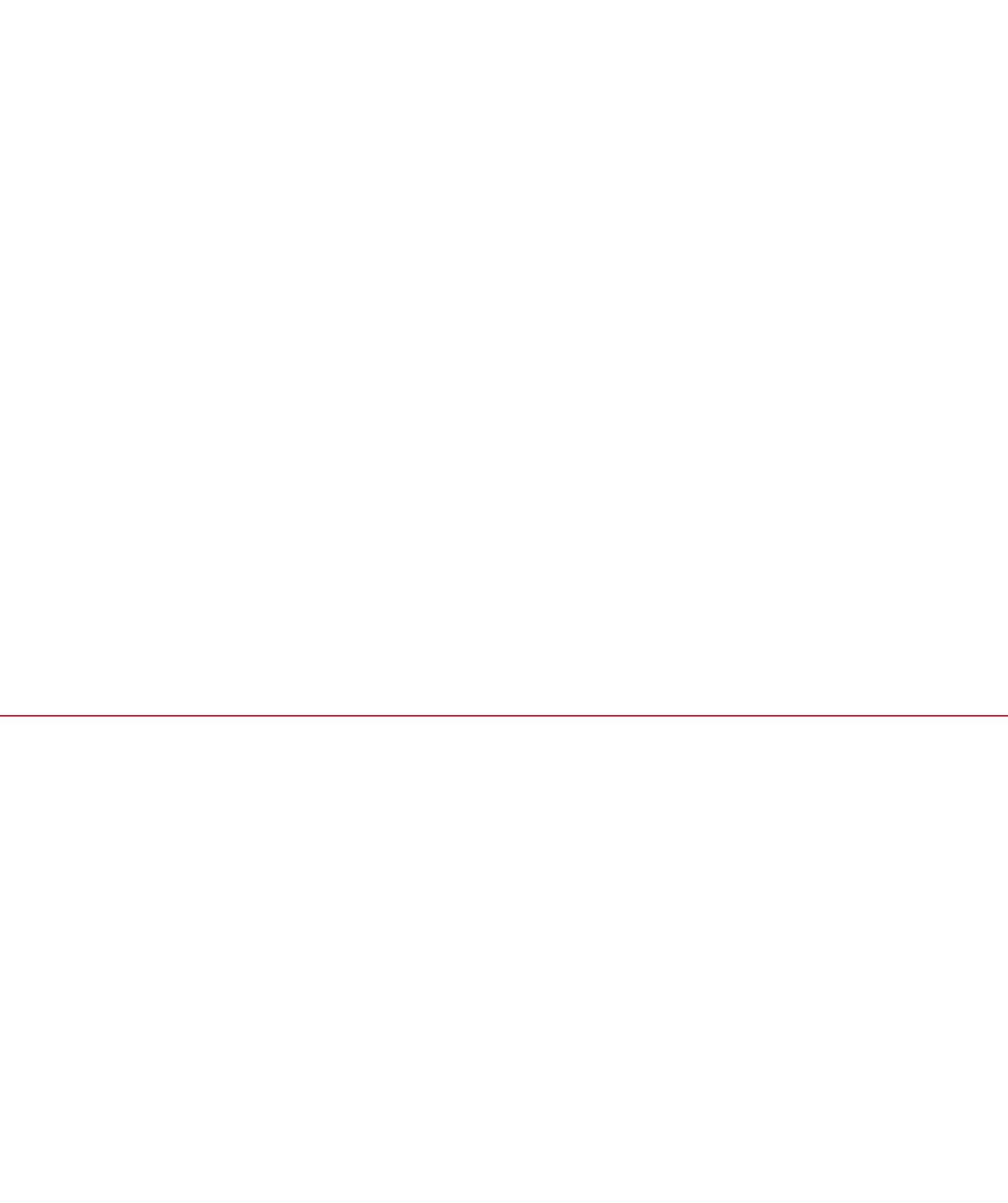


THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA®



YEAR IN  
*Review*

2015-2016



YEAR IN  
*Review*  
2015-2016

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## A MESSAGE FROM

*The President*

Greetings from the Capstone!

**A**s we reflect on the recent academic year at The University of Alabama, we have much to report. Our outstanding students, faculty and staff have reached a great number of exciting accomplishments in the areas of teaching, research and service. I consider it a privilege to serve as president of such an exceptional university, and I am proud to share with you these achievements.

Our primary focus at the University is our students. By recruiting the best and brightest students from Alabama, our nation and the world, we maintain a culture of high-achieving scholarship at the Capstone, which is essential to student success. We provide these students with remarkable faculty and staff who are passionate about encouraging and equipping them to flourish in their time on our campus and beyond.

We started the year in August with another record-breaking enrollment, not just in terms of quantity, but quality as well. With higher test scores and grade point averages than ever before, the graduating freshman class set the bar high for future generations, and we continued to raise our benchmarks throughout the year. In the classroom, on the field and at national academic competitions and conventions, the University is consistently supporting and producing champions.

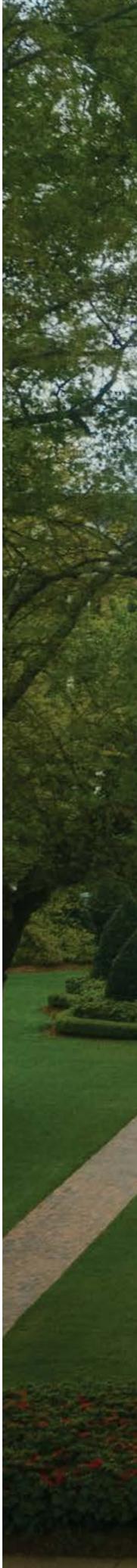
We welcomed several new faces to our leadership team this year, and I have enjoyed seeing their divisions, colleges and departments thrive already under their guidance. There has never been a more exciting time to be at The University of Alabama.

As you read the pages that follow, you will see models of leadership, innovations in research and discovery, a commitment to serving the communities of our state, and brief snapshots of the impact we have beyond our campus. As the state's flagship, we consider it our privileged responsibility to enrich the quality of life for all Alabamians, as well as those from across our nation and around the globe. We do our work with rich anticipation of how students from the Capstone will depart from our halls to change the world.

It is with immense pleasure that I share with you the milestones we have reached for the 2015-2016 academic year. I am confident that you will enjoy reading about these indicators of our success. As we celebrate this recent year, I expect even more extraordinary achievement in the days ahead. We have embarked on a great trajectory, and I look forward to seeing where it takes us.



Stuart R. Bell  
President  
The University of Alabama







2015-2016

# Timeline

STUART R. BELL BECOMES  
29TH PRESIDENT

◀ JULY

AUGUST ▶

1,541 DEGREES AWARDED  
AT SUMMER COMMENCEMENT

RECORD ENROLLMENT: **37,100** STUDENTS  
UA BECOMES FOUNDING MEMBER OF  
**NATIONAL STEM INITIATIVE**

◀ SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER ▶

BUSINESS ANALYTICS LAB OPENS  
CUBA CENTER DEDICATED

CROSSINGPOINTS RECEIVES  
**\$2.5 MILLION GRANT** FOR EXPANSION  
**AVERY JOHNSON** STARTS SEASON  
AS **MEN'S BASKETBALL COACH**

◀ NOVEMBER

DECEMBER ▶

**STRATEGIC PLANNING COUNCIL** BEGINS MEETING  
**NEW INSTITUTIONAL WEBSITE** UNVEILED  
SACSCOC REAFFIRMATION OF  
ACCREDITATION ANNOUNCED  
**2,200 DEGREES** PRESENTED AT COMMENCEMENT  
DERRICK HENRY WINS **HEISMAN TROPHY**

CRIMSON TIDE WINS **16TH NATIONAL  
FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**CULVERHOUSE CHALLENGE**  
RAISES **\$3.6 MILLION**

◀ JANUARY

FEBRUARY ▶

INTERCULTURAL DIVERSITY  
CENTER OPENS  
SEWELL-THOMAS BASEBALL  
STADIUM OPENS  
\$3 MILLION GIFT RECEIVED FOR  
ADAPTED ATHLETICS

STUDENTS SERVE GLOBALLY ON  
ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAKS AROUND THE  
WORLD  
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND  
CREATIVITY CONFERENCE

◀ MARCH

APRIL ▶

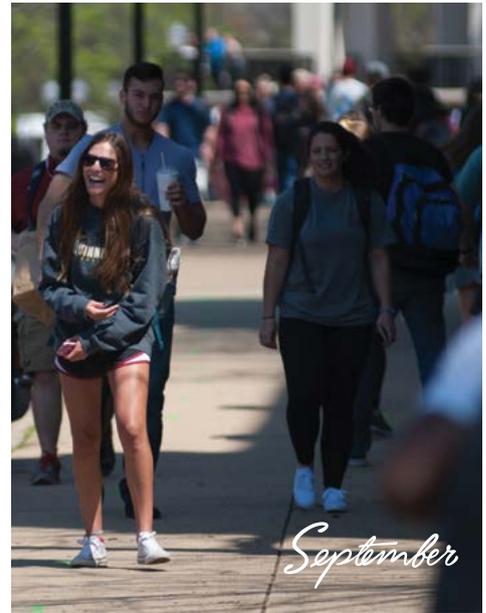
FOUR PILLARS OF **STRATEGIC  
PLAN** ANNOUNCED  
CAPSTONE CREED REVISED  
NEW RING CEREMONY INSTITUTED  
**HOLLINGS, GOLDWATER, TRUMAN  
SCHOLARSHIP** WINNERS NAMED  
FIRST UA STUDENT EARNS  
HERTZ SCHOLARSHIP

**5,350 DEGREES AWARDED**  
AT COMMENCEMENT  
**SEVEN FULBRIGHT  
WINNERS** ANNOUNCED

◀ MAY

JUNE ▶

BAMA BOUND WELCOMES  
CLASS OF 2020





From July 2015 to June 2016 the Capstone welcomed a president, two vice presidents and a dean to its roster of leaders. The UA community welcomes them and is excited about the many possibilities for growth and achievement in this new era of leadership.

## DR. STUART R. BELL



On July 15, 2015, Dr. Stuart R. Bell began his tenure as the 29th president of The University of Alabama.

A nearly 30-year veteran of higher education, Bell was previously executive vice president and provost at Louisiana State University, where he served as both the chief academic officer and the chief operating officer. These responsibilities at LSU included oversight of all academic, research and student programs and coordination of related fiscal operations.

Before joining LSU, Bell served for 10 years as dean of the University of Kansas School of Engineering. During that time, he led an expansion of facilities and research, including efforts to establish multiple major research centers; increased student recruitment; and developed extensive experience in fundraising.

Bell previously served 16 years at The University of Alabama. He joined UA in 1986 as an assistant professor in the University's department of mechanical engineering. Nine years later, he was named department head, where he served until accepting the Kansas deanship in 2002.

An Abilene, Texas, native, Bell earned a nuclear engineering degree from Texas A&M University in 1979. He earned his master's and doctorate degrees in mechanical engineering from Texas A&M in 1981 and 1986, respectively.

He and his wife, Susan, have three adult children, Stuart, Stacy – a UA graduate – and Stephen, and one granddaughter.

In his first message to campus as president, Bell said, "We will

continue to recruit the brightest young people in the nation and give them the opportunity to work with the best faculty and staff assembled anywhere. We will continue to support important growth in our research and economic development initiatives, and to be strong partners in the success of the communities we serve. We will continue to fully support our athletic programs and our student-athletes as they demonstrate that they are champions on the field and in the classroom."

## ROBERT D. PIERCE II



In September 2015 UA alumnus Bob Pierce returned to the Capstone to lead fundraising efforts as vice president for advancement. Pierce earned his master's degree in advertising and public relations at UA in 2003, the same year he was named Outstanding Graduate Student in Advertising and Public Relations.

He served at the University of Southern Mississippi in various development roles, becoming USM's vice president for advancement in 2010.

As head of the Office of University Advancement, Pierce oversees the areas of Advancement Services, Alumni Affairs, Development, Planned Giving, and Capstone Men and Women.

