YEAR IN REVIEW
a record year
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Dear Friends,

As we take a look back at what was truly a memorable year at The University of Alabama, I am excited not only to share our accomplishments but also to continue planning for our future. As you’ll see in this Year in Review, the Capstone’s tradition of success encompassed all arenas – from the caliber of our student body and faculty to our many championship trophies. This past year, today and always — we are Alabama, and we will continue striving to be the best.

Last fall we saw unprecedented enrollment and record achievements with our incoming freshman class. Our alumni and donor contributions were unparalleled, and the campus community joined together in a shared pursuit of excellence. We received academic honors, including UA’s recognition as a top-producing institution for Fulbright Scholars for the second time in the past three years, and an enrollment of more than 500 National Merit Scholars. We cheered on national champions in football, men’s wheelchair basketball and wheelchair tennis. We gathered with our department of physics and astronomy to experience a spectacular solar eclipse on the Quad. We celebrated our stellar faculty, including the 26 current UA faculty who received the nation’s most prestigious recognition of top-performing scientists as part of our ongoing mission to further groundbreaking research. In all, the 2017-2018 University accolades were both impressive and well deserved, and I am proud of what we have accomplished.

Still, we look ahead eagerly. As Alabama’s flagship university, we remain committed to recruiting and retaining the best students, faculty and staff. We continue being intentional about making a difference not only in the Tuscaloosa area, but also in the state, in the nation and in the world. We focus our efforts on being a campus of leaders who will impart a legacy of impact at The University of Alabama.

I hope you will partner with us as we look forward with great pride to what lies ahead. As you review the past year, I know you will agree that our campus is a place Where Legends Are Made, and where our future success is waiting to be discovered.

Roll Tide!

Stuart R. Bell
President
TIMELINE

August
Commencement: 1,447 degrees

September
Aurtherine Lucy Foster historical marker unveiled

May
Commencement: 5,600+ degrees

April
Inaugural Bama Blitz raises $1.8 million

March
Men's wheelchair basketball team wins second national championship
October | Campus diversity mapping project conducted

November | UA joins University Corporation for Atmospheric Research

December | Performing Arts Academic Center Campaign announced

February | UA named top-producing institution for Fulbright scholars

January | Crimson Tide wins national football championship in overtime, 26-23

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA*
RECORDS AND RANKINGS
Fall Semester 2017

RECORD ENROLLMENT

38,563 total
33,305 undergraduate
4,787 graduate

RECORD FRESHMAN STATS

40.6% have 30 or higher on ACT
38.8% in top 10% of high school class
34.1% have a 4.0+ high school GPA
3.72 average high school GPA
RECORD DONOR GIVING
$120.7 MILLION (2016-17)

NATIONAL RANKINGS

School of Law ranks 9th nationally among public universities

School of Accountancy undergraduate program 1st in the South, 7th overall

Public relations program named in top 5 nationally for the 8th time

Online business master’s program 13th in the nation

WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT

Only School of Social Work in the state to offer BSW, MSW and PhD degrees

Commercial TV station in a top-40 market where students work alongside professionals

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS

500+ enrolled
LEADERSHIP

MATTHEW M. FAJACK
New Vice President

Matthew M. Fajack joined The University of Alabama in February as vice president for Financial Affairs. He will provide leadership for the areas of finance and business activities, enterprise operations, facilities, human resources and public safety.

Fajack came from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he served as vice chancellor for finance and administration since 2014. He was the University of Florida’s vice president and chief financial officer from 2008 to 2014.

Fajack also served as executive director of financial affairs at Kent State University for three years and as chief financial officer for Dallas-based Beta Capital Group for 14 years. Before joining Beta Capital Group in 1990, he was an audit manager for Arthur Andersen & Co.

A native of Ohio, Fajack earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting from the University of Minnesota.
The Board of Trustees

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Where Legends Are Made is about the past, present and future of The University of Alabama. It speaks to the aspirations of our students and their parents, to the pride of our alumni and donors, and to the devotion of our legions of fans in our state, across the nation and around the globe. It highlights our successes and the legacy we will continue to build upon.

CASE Awards
This national branding campaign’s successful first phase garnered two high-profile awards at the Council for Advancement and Support of Education’s District III competition, which recognizes the very best across the Southeast. It won the Grand Award for Branding/Identity Program or Campaign and an Award of Excellence for Total Advertising Campaign.

American Advertising Federation
The Tuscaloosa chapter of the American Advertising Federation, which encompasses parts of Alabama and Mississippi, awarded six honors to the campaign: Overall Best of Show, Best of Print and four Gold awards for magazine ad (single), magazine advertising campaign, local television commercial and integrated brand identity campaign.

“Where Legends Are Made speaks to the heart of who we are as a University and the indelible mark our alumni are making all across the globe,” said Linda Bonnin, vice president for Strategic Communications and creator of the campaign. “These awards tell us we have gotten it right, and we couldn’t be prouder.”

The next phase of the long-term campaign will include a new commercial that will air during the Crimson Tide’s 2018 football season, testimonial videos and new billboards featuring UA legends and additions to profiles of UA legends on the Where Legends Are Made website, WWW.UA.EDU/LEGENDS.
Justin Thomas became the #1 golfer in the world in 2018 just five years after leading The University of Alabama to a national championship.

JUSTIN THOMAS  PROFESSIONAL GOLFER

Stories don’t write themselves. They are rooted in years of preparation, experience and perseverance. Without The University of Alabama, there would be no Forrest Gump.

WRITE YOUR OWN STORY

Winston Groom | Class of 1965

Best-Selling Author

As host of ESPN’s College GameDay, Rece Davis has to be impartial. But there is always a special place in his heart for Alabama, where he earned his degree and his start in the business.

RECE DA VIS  HOST | ESPN’S COLLEGE GAME DAY
A Year of 
RECORDS

In October, we celebrated the news that because of the generosity of our steadfast friends,

UA’s 2016-2017 fundraising total was a record-breaking $120.7 million

New record set by 58,000 donors

This new record eclipsed the previous mark of $116.4 million set in 2012, as well as the University’s average of $102 million for the previous five fiscal years by 18 percent.

In addition to traditional fundraising efforts, UA launched its first-ever Bama Blitz in April. Using the latest crowdfunding and social media strategies, the inaugural Bama Blitz began at noon April 11 and ended at 8:31 p.m. April 12. During that one day, eight hours and 31 minutes of giving — a reference to UA’s founding year of 1831 — 1,810 donors pledged $1,810,269 for a variety of passion projects across campus. We look forward to the April 2019 Bama Blitz and to breaking the record our donors set this year.
Our student body continues to grow in quality as well as quantity, with our Honors College enrollment outstripping that of any other public university's honors college. For the first time, Honors College enrollment represents students from all 50 states, and the mean high school GPA of incoming freshmen was a record-high 4.2.

**IN CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The 26-23 overtime victory over Georgia gave us another **NATIONAL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP** in January.

The championship streak continued in 2018, with the **MEN’S WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL TEAM** bringing home their second national title, and the **WHEELCHAIR TENNIS TEAM** earning a fourth national championship.

**ALABAMA ASTROBOTICS** again took the top prize at the **NASA ROBOTIC MINING COMPETITION**, besting student teams from more than 50 other institutions in the challenge to build a robot capable of navigating and excavating simulated Martian soil, or regolith.

Alabama Astrobotics was the only team with a robot that competed entirely autonomously.

Made up of about 65 students from across eight disciplines including engineering and computer science, Alabama Astrobotics is the only team to win more than once in the nine-year history of the NASA contest, placing first in 2012, 2015, 2016, 2017 and, now, 2018.

**ENROLLMENT AT THE CAPSTONE REACHED**

**38,563**

FOR FALL 2017, UP MORE THAN 2% FROM LAST YEAR’S THEN-RECORD CLASS OF 37,665.
UNITED WAY

The 2017 United Way campaign, hosted by UA’s College of Community Health Sciences, surpassed its goal by more than 21 percent to raise $454,929 for the seven-county West Alabama region. (l-r) Dr. Samory Pruitt, vice president for Community Affairs; Jackie Wuska, president and chief executive officer of the United Way of West Alabama; Sarah Patterson, chairwoman of the campaign; and Dr. Stuart R. Bell.

BEAT AUBURN BEAT HUNGER

The 2017 Beat Auburn Beat Hunger team raised high the number 260,453, signifying the pounds of food collected in this year’s food drive. This year’s effort far surpassed last year’s total and beat Auburn’s collection by almost 28,000 pounds.

SERVICE-LEARNING

The Center for Ethics & Social Responsibility reported 173 service-learning courses with 241 community agencies, surpassing last year’s total of 157 courses with 93 agencies.
A Year of FIRSTS

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

More than 450 faculty, staff and students participated in 17 listening sessions in fall 2017 with the new vice president and associate provost for diversity, equity and inclusion, which provided an opportunity for the new vice president to meet community members and to obtain feedback on ways to enrich our learning and work environment by providing an accepting, inclusive community that attracts and supports a diverse faculty, staff and student body.

This past year the University established the Academic Diversity Council comprised of dean-appointed representatives from their respective colleges who work collaboratively with the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to advance the institutional inclusion goals of the University at the college level. Among its 2018-19 projects includes the design and presentation of a campuswide Inclusive Excellence Search Committee Training designed to provide search committee chairs and members with a suite of best practices related to search processes.

