

# The Student Supporter



Student Support Services • 225 Osband Hall  
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## Upcoming Dates to Remember

- July 9** – Registration for second half of session (tuition payment deadline)
- July 10** – Classes Begin
- July 11** – Last day to register or add a course  
Last day to drop a course WITHOUT a grade of "W"
- July 13** – Last day to drop a course with a grade of "W" (full-term courses)
- July 27** – Last day to drop a course with a grade of "W" (second session courses)
- August 8** – Classes End
- August 9-10** – Final Examinations
- August 11** – Commencement
- August 21** – Late Registration/add/drop
- August 22** – Classes Begin
- August 29** – Last day to register or add a course  
Last day to drop a course WITHOUT a grade of "W"

## A SUCCESSFUL START

Nothing pleases me more than to say "Welcome" and "Welcome back" to our new and returning students respectively. As the summer season winds down and we begin to embrace another exciting fall semester, please know the Student Support Services team is eagerly awaiting your arrival. We're here to help you get off to a successful start!



From L to R: Anthony Winston, Dianne Teague, Wendy Cogburn, Cynthia Tucker, Chris Lee

While people define success in different ways, successful students do share some important characteristics. Some of these include: having a positive image of themselves, being aware of their strengths and weaknesses, knowing what they want and having a plan and setting realistic goals to achieve it, being able to adjust to challenges and changes, and knowing how to find and utilize resources and support as needed. Based on your choice of and admission to The University of Alabama, you most likely already possess some of these important characteristics. Whether you are at the beginning, middle, or end of your career as a student at UA, the Student Support Services team is prepared to help you grow intellectually. We know that a well-rounded education will expand life's possibilities for you!

As you read other articles in this edition of our newsletter, take the time to notice the multitude of services being offered by SSS as well as the amazing accomplishments of some of our current students. Reflect on how you will use this information to motivate yourself to be the best you can be, and at the same time, enjoy your college experience. Your positive attitude and a successful start this fall will go a long way in helping you reach your goals as a college student. Let SSS guide you!

Wendy Cogburn  
Manager, Student Support Services

## SSS STUDENTS EXCEL ACADEMICALLY IN SPRING 2007

Congratulations!

We are proud to announce that the following students are doing more than achieving—they are excelling. Evidence of their hard work and focus on academics is reflected in their outstanding grade point averages. Congratulations to these students!

### 4.0 (Spring Semester and Overall)

Randy Beavers  
Milton Nettles  
Jacquelynn Parks

### 4.0 (Overall)

Iesha Ellerbe  
Lynnette Moats  
Candice Mock

### 4.0 (Spring Semester)

Erica Brown  
Brian Hamilton  
Joshua Hollis

### 3.0 and Above (Spring Semester and Overall)

Ebony Bates  
D'Ariel Boykin  
Ashley Brand  
Karis Browder  
Nicole Brown  
Amellia Cannon  
Alesha Cannon  
Brandon Carr  
Shandryka Cochran  
Heather Dean  
Kristy Dubose

Crystal Ellis  
Dennice George  
Sarah Halliday  
Shanna Hayes  
Laterrian Hudson  
John Leverton  
Amanda Lynd  
Christopher Nelson  
Kimberly Parker  
Andrea Passwater  
Stephanie Perkins  
Brandi Peterson  
Ellis Ponder  
Andrea Robertson

Shequita Thompson  
Johnny Tice  
Latonya Washington  
Belinda White  
Tiffany Williams  
Micah Wright

### 3.0 and Above (Overall)

Tiffany Bailey  
Kari-Lyn Bjorn  
Regina Crenshaw  
Tennille Daniels  
Laterriern Davis

Jennifer Files  
Ciara Fitts  
Joy Garnett  
Robert Harris  
Shantay Williams  
Vanessa Williams  
Lawrence Wilson  
Justin Zimmerman

### 3.0 and Above (Spring Semester)

Laura Agerton  
Michael Becallo  
Kirema Brown

Sikeria Caldwell  
Latoya Carstarphen  
Bobby Davis  
Jason Dumas  
Christina Goldsby  
Frankietta Horn  
Ebonie Jackson  
Sarah Kalin  
Latisha Lockett  
Brandy Martin  
Crystal Oliver  
Kimberly Rankin  
Jennifer Rudolph  
Fidel Sebastian

