For IMMEDIATE Release

JANUARY 14, 2014

With 3,137 students, the spring term enrollment at ABAC is over six percent higher than the 2013 enrollment figure. ABAC has increased its enrollment over the previous year for two consecutive semesters.

ABAC Beats Trend with Spring Enrollment Increase

TIFTON- For the second consecutive semester, the enrollment at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College is higher than a year ago, going against a state and nationwide trend of enrollment declines.

ABAC President David Bridges said the spring term enrollment stands at 3,137, quite a jump from the 2,921 students enrolled in the spring semester of 2013. Spring term classes at ABAC began Jan. 8.
“It is wonderful to return to campus this spring to find that once again we have exceeded expectations and enrolled a near record number of students for the spring semester,” Bridges said. “The record-breaking graduation numbers that we’ve had and the fact that enrollment is up more than six per cent from last spring shows that ABAC is ‘College Done Right.’”

A total of 232 students received ABAC diplomas at the end of the 2013 fall semester, marking it as the largest fall graduation in history. These increases go against the trend of decreasing enrollment numbers in higher education.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Niles Reddick maintains the continued enrollment growth is partly because of ABAC’s bachelor’s degree programs.

“We continue to see increases in all bachelor’s degrees,” Reddick said. “That includes Diversified Agriculture, Biology, Turf and Golf Course Management, Forestry and Wildlife, and the one of a kind Rural Studies program with majors in Business and Economic Development, Politics and Modern Cultures, Social and Community Development, and Writing and Communications.”

ABAC had a five percent enrollment increase during the fall term, the third largest increase of any of the 31 colleges and universities in the University System of Georgia. In fact, only 13 University System institutions increased their enrollment during the fall semester.

“An ABAC education continues to be an excellent investment for our students,” Bridges said.

###