This month arrives with our own versions of March Madness as the men’s basketball team hosts a first round GSC Tournament match-up against Union, Greek Week planning is being finalized, and before your know it...Spring Break! The halfway point of the spring semester means we are fast-approaching the end of another academic year and with that comes the final push toward graduation to help ensure we finish on a high note. This is just part if the cycle that we have all come to know and embrace. Let’s enjoy in the excitement of the warmer temps and longer days as we race toward the proverbial finish line of another school year. Best of luck to everyone as you put the finishing touches on the remaining plans for the semester, and thank you for all that you do for UWA.

Sincerely,
Admissions (cont.)

- Signed Transfer Partnership initiatives to provide an easily accessible pathway for students to further their education at a 4-year institution.

  - February 20 - East Central Community College.
  - February 27 - Meridian Community College and Itawamba Community College.

  - The Student Ambassadors continued training, covering topics such as getting out of your comfort zone, managing awkward situations on tours, as well as, hosting representatives from the College of Liberal Arts and Barnes and Noble. The Ambassadors also called over 700 applicants to check in and answer questions about their enrollment at UWA.

  - Mrs. Emily Stuart attended the ALACRAO 82nd Annual Conference planning meeting in Mobile. The Executive Committee finalized plans for the upcoming conference in June.

Student Involvement

- Blue Key is in the process of training their next class of “cubs” and plans to initiate 25 new members this year.

  - Many groups are headed to annual conferences during this time of year and have sought their funding through the SGA including Alpha Phi Alpha, Sigma Pi, Marketing Club, Phi Beta Sigma among others.

  - February 27 - Higher Education Day. Sponsored a motor coach that transported 50 students to Montgomery to advocate for the funding of post-secondary education. They listened to a speech from Governor Ivey, as well as, had the opportunity to speak to other elected officials.

  - March 16-19 - Greek Week!

Greek Life

- Scotty Rainwater the Greek Life advisor for UAB visited campus and is in the process of creating a statewide network of advisors with the intent to share successes and to network on a more consistent basis. Ideally, this will open communication between institutions.

  - Panhellenic Council held elections:
    - Stephanie Whatley, President
    - Caidie Johnson, Vice President of Membership
    - Tayler Herring, Vice President of Philanthropy

  - The Executive Counsel selected their recruitment counselors and is working hard to plan recruitment for this year.

  - March 16-19 - Greek Week!

Fitness Center

- The Fitness Center continues to do well with community numbers holding steady as compared to previous years.

  - The pool will be open after Spring Break and the swimming lesson schedule is being printed.

  - The Spring blood drive was a big success with the intent to share successes and to provide an easily accessible pathway for students to further their education at a 4 year institution.

  - Admissions (cont.)

  - Fall 2020 vs Fall 2019:
    - acceptances - 49 (+2)
    - awarded - 323 (-427)
    - reviewed - 377
    - Applications - 2,359 (+1,483)
    - Admits - 15 (-2)
    - Freshman - 64 (+27)
    - Freshman - 1,196 (+693)
    - Total - 76 (+14)
    - Transfer - 23 (+16)
    - Transfers - 5 (+3)

  - Staff Notes

  - February 14 - Mrs. Libba Baker met with Ashton Ray from GEAR UP Alabama to discuss a partnership designed to enhance the college experience of students in the program by providing additional assistance with on campus resources. These students will be monitored to gauge enrollment and retention rates.

  - February 21 - Hosted the first Accepted Students Day. Accepted students had the opportunity to meet future classmates, interact with current UWA students and staff, experience a class, explore student clubs and organizations, and take a tour the campus.

  - Ian Ford won the $1,000 scholarship drawing. Ford said, “I honestly feel like this is a dream. Having both parents be alumni from UWA, this is just such a huge honor.” (pictured page 10-11)

  - February 21 - Mr. Patrick Lovette hosted a counselor appreciation breakfast in Meridian, MS with 4 counselors in attendance. Mrs. Sonia Shaw hosted a counselor appreciation breakfast in Pensacola, FL with 12 counselors in attendance.

  - ECF Payments:

  - Fall 2020 vs Fall 2019
    - Total - 99 (+2)
    - 76 freshman (+14)
    - 23 transfer (+16)
    - Fall Orientation 2020 vs 2019
      - Freshmen - 15 (+2)
      - Transfers - 5 (+3)

  - Campus Tours (individual):

    - August 15, 2019 - February 27, 2020: 145
      - 86% check-in rate
    - August 15, 2018 - February 27, 2019: 132
      - 71% check-in rate

  - Campus Tours (group):

    - August 15, 2019 - February 27, 2020: 361 (students)
    - August 15, 2018 - February 27, 2019: 140 (students)

  - Scholarships

    - Fall 2020 vs Fall 2019 (Freshmen)
      - Reviewed - 377
      - Awarded - 232 (-427)
      - Accepted - 49 (-30)
    - Fall 2020 vs Fall 2019 (Transfers)
      - Reviewed - 35
      - Awarded - 32 (+15)
      - Accepted - 14 (+8)

  - Greek Life

    - Scotty Rainwater the Greek Life advisor for UAB visited campus and is in the process of creating a statewide network of advisors with the intent to share successes and to network on a more consistent basis. Ideally, this will open communication between institutions.

