



FOCUS

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Gerhart Named Chief Information Officer

Robert Gerhart has been named Chief Information Officer at ABAC, according to an announcement by ABAC President David Bridges.

"I am excited about the experience and innovative ideas Robert will bring to ABAC," Bridges said. "His outgoing personality and drive to get the job done will result in needed advancements to campus technology."

Gerhart comes to ABAC from the Georgia Institute of Technology where he has served as the Special Projects Director in the office of the CIO since 2012. Prior to this position he served as Director of Information Technology in the College of Architecture at Georgia Tech since 1999. From 2009 until 2012 he assumed the additional responsibilities

of managing facilities for the College of Architecture. During his 15 year tenure at Georgia Tech, Gerhart has been responsible for identifying and fulfilling all technology needs that support education, instruction, research and business operations.

He has seen and adapted to rapid technological changes while at Georgia Tech and is excited to do the same at ABAC.

"It is inspiring to see what students accomplish when they combine their creative imagination with a little technical knowledge. I feel fortunate to be able to contribute to that process. I see



my role as the Chief Information Officer (CIO) at ABAC as an enabler," Gerhart said. "My goal as CIO will be to assist students along with the faculty and staff that support them with the technical tools and resources they need to succeed not only while they are at ABAC, but also in preparation for their chosen careers."

Gerhart received a B.A. in Sociology from Lee University in Cleveland, Tenn. and earned his Master of Science degree in Building Construction and Integrated Facilities Management from Georgia Institute of Technology in 2009.

Business Office Sells Patriotic Shirts

In preparation of Carry The Load this Thurs., the ABAC Business Office is selling Patriotic ABAC t-shirts. The shirt prices are \$15 for Adult S - XL, \$17 for XXL, and \$18 for XXXL. For every shirt sold \$1 will be donated to creating a veteran memorial on campus. All pre-orders will be available for pickup from the Business Office between 2-5 p.m. on Tues., and can be paid at pickup. Contact Deidra Jackson at deidrajackson@abac.edu for more information



ABAC's Phi Theta Kappa Named Five-Star Chapter

The Omega Delta Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society at ABAC was recently named a Five Star Chapter at the PTK regional conference in Douglas. The honor completes one of the organization's multi-year goals. Being named a Five Star Chapter is the most exclusive status a chapter can achieve.

The Five Star Chapter Plan recognizes chapters for student engagement, both on campus and in the community. As part of its Five Star efforts, Omega Delta was awarded the 2013 Distinguished Issue Award for its Honors in Action Project: Food Fight. Demonstrating excellence in academic



research and leadership, the student-led project encompassed a range of activities including a hunger awareness dinner, food waste in the community, and food collection for local pantries.

The Omega Delta Chapter hosts

many activities on the ABAC campus including Trick or Treat for Kids, "Welcome Back" events for the faculty, and its newest event, the crowning of the ABAC Homecoming King and Queen in 2014.

To be eligible for Phi Theta Kappa membership, ABAC students must have at least a 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale and must have completed 12 semester hours. Members are eligible

for over \$87 million in scholarship opportunities from Phi Theta Kappa, partnering with senior colleges, universities and foundations.

Along with scholarships, many lead-

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

ership and academic awards are available to PTK members. At ABAC, two students competed for The All-USA Community College Academic Team, which recognizes high achieving two-year college students who demonstrate academic excellence and intellectual rigor combined with leadership and service that extends education beyond

the classroom. Receiving the recognition for 2014 were Jessica Gorseth, a criminal justice major from Ball Ground, and Jessica VanDeVelde, a Rural Studies - Social and Community Development major from Omega.

Omega Delta Chapter officers are Kaitlyn Cawley, President; Russell Webb, Past President; Shawn Burnett, Vice President – Communications; Jes-

sica Gorseth, Vice President – Scholarship; Jessica VanDeVelde, Yearbook Chairman; Lindsay Partridge, Secretary; Daniel Moreno, Vice President – Fellowship; and Andrea Smith, Vice President - Service. Chapter Advisors are Dr. Hans Schmeisser and Kim Talley. Omega Delta Chapter currently has more than 170 members.

Kappa Sigma Presents 'My Brother's Keeper' Thursday in Meadows

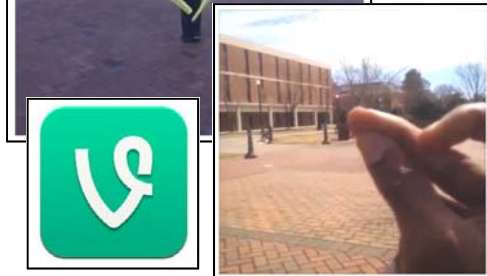
The Rho-Rho Chapter of Kappa Sigma fraternity at ABAC will partner with ABAC, the Governor's Office of Highway Safety, and the Tifton and Tift County Public Safety Departments to combat alcohol abuse, including underage drinking and impaired driving, with a program titled "My Brother's Keeper" on April 22 at 11 a.m. in The Meadows on the campus of ABAC.

