**From the President’s Desk...**

**Holland proud of UWA’s 5-year accomplishments**

We have recently completed five remarkable years at the University of West Alabama. During 2008-2013, we have reached many milestones, and we are grateful to all of you who have been a part of this institution during this time in its history.

From opening a new freshman dorm to hosting several positive and successful visits with accreditation teams; from the launch of promising new academic and athletic programs, we are growing and improving this University every day. With all these many accomplishments, it is with a great sense of pride and eagerness that we look forward to years to come.

We are looking forward to there being many firsts, whether they be new degree programs or even new traditions that we will endeavor to establish. I have a very strong and growing confidence in our campus community, and I often reflect on what makes our people so special and our bond so strong.

We say, “There’s something about this place,” and we have tried for years to define that “something.” We know that the people at UWA and our supportive alumni and friends define what is special about this institution.

As a regional university with a mission of service to our area, we are leading by example. A primary focus of this institution has been to improve the quality of life in the State and region. All of you who are involved with the different aspects of UWA have been a large part of our success and we are most appreciative.

As you read this 5-Year Progress Report, please know that it is each of you the University is proud to call a partner of progress in our shared accomplishments.
New and renovated campus facilities present good first impression

The aerial view of the UWA campus has changed quite a bit in the last few years. The more than 600-acre expanse has widened its boundaries with the addition of local properties like the former Livingston High School building that faces Bibb Graves Hall. But the most noticeable additions are the new student residences staking their claim amidst the continued campus growth.

Opened in the fall of 2012, Gilbert Hall is the new home to some 444 freshmen, built in the heart of campus. Gilbert Hall sits between the existing Patterson Hall and Spieth Hall, with its back lawn adjoining that of Wallace Hall.

UWA has reinstated a freshman residency requirement established to help guide students through their first year in college. The options offered through the establishment of Gilbert Hall take the lead role in making students successful during this time.

Freshmen gain valuable tools at Gilbert Hall by participating in Living-Learning Communities (LLCs) designed to give students a unique residential learning experience that connects classroom learning with residence life.

Within the hall, students enjoy a retail dining facility with patio seating; study rooms on each floor; two classrooms; a recreation room; a laundry; a lounge and vending area; and lounge/study space throughout the building. Students have access to wireless internet in all these spaces.

Hoover Apartments, now a complex of five buildings, is also among the new residences on campus. It is available to students who have earned at least 24 semester credits. Three new apartment buildings opened in the fall semester of 2011, adding 96 beds to the complex’s previous 64-bed capacity. With minor renovations, the two existing Hoovers offer the same amenities as the three new buildings. A new laundry facility is also available for Hoover residents.

According to Danny Buckalew, vice president for student affairs, improvements in campus residences are one of several steps in the direction of making UWA a better home for students.

“We are and will continue to address our need for more and better housing on campus, a major factor in our continuing efforts to attract quality students to the University,” Buckalew said.

With new space now available for housing freshmen in Gilbert Hall, existing residence halls Spieth and Selden will be repurposed as office space and meeting areas. The projected plan for Spieth Hall is for its renovations to accommodate the Ira D. Pruitt Division of Nursing.

Lyon Hall, the former Livingston High School, has been acquired by the University and is being renovated to house the Julia S. Tutwiler College of Education. The move will open space in Bibb Graves Hall that will then be utilized by the Department of Physical Sciences.

Moving Physical Sciences to Bibb Graves Hall will place the entire College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics under one roof, making daily activities easier for students enrolled in NSM programs.

