Paul W. Williams has been selected for the position of Interim Vice President for External Affairs and Advancement at ABAC. Williams will assume his campus duties on Wednesday.

"Paul brings a strong background as a business executive to this position," ABAC President David Bridges said. "I think he will give us a different perspective as we get ready to begin a capital campaign for ABAC somewhere down the road."

Williams was most recently the Chief Financial Officer for the Brickstream Corporation in Norcross. He also operated Harvest Advisors, LLC, a management advisory consulting firm in Tifton. Williams was the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for Fairfield Financial Services, Inc., in Macon and the President and CEO of Colonial Management Services, Inc., in Fitzgerald. He was also a Senior Vice President and CFO for Community Bancshares, Inc., in Blountsville, Ala., and the Executive Vice President, Corporate Secretary and CFO for the Bank Corporation of Georgia in Macon.

"I am really looking forward to taking on a new challenge," Williams said. "I think one of the real keys to a successful campaign is to reconnect people to their ABAC experience."

Williams is licensed as a certified public accountant in Georgia and is a former chair of the public relations committee of the Georgia Society of CPAs. He currently serves as vice-chair of the State Charter School Commission of Georgia and as a trustee of the Georgia 4-H Foundation.

A 1977 graduate of Middle Georgia College where he was the president of the Student Government Association, Williams graduated Magna Cum Laude from the J.M. Tull School of Accounting at the University of Georgia in 1979.

Williams and his wife, Cindy, have two sons now attending ABAC and three other grown children.

Paul Willis had been serving as the Vice President for External Affairs and Advancement and Chief of Staff at ABAC until he moved into the position of Vice President for Fiscal Affairs and Operations and Chief Business Officer in July. Since that time, Mike Chason has been serving temporarily in the external affairs vice-president’s position. Chason will return to his part-time duties as Director of Public Relations Emeritus and will continue to assist ABAC in a variety of ways.

Sanchez Thanks ABAC

Dr. Ricardo Cámara Sanchez (right), Consul General for the country of Mexico, presented ABAC President David Bridges an award in recognition for the College’s support and contributions to Latino student success. The presentation was made during the Hispanic Heritage Day kick-off event in Howard Auditorium Thursday morning.

Peanut Stacking Workshop Saturday at the GMA

The Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at ABAC will offer a traditional skills workshop in peanut stacking on Saturday from 9:30 a.m.-noon. Pre-registration is required for this workshop.

Participants can get their hands dirty while discovering the art of peanut stacking. Although it is no longer used due to the technological advances in agriculture, peanut stacking involved farmers gathering the peanut plants by hand and placing them on a stack pole.

The cost of this workshop is $12.50 per person and is open to those 12 years old and up. Youngsters must be accompanied by a registered adult.

Interested persons can register for the peanut stacking workshop at www.abac.edu/museum/events.

For more information, Program Coordinator Kelly Scott is available at kscott@abac.edu or at (229) 391.5224.

Season passes or daily admission to the Museum can be purchased at the GMA Country Store.

Sanchez Thanks ABAC

Dr. Ricardo Cámara Sanchez (right), Consul General for the country of Mexico, presented ABAC President David Bridges an award in recognition for the College’s support and contributions to Latino student success. The presentation was made during the Hispanic Heritage Day kick-off event in Howard Auditorium Thursday morning.
ABAC Participates in National Banned Book Reading
Students, faculty and staff came together last week to read Banned Books in honor of nation-wide Banned Books Week sponsored by the American Library Association. The ABAC event was co-sponsored by the Baldwin Library and Pegasus. Attendees were given the opportunity to read a short section from a favorite banned book or poem.

AT&T Donates $2,500 for ABAC Scholarships
Courtney Brinson (left), Regional Director for External Affairs for AT&T Georgia, presents a $2,500 check to ABAC President David Bridges to use for ABAC scholarships through the ABAC Foundation. AT&T has supported ABAC for more than 15 years. Brinson also assists the college by serving as a trustee on the ABAC Foundation.

