow alumni, and the ABAC Foundation, Inc. Board of Trustees. I am looking forward to giv-

ing back to a school that has given so much to me."

While at ABAC as a student from 1998-2000 she played on the Fillies tennis team, was a member of the Honors Program and served as a Resident Assistant in Fulwood Hall. Snow received both the Donaldson Award and J. G. Woodroof Scholar in 2000, followed by the ABAC Young Alumnus Award in 2011. She was also an inaugural member of ABAC ACTIONS (Alumni Connecting To Involved and Outstanding New Students), the alumni-based student recruiting effort designed to attract academically talented and engaged students to ABAC.

Snow will begin June 11. She will assume the duties of Melvin Merrill, who has served as the Chief Operating Officer of the Foundation since 1978. Merrill will continue to serve the college as the Director of Capital Planning. Snow and her husband, Matt, are in the process of relocating to Tifton.

Museum Offers Summer Camps for Kids

Children ages 4-12 can now enjoy summer camps through the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at ABAC this summer. Campers will explore southern Georgia's rich history and natural resources through hands-on, interactive activities, games, and crafts.

Camp Wiregrass offers camps geared toward specific age groups: Munchkins, ages 4-5; Explorers, ages 6-9; and Trekkers, ages 10-12. Each week-long session offers age appropriate activities and themes.

Snacks, t-shirts, and all supplies are provided for all camps (Explorer and Trekker campers will need to supply a sack lunch). Due to generous donations from the Friends of the Museum group, campers can participate at a reduced rate. The cost is \$80 for Munchkin camp and \$110 for all Explorer and Trekker camps.

The summer kicks off with Down on the Farm, a Munchkin camp on June 4-8.

Campers will discover mid-1800s farm life and realize what life was like before television and computers. Feeding animals, gardening, washing clothes, and wagon rides are just a few of the activities Munchkin campers will enjoy. To add to the fun, each day will include games, stories, and crafts.

Explorer campers are offered two sessions, Eco-Detectives and Native American Explorers. Eco-Detectives on June 11-15 will uncover the mysteries of local natural resources as they collect invertebrates from the local stream, identify animal sign, fish from the pond, and create their own nature journal.

Native American Explorers on July 16-20 will learn primitive hunting skills, discover the importance of games to keep tribal peace, and experience various life skills such as rope-making.

Trekkers will also be able to take part in two sessions of Camp Wiregrass. The Good Ole Days session from June
(Continued on page 2)

Visit Tift Hall Tuesday

Join ABAC President David Bridges and the other residents of Tift Hall in the Presidential Gallery on the second floor of Tift Hall on Tuesday at 4 p.m. for old fashioned refreshments. Get a look at the newly renovated building and hear a brief campus update by President Bridges.



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18-22 offers campers a glimpse of what Georgia culture was like in the mid-1800s. Campers participate in interactive activities including wool and cotton processing, wagon rides, cane pole fishing, and historic baseball.

From July 9-13, Trekkers can return to Camp Wiregrass for the Nature's Artists session. Young campers create art projects inspired by nature and explore a variety of different mediums of art including photography, pottery, sculpture, and painting. The week culminates in a Campers' Artwork Showcase in the Museum Gallery. Campers will need to bring a digital camera for this session.

Female campers from 7-12 years old can enjoy Victorian Adventures June 25-29. Young ladies will experience the Victorian era from both high society and working class perspectives. Campers learn how to host a tea, make rag and corn husk dolls, embroider, cook a traditional 1800s meal, and make candles.



Campers will get a glimpse of Georgia culture in the mid-1800s at Camp Wiregrass.

At the end of this session, campers will host an afternoon tea for their special invited guests. The cost for this session is \$110.

To register for Camp Wiregrass, interested persons can e-mail Kelly Scott at museumcamp@abac.edu. Space is limited.

First ABAC Baseball Camp Begins June 4

Five sessions of the Fundamentals of Baseball Camp will be held on the campus of ABAC beginning June 4 through the Office of Athletics. Pre-registration is required.

The first camp will run June 4 - 8; the second from June 11 - 15; the third from June 18 - 22; the fourth camp from June 25 - 29; and the last camp from July 9 -

13. All camps will take place from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the ABAC baseball field. This camp is aimed at boys, ages 7 -

13 years old. There is a fee of \$99, and participants need to bring a snack and drinks for each day. Register online at www.abac.edu/pe/baseball or call ABAC Athletics at 229-391-4930.



Dr. Ray Barber Retires After 35 Years of Service

With 35 years of dedicated service to ABAC under his belt, Dr. Ray Barber, Dean of the School of Science and Mathematics, will say good-bye to the beakers and microscopes when he retires on June 1.

Barber began his career in education with a brief stint at his alma mater, Auburn University, teaching physiology labs before coming to ABAC in 1977. He climbed through the ranks at ABAC, serving as an instructor in biology until 1980 when he was promoted to assistant professor.

In 1990, Barber was promoted to an associate professor of biology and advanced to the title of professor seven years later. From 1998-2008, he served as the Chair of the Division of Science and Mathematics and then from 2009-2012 as the Dean of the School of Science and Mathematics.

Barber received his B. S. in zoology in 1974 and his M.S. in physiology in 1976, both from Auburn University. He continued his education at the University of



Georgia, where he received his Ed. D. in science education in 1989.

Barber is justly proud of the many accomplishments of the School of Science and Mathematics.

"We were able to acquire a five-year National Science Foundation STEM scholarship award to provide \$600,000 in scholarships to qualified students with majors in one of the sciences or mathematics,

and most recently we offered the first traditional bachelor of science degree in the history of ABAC, a B.S. in Biology with both a pre-professional and generic track," Barber said. "I am also proud that we have maintained our standards and have produced quality graduates who are sought after by transfer institutions."