## LINDA BONNIN



As leader of the newly created Division of Strategic Communications, Linda Bonnin, vice president for strategic communications, oversees UA's communications, marketing, media relations and web services, and institutional branding.

She served as vice president for strategic communications at Louisiana State University. Prior to joining LSU in 2014, she served as vice president for communications, public relations and marketing at the University of Memphis, where she worked for 17 years.

A native of Memphis, Tennessee, Bonnin is a graduate of Harding University. She has won numerous awards from professional associations for her work in advertising, video, publications and marketing.

## DR. DONALD GILSTRAP



Dr. Donald L. Gilstrap, former dean and professor of University Libraries at Wichita State University, joined UA in January 2016. He oversees the Angelo Bruno Business Library, the Amelia Gayle Gorgas Library, the W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, the McLure Education Library and the Eric and Sarah Rodgers Library for Science and Engineering, as well as the A. S. Williams III Americana Collection, the Alabama Digital Humanities Center and the Sanford Media Center.

Gilstrap holds undergraduate degrees and master's degrees from Emporia State University. He holds a doctorate in educational leadership and policy studies from the University of Oklahoma.

# Achievements

## ENROLLMENT FALL 2015

**37,100** 

record enrollment for fall 2015 with over 635 National Merit Scholars currently enrolled



**17,222**

in-state students enrolled in Fall Semester 2015:

**14,662** undergraduates

**2,283** graduates

**277** AP



**4,385**

in-state students graduated in 2014-2015

**3,190** bachelor's

**918** master's

**39** educational specialists

**153** doctoral

**85** professional



**62**

International students from **62** countries

## FRESHMEN

The class of 7,211 is the largest and best qualified in UA history



**174**

National Merit and National Achievement Finalists



**36%**

of the class reports an ACT of 30 or higher



**2,261**

freshmen enrolled in Honors College



## RANKINGS AND RECOGNITIONS



**43rd**

ranking among public universities by U.S. News and World Report



The School of Law **ranks 10th nationally** among public universities



School of Library and Information Studies **ranks 15th nationally** among public universities



**Top 5**

public relations program in the nation



**12th**  
for **online MBA**  
PROGRAMS



**2nd**



★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★  
best college for military veterans



**MBA PROGRAM** ranks **4th** among the **14 SEC schools** and **25th** among all public schools

Online Master's in Social Work named the top-ranked program of its kind by BestColleges.com



**Dance**

program **15th** in the nation

RN to BSN program in Capstone College of Nursing ranked No. 1 by College Choice website

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS (2015-16)

**1** DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FELLOW

**1** EISENHOWER FELLOW

**7** FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS

**1** GILMAN SCHOLAR

**2** GOLDWATER SCHOLARS

**3** HOLLINGS SCHOLARS

**1** HERTZ SCHOLAR

**1** KILLAM FELLOW

**1** MERCEDES-BENZ DOCTORAL FELLOW

**2** NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWS

**1** SCRIPPS HOWARD AWARD WINNER

**2** TRUMAN SCHOLARS



## ECO-CAR 3 PROGRAM

The UA team in the EcoCAR 3 program placed first in 11 categories including the Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award, the National Science Foundation Innovation Award and the General Motors Women in Engineering Award. The awards were given during the Second-Year Competition in Yuma, Arizona, and San Diego. The team was also recognized as the top communications program for the year.

The four-year competition engages the next generation of automotive professionals in engineering, business and communications, allowing students to experience the vehicle development and launch process from design to marketing.

About 130 students from eight different disciplines are part of UA's team. The team also works with the Capstone Agency, a student-run public relations firm, to help with social media and media relations.



## NASA ROBOTIC MINING COMPETITION

Alabama Astrobotics took top prize at the NASA Robotic Mining Competition, besting student teams from 45 other institutions in the challenge to build a robot capable of navigating and excavating simulated Martian soil. Made up of about 40 students from across engineering disciplines, computer science and other areas of campus, along with students from Shelton State Community College, Alabama Astrobotics is now the only team to win the NASA contest in consecutive years.

## NATIONAL BATEMAN CASE STUDY COMPETITION

The Bateman Team won first place in the 2016 Bateman Case Study Competition. This is the fourth year the Bateman Team has had an active presence at The University of Alabama and its first win at the national competition.

## SEC MBA CASE COMPETITION

The University of Alabama took first place in the 2016 SEC MBA Case Competition. This was the fourth SEC MBA Case Competition and is the first win for UA.

## DOW BIG DATA CHALLENGE

The student team from the Culverhouse College of Commerce won first place in the 2016 Dow Big Data Challenge. Dow Chemicals formulated a problem from their daily operations and provided the data to the teams in the competition. The students analyzed the data, then developed solutions. They presented their solutions to Dow executives for judging.

## CARNEGIE HALL

"Panoramic Landscapes," a composition by School of Music student Tyler Grant, was performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City.

## ACADEMIC PROBLEM-SOLVING CHALLENGE

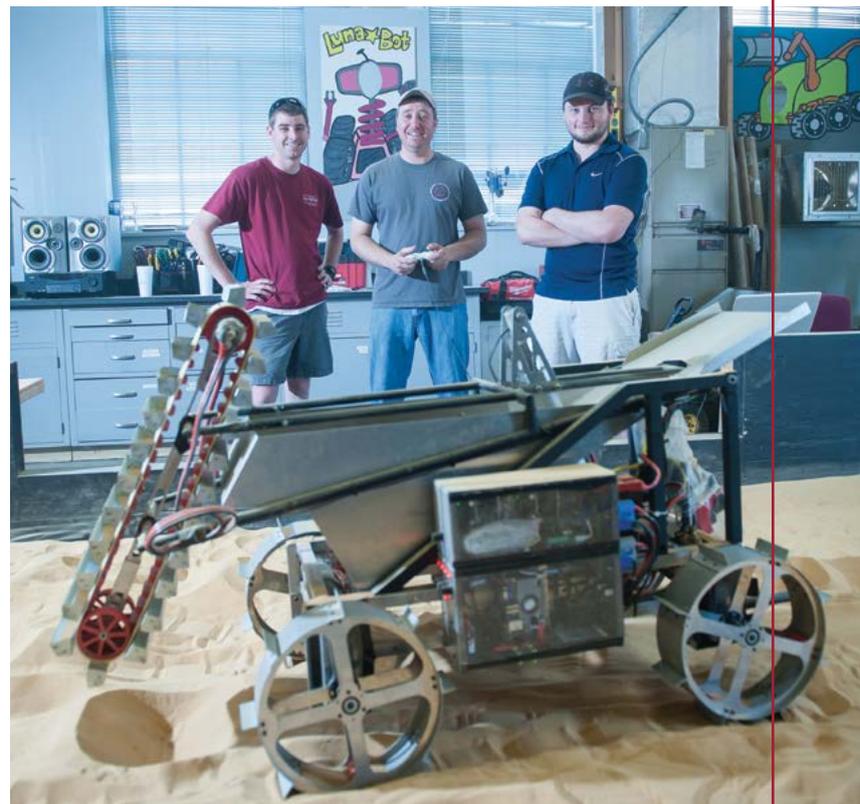
The UA Student Chapter of the Association for Information Systems placed first in the Merck Analytics Challenge at the 2016 AIS Student Chapter Leadership Conference.

## SAS DATA ANALYTICS COMPETITION

Matt Collins of Greensboro, Alabama, and Taylor Larkin of Tuscaloosa, both students at the Culverhouse College of Commerce, are two of only six SAS Student Poster Contest winners at the national 2015 SAS Analytics Student Poster competition.

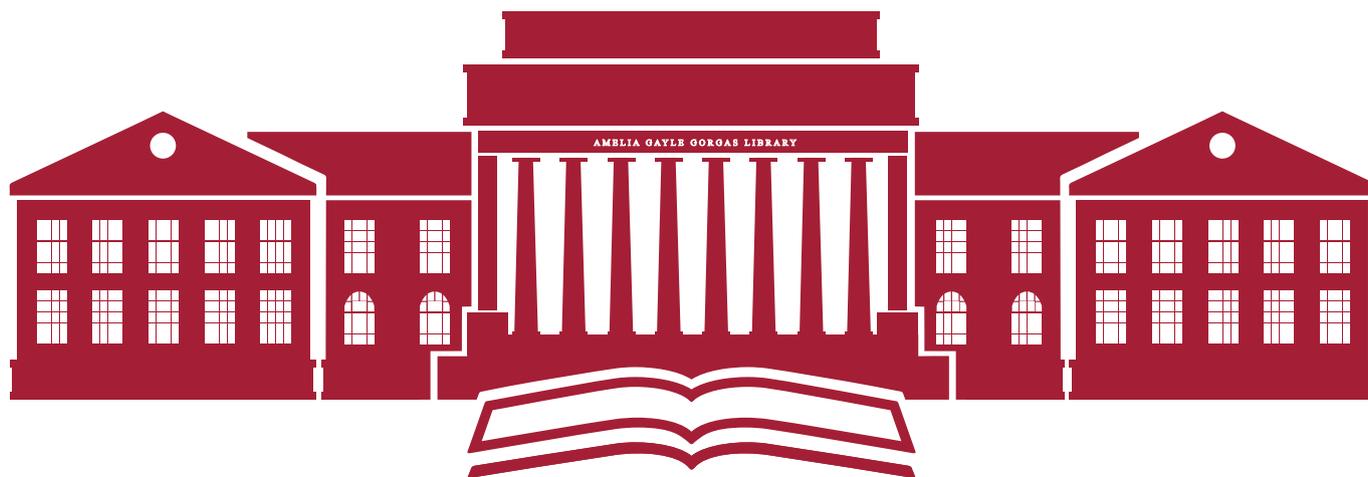
## INTERNATIONAL GOOGLE CHALLENGE

Five students in the Culverhouse College of Commerce's Masters of Marketing program placed in the top 10 percent of the more than 1,500 participants competing in the 2015 Google Online Marketing Challenge.





## UA LIBRARIES 2015-16



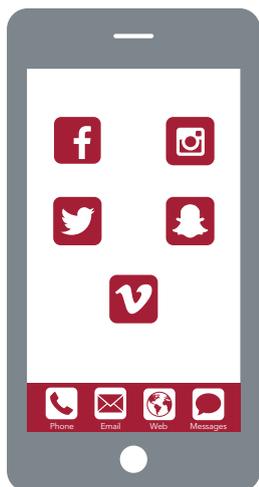
**5** LIBRARIES

**1.7** **MILLION**  
VISITS TO BUILDINGS

**4** **MILLION**  
VOLUMES

**3.5** **MILLION**  
VISITS TO WEBSITE

## OUR PRESENCE ON SOCIAL MEDIA



PASSED **500,000**  
FOLLOWERS ON **FACEBOOK**

NOW ON **INSTAGRAM**  
AND **SNAPCHAT**

**89.3K**  
TWITTER FOLLOWERS

### ON VIMEO

"WE REMEMBER APRIL 27, 2011"  
**MORE THAN**  
**19,200 VIEWS**

"LOOKING BACK ON  
2015-16 ACADEMIC YEAR"  
**MORE THAN**  
**21,000 VIEWS**



MALONE HOOD PLAZA

The Malone Hood Clock Tower is dedicated to the memory of the late Malone Hood, who served as the 11th president of the University of Alabama from 1901 to 1910. The tower was designed by the architect John G. Thompson and was completed in 1910. It is a landmark building on the campus and is a symbol of the university's history and tradition.

## REAFFIRMATIONS, RECOGNITIONS AND *Awards*



### TREE CAMPUS USA

The Arbor Day Foundation presented UA with the 2015 Tree Campus USA Recognition for the University's careful management of its urban forest.

### SACSCOC

In December the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACSCOC) announced that UA had earned reaffirmation of its accreditation through 2025.

Reaffirmation is the culmination of a process designed to verify that the University adheres to standards of quality as judged by its peers. It involved a significant self-study by the University and the development of a Quality Enhancement Plan to improve student learning and the environments that support student learning.

### AEJMC

The College of Communication and Information Sciences maintained its accreditation by the AEJMC – the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. The nonprofit organization promotes the highest possible standards for journalism and mass communication education.