Through the Highway Safety office, ABAC received a \$6,000 grant to sponsor programs designed for college and university students in the state. The group focuses on peer education in order to promote and bring awareness to highway safety issues including alcohol education, alcohol abuse prevention, impaired driving, underage drinking, safety belts, speeding, risk reductions and other destructive decisions.

"My Brother's Keeper" is a program that will help raise awareness of the

many dangers that students face while driving under the influence. Open from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., the event features demonstrations and scenarios of irresponsible driving. The mission of this event is to educate students on the dangers of driving under the influence, texting while driving, not wearing a seatbelt, and other safety issues behind the wheel. Students will learn that it's the simple decisions while operating a motor vehicle that can save their lives, lives of family members, and the lives of others around them.

The long-term goal of the program is to create safer, healthier campus environments. ABAC will use this Peer Education grant to help educate the students on the detriments of drinking and driving and other components of alcohol misuse. The grant began Oct. 1, 2013 and runs through Sept. 30, 2014.



Vine Competition Winners

Students and clubs were given the opportunity to compete in a Vine Competition for chance to win cash. Vine is Twitter's micro-video that allows users to create an eight second video that plays on a continuous loop. Aaron Vantrees won a \$500 scholarship and the ABAC Ambassadors won \$200.



Shelton Win's Trip to Nashville

Donnorious Shelton (left), a music major, was the winner of 12 great singing acts last week during the ABAC Sing-Off. Kevin Sport (right) a television host in Nashville, Tenn., came to ABAC to select one lucky winner to go to Nashville and appear on "The Right Place with Kevin Sport." The show features a mix of interviews and performances by country music artists from all around the country and airs on RFD TV. Shelton will perform on the show May 10.

'Pegasus' Launch Party Thursday at Museum

Pulitzer Prize nominee Janice Daugharty will speak on Thurs. at the unveiling of the 2014 edition of "Pegasus," the literary magazine at ABAC.

Daugharty, the writer-in-residence at ABAC since 2010, will speak on the importance of literary magazines at the launch party, scheduled for 7 p.m. in the Peanut Museum of the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at ABAC. Following Daugharty's talk, contributors will be invited to read from their works. Light refreshments will be served at the event which is free of charge and open to the community.

The magazine staff will also unveil a "Pegasus' through the Ages" display which will feature free back issues of the journal, now in its 41st year of continuous print publication.

As a student organization, "Pegasus" solicits submissions of poetry, art, and prose during the school year and provides its members training in evaluating and choosing submissions to be used in the publication. Student editors and staff acquire knowledge in the process of laying the book out and prepping it for publication, valuable experience they can list on resumes and scholarship applications.

For over 40 years, "Pegasus" has maintained a high degree of excellence as a student publication, winning awards and regional recognition. Dr. Jeff Newberry and Dr. Sandra Giles are the faculty advisors for the magazine.



ABAC Carry the Load Rally Thursday

ABAC is hosting the Stafford School of Business Rally on **Thursday from 12 – 6:30 p.m.** This event will happen prior to the start of the National Relay. Students, faculty, staff, and members of the Tifton community will have the opportunity to participate in our relay that day. The relay is a two mile route through the ABAC campus.



WHO ARE YOU CARRYING?

Registration Instructions for ABAC Event—Thursday

Go to: carrytheload.org/abac

Register by following 1 of 3 options:

- Register as an individual – Just participate and raise money as yourself
- Start a team – Get your club or group of friends together, decide on 1 team captain and register under the team name
- Join a team – Join an already existing team (must know team name to join it) to join your friends or club members for the cause

For more information about this event, contact Public Relations at publicrelations@abac.edu



ABAC African American Male Initiative Celebrates Successes

The AAMI program recognized eight graduates of the program during the 2013-2014 academic year and the successes of many more. Judge Mims was the keynote speaker and spoke on the importance of an education. He encouraged the young men to stay focused on the most important things, family, education and faith. AAMI is a University System of Georgia initiative designed to increase the recruitment, retention, and graduation of African-American males within the system through strategic intervention.



Ambassador's Win Stallion Cup

Clubs and organizations on campus competed in activities during Homecoming Week for a chance to win the Stallion Cup. Each activity was worth points and the club with the most points at the end won the Stallion Cup. The Ambassadors were the winners of the first ever Stallion Cup.

Cantanzarita Named Employee of the Month

Bill Catanzarita was voted on by his peers as Sodexo Grounds Crew Employee of the Month for March. He won a basket of assorted items. Great job to all of the ground crew, keep up the good work!



Join ABAC's Relay for Life Team!

The Tifton/Tift County Relay for Life is Friday at E.B. Hamilton. The event begins at 7 p.m. and lasts until 7 a.m. on Saturday Morning. Even if you cannot stay all 12 hours. Go walk, raise money and show your support for all of those effected by cancer. Visit the link to register now! http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?fr_id=60589&pg=team&team_id=1576503

ABAC Birthdays

27 Robert Morgan
27 Tammy Carter



Arbor Day Tree Planting Friday

Join ABAC's Tree Campus USA committee on Friday at 9 a.m. at the Nature Study Area on Farm Road as they commemorate Arbor Day. Everyone is invited.