



# FOCUS

## ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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### Learning Communities Set for Fall Term at ABAC

Through the efforts of the Office of Student Success at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, seven different learning communities will be available to ABAC students when they begin their first day of classes for the fall semester on Aug. 16.

Learning communities are made up of students who take two or more classes together as a group. These classes have a common theme such as leadership, politics, or the environment.

Learning communities offered in the fall include Leaders Evolving and Developing (L.E.A.D.), Emerging Leaders, Pre-Nursing, Rural Life, Medical Careers, You Might Be A Leader If . . . , and

Technology and Your Career.

"There are many benefits to joining a learning community," said Dr. Don Parks, Director of Student Success Programs. "Students who participate in learning communities graduate at a higher rate, are more involved in campus activities, form closer relationships with students and faculty, develop leadership skills, are more active in the community, and are more engaged in the learning process."

For information on the learning communities offered this fall, ABAC students can go to [www.abac.edu/lc](http://www.abac.edu/lc) or contact the Office of Student Success at (229) 391-4786.

### ABAC Faculty-Staff Breakfast August 9

Local businesses will sponsor a breakfast for all ABAC employees on Aug. 9 from 8-9 a.m. in the Donaldson Dining Hall. Join other members of the ABAC Family for breakfast as we begin another academic year.

### Freshman Welcome Week Activities Begin Aug. 10

Freshmen at ABAC will kick off their college careers on Aug. 10 when Welcome Week begins on the campus.

The annual event, now in its fourth year, will introduce new students to the college through a variety of activities and workshops, leading up to the start of the fall semester on Aug. 16.

Freshmen Learning Community students will get the opportunity to record the Welcome Week experience by creating iMovies. The results of their efforts will then be shown in an iMovie Festival later in the semester.

Activities during the week include seminars about college life, mandatory hall meetings for all students living on campus, a Welcome Rally, a "Stallion Search" scavenger hunt around the campus, tours of the ABAC and Tifton, Casino Night, a talent show, and more.

The Freshman Convocation will be held Aug. 13 at 11 a.m. in Gressette Gym with featured speaker Joel McKie, an ABAC alumnus (class of 2002). While at ABAC, McKie was a member of the ABAC Ambassadors and was active in FFA, serving as National FFA Southern Region Vice President in 2002-2003 and as State FFA President from 2000 - 2001. A picnic will follow convocation from 12:30 - 2 p.m. with music provided by Nick McClellan of After Hours Productions. All faculty and staff are invited to the picnic.

Over 3,000 students are expected to attend classes at ABAC during the fall term. Almost 1,300 are expected to live on campus.

### Free Concert For College Students August 28



Mike Chason hosted Heather Johnson (second from left) and Ms. ABAC Savannah Brown on the ABAC Update television show to discuss a free concert for college students on August 28 at 6 p.m. at the UGA Conference Center. The event will feature music by Austin's Bridge and a talk by former UGA quarterback David Greene.

### ABAC Birthdays

#### August

- 3 Donna Sledge
- 3 Katherine Smith
- 3 Bobbie Robinson
- 5 Philip Shippey
- 6 Mary Thornton
- 7 Janice Trawick
- 8 Elaine Auger

### ABAC Family

Mike Chason spoke on ABAC on the FOX 31 Albany Morning Show on July 28.

Paul Willis, Ashley Williamson, Mike Chason, and ABAC students Bernard Green and Savannah Brown presented a program on ABAC to the Tifton Rotary Club on July 28.

Dr. David Bridges appeared on the WALB-TV noon show in Albany on July 30.