First Tuesday Concert at ABAC October 7
Carter’s call to jazz came early, picking up his first saxophone at 13. Carter began his college career at ABAC before attending Valdosta State University, where he earned bachelor’s degrees in both Jazz Performance and Music Education. Later, he pursued graduate work at Georgia State University, where he earned a master’s degree in Jazz Studies. He lives in Atlanta with his wife, Chris, and keeps an active calendar of live performances and studio projects.

David has performed throughout the United States and Europe in a variety of jazz and commercial settings. Currently residing in Atlanta, he is one of the most sought-after drummers in the nation. He has twice received international awards from Downbeat Magazine. Some notable artists he has performed with include Arturo Sandoval, Bruce Hornsby, and the Jaco Pastorius Big Band. In addition to his active performing schedule, he currently teaches percussion and jazz at Berry College and the University of North Georgia. In 2014, David established the Viking Drumline at Berry, where he served as director of the group and a visiting assistant professor of music.

Aucoin, a music educator and bassist, is a native of New Orleans but now resides in Atlanta. He has performed internationally with many diverse acts such as Grammy-nominated jazz vocalist Nnenna Freelon, the Glenn Miller Orchestra, and the Mamas and the Papas. He is a past director of the Atlanta All-Star Grammy Jazz Band, which was a high school ensemble sponsored by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. He holds both a B.M.E. and a M.M. in Jazz Studies from Loyola University in New Orleans. In addition, he holds an Ed. S. with a concentration in music from Georgia State University. He has served as an adjunct faculty member at Loyola University of New Orleans, Georgia State University, and North Georgia College and State University.

Born in the New Orleans’ cradle of jazz, Jackson embodies the spirit of the Crescent City. The blends of jazz, funk and Afro-Caribbean melodies are ever present in his work. Jackson’s teachers are a virtual Who’s Who of great jazz piano players ranging from Ellis Marsalis and Kevin Bales to gospel legend Moses Hogan. He has performed with Wynton and Branford Marsalis, and Jennifer Holliday along with opening for Esperanza Spaulding and Chaka Kahn. His latest CD, “Another Voyage,” is his second solo release. Currently Jackson is a professor at Kennesaw State University, where he is the artist in residence and teaches a myriad of classes including applied jazz piano and group jazz piano. His education includes a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of New Orleans and his Master of Music degree from Georgia State University.

For more information on the First Tuesday Concert Series, interested persons can contact Roe at sroe@abac.edu.
ACT Presents "An Evening with the Artists," Thursday at the GMA

The newly-organized Artisan's Community of Tiftarea (ACT) will host the first event, "An Evening with the Artists," a show featuring music, poetry, readings, and writers, at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture on Thursday at 6:30 p.m. This event is hosted by the Artisan's Community of Tiftarea and co-sponsored by ABAC's Department of Literature and Language and Dave's Bread and Coffee House.

A number of ABAC students and faculty will be involved, including Professor of English Sandra Giles; Agriculture Major, David Daughtry; English major Alyssa Riverio; Professor of English Mark Richardson; and others. The show will also feature local writer/storyteller Janie Hopwood and local comedian Ed Wiley. Dave's Bread and Coffee House will be providing refreshments for the event free of charge.

This event is the Thursday before Family Weekend and is family friendly. Tickets are required and cost $5.00 for general admission, $4.00 for ABAC students, and free for those under twelve. Email Dr. Jeff Newberry at jnewberry@abac.edu or call 229.391.4972 to purchase your tickets.

Small Cakes and Allen Pritchett Bassett Speak at ABAC

Stafford School of Business Small Business Management class received sweet treats and business insights from Smallcakes franchisee Austin Walters (right) last week. Additionally Keri Jones, CPA at Allen, Pritchett & Bassett, LLP, shared her expertise with students about managing accounting and financial statements.

