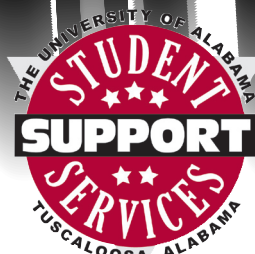


# The Student Supporter



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A unit of the Center for  
Teaching and Learning

May/June 2009

## Special Honors Edition

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### Upcoming Dates to Remember

- May 1** Classes End
- May 4-8** Final Exams
- May 9** Commencement
- May 11** Interim classes begin
- May 12** Last day to register or add a course for Interim,  
Last day to drop a course without a grade of "W"
- May 22** Last day to drop a course with a grade of "W,"  
Last day to drop a course on-line,  
Last day to withdraw from the University without petition
- May 29** Interim classes end
- June 1** Late registration/add/drop for first half and second half summer session
- June 2** Classes begin
- June 3** Last day to register or add a course for first half of session  
Last day to drop a course without a grade of "W"
- June 19** Last day to drop a course with a grade of "W,"  
Last day to drop a course on-line,  
Last day to withdraw from the University without petition  
Classes end – first half of session

## 2009 SSS HONORS RECEPTION

Students, family, and friends joined together April 16 for a celebratory reception to honor the accomplishments of SSS students during the 2008/2009 academic year.



#### Achievement Awards

**Developing Scholar Award-**  
Jasmin Bush, Chris Crawford

#### Exemplary Participation-

Amber Braswell, Katherine Stowe

#### Most Motivated -

Eugene Law, Calvin Williams

#### Most Improved-

Tasha Dew, Jason Dumas

#### Most Optimistic -

LaPrecious Russell, Corey Whaley

#### Outstanding Cumulative GPA Awards

Tiffany Bailey  
LaShara Barnes  
Randy Beavers  
D'Ariel Boykin  
Ashley Brand  
Karis Browder  
Elizabeth Brown  
Christina Bryant  
Alesha Cannon  
Brandon Carr  
Monica Carter  
Xue-Zhi Chen  
YoungChan Choi  
Matthew Clem  
Shandryka Cochran  
Chrishauna Colbert  
Chris Crawford  
Regina Crenshaw  
Tennille Daniels  
Erica Davis  
Elizabeth Doherty  
Kristy Dubose  
Iesha Ellerbe  
Adrienne Farris  
Treasure Fay  
Kyle Fox  
Brandon Gallimore  
Terralynn Grayson  
Amber Harris  
Shanna Hayes  
Joshua Hollis  
Melanie Hubbert  
LaTerrian Hudson

Caroline James  
John Leverton  
Amanda Lynd  
Joshua Maddox  
Selena Mason  
Ronnie McCoy  
Shauna McDaniel  
Amber Miles  
Kimkeisha Mitchell  
Candice Mock  
Charles Myers  
Milton Nettles  
Jacquelynn Parks  
Nilam Patel  
Ellis Ponder  
Latrisa Pugh  
LaPrecious Russell  
Keith Saint  
Sara Shipp  
Chase Smith  
Teresa Snowden  
Zachari Swiecki  
Yaleshia Taylor  
Yoshanda Taylor  
Allie Thompson  
Johnny Tice  
Corey Whaley  
Belinda White  
Karyn White  
Calvin Williams  
Erin Williams  
Kelvin Williams  
Vanessa Williams  
Clayton Wilson  
Vonquesha Winn  
Emily Yerby  
Justin Zimmerman