The 2018-19 academic year will mark the establishment of a campuswide Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Committee, as a complement to the Realizing the Dream Community Celebration.

In collaboration with the Division of Student Life, the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion produced the “I Am Alabama” diversity video, which was a part of the pre-enrollment educational tools for the first-year student orientation process.

When I came to campus and interviewed students, they were absolutely outstanding and won my heart over.

—G. Christine Taylor

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA®
BAMA BLITZ

Our first Bama Blitz set an amazing record: $1,810,269 given in just one day, eight hours and 31 minutes. This high-energy fundraising allowed our generous donors to give to specific passion projects in all our colleges and schools, Athletics, the Division of Student Life, University Libraries, the Alumni Association and the 1831 Scholarship Fund.

WORK-LIFE AND WELLNESS EXPO

For many years our employee health fair was a popular event, but its transformation in 2017 exceeded all expectations. Nearly 1,300 employees attended the inaugural Work-Life and Wellness Expo. They could choose among 75 vendors providing a variety of services like medical care, indoor and outdoor recreation, childcare and parenting assistance, financial counseling, retirement planning and more. Free health screening options expanded to offer an electrocardiogram and pneumonia vaccine.

For the first time the event included a program schedule with University Recreation and WellBAMA presentations, and HR information sessions covering employee benefits and professional development opportunities.

Refreshment offerings expanded with food trucks parked in front of Coleman Coliseum.
PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMIC CENTER CAMPAIGN

The stage is set for a new home for the performing arts at UA. The campaign to raise $15 million for the Performing Arts Academic Center launched in December 2017.

Upon completion, the $60 million Performing Arts Academic Center will include four performance theaters: a black box theater with flexible seating for 175-275, a 350-seat proscenium theater, a 450-seat venue specifically designed for dance, and a 100-seat studio dance theater designed for maximum flexibility to use for rehearsals, recitals and smaller performances.

These performance venues will replace the Marian Gallaway Theatre, Allen Bales Theatre and Morgan Auditorium. The PAAC’s classroom and studio space will offer the most advanced learning environments available to students. All of this, combined with the commitment to honor the extraordinary architecture and history of the original building, make the Performing Arts Academic Center the star of our Bryce campus.
Since 1893, when Anna Adams and Bessie Parker became the first women to enroll at UA, there have been a multitude of female trailblazers making accomplishments on campus and beyond. A year of celebrations, observances and exhibits is taking place to honor them and acknowledge all the women who have made UA their academic home.

Preparations for the yearlong celebration started last summer. Organizing committee members include UA students, faculty and staff, and alumni. Susan Bell, wife of UA President Dr. Stuart R. Bell, is serving as an honorary chair.

“The University of Alabama has been fortunate to have countless women leave their mark not only on the Capstone, but the world. We take great pride in honoring them and their achievements throughout the year.”

– Susan Bell

UA women have been scholars and athletes, military pilots and university presidents, artists and business leaders. They have taught countless students, made research breakthroughs, fought for civil rights and won championships. By giving to the University their talent and commitment, these determined, resilient women have made UA a better place for us all.
BLACK STUDENT UNION 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Founded in April 1968 as the African American Association, the Black Student Union marked its 50th anniversary with a black-and-white gala and the return of alumni.

Past BSU officers Booker T. Forte (1968-69) and Adrienne Brown (2005-07) were among alumni returning for the gala.

Each fall semester the Black Student Union kicks off with ONYX, a welcome-to-UA block party that grows bigger and more exciting each year.

AT 50 YEARS OLD, A NEW NAME FOR A REVERED PROGRAM

The Catherine J. Randall Research Scholars Program, a component of UA’s Honors College, is a nationally recognized undergraduate research program that pairs academically elite students directly with leading research professors and cutting-edge computing technology to complete scholarly research projects in any field of study.

Created in 1968 as the Computer-Based Honors Program, the name change coincided with the program’s 50th anniversary and in honor of Randall, its longtime director and a student in its inaugural class.
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK CELEBRATES A GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Among UA’s youngest schools and colleges, the School of Social Work celebrated five decades of excellence in social work education this year. In 1967, the first 29 Master of Social Work students enrolled. Now, 50 years later, more than 3,000 MSW degrees have been awarded in addition to bachelor’s degrees and doctorates. The anniversary celebration coincided with the major renovation of Little Hall, home to the School.

WOMEN AND GENDER RESOURCE CENTER TURNS 25

Founded in October 1993, the Women’s Resource Center began with a handful of books, three rooms and a few staff members who were dedicated to helping all women on campus. Renamed the Women and Gender Resource Center in 2015, the WGRC has grown in size, scope and quality, but the mission of promoting social justice, equality and inclusiveness remains.

45 YEARS OF AFRICAN AMERICAN LAW GRADUATES

The symposium, Bending the Arc of History: African Americans and The University of Alabama School of Law, celebrated the 45th anniversary of the School’s first African American graduates.

UA School of Law alumni, judges and professors discussed the experience and history of diversity and inclusion there, and the School’s first African American law students recounted their experiences as part of the Trailblazers Luncheon.
Launched in April 2016, The University of Alabama Strategic Plan is the roadmap we follow as we shape the University into an even more powerful force for change in the state, nation and world. In the past year we have built on our already-established strengths, begun new initiatives and gathered vital information on how to move forward.

PILLAR #1

Provide a premier undergraduate and graduate education that offers a global perspective and is characterized by outstanding teaching, high-quality scholarship and distinctive curricular and co-curricular programs.

Our faculty hiring initiative continues as we recruit the best from a diverse range of academic fields and welcome them into our 13 schools and colleges.

Our Learning in Action office has conducted workshops with guest speakers and trained faculty to weave experiential learning into the curriculum. The result: students with critical-thinking and problem-solving abilities empowering them to be change agents and leaders.
PILLAR #2

Increase the University’s productivity and innovation in research, scholarship and creative activities that impact economic and societal development.

This year we have added a new research center, new leaders for our research institutes and a new doctoral program. Our faculty are winning research grants and bringing home National Science Foundation and Fulbright awards.

Creativity is written into our DNA. From the Black Warrior Film Festival and traveling dance troupes to public sculpture and student-curated art exhibits, our students and faculty showcase talent and innovation.

PILLAR #3

Enrich our learning and work environment by providing an accepting, inclusive community that attracts and supports a diverse faculty, staff and student body.

This year we have created our Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and welcomed Dr. G. Christine Taylor as its first vice president. Months of diversity mapping efforts and town halls have provided a detailed picture of our strengths and areas for growth.

Crossroads Community Center continues to offer small-group dialogues about identity, current events and campus life in a friendly, welcoming setting.

Improvement in accessibility through emerging technologies is creating a more inclusive campus for our students with disabilities.

PILLAR #4

Provide opportunities and resources that facilitate work-life balance and enhance the recruitment and retention of outstanding faculty and staff.

To further improve the quality of the workplace experience, UA partnered with an outside vendor to administer a survey, “Chime In.” The outstanding response rate of 47 percent show our faculty and staff welcomed the opportunity to share invaluable opinions and suggestions University leadership will use going forward.

Our long-running annual employee health fair evolved into a full Work-Life and Wellness Expo this year. That, along with new offerings such as Fitbit Challenges, yoga classes and even a cutest pet of the week contest, keep our employees engaged in improving their overall health and well-being. Professional development and training continue to be a high priority. We want our faculty and staff — already among the best and brightest — to continue to improve and shine even brighter.
PILLAR 1
Outstanding Teaching & Scholarship

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

New College graduate and entrepreneur Jeffrey A. Levitetz has committed $1 million through his family’s foundation to the College of Arts and Sciences to establish the Levitetz Leadership Program. The program will provide scholarships, internship stipends, workshops, lectures and innovation grants to students in New College — an interdisciplinary program where students can create their own major by taking courses throughout the University.

The College has approximately 8,400 undergraduate students and 1,000 graduate students in over 100 programs of study across 64 fields spanning the arts, sciences and social sciences, and has 19 academic programs that are not offered anywhere else in the state.

CAPSTONE COLLEGE OF NURSING

With enrollment climbing past 2,300 students in 2017, the Capstone College of Nursing is already planning an addition to its state-of-the-art building, which opened in 2010. This year the college added to its resources with Juno, a low-fidelity simulator that provides numerous learning experiences to undergraduate and nurse practitioner students in the classroom as they prepare for careers in the field.

It allows students to practice various skills, including IV insertion, tracheal and nasogastric suctioning, and wound care, among others. While most simulators are small-scale replicas of particular parts of the body, Juno gives students the opportunity to train on a life-size model.
Double the Wins — Minerva, the creative portfolio specialization in the department of advertising and public relations, finished the academic year with a total of 28 creative advertising awards won in regional, national and international competitions, more than double any previous year. The two-year program places selected students into a cohort through a rigorous application process and guides them through an intense process of creative discovery.

Record-Breaking Book Bonanza — The School of Library and Information Studies awarded a record $25,752 in new, free books to elementary, middle and high school libraries in Alabama via the SLIS Book Bonanza for the Black Belt & Beyond program.