Baker Visits Ocilla Rotary

Dr. Jerry Baker, Dean of the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources at ABAC, spoke at the Ocilla Rotary Club last week. He told them of the degree programs offered at ABAC and about the continued growth of the School. Pictured: Pam Barnes and Baker.

Business Students Begin Community Development Plan

Students from Earl Denham’s Community Development Strategies class visited Hawkinsville last week to meet with community leaders and to give ABAC students the opportunity to begin a community assessment. This assessment is the first step of developing a plan aimed at revitalizing the relationship between the community and the city-owned Lawrence Bennett Harness Racing facility. The class toured the racetrack and grounds, the downtown area, and recreational facilities. A final report will be presented to the city and county decision makers on November 25.

ABAC Study Abroad

Interested in Study Abroad opportunities at ABAC? Join Lisa Seibert, Study Abroad Coordinator Oct. 7 at 5 p.m. for more information. The meeting will be in Health Sciences room 237. If you're unable to attend the information session, email Seibert at lseibert@abac.edu or swing by the Academic Support Center.
ABAC GOES TOBACCO-FREE ON WEDNESDAY

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia is committed to providing a healthy environment on campuses. We recognize the serious health implications of both the direct use of tobacco products and indirect exposure to the use of tobacco products and our responsibility to promote the health and well-being of our students, faculty, staff and visitors.

The Board of Regents adopted a tobacco and smoke-free campus policy to make all USG properties, including ABAC, 100% tobacco free effective October 1, 2014.

USG Tobacco-Free

“Tobacco Products” are defined as cigarettes, cigars, pipes, all forms of smokeless tobacco, clove cigarettes and any other smoking devices that use tobacco, such as hookahs, or simulate the use of tobacco, such as electronic cigarettes. The USG hopes you enjoy the healthier environment we’re creating for you and visitors to our campuses and facilities.

WHY TOBACCO-FREE?

WHY GO TOBACCO-FREE?

The purpose of the policy is to create a health-supporting community for everyone, tobacco-users and non-users alike. The new policy also supports the right of all people on university system campuses to breathe smoke-free air. The simple reason for our policy is respect for each other and the environment. We hope that smokers who choose to continue smoking will respect our smoke-free environment out of concern for their fellow campus community members.

WHY IS TOBACCO USE AN ISSUE?

Tobacco use is the leading cause of premature and preventable death, responsible for more than 440,000 deaths a year in the United States. Cigarette smoking alone is responsible for more deaths than HIV/AIDS, alcohol, motor vehicle crashes, homicide, suicide, illegal drugs and fires - COMBINED.

Tobacco addiction begins almost exclusively among youth and young adults. The 2012 Surgeon General’s Report shows that 99% of smokers begin smoking and using other forms of tobacco by age 26, making college and university campuses a critical target for tobacco use prevention and cessation efforts.

WHY IS SMOKELESS TOBACCO INCLUDED?

The reason this is more than just a smoke-free policy is because even the rates of smokeless tobacco are increasing within the state of Georgia. For more information view the Georgia Department of Public Health study.

WHY ARE E-CIGARETTES INCLUDED?

Electronic cigarette (e-cig) use is found to be highest among college students. While it may be used as an aid to quit smoking, it still is a highly concentrated source of addictive nicotine and it has not been regulated or studied enough to support claims of use for tobacco cessation. E-cigs also pollute the air and early research shows negative lung effects and inflammation, similar to smoking. For more information about poisoning related to e-cigarettes view the CDC study.

ISN’T TOBACCO USE A PERSONAL RIGHT?

Tobacco and its usage is completely legal for adults above the age of 18. The USG is not forcing anyone to quit. However, the university system owns campus properties, and can establish policies that protect the health of all university system members. A tobacco-free policy does not prohibit tobacco use; it merely establishes where use can occur.

