So much has taken place since the last newsletter and these are challenging days for all of us. Our plan was to conduct Greek Week activities, Honors Day, and all the typical goings-on as we charged toward the completion of another Spring semester. Instead, we have witnessed unprecedented changes on our campus and across the nation. Students were asked to begin Spring Break early in preparation for completing the remainder of the semester remotely and the normal campus day-to-day life has been reduced to skeleton office crews and working from home. With all that said, our campus family continues to put our students at the forefront of our concerns.

Thank you for your efforts and let’s all stay safe, positive, and healthy.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

MS. ANDREA FARQUHAR

By the Numbers

• Summer 2020 vs Summer 2016
  • Applications: 50 (-1)
    • Transfer: 15 (-7)
    • Freshman: 35 (+6)
  • Admits: 17 (-5)
    • Transfer: 4 (-3)
    • Freshman: 13 (-2)

• Fall 2020 vs Fall 2016
  • Applications: 2,432 (+1,450)
    • Transfer: 156 (+29)
    • Freshman: 2,276 (+1,421)
  • Admits: 1,260 (+720)
    • Transfer: 74 (+26)
    • Freshman: 1,214 (+659)

Campus Tours (individual):
• August 15, 2019 - March 27, 2020: 163
  • 86% check-in rate
• August 15, 2018- March 27, 2019: 166
  • 74% check-in rate

Campus Tours (group):
• August 15, 2019 - March 27, 2020: 434 (students)
• August 15, 2018- March 27, 2019: 201 (students)

Scholarships
• Fall 2020 vs Fall 2019 (Freshmen)
  • Reviewed - 515
  • Awarded - 447 (-321)
  • Accepted - 70 (-19)
• Fall 2020 vs Fall 2019 (Transfers)
  • Reviewed - 55
  • Awarded - 49 (+31)
  • Accepted - 20 (+12)
• ECF Payments:
  • Fall 2020 vs Fall 2019
    • Total - 139 (+4)
    • 106 freshman (-18)
    • 23 transfer (+22)

Staff Notes
• February 28 - Mr. Shaw Cornelius hosted a counselor appreciation luncheon in Huntsville, AL with 16 counselors in attendance.
• March 4 - Mrs. Breena Sturdivant hosted a counselor appreciation breakfast in Mountain Brook, AL with nine (9) counselors in attendance.
• March 5-6 - Mrs. Brenda Jones attended the Achieve Transfer Conference in Tuscaloosa, AL. Sessions included, making transfers feel more integrated and invested on campus, breaking down barriers for first generation students, and data sharing for how students use technology today.
• March 11 - Mrs. Brenda Jones, Mr. Kirstan Cunningham, Mr. Hester, and Dr. Tucker spoke with Talk Meridian regarding the economic and educational impact of the transfer partnerships signed with community colleges throughout Alabama and Mississippi.
• March 11 - Mrs. Sonia Shaw and Mr. Kirstan Cunningham hosted a counselor appreciation luncheon in Thomasville, AL with eight (8) counselors in attendance.
• March 13 - Mrs. Juley Rutherford administered the Residual ACT with 15 students in attendance.
  • 87% average attendance rate

The “SSS FLi Society” Student Club
• March 2 - three (3) students participate in Read Across America day at Livingston Junior High School.
• All other activities including the Easter delivery were cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Workshops
• March 11 - Tavaris Moore - presented Who is in it with you?
• All other workshops and small group presentations were cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak

Upcoming:
• Student meetings for summer and fall registration
• Assist with summer financial aid applications and budgets
• Emphasize 2020-21 FAFSA and KHEAA Verify completion
• Continue recruiting for fall 2020
**Student Involvement**
- Student Government Association Executive Council 2020/2021
  - President – Christopher Dunn
  - Vice-President – Alisha Chaney
  - Business Manager – Garren Granec
  - Secretary – Chloe Johnson
  - Public Relations – Malachi Holt
  - Attorney General – Madison McMinn
- Over 100% increase in student body participation from the previous year.

**Greek Life**
- Met with Phi Mu national advisor to discuss the local chapter, as well as, national trends affecting Greeks on campuses.
- Greek Award Winners:
  - Fraternities Homer Award – Delta Chi
  - Sororities Homer Award – Phi Mu
  - Greek Man of the Year – Anthony Abner
  - Greek Woman of the Year – Britney Pratt
  - Highest Sorority GPA – Phi Mu
  - Highest Fraternity GPA – Alpha Phi Alpha

**Fitness Center**
- **Fitness Record Challenge (men)**
  - Quick Mile (Tyler Harris) 6:47
  - Farmers Carry (John Michael Long) 16 laps
  - Wall Sit (Sheridan Maxima Priest) 2:23.12
  - Plank (Austin Sharpe) 3:15.51
  - Push Ups (Sheridan Maxima Priest) 83
  - Bench - Light Weight (Jordyn Bonds)
  - Bench - Middle Weight (Justin Jenkins)
  - Bench - Heavy Weight (DeAndre Meadows)
- **Fitness Record Challenge (women)**
  - Quick Mile (Anna Morse) 10:00
  - Farmer’s Carry (Destiny Little) 14 laps
  - Wall Sit (Kentoria Johnson) 3:00.00
  - Plank (Kentoria Johnson) 2:30.00
  - Push Ups (Kentoria Johnson) 56
The entire staff continues to adapt to the ever-changing state of the “normal” day-to-day operations. Despite not being able to have face-to-face interactions with the students, the staff has done an outstanding job of creating fun and engaging virtual events for the students at UWA.