### EMAP

The Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) is the only accreditation process for emergency management programs and is sought by federal and state agencies, counties, cities and universities.

UA was only the third university in the country to meet the 64 national standards necessary to earn the EMAP designation. The standards address the various emergency preparedness mission areas: prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery.

### IACS

The UA Counseling Center has been reaccredited by the International Association of Counseling Services (IACS), the accreditation association for university and college counseling centers, which has the highest standards available for campus counseling centers.

## MATH EDUCATION

The secondary math education program in the College of Education received recognition from the National Council for Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM).

NCTM, which manages accreditation processes of math education programs for the Council of the Accreditation of Educator Preparation, granted UA's secondary math education program the two-year designation, a first for the program.

## CYBER DEFENSE PROGRAM

The National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security designated The University of Alabama a Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Research. UA joins about 60 universities nationwide that have earned this designation.

## AEJMC DIVERSITY

The leading national organization for journalism and mass communication education recognized the College of Communication and Information Sciences as a leader in equality and diversity. The selection committee identified C&IS as a unit that displayed progress and innovation in racial, gender and ethnic equality and diversity during the previous three years.

## ALABAMA PUBLIC RADIO

The Alabama Associated Press honored Alabama Public Radio, housed in UA's Digital Media Center, as "Most Outstanding News Operation" in the state. This is the fourth year in a row APR has received the award.

## PUBLIC SPEAKING PROGRAM

The National Communication Association named UA's public speaking program as one of the 2015 Programs of Distinction.

## ACT CARD

The UA Action Card Office was presented with the 2016 National Association of Campus Card Users' Best Social Networking and/or Website Award at the 23rd annual NACCU conference in San Francisco. The Action Card is the official UA photo identification and prepaid purchasing card. Its uses include access to athletic events, UA libraries and various campus facilities.

## NATIONAL ADDY

The Office of Design/Production in UA's Division of Strategic Communications won a National ADDY in the American Advertising Awards competition for the design of an invitation to the 40th anniversary celebration of the UA President's Cabinet. With more than 40,000 entries from across the country, the American Advertising Awards are the world's largest and most competitive advertising competition.



## ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP

Dr. Samory T. Pruitt, vice president for the Division of Community Affairs, and Dr. Cassandra E. Simon, associate professor of social work, were honored at the 16th annual Engagement Scholarship Consortium Conference in State College, Pennsylvania.

## FACULTY

*Achievements*

**DR. SUSAN J. APPEL**, Capstone College of Nursing, was named a Fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.



**DR. JASON E. BARA**, associate professor of chemical and biological engineering, was recognized with the FRI/John G. Kunesh award at the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. This award is presented by the AIChE Separations Division and

acknowledges separations scientists under the age of 40 with outstanding contributions to the academic, scientific, technological, industrial or service areas involving separations technologies. Bara's research focuses on improving the carbon capture process by developing new solvents for safely scrubbing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.



**DR. MICHAEL BRUCE**, assistant professor of telecommunication and film, won Best of Festival in the BEA Faculty Sports Competition for his production of TideSports.com TV. The 30-minute episodes aired on WVUA 23 twice weekly during the 2015 Alabama football season.



**DR. DAVID CORDES**, head of the department of computer science and director of the Freshman Engineering Program, was recognized as a Fellow of the Computing Sciences Accreditation Board, the lead society for accreditation of degree programs in computer science, information systems, software engineering and information technology.



**MEREDITH CUMMINGS**, director of Scholastic Media for the College of Communication and Information Sciences, earned first place in the 2015 National Federation of Press Women's Communication Contest for her blog, "Up Beat."



**DR. GEORGE DANIELS**, associate professor of journalism, received the 2015 Robert P. Knight Multicultural Recruitment Award, presented annually by the Scholastic Journalism Division of the Association of Educators in Journalism and Mass Communication, or AEJMC. The award recognizes an individual or organization that has made significant contributions to promoting diversity in scholastic media programs.



**DR. RICHARD C. FORDING**, professor and chair of political science, received the Herbert Simon Book Award for "Disciplining the Poor." The recognition comes from the Public Administration Section of the American Political Science Association.



**MICHAEL MARTONE**, a professor of English and creative writing, was selected as the winner of the 2016 Mark Twain Award for Distinguished Contributions to Midwestern Literature.



**SETH PANITCH**, professor of theatre, took the grand jury prize for his first full, feature-length film, "Service to Man," at the 20th American Black Film Festival.



**DR. IAN McDONOUGH**, assistant professor of psychology, has been named a winner of the Matilda White Riley Early Stage Investigator Honors, a paper competition of the National Institutes of Health.



**DR. THERESA WADAS**, Capstone College of Nursing, was chosen as a Fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.



**DAN MEISSNER**, instructor, received the Educator of the Year award given by the Public Relations Council of Alabama. This award was established to recognize an educator who has taught public relations, or a closely related discipline, and who has demonstrated a commitment to advance the profession of public relations.



**STEVEN YATES**, an instructor in the School of Library and Information Studies, has been elected as the 2017-2018 American Association of School Librarians president.



**DR. JAMIE CAMPBELL NAIDOO**, associate professor in the School of Library and Information Studies, was named The American Library Association's 2016 Achievement in Library Diversity Research honoree.



STUDENT  
*Life*

AUGUST  
*Move-in Day*



## SEPTEMBER

### *Family Weekend*

We had 3,746 parents and family members registered for Family Weekend 2015, an increase of 1,122 from the previous year.



## OCTOBER

### *Forever Crimson: Faithful, Loyal, Firm and True*

Pep rally. Bonfire. Tailgating. Homecoming parade. These beloved highlights are part of a week of festivities that culminated in UA's 27-14 victory over the Arkansas Razorbacks. During Homecoming Week events our students raised school spirit, as well as money for good causes and pints of blood for the Red Cross.



## NOVEMBER

### *Veterans Day*

Among the many campus observances and celebrations on Veterans Day was the SGA Honor Our Heroes event. Pictured here is UA President Stuart R. Bell speaking with students at the event. Honor Our Heroes is part of the SGA Honor Flight Funding Initiative, which pays for WWII and Korean War veterans to fly free of charge to Washington, D.C. While at the capitol the veterans view their war memorials and are greeted by their senators.



# DECEMBER

## *Heisman Trophy winner*

Running back Derrick Henry became the second UA player to win the coveted Heisman Memorial Trophy, making the 2015 football season that much more remarkable for the UA community.



# JANUARY

## *16th Football Championship*

Students, faculty, staff, alumni and fans celebrated the Crimson Tide's 16th national football championship with a parade and a ceremony at the Walk of Champions at Bryant-Denny Stadium. UA defeated Clemson 45-40 at the College Football Playoff in Phoenix, Arizona.

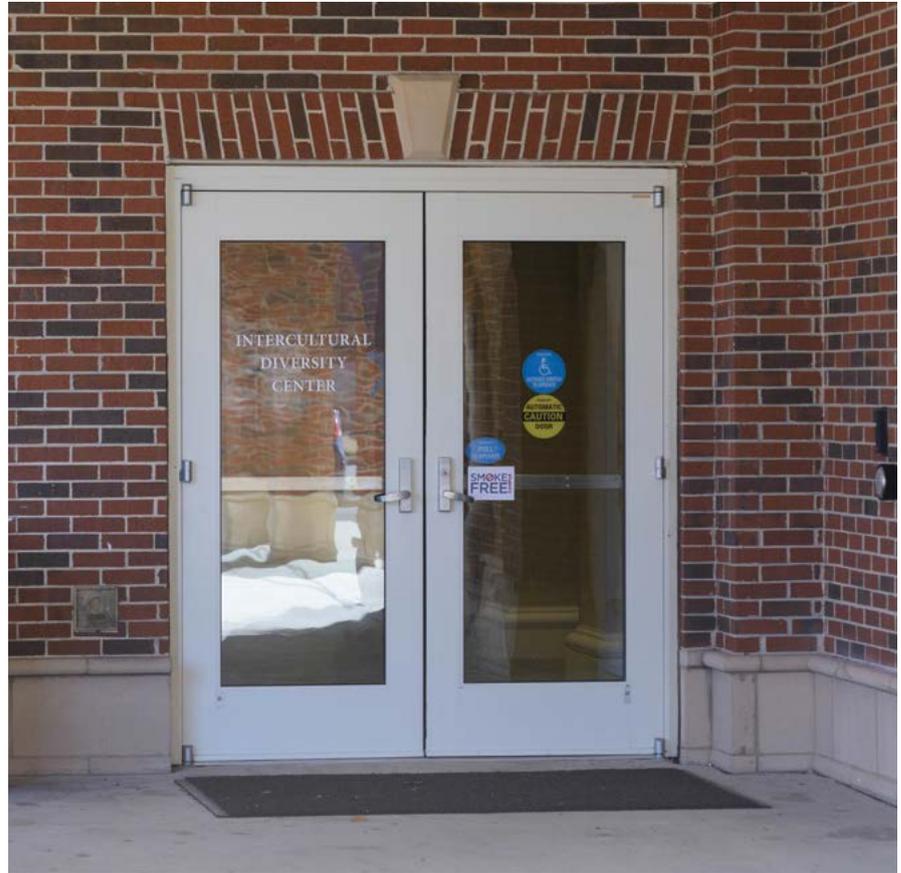
## FEBRUARY

### *Intercultural Diversity Center Opens*

The month of February began with the ribbon cutting to open the Intercultural Diversity Center, located on the first floor of the Riverside Community Center.

“The Intercultural Diversity Center was envisioned by students to increase cultural awareness and provide resources for increasing inclusion and collaboration on the UA campus,” said Dr. David L. Grady, UA vice president for student affairs. “It will be available to students, faculty and staff.

“The center will also collaborate with other departments and organizations on campus to provide programming to create a supportive and empowering atmosphere for all members of the UA community,” said Grady.



## MARCH

### *Beyond Bama: Alternative Spring Break*

From Guin, Alabama, to Nicaragua, UA students dedicated their spring break to making the world a better place through service. The Beyond Bama program is sponsored by the Center for Service and Leadership, a part of Student Affairs.



### *Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Conference*

Some 500 undergraduate students took part in the annual conference, an opportunity to highlight their research and creative projects.

## APRIL

*Honors Week*

The first week of April is traditionally the time we set aside to honor our finest students and faculty. The week culminates in the tapping on the mound ceremony, where incoming members of our most prestigious honor societies are recognized.



## *Capstone Creed Revised*

UA's Capstone Creed, developed in 2000 and designed to identify and sustain the core values that are manifest in all members of the University community, was reviewed by the Student Leadership Council and revised to emphasize the Capstone dedication to diversity, inclusion and individual responsibility. Its revision was announced in conjunction with Honors Week.

“As a member of The University of Alabama community, I will pursue knowledge, act with fairness, integrity and respect; promote equity and inclusion; foster individual and civic responsibility; and strive for excellence in all I do.”



## *New Ring Ceremony*

The UA Army ROTC students placed class rings in Denny Chimes at 6:31 p.m. Thursday, April 14, and removed them at 6:31 p.m. Friday, April 15, during the ceremony. The time - 18:31 in military time - symbolizes 1831, the founding year of UA.

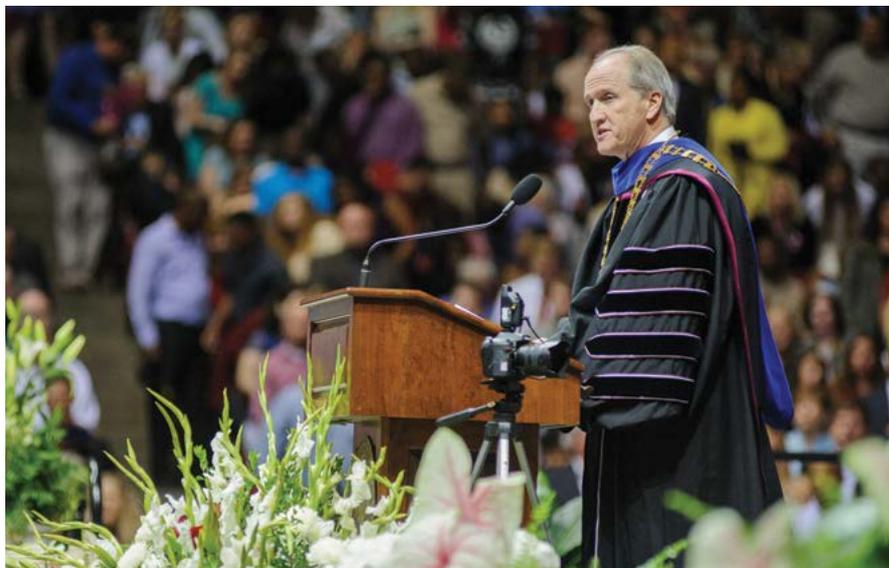
Denny Chimes was built in 1929 as an enduring symbol of the Capstone.

