

**Response to questions by the *ABAC Stallion* newspaper
Wednesday, March 8, 2017**

The proposed consolidation of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College and Bainbridge State College was approved by the Board of Regents on January 11, 2017. So, what will likely be an 18 to 24 months process is just 2 months old.

At this point in the process, many questions remain unanswered. Much of the past 6 weeks has been devoted to formulating the process by which recommendations will be developed and decisions will be made. Thus far, the following has been accomplished:

- Town hall meetings – hosted by President Bridges, President Rayfield, and USG personnel were held at both Tifton and Bainbridge.
- A Consolidation Implementation Committee (CIC), consisting of equal numbers of representatives from ABAC and BSC was constituted and has been charged by Chancellor Wrigley.
- Co-chairs (one from ABAC and one from BSC) have been selected to lead the work to be performed by several (7-9) Operational Working Groups (OWGs).
- Members of the CIC and the Co-chairs of the OWGs have been oriented and trained regarding process.
- Presidents Bridges and Rayfield are working with personnel from the University System of Georgia and the Technical College System of Georgia to establish a framework for program delivery at Bainbridge. This work is well underway but not complete at this time.

The following questions were submitted by *Stallion Staff*.

Who is benefiting more? *The expectation is that students who are currently attending ABAC and BSC will benefit from greater educational opportunities.*

What is Bainbridge offering? *The current Bainbridge State catalog can be found here <http://bainbridge.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2016-2017/2016-2017-Catalog>*

What about those in Bainbridge's technical programs? *Students who are currently enrolled in technical programs at Bainbridge will have the opportunity to complete those programs.*

Is ABAC taking over the technical programs? *Decisions about program offerings at the consolidated institution have not been finalized. However, technical programs will continue at Bainbridge, probably under the oversight of the Technical College System of Georgia.*

What programs is [sic] ABAC getting? *ABAC will maintain its current slate of program offering. The USG will not consider new program proposals from ABAC or BSC during the consolidation process.*

How much debt is ABAC taking on? *Decisions about financial matters have not been made yet.*

Is admin changing? Dr. David Bridges will be the President of the consolidated institution (ABAC).

What about the people who are going to graduate? Will they be able to finish their degrees? *Students at both ABAC and BSC will have the opportunity to complete the degree programs in which they are currently enrolled.*

Updates will be posted periodically to the consolidation website <http://www.abac.edu/about-abac/consolidation> .

Please direct any future inquiries regarding consolidation to:

Lindsey Roberts
Director of Marketing and Communications
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
office: 229.391.5055
lroberts@abac.edu