February has arrived and with it the winter forecast from Punxsutawney Phil. Thankfully, the return of sporting events and campus tours helps this semester move closer to a familiar feel. I’m happy to see our area pushing and planning to organize safe alternatives to our upcoming spring events like Honors Day and our annual Springfest activities. I’m optimistic that we will host a more exciting semester for our current students and continue our drive to welcome prospective students. Thank you all for your efforts!

Do great things,
Student Activities
Mr. Jason Gardner

Campus Activities Board
- Sponsored a Sports Trivia Night and Virtual Bingo for Bucks hosted by Disney Star, Angie K.
- Continuing to plan and schedule events for March and April.

Intramurals
- Mr. Troy Maddox attended the annual Alabama/Mississippi NIRSA State Workshop presented in a virtual format this year. One of the goals is to find ways to interact with our students at a safe social distance or through virtual events.

Band
- Performed at 6 home basketball games
- Visited 5 Mississippi community colleges
- Planning audition dates at various schools around Alabama/Mississippi and at UWA in March and April

Cheer
- Currently performing at home basketball games with squad size limited to four (4) per game due to COVID capacity restrictions in Priutt Hall.
- Planning travel itinerary to attend the football game versus Savannah State University scheduled for March 13 at 4:00pm in Ladd-Peebles Stadium (Mobile, AL).
Upward Bound
Ms. Vickie Pullum

- **January 23** - Conducted the first Saturday Session
  - During this Session 9th-12th graders attended
  - UB Applications are still being received
- **January 25** - Began the virtual after school tutoring and will continue through April 22.
- Received additional applications from potential 9th graders, and interviews are scheduled.

Student Life
Mr. Byron Thetford

**Greek Life**
- The [Greek Grade Report (click here)](link) for the Fall is now available.
- After mid-year elections in December, many organizations are utilizing various training opportunities for their officers. These students will have the opportunity to cultivate new ideas from chapters across the country and share what they learned with the students here at UWA. Virtual formats are allowing many organizations the ability to take part in formal training when previous financial obstacles limited many of these opportunities.
- IFC Recruitment concluded in January with many organizations increasing their membership.

**Student Involvement**
- The SGA had an outstanding Fall and the Senate boasts a 3.1 term GPA.
- **February 25** - [Higher Education Day virtual event](link).

**Fitness Center**
- Group Exercise classes are currently averaging nine (9) members per session, including many new participants.
- 49 members are registered for the Bootcamp Challenge.

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Financial Aid
Mr. Steve Smith

2020-2021 Financial Aid Processing:
- **As of January 28, 2021** (increase since last report)... 
  - Downloaded 8,024 ISIRs (153)
  - Packaged 7,584 awards (108)
  - 602 selected for verification (4)
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Career Services & Counseling Center
Ms. Tammy White

Career Services
Individual Student Contacts: 66
- Resume advice/critiques: 12
- Mock Interviews: 0
- Other: 54

Presentations/Meetings/Other
- Presentations:
  - Provided Myers Briggs Type Indicator (Personality Assessment) for 3 classes.
- Meetings:
  - January 29 - Hosted Career Pathways Initiative virtual site visit.
  - Alabama Association of Colleges & Employers (AACE) Winter Workshop focusing on internships
  - Workforce Development Committee
  - CPI 2 webinars and a monthly check-in meeting
- Retain Alabama planning meetings to prepare for outgoing survey to all domestic second semester sophomore through senior students to determine interest in remaining in Alabama after graduation.
- Career Fair Plus as part of the planning for the March 3 Career Fair.
- Dr. Adrian Popan (Criminal Justice professor) to assist with career planning activities for his capstone course.

- Attended...
  - NACE: Using Design Thinking During COVID-19 training webinar
  - NACE: Authentic, Effective Virtual Recruiting: Recommendations and Insights for Succeeding in the New Norm training webinar
  - Sumter Renaissance/Chamber planning meeting
- Miscellaneous:
  - Submitted the Class of 2020 Survey Report to the National Association of Colleges and Employers.
  - Youth Villages offered information sessions for graduating seniors and this information has been shared with students.
  - Submitted CPI Quarterly Budget and updated Milestones to Program Manager.
  - Preparing for upcoming virtual events:
    - Current Job Board posts – 172 jobs
    - Current university internship database – 258 internships
  - February 3 - Resume Preparation
  - February 10 - Professional Impression and Networking
  - February 17 - LinkedIn Account Tips & Training
  - February 24 - Career Fair Plus App Training

