



Foundation Annual Report

2019-2020

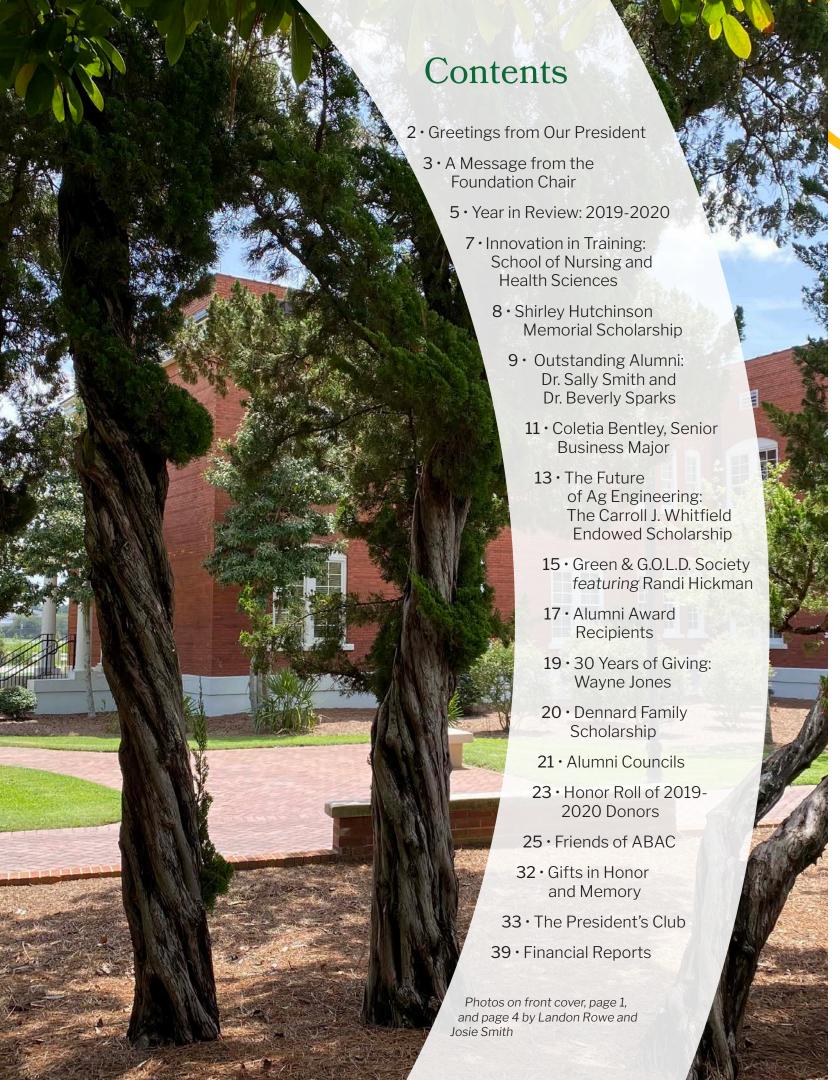












Greetings from Our President

On August 12, I had the privilege and honor of opening my 15th fall semester as president of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. Nothing gives me more joy than seeing our students take in all the sights and sounds of ABAC on the first day of class.

Thanks to the hard work of the ABAC faculty and staff. we opened our doors to nearly 4.000 students for the fall term. Given the challenges that we have faced due to the pandemic, that enrollment figure is a remarkable accomplishment.

Believe it or not, students did not set foot on the ABAC campus for five months because of COVID-19. Like all of the other 25 colleges and universities in the University System of Georgia, we taught classes online for the final weeks of the spring semester and the entirety of the summer term. This made me twice as proud to see the campus buzzing again.

I want to personally thank everyone who contributed to this success story. It truly took an ABAC team effort from enrollment counselors, marketing and communications, contractors, admissions, financial aid. student accounts, academic support, housing, deans, and faculty advisors, just to name a few. As our budget is based on enrollment, their persistence and hard work will pay dividends for years to come.

You helped as well - as an alumnus, a donor, or a friend. No matter which of these categories you fit into, you made a difference by pointing a high school student toward ABAC, by funding a scholarship, or even by saying a good word about ABAC on social media. There was nothing normal about the classrooms to which our students returned. Masks. social distancing, and many hand sanitizer stations give the ABAC campus a whole new look. The new look extends to our apartment-style student housing at ABAC Place and ABAC Lakeside. For the first time, every student living on campus has a private bedroom, limiting the housing capacity to 1,200 students.

ABAC students will see a more compact calendar for the fall term because of the pandemic. Classes will end November 19. and all final examinations will be completed by November 24. When the students go home for the Thanksgiving holidays, they will not return until just prior to the start of the spring semester on January 11, 2021. Those extra weeks will give us time to thoroughly clean classrooms, the residence halls, and the dining hall to help ensure a safe return.

In the coming days, everyone at ABAC plans to go above and beyond the call of duty to make certain that we retain these students and that every ABAC student gets a quality



these students for life.

ABAC has transformed itself into a one-of-a-kind baccalaureate degree -granting institution that has a worldwide reputation for excellence. Bachelor's degrees are the lifeblood of this campus, and we have more than 2,300 students in four-year degree programs this fall - the most ever! We offered only two-year degrees for 75 years, and we still have some outstanding students seeking associate degrees, particularly in nursing. The future of ABAC rests on the shoulders of these students who are dedicated to their education here.

At ABAC, students get more for their money. We are in the life-changing business, and you are instrumental in keeping the doors open. Thank you for ensuring ABAC stays on the move!

Daws C Bridges

Dr. David C. Bridges Class of 1978

A Message from Our Foundation Chair

The year 2020 is one that we will never forget. We have faced uncertainty in our personal and professional lives. Likewise, the ABAC Foundation experienced a very different ending to last school year and a very different beginning to this school year.

Even with these challenges, I am pleased to inform you that the ABAC Foundation is continuing to do great work to provide support for the campus. We are finding that our administration, faculty, staff, and students continue to rise to the occasion and demonstrate incredible creativity and resilience.



This fall, the ABAC Foundation awarded more than \$673,000 in scholarships. Now more than ever, our students and their families will need our support to realize their dreams of a college education. ABAC is uniquely prepared to educate the next generation of citizens in our communities for a number of reasons:

- Safe and beautiful campus where our students can live and learn
- Dedicated faculty and staff who truly care about student success
- · Hands-on experiences through internships, mentored research, and study abroad
- Employers seek ABAC graduates because they are prepared for work and life

In this 2019-2020 Annual Report, we look back on the previous year to say a sincere "thank you" for your generosity to this great College. Our fundraising efforts continue to grow each year. The staff of College Advancement and the ABAC Foundation are reaching out to more alumni and friends than ever before and finding innovative ways to engage with you.



I hope you will commit to joining me in determining how you will continue to invest in ABAC's future. On behalf of the ABAC Foundation, thank you. You are truly making a difference in the lives of our students.

John Wirly Langdale #

John Wesley Langdale, III Chair, ABAC Foundation **Board of Trustees** Class of 1992







A Look Inside: New Buildings at ABAC







Year in Review: 2019-2020 ABAC Highlights

Dr. Jeffrey Ross Selected as Interim Dean for School of Nursing and Health Sciences

Dr. Jeffrey Ross is serving as the Interim Dean for the ABAC School of Nursing and Health Sciences. Jeffrey is from Donalsonville and has been teaching practical, associate, and baccalaureate nursing degree level programs for 15 years. He has served as Chair of Nursing for the practical and associate degree programs at ABAC Bainbridge. He received his associate degree from Darton College, his bachelor's and master's degrees from Albany State University and his Ed.D. in Nursing Education from the University of West Georgia. He also maintains certification through the National League for Nursing as a Certified Nursing Educator.

ABAC Creates New Department of Education and Wellness

Students who want to become teachers now have a home in the newly created Department of Education and Wellness in the ABAC School of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Jerry Baker, ABAC Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, said the new department fits perfectly with the plan to have more students majoring in education at ABAC. He estimates that 130 to 150 students are enrolled in the Early Childhood or Teacher Preparation programs at ABAC. These students complete their freshman and sophomore level courses on either the main campus in Tifton or the ABAC Bainbridge instructional site. Junior and senior level classes in the major are offered at ABAC in Tifton from Georgia Southwestern State University.

Half a Billion Dollar Economic Impact on South Georgia

Always a major player when it comes to economic impact, ABAC hit a home run during the 2018 fiscal year when ABAC impacted South Georgia to the tune of a half billion dollars. Dr. Renata Elad, Dean of the Stafford School of Business, said that as a result of the overall multiplier effect, ABAC's economic impact was \$499,403,672 in 2018. She analyzed the overall University System of Georgia report which covered the 2017 fall term and the spring and summer terms of 2018. During the 2017 fall semester, ABAC enrolled 3,394 students from 24 countries, 18 states, and 155 of Georgia's 159 counties. Renata said that with direct student spending of \$44,729,654 impacting the region and an overall labor income impact of over \$60 million regionally, ABAC was a strong partner in regional growth. She said that ABAC had a significant footprint in Baker, Colquitt, Cook, Decatur, Early, Grady, Irwin, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Thomas, Tift, Turner, and Worth counties.



ABAC Tops Southeast in Agricultural Education Graduates for Second Straight Year

For the second year in a row, ABAC produced more graduates with a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education than any college in the southeastern portion of the United States. "To the best of my knowledge, ABAC had more Ag Ed graduates than any college or university east of the Mississippi River," Dr. Andrew Thoron, Head of the Department of Agricultural Education and Communication at ABAC, said. Dr. Mark Kistler, Dean of ABAC's School of Agricultural Education and Natural Resources, said ABAC had 33 Agricultural Education graduates during the virtual commencement ceremony on May 7. That number represents a 27 percent increase over the 26 Agricultural Education graduates in the spring of 2019, the first class of its kind in ABAC's 112-year history. "No other college or university in Georgia had those kinds of numbers this year in Ag Ed," Dr. Frank Flanders, ABAC's Ag Ed Program Coordinator, said. "Neither does anyone else in the South." Dr. Daniel Foster, Associate Professor of Agricultural Education at Pennsylvania State University, who conducts on-going research into the supply and demand of teachers each year, stated, "ABAC's 33 graduates this year represent the largest class east of the Mississippi and easily in the Top five in the United States."