**Facilities...**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2008:</th>
<th>2011:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kelly Hester Land Hall (acquired)</td>
<td>Hunt House and Apartments (acquired)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross Country Clubhouse (completed)</td>
<td>Lyon Hall (acquired)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master Facility Plan (adopted)</td>
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**2009:**
- Master Facility Plan (adopted)
- Truelove Place (acquired)
- Foust Hall Band Room (completed)
- Black Belt Garden (established)
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- Campbell Environmental Education Center (established)
- SGA Bronze Tiger at Cafeteria (installed)
- Fitness Center (opened)

**2010:**
- Craiger Place (acquired)
- International House (acquired)
- University Cinema (acquired)
- Webb Walk of Honor (established)
- Football Stadium Synthetic Turf (installed)
- SGA Bronze Tiger at Tiger Stadium (installed)
- Java City at Tutwiler Library (opened)

**2011:**
- Hunt House and Apartments (acquired)
- Lyon Hall (acquired)
- Nelson Hughes Gymnasium (acquired)
- Wilkins House for Faculty Housing (acquired)
- Gilbert North and South Parking (completed)
- Hoover Apartment Additions (completed)
- Moon Hall Addition (completed)
- Pruitt Hall Lobby (renovated)
- Patterson Apartments (renovated)
- Liza James Howard Courtyard (established)

**2012:**
- Cedarwood (acquired)
- Houston-Bailey House (acquired)
- Presbyterian Manse (acquired)
- Student Life/Student Activities Offices in SUB (established)
- Gilbert Hall (opened)
- Student Clinic with Anderson Medical Center in Livingston (opened)
- Tiger Den (renovated)
- Bibb Graves Auditorium Lighting (upgraded)

**2013:**
- Whitfield Chapel (acquired)
- Pruitt Gymnasium Floor and Seats (renovated)
- Homer Hall Addition (renovated)
- Student Union Building HVAC (updated)

Gilbert Hall... new kid on the block

Gilbert Hall is named after Robert B. Gilbert, a professor of English who served as a member of the faculty from 1948 until 1975. Dr. Gilbert also served as Dean of the School of Graduate Studies and chairman of the Division of Languages and Literature from 1948 - 1972.
As part of its efforts to improve employment opportunities for Black Belt citizens, the University of West Alabama has launched the first phase of its Advanced Manufacturing Technology Certification Program. With successful completion of the program, students will earn the credentials of Automotive Technician Certification and Industrial Maintenance Certification.

The program orientation took place on the UWA campus in Kelly Land Hall, with UWA President Richard Holland, Outreach Services Director Kenneth Walker, and Center for Business and Economic Services Director Billy McFarland welcoming the first cohort of 39 students.

These certifications are tailored to the manufacturing industry and will place candidates on a career pathway to job placement. UWA has partnered with Alabama Power Company and other business and industries throughout West Alabama to ensure participants are trained according to the industry’s needs.

The training program is a major step in UWA’s initiative to serve the workforce needs of the Black Belt region by providing highly-qualified skilled workers to regional industries, a vision of UWA President Richard Holland.

“Our institution has planned for some time now to be able to provide this type of industry training to our citizens, and this program is the beginning of what we think will be a tremendous increase for employment opportunities in the Black Belt,” Holland said. “Not only will we open doors for new industries who will consider our area for locations, we will make it possible for people to secure employment in jobs where they will receive higher compensation than they would without this training. We are most grateful for the leadership provided by Congresswoman Sewell, Congressman Roby, Senator Sessions, and Senator Shelby in connection with this initiative.”

“The two-fold benefits of this certification program will be seen in a relatively short amount of time, as these participants will be ready to enter the workforce in one year or less,” Holland explained. “Even better, the results are far-reaching and will serve our region for many years by greatly enhancing area industries and their ability to employ a greater number of our citizens for many years to come.”

“The Manufacturing Technology Training Program provides us with a unique opportunity to bring much needed job skills in the area of manufacturing to the residents of the Black Belt,” said Veronica Triplett, program coordinator.

The University has plans to enhance the program by offering additional training and certification opportunities for workforce development. The certification program is part of the $2.19 million U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration grant that Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis awarded the University of West Alabama in September, 2012.
Distance learning takes area challenges head-on

One of the University of West Alabama’s goals is to address major educational, social and economic challenges of West Alabama through distance learning. The Division of Outreach Services works with the public and private sectors. One way that UWA meets this goal is through the Division of Outreach Services.