For more information on the USG Tobacco-Free Policy, usg.edu/tobaccofree
New ABAC Museum Exhibit Paying Homage to Beloved Veterinarian

The Veterinary Infirmary Exhibit honoring Dr. Coy Hansel Poitevint will open on Oct. 11 at 2 p.m. at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at ABAC. Lynn and George Lee of Tifton will cut the ribbon in memory of their late uncle, and tour the exhibit along with museum guests. Light refreshments will be served. While attending ABAC in 1935 Poitevint was active in the Baldwin Players, College 4-H Club, Ag Club, Baptist Young People’s Union, and the Boys Glee Club. Later he worked his way through graduate school at the University of Georgia and Auburn (then called Alabama Polytechnic Institute), and after a short time as a county extension agent he obtained his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in 1943. He was married to his wife, Louise, for 69 years, was active in his church and various civic clubs and organizations, and was recognized with numerous prestigious awards throughout his life.

He spent 50 years of his life in veterinary service, and now his family is honoring him and his love for ABAC, UGA, Auburn and veterinary medicine. Last year, a fund was created allowing the design and creation of a new permanent exhibit in memory of Poitevint. Though he practiced in the mid and late 1900s, the exhibit will represent a late 19th- early 20th century veterinarian’s office, to better fit with the time period in history portrayed by the Museum. The Veterinarian Infirmary Exhibit will be located in the Historic Village, in the rear of the Feed and Seed store.

Many of the exhibit elements were built using reclaimed lumber which came from a Tift County barn built in the late 1800s. Charlotte Bedell, wife of the late Dr. Bedell and Dr. Arvle Marshall, friend of the late Poitevint, both provided family heirlooms from their veterinary practices. The College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Georgia and the Tifton Veterinary Diagnostic Lab provided the majority of the veterinary instruments and equipment on display, with many of the artifacts dating back to the late 1800s and early 1900s. The Georgia Veterinary Medicine Association and the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association also assisted with locating information, archives and artifacts.

Visitors to the new exhibit will be able to view artifacts belonging to Poitevint such as photos, hand-drawn surgery sketches, books, and diplomas. An interpretive panel depicting the history of veterinary medicine over the last three centuries was designed by Tifton’s marketing firm, The Big Picture, and is also a part of the exhibit. ABAC Rural Studies student Hannah Beth Hembree assisted with this exhibit, logging in more than 160 hours of work toward its completion and documenting her work in a massive project portfolio. GMA maintenance and restoration specialist David King served as the exhibit builder.

“We appreciate the opportunity to add this exhibit to display an important part of the heritage of rural Georgia. We are grateful to our friends and partners for providing the funding and artifacts to make this exhibit a spectacular addition to the state’s museum of agriculture,” said Paul Willis, Vice President for Finance and Operations at ABAC.

The Wiregrass Country Fair will also be held on Oct. 11 at the Museum, and promises a day full of animals and outdoor activities. Daily admission or a GMA Season pass can be purchased at the Country Store.

Don’t forget Family Weekend this week!

Business and Nursing Students Assess Local Business

Students in the Stafford School of Business at ABAC took a trip to Barnes Healthcare facilities in Valdosta to learn in depth the processes and business tactics of the third generation family business. Business and economic development majors Carlton Brooks of Camilla, Michael Butler of Tifton, Jenna Hagler of Hartsfield, and Justin Turner of Omega were able to meet and interact with some of the employees Barnes Healthcare and received insight as to how the company has successfully conducted research to ensure that the services are beneficial to the business as well as to the customers. Troy Spicer, Dean of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences, and Nursing students Kevin Brown, Brittany Stocking, and Marlee Mathis also got some hands on learning during the trip.

The group spent time learning about the different services and products that Barnes Healthcare provides. The employees then presented topics explaining the success of Healthy at Home services by empowering, educating, and engaging patients to enable them to take control and monitor their health patterns.

ABAC Birthdays

29 Tracy Dyal 29 Steve Janousek 30 Tonia Carpenter
Oct. 1 Nicholas Hardin 1 Doug Jurs 4 Mary Ellen Hicks 5 Etta Lee