ABAC Signs Articulation Agreement with Presbyterian College

With the signing of a new articulation agreement with Presbyterian College in January, ABAC took another step toward building a reputation as an excellent destination for students who wish to become pharmacists. The new agreement guarantees qualified ABAC biology students an interview and consideration for acceptance into the Presbyterian College School of Pharmacy Pharm.D. program in Clinton, S.C. ABAC now has relationships with the Pharm.D. programs at both Presbyterian College and the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) in Suwanee.

ABAC Offers Community Support to Local Hospitals

ABAC staff members inventoried the supply closets in the laboratory sciences building to assemble some much-needed equipment for Southwell during the ongoing pandemic. Dr. Tracy Nolan, an ABAC alumnus and the first female general surgeon at Tift Regional, coordinated with Geanie Vines, the charge nurse for the TRMC operating room along with Ryan Wright and Joe Weatherford from the ABAC Police Department. This donation included splash resistant goggles, gloves, and a box of laminated polypropylene aprons needed as personal protection equipment. The Office of College Advancement also offered support to the staff of Tift Regional Medical Center and Colquitt Regional Medical Center with homemade cookies (pictured, left), goodies, and words of encouragement through the employee support programs that have been implemented since March.

DeAnthony Price Becomes First Black Ag Communication Graduate at ABAC

The first Black agricultural communication bachelor's degree graduate at ABAC says Google paved the way for his attendance at the four-year school in Tifton. "I guess you can give Google the credit for me choosing ABAC," DeAnthony Price said. "When I decided I wanted to major in agriculture, I googled the top ag schools in Georgia, and ABAC came up first." Price graduated from the Elite Scholars Academy, a charter school in Morrow. Unlike many of his classmates in the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources at ABAC, he didn't take Vocational Agriculture classes or participate in FFA in high school because those classes and activities were not available. "It means a lot to me to be the first Black American to graduate from ABAC with the bachelor's degree in agricultural communication," DeAnthony said. "At ABAC, I learned to communicate and to educate people about agriculture. Academically, ABAC was very positive for me." DeAnthony is now enrolled at Alabama A&M University in Huntsville to pursue his graduate degree in plant and soil Science.

Arts & Culture at ABAC

Innovation in Training: Simulation Lab School of Nursing and Health Sciences



The "hands-on" mantra runs in the veins of every program at ABAC - its at the heart of what we do here. In the School of Nursing and Health Sciences, "hands-on" is taken to the next level: the Simulation and Skills Lab allows students to get up close and personal with the hands-on techniques they will need every day in their careers. Danielle Kistler. ABAC's Simulation and Skills Lab Coordinator, says that ABAC is taking strides to remain at the cutting edge of nursing education. "We have always implemented a number of systems and practices to equip our students for clinical settings. With new technology, we can continue to provide our communities with the best nurses you can find anywhere."

Students begin with labs that teach basic nursing practices, such as bathing, bed making, and other hygienic routines.

As they progress through the program, their knowledge base will expand to include skills for all situations. "We want our students to show up for their first day on the job equipped to handle any situation," Danielle says with pride. "The required hospital clinicals will only show them a small window of possibilities."

The high-fidelity simulation models (pictured, left) allow for endless scenarios to be created for training. Our skills lab currently includes two adult models, one obstetrics model, and a newly acquired pediatric model.

Danielle stresses that this pediatric model is an important addition to the lab: "Some nursing students graduate with very little experience with children if their clinicals didn't include them. Creating scenarios

with our model child in the lab prepares them for problems that are specific to young patients."

Each model is equipped with total body systems that can be manipulated to demonstrate both common and unusual issues. Using specialized computer software, Danielle can "queue up" a problem and the students will not know ahead of time what will take place. They will need to use their knowledge of vital signs and visual cues to assess heart function, blood levels. skin condition, temperature, excretions, and all other physical factors in order to make decisions on a rapid course of action for treatment. "These lifelike simulations are invaluable to a nurse in training - they see so many things here with the models before they encounter them in the workplace," Danielle explains. "Even their skin feels real!"

This state-of-the-art equipment is a major expense for the program. "Each model costs tens if not hundreds of thousands of dollars to purchase and maintain. They are worth the cost because it allows us to train better nurses who are more prepared to provide excellent care to our families and communities." Support from alumni and donors is essential to the success of this program and every contribution allows for these labs to be wellmaintained and operational. Danielle and the entire Nursing faculty are also thankful for Southwell and Colquitt Regional Medical Center as they provide support through donating routine supplies for the skills labs. "We are all in this together to provide the best possible care in the future."

Article and photos by Josie Smith

A Legacy of Love:

The Shirley Hutchinson Memorial Scholarship

Stan Hutchinson uses two words to describe his world: "Double blessed." Despite the tragedies he has encountered in his life, he still counts his blessings and finds hope amid sadness.

Shirley came into Stan's life in September 1967 when he began attending ABAC as an agricultural engineering major. She was one year behind Stan as a nursing major. "We hit it off right away," he remembers. "We immediately had a lot in common, we both came from big families. Do you know the saying 'dirt poor'? That was us because we both grew up on farms." Their common ground turned into a deep love, and they were

married the next year.

The happy couple worked their way through school as on-campus student employees. Stan went on to earn his bachelor degree from the University of Georgia while Shirley completed her nursing degree at ABAC. Stan had a successful career in agricultural engineering, working with companies such as John Deere and CASE. Shirley dedicated her professional life to nursing. They enjoyed a 31-year marriage full of love and fun until their adventures were cut short in 1999 when Shirley lost her life in a tragic car accident.

Shirley lived a life dedicated to serving others and Stan knew he wanted to honor her legacy.

"One of the first things I thought about was a scholarship because she always dreamed of helping students," he recalls. Stan made that dream come true by establishing the Shirley Hutchinson Memorial Scholarship at ABAC. This scholarship is given annually

to students enrolled in the

to students enrolled in the ABAC Nursing program. "This is a great way to honor her. She loved nursing, and she was good at it. She was such a dedicated nurse."

The scholarship has been established for 20 years now, and Stan remains amazed at all the students that have been touched through the fund. "It's quite gratifying to be able to

help students when you have no idea who they are."

International mission work was another dream held by Stan and Shirley, although it did not happen in her lifetime. Stan says God led him to the right person to accomplish that dream. After what they describe as a "series of unlikely events," Stan met Marci, a pediatrician who shared his love for Christ. She spent her childhood in Nigeria,

where her parents were missionaries. Stan and Marci married and quickly became involved with mission outreach in Nigeria. They have since created Shepard Care Inc., a non-profit that serves widows, orphans, and other community members in Nigeria by providing food, education, and ministry. The initiative has impacted thousands of lives in recent years.

"It's not what happens to you in life. It's how you deal with what happens in life."
This is a motto that Stan holds and has embodied in the years since Shirley's death. Despite the tragedy of losing his beloved wife, he has pressed on to make a monumental impact for students at ABAC and for people across the globe in Nigeria. Stan knows that Shirley would be proud.

Article by McKenzie Lewis, Advancement Intern; photo courtesy of Stan Hutchinson



Outstanding in Her Field: Dr. Beverly Sparks, Class of 1976

"You build very close relationships with the people you meet at ABAC. That's what makes it so special." Many years after attending ABAC, this is what Beverly Sparks remembers about her time here. She began her education at ABAC, and the relationships she built and the interests she explored on campus forged a path for a successful and impactful career.

Beverly spent 32 years working in extension and retired after a wonderful career - but that's not what she originally planned: "I thought I wanted to run a greenhouse business!" However, after deciding to pursue entomology in graduate school and realizing how many hours she would be spending in a greenhouse, those plans changed. She spent years studying insect and pest management and was hired as an extension entomologist at Texas A&M University. As she worked with greenhouse and nursery crop pests, her journey with extension began. Beverly eventually returned to her home state and joined the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension program as an entomologist and soon moved

In 2000, Beverly became Director of UGA Extension's Northeast District where she began working directly with extension agents. Her love for extension heightened as she was able to see the direct impact extension agents have on their communities. In 2007, she took that love a step further by taking on the role of Director of Extension, becoming the first woman in Georgia to ever do so. Through this position, formally known as the Associate Dean for Extension, Beverly provided leadership to more than 300 agents across every county in Georgia and helped guide their programs through both rewarding and challenging times. "My favorite part of the job was working with the agents and seeing the impact they could have on the agriculture industry, even in urban areas," she fondly recalls.

Beverly has always valued investing in youth and continues to be very supportive of Extension's 4-H program saying, "It teaches them to be leaders. It teaches them how to communicate. It's just amazing." Although she never had the chance to join the organization her self, Beverly has seen the impact 4-H has on young people – from entomology projects (a soft spot for her) to public speaking to college preparation.

ABAC is another soft spot for Beverly. In the years that have passed since her time as an ABAC student, she has continued to find ways to stay connected to the institution. Even though she went on to receive her undergraduate degree in horticulture and a master's degree in entomology from UGA, followed by a Ph.D. in entomology from Louisiana State University, ABAC is the household name in Beverly's family. Five of her immediate family members attended ABAC and seven of her nieces and nephews have attended or are currently enrolled. Additionally, Beverly serves on the ABAC Foundation Board of Trustees, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award, and is a member of the President's Club. She says she enjoys staying involved and seeing the great things ABAC is doing for its students. "It's great being able to see the impact ABAC has on Georgia and, really, the impact it has on the whole Southeast." It keeps her close to those relationships she built as a student and allows her to build new ones many years later. Her investment in our youth endures as she contributes to the success of her Alma Mater.

into leadership roles.

Article by McKenzie Lewis, Advancement Intern; photos courtesy of Dr. Beverly Sparks

Unwavering Excellence: Dr. Sally Smith, Class of 2008

New Orleans has long been known as "The Big Easy," with jazz floating through the streets and Cajun cuisine in every local eatery. This laid-back city presents a unique set of challenges for Dr. Sally Smith. Operating a counseling center on Canal Street is not always easy, especially during a pandemic. Sally is a Tifton native who found her way to the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (NOBTS) for graduate school after attending ABAC and then Georgia Southern University. With a bachelor's degree in anthropology, a master of arts in marriage and family counseling, and a Ph.D. in counselor education and supervision, she is well-equipped for rising to the challenge.