Family Medicine Residency — One out of seven Alabama family physicians graduated from our residency, one of the largest family medicine residencies in the U.S. The teaching and supervision of family medicine residents is primarily the responsibility of the College's large, full-time faculty. During the three-year residency, the faculty oversee resident training in both hospital and ambulatory care.

National Recognition for UMC — The National Committee for Quality Assurance recognized University Medical Center as a Patient-Centered Medical Home for its patient-centered quality and coordinated care. The PCMH certification was received by UMC’s Tuscaloosa location on the UA campus for its family medicine and pediatric clinics.

Pat Cassity enrolled at the Capstone in 1947 but left shortly before graduating. Her life was rich and successful in many ways, but she always longed to finish her degree. Thanks to Back to Bama, a distance learning program in the College of Continuing Studies, Cassity graduated in May 2018. She had accumulated enough credits while at UA to earn a bachelor’s degree in interdisciplinary studies through the College of Human Environmental Sciences. “It’s amazing how you can make anything into a positive,” Cassity said. “It’s almost like grace. I’ve been given such an amazing gift by the University.”
CULVERHOUSE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

A $5 million gift from alumna Marillyn A. Hewson, chairman, president, and CEO of Lockheed Martin, will support Culverhouse’s education and research in business-data intelligence and cybersecurity, specifically supporting a high-tech lab named in her honor, two named faculty endowments, an endowed undergraduate scholarship and a graduate assistantship.

“The Marillyn A. Hewson Data Analytics Lab will serve as a premier research center for hands-on data and business analysis that will directly impact Alabama’s economic future and job creation and make the University a national leader on this critical business frontier.” — President Stuart R. Bell.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

After Cody Pope completed his second Summer Bridge program with Crossing Points, he realized his dream of home ownership and purchased a townhouse. Crossing Points, a partnership among UA’s College of Education and the Tuscaloosa City and County school systems, has a two-tier approach to helping students with significant disabilities develop life skills. Tier 1 serves students with significant disabilities ages 18-21 years who are still receiving IDEA services. Tier 2, the Summer Bridge Program, is a postsecondary pipeline program for college-age students with intellectual disabilities ages 19+ years.

More than 100 students have graduated from Crossing Points, many of whom work on campus or at businesses in Tuscaloosa.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Engineering researchers tested walls of storm shelters designed to the standards developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA, to see how they withstand debris strikes. For the test, the researchers used debris cannons — tubes that use compressed air to launch debris, in this case wooden two-by-fours, at 100 mph. Dr. Wei Song, UA assistant professor of civil, construction and environmental engineering, and graduate student Blair Butler led the study to see the behavior of the walls during impact and tweaked the design and materials to examine if changes could improve performance. UA partnered with the local Habitat for Humanity chapter and the Alabama Center for Insurance Information and Research located on UA’s campus.
COLLEGE OF HUMAN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Five Stars — A leader in early care and education in the state, UA’s Children’s Program is the first in Alabama to receive five stars, the highest possible rating from Alabama Quality STARS, Alabama’s Quality Rating and Improvement System. UA’s Children’s Program boasts small class sizes, excellent staff-to-child ratios, a developmentally appropriate curriculum, extensive parent engagement and highly qualified teachers.

New Doctoral Program — A new doctoral program in human nutrition will provide students with the skills needed to perform bench-to-bedside-to-community research that advances the field of nutrition to improve human health.

GRADUATE SCHOOL

In Fall Semester 2017, UA enrolled more than 5,000 graduate and professional students. Alabama residents make up 42.5 percent of our graduate students and 56.1 percent of the professional students. The University of Alabama educates many of the state’s doctors, attorneys, teachers, scientific innovators and business leaders.

The University of Alabama awarded its first Master of Arts degree in 1832, just one year after the University opened. For the 2017-18 academic year, UA awarded 1,681 master’s degrees, 138 professional degrees, 22 educational specialist degrees and 290 doctorates.

Rankings of our outstanding programs with their respective colleges can be found throughout Year in Review.
HONORS COLLEGE

In Fall 2017, the Honors College welcomed students from all 50 states in its most academically talented freshman class, with its mean ACT score of 31.7 in the 97th percentile in the nation and a record-high mean high school GPA of 4.2. Opportunities for experiential learning continued to grow. Honors students mentored students from grades pre-K to college through seven initiatives in Engage Tuscaloosa, reaching 17 schools in Tuscaloosa and the surrounding area.

Student achievements included Honors students winning all six Premier Awards and 13 Fulbright Awards. At graduation, 39 percent of Honors graduates stated they planned to attend graduate or professional school, and 24 percent reported having already accepted a job.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

The School of Social Work received a $1.35 million grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to improve outcomes of Alabama youths who are victims of human sex trafficking.

The Juvenile Victims of Human Trafficking in Alabama Project will help strengthen the state’s working relationships between treatment services, law enforcement and prosecutors, and develop a statewide multidisciplinary system of screening and training. Additionally, the project will design and implement a database resource system to provide immediate coordination of trauma-informed services to fully meet the needs of trafficked youth.

SCHOOL OF LAW

Alabama is one of the few law schools in the country that guarantees every student the opportunity to participate in at least one law clinic before graduating. The program offers the following clinics: Domestic Violence, Children’s Rights, Elder Law, Civil Law, Community Development and Mediation Law. The School publishes four student-run journals and fields approximately 20 moot court and trial advocacy teams.

The nationwide bar passage rate for the class of 2017 is 93.9 percent, and 94.7 percent of the class were employed in bar-passage-required or J.D.-advantage positions or pursuing advanced degrees within 10 months of graduation.
**FACULTY Achievements**

**DR. TRUDIER HARRIS,** award-winning author and distinguished research professor, was busy collecting awards this past year.

She is the recipient of the 2018 Clarence E. Cason Award in Nonfiction Writing. Each year, the University bestows the honor on a recipient with a strong connection to Alabama whose writing has made a critical contribution to the journalism and literature of the South.

Harris received a National Humanities Center Fellowship and a 2018 SEC Faculty Achievement Award. To be selected as a National Humanities Center Fellow, candidates have to meet a strict set of scholarly credentials. Recipients of the residential fellowship spend a year at the center located in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, working on a scholarly project.

The project she’s working on is “Ungraspable? Depictions of Home in African American Literature,” which explores the unexplored topic of what home truly means to African Americans as expressed in African American literature.

The SEC Faculty Achievement Award is given annually to a single faculty member of each SEC university who has excelled in teaching, has nationally or internationally recognized research and has achieved full professorship.

Harris’ work focuses on the experiences and writings of women and African Americans in the Southeast. She is the author or editor of more than two dozen books as well as the recipient of multiple awards in writing and teaching.

**DR. JASON BARA,** associate professor of chemical and biological engineering, won the David Himmelblau Award for Innovations in Computer-Based Chemical Engineering Education from AIChE, the leading professional chemical engineering organization. Bara was also selected by editors of Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research as a member of the inaugural class of Influential Researchers.

**DR. CAROLINE BOXMEYER,** associate professor of psychiatry and behavioral medicine, was selected as a fellow for the 2017-2018 SEC Academic Leadership Development Program. The program brings faculty fellows from each SEC campus to provide higher-education specific leadership and management training.

**DR. DIANNE BRAGG,** assistant professor of journalism and creative media, was named the 2017-2018 president of the American Journalism Historians Association.

**DR. JENNIFER GREER,** associate provost for administration, was elected president of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. She is the first UA professor to hold the AEJMC presidency.
DOUGLAS KLUTZ, internship and advising director and a full-time criminal justice instructor, was ranked No. 1 by students in a favorite professor poll on RateMyProfessors.com. One hundred percent of students said they would take another class with him.

DR. SAMIT ROY, the William D. Jordan Professor of Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics, is devoting the next two years to helping the Air Force select research proposals for funding as the program officer for the Structural Prognosis program. He serves within the Air Force Office of Scientific Research in Arlington, Virginia.

LAURL SELF, instructor in clothing, textiles and interior design, won a Practitioner’s Award for Creative Endeavors from the American Society for Interior Design.

DR. LAMEA “ELLE” SHAABAN-MAGAÑA, director of the Women and Gender Resource Center, received The Zenobia Hikes Memorial Award from the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators’ Center for Scholarship, Research and Professional Development for Women.

DR. RYAN SUMMERS, assistant professor of chemical and biological engineering, received a new award from the National Science Foundation’s Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research that will provide 30 non-tenured researchers with fellowships, partnering them with premier research centers and enhancing their ability to work at the frontiers of science and engineering.
GOLDWATER, BOREN AND HOLLINGS SCHOLARS

Elizabeth Rowe and Donna Xia brought UA’s total of Goldwater Scholars to 53, while we added one more Boren Scholar, Hadley Spadaccini, bringing that total to 13. Raien Emery is our 33rd Hollings Scholarship winner.

HACKATL

UA engineering students took first place at the HackATL start-up competition in Atlanta. Approximately 45 teams made of around 200 undergraduate and graduate students participated. Competitors were studying several disciplines including business, graphic design and computer science. The UA team’s project, in the health and wellness category, was a mobile application to aid childhood speech development called Runa.

