



# FOCUS

## ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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### Chancellor To Visit ABAC On December 7

Chancellor Erroll Davis, Jr., will visit ABAC on Dec. 7 for open discussion sessions with various segments of the ABAC and Tifton communities. Davis will take a tour of the Front of Campus Project with President



David Bridges and will also meet with student leaders, community leaders, senior faculty leaders, and the President's Cabinet.

A working lunch will involve members of the ABAC Alumni Board, the Foundation Board, community leaders, and local legislators.

The trip to Tifton marks one of Davis' regular visits to each of the 35 units of the University System of Georgia.

### Ring in the Holidays Tuesday at 4 p.m.

Ring in the holidays this year with a Holiday Music Celebration on Tuesday at 4 p.m. in the Chapel of All Faiths at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College.

This event is open to the public at no charge. Refreshments will be served in the lobby of the adjacent music building when the concert ends.

The concert will feature the ABAC Jazz Band, directed by Don Coates, with Andrew Davidson on piano as well as the ABAC Jazz Choir, directed by Dr. Susan Roe.

Wayne Jones will sing "Sweet Little Jesus Boy", and the concert will close with audience participation in beloved Christmas songs such as "Joy to the World", "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"



and "Come All Ye Faithful". As a grand finale, Roe will sing "O Holy Night", accompanied on piano by Davidson.

The entire community is invited to join the college faculty, staff, and students for this afternoon of holiday cheer. For more information, contact Roe at 391-4943.

### Spring Application Deadline Tuesday

The application deadline for the spring term at ABAC is Tuesday. Classes will begin Jan. 11, 2010.

"Prospective students shouldn't delay in submitting the admissions application," said Donna Webb, Director of Enrollment Services. "The Enrollment Services office is dedicated to assisting students through the entire enrollment process and will continue working with students throughout their ABAC career."

Webb said there is an application fee of \$20 to apply for admission to ABAC.

"We encourage all prospective students to apply online," Webb said. "The site, [www.abac.edu](http://www.abac.edu), gives step-by-step procedures on how to apply for admissions, as well as financial aid and other services."

All information and fees required for entry into ABAC must be completed by Dec. 1 to ensure that the Enrollment Service office has time to process the application. Applications received after Tuesday will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Over 500 classes are being offered at ABAC for the spring term including accounting, algebra, biology, computer applications, economics, history, music, and more.

An easy to follow application guide is available online at [www.abac.edu/steps](http://www.abac.edu/steps).

For more information on ABAC, contact the Office of Enrollment Service at (229) 391-5004 or go to the website at [www.abac.edu/admissions](http://www.abac.edu/admissions).

### Mark your calendar

## January 7

### Spring Advising and Registration

Check-in will begin at

8:30 a.m. in the

Branch Student

Center

## ABAC Receives \$5,800 Grant from Poultry Foundation

A \$5,800 grant from the United States Poultry and Egg Harold E. Ford Foundation will help to open the doors to careers in the poultry industry for students at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College.

Dr. Tim Marshall, Dean of the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources at ABAC, said the funding will allow ABAC students to

go on field trips to poultry companies throughout the state and visit the annual International Poultry Exposition.

"Interest in Poultry Science in South Georgia is increasing due to the expansion of the broiler industry in the area," Marshall said. "Employment opportunities have increased significantly."

Jim Brock, President of Crystal



Jim Brock (center) presents a \$5,800 Poultry Foundation grant check to Dr. Tim Marshall (left), Dean of the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and Dr. Niles Reddick, Vice President for Academic Affairs, at ABAC.

Farms, Inc., echoed that sentiment when he presented the grant funds check to Marshall.

"We are trying to reach these college students," Brock said. "We want to attract them to the industry because there are jobs available for them."

ABAC offers an introductory class in Poultry Science. Students can use this class

toward the completion of a degree at ABAC and then transfer to a university to complete their bachelor's degree in Poultry Science.