#### Superb Semester GPA Awards

Patrice Ayers  
Tiffany Bailey  
LaShara Barnes  
Randy Beavers  
Kia Boyd  
D'Ariel Boykin  
Ashley Brand  
Herbert Brown  
Christina Bryant  
Reeshawna Caddell  
Brandon Carr  
Xue-Zhi Chen  
Tiffany Chess  
Sarah Chan Choi  
Matthew Clem  
Shandryka Cochran  
Chris Crawford  
Elaine Dallas  
Erica Davis  
Elizabeth Doherty  
Jason Dumas  
Sarah Duncan  
Tarria Echols  
Iesha Ellerbe  
Adrienne Farris  
Treasure Fay  
Laura Fowler  
Kyle Fox  
Kimberly Gee  
Christina Goldsby  
Erika Goodman  
Sarah Halliday  
Amber Harris  
LaDonna Harris  
Shanna Hayes  
Joshua Hollis  
Ashley Horton  
Melanie Hubbert  
LaTerrian Hudson  
Caroline James  
Shonteria Johnson  
Sabrina Jones  
Portia Keith  
Sade Lawson  
John Leverton  
Eldrin Long  
Amanda Lynd  
Zenobia Marshall  
Selena Mason  
Brandy May  
Amber Miles  
Candice Mock  
Jama Moore  
Sadie Moore  
Diana Moorer

Charles Myers  
Milton Nettles  
Jacquelynn Parks  
Nilam Patel  
Ellis Ponder  
Vona Robbins  
LaPrecious Russell  
Keith Saint  
Fidel Sebastian  
Sara Shipp  
Chase Smith  
Teresa Snowden  
Tiffany Spencer  
Benjamin Strong  
Zachari Swiecki  
Yaleshia Taylor  
Yoshanda Taylor  
Johnny Tice  
Corey Whaley  
Belinda White  
Karyn White  
Jessica White  
Calvin Williams  
Erin Williams  
Kelvin Williams  
Shantay Williams  
Vanessa Williams  
Vonquesha Winn  
Emily Yerby

**Exemplary Freshman GPA-**  
Melanie Hubbert  
Zachari Swiecki  
Kelvin Williams

**Exemplary Sophomore GPA -**  
Charles Blake Myers

**Exemplary Junior GPA -**  
Xue-Zhi Chen  
Candice Mock

**Exemplary Senior GPA -**  
Randy Beavers  
Iesha Ellerbe  
Jacquelynn Parks

**Tutor of the Year -**  
Randy Beavers

## SSS STUDENTS SELECTED TO PRESTIGIOUS BLACKBURN INSTITUTE



For the third year in a row, two SSS students have been selected to the highly-acclaimed Blackburn Institute at The University of Alabama. Congratulations go to Caroline James and Karis Browder upon being chosen as Blackburn Fellows for the 2009-2010 year.

Housed within the Division of Student Affairs at The University of Alabama and funded through contributions from private donors, the Blackburn Institute is widely considered to be one of the most dynamic leadership development organizations in the country. Named in honor of Dr. John L. Blackburn, a nationally renowned leader in higher education, Dr. Blackburn served as dean of students at The University of Alabama and was instrumental in the University's peaceful integration. In 1995, The University of Alabama's Division of Student Affairs formed the Institute to further Dr. Blackburn's belief that people link strategic actions through the generations for progressive and ethical change.

Caroline and Karis join previous year's SSS students, Erin Shirley and Milton Nettles from 2008-2009; and Robert L. Harris III and Justin Zimmerman from 2007-2008 as Blackburn Fellows. Congratulations to our SIX SSS Blackburn Fellows!

## FALL 2009 SSS SCHEDULE OF COURSES

*THESE COURSES ARE AVAILABLE ONLY TO SSS STUDENTS. NO FEES ARE CHARGED. ALL COURSES ARE FOR FULL ACADEMIC CREDIT. SEE YOUR COUNSELOR FOR A PERMIT TO ENROLL.*

**GS 111-001 (41450) – Academic Skills: College Writing**  
Lecture Mondays 1:00 p.m. – 1:50 p.m. Osband 230

**GS 111-002 (41455) – Academic Skills: College Writing**  
Lecture Tuesdays 2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m. Osband 230  
Instructor: Dianne Teague

**Course Description:** A one-credit hour course that focuses on problem areas in writing, including development of a thesis, grammar, punctuation, sentence style, and structure.