- Since 2008, DOS has received more than $174,000 to train 131 Certified Nursing Assistants for the region.
- From 2008-2013, DOS received more than $1.3 million dollars in grants and contracts to administer workforce training programs in the region.
- During the past five years, the Small Business Development Center has assisted in creating 125 jobs in five Black Belt counties. The center received more than $715,000 in small business loans and $1.6 million in equity capital for the above subjects.
- Since 2008, the DOS has awarded $100,000 to governmental entities to create long-term strategic plans for Black Belt communities.

Special Events and Recognition...

- 2010: Celebrated 175th Anniversary of the University
- 2012:
  ◊ UWA became first institution in Alabama to partner with the Institute of Sustainability, a green certification program to further the University’s efforts to promote environmental awareness and a sustainable campus environment.
  ◊ UWA was the first campus in Alabama to be named a Tree Campus USA by the Arbor Day Foundation.
  ◊ The U.S. Green Building Council awarded a Silver Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certificate to the University for the Hoover Addition Project.
  ◊ The University was recognized by the Minority Access Incorporated, Washington, DC, for its Commitment to Diversity (2010, 2011, and 2012).
  ◊ Board of Trustees approved an eight percent across-the-board increase in salary for 2013-2014 and approved an increase of $486,813 in scholarship funds.
  ◊ Established a recycling program in cooperation with the City of Livingston.

Number of Students Graduated
The University has awarded 26,108 degrees since 1879, of which twenty-four percent (6,223) have been awarded between 2008-2013.
Athletics...

In the company of champions

The Athletic Department seeks to help the University of West Alabama accomplish its purpose of educating students through a comprehensive program of male, female, and coed intercollegiate athletics, superior athletic training and sports medicine support, and academic support services.

UWA's intercollegiate athletic programs operate under the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the Gulf South Conference (GSC), and the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA).

The University seeks to conduct all athletic competition in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the NCAA, the GSC, and the NIRA.

- Chartered Chi Alpha Sigma, a national athletic honor society
- Football:
  - 36-24 record
  - 2012 Gulf South Conference champions, first outright conference title in school history
  - NCAA Playoffs in 2009, 2011 and 2012
  - 2009 NCAA First Round Playoff win was the first postseason victory since 1975
- Baseball:
  - 134-107 record
  - GSC Tournament in 2009, 2012 and 2013
  - NCAA Regional Tournament in 2009
  - Won GSC Eastern Division in 2009
- Men's Basketball:
  - 55-80 record
  - 3 trips to GSC Tournament
- Women's Basketball:
  - 66-75 record
  - 2012 Gulf South Conference Champions
- Men's Soccer:
  - First team in school history finished with a 12-6 record
  - Advanced to the 2012 GSC Tournament as the #3 seed
- Women's Soccer:
  - 13-20-3 record
  - Qualified for first GSC Tournament in 2012

Student Life...

Tiger Bucks—little card, big economic impact

Students at the University of West Alabama access many services on campus using their Tiger Card (the UWA ID card).

In addition, all Tiger Cards have been set up with a Tiger Bucks account, a debit-like account that students deposit money in which is used as a form of payment to purchase goods and services on campus and at some local off-campus businesses.

The program began in August of 2010 with three external merchants. Currently, 11 external county merchants accept Tiger Bucks.

The economic impact of student spending in Sumter County is $76,700.44 from August 2013. However, since the beginning August 2010 date, students have spent $740,890.63 with external merchants.
Homecoming Sale!

UWA BOOKSTORE
UWA VS. WEST GEORGIA
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

15-50% off Selected Items!

Sale is located in the lobby of Wallace Student Union Building

Campus Security/Emergency Preparedness...

Serving all of UWA

The members of the University Police Department serve all people within the UWA jurisdiction with respect, fairness, and compassion. The department is committed to the prevention of crime, the protection of life, and property; the preservation of peace, order, and safety; the enforcement of laws and ordinances, and the safeguarding of constitutional guarantees.

With community service as its foundation, the University Police Department is driven by goals to enhance the quality of life, investigating problems as well as incidents, seeking solutions and fostering a sense of security in community and individuals.

To fulfill its mission, the University of West Alabama Police Department is dedicated to improving a quality work environment and development of its members through effective training, technology, and leadership.