**Campus Activities Board (CAB)**
- Co-sponsored *Glow in the Dark Dodgeball*. 92 students attended.
- Hosting *Netflix Parties* and other virtual events.
- Extremely active on social media engaging the students with multiple posts. Experiencing growth in online followers and interactions despite students being away from campus.
- 2020-21 CAB Director selection will begin in the coming weeks.

**Intramurals**
*By the numbers* (prior to suspension of all activities)
- 21 Softball teams (7 men’s, 6 women’s, 8 Co-rec)
- 24 Softball Officials trained
- 6 Soccer officials trained
- 5 Soccer teams

Online gaming leagues have been established and *eSport Tournaments* will begin by the second week in April.

**Band**
- The *Band Concert* and *Band Banquet* cancelled due to ongoing COVID-19 precautions.
- All in-person auditions will be conducted in an online format.
- 45 schools have been visited by Director Michael Tignor.
- A letter has been sent to over 450 students who expressed interest in the UWA Band Program.
- Selection of the *Student Leadership team* will be complete in the coming weeks.

**University Cinema**
- 137 people have attended movies at the cinema before our closure for COVID-19.

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**STUDENT AFFAIRS**

**STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

**MR. JASON GARDNER**

**Campus Activities Board (CAB)**

**Intramurals**

**Band**

**University Cinema**

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**FINANCIAL AID**

**MR. STEVE SMITH**

- **2019-2020 Financial Aid Processing:**
  - *As of March 30, 2020*
  - Downloaded 11,129 ISIRs (243 since last report)
  - Packaged 8,593 awards (290 since last report)
  - 1,007 selected for verification (14 since last report)
  - 955 verifications completed (32 since last report)

- **2020-2021 Financial Aid Processing:**
  - *As of March 30, 2020*
  - Downloaded 2,999 ISIRs (524 since last report)
  - Packaged 2,195 awards (737 since last report)
  - 376 selected for verification (11 since last report)
  - 156 verifications completed (61 since last report)

**Delinquent Loans Activity:**
- The following delinquency emails were sent in March 2020:
  - 478 emails to those who are 31-134 days delinquent
  - 128 emails to those who are 75-115 days delinquent
  - 132 emails to those who are 135-239 days delinquent
  - 94 emails to those who are 240+ days delinquent
  - **832 TOTAL emails**

- These students are at risk of defaulting on federal student loans.
• March 5 - The 2020 Spring One Online Session ended
• March 6 - The last day to drop a campus class without academic penalty
• March 16 - The 2020 Spring Two Online Session began
• March 30 - Pre-registration for all campus and online terms for summer and fall opened
• April 13 - The last day to drop an online class without academic penalty
• Due to COVID-19, the Registrar’s Staff will be working mostly from home, but will have at least one employee in the office daily.

Photo credit - UWA Public Relations
Career Services

**Individual Student Contacts:** 128
- Resume advice/critiques: 41
- Mock Interviews: 4
- Other: 83

**Presentations/Events:**
- **March 12 - C2C/Career Services Tiger Connect Career Seminar** – 27 attended
  Employers participated in a panel to share tips and information to help students as they maneuver the process of starting the job search and being prepared as an applicant. Smokin’ Jacks catered the event and provided door prizes.
- **March 12 - Census Bureau Fair** - 31 applied to work (approximately half were UWA students).
- **Women’s Soccer Team** - Met with players and coaches to discuss effective resume writing, interview techniques, and applying for internships.
- **Cancellations**: Resume Writing Workshop with Minority Business Student Association; CNA/Automotive Tech meeting

**Other:**
- Assisted Dr. Morsy with the Undergraduate Research Symposium
- Met with Dr. Allen to discuss needs related to students getting jobs and internships
- Participated in an Alabama Connection planning meeting
- Attended the Record Maintenance Workshop on campus.
- Met with the owner of True Vine to discuss partnership in hopes of sharing potential internship and jobs with UWA students.