GRAND PRIZE IN NATIONAL CASE COMPETITION

MBA students in the Manderson Graduate School of Business were big winners at the 2017 National Black MBA Association/FCA US National Graduate Student Case Competition in Philadelphia, beating out 41 teams from some of the country’s top business schools and earning the grand prize of $25,000 in scholarships.

BEST CAMPAIGN, BEST TACTIC

The Capstone Agency earned Best Campaign and Best Tactic in the 2017 Public Relations Student Society of America Student-Run Firm Awards. Also recognized at the PRSSA National Conference, UA’s PRSSA chapter won a national award for university service due to members’ work with the Campus Veterans Association and Beat Auburn Beat Hunger. Capstone Agency is a nationally affiliated, student-run, integrated communications firm comprised of top communication students at UA.

MARK OF EXCELLENCE

Alpine Living, a student-produced travel magazine, racked up awards for its New Zealand issue. In addition to a national Mark of Excellence Award for best affiliated website from the Society of Professional Journalists, the publication earned two Associated College Press Awards and placed three times in the AEJMC Magazine Division awards. The Society of Professional Journalists’ Mark of Excellence Award recognizes the best in student journalism nationwide.

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

The College Media Association named The Crimson White the national Four-Year Weekly Newspaper of the Year at its Pinnacle Awards competition in Dallas. The Pinnacle Awards honor the best college media organizations and individual work in the country.

GOLDWATER, BOREN AND HOLLINGS SCHOLARS

Elizabeth Rowe, Donna Xia, Hadley Spadaccini, Raien Emery

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
AMONG THE BEST IN THE WORLD
Doctor of Musical Arts candidate Joshua Williams won first place in the professional division of the International Horn Competition of America, earning him recognition as one of the world's premier French horn players.

FIRST IN CUBESATS
A team of engineering students placed first in an international contest to design better antennas for small satellites, called CubeSats. The UA team was one of six finalists in the Student Antenna Design Contest, hosted by the Antennas and Propagation Society of IEEE, or IEEE AP-S, the world’s largest technical professional organization dedicated to advancing technology.

PR STUDENT OF THE YEAR
Maret Montanari is UA's first PRWeek Student of the Year winner.

POLITICAL SCIENCE FELLOW
Cameryn Blackmore was named to the Minority Fellowship Program for 2017-18 by the American Political Science Association.

IRONMAN
Pre-med student Jessica Lambert won the Ironman Triathlon competition in Kona, Hawaii.

FORENSICS CHAMPION
Jalen Drummond finished first nationally in informative speaking at the 41st American Forensics Association National Individual Events Tournament Championships in Colorado Springs, Colorado.
Music & Memory Tuscaloosa, a UA student chapter of the national Music & Memory organization, is a non-profit organization that brings personalized music into the lives of Alzheimer’s patients in Tuscaloosa to improve the quality of their lives.

Tradition’s Way, the Alzheimer’s care unit of Capstone Village, received more than $1,500 in donations to train caregivers and purchase Bluetooth players, headphones, waterproof speakers, chargers and iTunes gift cards. The program aims to create an environment that combats anxiety, depression, sundowning, memory loss and other symptoms associated with dementia and Alzheimer’s.
COMBATTING CANCER

Youth was a shield for Makayla Zammett during her mother’s cancer treatment.

When Zammett was 4, her mother, Beverly, was diagnosed with cervical cancer. Makayla doesn’t remember the emotionally taxing characteristics of treatment, like side effects and shifting prognoses. She doesn’t even remember hearing the word “cancer.”

“I don’t think my mom brought it up because I wouldn’t have understood it,” Makayla said. “I didn’t realize it until I got to elementary school. I think that’s kind of how parents try to deal with it with younger kids.”

Beverly has been cancer-free since Makayla was 6. Makayla, now a junior majoring in athletic training at The University of Alabama, is thankful her mother softened the details of her diagnosis, though her older sister, who was 9 at the time, understood the reality of the disease.

“She still couldn’t give my sister all the details because she was trying to be positive and strong for her children,” Makayla said. “You don’t want to lie to your kids, but you don’t want them to worry if you’re going to make it or not.

“She was a single mom who had two kids and was sick. I can’t imagine how much pressure she felt.”

Makayla said these experiences have made her more empathetic to families fighting cancer and more motivated in her leadership role of Camp Kesem at UA, a unique, non-profit organization that operates free summer camps for children who’ve been impacted by their parents’ cancer.

The UA chapter of Camp Kesem was founded in 2016, and 20 children attended the weeklong camp at the 4-H center in Columbiana in 2017. The UA chapter is staffed entirely by student volunteers who create the camp activities, staff the camps and raise funds throughout the year. UA students raised more than $27,000 for last year’s camp and have raised $15,000 of their $35,000 target for this year’s camp.

Twenty-two children participated in this year’s camp at the Alabama 4-H Center in Columbiana. For the second straight year, Camp Kesem hosted more than 20 children and raised more than $25,000 to fund camp activities. Makayla is thankful to gain another year’s worth of experience in managing, planning and fundraising, and is eager to continue growing Kesem into an impactful, sustainable chapter.

“Having that year under our belt makes it easier to explain to people and get others motivated like we are,” Makayla said. “Kesem is a big commitment for our members – it’s 50 percent school and 50 percent Kesem – as we try to make the support for our families year-round by sending out welcome and care packages.”

Makayla’s passion for Kesem grows through each interaction with campers and their parents. While camps consist of outdoor activities, like climbing and canoeing, Kesem engages campers in activities like “Empowerment Night” and “Cabbage Patch,” which gives kids opportunities to share their experiences with cancer, both positive and negative.
DR. JARED ALLRED, assistant professor of chemistry, was awarded a grant from the 2017 Early Career Research Program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy to investigate properties of novel metal compounds and develop a new way to analyze certain aspects of these materials. Allred’s project is one of 59 proposals selected for funding from more than 700 submissions to the energy department. The project will receive $750,000 over five years from the Office of Basic Energy Science and the department’s EPSCOR program.

DR. JASON E. BARA, associate professor of chemical and biological engineering, was recently awarded a grant by the U.S. Department of Energy to further study the structure of patented materials and investigate their functions as gas separation membranes to clean emissions or separate fuel and chemical feedstocks using a fraction of the energy needed for current methods.

DR. DOUGLAS GIBLER, professor and political science researcher at UA’s Institute for Social Science Research, was awarded two grants from the National Science Foundation. Both grants, totaling $800,000 over three years, ultimately will help the understanding of international conflict, one producing a method, the other producing a data set. Each grant will fund two to three graduate students and up to seven undergraduate students each year to work on the projects.

DR. ASMA HATOUM-ASLAN, assistant professor of biological sciences, was awarded an NSF CAREER Award to continue her work in discovering how bacterial immune systems ward off bacteriophages, or viruses that specifically attack bacteria. She and her team hope to better understand how bacteria and viruses battle each other and, in the process, devise new strategies to combat antibiotic-resistant infections.
**DR. LINGYAN KONG**, assistant professor of human nutrition, was awarded a $425,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to research and improve flavor use efficiency and stability in foods using supramolecular starch-flavor structures. Aside from improving and sustaining flavor release, Kong believes his method can help mask unpleasant tastes and odors in foods as well as medications.

**DR. ANDREW LEMMON**, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, is one of 31 recipients of the 2018 Young Investigator Award. He was selected to the annual program from more than 340 applicants. Lemmon will receive $500,000 over three years for his work with the Office of Naval Research, an organization within the United States Department of the Navy.

**DR. SHREYAS S. RAO**, the Reichhold-Shumaker Assistant Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering, received a NSF CAREER Award for a pioneering bioengineering project that studies dormancy in metastatic breast cancer cells. Rao and his students will engineer brain tissue mimicking environments incorporating signals they believe may play a role in cancer dormancy such as stiffness of the tissue, the presence of certain biomolecules and native cells in the brain.

**DRS. JASON C. SENKBEIL and DARRIN GRIFFIN** have been awarded a grant of $251,850 from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to study how tornado warnings could be improved in their accessibility and comprehension by members of the Deaf, Blind and Deaf-Blind communities.

### LIBRARIES

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OUR CORE RESEARCH INSTITUTES

ALABAMA LIFE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The Alabama Life Research Institute serves as a focal point for interdisciplinary bio-psychosocial research that seeks to investigate the human condition at all levels, from the molecular to the environmental. All ALRI research efforts — from the study of genetic anomalies to governmental policy, from drug discovery to prosthetic design, from education to behavior change — seek to improve life, whether through the reduction of morbidity and mortality, the elimination of health inequity, or other quality-of-life improvements. In these efforts, the ALRI will collaborate across the University, as well as with peer institutions, health care corporations, governmental agencies, community-based organizations and other concerned individuals. Currently the ALRI is under the leadership of interim director Dr. John E. Lochman.

As an umbrella organization, the ALRI consists of a set of core facilities and member research centers and institutes. It also serves as an incubator for the development of new institutes and centers. The Institute already embraces the activities of several existing research centers at UA, such as the Alabama Research Institute on Aging, Center for the Prevention of Youth Behavior Problems, Child Development Research Center, Institute for Rural Health Research and Institute for Social Science Research.