**GS 111-005 (41456) – Academic Skills: College Success**  
Lecture Tuesdays/Thursdays 1:00 p.m. – 1:50 p.m. Osband 230

**GS 111-006 (41457) – Academic Skills: College Success**  
Lecture Tuesdays/Thursdays 10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. Osband 230  
Instructors: Robin Griffin and Kathy Wilson

**Course Description:** A two-credit hour course that covers a wide range of topics dealing with subjects from academic lifestyles to money management.

**MATH 100-099 (44921) – Intermediate Algebra**  
Lecture MTWThF (5 days each week) 1:00 p.m. – 1:50 p.m. Osband 226  
Instructor: Brie Gann

**Course Description:** A three-hour credit course that focuses on functions, graphs, linear equations and inequalities, quadratic equations, systems of equations, and operations with exponents and radicals. The solution of word problems is stressed. Not applicable to UA Core Curriculum mathematics requirements. Students placed in MATH 100 must complete it as a prerequisite for MATH 110, 112, 115 or any other MA-designated course.

## KIM PARKER – SSS SHOWED ME THE WAY!

It has been a long journey but I have finally reached my destination. In December 2008 I received my acceptance letter for Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry, and this spring was offered a position at The University of Tennessee School of Dentistry. Although the road to get here was not easy, I am thankful that I arrived. After graduating from Ramsay High School in May 2003, I came to The University of Alabama not really knowing the keys to success or the effort that it takes to become a successful student.



Fortunately, while working at the Center for Teaching and Learning, a friend told me about SSS and how it helped her adjust to college and assisted her in some tough decisions about classes. I applied and fortunately I was admitted into this program. From day one I got involved with SSS by becoming a student mentor and being a student ambassador in the summers for Bama Bound. I also received numerous awards from SSS such as SSS Superb Semester Grade Point Average, SSS Outstanding Cumulative Grade Point Average, SSS Outstanding Leadership, SSS Student Achiever of the Month, SSS Certificate of Achievement for Outstanding Peer Mentor, and SSS Most Motivated Student. Other awards received at the University include being on the Dean's list and Recipient of the Black Faculty and Staff Honors Award all four years.

Additionally, in the summer of 2006 I along with many of my peers, chartered The University of Alabama Chapter of the Minority Association of Pre-Health Students where I became its first recording secretary. We saw a need on this campus for minority students who were pursuing study in the fields of health to have an association where we could meet and discuss important topics such as courses to take and the application process. I was also active in many other organizations on campus such as the Lambda Zeta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., NPHC, Phi Alpha Theta, The University of Alabama's Student Success Council and The University of Alabama's College Democrats.

It was actually on a cultural trip with SSS to UAB where I was first exposed to the field of Dentistry. Before then I always knew I wanted to work in the health care field, but I was unsure of the path to take. I had experience shadowing at Children's Hospital and UAB while in high school, and even shadowing at the University of Alabama's School of Medicine in college, but I still was very apprehensive about medical school. So after talking to the medical, dental, optometry, and physical therapy students, I realized that in Dentistry, I can have a career that's both challenging and fulfilling at the same time without compromising the values that I wanted in life. To solidify my decision in Dentistry, I began shadowing Dr. Hiram Johnson at Johnson & Marshall Dental Office in Tuscaloosa. Soon afterwards I was studying for my DATs and preparing for my final year here at the University. I graduated from the University in December 2007 with a Bachelors degree in Science with a double major in Biology and History.

After dental school I plan to work with underserved populations by making a positive change in people's lives, teaching them the correct mechanics to proper tooth care, and the importance of maintaining good oral health, which is an essential part of good overall health.

I hope that my story will inspire someone who may have felt like the road to a degree is insurmountable. I want to tell you to never give up on any goal no matter how hard it may seem to obtain. As long as you have faith and determination, anything is possible. For me, allowing God to guide my feet and never giving up hope are the reasons for all my accomplishments.