Keeonya Smiley  
Erica Truchon  
Shermeria Warren  
April Whitfield  
Veronica Wilkerson  
Tammy Williams  
Wanda Williams  
Clayton Wilson

## SSS SPOTLIGHT STUDENTS

JOHNNY TICE, PERREN BANKS AND JUSTIN ZIMMERMAN

- In late April 2007, The University of Alabama announced winners of the SGA S.P.I.R.I.T. Scholarships (Students Playing Important Roles in Tradition). Six students, all first-generation college students, were chosen as recipients of these awards, funded by their fellow students. With one in five students on the UA campus being the first in their families to attend college, the competition for the S.P.I.R.I.T. scholarships was keen. The SGA raised \$13,000, resulting in six \$2,000 scholarships being awarded. SSS is proud to acknowledge that Johnny Tice of Tuscaloosa was one of the six students chosen.
- As one of the 20 students chosen nationally to receive a scholarship for travel and study abroad this summer through a program with the Council for Opportunity in Education, Perren Banks, of Uniontown, is currently in residence at the University of Liverpool in England. Perren is participating in a study program entitled "World Citizenship: Building Leadership Skills in a Multicultural Society," and will be traveling to London, Cologne, Germany, Amsterdam, and The Hague in the Netherlands in addition to completing requirements for a course of study at the University of Liverpool.
- Justin Zimmerman is also abroad this summer. He is traveling to Ghana as part of UA's Overseas Summer Program and will earn six hours of college credit as part of this experience. His course of study will include exploration of how cultural norms and values in African societies shape and influence environmental discourses.

**Congratulations to Johnny, Perren, and Justin!!!!**

## SSS COURSE OFFERINGS – FALL 2007

There are still spaces remaining in the following courses offered through SSS AT NO COST TO YOU!

- GS 111-001 and 002 – Academic Skills:  
College Writing – 1 hour credit
- GS 111-003 and 004 – Academic Skills:  
Textbook Reading – 2 hours credit
- GS 111-005 and 006 – Academic Skills:  
College Success – 2 hours credit
- MATH 100-099 – Intermediate Algebra –  
3 hours credit

THESE COURSES ARE AVAILABLE ONLY TO SSS STUDENTS. In order to register, you must contact your counselor in advance of adding these courses.

Call Anthony Winston at 205 348 5376, e-mail [awinston@ctl.ua.edu](mailto:awinston@ctl.ua.edu), or Chris Lee at 205 348 6099, e-mail [clee@ctl.ua.edu](mailto:clee@ctl.ua.edu) to initiate registration

## August 2007 Degree Candidates

Student Support Services proudly announces the following students as candidates for their degrees in the August 2007 Commencement Ceremony:

**Kiya Holmes  
Jennifer Houston  
Eldrin Long  
Brandy Martin  
LaTonya Washington**

## WHAT ARE STRATEGY SESSIONS AND HOW CAN THEY HELP ME?

### Strategy Sessions are:

- A time to outline your academic goals for the semester
- A time to work out a plan for achieving those goals
- A time to discuss your plans for the future
- A requirement of your participation in SSS

When you joined SSS, we became partners with you. This partnership is designed to help you attain your undergraduate degree while building personal and professional development skills. In order to achieve these goals, your counselors must meet with you early in the fall and spring semesters to assist you in developing a set of strategies designed to ensure success—this is your Strategy Session.

**Contact your counselor early to book your Strategy Session. Call Anthony Winston at 205-348-5376 e-mail [awinston@ctl.ua.edu](mailto:awinston@ctl.ua.edu) or Chris Lee at 205-348-6099 email [clee@ctl.ua.edu](mailto:clee@ctl.ua.edu).**



## INCOMING SCHOLARS SEMINAR

Student Support Services welcomes the many new participants in our program. In order to give you full advantage of all our services we will be conducting our annual Incoming Scholars Seminar for new SSS students shortly before fall classes begin.