The enhanced ring ceremony took place starting at 6:15 p.m. on the Quad near Denny Chimes. University President Stuart R. Bell presented the rings to students.



# MAY

## *Commencement*



# JUNE

## *Bama Bound*

Bama Bound, the University's new-student orientation program, facilitates a smooth transition for freshmen and transfer undergraduate students. It's a time to learn about life on the UA campus, interact with faculty and staff, and of course, make friends and have fun.

This year UA welcomes the class of 2020 to Bama Bound.





## CROSSINGPOINTS EXPANSION

CrossingPoints, a student transition program on the UA campus, is growing in both size and reach through a \$2.5 million grant from the United States Department of Education's Office of Postsecondary Education to help create a bridge to higher education for those with intellectual disabilities.

Over the next five years, CrossingPoints will increase its annual enrollment from 18-20 students to as many as 30, with an increased focus on developing skills for independent living and accessing post-secondary education.

The project will also launch the "Summer Bridge Program," a new component that will provide college preparation to students with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities.



## ANALYTICS LAB

Culverhouse College of Commerce opened its Business Analytics Lab, the first lab of its kind in the nation. The Business Analytics Lab is a premier research center for data analytics that provides collaboration and research across government, industry and academia to help companies anticipate and solve critical problems.

The unique lab setting augments the traditional classroom experience by focusing on the development and application of analytics technology; strengthening the analytics labor pool to meet industry needs for a diverse workforce; and providing visual, hands-on experiences that represent the foundations for analytics applications and research.



## CUBA CENTER

A dedication ceremony was held in October for the Center for Cuba Collaboration and Scholarship, which had been approved earlier in 2015 by the UA Board of Trustees.

The academic center builds on the activities of the 13-year Alabama-Cuba Initiative by continuing to develop scholarly activities for UA faculty and students with institutions and programs in Cuba. Both the center and the initiative efforts have been led by UA's College of Arts and Sciences.



# Advancement



## ADAPTED ATHLETICS RECEIVES \$3 MILLION GIFT

The University of Alabama is taking a significant step forward in providing its adapted student-athletes with a world-class training facility and competition venue.

A \$3 million gift commitment from Michael and Kathy Mouron, of Mountain Brook, will help fund the \$10 million facility, which was approved by the UA System Board of Trustees.

Michael, who holds a bachelor's of business administration degree from UA, and Kathy, a UA alumna in special education, said their mission to support UA Adapted Athletics' new facility was accelerated by previous planning by UA President Stuart R. Bell, trustees, and Drs. Brent Hardin and Margaret Stran, director and assistant director of UA Adapted Athletics.

The two-story facility will include a game venue for wheelchair basketball, locker rooms, workout/training room, team meeting rooms and study halls. Per the approval, half of the budget must be raised through private gifts.

"The University and I thank the Mourons for their generous gift toward this project, which will provide state-of-the-art facilities and support for our adapted student-athletes and coaches," Bell said. "The University of Alabama will be the first school in the country to have an arena dedicated strictly to collegiate adapted athletics."

The UA Adapted Athletics Program began in 2003 with women's wheelchair basketball. The program has since grown to include 30 student-athletes in women's basketball, men's basketball, wheelchair tennis, para-rowing and adapted golf. More than 100 students participate in the program's noncompetitive sports options. The program has won seven national championships: four in women's basketball, one in men's basketball and two in tennis. More than 20 current and former athletes and coaches are expected to compete in the 2016 Paralympics in Rio.

## CULVERHOUSE CHALLENGE RAISES \$3.6 MILLION

Hugh Culverhouse Jr., of Coral Gables, Florida, committed during the last quarter of 2015 that he would match, up to \$1 million, all donations made to UA's Culverhouse College of Commerce before the end of 2015. By the end of the calendar year, Hugh Culverhouse and his wife, Eliza, had doubled their original offer.

More than 1,000 supporters accepted the Culverhouse Challenge, generating more than \$3.6 million within three months.

In 2013, the couple established the Eliza and Hugh F. Culverhouse Student Assistance Scholarship Fund. Through this endowment, students are selected as Culverhouse Scholars and are awarded scholarship support.



## OSHER FOUNDATION GRANT

A \$1 million grant from The Bernard Osher Foundation will support and endow continuing education opportunities for mature students through UA's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI).

OLLI is facilitated through UA's College of Continuing Studies. The year-round program caters to those 50 and older. It is one of 119 college-affiliated lifelong learning programs across the country that receives funding from the Osher Foundation.

The program has more than 1,400 adult members in 10 Alabama communities engaged in courses, seminars, community events and field trips.



## CONSTRUCTION *Update*

### SEWELL-THOMAS BASEBALL STADIUM

Fondly known as “the Joe,” the Sewell-Thomas Baseball Stadium opened this spring with enhanced team areas, an indoor hitting/pitching facility, better practice areas, increased seating and improved concession venues.

The baseball team played home games at Hoover Metropolitan Stadium while temporarily displaced by the renovations.



## NORTH LAWN HALL

Scheduled to open for Fall Semester 2016, North Lawn Hall on Hackberry Lane will include 12 classrooms plus one auditorium for a total of 1,919 seats in the building.

The new 83,000-square-foot building will feature spacious corridors with seating, including an outdoor balcony with seating, to support the circulation of the high volume of students. The auditorium will include table-top seats with convenient plug-ins and theatre-style house doors that will open and close automatically at class change times to facilitate the transfer of students.

An ICC 500-compliant concrete tornado storm shelter designed to house 2,124 people is also integrated into the design.



## MOODY MUSIC BUILDING ADDITION

Also scheduled to open in Fall Semester 2016, Moody Music Building will add on to its existing space with two new band halls. A larger band hall with approximately 280 seats and a smaller hall with approximately 80 seats will be added on to accommodate growth in the music program.

The School of Music will use the 25,000-square-foot facility for office, rehearsal and curricular programming space. The addition will also provide new locker-room space, sectional practice rooms and support space for the Million Dollar Band. The rehearsal space will provide for both sectional and full instrumental rehearsal in an acoustically appropriate space.



## BUTLER FIELD RENOVATION

It's the next best thing to being there. The newly renovated Butler Field, where the Million Dollar Band practices, has an artificial surface designed to be an exact replica of the one found at Bryant-Denny Stadium. Improvements also include a new observation tower, sound system and lights, and a loading dock for the equipment truck.



## BRYANT RETAIL CENTER

This facility, opening in summer 2016, consists of 15,857 square foot retail space for a UA Supply Store and 4,902 square foot Starbucks complete with a drive through. The space includes large outdoor awnings to provide game day shopping space.



## UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENTS

University Boulevard underwent work to improve paving and add medians and landscaping. The new road includes medians, a transit lane and a bike lane.



## BRYCE CAMPUS UPDATE

As the remainder of Peter Bryce Boulevard, the connector to Fith Avenue, nears completion, Peter Bryce Campus is beginning to take shape. The infrastructure projects are generally wrapping up to provide a better service to faculty, staff and students.

Printing and Mail Services Facility - The printing department has moved out of Barnwell Hall into the newly completed Printing and Mail Services Facility. This building is located east of the Riverside Parking Deck.

Peter Bryce Boulevard and North Campus Way - The four-lane road from Jack Warner Parkway to Hackberry Lane at Shelby Hall is open for use. The connector to Fith Avenue will open in August along with all transit shelters.



# Research



## PRESERVING ALABAMA'S PAST

In a collaborative effort with the Tennessee Valley Authority, UA's Office of Archaeological Research has begun a rehabilitation project on collections that were gathered 80 years ago with artifacts that span a 13,000-year time period.

The collections, which are primarily from the Guntersville, Wheeler and Pickwick basins, were first excavated in the 1930s and 1940s by archaeologists and researchers with TVA and The University of Alabama with labor provided by the Works Projects Administration.

"We're seeing some of the most incredible archaeological materials ever excavated in the state of Alabama," said Matt Gage, director of UA's Office of Archaeological Research. "Sharing this new information is one of our driving missions, and, as stewards of Alabama's heritage, both TVA and UA have a responsibility to preserve these materials as best we can."





## UA SCIENTISTS CITE EVIDENCE THAT MOSASAURS WERE WARM-BLOODED

Mosasaur – an extinct group of aquatic reptiles that thrived during the Late Cretaceous period – possibly were “endotherms,” or warm-blooded creatures, a paper co-written by a University of Alabama professor suggests.

Dr. Alberto Perez-Huerta’s paper on endothermic mosasaurs – co-written with now-graduated doctoral student Dr. T. Lynn Harrell Jr. and Dr. Celina Suarez of the University of Arkansas – was published in a March issue of *Palaeontology*, a journal published by the Palaeontological Association.

The study by Harrell (lead author), Perez-Huerta and Suarez used an oxygen isotope analysis on mosasaurs fossils in the collection of UA’s Alabama Museum of Natural History and compared them to fossils of known cold-blooded animals, such as fish and turtles, from the same period, as well as the bones of such contemporary warm-blooded organisms represented by birds – “true” endotherms.



## ALICE IN WONDERLAND MEETS EINSTEIN

One hundred years ago, Albert Einstein published his theory of general relativity, one of the most important scientific achievements in the last century. Recent research results from the “Cheshire Cat” group of galaxies show how manifestations of Einstein’s 100-year-old theory can lead to new discoveries today.

The research was co-authored by University of Alabama astronomers.

A key result of Einstein’s theory is that matter warps space-time, and thus a massive object can cause an observable bending of light from a background object. The first success of the theory was the observation, during a solar eclipse, that light from a distant background star was deflected by the predicted amount as it passed near the Sun.

Astronomers have since found many examples of this phenomenon, known as “gravitational lensing.” More than just a cosmic illusion, gravitational lensing provides astronomers with a way of probing extremely distant galaxies and groups of galaxies in ways that would otherwise be impossible even with the most powerful telescopes.

Dr. Jimmy Irwin, an associate professor in UA’s department of physics and astronomy, is the lead author of the research published in the *Astrophysical Journal* about the Cheshire Cat group.

## FLOODING WETLANDS

Scientists designed a new, on-site method for studying potential impacts rising sea levels can have on vital wetlands, said Dr. Julia Cherry, who led a published study describing the modifiable apparatuses.

Primarily using materials available at the local hardware store, the scientists designed, constructed and tested low-cost enclosures, called weirs, to realistically simulate three flooding levels on coastal wetlands. Simulating impacts of sea level rise on-site and at larger scales had previously proven difficult.

