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
- 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)

#### 2010:
- 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
- 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
- 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
- Completed five regional and national exploratory student excursions with over 330 participants
- Increased overall International Student enrollment, since 2010
  - 2010 – 17 students
  - 2011 – 27 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.