You will meet your counselor and other SSS staff members, learn all about the courses we offer for full college credit AT NO COST TO YOU, hear how our tutoring program can make an enormous difference in your academic career, and listen to insider information from your Peer Mentors who really know their way around The University of Alabama! We are looking forward to sharing all this information and much more with you at the Seminar.

We will be sending you a letter in early August with details regarding the Seminar. Again welcome to Student Support Services and to The University of Alabama!!!

## UNSCRIPTED – INTERACTIVE THEATRE FOR CHANGE

Want to take part in writing a play? Want to see it performed before your eyes?

*Unscripted*, a production of the Women's Resource Center, will be presented during the fall semester and all SSS students are invited to attend. Through the tool of interactive theatre, this play will offer dynamic solutions to difficult issues such as:

Dating Violence  
Sexual Assault  
Stalking  
Racism  
Classism

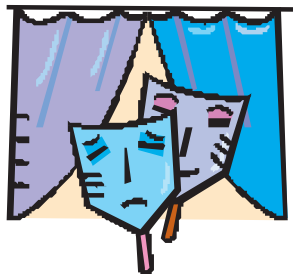
Audience members are presented a variety of scenarios that are performed for them and are then asked to offer their own ideas for how to deal with the situations. Here are some of the current scenarios:

“Crossing the Line”—Tyler becomes infatuated with Emily after bumping into her at a party, and soon his affections go from flattering to disturbing. What will it take for Tyler to know he is crossing the line?

“Taking a Stand”—When Tyson and Theresa are assigned to the same group project, Tyson immediately feels as though he is not welcome. Feeling the racial tension may eventually have an effect on his grade, Tyson has no choice but to take a stand against his peers.

“Break Away”—Stephanie and John have recently ended their year-long relationship, yet he still insists on being heavily involved in her life. See what happens between them when they are forced to deal with the difficult task of breaking away.

Plan to join us as we see how these real life experiences play out and how we can decide to change the direction in which they go, and ultimately the endings. E-mail announcements regarding dates and times will be sent, and fliers/sign-up sheets will be posted in the SSS offices during early fall semester.



## JASON DUMAS - ACHIEVER OF THE MONTH FOR JULY

Jason Dumas is our Achiever of the Month for July. Jason is originally from Vineland High School and is a 1995 graduate of Marengo High School, where he played football and basketball. He is the youngest of ten and two of his sisters are University of Alabama alumnae. He is currently pursuing a degree in Biology, and works on campus at Einstein Bagels.



In his spare time he enjoys spending time with family and playing basketball at the recreation center. He also enjoys watching Alabama football, basketball, and baseball. His future plans are to pursue a career with the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga.

Jason had this to say about the SSS program, “Student Support Services has helped me a great deal. They made tutoring accessible. I received good input from counseling, especially with career planning. In the Textbook Reading Class I learned how to take notes and become a better student.”

## JOHNNY TICE – STUDENT ACHIEVER FOR AUGUST

Student Support Services has named Johnny Tice our Student Achiever for the month of August. A junior from Tuscaloosa, Johnny was recently accepted into the upper division of the Capstone College of Nursing. He has held numerous leadership roles and honors on campus including—Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., SSS Student Advisory Board Member, Senator for School of Nursing for 2006-07, recently appointed Ambassador for School of Nursing, Phi Eta Sigma, Alpha Delta Lambda, First Generation SGA Scholarship recipient, Talented Tenth and the list goes on.



This future Nurse Practitioner has appeared on both the President's and Dean's list and attributes much of his success to great study habits and strong family support. When asked what he likes to do in his spare time, Johnny laughed, asking “What spare time? That's not a luxury you get in nursing, but I do try to take a minute to enjoy my friends and family. I find my field interesting and believe it or not, I really enjoy learning new things in nursing even when I don't have to.” Johnny plans to finish his degree May 2009 and continue his education in Family Medicine.