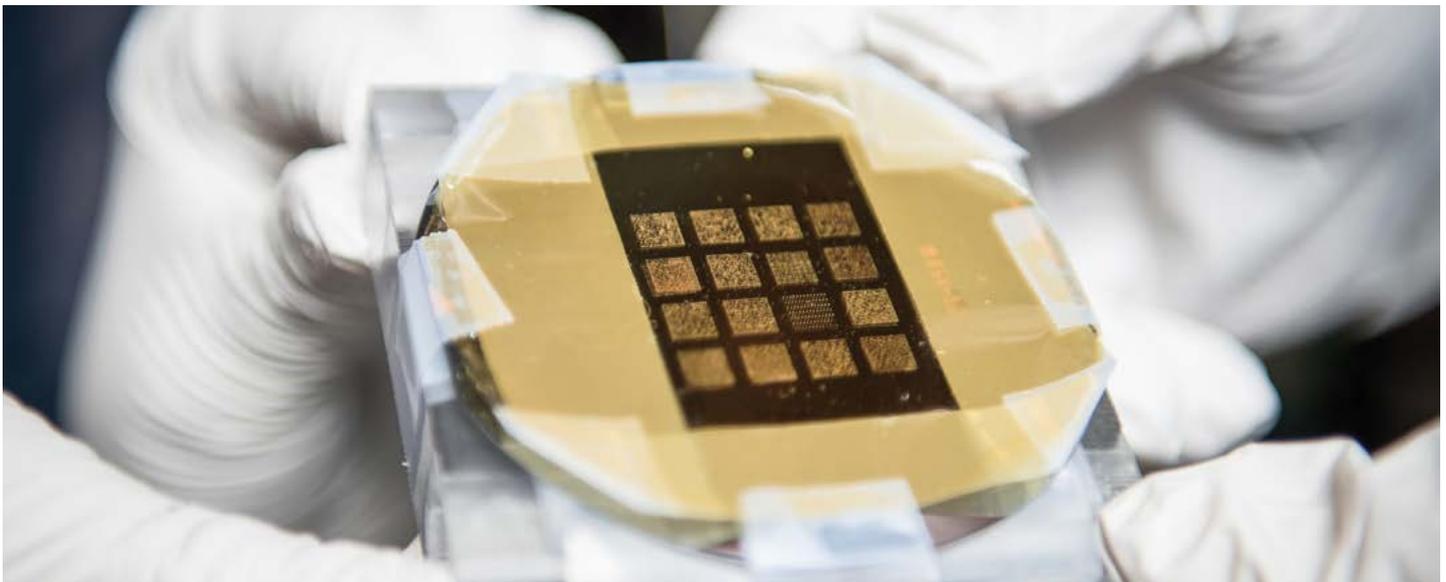
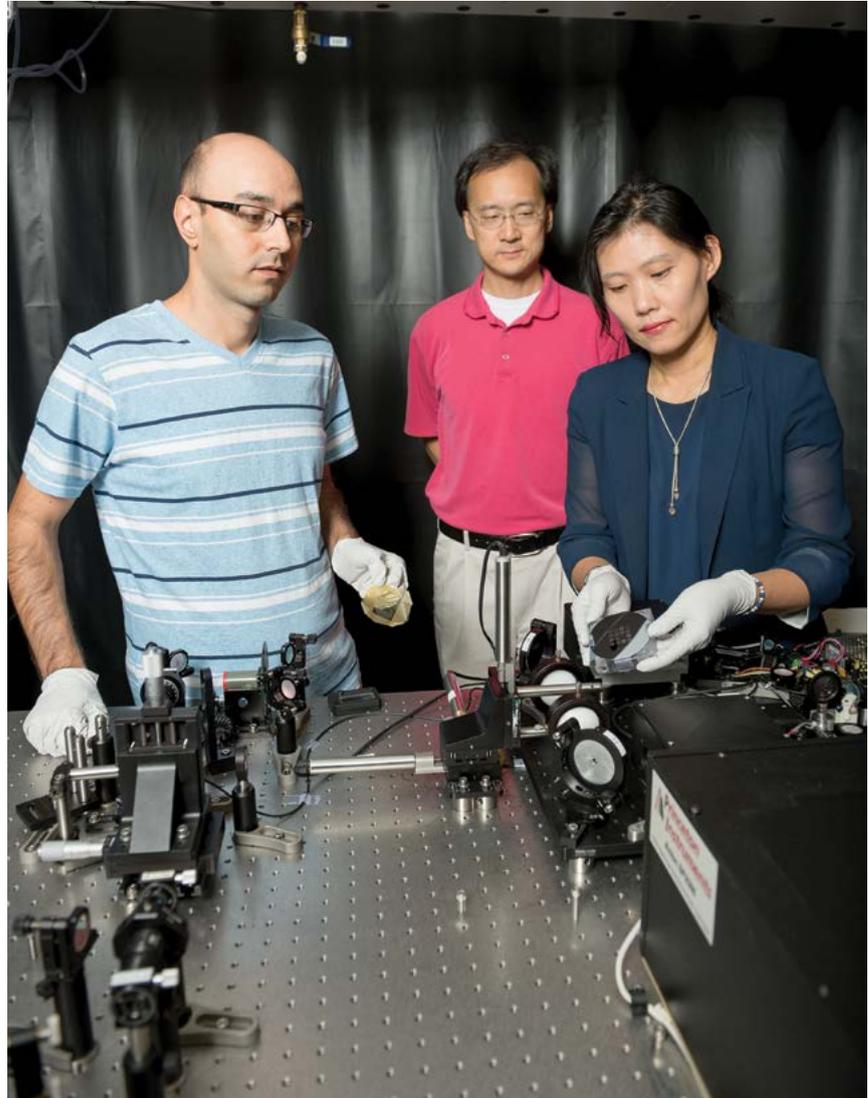
“I hope this provides other researchers with a template to ask their questions and to improve upon the method we’ve documented to do bigger and better coastal wetland studies,” said Cherry, an associate professor in UA’s New College and its biological sciences department.

## UA RESEARCHERS DESIGN MATERIAL THAT MORE EFFECTIVELY SLOWS LIGHT

Researchers in the College of Engineering designed and made a material that manipulates the speed of light in a new, more effective way than previous methods, according to findings published in *Scientific Reports* by the Nature Publishing Group.

The research by Dr. Seongsin Margaret Kim, principal investigator, and Dr. Patrick Kung, both associate professors of electrical and computer engineering, and three grad students could help in creating next-generation optical networks and sensors that rely on variances in the speed of light.

“Slow light will lead to the development of optical buffers and delay lines as essential elements of future ultrafast all optical communication networks that could meet the ever-increasing demands for long-distance communications,” Kim said.



# Awards



## UA PHYSICISTS SHARE IN \$3 MILLION PRIZE FOR NEUTRINO RESEARCH

A team of University of Alabama physicists has received recognition for making key contributions to a landmark study of neutrinos that won the Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics in California.

The \$3 million prize celebrates a series of experiments involving physicists and labs around the world. They investigated neutrino oscillation and mass. The experiments showed that neutrinos – neutral subatomic particles and fundamental constituents of matter – have mass and that they change character as they travel through space.

Before this work, neutrinos were believed to be massless.

The landmark study to which the UA team contributed is called the KamLAND experiment. The Breakthrough Prize selection committee cited KamLAND “for the fundamental discovery and exploration of neutrino oscillations, revealing a new frontier beyond, and possibly far beyond, the standard model of particle physics.”

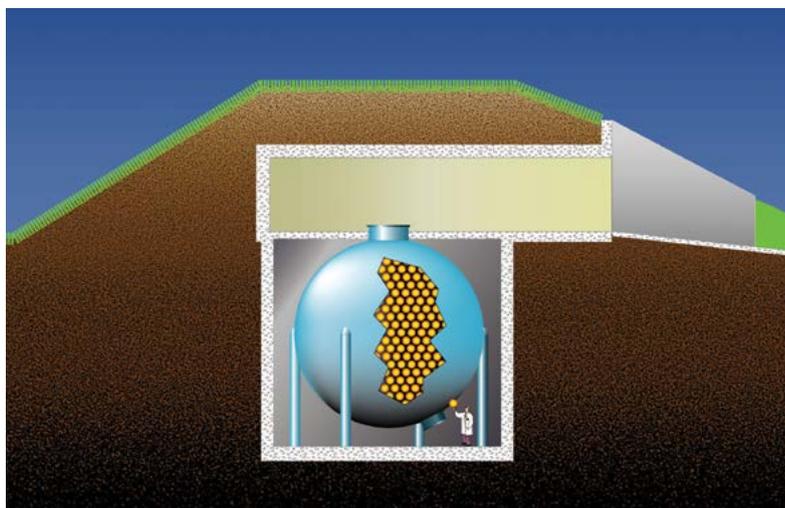
At UA, the faculty members and students in the department of physics and astronomy cited in the prize include Dr. Andreas Piepke; Dr. Jerry Busenitz; former UA postdoctoral assistant Dr. Evgueni Yakushev; and former UA graduate students Zelimir Djurcic, Dong-Ming Mei and Kevin McKinny.



Dr. Andreas Piepke



Dr. Jerry Busenitz



## NSF WINNERS

The National Science Foundation selected two University of Alabama professors, Dr. Alexey Volkov and Dr. Kimberly Genareau, for CAREER Awards for their research.

The multi-year awards fund both basic research and the development of educational materials for children.

Genareau, assistant professor of geological sciences, will receive a five-year grant of \$433,000 to study volcanic eruptions and lightning. Volkov, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, will receive \$500,000 to study ceramic-based nanocomposite materials.



## FULBRIGHT GRANT TO MOROCCO

Dr. Pamela Payne-Foster, deputy director of the College of Community Health Sciences' Institute for Rural Health Research, was the recipient of a Fulbright Specialist Project grant to work at the Cadi Ayyad University in Marrakech, Morocco, in May-June 2016.

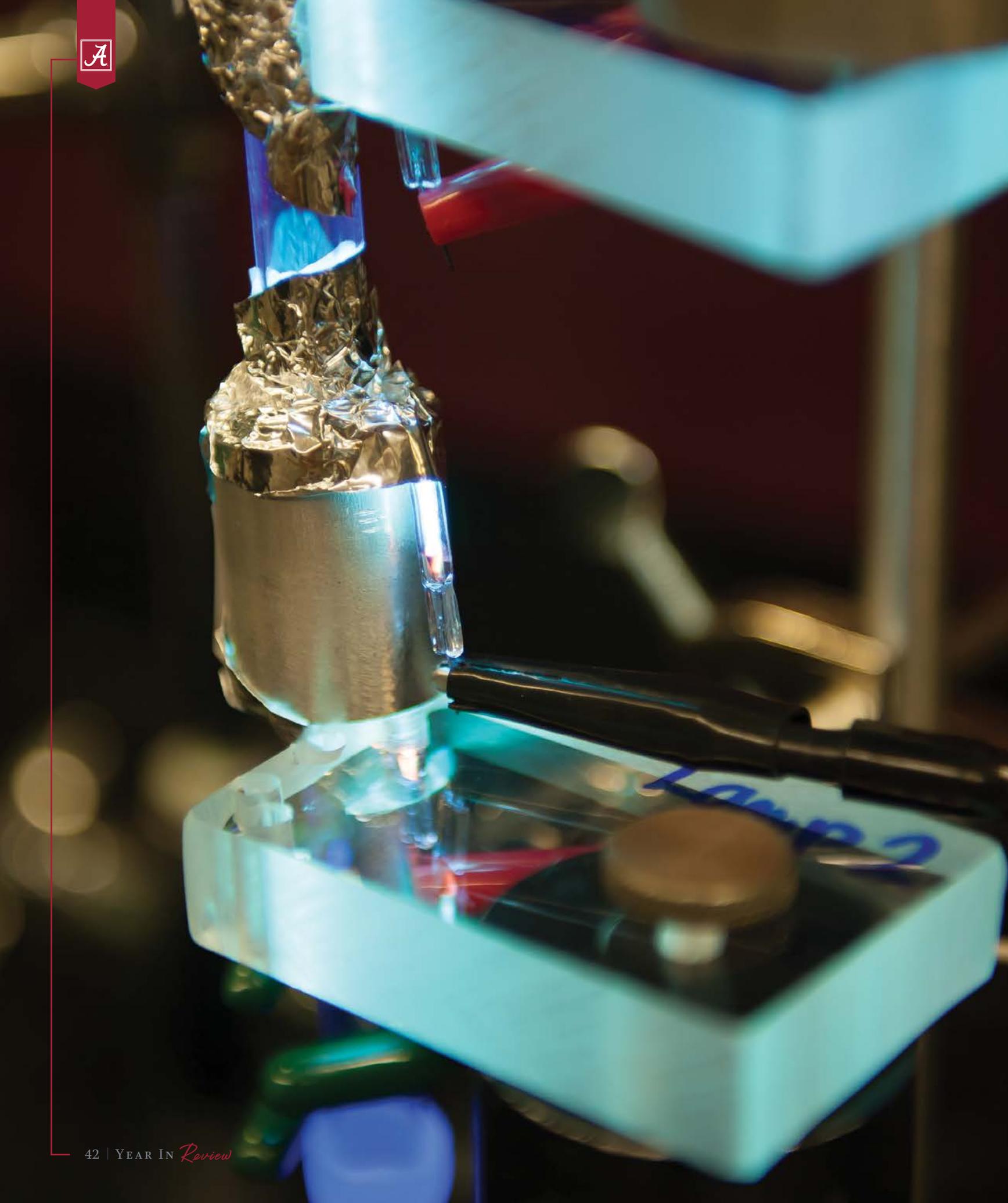
The university noted one of Payne-Foster's research studies examining the role that African-American churches and congregations can play in reducing HIV-AIDS related stigma in rural Alabama. She was the principal investigator of the \$540,368 grant from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



## EDUCATION PROFESSOR WINS RESEARCH AWARD

Dr. Sara McDaniel, assistant professor of special education, was named the 2016 winner of the E.G. "Ted" Carr Initial Researcher Award, given annually by the Association for Positive Behavior Support. The award is presented to early career researchers whose work reflects a commitment to positive behavior support and shows promise of substantial contribution to the field.





