



FOCUS

ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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Town Hall Meeting Tuesday at 4 p.m.

All faculty and staff are invited to join President David Bridges on Tuesday at 4 p.m. in Health Sciences, Room 114 for a Town Hall Meeting to discuss furloughs, budget cuts, and other related items.

Dr. Bridges will discuss information from the University System Office on the furlough situation, which is now at least

three days for every state employee prior to Dec. 31, 2009.

ABAC has also been asked to prepare 4%, 6%, and 8% budget reduction plans for FY10 and carry forward plans for FY11. Budget revenues for the State of Georgia continue to decline, and the economic picture seems as cloudy as ever.

YouTube Footage Needed

If you are teaching a summer class and would not mind it being filmed for use on the ABAC YouTubeEDU page, please contact Ashley Williamson at awilliamson@abac.edu or 391-5057.

ABAC Application Deadline Saturday

The deadline for applications for the fall semester at ABAC is Saturday. Classes for the fall term begin August 17.

A total of 17 baccalaureate programs including rural studies, diversified agriculture, turfgrass and golf course management, and early childhood education are now available on the ABAC campus.

"Fall 2009 is right around the corner and with the start of our newest four-year degree programs in Rural Studies, we are really looking forward to a great semester," said Donna Webb, Director of Enrollment Services.

Students can attain degrees through the Schools of Business Administration, Agriculture and Natural Resources, Liberal Arts, Human Sciences, Nursing and Health Sciences, and Science and Mathematics.

"All information necessary to complete the application must be received by that date to ensure that the office has time to process the application and make the admissions decision," Webb said. "Applications received after August 1 will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and the registration process may be delayed."

Prospective students who need more information on the fall semester can contact the admissions office by visiting the ABAC web site at www.abac.edu

Tift County Salutatorian To Attend ABAC This Fall

Emily Walker, the 2009 Tift County High School salutatorian and the recipient of an ABAC Foundation Scholarship, will begin classes at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College on Aug. 17.

Walker is no stranger to the ABAC campus. She took some classes through the ACEL program while finishing up her senior year of high school.

"I loved everything about ABAC," said Walker. "The staff is so helpful. I wasn't a number here."

Walker's favorite things about ABAC are the small class sizes and its faculty.

"The class size allows students to have one-on-one time with the instructors so you really get to know them. The instructors at ABAC really care about you as a student," said Walker.

Because of her academic standing, Walker was selected as an ABAC Foundation Scholar and will receive a full tuition scholarship to ABAC.

During her high school career, Walker was involved in the Beta Club, Spanish Club and was a member of the Lady Devils tennis team. In her junior and senior years she became active on the newspaper staff. In her senior year she served as assistant editor on *The*



Blue and White and the in-house paper, *Speak of the Devil*. She also began doing volunteer work at Tift Health Care.

Walker will begin her full college experience when she enters as a freshman this fall. She has decided to major in pharmacy. "My junior year I took a chemistry class taught by Kim Seigler, and she made me fall in love with the subject. She is the one who encouraged me to major in pharmacy. I also like the fact that pharmacy is be-

coming more involved. You get to interact with people. It's not just about counting pills," said Walker.

Walker attends Northside Baptist Church where she is an active member of the youth group. She is also an avid reader.

After completing her education at ABAC, she plans to attend the University of Georgia's School of Pharmacy to attain her bachelor's and master's degrees in pharmacy.

"I've always pictured myself returning to Tifton because my family is here, and it's a small town. I would like to work in a chain pharmacy or hospital and branch out to having a pharmacy of my own someday," said Walker.

Summer Dining Hours

DONALDSON DINING HALL

July 27 thru 31

Lunch: 11:30 – 1:30 p.m.

The Donaldson Dining Hall will then close until August 8, 2009.

ABAC Family

Shirley Wilson and Alan Kramer attended the NJCAA Summer Seminar in Greensboro NC July 23-24

Thank You

Thank you for the adorable flower arrangement sent to honor the birth of John Wesley. We are all doing great! I appreciate all of the thoughts and well-wishes!

The Sewell Family

ABAC Job Opportunities

- ABAC Police Officer
 - Assistant Professor/Instructor in Psychology and Nursing
 - Part-time Credentialed Faculty
- Full job postings can be viewed at www.abac.edu/hr

ABAC Birthdays

- 27 Alan Murphy
- 30 Susan Farmer
- 30 Melanie Partlow
- 30 Jimmy Harper
- 31 Darby Sewell

August

- 1 Marie Davis
- 1 Jo Ann Paulk

The FOCUS is a weekly electronic publication produced by the Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College Public Relations Office.

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Mike Chason Writer & Editor

Please submit any information to Ashley at awilliamson@abac.edu by Thursday at noon for inclusion in the next FOCUS.

Padgett Combines Two Interests at ABAC

Jessica Padgett, the 2008 Valedictorian from Worth County High School, had no trouble deciding on Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College as her college of choice.

"I would always come here with FFA," Padgett said. "It's so close to home, and I'm not a number here."

The agriculture communication major from Sylvester thinks the best thing about ABAC is that there is always someone willing to help.

"Whether you need someone to talk to about classes or joining clubs, there is always someone to talk to," said Padgett.

Padgett was active in her broadcasting class and FFA in high school so she decided to major in a field that would allow her to do both. She served as a state vice president in FFA for the 2007-08 year.

"I lived and breathed FFA through high school. I started with FFA when I was in seventh grade and went all the way through my senior year. I took the broadcasting class once in high school, where we did all the in-class announcements," said Padgett.

Besides being a full-time student at ABAC, Padgett also manages to find time for campus activities including being a part of the ABAC choir and serving as a disc jockey for WPLH.



When she returns in the fall, she will take the helm of the student newspaper, *The Stallion*, as editor-in-chief and play a role in ABAC's student housing population as a Community Assistant. She loves to sing and play guitar outside of ABAC.

"I have been playing with bands since I was ten. If there is a place to sing, I am there. I hope to start a new band with some student musicians here in the fall,"

said Padgett.

The recipient of an ABAC Foundation scholarship, Padgett plans to graduate from ABAC in the spring of 2009, but she isn't quite sure what path she'll pursue after commencement.

"I am currently looking at the University of Georgia (UGA) and Middle Tennessee State. If I go to UGA I will get my bachelor's degree in agriculture communication. If I decide on Middle Tennessee, I will major in music," said Padgett.

Her future plans also depend on what road she will choose.

"I would love to be on a tour bus travelling and playing country music. I love it here, and it will always be home, but I want to see things before I settle down," said Padgett.

And if communication wins out?

"I would love to go into broadcasting in front of or behind the camera. I really like the news production side of broadcasting," said Padgett.

Rock-A-Thon Raises \$1,400 for Local Veterans



The Student Leadership Society at ABAC on the Square in Moultrie raised \$1,400 from its inaugural Rock-a-thon event. The funds were presented to the Colquitt County Veterans Activity Committee representatives. Pictured l-r Kay Powell, Mrs. Hoyt Holland, retired Col. Hoyt Holland, Alice Slocumb, and Tabitha McCoy.