Sally is the Clinical Director for the Restoration Counseling practice. She manages the counseling staff, oversees ethical and regulatory compliance, operates the student intern program, and maintains her own set of clients. Restoration Counseling is located in the heart of the city's Orleans parish and provides the members of its community with affordab<mark>le acces</mark>s to counseling and other mental health services. It is the only Christian counseling center in the parish that accepts insurance. "We see clients experience life transformations that extend far beyond the last time they walked through our doors," Sally says when asked about the importance of their mission for the city. She has navigated her staff through the COVID-19 pandemic by creating and implementing a structure that provides services via telehealth and allows client care to continue uninterrupted.

Her journey to leadership at Restoration began in 2012 when she started there as a student intern during her master's program. A<mark>s she b</mark>egan work on her Ph.D. and became a licensed counselor, she was hired as a Supervisor and then moved to the Assistant Clinical Director position before being selected as the Clinical Director. Under her leadership, the clinic has implemented several new initiatives, including a Counseling Fellowship Program that bridges the gap for social workers and other mental health professionals trained outside of NOBTS who want to learn how to offer excellent and holistic Christian counseling in the New Orleans area. Sally also teac<mark>hes co</mark>urses at a women's prison in Louisiana that partners with NOBTS to provide a bachelor's degree program for inmates.

2007. "Througho<mark>ut my e</mark>ducation and career, I have produced more than 2,000 pages of written content," she recalls. "I learned to love writing during my freshman year in Dr. Su Senapati's English classes." Sally became a member of the Pegasus editing team, and her own work was published in the magazine. She was also molded by her experience in Dr. Kay Weeks' Human Communication course: "In addition to our training in speech writing, I will never forget the student who used her horse as a prop! We all went outside to The Meadows to hear her speech that day." Sally is grateful for the fine-tuning of her written and oral communication skills that took place at ABAC.

The investment made by ABAC's faculty and staff in Sally's personal and professional journey has paved the way for her to invest in others. "As a supervisor of young counselors and students, I find it rewarding and effective to challenge them while offering consta<mark>nt sup</mark>port." She will play an instrumental role in the success of those who train under her guidance as she prepares them to serve the city of New Orleans. As she holds herself, her clinic, and her staff to a standard of unwavering excellence, Sally will continue to provide hope amongst hardships in "The Big Easy."

Article by Josie Smith, photo courtesy of Dr. Sally Smith





Coletia Bentley has top-of-theskyscraper goals for her future. This senior business major is determined and dedicated to achieving her dream career as a Human Resources Manager for a large corporation. She won't stop climbing until she reaches that goal... well, actually, she would enjoy starting her own business as an interior designer, too. She would also love to work for a marketing firm as a strategist. For Coletia, this doesn't mean that she can't make up her mind. Instead, it illustrates that her training in ABAC's Stafford School of Business has prepared her for a bright future, no matter the path she chooses.

The palms and pines of ABAC's front campus are a short drive

from Coletia's

hometown of Moultrie, Georgia. "The business school was a perfect fit for me, and I knew that I would be supported here," she says. "ABAC feels like home, and it feels like family."

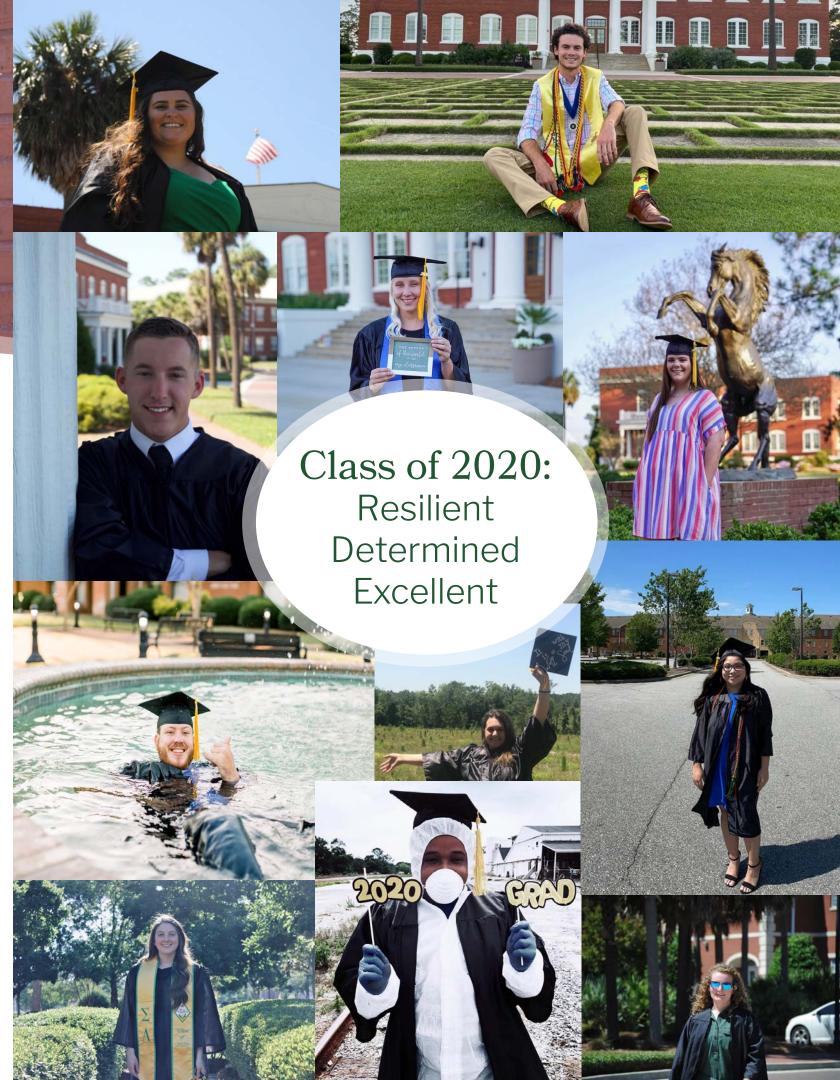
Dr. Franzelle Mathis-Pertilla, Associate Professor of Business, has invested in Coletia both as a student and as a friend. "Dr. Pertilla is always willing to help us with everything from professional development to internship placement to career advice," Coletia fondly recalls.

This big, happy family equips students with practical knowledge and develops within them a philosophy of business and management. Coletia is confident in her ability to manage: manage her time, manage her resources, and manage a team. "You have to treat your life like you'd treat a business - organized and ready for action all the time." Outside of the classroom, she has gained experience through an internship with the Human Resources Department at

ABAC. Her position involved handling payroll transactions, communication initiatives, onboarding for employees, and other clerical responsibilities. Bachelor's degree students in programs across the college are required to complete internships before graduation. These handson experiences go a step further in preparing our graduates for life.

When class is out of session in Lewis Hall. Coletia loves to sit on the second floor of Branch Hall to study and enjoy the beautiful campus views. She looks forward to finding cozy spaces in the recently renovated Carlton Center as she finishes her senior year. She stays busy as a member of Phi Theta Kappa as well as Enactus, a student organization that aims to make the world a better place through excellent business practices. "I know that ABAC has made me a strong person and a strong leader," she smiles confidently. The future of our communities will be in good hands with students like Coletia out there living their dreams.

Article and photos by Josie Smith



The Future of Ag Engineering:

Carroll J. Whitfield Endowed Scholarship

Educators have long said that good stories have a beginning, a middle, and an end. At ABAC, the best stories endure far beyond the last word on the page. Laura Whitfield and her late husband, Whit, spent decades writing a story together that was marked with humility, creativity, and warmth. Carroll J. (Whit) Whitfield (pictured, below) spent a lifetime dedicated to his family and to the field of mechanical engineering as he designed agricultural and turf equipment. Laura and their three beloved children knew that his story would live on beyond his death. so they created a scholarship in his honor at ABAC: a place where his family attended college and where future engineers receive the highest quality education. Today, the Carroll J. Whitfield Endowed Scholarship is awarded to students who are enrolled in the Agricultural Technology and Systems Management Track at ABAC.

Whit's story and his love for engineering began at an early age on family farms. As a young child, he was

continuously seeking innovation and even designed and built water-powered "flutter mills" out of sugar cane stalks to turn in ditches and streams. When the time arrived to decide on a career, the choice for Whit was obvious - the only path for him was the road to becoming a mechanical engineer. He attended the Georgia Institute of Technology from which he graduated with a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering. His experiences at Georgia Tech remained vital to Whit all his life, and he remained a dedicated supporter of his alma mater.

After graduation and marriage to Laura in 1955, Whit's industry career took them across the South from Maryland to South Carolina to Florida, and eventually back to his home of Georgia. Whit always said that he gained valuable experience in engineering from each company for which he worked, such as Sonoco Products, Inc. and Lilliston Implement Company.

The professional opportunities for Whit were numerous and far-reaching; Laura says they moved so many times that their friends would often joke with them about this. "They said we reminded them of an old farmer who moved so often. every time the chickens heard a wagon coming down the road, they ran to the front yard and crossed their legs, waiting to be tied." Whit had a wonderful sense of humor and enjoyed the teasing. "Whit loved his career and couldn't wait to go to work every day," said Laura. "It was like a hobby as well as a vocation to him. One of the greatest joys he received was making life easier and more profitable for the farmers."

In 1966, Whit was presented with a great opportunity that would set the course of his career. He was approached by C. D. Kelley to become a founding partner and Vice President of Kelley Manufacturing Company (KMC). During his time at KMC, Whit's passion for design solutions would eventually lead to an array of inventions that greatly impacted agriculture. Whit had a knack for finding practical solutions for problems. The word "practical" was a mainstay of his design work and of his philosophy on life.

An engineer's inspiration for designs can come from unexpected sources. During a test on prototypes of peanut harvesting equipment, Whit was simply having lunch one day when he thought of his most well-known design, the KMC Peanut Inverter. He was holding a plastic picnic cup and his brain started clicking: he picked up a second one, put the small ends together and slowly turned them, envisioning how he could design a machine that would turn the peanut vines upside down. Before the KMC Peanut Inverter, peanut harvesting machinery left the nuts on the ground and the vines in the air, resulting in major crop loss. The new method, made possible through the inverter, revolutionized the peanut industry and created higher yields for farmers across the South and eventually around the world.