"We appreciate this grant funding very much," Marshall said. "The bottom line for our graduates is that these companies are hiring. These jobs are out there."



## Career Connections Brings Opportunities to ABAC Grads

Over 25 employers came to ABAC recently to recruit the top students in the industry. Some companies did on-site interviews and made offers the same day. Two-hundred students took advantage of the opportunity, some of them close to graduation and entry into the job market.

## Space Limited for PSBO Costa Rica Trip

The Public Service and Business Outreach Center (PSBOC) at ABAC will offer a fabulous trip to the exotic locale of Costa Rica as part of the 2010 travel line-up. Space is limited for this trip so register early.

Tropical Costa Rica is a nine-day trip through lush forests, majestic waterfalls, and endless other natural wonders the country has to offer. Travel dates are March 17 – 25, 2010.

The cost of this trip is \$2,449 for double occupancy; \$3,149 for single occupancy; and \$2,419 for triple occupancy.

For more information, interested person can contact PSBOC at (229) 391-5070 or visit the web site at [www.abac.edu/psbo](http://www.abac.edu/psbo).

## ABAC Music Recitals This Week in Chapel

Eighteen music majors at ABAC will perform recitals on Wednesday and Thursday at 4 p.m. each day in the Chapel of All Faiths. The performances are free to the public, as well as to all ABAC faculty, staff, and students.

The one-hour recitals will feature a diversity of styles in performance, ranging from voices to hand-held and upright instruments.

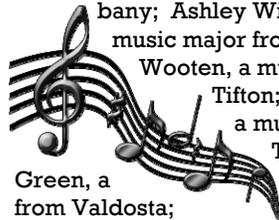
The recitals will feature Kody Jones, a music major from Tifton; Michael Johnson, a music major from Ashburn; Thomas Atkins, a psychology major from Hahira; Jake Thompson, a music major from Tifton; Justin Lott, an agriculture business major from Nashville; and James Lavender, a music major from Ocilla.

Other performers include Erlencia Mumphrey, a biology major from Albany; Ashley Williams, a voice/music major from Tifton; Seth

Wooten, a music major from Tifton; Cameron Bell, a music major from Tifton; Terry

Green, a music major from Valdosta; Drew Ellis, a music major from Cordele; Maggie Huckeba, a music major from Coolidge;

Joshua Moody, a music major from McDonough; John Neely, a music major from Moultrie; Kwame Paige, a music major from Valdosta; Terry Stevens, a music major from Baconton and Urian Walters, a music major from Americus.



## Sodexo Receives Perfect Safety Score

The Sodexo Plant Operations area at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College recently received a perfect score in a safety audit that took place on the campus.

The audit was conducted by a contracted company through Sodexo that serves as an independent third party for the company.

"The safety audit team looked primarily at the areas completely under Sodexo's control," said Andy Bihl, Director of Sodexo plant operations at ABAC. "The areas included shipping and receiving, mechanical rooms in the buildings, office areas within plant operations, and the physical plant."

Bihl said that standards under Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), National Fire Protection Association, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), and Sodexo's internal standards had to be met, specifically at the training and record-

keeping levels, as well as the environment.

"Anything below an 89 will automatically call for a re-audit," said Bihl. "We work very hard at maintaining a safe environment for our employees with a stringent set of standards. We strive to create a safety mindset within the employees and want them to be safe at work. It is good business and good people practice."

There is an internal safety committee made up of hourly employees that meet once a month to do inspections and share observations and recommendations to make things safer for ABAC.

Bihl said it was a team effort that gave ABAC's plant operations the high safety audit score.

"It's a team effort and requires everyone paying attention all of the time," Bihl said. "Employees will never be penalized for asking to make something safer."

## ABAC Alumna Receives Award



The UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences recognized Beth Bland with the Alumni Association's Young Alumni Achievement Award at the association's annual banquet held Sept. 24 at the Classic Center in Athens. This award is given to CAES alumni who are 35 years old or younger and who have excelled in their chosen field or community. Bland is a 1999 ABAC graduate.