- Moved into new campus headquarters at Craiger House
- Increased the number of police officers and added four security officers
- Implemented campus wide camera surveillance and emergency call-box system
- Met federal requirement for digital communication systems
- Introduced Student Nighttime Auxiliary Patrol (SNAP)
- Implemented new parking regulation systems

Emergency planning

2011:
- Established the Department of Emergency Preparedness and hired a director
- Developed the Emergency Operation Plan for the University
- Coordinated with the City of Livingston and began testing of the emergency alert system
- Participated in the review and update of the Sumter County Emergency Operation Plan

2012:
- Hired the Health and Safety Coordinator
- Implemented monthly inspections of Health and Safety devices campus wide
- Implemented safety orientation training for new employees of the Physical Plant
- Created an Emergency Operations Plan for Lake LU

2013: Hired Health and Safety Inspector
Solid programs back UWA's mission of academic success for students

The University of West Alabama's foremost commitment is to meeting the educational needs of its students. The primary purpose of the University is to provide opportunities for students to pursue a quality education through associate, baccalaureate, master's, and education specialist degrees in liberal arts, natural sciences and mathematics, pre-professional programs, nursing, technology, business, and education. Importance is placed on providing opportunities within the curricula for the development of enhanced skills in critical thinking, communication, leadership, and computer literacy.

The University also seeks to provide students opportunities for growth beyond the classroom through a wide range of extracurricular activities, programs, and services and through the maintenance of an environment of cultural and intellectual diversity. Through the total educational experience that it provides and through its encouragement of the free exchange of ideas among faculty, administration, and students, the University attempts to assist its students in developing the important qualities of independent thinking and respect for the ideas of others and in building firm foundations of personal integrity and character in order to realize their quests for a philosophy of life and for self-fulfillment.

At the University of West Alabama, the emphasis is upon the traditional learner, but the institution is also committed to furthering the concept of lifelong learning and to serving the non-traditional student. It considers among its clientele high schools, businesses and industries, governmental agencies, and professional workers. In serving these diverse publics, the institution employs not only traditional means of delivery, but it also seeks to expand its use of innovative technologies, including distance learning, and to networking with other educational institutions and agencies in order to more comprehensively address the needs of its region.

32 Academic Programs Added

2009:
• Criminal Justice Track added to Sociology degree
• Certificate Program in Public History
• BS in Chemistry Comprehensive – Biochemistry track
• BS in Chemistry Comprehensive – Forensic track
• BS in Chemistry Comprehensive – Traditional track
2010:
• BBA in Accounting (Online)
• MSCE in College Student Development
• Ed.S. in Elementary Education
• Ed.S. in Library Media (certification and non-certification)
• Ed.S. in Elementary Education
• Ed.S. in School Counseling
• Ed.S. in Counseling (non-certification)
2011:
• BA/BS in Interdisciplinary Arts
• BA/BS in Elementary Education K-6 to include P-3
• Ed.S. in Early Childhood Education
• Ed.S. in Special Education K-6/6-12
• Ed.S. in Instructional Leadership
• Ed.S. in Teacher Leader
2012:
• Certification in Advanced Emergency Medical Technician Basic
• Track in Pre-pharmacy in Chemistry
• Track in Actuarial Sciences in Mathematics
• BA/BS in Integrated Marketing Communications
• BA/BS in Early Childhood Development (non-certification)
• BBA in Marketing
• BBA in Finance
2013:
• Alabama Fire College Agreement
• MSCE in Family Counseling
• Automotive Technician Short Certificate
• Dual-degree program in Sociology/Social Work with the University of Alabama
• Master of Business Administration
• MS in Experimental Psychology
• BS in Exercise Science
• M.Ed. in Early Childhood Development (non-certification)