ALABAMA TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

The Alabama Transportation Institute serves as a planning, research and policy resource to advance a 21st-century transportation system. ATI brings together nationally recognized research and development industry professionals seeking innovative solutions to the challenges of building and maintaining a transportation system that provides safety and mobility for Alabama’s citizens, while providing efficient freight movement, stimulating economic growth and conserving energy resources. Better roads and bridges will lead to better jobs for Alabamians throughout our state.

The Institute, led by Dr. Shashi Nambisan, is an independent resource that develops unbiased information for use by local, state and national leaders in developing transportation policy. The result will be more informed decision-making that will lead to innovative, data-driven, cost-effective solutions. All of the best minds, under one umbrella with a common purpose, will find better solutions for the future.
ALABAMA WATER INSTITUTE

The National Academy of Engineering identified access to clean water as one of the 14 major challenges facing the world’s civilizations this century.

The Alabama Water Institute, led by Dr. Patricia Sobecky, has been established as a world-class, interdisciplinary research institute that engages in basic and applied research directed to this challenge. It leverages existing strengths at The University of Alabama, addresses future challenges and provides broad-based strategic planning so the state, region and nation meet water needs of the future. The Alabama Water Institute collaborates across the entire University as well as with peer institutions and regional centers.

As an integral part of this collaboration, UA’s latest research center aims to improve accuracy of data and reduce uncertainty for water management and emergency preparedness. The Center for Complex Hydrosystems Research will foster collaborative research to advance the understanding of hydrologic science through modeling climate-water-human interactions as a complex system.

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA CYBER INSTITUTE

Recent additions to The University of Alabama Cyber Institute along with refocusing research and academic priorities should help it respond to the challenges and opportunities for cyber to change the human condition nationally and in the state.

New researchers were recently brought on board allowing the Cyber Institute, led by Reginald Hyde, to branch into the areas of supply chain risk management and secure architecture as well as improve teaching in the cybersecurity area.

Dr. David Mayhew leads the secure architecture program that develops trusted systems and standards as well as proven, verifiable protection of trustworthy, high-assurance security to address the problems of adversarial attacks, including software subversion.

Dr. Winnie Callahan, a leader in cybersecurity education for the past 20 years, joined the institute as director of Cyber Academic Programs. Callahan oversees diverse educational programs aimed at creating a highly qualified cyber workforce. She also spearheads novel research efforts and economic development projects to bring more technology companies to the University.
**UNIVERSITY CORPORATION FOR ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH**

The Capstone has signed a partnership agreement with UCAR, the national organization focused on research and training in the atmospheric and related Earth system sciences. UCAR is a consortium of 117 universities and colleges across North America and manages the National Center for Atmospheric Research under sponsorship by the National Science Foundation. Through its community programs, UCAR supports and extends the capabilities of its academic consortium.

**UNITED STATES NAVAL OBSERVATORY**

The University of Alabama has partnered with the United States Naval Observatory to train UA students in precise timing and time interval technology, which is used in highly precise atomic clocks on which the U.S. military, financial sector, GPS satellites and power grids rely.

The partnership, which will involve an interdisciplinary program, drawing on resources from both UA’s College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Engineering, positions UA to become one of the few universities in the world training students in the field.

**PAKISTAN-UA PARTNERS**

Dr. Delores M. Robinson, professor of geological sciences, has partnered with Dr. Shah Faisal of the University of Peshawar as part of an international team performing geological research in northeast Pakistan aiming to understand where possible oil and gas deposits reside beneath the surface.

The project is part of the U.S.-Pakistan Science and Technology Cooperation Program, co-funded by the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development, or USAID, and implemented by the U.S. National Academy of Sciences in coordination with the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA**

Tuscaloosa is the only place in the U.S. where hydrogen masers, a type of atomic clock, are made.
Dr. Michelle Robinson, assistant professor of English, received a $25,000 Our Town grant from the NEA to support her research study “PhotoVoices in Historic Hobson City: Cultivating Community, Creating Change.” Last year, five 11- to 14-year-old African American girls, equipped with cameras, took photos of a community cemetery, the municipal building, the only restaurant and the only store in their hometown of Hobson City, Alabama’s oldest African American community and the second oldest in the nation. The photos were of places that they were concerned about and wanted to see revitalized. The girls’ assignment was part of Robinson’s research study.

Seth Panitch, professor of acting and head of acting programs, was awarded a $10,000 NEA grant to produce his upcoming play, “Separate and Equal.” He co-wrote the grant with Dominic Yeager, UA assistant professor of theatre, and developed the play with Lawrence Jackson, a choreographer and UA assistant professor of dance. The play is about a hypothetical basketball game between black and white teens in segregated Birmingham in 1951, which was illegal at the time. It explores what that meeting could have been like and reflects on current race relations.
FROM BOOK TO WINNING SCREENPLAY

Dr. David Beito, a history professor, and his wife, Dr. Linda Royster Beito, released a book called “Black Maverick,” a biography about civil rights pioneer Dr. Theodore Roosevelt Mason Howard. In 2015, the book’s screenplay, “Keepin’ It Mighty Hot,” was selected as the winning entry in the Alabama Writers’ Conclave 2017 Screenwriting Competition, earning a small cash prize and an opportunity for the script to be made into a film by independent producers at Council Tree Productions.

BRINGING HISTORY TO LIFE

UA’s department of theatre and dance collaborated with the department of English to present “Our Tuscaloosa,” a series of three plays that tell the stories of important events in Alabama’s history in celebration of the state’s bicentennial. The plays were geared toward elementary school students and were performed free in the Tuscaloosa Public Library.

Creative writing students wrote the plays, which were performed by undergraduate acting students. The brief, low-cost productions had five actors and a trunk from which needed props could be pulled. The Alabama Humanities Foundation awarded a grant, and Moundville Archaeological Park, the Tuscaloosa Historical Society and UA Museums also collaborated on the project.
FOR THE 2018–2019 COMPETITION PERIOD, 15 UA STUDENTS EARNED FULBRIGHT AWARDS.

**AWARDS FOR RESEARCH AND STUDY**

Nicole Henderson will pursue research titled “Um Ciclo Vicioso: Cultural Beliefs, Stigma, and Substance Use in Brazil.”

Natalie Kidd will conduct research titled “Modulation of Regulatory/Suppressive Actions of Gamma T-cells with a Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR)” at the University of Kiel’s Institute of Immunology in Germany.

**THIRTEEN UA GRADUATES RECEIVED FULBRIGHT AWARDS TO TEACH ENGLISH OVERSEAS**

Rachel Combs, Jeremy Connor, Dwyer Freeman and Annika Wulff are going to Germany, while Carrigan Fain and Richard Lewis will teach in Malaysia. Two students, Maggie Holmes and Theresa Stoddard, are bound for Spain. The other Fulbright winners and their destinations are Madeleine Lewis, Montenegro; Taebryanna Sims, South Korea; Shelby Smithson, Turkey; Kaylyn Williams, Czech Republic; and Amanda Wolosz, Poland.

**TWO PROFESSORS PURSUED WORK AND RESEARCH THROUGH THE U.S. FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS PROGRAM IN 2017 AND 2018**

Dr. Samantha Hansen, associate professor of geological sciences, was in Greece for the fall semester, working at the National Observatory of Athens. She combined seismic data from a countrywide seismograph network with her tomographic imaging technique — producing images through a ground-penetrating wave — to develop models for the Hellenic Subduction Zone.

Dr. Gregory Starr, professor of biological sciences, spent six months in France working with the French National Institute for Agricultural Research on a project titled “Food Security and Human Populations Growth: Trading Water for Carbon to Increase Food Production for the 21st Century.”
A primary goal of UA’s Strategic Plan is to enrich the institution’s learning and work environment by providing an accepting, inclusive community that attracts and supports a diverse faculty, staff and student body. Central to that goal was the creation of the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, headed by our first vice president and associate provost for that area, Dr. G. Christine Taylor. She provides leadership for the University to build on its core principles of inclusiveness in learning environments, programs, workforce and strategic partnerships.

This first year’s divisional achievements include the formation of the Academic Diversity Council, collaborations with the Faculty Senate, numerous workshops and keynote speeches, and the presentation of findings from the Diversity Mapping Study.
DIVERSITY MAPPING STUDY

Commissioned in 2016 by UA President Stuart R. Bell and Provost Kevin Whitaker, the Diversity Mapping Study cataloged all the current diversity, equity and inclusion efforts, programs and courses on campus. Findings from the yearlong study were presented in two public listening sessions held during Fall Semester 2017.

The study will help further shape UA’s Strategic Diversity Plan and other diversity efforts in coming years.

MILITARY

The Capstone serves more than 4,000 veterans, service members and dependents and is ranked as a top military-friendly university. The Office of Veteran and Military Affairs offers students VetSuccess, a program that connects licensed vocational counselors with military students and dependents; the VITAL initiative aimed at improving health services for student veterans; and the Textbooks for Troops free textbook loan program.
The University of Alabama Wheelchair Tennis Team won its fourth team national championship at the USTA National Campus in Orlando, Florida.

The University of Alabama men’s wheelchair basketball team mounted double-digit rallies in both halves against Wisconsin-Whitewater to win its second national championship.

**ADAPTED ATHLETICS**

**$10 MILLION ARENA OPENS**

On Jan. 10, a dream became reality when The University of Alabama cut the ribbon on its vanguard for adapted sports.