## RESEARCH FOR A *Better World*

### BETTER DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PLAY

Dr. Ansley Gilpin, assistant professor of psychology and lead researcher at UA's "Knowledge in Development Lab," received a \$200,000 grant from the Imagination Institute, based at the University of Pennsylvania's Positive Psychology Center, to advance the measurement and improvement of fantasy orientation and imaginative play in children.

Gilpin hopes to determine the most reliable and valid measurements of imagination in young children and test whether imaginative play can improve cognitive function.

### CLEANER DRINKING WATER

A method of cleaning drinking water with light is being tested and developed at The University of Alabama with the hope of creating a product available for homes and businesses. LiTeWater, a company spun off from the technology, competed in several business start-up contests.

Cleaning drinking water from a faucet with ultraviolet light, along with standard filters, could not only remove chemicals but potentially harmful viruses and bacteria. Commercially available filters for homes and businesses use activated carbon and other minerals to remove contaminants, but they do not disinfect the water from pathogens.

"LiteWater is a mini water treatment plant for a faucet," said Ben Bickerstaff, co-founder of the company and a graduate research assistant with the UA Office for Technology Transfer. "The technology uses UV lamps to disinfect harmful pathogens from water. To date, we have blown past EPA standards, the gold standard, for clean drinking water."

### HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

Dr. Debra Whisenant, assistant professor in the Capstone College of Nursing, has received a one-year, \$7,500 grant from the Southern Nurses Research Society to launch a health promotion program in multiple communities in Jefferson, Walker and Blount Counties.

By working with faith-based and civic organizations, Whisenant and her team will train volunteers in these communities to provide basic health education to residents.

"It's a much more effective model than someone they don't know coming in and teaching them for six months to a year and then disappearing. This way you've got longevity, sustainability and more participation," she said.

### MORE RENEWABLE RESOURCES

Researchers at the Capstone, in collaboration with colleagues in Germany, have developed a new way to use wood or other kinds of biomass to make chemical materials without relying on the usual non-renewable petrochemical starting materials.

The idea, the researchers said, is to produce everyday products from renewable resources while remaining economically competitive and without harming the environment.

Dr. Anthony J. Arduengo III, the Saxon Professor of Chemistry at UA, and his associates have collaborated with researchers at the Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, Germany. They have established an international collaborative research consortium StanCE, or Sustainable Technology for a new Chemical Economy, to develop and implement their innovations.



## LONGER, MORE DURABLE BRIDGE GIRDERS

Engineering researchers are testing massive concrete girders in a campus laboratory to find ways for bridges to span longer distances with fewer supports underneath. Longer, more durable concrete girders would mean fewer support structures underneath the bridge, and that could lead to lower construction costs and less disturbance of the environment and living areas.

The two-year project with the Alabama Department of Transportation should end with recommendations on how to design and build concrete girders that can span 180 feet, about 15 feet longer than the longest concrete girders currently used in the state.

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## TALLER, STURDIER WOOD BUILDINGS

University of Alabama researchers are leading an effort that could lead to the construction of taller and sturdier wood-framed buildings in earthquake-prone areas.

Dr. Thang Dao, UA assistant professor of civil, construction and environmental engineering, hopes to combine two methods of constructing tall-wood buildings to yield a new system that could lead to wood-framed buildings reaching eight to 12 stories that withstand earthquakes better than current methods that top out at seven stories.





# INVENTORS AND INNOVATIVE *Partnerships*



## SIDELINER MEDICAL TENT

The University of Alabama licensed the technology behind a collapsible sideline tent designed to give better medical care to athletes to a spin-off company that will develop, market, manufacture and distribute the tent.

The tent resulted from a collaboration between Crimson Tide Athletics and UA's College of Engineering.

Under an agreement between UA and Kinematic Sports LLC, the SidelinER, as it is now called, is available to be purchased by prep, collegiate and professional sports teams and has the potential for other applications such as emergency response.

## UA ENGINEERING ASSISTED NASA WITH TEST OF SPIN-OFF TECHNOLOGY

Engineers with NASA used a lab at The University of Alabama to help develop a spin-off technology aimed at girding structures against earthquakes. NASA developed a device to mitigate a building's response to earthquakes. Originally developed to solve a severe vibration issue on a rocket, NASA's new DTM technology has potential for applications across multiple industries, including structures.

UA was selected because of the capabilities of the Large Scale Structures Lab, opened in 2012 as part of the South Engineering Research Center. The lab is designed to study the effects of natural hazards on structures through a unique set of features inside the lab, including a seismic simulator, or shake table, and other equipment that can simulate disasters.



## RESEARCH AGREEMENT RELATED TO GREEN ENERGY, ELECTRONICS

Electronics giant TDK Corp. and The University of Alabama have signed a two-pronged research agreement to address challenges associated with the growing electric-energy movement and the miniaturization of electronic components.

The newly signed agreement between TDK and UA's Center for Materials for Information Technology, or MINT, will, among other things, bring TDK engineers to campus while researching long-term solutions to some of the biggest challenges faced by the industry today.





The National Academy of Inventors was founded to recognize investigators at universities and their affiliated institutions who translate research findings into inventions that may benefit society.

UA has inducted 42 members since 2011. UA's technology transfer office works with innovators to facilitate the transfer of technologies created at the University to the commercial marketplace for public benefit.

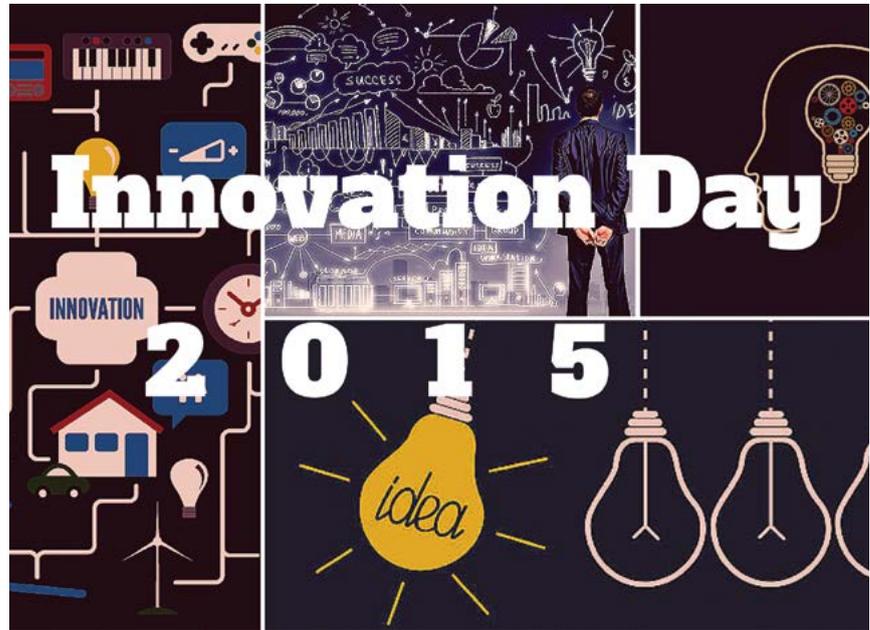
## INVENTORS ACADEMY

Researchers recently inducted into the UA chapter of the National Academy of Inventors pose for a photograph prior to a luncheon in the Bryant Conference Center. Ten campus inventors, with recently awarded U.S. patents, make up this year's class of inductees. From left are: Drs. Carl A. Pinkert, vice president for research and economic development; Qialoli Liang; Rick Swatloski, director of UA's Office for Technology Transfer, which coordinates the UA chapter; Carolyn Cassady; Yuping Bao; Seongsin Kim; Ying Qin; Yang-Ki Hong; Yuebin Gao; and President Stuart R. Bell. Not pictured are Drs. Kevin Shaughnessy, Marcus Ashford and Patrick Kung.

## INNOVATION DAY

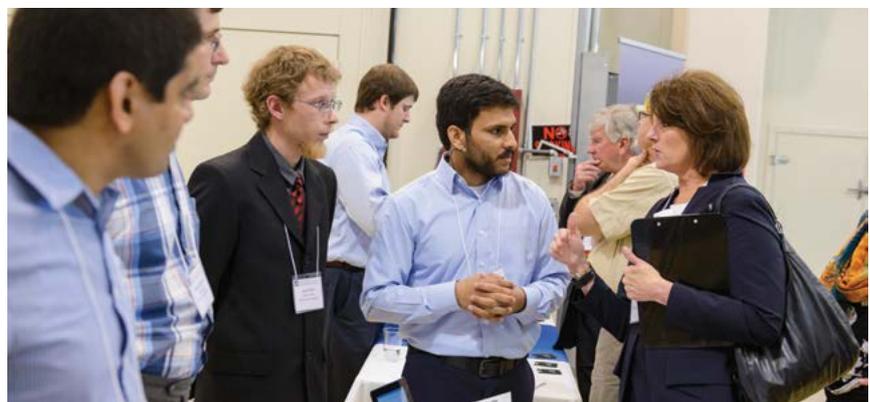
University of Alabama students showcased a concussion detection system and cellular signal strengthening technology, and entrepreneurs detailed the ins and outs of starting and running a successful business during the third Office for Research and Economic Development Innovation Day.

Created to give student and faculty researchers and startups a platform to showcase new technologies and to provide valuable information about business licensing, intellectual property and funding, the tech showcase also featured four information sessions and eight guest speakers on topics ranging from leveraging social media and growth-hacking, to crowd funding and protecting your business.



## AIME DAY

Entrepreneurial teams at UA competed for funds to build prototypes, and advanced startups demonstrated their innovations during AIME Day, an annual showcase of burgeoning technologies and business plan competitions in April.



# Athletics

## BASEBALL

HEAD COACH MITCH GASPARD

Alabama played its first season in the rebuilt Sewell-Thomas Stadium, or "New Joe," averaging well over 4,500 fans per game. The 2016 Alabama baseball team went 32-26-0 overall and 15-15-0 in Southeastern Conference play, finishing up the season at the SEC tourney. The Crimson Tide had six players taken in Major League Baseball's first-year player draft. At the end of the season, Mitch Gaspard stepped down after seven years as UA's head coach. Greg Goff was named the Tide's new head coach in June 2016.

## BASKETBALL

MEN'S HEAD COACH AVERY JOHNSON/  
WOMEN'S HEAD COACH KRISTY CURRY

Under the direction of first-year head coach Avery Johnson, the men's team advanced to the National Invitation Tournament for the second year in a row. The Crimson Tide finished the season at 18-15 overall, tying Johnson with Wimp Sanderson for the most wins by a first-year head coach. Alabama also tallied four wins over AP top-25 teams, the most for the Tide since the 2003-04 season. The Tide women, under third-year head coach Kristy Curry, advanced to the 2016 Women's National Invitation Tournament, marking its first WNIT appearance since 2011 and fifth overall. The Tide finished its season with a 15-16 mark. During the regular season, Alabama notched its first win over perennial power Tennessee since 1984 and the first ever in Tuscaloosa.

