



FOCUS

ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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Dining Hall Open House Aug. 6

Come by Donaldson Dining Hall on Monday at 4 p.m. for light refreshments and the first glimpse at the newly renovated building.

Promotions Approved for ABAC Faculty Members

Nine faculty members at ABAC will receive academic promotions, effective Aug. 1 according to Dr. Niles Reddick, ABAC Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Dr. Hans Schmeisser and **Amanda Urquhart** will receive promotions to the rank of assistant professor from instructor. **Dr. Kingsley Dunkley**, **Dr. Cynthia Hall**, **Troy Spicer**, and **Amy Williams** will receive promotions to the rank of associate professor from assistant professor. **Dr. James McCrimmon**, **Dr. Sandra Giles**, and **Dr. Susan Roe** will receive promotions to the rank of professor from associate professor.

Schmeisser has been a faculty member in the School of Liberal Arts since 2009. He received his B.A. in political science from Mercer University and both his M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from the University of Florida.

Urquhart obtained her bachelor's degree in mathematics and anthropology from Mercer University and her master's degree in mathematics from Colorado State University. She came to ABAC in 2008 as a temporary full-time

instructor and was hired full-time a year later in the School of Science and Mathematics.

Dunkley earned his B.S. in agriculture and his M.A. in animal science from Prairie View Agricultural & Mechanical University, and his Ph.D. in poultry science from Texas A & M University. He joined the ABAC faculty in 2008 in the School of Science and Mathematics.

Hall joined the ABAC faculty in 2008, teaching in the School of Liberal Arts. She received her B.A. in English from Mount St. Mary College; her M.Ed. in English Education from Emmanuel College; her M.A. in English from the University of West Georgia; and her Ph.D. in English from the University of California, Riverside.

Spicer received his A.S. in nursing from ABAC; his B.S. in biology from the University of Georgia; his M.S. in nursing from Georgia State University; and a BSN in nursing from the Medical College of Georgia. He joined the faculty of ABAC in 2003 and teaches in the School of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Williams joined the ABAC faculty in 2004. She received her B.A. in speech and her M.Ed. in instructional technolo-

gy from Valdosta State University. She teaches business, computer, and education classes for the School of Business at ABAC.

McCrimmon received his B.S. in biology from Gardner-Webb University; his M.S. in botany from North Carolina State University; and his Ph.D. in agronomy from the University of Georgia. He became a part of the faculty in the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources in 2007.

Giles has been a member of the faculty in the School of Liberal Arts since 1997. She earned an A.A. in English from ABAC; her M.A. and B.A. in English from Valdosta State University; and her Ph.D. in English from Florida State University.

Roe earned her B.M. in music education with a focus on voice performance from Converse College; her M.C.M. in vocal pedagogy from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; and her D.M.A. in voice performance from the University of South Carolina. She has been a faculty member in the ABAC music program in the School of Liberal Arts since 2003.

Freshman Convocation Aug. 12 Freshman Convocation will be held Aug. 12 at 2 p.m. in Gressette Gym. Dr. Sandra Giles, professor of English in the School of Liberal Arts at ABAC, will be the featured speaker. Giles has been teaching college writing and literature classes since 1991 and has been at ABAC since 1997.

History Panels Installed in Tift Hall



Individuals from Murphy & Orr worked diligently last week to install the history panels on the first floor of Tift Hall. These panels are just the first of many installments. Take a moment to come by and have a look at the history of the College.

Freshman Move-in Day & House Calls



Freshman move-in day is **August 8** from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Bring hand trucks and wear your ABAC colors to welcome the new freshman! Shift are in three hour increments and both inside and outside jobs are available. Also, on Tuesday **August 21** from 5:30– 7:30 sign-up to make house calls in ABAC Place and Lakeside. These visits are to ensure that students are adjusting well to college and to see if they need any assistance. Contact bhughes@abac.edu to sign up for both events.

ABAC Offering ACCEL Classes at Tift County High Schools This Fall

Beginning this fall students in Tift County will have the opportunity to take ACCEL classes through ABAC without having to leave the high school.

ABAC is offering ACCEL classes at both Tift County High School and Tiftarea Academy. TCHS fall classes will include freshman composition, history, biology, and college algebra. Tiftarea Academy students will have the opportunity to take history and human communications this fall.

“This is a great opportunity to prepare students for college while they’re still in high school,” said Dr. Gail Dillard, Executive Director of ABAC on the Square and Early Admission Programs. “The classes will be taught under the standards set by the University System of Georgia so that students get the most benefit from the program and are fully prepared to continue college work after high school graduation.”

In the past, TCHS students have taken the ACCEL classes on the ABAC campus; however, supporters of the program are enthusiastic about the convenience this change in the program will offer students.