    - Panhellenic Council held elections:
      - Stephanie Whatley, President
      - Caidie Johnson, Vice President of Membership
      - Tayler Herring, Vice President of Philanthropy

    - The Executive Counsel selected their recruitment counselors and is working hard to plan recruitment for this year.

    - March 16-19 - Greek Week!

  - Admissions (cont.)

    - Signed Transfer Partnership initiatives to provide an easily accessible pathway for students to further their education at a 4 year institution.

    - February 20 - East Central Community College.
    - February 27 - Meridian Community College and Itawamba Community College.

    - The Student Ambassadors continued training, covering topics such as getting out of your comfort zone, managing awkward situations on tours, as well as, hosting representatives from the College of Liberal Arts and Barnes and Noble. The Ambassadors also called over 700 applicants to check in and answer questions about their enrollment at UWA.

    - Mrs. Emily Stuart attended the ALACRAO 82nd Annual Conference planning meeting in Mobile. The Executive Committee finalized plans for the upcoming conference in June.

  - Student Involvement

    - Blue Key is in the process of training their next class of “cubs” and plans to initiate 25 new members this year.

    - Many groups are headed to annual conferences during this time of year and have sought their funding through the SGA including Alpha Phi Alpha, Sigma Pi, Marketing Club, Phi Beta Sigma among others.

    - February 27 - Higher Education Day. Sponsored a motor coach that transported 50 students to Montgomery to advocate for the funding of post-secondary education. They listened to a speech from Governor Ivey, as well as, had the opportunity to speak to other elected officials.

    - March 16-19 - Greek Week!

  - Fitness Center

    - The Fitness Center continues to do well with community numbers holding steady as compared to previous years.

    - The pool will be open after Spring Break and the swimming lesson schedule is being printed.

    - The Spring blood drive was a big success eclipsing the target goal.
Describe a UWA memory that you will cherish forever?

A memory that I will always cherish at UWA would have to be when I received SSS’s Freshman of the Year Award my second semester in college. It was a defining moment for me and it made me realize that I didn’t just want to graduate college, I wanted to graduate with honors. It gave me the motivation and the drive I needed to get to this point in my academic career.

What is something that makes UWA special that most people might not know?

I firmly believe that there will never be another university like UWA. It’s home away from home. The faculty and staff truly care about their students and it shows in every way. They go the extra mile in ensuring that their students are successful in every aspect of their lives.

How has being an SSS Scholar helped you in your time at UWA?

Being an SSS Scholar has made a major impact on my life. I can’t imagine where I would be without this amazing support system. College can be terrifying, especially for first generation students, but Student Support Services has been with me every step of the way. They not only have helped me set goals, but they have also consistently provided me with the encouragement and the resources I needed in order to achieve those goals. The have pushed me to succeed and have inspired me to become the very best version of myself. Joining SSS was the best decision I ever made and I will forever be grateful for the group of people I have had the privilege of working with. They’ve changed my life in more ways than one.

Name: Sarah Peyton Tyson
Class/Grad Year: SR/2020
Hometown: Toxey, AL
Major: Elementary Education
Campus Involvement: • UWA Singer, Phi Eta Sigma, Lambda Sigma, Kappa Delta Pi, Phi Kappa Phi, Cardinal Key, and Alpha Chi.
Future Plans: “After I graduate, I hope to begin teaching in an elementary school. My goal in life is to have a positive impact on as many lives as I possibly can. I know I have been called to teach and have been called into the music ministry and I believe I have the ability to make a difference in this world.”

• Describe a UWA memory that you will cherish forever?

A memory that I will always cherish at UWA would have to be when I received SSS’s Freshman of the Year Award my second semester in college. It was a defining moment for me and it made me realize that I didn’t just want to graduate college, I wanted to graduate with honors. It gave me the motivation and the drive I needed to get to this point in my academic career.

• What is something that makes UWA special that most people might not know?

I firmly believe that there will never be another university like UWA. It’s home away from home. The faculty and staff truly care about their students and it shows in every way. They go the extra mile in ensuring that their students are successful in every aspect of their lives.

• How has being an SSS Scholar helped you in your time at UWA?