After his time with KMC, Whit founded his own company, First Products, Inc., a business that continues to thrive today. First Products designs and manufactures agricultural and turf equipment. Whit continued to innovate and designed the AERA-vator, a new concept in soil aeration for compacted

grounds such as golf courses, Major League Baseball fields, and international equestrian venues. The AERA-vator loosens the soil with a rolling and shaking method, leaving the surface intact and smooth. Prior to the AERA-vator, regular aeration machines greatly disturbed the soil and mandated extra work to repair and smooth the impacted turf.

Whit enjoyed passing his love of design on to aspiring engineers. He often hired students attending ABAC to work at First Products and learn first-hand about the field of engineering. ABAC became an important part of his story: Whit took a few courses here himself, and Laura and their three children attended as full-time students. After Whit's death, they knew that ABAC would be the perfect place to continue telling the next chapter of this story. Whit always remained grateful for the help he received many years ago as he pursued education, so establishing a scholarship at ABAC in his name was an easy choice. "We felt it would keep his memory alive right here in the heart of peanut farming country," said Laura. The Carroll J. Whitfield Endowed Scholarship allows students to obtain a wellrounded education and gives them the opportunity to tell their own story and contribute to the agricultural industry.

Laura continues to reside in South Georgia with several of her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. She continues to tell Whit's story - and because of the Whitfield family gift, he will be honored and remembered, and his contributions will foster innovation for years to come.

Article by McKenzie Lewis, Advancement Intern; photo at left courtesy of Laura Whitfield; photos at right by Landon Rowe and Dr. Erin Porter



Excellence in agricultural technology continues at ABAC: Pictured above, Dr. Erin Porter and Dr. Alex McLemore operate a teaching drone to survey fields and utilize remote sensing to evaluate crop health. The students in these photos are experiencing hands-on training with cutting-edge farming technology from our ag faculty.







Graduates Of the Last Decade:

The Green & G.O.L.D. Society

ABAC President Dr. David Bridges is becoming famous for a motto used at many of his speaking engagements: "There are two types of people in the world: those who went to ABAC and those who wish they had." With a lifelong appreciation for their alma mater, many of those who fall into the first "type" choose to remain a part of the ABAC family long after they walk across the stage at graduation. Young alumni often begin supporting ABAC with their time, effort, and finances before their diplomas arrive in the mail.

The ABAC Alumni Association has long recognized groups such as the "Golden" 50-year classes and the "President's Club" donors of \$10,000 or more – but the dedicated recent grads lacked a niche for their unique contributions to be recognized.

This deficit was remedied in Spring 2020 when the Green & G.O.L.D. Society was born. Our Graduates Of the Last Decade (G.O.L.D.) earn points in this new program as a reward for attending events, volunteering, and making financial gifts to the College. Members will receive special appreciation, be recognized in the ABAC Foundation Annual Report, and be put a "VIP" list for exclusive events, college happenings, and other important information.

The Green & G.O.L.D. Society is free to join and fun to enjoy, with simple steps such as Alumni Association Membership, social media engagement, and Homecoming at

and Homecoming attendance.

Members can move up through exciting levels labeled Gold,
Emerald, and Bronze.

Amanda Stitt Moore, ABAC's Leadership Giving Officer and a Class of 2017 graduate, spearheaded the establishment of the Green & G.O.L.D. Society. She is excited to meet and celebrate this group saying, "Our recent graduates continue to support ABAC, even during a very busy time of life. I am excited about the Green & G.O.L.D. Society because it gives us an opportunity to recognize our G.O.L.D. alumni as they establish their ABAC legacy."

Many recent graduates have already jumped at the opportunity to join the society. Randi Walden Hickman, Class of 2012, is a proud founding member: "I got so much out of my time at ABAC. The faculty and staff who I interacted with, as well as the Alumni Association, gave so much to me during my time there. So, I want to give back in any way I can and with every opportunity I get." Randi's husband John (pictured, right) also attended ABAC and is a proud alumnus.

Randi is currently the Regional Marketing Specialist for Alltech, an animal health company based in Nicholasville, Kentucky. She is responsible for promoting Alltech's products through events, advertisements, and campaigns. Many of Randi's customers are also ABAC alumni, and she often bonds with them over their shared love of the college.

Like many others, Randi did not wait for the Green and G.O.L.D. Society to get involved. She was

already an active member on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. While serving on the board, Randi assisted with choosing Donaldson Award recipients and volunteers annually at Homecoming and other events.

Randi encourages other ABAC Alumni to stay engaged after graduation. In fact, she sees many benefits for alumni who get involved. "First, staying involved through the Alumni Association is a good way to know what's happening on campus. Second, it allows you to network with other alumni. That alone is a good incentive as you can make potential job connections and see the career fields of other alumni. Regardless, I love being able to give back to ABAC and continue to do so any chance I get."

Article by Michael DuVall, Advancement Intern; photos courtesy of Randi Hickman



Green & G.O.L.D. Society





2016

Members as of August 1, 2020

Gold Level

Justin J. Brantley	2010
Nathan A. Carney	2010
Josie L. Smith	2010
Jacob C. Thompson	2010
John C. Grist	2011
Joshua C. Thurmond	2011
Allen W. Sanders	2012
Christopher S. Kinsey	2012
Suzanne B. Bentley	2013
Reba W. Selph	2013
Brenda N. Doss	2014
Laurel N. Higginbotham	2014
Sue Mastrario	2014
Sunny N. Ross	2014
Caitlin M. Slaughter	2014
M. Kyle Basko	2015
Cassidy N. Reeh	2015
Sarah A. Rooks	2015
Shelia Sanders	2015
Amanda L. Moore	2013
Allialiua L. MOOIE	2017

If you are a graduate of the classes of 2010-2020 and would like to be a part of the Green and G.O.L.D. Society, learn more at www.abac.edu/alumni or contact Amanda Stitt Moore at astitt@abac.edu.

Emerald Level

Daniel M. Bentley	2010
Randi M. Hickman	2010
Jeffrey A. Griffin	2011
Daniel M. Bentley	2012
Ernesto Oritz-Ariza	2012
Jordan N. Beard	2013
Shelia Ridley	2013
Holly E. White	2013
Faith N. Dupree	2014
Andrew E. Smith	2014
Nathaniel H. Dupree	2015
Matthew C. Reid	2015
Kaytlyn A. Cobb	2016
Savannah Hobby	2017
Alexandra N. Ikner	2017
Carmen A. Counts	2019
Michaela L. Smith	2019
Lauren Stanley	2019
Heather E. Kinsey	2020

Bronze Level

Michael J. Johnson Racheal G. Gay Grace L. Nyhuis Karla G. Basko Arthur W. Buchanan, III Randall T. Chambers Kristen N. McHugh Eliceo C. Soto Jazmin C. Thomas Laura Agundis Brad S. Barbee Tonia A. Carpenter Benjamin R. Carson	2010 2011 2013 2014 2014 2014 2014 2014 2015 2015 2015
Slayten M. Carter Gentry D. Cater Ana Martinez	2015 2015 2015
Victoria L. Whiddon	2016

Lissi G. Chism Hillery S. Culpepper Trent Hester Luis I. Mendez Jeffrey T. Wingate Cody Whiddon Cayla R. Beasley Tagjuan J. Bivens Jay G. Branch, Jr. Craig A. Garey Charlsy C. Godowns Benjamin K. Harris Hanna C. Ivey Shelby L. Key Jonathon J. Moore Shelia J. Norvell Taylor M. Outlaw Zachary T. Postin Kyle D. Robinson Stephanie L. Sheffield Taylor A. Walker Casey L. Weredyk Michael C. Crews
--

Gabriel A. Outlaw

2020 Alumni Award Recipients

Distinguished Alumnus Award: Dr. Glen Barden

Glen is a Class of 1958 ABAC graduate and he went on to receive his bachelor of science degree from the University of Florida before attending medical school at Emory University. He completed residencies at Vanderbilt University and Duke University, and he served in the United States Army in the years between them. Glen specializes in orthopedic surgery and spent 36 years practicing at the Watson Clinic in Lakeland, Florida. He has invested in his community by founding Lakeland Volunteers in Medicine, a clinic designed to meet medical needs in Polk County. He has also taken part in extensive medical mission work in Ethiopia and has served multiple stints at a non-profit emergency field hospital in Iraq. His dedication to caring for others extends beyond the medical field, and he was named Philanthropist of the Year for Lakeland in 2014. His support of the educational efforts of the ABAC Foundation spans three decades.

Miles A. Drummond Rising Star Award: Joshua Dawson

Joshua is a Class of 2013 ABAC graduate and he received an associate of science and a bachelor of science in diversified agriculture from ABAC. He went on to earn a master's degree in plant protection management from the University of Georgia. Joshua currently serves as the Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent for Lowndes County through Fort Valley State University (FVSU) Extension. Joshua invests in his community by serving as a UGA Extension volunteer coordinator for the Master Gardener program, as a volunteer with the Southside Community Garden, and as a volunteer for the Young Adult ministry at his church. He received the FVS Extension Community Service Award in 2016. Joshua is a proud supporter of ABAC and was featured with an alumni spotlight during the 2017 Sunbelt Ag Expo. He directs students to his Alma Mater any chance he gets.

Master Farmer Award: Alex Hardy

Alex is a Class of 1969 ABAC graduate and he received an associate of science in agriculture. The Hardy family has been growing peanuts in the heartland of Georgia for over 70 years. Alex and three of his family members took over the farm in 1977 and have since cultivated a rich and successful peanut production company, well-known today as Hardy Farms Peanuts. Alex and his partners maintain a 4,000-acre operation that produces over six million pounds of green and boiled peanuts annually, and they manufacture a wide variety of products from peanut oil to "Party Peanuts." Hardy Farms Peanut products can be found on the shelves of grocery stores all over the Southeast and in more than 25 roadside retail locations. He invests in his community by participating in enrichment programs such as the Hawkinsville Downtown Revitalization effort and The Mural Project; he also supports the Pulaski County 4-H Program and Georgia FFA. Alex is a Lifetime Member of the ABAC Alumni Association and celebrated his induction as a "Golden Alumni" at his 50th class reunion last year at Homecoming.