UA Adapted Athletics players and coaches, University administrators and supporters of the program celebrated the completion of Stran-Hardin Arena, a $10 million multi-purpose facility for UA’s Adapted Athletics program.

The two-story facility, named for Drs. Brent Hardin and Margaret Stran, founders of the program, includes a NCAA regulation game venue for wheelchair basketball, locker rooms, athletic training room, strength and conditioning room, team meeting rooms and study halls. Stran-Hardin Arena is along the south façade of the UA Rec Center, east of the main entrance.

The program includes women’s basketball, men’s basketball, wheelchair tennis, para-rowing and adapted golf. This year we celebrated championships in tennis and men’s basketball.

Pictured, from left, are Maude Jacques, women’s wheelchair tennis player; Dr. Peter Hlebowitsh, dean, UA College of Education; C. Ray Hayes, former chancellor of the UA System; Dr. Margaret Stran, associate director, UA Adapted Athletics; Dr. Brent Hardin, director, UA Adapted Athletics; Dr. Stuart R. Bell, UA president; Mike and Kathy Mouron, UA alumni and donors; Jasper Cornett, vice president, KPS Group; Tim Harrison, Harrison Construction; and James Cook, men’s wheelchair basketball player.
The Bloom Hillel Center for Jewish Student Life is less than 10 years old and is already being expanded to add 50 percent more space. The need for more room is due to a growing enrollment of Jewish students and the interest in participating in all that Bloom Hillel offers: Shabbat dinners, Sunday brunch, study sessions, speakers and even travel to Israel.

CELEBRATION OF DIFFERENCES

The Celebration of Differences brought together the Black Student Union, the Zebras, BLEND, Better Together, Spectrum and other student organizations for an evening of photographs, tabling from student organizations, a panel and poetry from the ASAP student organization.

BRINGING DIVERSE VIEWPOINTS TO CAMPUS

Bestselling author
Christina Baker Kline
Nobel Prize winner
Vernon Smith
Dr. Mark Harrison
of the National Academy of Sciences
Actor and humanitarian
Danny Glover
Civil rights activist
Jesse Jackson
Former US Representative
Lt. Col. Allen West
Immigrant activist
Julissa Arce
Death row exoneree
Anthony Ray Hinton
World-renowned paleoanthropologist
Dr. Lee Berger
TUSCALOOSA AFRICANA FILM FESTIVAL

The Tuscaloosa Africana Film Festival, co-sponsored by the College of Community Health Sciences and the College of Arts and Sciences, is part of the annual Tuscaloosa Heritage Festival. The film festival is presented by the Edward A. Ulzen Memorial Foundation and Afram South Inc., two nonprofit organizations that support education and public health initiatives in West Alabama and Ghana, West Africa.

As part of the Tuscaloosa Africana Film Festival, Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Tyrik Washington, of Brooklyn, New York, led a discussion on the role of film and its influence on activism and social change. The workshop, titled “Arts in Activism,” was co-sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences and the UA African Students Association.

ALSAMP SPRING RESEARCH CONFERENCE

The College of Engineering showcased student research from across the state and encouraged professional development among underrepresented minority students at a conference on campus. Around 90 students and 25 faculty and staff from the nine ALSAMP alliance institutions participated.

As lead institution of the Alabama Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, or ALSAMP, the University hosted the organization’s Spring Research Conference featuring student research in science, technology, engineering and math, better known as STEM fields.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATIONS

The University has launched an accessibility initiative to provide our technology users, including those with disabilities, a functional and accessible technology experience with our web presence and our instructional and emerging technologies. Audits of existing websites and a variety of accessibility training sessions and workshops have been implemented. We continue to push forward to ensure all our students have the opportunity to participate fully in the rich life of the University. We expect nothing less than the highest levels of quality and resources for all our students.

The Office of Disability Services is the clearinghouse for academic resources for students with disabilities who request accommodations. A 50-room testing center within ODS allows students to take tests in a reduced-distraction environment.

Other campus departments also provide support for students with disabilities. UA Libraries, Student Health Center, Parking Services, Student Support Services, Housing and Residential Communities and the Alabama Department of Vocational Rehabilitation all work to empower these students so they can succeed and thrive at UA.
THIS YEAR 1,478 STUDENTS STUDIED ABROAD FOR CREDIT IN 56 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES. NEW FACULTY-LED PROGRAMS FOR 2017-2018 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- **UA in Asia:** Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Vietnam and China (STEM MBA)
- **UA in Greece:** Social Work
- **UA in Italy:** European Innovation Academy (STEM MBA)
- **UA in Italy:** Experience & Immersion in the Reggio Emilia Approach to Childhood Education
- **UA in Italy:** Following Shakespeare through Italy
- **UA in Italy:** Food and Wine

International students made up 3 percent of our student body in 2017-18, and they came to us from 82 countries. As an integral part of our academic environment, these students bring their ideas and curiosity, their research passions and creativity. They also enrich the Capstone with their cultures, and we believe being here enriches their understanding of the world, too.

**DIWALI AND HOLI**
The International Students Association, Honors College Assembly and UA South Asian Society came together to host two Indian festivals: Diwali, the festival of light, was celebrated in the fall and Holi, the festival of color, was celebrated in the spring.

**INTERNATIONAL PROM**
What’s more American than prom? The UA South Asian Society wanted to re-create this night to remember for international students, but with a twist: to dress in attire from their home countries.

**A SWEET TASTE OF CULTURE**
Students in UA’s English Language Institute spent an afternoon decorating Christmas cookies, singing carols and building gingerbread houses.

**WORLD FRIENDS DAY**
More than 55 students representing 19 countries from UA’s English Language Institute shared their cultures through games, songs and dance at “World Friends Day,” an ELI program at University Place Elementary School.
CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CENTER

Crossroads Community Center provides resources and education on diversity and inclusion through intercultural engagement programs and training. The center supports students, faculty, and staff in making UA a welcoming community for all.

Programs and activities include Better Together – the Interfaith Initiative; Inclusive Campus Breakfast; P.I.E. Team (Practicing Inclusive Engagement); and Sustained Dialogue.

Crossroads collaborates with organizations and departments across campus to create and advance diversity and inclusion on the UA campus through celebration of cultural heritage and history months.

SAFE ZONE

Hosted a total of 30 trainings which resulted in 378 individuals having completed Safe Zone Ally training this academic year (2017-18).

There are a program total of 2,247 Safe Zone Allies registered with the office over the course of our history.

Safe Zone hosted or participated in a total of 33 campus visibility events.

Completed a total of 27 information sessions and presentation panels.

Did 10 classroom lectures.
PILLAR 4
Work-Life Balance

"The University has always been committed to providing a work environment that encourages our employees to thrive in all areas of life."

Dr. Stuart R. Bell

This past spring faculty and staff had the chance to make their voices heard in a campuswide workplace experience survey, Chime In. Responses will help guide UA’s leadership team in improving and supporting work-life balance. To see how we can improve, we need to see where we are now. The voices of our employees are crucial to help the University advance the flagship. From this starting point we will conduct further research and repeat the survey in three years.
QUAD IN MOTION
Employees keep the Quad in motion for an entire day with tai chi, yoga, walking and stretching.

PET OF THE WEEK CONTEST
Our very first Pet of the Week Contest gave employees a chance to show off the adorable animals that make their lives better.

FITBIT CHALLENGE

FREE YOGA

COUCH TO 5K

QUAD IN MOTION
Employees keep the Quad in motion for an entire day with tai chi, yoga, walking and stretching.

TAKE OUR CHILDREN TO WORK DAY

Take Our Children to Work Day is observed in November at the University. This year 41 parents (40 employees and one student) brought 57 children between ages 8-18 to experience a day of presentations, tours and fun. Breakout sessions include “Rockets and Racecars” from the College of Engineering, “10,000 Years in an Hour” from Moundville Archaeological Park, “Drumming Circle” from the UA African Drumming Ensemble, and a tour of the Digital Media Center in Bryant-Denny Stadium.
EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS WORKING TOGETHER

Each major classification of employee at The University of Alabama is represented by a group of democratically elected peers. The Faculty Senate, Professional Staff Assembly, and Office, Clerical and Technical Staff Assembly all work with the UA administration to address the needs and concerns of their respective group members. They also offer ideas, suggestions and contributions to the administration to improve The University of Alabama for everyone.

While each organization has its own focus, collaboration is key. This year, with a $5,000 TIAA grant, the three groups conducted a joint service project benefitting two programs, Alabama REACH and the Brewer-Porch Children’s Center.

BENEFITS

98 VENDORS IN BAMA PERKS
14 FINANCIAL WELLNESS PROGRAMS (2017-2018 ACADEMIC YEAR), INCLUDING THE POPULAR FOUR-PART PROGRAM, PLANNING FOR THE CONFIDENT RETIREMENT
5,205 EMPLOYEES ENROLLED IN MEDICAL PLAN (AS OF 4/30/18), 87% OF BENEFITS-ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES
4,555 EMPLOYEES ENROLLED IN DENTAL PLAN (AS OF 4/30/18), 76% OF BENEFITS-ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES
3,700 EMPLOYEES ENROLLED IN VISION PLAN (AS OF 4/30/18), 62% OF BENEFITS-ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES
2,221 EMPLOYEES PARTICIPATING IN FSA (AS OF 4/30/18), 37% OF BENEFITS-ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES
753 EMPLOYEES PARTICIPATED IN THE FITBIT CHALLENGES THROUGH THE OFFICE OF HEALTH PROMOTION & WELLNESS
1,298 EMPLOYEES PARTICIPATED IN WELLBAMA
ALMOST 2.5 MILLION DOLLARS SPENT ON THE EDUCATIONAL BENEFIT

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

207 STAFF MEMBERS WHO ATTENDED THE UA STAFF CAREER/RESOURCE FAIR
572 NEW EMPLOYEES WHO WENT THROUGH NEW EMPLOYEE BENEFITS ORIENTATION
1,366 ONLINE COURSES AND RESOURCES ACCESSED
STUDENT LIFE
Through the Year

WEEK OF WELCOME

SOLAR ECLIPSE
The Yea, Alabama! kick-off barbecue is an annual event, but the solar eclipse made it a once-in-a-lifetime moment for students.

FIRST HOME GAME

STUDENT WELLNESS WEEK
Practicing mindfulness while walking the labyrinth and getting a flu shot – it’s all part of wellness week.
October

**DIWALI**
The UA community came together to celebrate with food, music, lights and henna tattoos.

**VETERANS DAY**
We are proud to be ranked a top military-friendly university. Veterans Day is the culmination of a week of events focusing on those who have served our country.

**BEAT AUBURN BEAT HUNGER**
While UA claimed the win in this longstanding, friendly rivalry, the real winners are the food banks.

November

**LUMINARIES ON THE QUAD**

**O CHRISTMAS TREE**
On Dec. 2 Kelsey Hall tweeted that for 1,000 retweets, she would wear her Christmas tree costume to class every day for the rest of the semester. Nearly 19,000 retweets later, she was an internet sensation.
NATIONAL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP
What a way to start the year!
Final score: 26-23.

STRAN-HARDIN ARENA OPENS
We celebrated the completion of Stran-Hardin Arena, a multi-use facility for UA’s Adapted Athletics program.

February

UA DANCE MARATHON
Twelve hours of dancing raised money and awareness for children and families being treated at Children’s of Alabama in Birmingham.

March

STUDENT RESEARCH/CREATIVITY CONFERENCE

JACKSONVILLE STATE TORNADO CLEANUP
Students and staff pitched in to help our friends after a tornado hit their campus.
April

HONORS WEEK
The first week in April is packed with ceremonies and events recognizing scholarship, leadership and civic spirit.

May

COMMENCEMENT
Graduation celebrations across campus, three days of commencement exercises, and 5,600+ degrees awarded.
CAMPUS GROWTH & IMPROVEMENTS

The spring and summer hummed with activity as construction pushed forward on buildings set to open or re-open for Fall Semester 2018.

TUTWILER PARKING DECK
accommodates 1,452 vehicles and includes a multipurpose space and storm shelter.

THE MAL M. MOORE ATHLETIC FACILITY is the centerpiece of Crimson Tide Athletics and now has a modern dining facility.
New Freshman Residence Hall is designed for about 500 students and includes a multipurpose event space and storm shelter.

LITTLE HALL, home to the School of Social Work, reopened after a major renovation to the first and second floors and addition of an 8,720 square foot third floor.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
The UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD project moves into a new phase with improvements east of McFarland Avenue.

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H.M. COMER HALL
houses the College of Engineering administration. Renovations improved the space, addressed maintenance issues and enhanced technology systems while preserving the building’s classical profile.

LAKESIDE DINING HALL
A major renovation added a mezzanine level for increased seating capability, demolition of all existing food stations, and construction of a new servery featuring fresh grilled and sautéed options. With the rapidly increasing population facing food allergies, Lakeside Dining will feature a meal station with menu items made without gluten and equipment to prepare foods for a variety of allergens with a focus on preventing cross-contamination.

MOODY MUSIC BUILDING
continues to expand and improve with this latest renovation project.
BRYCE CAMPUS UPDATE

Stabilization and restoration work continues at the historic Bryce Main Building. Additional renovations are occurring at Northeast Medical Building and Cyber Hall. We expect the total renovation of University Hall to be completed by next fall.

UNIVERSITY SERVICES CAMPUS UPDATE

Automotive Services has moved to the state-of-the-art auto services garage complex. Total renovation of two buildings for Human Resources will be completed and occupied by fall.
FOOTBALL
Head Coach Nick Saban

On the way to its fifth national championship in the past nine years and 17th overall, Alabama football reached the 10-win milestone for a school-record 10th year in a row and 37th time overall, finishing the season at 13-1. Under 11th-year head coach Nick Saban, the Crimson Tide advanced to the College Football Playoff for the fourth time in a row, remaining the only school to earn a place in the playoff in each of its first four years. Alabama beat Clemson in the Sugar Bowl to advance to a showdown with Southeastern Conference foe Georgia in the national title game where the Tide won a thrilling 26-23 overtime victory. Alabama reached the 13-win mark for the third consecutive season, becoming the first team in college football to achieve that distinction since the 19th century. The Tide also became just the second team in college football history to win 11 games in seven consecutive seasons (USC - 2002-2008).

Individually, Minkah Fitzpatrick was honored with the Jim Thorpe Award as the nation’s top defensive back and the Chuck Bednarik Award as college football’s top defender. The honors marked the seventh consecutive season a Tide player has been recognized as a national award winner. Seven Alabama players earned All-America honors in 2017. Following the season, the Crimson Tide had an Alabama and SEC-record 12 players taken in the NFL draft.

VOLLEYBALL
Head Coach Ed Allen

Under seventh-year head coach Ed Allen, the Crimson Tide volleyball team finished the 2017 season with a 18-14 record overall with a 6-12 mark in Southeastern Conference play, marking the sixth season in a row the Tide has finished with 17 or more wins, the second-longest streak since Alabama began NCAA play. Senior Leah Lawrence earned CoSIDA Academic All-America honors in 2017. The award is the seventh in Crimson Tide program history and the fifth under Allen. Lawrence also set the school career blocks record with 449 over her four-year Crimson Tide tenure and was voted All-South Region by the American Volleyball Coaches Association.
SOCCER
Head Coach Wes Hart

Under third-year head coach Wes Hart, the 2017 Alabama soccer team had a big year, improving to 12-8-1 overall and 4-5-1 in Southeastern Conference play, while advancing to the NCAA tournament for the first time since 2011 and making just its third appearance overall. The 12 wins was the most since 2002. Senior Celia Jimenez Delgado and junior Emma Welch were named to the 2017 NSCAA NCAA Division I Women’s All-South Region team, while Jimenez Delgado, Welch and junior Abbie Boswell earned All-SEC honors. Welch was named a CoSIDA Academic All-American. Jimenez Delgado was also selected by the Seattle Reign FC as the 36th overall pick of the 2018 National Women’s Soccer League Draft. She was one of four players selected from the SEC and is the first player in Crimson Tide history to be drafted into the national league.

MEN’S BASKETBALL
Head Coach Avery Johnson

Under the direction of third-year head coach Avery Johnson, the men’s basketball team advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2012 and the 20th time in school history. Alabama finished the 2017-18 season with a record of 20-16 overall and 8-10 in Southeastern Conference play. The Crimson Tide also reached the SEC Tournament semifinals for the second straight year — the first time that’s been accomplished in 23 years dating back to the 1994 and 1995 campaigns. Individually, freshman guard Collin Sexton was named a 2018 Associated Press Honorable Mention All-American, becoming the 19th different player in program history, and first since 2008 (Richard Hendrix), to earn All-America accolades. Additionally, he is the first UA rookie to earn a spot on an AP All-America team (first, second, third or honorable mention) in program history. Sexton also became the second player in Alabama history to be named SEC Freshman of the Year. Junior Donta Hall also earned conference honors when he was named to the SEC All-Defensive team.
GYMNASTICS
Head Coach Dana Duckworth

In her fourth season as the Crimson Tide head coach, Dana Duckworth led Alabama to its 36th consecutive NCAA championship berth in 2018. The Crimson Tide also won its NCAA-record 32nd NCAA regional championship and finished the season ranked eighth, making Alabama one of just two programs in collegiate gymnastics history to finish in the top-nine at the NCAA championship the last 36 years in a row. The Tide finished second at the SEC Championships, marking its 20th consecutive top-three finish and the 29th time Alabama has finished first or second at the conference championships. Individually, seniors Kiana Winston and Nickie Guerrero earned NAGC/W Regular Season All-America honors. Senior Mackenzie Brannan earned Academic All-America honors for the third straight season.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
Head Coach Kristy Curry

The Crimson Tide women’s basketball team, under fourth-year head coach Kristy Curry, advanced to the quarterfinals of the Women’s National Invitation Tournament for the second year in a row. The Tide finished the 2017-18 season with a 20-14 mark overall and a 7-9 record in Southeastern Conference play. With its 20 wins, the Crimson Tide recorded back-to-back 20-win seasons for the first time since the 1997-98 and 1998-99 seasons. Meoshonti Knight joined fellow seniors Hannah Cook and Ashley Williams in the 1,000 Point Club during the season, making 2017-18 the first season in program history that Alabama has had three 1,000-point scorers on its team at the same time.