Being an SSS Scholar has made a major impact on my life. I can’t imagine where I would be without this amazing support system. College can be terrifying, especially for first generation students, but Student Support Services has been with me every step of the way. They not only have helped me set goals, but they have also consistently provided me with the encouragement and the resources I needed in order to achieve those goals. The have pushed me to succeed and have inspired me to become the very best version of myself. Joining SSS was the best decision I ever made and I will forever be grateful for the group of people I have had the privilege of working with. They’ve changed my life in more ways than one.
Campus Activities Board (CAB)
• Hosted a Super Bowl Party and Trivia Night during the month of February - 276 students attended these events.

Intramurals
• Spades Tournament - 4 teams (8 Participants)
• Air Hockey - 4 participants
• Soccer - 5 teams signed up
• Soccer officials trained - 6
• Basketball regular season completed - 236 total participants
• Softball sign-ups open until March 13. Currently 7 teams registered.

Band
• Successful trip to Mobile, Alabama and New Orleans, Louisiana for Mardi Gras, performed in front of approximately 1 million people.
• Visited 43 schools to-date in attempts to increase recruiting efforts and band participation.
• The Pep Band performed at 8 home basketball games this month.

University Cinema
• 425 people attended including 270 students.

FINANCIAL AID

MR. STEVE SMITH

2019-2020 Financial Aid Processing:
• As of February 28, 2020
• Downloaded 10,886 ISIRs (229 since last report)
• Packaged 8,249 awards (183 since last report)
• 993 selected for verification (12 since last report)
• 923 verifications completed (31 since last report)

2020-2022 Financial Aid Processing:
• As of February 28, 2020
• Downloaded 2,475 ISIRs (375 since last report)
• Packaged 1,458 awards (261 since last report)
• 365 selected for verification (31 since last report)
• 95 verifications completed (91 since last report)

Delinquent Loans Activity:
• The following delinquency emails were sent in February 2020:
  • 496 emails to those who are 31-134 days delinquent
  • 94 emails to those who are 75-115 days delinquent
  • 157 emails to those who are 135-239 days delinquent
  • 80 emails to those who are 240+ days delinquent
  • 827 TOTAL emails
• These students are at risk of defaulting on federal student loans.
February 19 - The University Academic Council met, and the office has been working to update those changes in the system and in degree audit.

March 5 - The 2020 Spring One Online Session ended.

March 9 - The last day to register for the 2020 Spring Two Term.

March 11 - The 2020 Spring One degrees will be posted. Mrs. Emily McInnis continues to process applications for degree in preparation for that date.

March 12 - Deregistration will be run at 5:00pm.

March 16 - The Spring Two Online Session will begin.

March 30 - Pre-registration for all Summer and Fall campus and online terms will open.

2020 Summer and Fall Class Schedules have been collected and will begin imputing those in the coming weeks.

Mrs. April Atkinson has been working on catalogue updates for the 2020-21 academic year.
CAREER SERVICES & COUNSELING CENTER
MS. TAMMY WHITE

Career Services

Individual Student Contacts: 123
• Resume advice/critiques: 59
• Mock Interviews: 13
• Other: 51

Recruiting:
• March 17 - Host campus recruitment event with Mississippi Department of Corrections.
• March 2-3 - Employer Recruitment meetings scheduled with Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce and Mercedes in Tuscaloosa.
• Americorps NCCC recruiter came to campus and met with five (5) students.
• Contacted 48 recent graduates about security position opportunity.
• Distributed State of Alabama jobs report to all seniors and graduate students on campus.
• Potential collaboration with the Sumter County Chamber to host Census Bureau Job Fair for students and community.

Other:
• C2C
• Monthly reporting
• Working with College of Education to provide a Praxis workshop for students
• Registered approximately 50 students for March 12 Tiger Connect Seminar
• Attended webinars on “From Engaged to Employed: How Mapping the Skills Employers Want Can Lead To Student Success” and on Micro-internships

Presentations:
• Addressed...
  • Two Business Professional Development Classes (Job Search/Personality Type/Professionalism)
• 2nd Year Nursing Class (Resume Writing & Interviewing)
• Technical Writing Class (Resume Writing, Cover Letters & Job Search)
• Collaboration with SSS to host Graduate School Workshop (7 students attended) - Guest presenters were from UAB Health Programs.