Barber's impact on the ABAC campus has attracted the attention of his peers. In 1996, he received the W. Bruce Donaldson Award for Teaching Excellence and in 2011 he received the E. Lanier Carson Award for administrative leadership.

Barber's memories of the college aren't all academic in nature. He remembers fondly all the good times with his colleagues as well.

"I was one of the charter members of the Wampus Cats football team that used to play against the students," said Barber. "There were also all those holiday barbecues at the 'slab' at Donald Massey's house."

But Barber says one of his fondest memories is when all members of the Division of Science and Mathematics went canoeing down the Alapaha River in the late 70s.

"One of the canoes tipped over and got jammed between some rocks," said Barber. "We spent most of the trip chasing after coolers and other items that had fallen out of the canoe."

Barber says what he will miss most about ABAC is the camaraderie of the students, faculty, and staff. Although his ABAC career as a fulltime administrator may be coming to a close, he plans to teach part-time during his retirement. He also wants to do some traveling, take care of a to-do list around his house, and spend a lot more time cycling, kayaking and enjoying family.

ABAC Wins Three GCAA Sports Titles

Three of the six intercollegiate athletics teams at ABAC captured Georgia Collegiate Athletic Association titles this year and advanced to national competition.

Behind the stellar play of GCAA Tournament Most Valuable Player Chanel Cunningham, the Fillies' tennis team rolled to its 19th consecutive women's tennis championship. Coach Alan Kramer's team wound up 11th in the national tournament in Tyler, Tex.

Cunningham was the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Region IV Sophomore Player of the Year. She was also named All-Region. Karen Ching, Carli Hester, and Julia Saunders were also selected for All-Region honors in singles. Olivia Robbins and Nikki Hall were named All-Region in doubles. The team compiled an 11-6 overall record.

The Stallions' tennis team zoomed to a seventh place finish in the national tournament in Plano, Tex., after upsetting a very good Georgia Perimeter team to win the GCAA crown. Oliver Snaider

was named the National ITA Rookie Player of the Year. Hernan Hatem, Trutz Hensen, Taylor Hardy, and Danilo Faria were All-Region in singles, and Tim Kueckelhaus and Ricky Symanski were All-Region in doubles.

Kramer was named GCAA Coach of the Year for men's and women's tennis, and Dale White was selected ITA Region IV Assistant Coach of the Year. ABAC was 9-6 on the year.

The Stallions' golf team is playing this week in the national golf tournament at Swan Lake Resort in Plymouth, Ind. ABAC earned its berth by winning the GCAA Region Championship. ABAC Coach Herb Hendrix was named Coach of the Year.

The Fillies' softball team of Coach Donna Campbell made a spirited run in the GCAA state tournament to finish in third place after being seeded sixth going into the post season event. Bobbie Jo Royals made the All-Region first

team, and Shelby Reed was selected All-Region second team. Royals was also picked for the All-Tournament team, along with Alex Payne. The Fillies had an overall record of 19-27.

The ABAC soccer team hosted the first round of the state tournament for the second season in a row, thanks to the heroics of Melissa Johnson, who ended her ABAC career as the all-time leading scorer in Fillies' soccer history. Coach Jimmy Ballenger's team finished fourth in the regular season and then lost a 2-1 heartbreaker to Middle Georgia in the first round of the state playoffs. Johnson received GCAA first team honors, and Demi Greenan was tabbed for the second team. Johnson scored 34 goals for the Fillies during her career. The Fillies were 9-8 on the year.

The baseball Stallions of Coach Steve Janousek finished ninth in the state with a record of 18-35.



Softball Camp Begins June 11

The Fundamentals of Softball Camp will be held on the campus of ABAC beginning June 11 through the Office of Athletics. Pre-registration is required.

The camp will run June 11 - 14 from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Fillies Field. This camp is aimed at girls, ages 6 - 10 years old. There is a fee of \$69. Participants need to bring a softball glove and a snack each day. Register at www.abac.edu/pe/softball

Tennis Camp Begins June 11

One session of the ABAC tennis camp will be offered beginning in June. This camp is designed for middle and high school tennis team members. Pre-registration is required.

The camp will be held June 25 - 28 and will run from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. The cost of this camp is \$199 (includes lunch).

Directed by Alan Kramer, ABAC men's and women's tennis coach and Dale White, assistant coach for the ABAC men's and women's tennis teams, campers will focus on technical, tactical and mental components of tennis to help players in competitive play. Former ABAC tennis players will serve as instructors for the camps.

To pre-register for this camp, interested persons can call (229) 391-4928, e-mail Kramer at akramer@abac.edu, or go to www.abac.edu/pe/mentennis to fill out the registration and waiver forms.

ABAC Family

Mike Chason served as the emcee for the Tift County Special Olympics on April 13 and for the Tift County Relay for Life torch ceremony on April 27.

ABAC Birthdays

- 21 Keisha Spears
- 23 Gloria Sulkowski
- 23 Nicholas Urquhart
- 26 Robin Cone
- 27 Troy Spicer
- 27 Brandon Street
- 29 Tamara Dennis
- 31 Donnie Thompson
- May 1 Kimberly Griffin

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

Please submit information by **Thursday at noon** to Ashley Mock at amock@abac.edu for inclusion in the next FOCUS.

2012-13 Stallion Day

November 10
February 16
April 6

FOCUS Going Bi-Weekly for Summer

From May 7 to August 13 the FOCUS will be published every two weeks. Please keep this in mind when submitting events for the FOCUS. Questions? Contact Ashley Mock at amock@abac.edu