Outstanding Healthcare Professional Award: Lori Ewing

Lori is a Class of 1987 ABAC graduate and she received an associate of science degree before going on to earn a bachelor of physical therapy degree from the Medical College of Georgia. She currently serves as a physical therapist at St. Mary's Home Healthcare in Athens, GA. During the 22 years she has been employed at St. Mary's, she has treated thousands of patients ranging from newborn babies getting started to seniors seeking a better quality of life. Additionally, she serves as a preceptor in the Home Care Department on the Core Values Committee. This role allows her to align new staff members with the team goal of providing the highest level of care. Lori invests in her community by serving as an Executive Board Member for Choose Bravery and as the Chair Woman for the Twin Tigers Karate Academy Strategic Planning Committee, and by supporting the American Kidney Foundation.

2020 Alumni Award Recipients

Outstanding Educator Award: Dr. Frank Flanders

Frank is a Class of 1972 ABAC graduate and went on to receive his bachelor, master, and specialist degrees from the University of Georgia with a focus on agriculture and agricultural education. He earned his doctor of education in career, technical, and agricultural education from UGA in 1988. He currently serves as the program coordinator for the Agricultural Education Department at ABAC and he was integral in the establishment of this program. Frank has received more than 25 professional awards, including the National Mentor Award at the National Association of Agriculture Teachers in 2019. He was inducted as a member of the Georgia FFA Ag Education Hall of Fame in 2003, received the Donaldson Award for Advising in 2020, and has published 11 academic books, articles, and manuals. Frank serves his community by providing leadership to local and state FFA organizations and supporting the Georgia Assessment of Certified Educators. He has provided multiple scholarships to ABAC students as a supporter of his Alma Mater.

Outstanding Young Alumnus Award: Alma Young

Alma is a Class of 2005 ABAC graduate and she received her associate's degree in fashion merchandising. She went on to earn a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in higher education administration from Georgia Southern University. Alma recently served as the Director of the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) at Valdosta State University. In this position, she manages a two million dollar grant budget to help students from migrant and seasonal farm-working backgrounds reach and succeed in college. Earlier in her career, Alma served as the CAMP Associate Director at ABAC. Alma invests in her community by serving as a volunteer at the Casa Colibri hospitality home and a member of the South Georgia Immigration Support Network. She served for three years as a member of the USG's Regents Advisory Committee for Hispanic/Latino College Completion. She is a dedicated ABAC alumnus and has given her time as an invited speaker for campus events and as an unofficial recruiter for students.

J. Lamar Branch Award for Outstanding Leadership in Agriculture: Brent Galloway

Brent is a Class of 1992 ABAC graduate and he received an associate of science in animal science, with a concentration in animal husbandry. He went on to finish his education at the Graham School of Cattle Management in Kansas. Brent currently serves as the State Livestock Advisor for Georgia Correctional Industries. Brent invests in his community by serving in the Newton County Farm Bureau, the Georgia Cattleman's Association, and the Georgia Beef Board. He also supports the Piedmont Academy as a booster, contributes to the Natural Resource Conservation Workshop as a scholarship sponsor, and sits as a committee member for the Newton County 2050 Plan. As an ABAC alumnus, Brent participates in career days and Cattlemen's Association meetings and proudly hires ABAC interns.

Honorary Alumnus: Paul Willis

Paul serves as the Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration at ABAC. He joined the ABAC team in 2009 as the Director of College Enrichment. Since then, he has served as the Director of the Georgia Museum of Agriculture (GMA) and the Vice President for External Affairs and Chief of Staff before being appointed to his current position. Paul has been integral to the assimilation of the GMA and Historic Village into the ABAC campus, the expansion of Homecoming activities, the addition of Greek life to ABAC, and the strategic planning process for the College. He also serves as an advisor for the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity. Before coming to ABAC, Paul received his bachelor's degree from the University of Florida and then served for 26 years in UF's administration. He is an essential part of the ABAC family and has made an impact that will last for generations to come.

Visit www.abac.edu/alumni to discover the history of ABAC's Alumni Awards and make nominations.



30 Years of Giving: Wayne Jones

The ABAC faculty welcomed Wayne as the Director of Choral and Vocal Music in 1989. Many years later, he was named the Director of the ABAC Arts Connection, and he has served the school in this role for 18 years and counting. He enjoys bringing arts and culture to students, faculty, staff, and community members alike.

Since beginning his time at ABAC, Wayne has made significant contributions to the growth of the Arts Connection program. He h<mark>as be</mark>en proud of many accomplishments, including a partnership with the Tift Thea<mark>tre. "W</mark>e spent two years revitalizing the space and breathing life into the historic landmark." Wayne also works hard to bring excellence to the "Tifton Stage" when he is booking acts for the Arts Connection. The venues here have seen Broadway musicals. the Moscow Chamber Orchestra, and the Chicago Shakespeare Company, just to name a few. Wayne is highly dedicated to the program and its mission saying, "I truly believ<mark>e tha</mark>t what we bring makes the campus and the community better."

This year is a special milestone in Wayne's ABAC story – 2020 will be his 30th consecutive year of giving. He distinctly remembers the first time he signed up to give all those years ago. There was a campus-wide fundraising campaign asking faculty to donate to the general scholarship fund. "It was my first time, and when I went to give, I learned

about payroll deduction." Payroll deduction takes a set amount out of an employee's paycheck each month and allows them to make a pledge that is given over several paychecks. "It was so easy to give that way. I think I gave \$100 that year. Maybe not even that much," he remembers. To be exact, he gave \$97.16, or \$6.95 each pay period.

That gift increased the following year as he began to give to support programs in which he was deeply invested. "I was a music faculty member, and there's never enough money." Wayne jokes fondly. Donating to the choral department allowed Wayne to have the flexibility to extend his programs and support the students as a result of his own contribution. The same goes for the Arts Connection, which is now his designation of choice. "It's something I care about," says Wayne. "I like the fact that it's helping support ABAC. I like the fact that it's helping my program bring quality arts programming to our students and our community."

Wayne's dedication and passion for ABAC is contagious, and he is constantly encouraging his fellow faculty and staff to donate to their institution. His 30-year legacy of consistent giving is an impressive feat and he is not afraid to ask others to follow in his footsteps. "I strongly believe that all of us, in one way or another, should be giving back. You can see the good you're doing, either for yourself or the folks you work with." A wellestablished career and an evergrowing program are both things Wayne has gained while giving back to ABAC, and the whole story began with six dollars and ninety-five cents.

Article by McKenzie Lewis, Advancement Intern; photo by Josie Smith

What can be done with six dollars and ninety-five cents? When it comes to Wayne Jones, the answer is "quite a lot." What began as a small monthly donation a few decades ago turned into 30 years of consecutive giving, an induction into ABAC's President's Club, and an investment into the lives of generations of students.

Wayne found his way to ABAC because of his love for music and the arts, which he cultivated throughout his college career. He received a bachelor of music in vocal performance from Shorter College and a master's of music in voice performance and literature from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music. Wayne stumbled upon ABAC while pursuing his doctorate at the University of Georgia. As he was wrapping up his doctoral work in musical arts, he spent most of his time on the hunt for a job. "My daily task was looking and applying for jobs," he recalls, "and ABAC was one of the places I applied. Once I got here, I had no desire to look anywhere else!"

Family Legacy: Dennard Family Scholarship

Family legacy has played an indispensable role in the rich history and charm at ABAC since its establishment. It has always fostered an environment that feels like home. It has become home for countless multi-generational attendees and created stories of love and perseverance that have become cornerstones of family identity. This all stands true for the Dennard family.

The green and gold bloodline begins with their patriarch, Mr. Hoyt Dennard. "ABAC was the beginning of his very successful career in education," says Lane Dennard, Hoyt's son. After returning home from serving in World War II, Hoyt decided he wanted to continue to serve his country as a vocational agriculture teacher. There was a roadblock to his plan. Until this point, he had only completed the 8th grade, but that didn't

deter him. He worked

diligently to complete

a high school diploma

and then Hoyt began his higher education journey at ABAC. Hoyt and his wife Marjorie decided it would be best to live in Tifton while he attended ABAC. From there, Tifton and ABAC became an important part of their family history. "We really felt like ABAC was his starting place. When we moved there, I was in 1st grade. My brother Timothy was almost four and then my sister Rebecca was born there. So, we all started there," Lane says.

Hoyt continued his education at the University of Georgia where he received both a bachelor's and master's degree in vocational agriculture. He spent the ensuing 20 years dedicated to public education in various positions. Marjorie was also devoted to public education as she worked as a reading specialist and a principal of a grammar school in Macon. Lane speaks of how proud he was of his parents. "My father set out having an eighth-grade education, started at ABAC, and ended up a superintendent of a school system."

The family's ABAC story continued as the Dennard

children grow up.
Timothy would
go on to
follow his
father's

After Timothy passed away in 2004, Lane and his children, nephews, and other family members created an endowed scholarship at ABAC to honor the late Hoyt, the late Timothy, and their family story. "ABAC has always had a special place in our heart," says Lane. Although both Hoyt and Timothy attended other institutions, ABAC feels like home to the Dennard family. The College had a significant impact on their legacy, making it the perfect place to honor them.

The Dennard Family Scholarship is awarded with preference to ABAC students who are studying agriculture, forestry, or natural resources and are residents of Ben Hill, Wilcox, or Wilkinson Counties. These preferences honor Hoyt and Timothy as they were both involved in agriculture and natural resources throughout their lives. The selected counties represent where the family is from and where the family

farm is located. Through this scholarship, many ABAC students have been given a well-rounded education in their field and have gone on to become successful contributors within their industry.

Creating this endowed scholarship allows the Dennard family to honor the role ABAC has played in their family history and help other students achieve their dreams at ABAC, just as Hoyt and Timothy did. Their names and legacy live on through an impactful gift that will keep on giving for years to come. Lane says he's proud to be able to give back in their name, and he's 'es<mark>peciall</mark>y proud that we are able to do that at ABAC."

Article by McKenzie Lewis, Advancement Intern; photos courtesy of Dennard Family

footsteps



Alumni Councils: Representing, Supporting, and Improving Our ABAC

The ABAC Alumni Association is guided by an elected Board of Directors that provides leadership to the college. This Board of Directors is complemented and assisted by councils, each with their own mission and method to ensure a bright future at ABAC.