## PEER MENTOR UPDATE

One of the benefits of being involved in SSS is the opportunity to participate in arts and entertainment events on this campus throughout the school year. This past year the SSS Peer Mentoring Program sponsored several events which were open to all SSS students. During the fall 2006 semester, we enjoyed a thrilling rendition of *Our Town* at the Marian Gallaway Theater, and later, we had the rare opportunity to hear Fidel Castro's daughter, Alina Fernandez, speak about her life in Cuba, and her escape to the United States. In the spring semester we attended *Jackie, Vi and Lena*, a play about the lives of Jackie Robinson, Viola Liuzzo, and Lena Horne, and their involvement with the Civil Rights Movement, followed by the wonderful a cappella sounds of "Sweet Honey in the Rock." At the end of the term, we were spellbound by the breathtaking performance of "Dance Alabama."

Many of our students who attended this past year's events found them to be a great stress reliever and enjoyed seeing some of what this campus has to offer. We are currently putting together our schedule of Arts and Entertainment for the upcoming year, and welcome any suggestions. All events are free for SSS students, so we highly encourage you to take part in the events that we will be planning.

## SAB PLANS FOR 2007/2008 STUDY ABROAD INITIATIVE

Have you ever dreamed of traveling out of the country? Did you know that one of the best times to do so is while you are in college? Capstone International offers a large variety of semester and interim/summer overseas study programs that take students beyond the typical academic setting. The Student Support Services Advisory Board plans to get more SSS participants involved in leadership opportunities by encouraging early participation in the study abroad experience.

One might ask why study abroad—we ask, why not! SAB will be encouraging SSS participants to take advantage of every opportunity which leads to the ultimate college experience. Having a study abroad experience is much easier than you think. Although there are many myths and questions, a short chat with one of the counselors or a visit to one of the orientations will be most helpful. Did you know that you can study abroad and get college credits all while using financial aid to pay for it?

Students enrolled in Overseas Summer Programs are eligible for financial aid and scholarships. Financial aid awards are based on the entire cost of the summer program, including tuition, airfare, accommodations and meals. Let Capstone International tailor an experience for you by calling 348-5312 to make an appointment with a counselor or by dropping by B.B. Comer room 135. Please make plans to attend the big information event on September 18, 2007—all day in the Ferguson Center.



## CHRIS' CORNER

### Satisfactory Academic Progress—What Is It?

In order to receive federal financial aid, all UA students must make satisfactory academic progress toward the completion of their degrees within a reasonable period of time. The first requirement that

you need to be aware of is the **minimum scholastic requirement**. If you are a freshman, you must maintain an institutional GPA of 1.5. If you are sophomore, you must maintain an institutional GPA of 1.7. If you are a junior, you must maintain an institutional GPA of 1.9. If you are a senior, then you must maintain an institutional GPA of 2.0.

The next requirement you should be aware of is **measurable progress**. *You must complete 67% of the courses that you attempt. Each time you fail a course, repeat a course, withdraw from a course, or receive an incomplete, this counts against your completion percentage.* This policy does not apply to courses that are dropped from your schedule during drop/add in the first week of classes. This requirement is certainly something to think about if you intentionally sign up for more classes than you intend to complete, with the plan of withdrawing from one or more classes later in the semester. A better strategy would be to only enroll for the number of courses that you fully intend to complete.

The final requirement is **finishing your degree within a reasonable length of time**. A reasonable length of time for the completion of a degree program is generally no more than 150 percent of the normal time required to complete a degree program.

If you believe that you are in danger of not meeting one or more of these requirements, then you should contact your SSS counselor immediately. We will be more than happy to assist you with your financial aid appeal should the need arise.

## WORDS FROM ANTHONY



### The Power of Asking Questions

Have you ever been confused or unsure about something, but for some reason never asked for clarity? Or what about failing to ask a question concerning a class or university policy that just didn't quite make sense? This happens all the time and is what I call missed opportunities—missed opportunities to get ahead, missed opportunities to have peace of mind and missed opportunities to make sound decisions.

When we look at great time management, forming a killer strategy or even planning fun activities, it all works better when we arm ourselves with the proper information that comes from asking questions. Years ago we were taught that there is no such thing as a silly question and there isn't. Sure, some professors may have their quirks where they may not want you to ask questions during lecture, but that's just a matter of personal preference. It is up to you to find out what's required of you and this, my friend, can only come from asking questions. There is no one cure-all. Each of you will certainly have your own set of circumstances but never let it be said that you missed the opportunity of a lifetime because you never asked.