“We believe this is an excellent financial and academic opportunity for our students and we are excited to offer

them the chance to receive college credit from ABAC while attending classes on the TCHS campus,” said Dr. Ryan Gravitt, TCHS Principal.

Tiftarea Academy students will also continue to enjoy the convenience of the classes being offered at the school with new expanded class offerings.

“The ACCEL program is an excellent opportunity for our students,” said Dr. Larry Creamer, Guidance Counselor at Tiftarea Academy. “This program prepares the students to better succeed in college by experiencing hand-on what college classes are like.”

Dillard said the ACCEL Program is a student financial aid program administered by the Georgia Student Finance Commission to assist students who are attending an eligible high school in Georgia and simultaneously taking degree coursework from an eligible postsecondary institution in Georgia as a dual credit enrollment student.

In order to qualify for the ACCEL program, students must have a minimum SAT score of 970 (Critical Reading + Math), or an ACT Composite score of 21; a cumulative HSGPA of 3.0 or higher in academic subjects; and exemption of Learning Support requirements. The hours taken through the ACCEL

program do not count against the HOPE combined paid-hours limit of 127 hours. This change helps to ensure that students aren’t deterred from ACCEL because their HOPE hours could run out before they actually finish college.

The ACCEL program pays full tuition for each ABAC class and the fees are waived, meaning that the only out-of-pocket cost for the students is textbooks. In order to apply to the ACCEL program students must apply to ABAC online, pay a \$20 application fee, turn in their immunization form, official SAT/ACT scores, official high school transcript, and proof of lawful presence. All of these items are required by any student who applies to ABAC. In addition to applying to ABAC, students must complete the online ACCEL application, which is available at www.gacollege411.org.

ABAC is also offering similar programs at other area high schools including Colquitt County and Fitzgerald High School.

For more information on the ACCEL program, interested students can contact Dr. Gail Dillard at (229) 891-7235 or at gdillard@abac.edu.

Tenure Approved For Four ABAC Faculty Members

Four members of the faculty at ABAC have been approved for tenure, effective Aug. 1, according to Dr. Niles Reddick, ABAC Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Those receiving tenure include **Deborah Drummonds, Dr. Susan Farmer, Wendy Harrison, and Alan Murphy.**

Drummonds received her B.S.N. in nursing from Jacksonville State University and her M.S.N. in nursing from Emory University. She joined the ABAC faculty in 2007 and is an assistant professor of nursing in the School of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Farmer is an associate professor of biology in the School of Science and Mathematics. She received her B.A. in computer science, her M.S. in botany, and her Ph.D. in botany from the University of Tennessee. She has been a

part of the ABAC faculty since 2007.

Harrison received her A.B.J. in print journalism from the University of Georgia and her M.Ed. in secondary education from Georgia Southwestern State University. She joined the ABAC faculty in 2002 and is an associate professor of English in the School of Liberal Arts.

Murphy is an assistant professor of agronomy in the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources. He earned his B.S. in botany from Miami University and his M.S. in plant pathology from the University of Georgia. He has been a member of the ABAC faculty since 2007.

Tenure may be granted to a faculty member who has served at least five years as an assistant professor and has shown the potential for making significant contributions to the college and in the professor's field.

Wiregrass Farmers Market



Open every Saturday from 9 a.m. – Noon through October! Meet the friendliest farmers and browse the agricultural-iest crafts in South

Georgia, while your kids enjoy an activity at every market.

Summer Museum Hours to Beat the Heat

During the month of August, the Museum, Gallery, and Tift House will be open every Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. The Historic Village will be closed for the entire month.



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

ABAC Birthdays

- 30 Susan Farmer
- 31 Melanie Partlow
- August
- 1 Marie Davis
- 1 Terence Turner
- 3 Bobbie Robinson
- 3 Donna Sledge



Faculty & Staff Fall Conference

Monday, August 6

- 8:00-8:15 a.m.Faculty and Staff Gather for Coffee and Pastries (*Howard Auditorium*)
- 8:15-9:00 a.m.Welcome by ABAC President Dr. David Bridges (*Howard Auditorium*)
- 9:00-10:00 a.m. "Harassment and Title Nine": Jeff Thompson (*Howard Auditorium*)

Faculty will Relocate to Bowen 100

- 10:15-11:30Meeting with Faculty & Bridges
- 11:30-12:00Business Info: Deidra Jackson
- 12:00-1:00 Lunch (2nd floor of Bowen)
- 1:00-1:30Curricular Changes: Bobbie Robinson, Dean
- 1:30-3:15Information from Registrar: Tarrah Mirus