Counseling Services

Individual Student Contacts: 32
• Counseling Sessions – 9
• New Student Intakes - 43

Events/Meetings/Other:
• Attended...
  • Orientation Committee meetings
  • ADA Committee meeting
  • Active Minds event in the Tiger’s Den
  • Student Program for Accepted Students and the One-Stop Activity

Referrals:
• West AL Mental Health – 2

Presentations:
• Student Support Services Workshop on Self-care – 6 present

Upcoming:
• UWA 101 QPR Suicide Awareness and Prevention Training
• Substance Abuse Group
• Student Support Services Workshop

Career Services (cont.)
• Ms. Gena Robbins (pictured) began working as Employer Relations Specialist. Planning is underway for a more aggressive strategy including a marketing campaign to promote recruiting UWA students to employers.
• Requested all deans to designate one faculty member for the university-wide internship database.
• Hosted grand opening of Tiger Threads
• Attended Inspire meeting

ADA Services:
• Reviewing reasonable accommodations from vendors
Housing Operations:

- **Housing Applications Fall ’20 vs ’19**
  - **Freshmen** - 38 (-5)
  - **Transfers** - 14 (+4)
  - **Current students** - 149 (-97)
  - **TOTALS**: 201 (-98)

- The 2020–21 Resident Assistant selection process has concluded. The following students have been selected to serve as RAs for next year:
  - **Hoover Apartments** - A’Kia Lowery, Noah Napp, Jaida Pavolini, Jailah Swain, and Allison VanCise
  - **Patterson Hall** - Alisha Chaney and Whitney Lyles
  - **Reed Hall** - Jonathan Davis and Deena Jordan
  - **Selden Hall** - Aaron Manor, Gabrielle Newsome and Maurice Woody
  - **Stickney Hall** - Ciearra Parnell, Teison Samuel and Xiaoning Wei

- **Ms. Angela Ward** attended the Southeastern Association of Housing Officers conference, in Lexington, Kentucky from February 24 – 28.

Residence Life:

- Housing sponsored three intramural basketball teams this semester.

Programming Highlights:

- **Five Horizons** in Tuscaloosa provided free HIV testing at Gilbert Hall.
- **Hannah England** led her Gilbert residents on a Sweetheart scavenger hunt, *Find Your Sweetheart*, where they were given clues to locate sweetheart boxes throughout the building. (pictured page 14)
- **Landy Marable** and Autumn Nolen hosted *For The Culture* to celebrate and learn more about Black History Month.
- **Luke McCray** hosted a trivia game at Gilbert, testing residents on their knowledge of faculty members at UWA.
- **Candice Hopkins** helped her Hoover residents learn about Mardi Gras through the baking of their own King Cake and discussing Mardi Gras traditions.
- Tieson Samuel helped her residents create valentines through her Paint Your Valentine program at Stickney Hall.
- The Hoover Hall staff hosted *Diversity to Tie Dye For*, where residents learned to tie dye material and discussed international diversity.
- Zack Collins and Karlton Nathan hosted a *Spa Night* at Patterson Hall, inviting Andrea Farquhar to talk about stress management and providing a number of stress-relieving activities.
- Kayy Jones and Abby Hawkins hosted Latasha Taylor, HIV Preventions Specialist, for FYIs for STIs, this month at Reed Hall.
- Wesley Howard hosted *Craft Night* at Selden Hall, where residents explored their creativity through crafting activities.
- **Kayy Jones** and **Abby Hawkins** hosted *Latasha Taylor, HIV Preventions Specialist, for FYIs for STIs, this month at Reed Hall.**

- Wesley Howard hosted *Craft Night* at Selden Hall, where residents explored their creativity through crafting activities.
- **Tieson Samuel** helped her residents create valentines through her Paint Your Valentine program at Stickney Hall.
- **Wesley Howard** hosted *Craft Night* at Selden Hall, where residents explored their creativity through crafting activities.
- **Tieson Samuel** helped her residents create valentines through her Paint Your Valentine program at Stickney Hall.
**UPWARD BOUND**

**Ms. Vickie Pullum**

- **February 22** - Hosted the second *Saturday Session* for Spring 2020.
  - 50 students in attendance
  - Thirteen (13) 9th and 10th grader participants from Sumter Central High School have been interviewed and added to the roster.
  - Currently offering after school tutoring at Sumter Central High School Monday thru Thursday evenings from 3:00pm to 5:00pm. Transportation home is provided.
  - Hosted a guest speaker and UWA graduate, Ms. Brittany Harris.

- Ms. Harris stressed the importance of goal settings, maintaining good grades, and completing high school.

- **February 5** - successfully submitted the Department of Education’s Annual Progress Report (APR).

**Upcoming**

- Continued recruitment efforts
- **March 21** - Saturday Session

---

**CHEERLEADING**

**Ms. Kylee Koch**

- **February 23** - Hosted *Open Gym* - 30 prospects attended
  - Open gym is free to high school students (9th-12th grade) that are interested in trying out for the UWA Cheer Team. Participants will stunt, tumble, meet the current squad and coaches, and learn more about what it means to cheer at UWA.

- **April 24-26** - UWA Cheerleading tryouts
  - For additional try-out information, please contact Coach Kylee Koch at (kochk@uwa.edu).