International Programs

• Office of International Programs, established in 2008
• Hosted visiting Chinese professors in 2011, 2012 and 2013
• Completed five regional and national exploratory student excursions with over 330 participants
• Increased overall International Student enrollment, since 2010
  ◦ 2010 – 17 students
  ◦ 2011 – 76 students
  ◦ 2012 – 131 students
  ◦ 2013 – 170 students, projected
• Muskie Fellowship hosted
  ◦ Moldova (2007-2009)
  ◦ Turkmenistan (2012-2014)
• Fulbright Scholar Lecture Series hosted 18 scholars from:
  China
  Egypt
  Estonia
  Hungary
  India
  Israel
  Kyrgyz Republic
  Mexico
  Romania
  Russia
  South Africa
  Spain
  Sweden
  Ukraine
  United Kingdom
  Vietnam (2)
  Democratic Republic of the Congo

Julia Tutwiler Library

2009: Upgraded Voyager Integrated Library System
2010: Began offering remote proctor access to online and hybrid students
2011:
• Created a special collection entitled Southern Images in the archival collections
• Acquired Springer eBook collection
2012:
• Purchased EBSCO Discovery System allowing concurrent searches of library’s catalog and database resources.
• Library hours changed to add an additional 14 hours each week.
2013:
• Library now has more than 140 databases providing access to more than 63,000 academic journals, magazines, newspapers and other resources.
The primary purpose of the University is to provide opportunities for students to pursue a quality education, and it is also committed to furthering the development of innovative technologies, including distance learning, and to networking with other educational institutions in order to more comprehensively address the needs of its clientele, high school students, and adults, but the institution attempts to assist its students in developing the important qualities of additional learner, but the institution.

The University also seeks to provide an environment that it provides and through its maintenance of an environment of cultural and intellectual diversity. The University is also committed to providing opportunities for the maintenance of enhanced skills in critical thinking, attempt to assist its students in developing the important qualities of additional learner, but the institution attempts to assist its students in engaging in learning environments that are rich in diversity and opportunities for growth.

At the University of West Alabama, the emphasis is upon the traditional track.

The Chronicle of Higher Education recognized the University as one of the best institutions nationwide (2013).

The University was the first institution of higher learning in the nation to earn the Integrity Excellence Certification in recognition of the quality and integrity of its online courses offered.

Office of Sponsored Programs

- Established Office of Sponsored Programs in 2008
- Established OSP Professional Development Center as a state-of-art technology center
- Since 2008 OSP submitted 209 grant applications and received $11.2 million in grant funding and $165,000 in equipment and services

Other Activities

- Initiated Faculty Leadership Development Program (2008)
- UWA became managing partner of the Demopolis Higher Education Center (2009)
- Established the Undergraduate Research Symposium (2012)
- Livingston Press published 52 books between 2008-2013

Division of Educational Outreach (DEO)

- Formed in 2008, the Division of Educational Outreach houses bby Publications at UWA, Black Belt Museum, and the Center for the Study of the Black Belt and Continuing Education.
- From 2007-2013, DEO received $2,546,891 in grant funding and an additional $925,427 through the Capital Campaign.
- The Center for the Study of the Black Belt (CSBB) established a 19-county region known as the Black Belt Heritage Area. Legislation proposed by Senators Shelby and Sessions and Representative Sewell to designate the area as a National Heritage Area.
- CSBB established the Black Belt Botanical Garden (2009), the Sucarnocohee Revue (2004) and the Black Belt Hall of Fame (2010).
- The Black Belt Museum established in 2009 presented programs to more than 47,000 individuals in the past two years.
- In 2011, the Fort Tombeche archaeological site expanded from two acres to 32 acres.
- A biannual archeological field school at the site was established, as well as a living history program.
- bby Publications, established in 2009, provided supplemental math materials for Pre-K through 6th grade, and offered more than 564 professional development workshops in Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, New Mexico, Ohio, Mississippi and Wyoming.
- Since 2008, the Alabama Trust for Historic Preservation’s state offices have been housed on UWA campus.

Career Services

2008:
- Hosted first Majors to Careers Event where faculty of each college were available to share information about majors and related occupational information.

2010:
- Held first Fall Career Expo (incorporated Majors to Careers event)
- Joined the East Mississippi Business Development Corporation for business contacts.

2011: 410 students participated in on-campus recruiting events.

2012:
- Recruiting events; number of employers visiting campus increased by 65% over previous year.

“There’s something about this place.”