Alan Kramer, former ABAC Tennis coach, is hanging up his racquet to take a larger leadership role at ABAC as he assumes the position of Assistant Dean of Students on July 1. He will also continue to serve as ABAC Athletics Director.

“Alan Kramer has done an excellent job in his role as a faculty member, coach, and director of athletics, and I know he will take on this new role with as much energy and enthusiasm,” said Dr. Niles Reddick, Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Since his start at ABAC in 1993, Kramer has compiled a career record of 339 wins and 207 losses including a 191-110 record with the Fillies and a 148-98 record with the Stallions. The Fillies won the Region XVII Championship 19 straight years before the streak ended this season when they finished second.

While Kramer will miss coaching, he has an open invitation from Coach White and the players to hit some balls at the Red Hill Center. “I am looking forward to the new challenges presented with the student centered administrative focus,” said Kramer. “It is a very exciting time at ABAC as we expand our student services along with our Bachelor degree programs. There is a lot of excitement and energy on campus and our students are more engaged than ever before.”

Kramer has won 24 Region XVII Coach of the Year awards and has led ABAC’s tennis teams to 15 Fillies’ and 10 Stallions’ Georgia Collegiate Athletic Association (GCAA) Championships. Kramer’s women’s teams have finished in the top 10 nationally ten years and men’s teams have finished in the top 10 nationally twelve years.

Highlighting these strong finishes include a women’s National runner-up in 1999 and men’s National runner-up in 2002 and 2003 as well as third in 2006, 2008 and 2009. Kramer has coached 58 All-Americans (22 women, 36 men), including five national champions (Milena Stonyckova, Monica Lalewicz, German Dalmagro, Arya Vafaei and Matthew Holland).

Kramer was named ITA/Wilson National Intercollegiate Women’s Coach of the Year in 1998 and 2007 and was inducted into the NJCAA Women’s Tennis Hall of Fame in 2010. Kramer has served as the Vice-President of the NJCAA Men’s Tennis Coaches Association from 2006-2009 and President from 2009-2011. In 2006, Kramer was the recipient of the Hershel Stephens Award for Outstanding Service and Dedication to the Men’s Coaches Association.

He served as the Women’s National Ranking Chair from 1998-2000 and as Men’s National Ranking Chair from 2004-2006 and 2012-13. He was the South-eastern United States Women’s Ranking Chair from 1998-1999 and Men’s from 2001-2003. Kramer was appointed to the ITA National Small College Operating Committee from 2004-2008 and has been the GCAA Men’s and Women’s Tennis Chair from 1994-2013. Kramer was named the Southern Section USTA/ITA Campus Recreation Award Winner in 2003.
A new art exhibit, “Sullo’s South”, is slated to open at 9 a.m. on July 13 at the Gallery of the Georgia Museum of Agriculture at ABAC. New York native turned Georgia resident Joseph A. Sullo will be featured in the one-man exhibit showcasing a plethora of still life paintings. Many of his pieces were created specifically for this exhibit.

As a student of the Pratt Institute in New York City, Sullo studied industrial design and has dedicated his life to the engineering field and to the arts. Since his retirement as chief designer for a large New York engineering company, he has expanded his art career with lectures, demonstrations and teaching. He has been creating art for the last 70 years. Although he has mastered many artistic techniques, he has devoted his energy to the art of still life painting in oils.

After serving in the U.S. Marines during World War II, Sullo entered the design engineering field and subsequently became the chief of mechanical design for a chemical and metallurgical engineering company. While pursuing a painting and teaching career, he has shown his work extensively in the Northeast, Florida and Georgia.

Prior to relocating to Fitzgerald, Sullo lived in New York where he held memberships in the Dutchess County Art Association, The Garrison Art Center, Middletown Art Club, Morris County Art Association and Flushing Art League. He was also a member of the Ridgefield Guild of Artists in Connecticut and was an artist-elect in the prestigious Kent Art Association.

Sullo has enjoyed lecturing while showing his museum quality work in one-man shows at the Ormond Beach Memorial Art Gallery, Daytona Museum of Art and Daytona Beach Community College in Florida. He has also exhibited at the Thrasher House in Ashburn, The Main Street Art Gallery in Pine Bush, N.Y., and the Waldorf Astoria in New York City.

His work has been a part of many group exhibits including those in the Queens Museum, Kent Art Association Art Gallery, Ridgewood Art Institute, Bardavon Opera House, Hudson Valley Art Association and the Festival of the Masters at Lake Buena Vista at Disney World in Orlando, Fla.

Sullo has conducted classes and demonstrations at the Barrett House Art School (New York), Heritage Art Gallery (New York), Daytona Beach College (Florida) and ABAC. His work has been chosen as the purchase award recipient for the City of Ashburn, and he has presented one-man shows in the City of Fitzgerald and participated in various shows featuring local artists in this area. For many years he was an active member of the Atlantic Coastline Artists Guild in Tifton.

His numerous awards resulted in extensive lecture events. Many of Sullo’s works reside in private collections all over the country. He is listed in Who’s Who in the East and Who’s Who in American Art.

The “Sullo’s South” exhibit will run from July 13 – Oct. 12. For more information on the exhibit, interested persons can contact GMA Gallery Coordinator Polly Huff at (229) 391-5222 or at phuff@abac.edu.
ABAC Tennis Camp Hosts Largest Crowd

The ABAC Tennis program hosted the largest youth tennis camp in college history last week. Left Fifty-three youth players participated in the week long camp covering skills and competition. Thanks to the coaching staff and ABAC employees that helped make this event successful and enjoyable for the youth of the area. Right Award winners included: (left to right) Will Schalch from Irmin Co. won the Stallion Award, Quay Clark from Tifton won Most Valuable Player, Haley Trebony from Moultrie won the Fillie Award, and Caris Ruis from Funston won Most Improved Player.

Bottles & Brushes July 18 @ Museum
The Bottles and Brushes art class will feature the painting “Owl” by Brenda Rose. The session will take place on July 18 from 6-8 p.m. at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture. There is a fee of $25 per person for the class or $40 for a couple. Participants must register ahead of time by contacting Polly Huff at (229) 391-5222 or by e-mailing her at phuff@abac.edu. Space is limited so early registration is important.

Urquhart Named Director of Academic Support Services
Nicholas Urquhart has been named Director of Academic Support. He has been a part of the academic support center team since 2009 and started at ABAC in 2008 as an adjunct professor in math and art. Academic Support includes the academic support counselors, the tutoring center, COMPASS Testing, and learning support. Additionally the unit also oversees advising and coordinates Orientation. Congratulations Nicholas!

ABAC Birthdays

1 Russ Larger
6 Carrie Ross
11 Robin Crumley

1 Todd Daunhauer
7 Barry Miburo
12 Mary Willis

9 Kim Talley
9 Caren Gladin
9 Garrett Boone

1 Chris Kinsey
12 Elizabeth Stone
14 Keith Perry
5 Wendy Harrison

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.