The ABAC Familia Council

Every student and alumnus of ABAC becomes a part of the family! The ABAC Familia Council focuses on supporting students who come to us from migrant, seasonal farm-working backgrounds. This group of passionate alumni works tirelessly to raise funding for scholarships that recruit and retain students at ABAC and provides vital resources to them while they are here. Each year they host a reunion of the High School Equivalency Program (HEP) and College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) graduates (pictured, top); they also host tamale sales and other fundraisers each semester to benefit these programs. The ABAC Familia Council celebrates rich heritage traditions that run deep in our communities and on our campus.

The SANR Alumni Council

This group of alumni represents decades of graduates from agriculture, forestry, wildlife, and ag education that work together to support the mission of the School of Ag and Natural Resources (SANR). Dean Dr. Mark Kistler says, "The most important responsibility of our council is to advocate for the school. These dedicated alumni have our best interest in mind, and they are devoted to raising funds to support our current and future students." The SANR Council plays a key role in planning and executing the SANR Classic Golf Tournament (pictured, second from top), which is an essential fundraiser for the school.

The Arts and Sciences Alumni Council

Formed during Summer 2020, this is our newest alumni council and they are already making strides to support the School of Arts and Sciences. The committed alumni in this group are made up of primarily young alumni, with Dixon Fletcher (pictured, third from top) serving as president and Amanda Mohammed (pictured, bottom) as vice president. Dean Dr. Matthew Anderson is excited about this group and says, "The creation of the Arts and Sciences Alumni Council was a strategic priority for the School of Arts and Sciences. I firmly believe that keeping our talented and passionate ABAC alumni engaged with the students, faculty, and programs of our school will advance its mission. I look forward to working with them to facilitate recruiting, networking, and fundraising."



Alumni Association Lifetime Members

Sue and James Lee Adams Reggie Adamson Paula and Scott Addy Quay and Jimmy Allen Jim Anderson Susan and Ron Bannister Karla and Kyle Basko Beverly Bauerband Gloria Beard Andy Bell Marshall Bennett Suzanne and Daniel Bentlev Natalie Bishop Robert Boatwright Sandy and Rick Bostelman Cliff Bowden William Bowen Elna Bragdon JoAnn and Billy Brannen Kim and David Bridges Matthew Bridges Lindsey and Nate Carney Betty and David Carlson Bill Clark Kaytlyn Cobb Lavonne and Ben Copeland Cathy Cox Carrie and Joseph Crabtree Yvonne and Johnny Crawford Kaycee Jones Pamela Crews Jennifer and Patrick Davies **Derwin Davis** Joe Day Faith and Nathan Dupree **Bob Dutton** Michael DuVall Braven Dyer Cindy Epperly **Buster Evans** Vonda and Van Fenn

Daniel Fisher

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Donna Sledge

Josie Smith Suzanne Smith Jodie and Matt Snow Richard Spancake **Troy Spicer** Elaine and Steve Spooner Bo Spooner Greg Spooner Ada Beth Spruill Tom Stallings Trish Strawn Mary Strickland Maurice Sweat Robert Tindell Zach Tomberlin James Tootle Laura Beth and Tony Tucker Betty and George Turk Bonnie and Sonny Turner Niki and Ed Vanderslice Rvan VanHorn Tom Wade Donald E. Watson Holly and Buck White Josh White Jay A. Williams Amv Willis Glenn Willis Sephus Willis Andrea and Vernon Willis Shirley Wilson Randy Wise Elaine Wright

For information on becoming an annual or lifetime member of the Alumni Associtaion, visit www.abac.edu/alumni or call 229.391.4900. Monthly contribution plans are available for lifetime memberships.

Honor Roll of 2019-2020 Donors

The ABAC Foundation acknowledges those who made contributions to the College during the 2019-2020 school year. On behalf of all of the students who benefit from your support, we thank you! Every effort has been made to present a complete list of donors who made gifts between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. However, if we have omitted or misspelled your name, please accept our apologies and contact the ABAC Foundation at 229.391.4907.

The Stallion Society

Gifts of \$25,000 and above made during the 2019-2020 school year

Sue and James Lee Adams

The Jim Andrews Family Foundation, Inc.

Anonymous

Sandra and Fredrick Bostelman

Joseph J. Dav. Jr.

Bostelman Family Foundation

Rosalyn R. Donaldson

Harley Langdale Jr. Foundation, Inc.

Kubota Tractor Corporation

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Lasseter Equipment Group

J. Donald & Laurelle Lee Family Foundation

Rocco and Ruth Marsicano Trust

Joyce and Earl Parker

Tidewater Ag and Construction Equipment

Company, LLC

Betty and George Turk

Robert Varnadoe

Darryl Vickers

University System of Georgia Foundation, Inc.

The Golden Circle

Gifts of \$10,000 to \$24,999 made during the 2019-2020 school year

W.L. Amos Sr. Foundation, Inc.

Atlantic and Southern Equipment

Margaret and Martin Thomas Bailey

Colquitt Regional Medical Center / Jim Matney

The Daniel Ashley and Irene Houston Jewell

Memorial Foundation / Betts Berry

The Thomas M Kirbo and Irene B Kirbo

Charitable Foundation

Krone North America

Danielle and David Orlofsky

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Jeffry J. Peters

Alice W. Rigdon

S & S Marketing, Inc. / Steven M. Spooner, Sr.

Southwell/Tift Regional Health System / Chris Dorman

Tifton-Tift County Tourism Association, Inc.

Vermeer Equipment

Rachel Y. Willis

The Winner's Circle

Gifts of \$5,000 to \$9,999 made during the 2019-2020 school year

AgGeorgia Farm Credit, ACA

Allstate Construction Group

Lynda Lee and Greg Anderson

Baver

Kim and David Bridges

William James Dorminy Foundation, Inc.

R.M. Dutton Realty and Associates / Robert M. Dutton

Frank B. Flanders

Flint Ag and Turf Division

Georgia FFA Alumni Association

Georgia Farm Bureau Federation

Georgia Forestry Foundation, Inc. / Andres Villegas

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Amy and Philip Hightower

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Sally Stafford Perez

Jeannie and Steven Rigdon

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Mary W. Sumner

Synovus Bank / Synovus Trust Company, N.A.

U.S. Poultry and Egg Harold E. Ford Foundation

William James Dorminy Foundation, Inc.

Elsie Wright

The Green and Gold Club

Gifts of \$2,500 to \$4,999 made during the 2019-2020 school year

Agricultural Commodity Commission for Beef Ardry Trading Company The Chantal and Tommy Bagwell Foundation, Inc. Checkers / Captain D's Barber Contracting Company J.C. and Jo Bell CoBank Joseph D. Cooley, Jr. Irrevocable Peggy and Greg Crumley Deep South Kawasaki F & W Forestry Services. Inc. Elizabeth and John Gibson Lee Ann and James Holcomb Darrell W. Jordan Fredrick W. Kinard, Jr. Latino Community Fund, Inc. The Honorable Kelly Loeffler Robert McLendon / Robert McLendon Farms McLendon Acres Anita and Melvin Merrill Montgomery Family Foundation. Inc. Overstock Floorz Caroline and Jack Perry Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine Premium Peanut, LLC Vivien and The Honorable **Austin Scott** South Georgia Banking Company / Glenn P. Willis, Jr. Staplcotn Valmont Shari and Paul Willis

Kathryn Dickens Yates

The Baldwin Club

Gifts of \$1,000 to \$2,499 made during the 2019-2020 school year

April Abbott AgSouth Farm Credit, ACA Angela Ammons Hazel Hamilton Anderson Anonymous T&TA Kathy and Jerry Baker Linda and Benjie Baldree Larry L. Batten Ericha R. Benshoff Matthew T. Berry Beverage South Kelly and William Bowen Louis G. Canevari Lindsey Roberts Carney Chenubee Farm Chestatee / Chattahoochee RC&D Council, Inc. B.H. Claxton Clinch Memorial Hospital Marion and Michael Curry Jennifer and Patrick Davies Dixon Gin Company, Inc. / Jaclyn Ford Jaibun Earp L.C. Buster Evans Kyle Farnsworth Fiesta del Pueblo. Inc. Lynda Sumner Fisher Flint Construction & Forestry Division Fresher Brands Tifton, LLC Georgia Agricultural Commodity Commission for Cotton Georgia Agricultural Commodity Commission for Peanuts Georgia Blueberry Growers Association Georgia Crown Distributing Company Georgia Federal State Inspection Service Georgia Girls Fastpitch, Inc. Rhonda and Robert Gerhart

Wavne Jones Katina and Michael Kirkland Alan Kramer Danielle and Mark Kistler Allison and Tim Marshall Mauldin & Jenkins CPAs and Advisors Vanessa Menkes Sandra Mercer MMV Aviation Debra and Larry Moorman John C. Morehead Moore, Clarke, DuVall & Rodgers / James Moore, III Okeechobee Veterinary Hospital On Campus Marketing, LLC Oxford Construction Company Thomas C. Perry, Jr. Tom Perry Family Foundation Keith N. Phillippi Phoebe Putney Health System, Inc. Pike Creek Turf, Inc. Pineywoods Farms / Louie Perry Prince Automotive Group Lisa and Russell Pryor Hazel and Virgil Purvis Fred W. Rigdon, Jr. Susan and Wayne Roe Sarah Allison Rooks Holly and Jim Scott Richey Seaton Caitlin M. Slaughter SMI-C&W, Inc. / Waylon Stuckey Jodie and Matt Snow South Georgia Food Services, Inc. Sandra and Tyron Spearman Harold W. Still Meg and Michael Stitt SunTrust Bank Vickie Tatum Tifton's Great Seafood, Inc. Cain Thurmond Bette and Joseph Turner Bonnie and Sonny Turner Niki and Ed Vanderslice Virginia E. Widstrom Cindy and Paul Williams Kathy and George Yared

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L. Michelle Higdon Dan J. Hobby Julie Hunt

Foundation, Inc.

Friend of ABAC

Gifts of \$1 to \$999 made during the 2019-2020 school year

Gifts from Corporations, Foundations, Trusts, and Organizations

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Espresso 41, LLC

Farm Credit of Florida First Port City Bank Forest Lakes Golf Course Forest Resource Consultants, Inc. Freedom Trailers, LLC Funston Gin Co., Inc. Fussells Frozen Foods Georgia 4-H Foundation Georgia Agribusiness Council Georgia Cattlemen's Association Georgia FFA Foundation Georgia Museum of Agriculture Georgia National Fair Georgia Transmission Corporation Gin Creek Winery Glynn Hendricks Interiors, Inc. Great American Insurance, Co. Hilgard, LLC / Hilton Garden Inn Holder Ag Consulting Homeowner Data Services, Inc. **Huber Engineered Woods** Hudson King InformedAg Interfor U.S., Inc. Irwin County Farm Bureau Irwin EMC Jerry D. Maxwell CPA, LLC JMA Architecture, Inc. Jones Builders Company, LLC Kelley Manufacturing Company Keystone Foods Kinderlou Forest Golf Club, LLC Lake Blackshear Resort Lewis Taylor Farms LGD Forestry, LLC Liberty Investment Properties, Inc. Lincoln Financial Foundation, Inc. LMC Ag Longleaf Public Affairs, LLC Luxury Spa, LLC MAC MAC Investments, Inc. Makhsteshim-Agan of North America / dba Ādama Marketing Communications, Inc. Mitchell EMC Moon's Pharmacy, Inc. Mountaire Farms of Delaware, Inc. MRS Homecare, Inc. Nutrien Ag Solutions Oconee Land Development Company, LLC Okeechobee Veterinary Hospital Owen and Williams Fish Farm, Inc. Panhandle Heat Gold, Inc. Paulk Vineyards Perry High School Past FFA Officers Pike Creek Turf, Inc. Planters First Bank Plants Creative Services PMC Properties of Georgia, LLC Pure Fitness Training Studio Quality Employment Service, Inc. Ranch Feed and Farm Supply Co.

Rugged Shoal Outfitters Sanders Fencing and Farms Shady Lane, Inc. Shaw Insurance Company, Inc. / dba The Jay Shaw Company Shiver Diesel Injection & Turbocharger, Inc. Simply Ke Massage Site One Landscape Supply Smithfield - Hog Production Division Sole Medical Spa/Melissa and Richard Pierzchajlo Southern Company Southern Woods Plantation SouthWind Plantation South Georgia Oil Distributors, LLC Sports Turf Company, Inc. Spud Bowen and Associates, LLC Sunbelt Agricultural Exposition, Inc. SunTrust Bank Syngenta Crop Protection T&S Investment Properties, LLC The Big Store The Helms Law Firm The Fox Theatre The Howard Center for Women's Health The Local The Southern Thrift Store The Stables The Strand Theatre Thomas Supply Company, Inc. Tidewater Ag and Construction Equipment Company, LLC Tift County Farm Bureau, Inc. Tift Regional Dental Group P.C. Tiftarea Academy, Inc. Tifton Housing Authority Tillman Insurance Agency, Inc. Timberland Investment Resources, LLC TransMontaigne Triangle Chemical Company Trophy Shop of Tiftarea, LLC Turner County Stockyards, Inc. U.S. Sugar Corporation Vantage Southeast Patty Veazey Attorney at Law Walther Farms, LLC Warrior Tractor and Equipment Company, Inc. Wells Fargo Wendell Roberson Farms, Inc. Wisham Jellies and Markeplace Yonah Mountain Vineyards Zoo Atlanta

Rayonier, Inc.

Ray's Metal Work

Reid Chiropractic

Red Owl Coffee Company

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Robert McLendon Farms Moridge Manufacturing - Brent Dodson National Christian Foundation Paradigm Administrators, Inc. Partners Benefit Group, LLC Gibbs Patrick Farms, Inc. Patten Seed Company Pennington Seed Jack L. Perry Enterprises, Inc. Reinhardt, Whitley, Summerlin and Pittman, PC Riverside Ford, Inc. RMD Consulting S&S Marketing, Inc. Savannah Golf Club SEDCO, Inc. Shiver Diesel Injection & Turbocharger, Inc. South Georgia Banking Company -Ashburn Branch South Georgia Food Services, Inc. Southeast United Dairy Industry Association Southwest Georgia Chapter of Quail Forever The Spearman Agency Stafford School of Business State Farm Companies Foundation SunTrust Bank T&S Electric Motors, Inc. Takeuchi Manufacturing, LTD Target Stores The Chantal and Tommy Bagwell Foundation, Inc. The Jay Deason Fund The Thomas M. Kirbo and Irene B. Kirbo Charitable Foundation Tift Electric Supply Tifton Banking Company Tifton's Great Seafood, Inc. Tifton Machine Works Tifton Radiology, PC Tropical Air Heating & Conditioning, LLC TRU-TURF, PTY, Ltd U.S. Poultry & Egg Harold E. Ford Foundation Valent Vego Farms Vermeer Equipment Weyerhaeuser Company Williams Family Foundation of Georgia, Inc. Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of Georgia Foundation

Gifts from Individuals

Platinum Achievement Level Cumulative Giving to ABAC of \$250,000 and above by individuals

Sue and James Lee Adams **Anonymous** Ann and Michael O. Bunn Karen and Mike Bynum Phyllis and Blair Bynum Juliana Sam Bynum Bettye J. Carson Lenna and E. Lanier Carson Joe Dana Rosalyn R. Donaldson John E. Downs Lee Ann and James Holcomb Joyce and James Kirk Kimberly and Wesley Langdale Mary and Lawrence Montgomery Deborah and Larry Moorman W. Dan Pennington Reginald Rogers Jordan P. Short, IV Patty and DeNean Stafford Betty and George Turk Michael Wright

Golden Achievement Level

Cumulative Giving to ABAC of \$100,000 to \$249,999 by individuals

Kathy and M.H. Allen
Anonymous
Sandra and Fredrick Bostelman
Kathy and Courtney Brinson
John H. Dorminy
William J. Dorminy
Myra and Edwin Hortman
Angela and George Dallas Hunt
Julie E. Hunt
Marci and Stanley Hutchinson
Sandra S. Kemp
Joyce and Earl Parker
Lutrelle T. Rankin
Betty Jean and John Prince

Silver Achievement Level Cumulative Giving to ABAC of \$50,000 to \$99,999 by individuals

Lynda Lee and Greg Anderson Howard Andrews Anonymous Matt Bentley Beverly K. Brownlow and Ronald J. Hoffman Miriam Bulloch and The Honorable John Bulloch Ina and J. Perry Conger

Winn-Dixie Stores Foundation

H. Gordon Davis. Jr. Joseph J. Day, Jr. Robert M. Dutton, Sr. Susan and D. Lane Green L. Michelle Higdon Teresa Lasseter Niki and Lawrence Hill Wanda and Lawrence Norman Hill Lounell R. Jensen Julie and James Mann Anita and Melvin Merrill Cynthia K. Moon Kathy and Raymond Moreno Sally Stafford Perez Charles W. Powell, III Nelda Hargett Powell Mary John Reinhardt Alice W. Rigdon Sherri and Ronnie Rollins Mary W. Sumner Bette and Joseph Turner Faith Tyson

Bronze Achievement Level Cumulative Giving to ABAC of \$25,000

to \$49,999 Jimmy L. Alberson Quay and Jimmy Allen Libby and Buck Anderson Margaret and Martin Thomas Bailey Cheryl E. Bedgood Caroline and Leon Benefield **Betts Berry** Carolyn Bowen Mary Frances Branch Carolyn and Dan Branch Kim and David Bridges Judy and John Clark Rita and H. Lane Dennard JoAnn and Roger Dill Susan and Mark "Dill" Driscoll Nancy and Darvin Eason Sandra Ellington and The Hon. John Ellington Jerry C. Grimsley Virginia Gudal Susan and Joseph Haley Jemique Harrell

Shirley and Marvin Eugene Harrell Irene and Jerry Heller Linda and Vernon Ingram Leilah and Alexander Kemp Lynn and Jim Lovett Luann and Robert Lowrance Harold J. Loyd Susan and Palmer Maples Allison and Timothy Marshall Laurie and Rusty McCall Janet and J. Frank McGill Judy and John Mark Mobley Brenda and Armond Morris Vernon Ongram Caroline and Jack Perry Keith N. Phillippi Cindy and Michael Phillips

Marjorie and Harold Ragan Cynthia and Frank Sauls J.D. Scott. Jr. Beverly Sparks and Allen Tibbetts Janis and Carden Summers Frank Harry Thomas Darryl Vickers Charles H. Webb Laura Whitfield Rachel Y. Willis Shari and Paul Kevin Willis Laura Lee Wood

President's Club Level Cumulative Giving to ABAC of

\$10,000 to \$24,999 Lucy and Russell Acree Jane Woodroof Akers Jeanie and Larry Allen Tammy Allen Anonymous Linda and Pat Atwater Andrew Avery, Jr. Merle F. Bass Dorothy and John Bassett Alisha and Lawton Bassett Charlotte W. Bedell J.C. and Jo Bell Jerry W. Bishop Margaret and Stewart Bloodworth Marlene Bowen Kelly and William I. Bowen Dina and Bennie Branch Betty and Earl Branch James C. Branch, III Keetra C. Branch Margaret Martin and Ronald Branch Carolyn and W. Dan Branch William W. Bridges Mary Anne Britton-Croom Ginger and Brinson Brock Harold L. Brooker Jack L. Brooker Sally and James Burran Judy and Thomas Call Donna and Roy Cannon Tonja L. Carson Kris and Michael Chason David Shawn Clark Nancy and Thomas Coleman Carolyn Y. Conger Doris and Randy Cowart Martha and Cader Cox Yvonne and Johnny Crawford The Honorable Melanie Cross and Ray Cross Peggy and Gregory Crumley Jerri and John M. Davis

Virginia P. Dorminev **Howard Dorsett Evelyn Edwards** Amy Bailey Eidson Amy and James Daniel Eidson Bobbie Sue Ellis Virginia and Thomas Ellis Beth Steven English Rachel and David Flake Alicia and James Floyd Mary and Robert Fuoto Elizabeth and Jeff Gibbs Victoria E. Golen Mary Ann and Thomas Grant Susan and Donald Griffin Starling and Paul Grisham Ruth Grist Wanda J. Grogan Ann and Jimmy Grubbs Mike Gudely Linda Harden and The Honorable Buddy Harden Dorothy Harper Virginia and Scott Hart Janet M. Haughton Linda and James Herndon James H. Herring S.E. Herring Ann B. Herzog Amy and Philip Hightower Marsha and Emerson Hoffman Bettie Rose Horne Lynn W. Inman Tommy T. Irvin Felicity and Daniel Jeter Rosalind and James Jeter Sandra and Robert Johnston **Donald Jones Betty Sue Jones** Wayne P. Jones Frances Jordan Connie Keith Diane and Wayne Kilgore Fredrick W. Kinard, Jr. Don Koehler Elizabeth and David Koran Tammie and Jonathan Koran Alan M. Kramer John W. Langdale, Jr. Gary L. Lee Lynn and George Lee Jo Edith Rutland Lindsey Shirley and Custin Lowery James M. Martin Phyllis and Jimmy Martin Carolyn Massey Betty McCorvey and The Honorable Gary McCorvey Ramona and Joe McNair Jay McPherson Carla and Robert Miles Gudrun and Ben Mills Ann and John Morehead Monica and Jason Morris Betty and Robert Moss Jeannie and James Myers Robin and Roger Nalls Kimberly and Randolph Nichols