## FOOTBALL

HEAD COACH NICK SABAN

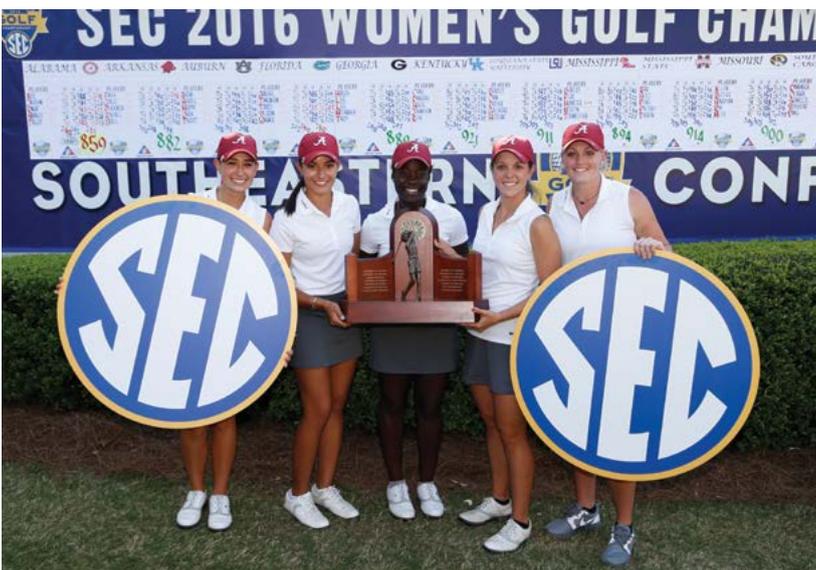
On the way to its 16th national football championship and league-record 25th Southeastern Conference Championship, Alabama reached the 10-win milestone for a school-record eighth year in a row and 35th time overall, finishing the season at 14-1 overall. The 2015 season also marked the 19th time that the Tide has won at least 11 games in a season and the seventh time under head coach Nick Saban. Alabama is now 2-for-2 in earning a berth in the College Football Playoff, winning the Cotton Bowl on the way to the College Football Playoff National Championship Game where it beat Clemson 45-40. Derrick Henry won the Tide's second Heisman Trophy. Following the season, football brought in its fourth consecutive No. 1 ranked recruiting class and saw seven players taken in the NFL draft and eight more sign free-agent contracts.

## GOLF

WOMEN'S HEAD COACH MIC POTTER/  
MEN'S HEAD COACH JAY SEAWELL

The Tide women won the third Southeastern Conference Championship in school history in 2016, following titles in 2010 and 2013. Alabama also extended its streak of top-15 NCAA finishes to nine years with a 12th place finish in 2016. Cheyenne Knight finished fourth nationally while she and Emma Talley earned All-America honors.

The Crimson Tide men's golf program made its 26th NCAA postseason appearance in 2016, before advancing to the NCAA Championships for the 18th time. Alabama finished 23rd at the NCAA Championships after taking 11th at the SEC Championships. Robby Shelton led the way, taking sixth at the NCAA Championships. Robby Shelton was named a PING First Team All-America, joining former standout Bud Cauley as the only three-time first team All-American in program history. Davis Riley also earned All-America honors in 2016.





## GYMNASTICS

### HEAD COACH DANA DUCKWORTH

In her second season as the Crimson Tide head coach, Dana Duckworth led Alabama to its NCAA-best 31st NCAA Regional Championship in 2016. The Crimson Tide advanced to an NCAA-record 22nd Super Six Team final and finished the season ranked third, making Alabama the only program in the nation to finish in the top-four nationally for the past eight years in a row. Individually, Crimson Tide gymnasts won three SEC titles, two regional championships and an NCAA title.

## ROWING

### HEAD COACH LARRY DAVIS

Head coach Larry Davis, in his 10th season as the Crimson Tide's head coach, led Alabama to a seventh place finish at the Big 12 Championships in 2016, a finish that included a pair of bronze medal finishes at the championships. Olivia Dennis earned a place on the 2016 Big 12 All-Conference Team.

## SOCCER

### HEAD COACH WES HART

Under first-year head coach Wes Hart, the 2015 Alabama soccer team went 5-12-2 overall and 2-9 in Southeastern Conference play. Abby Lutzenkirchen was named the Southeastern Conference Scholar-Athlete of the Year. Lutzenkirchen and Celia Jimenez were named Second Team All-SEC, while Emma Welch earned a place on the SEC All-Freshmen team.

## SOFTBALL

### HEAD COACH PATRICK MURPHY

In its 20th season as a varsity program, the Alabama softball team earned its 18th consecutive NCAA tournament berth and 11th trip to the women's College World Series. Haylie McCleney, Sydney Littlejohn and Leona Lafaele were named NFCA All-Americans, with McCleney becoming the sixth four-time winner in program history. Alabama went 51-14-0 overall and 17-8-0 in Southeastern Conference play on the way to winning the NCAA Tuscaloosa Regional and NCAA Tuscaloosa Super Regional titles. Alabama also averaged over 3,000 fans per game in 2016 for the first time in program history.

## SWIMMING AND DIVING

### HEAD COACH DENNIS PURSLEY

Under fourth-year head coach Dennis Pursley, both the men and women took big steps forward on the national stage. With their sixth place finish in 2016 and 10th place finish in 2015, the men earned their first back-to-back top-10 NCAA finishes since 1985 and 1986. The men's sixth place finish in 2016 was its best since 1983. The women's team took 28th at the 2016 NCAA Championships, Alabama's best finish since 2005. The Tide men won the first NCAA relay title in school history while a total of 17 men and women combined for 40 All-America honors in 2016.

## TENNIS

### WOMEN'S HEAD COACH JENNY MAINZ/ MEN'S HEAD COACH GEORGE HUSACK

The women's tennis team finished off the 2016 season with Erin Routliffe and Andie Daniell advancing to the NCAA Championships singles draw. Routliffe earned All-SEC honors for the third year in a row while Daniell was named the 2016 SEC Freshman of the Year and ITA Southern Region Rookie of the Year. On the men's side, the Tide finished off their season with Mazen Osama and Korey Lovett advancing to the NCAA Doubles draw while Osama, the 2016 ITA Southern Region Rookie of the Year and member of the All-SEC Second Team and All-Freshman Team, earned a place in the NCAA singles draw.

## TRACK AND FIELD/CROSS COUNTRY

### HEAD COACH DAN WATERS

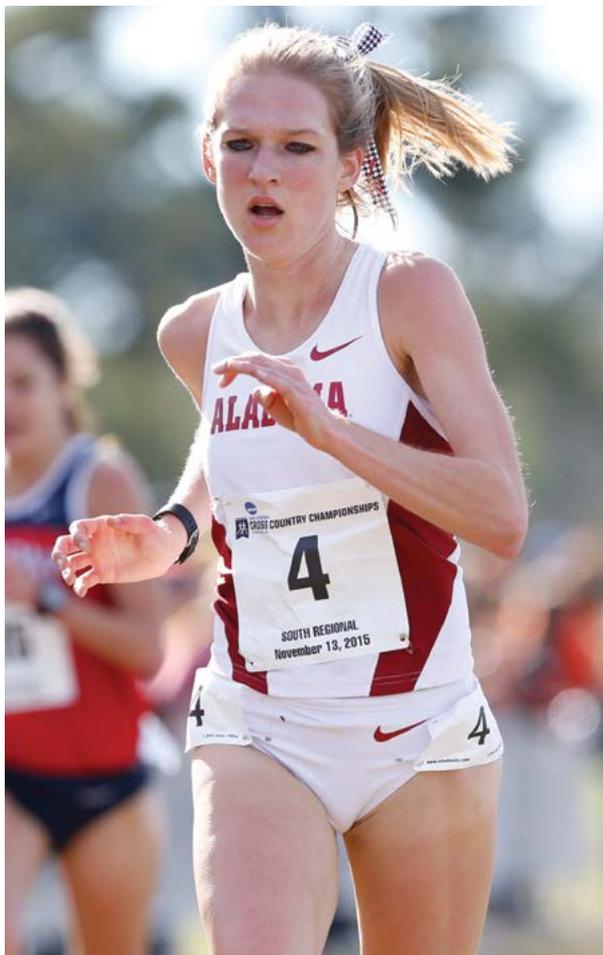
The Crimson Tide finished the men's and women's cross country, indoor and outdoor track and field seasons all the same way, competing at the NCAA Championships. In cross country, the men were led by SEC Champion Antibahs Kosge who, along with Katelyn Greenleaf, earned a spot at the NCAA Championships. The Tide women finished sixth at the SEC Championships and third at the NCAA South Regional while the men were ninth at SECs and sixth at the NCAA South Regional.

During the NCAA Indoor Championships, Alabama native Quanesha Burks won her second national long jump title. During the outdoor season, Alabama's men finished third at the SEC Championships while the women took sixth. Burks shone again at the NCAA Outdoor Championships, taking second in the long jump. Burks, Jeremiah Green and Tony Brown all earned All-America honors in 2016.

## VOLLEYBALL

### HEAD COACH ED ALLEN

Under fifth-year head coach Ed Allen, the Crimson Tide volleyball team finished the 2015 season with a 17-15 record overall with an 11-7 mark in Southeastern Conference play. Krystal Rivers and Kat Hutson both earned American Volleyball Coaches Association All-South Region honors while Sierra Wilson was named Academic All-America for the second year in a row.





## CHAMPIONS

*in the Classroom*

All 21 University of Alabama varsity athletic teams continue to score well above the national cutoff standard in the latest Academic Progress Rate (APR). Figures released cover the four-year period extending from the 2011-12 through 2014-15 school years.

Overall, 17 Crimson Tide teams posted scores above the national average in their respective sports, including five that bettered the national average in their sport by 15 points or more. Alabama football scored a 979, which bettered the national average for Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) teams by 15 points. The Crimson Tide men's basketball team posted a 984 APR, bettering the national average by 20 points.

Alabama was one of only two Southeastern Conference schools to have more than four teams receive public recognition from the NCAA for their APR scores figuring in the top-10 percentile nationally among teams in those sports. Those include the 2011 and 2012 NCAA Champion gymnastics team, the 2012 NCAA Champion women's golf team, the 2014 SEC Champion women's tennis team and the men's cross country team and women's swimming and diving teams.

In addition to national recognition, eight Crimson Tide teams ranked among the top three in their respective sports in the SEC, with gymnastics, softball, women's golf, men's cross country and women's tennis all ranked No. 1 in the league. Football and men's swimming and diving were both ranked third among SEC teams.

The men's cross country, women's golf, gymnastics, women's swimming and diving and women's tennis teams all scored a perfect 1,000 for their four-year score.

Those five teams were joined by the 2012 NCAA champion softball team (997) as well as the women's cross country (990) and soccer (990) teams among the eight UA programs with scores of 990 or better.

The Alabama men's basketball (984), men's tennis (986), men's golf (984), rowing (989) and men's swimming and diving (982) teams were also among the teams that posted scores of 980 or better. A total of 16 Alabama teams either matched or exceeded their APR from the year before.

## ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICANS

In an unprecedented feat, The University of Alabama swept the Academic All-American of the Year titles for the at-large team selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America.

Swimmer Anton McKee and gymnast Lauren Beers were selected as the 2016 CoSIDA Academic All-Americans of the Year for the Division I Men's and Women's At-Large programs, respectively. The at-large teams include the sports of fencing, golf, gymnastics, ice hockey, lacrosse, rifle, skiing, swimming & diving, tennis and water polo for both men and women, as well as beach volleyball, bowling, crew and field hockey for women, and volleyball and wrestling for men.