Counseling Services
Individual Student Contacts: 15
- Counseling - 12
- Intakes - 3

Presentations/Meetings/Other
- Meetings with...
  - Mrs. Jennifer Nelson and Mr. Rodney Grance regarding the UWA Suicide Prevention Grant
  - Student in regards to a Student Affairs Internship
- Black Student Union (BSU)
- Presentations:
  - Mental Health and Suicide Awareness and Prevention Training for Student Support Services staff – 3 attended
  - Suicide Awareness and Prevention Training

Student Support Services
Ms. Andrea Farquhar

By the numbers
- 86% of fall 2020 SSS Scholars returned for spring 2021
- 83 individual student meetings conducted
- 14 tutors have been hired and trained
- 41 tutoring sessions requested and assigned
- 27 scholars each received $700 SSS grants for spring semester
- “Thank you” to UWA Advancement for provided 18 SSS scholars with $200 each in Barnes and Noble gift cards.

ADA Services
- Met with 21 students to review ADA accommodations.

Upcoming
- UWA Suicide Prevention Grant Implementation
- West Alabama Counselor’s Conference

Student Support Services
Ms. Andrea Farquhar

Workshops
- CAB activities – presented by Mr. Jason Gardner
- Learn to Save - presented by Ms. Jessica Lotz
- Study Strategies 3.0 - presented by Ms. Tanzie Brown
- Life Coaching - presented by Ms. Tanzie Brown
- Suicide Awareness Training - presented by Dr. Jane Coleman

Fli Society
- Purchased $1,258.74 in new textbooks to lend to SSS students.
- Held first meeting Jan. 19
- 1st Gen staff/faculty spotlight - Tavaris Moore
Registrar
Mrs. Susan Sparkman

- **January 11** - Classes began
- **January 8** - The Admission and Appeals Committee met to review twelve (12) appeals.
- All students receiving veteran assistance have been certified with the VA for the Spring Semester.
- 580 transcripts during the month of January 2021 (-53 from the same time last year).
Housing Operations

508 residents are living on campus this semester.

Housing applications are available online for the 2021-22 school year.

The following student leaders have been selected to serve as hall directors for the 2021-22 school year:

- Kaitlyn Strachan, Gilbert Hall Director
- Annaya (AC) Cheley, Gilbert Assistant Hall Director
- Hannah England, Hoover Hall Director
- A’Kia Lowery, Reed/Patterson/Selden Hall Director
- Noah Napp, Stickney Hall Director

COVID-19 Quarantine Updates

In January, twenty students quarantined on campus (including three off-campus students).

The Housing staff delivered more than 52 meals to students quarantining on-campus in January.

Residence halls opened in Phase 4 – Red for the first two weeks of the spring semester as a preventative measure. Based on numbers at the time, Housing shifted to Phase 2 – Yellow on January 22, which provides for some visitation by UWA students only.

The students that work for Housing had a successful fall semester, from an academic standpoint. They earned an overall cumulative GPA average of 3.38 and overall semester GPA average of 3.25. Five (5) staff members had 4.0 GPAs. As this semester, nine (9) more girls had at least 3.5 GPA, and five (5) earned at least a 3.0 GPA. Eight (8) staff were on the President’s List and seven (7) were on Dean’s List.

Residence Life

Student staff returned to campus on January 5. They participated in Spring Training within their individual staff teams.

Resident Assistant applications went live on January 12, with a deadline of January 31.

Programming Highlights:

- In addition to virtual community meetings to welcome students back to campus and introduce new members of the community, the Housing staff provided a number of activities in January, including the following:
  - Gilbert staff helped students create DIY Planners to help with time management and goal setting for the spring semester.
  - Gilbert staff hosted a virtual Speed Friending event and passed out Hugs drinks as part of the ‘Who Needs a Hug?’ program. They also hosted a DIY Planner event.
  - RAs at Hoover showed residents how to make their own ice cream using just a Ziploc bag and a few ingredients.
  - Hoover RAs hosted a Trivia night in addition to a Jeopardy game to test residents’ knowledge.
  - Stickney staff hosted a pizza social (with lots of social distancing), to welcome residents back and introduce new residents to life at Stickney.
  - Patterson residents participated in a community compliments program, where they were challenged to give their neighbors a compliment to help with morale in the community.