## Fulbright Hays Scholars Share Their Experiences

A trip to Brazil this summer was the result of a Fulbright-Hays Grant from the United States Department of Education Office of International Education. The faculty members, as well as 10 other Georgia educators, spent a month studying Brazil's culture and history while meeting with some of its government officials, educators, and the country's local citizens. Dr. Jeff Gibbs, Alan Kramer, Dr. Brian Ray, and Lorie Felton shared their experiences at a recent seminar in the Health Sciences Building.



## ABAC Hall of Fame Deadline Is Tuesday

Nominations are now being accepted for the Athletics Hall of Fame at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. The deadline for nominations is Tuesday.

Any individual, living or deceased may be considered for induction into the ABAC Athletics Hall of Fame.

Individuals are nominated in one of three categories: Athlete, Coach, or Contributor.

Alumni as well as the general public are encouraged to nominate individuals for this honor. Athletics Hall of Fame criteria and a nomination form can be found at [www.abac.edu/halloffame](http://www.abac.edu/halloffame).

For more information, interested persons can contact Alan Kramer at (229) 391-4928.

## Miller Returns To ABAC as Director of Dining Services

Dan Miller has been named the new director of dining services for Sodexo at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. He is certainly no stranger to the college. A Sylvester native, he attended ABAC from 2002 to 2004.

Miller returned to ABAC in 2005, working in the dining hall for two years. He has been at Middle Georgia College working for Sodexo since 2007. When former ABAC dining hall director Kurt Hoffman passed away, ABAC started the search for a new director. Miller is glad that he got the call.

"It has been great being back," Miller said. "It is good to be home."



Miller

There is a comfort and warmth here. It's a great place to both go to school and work, and I am coming across both old and new faces since being back."

Miller has also worked for the Department of Agriculture as a meat inspector and helped run a family-owned meat business in Sylvester.

Miller is currently taking classes for a degree in business, focusing on management. He and his wife, Brooke, have two boys, Case (5) and Bo (1).

# ABAC Family

Dr. Niles Reddick spoke about Rural Studies at the state PTK convention at Georgia Highlands College Oct. 30.

Alan Kramer spoke about the Athletics Hall of Fame on the WTIF Morning Show on Nov. 20.

Donna Webb attended the Executive Symposium and the 19<sup>th</sup> annual AACRAO's Strategic Enrollment Management Conference in Dallas, TX Nov. 8 – 11.

Jenelle Handcox, Anita Hobbs, and Debra McCrary attended the RACRA/RACSFA meeting Nov. 16 in Macon.

## Job Opportunities

- ABAC Police Officer
- Part-time Clinical Instructor, School of Nursing and Health Sciences
- Part-time Credentialed Faculty
- Comptroller

## ABAC Celebrates Veterans Day

Keith Perry spoke at the Veterans Day Ceremony sponsored by WPLH radio station. The cookout was held in the Meadows as a way to show appreciation for those that risk their lives to protect our freedom.



## Get in Gear for Route 66: Driving to a Cure

2010 Relay for Life will begin Friday, April 23 at 7p.m. at EB Hamilton Friendly City Park

Visit the website to register to join the ABAC team is [www.tifrelayforlife.com](http://www.tifrelayforlife.com)

## ABAC Birthdays

30 Amanda McGee

### December

- 2 Ryan Myers
- 3 Jacob Horsley
- 3 Brenda Doss
- 4 Kay Powell
- 5 Mickie Tompkins
- 5 Holly Lawrence
- 6 Jeff Gibbs



## ABAC Students Lend A Helping Hand

The ABAC Leadership and the African-American Male Experience Living/Learning Communities recently traveled to Albany to participate in a home-building project for Flint River Area Habitat for Humanity. Over 25 students participated. Their efforts will help two families move into new homes before Christmas!

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

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Please submit any information to Ashley at [awilliamson@abac.edu](mailto:awilliamson@abac.edu) by Thursday at noon for inclusion in the next FOCUS.