Michael J. Dawson

Kelly McGill Dean

Emma Dorminy

Alice Dorminy

A.B.C. Dorminy, III

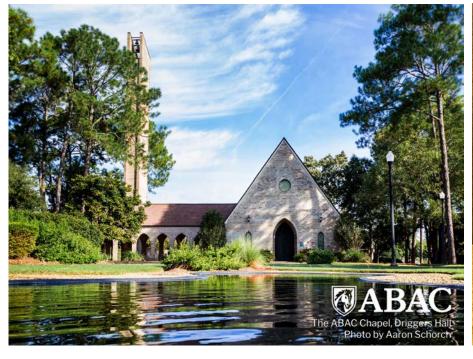
Gail and Peter Dillard Paula C. Dodson

Caroline and Homer Day

Debra and Ronnie Noble John J. O'Connor, Jr. Laurie S. Oldham Danielle and David Orlofsky Charlotte K. Gaal and Stephen M. Orlofsky Pamela and John Packer Angie and James Palmer Sharon and Richard Parkman Wendy and Wayne Pearson Terry Perry Judy and Robert W. Perry Thomas C. Perry, Jr. Jeffry Peters Chris and Roger Peterson Charlotte and Guy Pfeiffer Sunny and Dale Pflug Catherine Tift Porter Ruth and John Raines Mary Jensen Rainey Kenny J. Ray Michelle and Niles Reddick Linda and Richard Reeves Beth Zorn Reynolds Jeannie and Steven Rigdon Priscilla and Phillip Roberts Susan and Wayne Roe Nell Roquemore Chrystle and Michael Ross Andrea H. Savage

Vivien and The Honorable Austin Scott Holly and Jim Scott Becky Wells Scott-Hill Richey Seaton Darby and Jeff Sewell A. Troy Sharpton, Jr. Martha Anglin Sharpton Janet and Brooks Sheldon Nancy and Gerald Shiver Becky and John Shoemaker Mary Anne and Gary Simmons Susan and John Sims John S. Sims, Jr. Merle and Tommy Smallwood Joan Smith Jodie and Matt Snow Christy and Jim Sparks Sandra and Tyron Spearman Daisy Lee Speight Troy Spicer Phyllis Spikes Miller Elaine and Steven Spooner Patricia and Walter Stephens Beverly and Danny Sterling Meg and Michael Stitt Ann and Jack Stone Heather and John Stripling Cecilia and Dale Sumner

Ann Sutton Carolyn White Sutton Vickie Tatum Vann Thornton Nancy Shroder Torbett Jan Tulp John Michael Turner Diane and Augustas Upshaw Niki and Ed Vanderslice Becky and Hoyt Vance Melanie and Stewart Veness P. John Vitange, Jr. Lennie and Michael Vollmer G. Thomas Wade Bret B. Wagenhorst Carlene and Clifford Walker Vicki Lyle Walker Donna and Garth Webb Hayley and Perry White Virginia E. Widstrom Bertha B. Williams Loron E. Williams, III O.D. Williams Glenn Willis Judy Bryan Willis Shirley and Drew Wilson Carolyn and Reid Wilson Douglas N. Wood Anita D. Yow





Limited-Edition ABAC Puzzle: The Perfect Gift

The ABAC Alumni Association has a special puzzle depicting The ABAC Chapel available for a limited time. Also known as Driggers Hall, the ABAC Chapel has been a beloved landmark on campus for generations.

This 432-piece, full-color puzzle measures 18x24 inches when complete. Each puzzle is \$30 and can be shipped nation-wide for an additional \$15. To purchase yours, visit ww.abac.edu/alumni or call 229.391.4900.





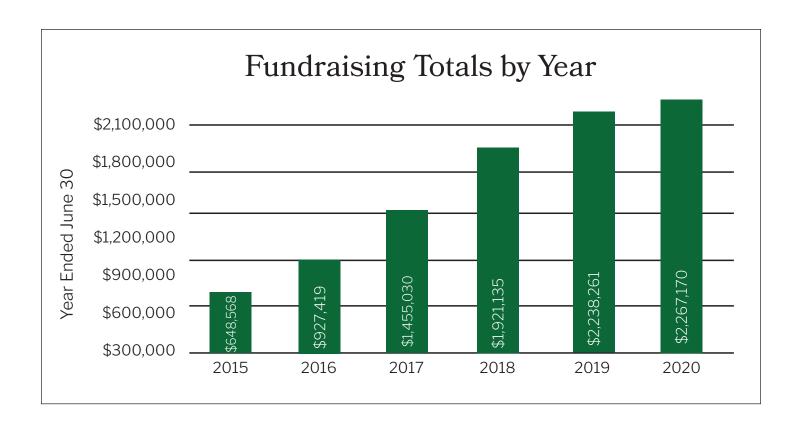
Colquitt Regional is the 5th hospital in Georgia to receive the Pathway to Excellence designation.



This designation recognizes organizations that empower and give voice to nurses.

We are proud to partner with ABAC in hiring and training the next generation of nurses!





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Cain Thurmond Niki Vanderslice, Vice Chair Robert Varnedoe **Emily Watson**

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ABAC Alumni Association Board of Directors

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Emeritus Board Members David Carlson

Jane Gibbs Wanda Grogan Jimmy Grubbs Virginia Hart **Buck White** Andrea Willis Elaine Shellhouse Wright

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the Year ended June 30, 2020

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents Investments Investment in real estate Investment in limited partnerships Property and equipment, net Unconditional promises to give, ne Other	3,840,117 20,541,630 2,450,000 179,527 7,642,680 595,059 253,624
Total assets	\$ 35,502,637
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Liabilities Accounts payable Notes payable Total liabilities	\$ 74,901 2,433,335 2,508,236
Net assets Without donor restrictions With donor restrictions	15,287,660 17,706,741
Total net assets	32,994,401
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 35,502,637

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

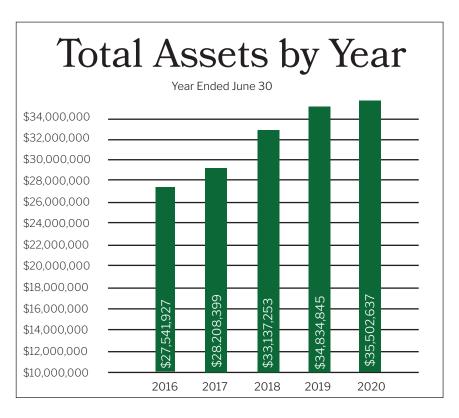
For the Year ended June 30, 2020

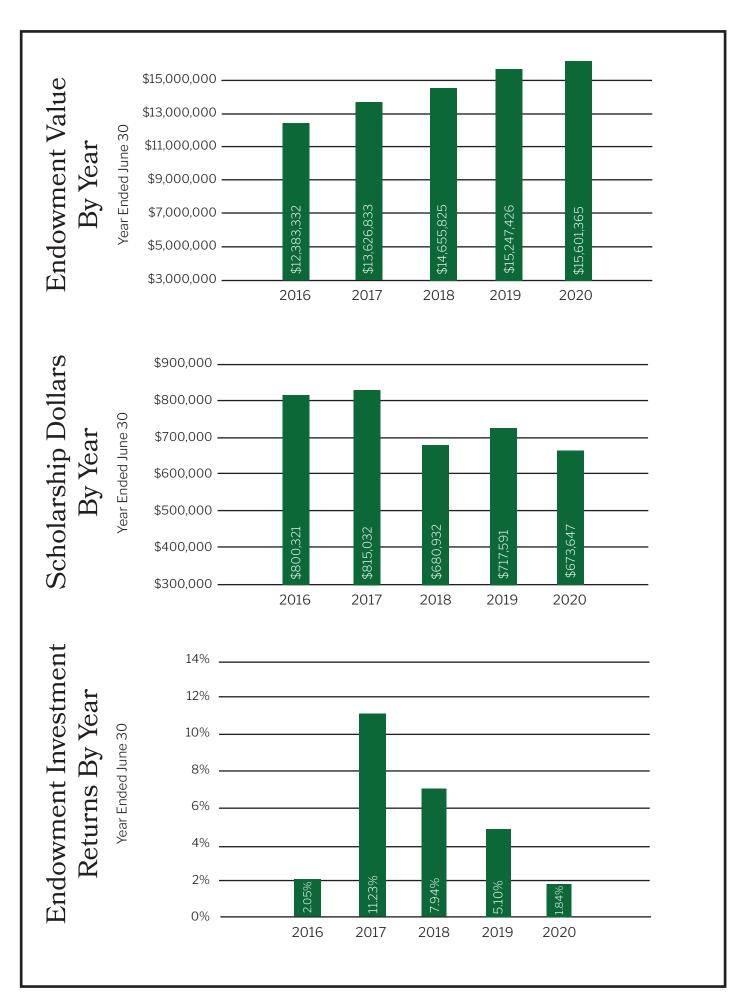
REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT

NET ASSETS, ENDING

Contributions In-kind contributions Investment income, net Net realized and unrealized	\$ 1,873,094 194,076 481,654
gains on investment Rental Revenues Other	147,433 227,805 242,407
Total revenues and other support	\$ 3,166,469
EXPENSES Program Services Academic and education Other program support	\$ 999,489 467,516
Support Services Administrative and general Fundraising	285,238 648,828
Total expenses	\$ 2,401,071
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS NET ASSETS, BEGINNING	765,398 32,229,003

\$ 32,994,401









ABAC Foundation
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www.abac.edu/foundation