**Upcoming:**
- Host virtual meetings and workshops and Enterprise Holdings has also offered to assist with the workshops. Potential sessions include resume writing, soft skill identification, and practice interviews.
- Working with Dr. Cazers’ class to provide information for resumes and critiques
- **April 2 - Education Interview Day** - cancelled

Counseling Services

**Individual Student Contacts:** 23
- Counseling Sessions – 22
- New Student Intakes - 1

**Events/Meetings/Other:**
- Attended...
  - Orientation Committee meetings
  - Orientation Leader informational meeting
  - Meeting with incoming Fall 2020 freshman from the Alabama School for the Deaf and Blind (and parent) in regards to ADA accommodations
  - ALSCA Regional Workshop at UAB
  - Meeting with the Truth Initiative chairperson, Dr. Natasha Satcher.
  - Conducted four (4) Substance Abuse Education groups – 7 attended
  - Supervision of Clinical Mental Health Counseling practicum student

**Presentations:**
- QPR Suicide Awareness and Prevention Training – UWA 101 – 18 present

**ADA Services:**
- Emailed ADA accommodations letters for on-campus students who also had online classes Spring 2.

**Referrals:**
- West AL Mental Health – 2
- Mr. Will Atkinson - 1
- Health Department - 1

**Upcoming:**
- Continued communication with Counseling and Career Services staff in regards to COVID-19.
- Creating COVID-19 supports for UWA students
- Conducted meetings to discuss upcoming Saturday Sessions, Summer Session 2020, and potential changes in programming due to COVID-19.
- **March 7-11** - Staff attended AAEOPP 2020 in Destin, FL.
- Established weekly Zoom meetings for students to assist with school work, as well as, emotional/mental health.
- Hosted two (2) Zoom sessions (1 hour each) with a total of 20 participants.
- Zoom meetings will continue until further notice.
- **March Saturday Session** - cancelled

**Upward Bound**

**Ms. Vickie Pullum**

- Conducted meetings to discuss upcoming Saturday Sessions, Summer Session 2020, and potential changes in programming due to COVID-19.
- **March 7-11** - Staff attended AAEOPP 2020 in Destin, FL.
- Established weekly Zoom meetings for students to assist with school work, as well as, emotional/mental health.
- Hosted two (2) Zoom sessions (1 hour each) with a total of 20 participants.
- Zoom meetings will continue until further notice.
- **March Saturday Session** - cancelled

**Upcoming**
- Continued recruitment efforts
- **April 27** - Saturday Session - tentative
Housing Operations:

- **Housing Applications Fall ’20 vs ’19**
  - **Freshmen** - 72 (-14)
  - **Transfers** - 23 (+10)
  - **Current students** - 309 (-140)
  - **TOTALS**: 404 (-144)

- With the announcement of suspension of on-campus classes and the transition to online instruction, the Housing staff quickly shifted from planning programs, to preparing for early checkouts. Members of the Housing staff have been working with residents and answering questions regarding the process. To reduce the possibility of exposure to COVID-19, Housing has developed a “no contact” check-out process, similar to an Express Check-Out at a hotel.

- **Room and Roommate Selection**
  - **March 6** - Roommate selection began via MyCollegeRoomie. The initial deadline to select a roommate (or a group of roommates) was March 31; however, this deadline has been extended, to give students additional time, due to COVID-19 closings.

- **Programming Highlights**:
  - Before halting all community programming on March 13, RAs hosted several social and educational activities, including NBA watch parties, sports trivia night, and a mid-term stress management program.
  - During the Housing All Staff meeting in March, the following RAs were recognized with Best Of… awards for the previous month:
    - **Bulletin Board (BB) and Door Decorations (DD) of the Month**:
      - Autumn Nolen – Love Thy Kinky Hair (BB); Shampoo and Conditioner Bottlers (DD)
      - Allison VanCise – Safe Sex T Rex Says (BB); Dinosaurs (DD)

Residence Life:

- **Programming Highlights (cont.):**
  - **Community Social of the Month**
    - Tiffany Webb, What Happens In The Dark; Campus Partner: Latasha Taylor

- **CREDIT ISSUED FOR EARLY CHECKOUT**
  - in response to COVID-19
  - Student account credit will be calculated at the rate of 25% of:
  - Housing & Meal Plan Charges minus scholarships for Spring 2020
  - BASIC FORMULA
    - Housing Charges + Meal Plan Charges
    - TOTAL Housing & Meal Plan Charges – Spring 2020 University Scholarships
    - TOTAL Charges Eligible for Reduction
    - \( \times 25\% \) reduction rate
    - = Amount of CREDIT to be applied to student’s account

This credit will be applied to student accounts. This should not be perceived as a cash refund. A student who has applied for graduation and will complete their degree program at the end of Spring 2020 and is pursuing graduate studies at UWA may apply up to 125% of the calculated amount (instead of 25%) to his or her account.
CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

AWARDED TO

The University of West Alabama

For successfully recruiting and encouraging the largest number of student and faculty participation at Higher Education Day 2020.

Awarded this 27 day of February, 2020

Gordon Stone, Executive Director