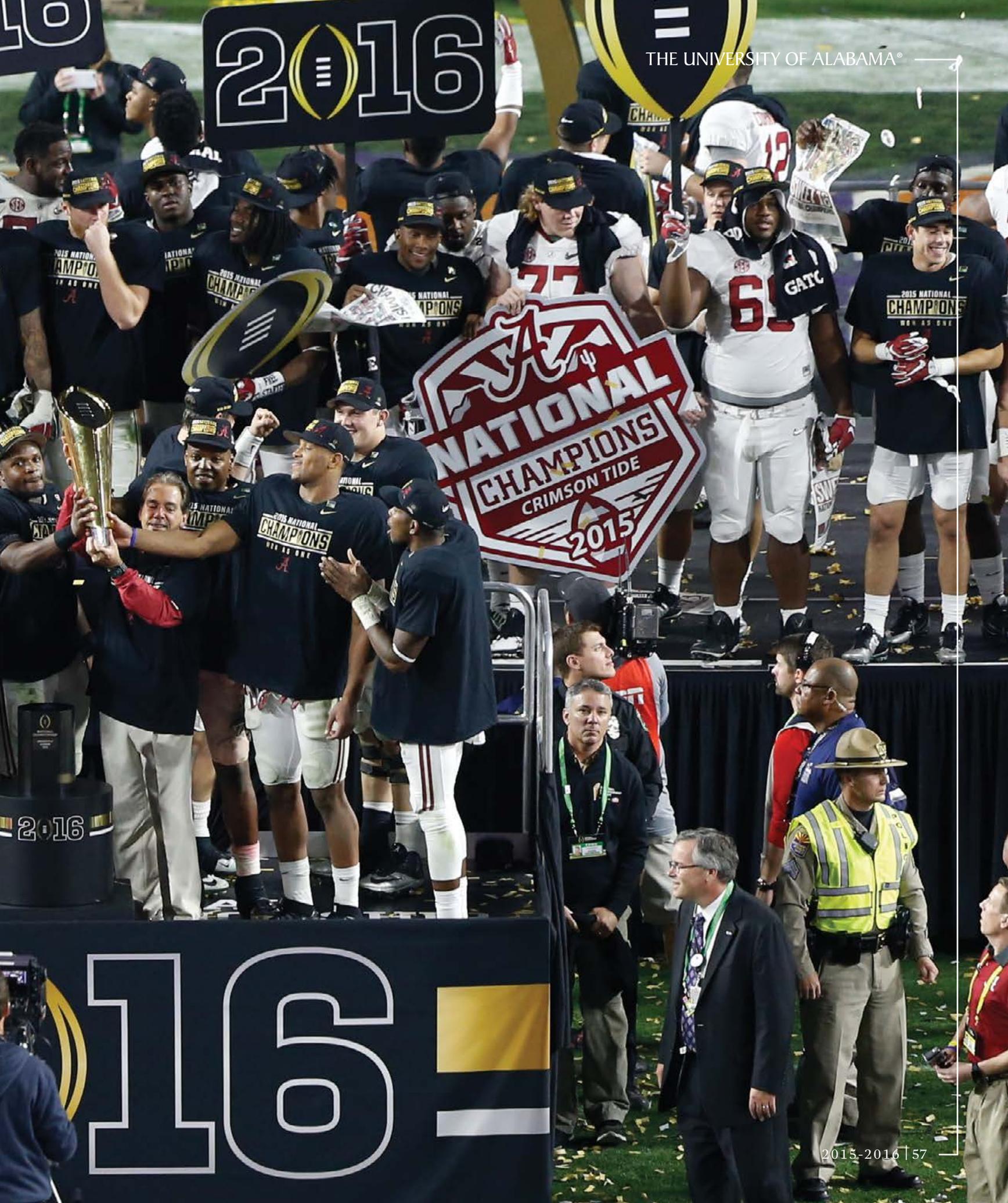
Alabama also became the first school to have three Academic All-Americans of the Year in the same academic year, with Beers and McKee joining Haylie McCleney, who earned the softball honor for the second year in a row.

A

Athletics

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS  
CRIMSON TIDE  
2015







## MODEL UN

The Alabama International Relations Club received numerous accolades at the Harvard National Model United Nations Latin America conference in Lima, Peru, recognized as the premier conference in South America.

A group of 10 UA students traveled to the week-long event, where they debated international politics and discussed solutions to critical global issues with some 500 students from universities around the world.

The club received the Most Outstanding Large Delegation award, which recognizes an institution with 10 or more student representatives for its contributions to the discussion of global issues at the conference.

## CAPSTONE INTERNATIONAL CENTER

The Capstone International Center initiates, promotes and supports UA's international efforts on campus, throughout the state and around the world.

Among its many efforts is the annual International Education Week, a celebration of the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. The joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education is designed to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn and exchange experiences in the United States.

The CIC partners with the Center for Community-Based Partnerships, an initiative of the Division of Community Affairs, in the UA Fulbright advising initiative. Their work together has resulted in the increased number of UA students who have won Fulbrights.



# FULBRIGHTS

## *What are the Fulbrights?*

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program offers grants for independent study and research projects and for English teaching assistantships overseas. More than 11,000 applicants compete for approximately 1,500 awards each year. The program, sponsored by the U.S. State Department, is the largest U.S. international exchange program, offering opportunity for students, scholars and professionals.

The University of Alabama has been recognized as a top producing institution for the highly competitive student Fulbright awards, according to The Chronicle of Higher Education. Eleven of 30 UA applicants received the award during 2015-2016, one of the highest success ratios in the nation.

Seven UA alumni and graduate students have won Fulbright awards for 2016-17.

Two UA graduate students received Fulbright research awards:

- Rebecca Beamer, from Tuscaloosa, a 2016 MFA graduate of the School of Library and Information Studies Book Arts Program in the College of Communication and Information Sciences, received a Fulbright research award. She will gather personal narratives of women in Lusaka, Zambia, to magnify their voices in the discussion of pregnancy and health.
- Pandora White, from Fayette, Mississippi, a doctoral student in chemistry in the College of Arts and Sciences, received a Fulbright research award to Poznan, Poland. Her work will investigate the mechanisms of action of trivalent chromium and bitter melon in enhancing insulin signaling in rats.

Five UA graduates won awards as teaching assistants to research and teach abroad:

- Brandon Hooks, a graduate in international studies and economics with a minor in Spanish from Wetumpka, to teach in Spain.
- Perrin Lowrey, a graduate with majors in psychology and German with a minor in the Blount Undergraduate Initiative from Tuscaloosa, to teach in Germany.
- Evan McIntyre, a graduate in elementary education from Collegeville, Pennsylvania, to teach in South Korea.
- Christian Shannon, a graduate in chemical engineering with a minor in business from Dallas, to teach in Poland.
- Abigail Thompson, a graduate in applied economics and political science from Columbia, Missouri, to teach in Russia.

## SHANGHAI PARTNERSHIP

The College of Education is strengthening its international ties through a collaborative effort with Shanghai Normal University Tianhua College in China.

Four education professors from Shanghai Normal University Tianhua College visited campus in October. The delegation's visit is just one facet of the collaboration, which will include faculty and student exchanges over the next 10 years.

The collaboration was finalized last summer when Dr. Peter Hlebowitsh, dean of the UA College of Education, signed an agreement to allow pre-service teachers at SNU to spend up to a year studying at UA. UA faculty will also travel to China to conduct workshops, observe instruction in Shanghai, and teach courses.

The first wave of undergraduate education students from China will begin classes at UA in three years. About 100 students, either juniors or seniors, will participate over the next 10 years.





ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
**500+**  
STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS ON CAMPUS  
THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA  
08-000

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
**32**  
RESEARCHERS  
THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA  
08-000

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
**30**  
RESEARCHERS  
THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA  
08-000





## SERVICE & *Outreach*

TOTAL SERVICE HOURS  
**1,000,000**  
AND COUNTING

**BEAT AUBURN  
BEAT HUNGER**

**116,342**

POUNDS OF FOOD RAISED



**AL'S  
PALS**  
MORE THAN  
**1,000**  
STUDENT  
MENTORS

**BOOKS FOR THE  
BLACK BELT**



**\$22,552**  
WORTH OF NEW BOOKS  
**AWARDED TO**  
**7** PUBLIC SCHOOL  
**LIBRARIES**  
IN THE BLACK BELT

SPECIAL ONE-TIME AWARD TO TWO SCHOOLS  
OUTSIDE THE BLACK BELT REGION

## HEAR HERE ALABAMA

Dr. Marcia Hay-McCutcheon, associate professor of communicative disorders, drives a mobile hearing center - a large, motorcoach-like vehicle - into areas of West Alabama to test patients' hearing, at no cost to the patients. The outreach program helps an underserved segment of Alabama's population.

"In Alabama, approximately 22 percent of the population is 55 years old or older, and, additionally, according to the 2014 Alabama Poverty Data Sheet, Alabama is the nation's seventh poorest state," Hay-McCutcheon said. "A large percentage of Alabamians are estimated to have an undiagnosed hearing loss and/or no resources to address the hearing loss."



The Hear Here Alabama vehicle is large enough to incorporate a space for physical examinations of the ear, as well as two sound booths to test hearing.



## GIVING A LIFT

In August 2014, Culverhouse Accounting Lecturer Lisa McKinney, CPA and graduate student assistant David Hose initiated a free job skills training program they called LIFT (Learning Initiative and Financial Training) for low-income, minority and disadvantaged Tuscaloosa residents.

This program has continued to grow through the past year.

LIFT helps the unemployed and underemployed build career-worthy skills and it teaches young children that business school can be fun and cool. More than 22 classes at seven locations are taught by nearly 300 Culverhouse accountancy students who volunteer their time each week.

## IMPACT REPORT

The Impact Report shares information on UA's contributions to each county in Alabama. To view the report, go to [www.ua.edu/outreach/impact](http://www.ua.edu/outreach/impact).

## STUDENT ENGINEERS IN ACTION

The steps of Alabama's tallest mound got a much-needed makeover, thanks to a group of University of Alabama engineering students. Built in 1967, the Mound B steps at Moundville Archaeological Park had fallen into disrepair.

In stepped UA's Student Engineers in Action. Over the course of the school year, the students researched and drafted a plan to replace the steps, working over the spring semester to overhaul the steps. The volunteer opportunity gave the students a chance to work on an historic project, a unique experience that could help in preparing for a career.



# THE *Strategic Plan*



“The University’s mission and vision have not changed. These will remain the same in all our endeavors, but how we achieve that mission and vision does change and is captured through the goals of our faculty, students and University community. These will move us in the direction of where we aspire to be.”

PRESIDENT STUART R. BELL

To continue the momentum and energy of The University of Alabama into the future, President Bell called the UA community together to share in crafting a strategic plan. A Strategic Planning Council consisting of faculty, staff and students was named, along with three subcommittees, and charged with ensuring seven requirements were met in any plan presented.

Surveys and listening sessions allowed members of the community to share their greatest hopes and dreams for the Capstone. From those responses, the Strategic Planning Council led the efforts to develop a forward-looking plan for our campus. At the spring faculty/staff meeting, President Bell unveiled the four pillars that will be the foundation for the strategic plan, slated to be introduced this fall.

## THE SEVEN REQUIREMENTS

1. Is high-level and consistent with a dynamic university that will make accelerated strides of accomplishment in the coming months and years.
2. Embraces the dreams of our campus.
3. Ensures the vitality of attracting the best and brightest scholars.
4. Reflects a desire to move our research, discovery and performance achievements forward in a substantial way.
5. Prepares our students for the globally connected world they will be a part of as they graduate and effect great change in the world.
6. Provides an unmatched teaching and learning experience for all our students.
7. Infuses a comprehensive view of diversity, equity and inclusion for our campus that includes a chief diversity officer and diversity action plan.

## THE FOUR PILLARS

1. To 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.
2. To increase the University's productivity and innovation in research, scholarship and creative activities that impact socio-economic development.
3. To enrich the learning and work environment by providing an accepting, inclusive community that attracts and supports a diverse faculty, staff and student body.
4. To provide opportunities and resources that promote work-life balance and enhance the recruitment and retention of outstanding faculty and staff.

## THE THREE SUBCOMMITTEES

1. Subcommittee on Campus Life
2. Subcommittee on Diversity and Inclusion
3. Subcommittee on Research







YEAR IN  
*Review*  
2015-2016

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THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA®