



FOCUS

ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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Bachelor Degree Enrollment Continues to Soar

Since the inception of the bachelor degrees at ABAC, enrollment in these programs has increased over 20 percent each year. This year is no exception with a more than 23 percent increase from 2013-14. For the second year in a row, overall enrollment for the College is up again compared to the previous fall.

“The progression of the college from two-year status to a position of offering baccalaureate degrees is the one thing that has had the most impact on enrollment and will impact the institution for years to come,” ABAC President David Bridges said. “We have moved forward at a very rapid pace. In January of 2008, we had 41 students in those first classes. Now we have more than 1,100 students in bachelor’s degree programs. That’s phenomenal.”

ABAC offers bachelor’s degrees in diversified agriculture, turfgrass and golf course management, biology, business and economic development



ABAC students meet for the first time in newly expanded classrooms throughout campus.

and natural resource management with majors in forestry and wildlife. Under the broad umbrella of rural studies, ABAC students can also earn bachelor’s degrees in social and community development, politics and modern cultures, and writing and communication.

In the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources nearly 600 students are enrolled in bachelor’s degrees, the biggest factor in the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources setting an

all-time enrollment record with almost 1,100 students this fall.

ABAC was recently recognized as Georgia’s only Best Value School. The Best Value School designation is determined by a rigorous qualification process, which generally takes three to four months. Cost of attendance is just one of the many reasons ABAC was selected.

Tuition and fees for full time in-state student at ABAC are \$3,992 per year and \$12,048 for out-of-state per year.

This is \$26,000 less than research universities, \$12,000 less than regional universities and \$10,000 less than state universities based on University System of Georgia tuition rates for full-time enrollment over four years.

“We have said for many years that students get more for less at ABAC and our continued enrollment increase proves that students and their parents recognize the ABAC is College Done Right,” Bridges said.

Town & Gown

Thursday 4-6 p.m. Gressette Gym



Langdale Offers Advice to Incoming Freshman

Nearly five hundred new ABAC students attended Convocation on Thursday afternoon. Wesley Langdale entertained the crowd of faculty, staff and students with tales of his time at ABAC and freshman Anna Marie Pugh responded with a few words of her ABAC experience thus far.

Scholarship Milk and Cookies Day Aug. 26

The ABAC Alumni Association is hosting Scholarship Milk and Cookies (MAC) Day on Aug. 26 at the Alumni House. Students who received scholarships from the ABAC Foundation should drop by between 1– 5:30 p.m. to write thank you notes to those who provided the funds for their scholarship. Alumni will assist in proofing notes and baking cookies! All notecards, mailing costs and donor information will be provided at the event. Contact Lynda Fisher at lfisher@abac.edu with questions. Pictured: Scholarship recipients from last year's MAC event take time out of their busy day to write a note of thanks.

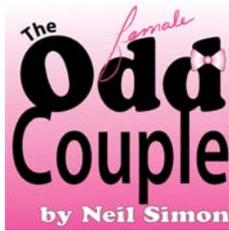


Baldwin Players Auditions Aug 25 & 26

Auditions for the Baldwin Players fall production of "The Odd Couple" (female version) by Neil Simon will be held Aug. 25-26 at 6:30 p.m. in Howard Auditorium at ABAC.

This hilarious classic comedy celebrates the friendship and inevitable conflicts between two opposite personalities thrust into being mismatched roommates by circumstances. This is Simon's original story of two men, Oscar and Felix, adapted by Simon himself into a story of two women, Olive and Florence.

Auditions for the production are open to anyone interested in live theatre



including ABAC students, staff, faculty, and local community members. There are six roles for women and two roles for men. The auditions will consist of reading selected passages from the play itself. There is no cost to audition.

Performances of "The Odd Couple" will take place Nov. 6-8 at 7 p.m. in Howard Auditorium. Admission is free to ABAC faculty, staff and students. The ticket cost is \$7 per person for the general public.

For more information about auditions, interested persons can contact Dr. Brian Ray, Director of the Baldwin Players, at bray@abac.edu.

Classroom Tech

Support Now Available

OITS has established a new support service for the ABAC classrooms and labs. If you are having an issue with the classroom/lab technology, you can contact the helpdesk through the new call center phone number: 229.391.5333.

This phone number should be used for reporting issues related to instructional technologies – computer and connectivity problems, projection and sound issues. All routine helpdesk request should be submitted through normal support channels.

Additionally, you can email ITS@abac.edu to submit a helpdesk ticket.



CTL Engaged Faculty Certificate Recipients

Designed by the ABAC Center for Teaching and Learning to foster faculty excellence and the advancement of student achievement, the Engaged Faculty Colloquium Series provides a scholarly forum to consider pedagogical methodology, original research, institutional effectiveness, and professional development. Faculty have the opportunity to earn the Engage Faculty Certificate, which recognizes those with a high level of participation in the year long program. Pictured are the 2014 Engaged Faculty Certificate recipients: (l-r) Dr. Justin Ng, Franzelle Mathis-Pertilla, Dr. James Galt-Brown, and Philip Hightower.

Faculty Attend Turf Field Day

ABAC graduate Chance Singleton, Jimmy and Lorie Felton, Dr. James McCrimmon, and John Layton attended the 2014 UGA Turfgrass Research Field Day in Griffin, Ga.





ABAC Honors Program Continues to Grow

Thursday night the Honors Program welcomed 60 new freshman to its first ever Honors Program orientation. With honors students enrolled in all five of the schools across campus, the Honors Program serves as an extra level of support and community for those who meet the program's academic criteria.

EDS and Registrar's Office Help Keep Firefighters Hydrated



EDS/Office of the Registrar came together again this year to donate over 35 cases of bottled water to the Tift County fire department for the Water and Gatorade Drive during the fundraising event hosted by Nicole Taylor. The fire department was so thankful and appreciative of the donation that ABAC's EDS/Office of the Registrar brought to them.



Taylor Accepts Job in Sodexo Dining Office

Trina Taylor, a familiar face to many on campus from her work in the Pizza Hut/SubConnection retail area of Donaldson Dining Hall, has been promoted to Unit Clerical in the ABAC Sodexo dining office. Taylor will continue to manage Pizza Hut and SubConnection in addition to her new duties handling day to day office operations for Sodexo Dining Services.

ALUMNI GATHER AT REGIONAL ROUNDUP IN NASHVILLE

ABAC alumni and their families gathered together on Saturday for a Regional Roundup in Nashville, Tenn. Members of the President's Club, a former Miss ABAC, and many other great people were present to enjoy dinner by the pool and to hear about the success of ABAC's bachelors' degrees, among other inspiring stories of our students. A special thanks goes to Danny and Laurie Sumner Oldham ('89) for hosting this great event!



Save the Date

Technology Town Hall Meeting
Faculty, Staff & Students
September 11
2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Howard Auditorium

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.

ABAC BIRTHDAYS

21 Javier Gonzalez
21 Alan Kramer