MEN’S AND WOMEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING
Head Coach Dennis Pursley

Under sixth-year head coach Dennis Pursley, both the men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams continued to shine on the national stage. The Tide men earned their fifth consecutive top-15 NCAA finish in 2018, taking 13th. The women’s team took 30th place at the 2018 NCAA championship, marking Alabama’s third top-30 finish in the past four years and its second-best point total (23) since 2005. A total of 13 men and women combined for 33 All-America honors in 2018. Since the arrival of Pursley and his staff prior to the 2013 season, a total of 29 Alabama men and women have earned 140 All-America accolades.

The Crimson Tide also continued its assault on the school record board, breaking seven UA marks, including three individual and four relays records. Senior Luke Kaliszak was named the SEC Swimming and Diving Scholar-Athlete of the Year, marking the third year in a row an Alabama swimmer has earned that honor. Kaliszak, Laurent Bams, Robert Howard and Temarie Tomley all earned Academic All-America honors.
ROWING
Head Coach Larry Davis

Under the tutelage of head coach Larry Davis, Alabama rowing placed fifth at the 2018 Big 12 Championships. For the second year in a row, all five Crimson Tide crews competed in Grand Finals at the Big 12 Championships and came away with a trio of medals, taking bronze in the First Varsity 4+, Third Varsity 8+ and Second Varsity 4+. During the season, Alabama received votes in the US Rowing/CRCA Coaches Poll for the first time in program history. Senior Nicole Lane earned All-Big 12 and CRCA All-Conference honors and was the Big 12 Scholar-Athlete of the Year. At the end of the season, Davis, Alabama’s head coach since the program’s inception as an NCAA varsity sport, announced his retirement after 12 years at the Crimson Tide’s helm. Glenn Putyrae will serve as the new head coach of the Alabama Rowing team.

BASEBALL
Head Coach Brad Bohannon

Alabama finished the 2018 season with a 27-29 record overall and an 8-22 mark in Southeastern Conference play under first-year head coach Brad Bohannon. The Bohannon era began with a nine-game winning streak to start the season, tying for the second-best start by a first-year head coach in Alabama baseball history. The 2018 squad saw an eight-win jump from the prior season and posted a 22-13 (.629) mark at Sewell-Thomas Stadium in 2018, drawing 111,986 fans over its 35 home games to average 3,200 per game. The Tide sold out The Joe on four occasions and carried a total attendance that ranked 15th nationally. Five Alabama players from the 2017-18 roster were selected in the 2018 Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft – senior pitcher Jake Walters to the Miami Marlins, junior outfielder Chandler Taylor by the Houston Astros, junior infielder Cobie Vance by the Oakland A’s, junior infielder Jett Manning by the San Francisco Giants and senior infielder Chandler Avant to the New York Mets.
GOLF
Women's Head Coach Mic Potter

In his 13th season as the Crimson Tide’s head coach, Mic Potter led the women’s golf team to a runner-up finish at the 2018 NCAA Championship, marking the second-best finish in school history after winning the NCAA title in 2012. Alabama also extended its streak of top-15 NCAA finishes to 11-straight years. Ranked No. 1 nationally through most of the season, the Tide went an amazing 33-under-par to win the NCAA Tallahassee Regional Championship and advance to the NCAA championship for the 13th year in a row. Cheyenne Knight, Lauren Stephenson and Kristen Gillman all earned All-America honors for the second season in a row, with all three earning first-team honors in 2018. In addition, Gillman and Stephenson were named to the United States Curtis and Palmer Cup teams. Stephenson earned the 2017-18 Golfstat Cup, presented to the collegiate golfer who posts the best scoring average in relation to par each season, and was named the Golfweek Player of the Year. Potter was the WGCA National Coach of the Year while assistant coach Susan Rosenstiel was named an assistant coach with the U.S. Palmer Cup. Gillman earned Academic All-America honors.

Men’s Head Coach Jay Seawell

In his 16th season as Alabama’s head coach, Jay Seawell saw his men’s golf team advance to the NCAA championship final match against Oklahoma State, finishing as national runners-up. It marked the fourth time in the last seven years the Crimson Tide was in the NCAA title match – the most of any schools since the current format came into play. Alabama claimed the national championship in 2013 and 2014 and finished runner-up in 2012 and 2018. It was the Crimson Tide’s 28th NCAA postseason appearance and it 20th time advancing to the NCAA championship. Senior Lee Hodges produced the Tide’s top individual finish in the stroke-play portion of the NCAA championship, taking 21st. Hodges and junior Davis Riley both earned a spot on the GCAA/Ping All-Region Team.
WOMEN’S TENNIS
Head Coach Jenny Mainz

The women’s tennis team, under 21st-year head coach Jenny Mainz, finished the 2018 season with a 15-15 overall record and a 2-11 mark in Southeastern Conference play highlighted by a 4-3 win over No. 32 Texas A&M. Junior Andie Daniell earned First Team All-SEC honors after totaling 26 singles wins as well as 19 playing doubles. Daniell also earned CoSIDA Academic All-America honors, carrying a 4.0 GPA.

MEN’S TENNIS
Head Coach George Husack

Under sixth-year head coach George Husack, the Alabama men’s tennis team earned an NCAA championship berth for the 18th time in program history, advancing to the round of 16 for just the fourth time. The Crimson Tide finished the season with a 20-13 mark overall — its most wins since 2009 and the 10th time in program history UA has posted 20 or more wins — and a 2-10 record in Southeastern Conference play. Individually, junior Mazen Osama became the first Alabama player to advance to the quarterfinal round of the NCAA championship single draw, earning All-America honors along the way. He also earned a spot in the NCAA doubles draw with sophomore Edson Ortiz. Osama finished the season ranked No. 8 in singles, the highest ranking in Alabama history, and was named the ITA National Player to Watch. Osama and Edson finished the season at No. 38. Assistant coach Robbie Weiss was named ITA Southern Region Assistant Coach of the Year.
Under seventh-year head coach Dan Waters, the track and field/cross country program had another stellar year, including arguably the best men’s season in school history. On the strength of a fifth-place NCAA finish at the outdoor championships, a ninth-place finish indoors and a 14th place in cross country, the Crimson Tide men were named the 2017-18 USTFCCCA Program of the Year. The Tide’s outdoor finish was its first top-five finish since 1986, while the cross country team advanced to NCAAs for the first time since 2010. 2018 marked the second year in a row and fourth time in school history the men finished in the top 10 nationally in both indoor and outdoor. The men also won the 2018 Southeastern Conference Indoor Championship, its first indoor conference team title since 1972, and finished fourth at the SEC outdoor meet. In outdoor competition, the Tide women finished 46th at NCAAs and ninth at SECs. During the indoor season, the women finished 45th at NCAAs and eighth at SECs. The women finished with ninth place at the NCAA South Regional Cross Country Championships. Individually, nine men earned 22 All-American honors while the women had nine student-athletes earn 16 honors.
CHAMPIONS IN THE CLASSROOM

All 21 University of Alabama athletics teams continue to score well above the national cutoff standard in the latest Academic Progress Rate, the NCAA announced. Figures released cover the four-year period extending from the 2013-14 through 2016-17 school years.

Overall, 15 Crimson Tide teams posted scores above the national average in their respective sports, including seven that bettered the national average of their sport by 10 points or more. Alabama football scored a program-record 984, which bettered the national average for Football Bowl Subdivision teams by 16 points. The Crimson Tide men’s basketball team posted a 985 APR, bettering the national average by 18 points. Baseball, with a 990 APR, bettered the national average by 15 points.

Four Alabama teams — gymnastics, softball, women’s golf and men’s cross country — earned public recognition from the NCAA for their APR scores figuring in the top-10 percentile nationally among teams in those sports.

In addition to national recognition, eight Crimson Tide teams ranked among the top two in their respective sports in the SEC, with gymnastics, softball, women’s golf, women’s swimming and diving as well as men’s cross country all ranked No. 1 in the league. Football, baseball and men’s swimming and diving all ranked second in the SEC among their respective sports.

Men’s cross country, women’s golf, gymnastics and softball all scored a perfect 1,000 for their four-year score. Those four teams were joined by women’s swimming and diving (998), volleyball (995), men’s swimming and diving (994), women’s cross country (993), rowing (993), women’s tennis (992), women’s indoor and outdoor track and field (991) and baseball (990) among the 13 UA programs with scores of 990 or better.

Alabama football (984), men’s basketball (985) and soccer (987) were among the teams that posted scores of 980 or better. A total of 15 Alabama teams either matched or exceeded their APR from the year before.

CHAMPIONS IN THE COMMUNITY

In addition to excelling academically and athletically, Crimson Tide student-athletes gave almost 3,000 hours toward community service during the 2017-18 academic year, with women’s tennis and football leading the way with the most community outreach hours.

Along with working with entities such as Habitat for Humanity, Manderson Cancer Center and West Alabama Food Bank, Crimson Tide student-athletes used their platform as ambassadors for The University of Alabama to encourage and mentor students in local schools. Additionally, in a departmentwide effort, Alabama Athletics partnered with Alberta Head Start in a year-round unity program to beautify the school, engage the kids in the classroom and identify future initiatives to support the program.