# SSS Students Recognized During Honors Week

The following students were honored for their academic achievement and leadership during the Tappings and Awards Ceremony, which is the finale of UA's annual Honors Week:

## UA Black Scholar Awards Recognizing High Academic Achievement

**Sandra Hullett Award** (Freshmen) - Kelvin Williams

**Cleophus Thomas Award** (Seniors) - Iesha Ellerbe

## SSS students were also inducted into these campuswide honoraries:

**Omicron Delta Kappa** - Jacquelynn Parks

**Blue Key Honor Fraternity** - Milton Nettles, Jacquelynn Parks

**Anderson Society** - Milton Nettles, Jacquelynn Parks

**Mortar Board** - Jacquelynn Parks

During each Honors Week a growing number of SSS participants receive awards and recognition for their achievements during the year. We extend our warmest congratulations to all these students whose outstanding work and efforts have been highlighted by The University of Alabama.

Kyle Aldridge	Society of Automotive Engineers Outstanding Formula Team Member
Tiffany Bailey	Farabee-Tannehill Award for Excellence
LaShara Barnes	Black Scholars Senior Award
Randy Beavers	Black Scholars Senior Award Computer-Based Honors Fellowship Golden Key International Honour Society University Honors Program
D'Ariel Boykin	American Chemical Society Scholars Award Black Scholars Senior Award University Honors Program
Ashley Brand	Myatt Harvill-Intermark Endowed Memorial Scholarship Cum Laude Honor Graduate
Karis Browder	Black Scholars Junior Award International Honors Program
Jasmin Bush	Beta Beta Beta Biological Society
Alesha Cannon	Black Scholars Senior Award University Honors Program
Brandon Carr	University Honors Program
Xue-Zhi Chen	Omega Rho Sigma Chapter of the National Residence Hall Honorary National Society of Collegiate Scholars University Honors Program
Shandryka Cochran	Black Scholars Junior Award University Honors Program
Chrishuna Colbert	Lettie Pate Whitehead Nursing Scholarship MV Johnson Scholarship Black Scholars Senior Award
Regina Crenshaw	Black Scholars Sophomore Award
Tennille Daniels	Lettie Pate Whitehead Nursing Scholarship Black Scholars Senior Award Sigma Theta Tau National Nursing Honor Society
Tasha Dew	University Honors Program
Anna-Wesley Dorsett (SSS Tutor)	Order of Omega Leadership Honor Society
Iesha Ellerbe	Black Scholars Award Academic Excellence-Senior University Honors Program
Adrienne Farris	College of Education Dean's List National Society of Collegiate Scholars University Honors Program
Treasure Fay	Phi Eta Sigma National Freshman Honor Society University Honors Program
Kyle Fox	Black Scholars Freshman Award
Brandon Gallimore	Black Scholars Senior Award
Ajeenah Geeter	National Society of Collegiate Scholars
Erika Goodman	Knight Foundation Endowed Scholarship to Enhance Diversity in Journalism
Terralynn Grayson	Black Scholars Senior Award
Sarah Halliday	Stephanie Leigh Colbert Endowed Memorial Excellence Scholarship
Amber Harris	Distinguished Undergraduate Scholar Award-Social Work Golden Key International Honour Society University Honors Program

Robert Harris	The Other Club
Melanie Hubbert	International Honors Program
Latterian Hudson	Black Scholars Senior Award
Caroline James	Black Scholars Freshman Award Phi Eta Sigma National Freshman Honor Society University Honors Program
Sarah Kalin	College of Education Dean's List
Daniel Levertton	Golden Key International Honour Society
Amanda Lynd	Dr. James Searcy Snow, Jr. Endowed Scholarship
Joshua Maddox	Eta Kappa Nu Outstanding Junior Award Golden Key International Honour Society University Honors Program
Selena Mason	University Honors Program
Sade Mays	National Society of Collegiate Scholars
Ronnie McCoy	Black Scholars Sophomore Award National Society of Collegiate Scholars
Shauna McDaniel	National Society of Collegiate Scholars University Honors Program
Ashley McKenzie	National Society of Collegiate Scholars
Amber Miles	Black Scholars Sophomore Award
Kimkeisha Mitchell	Black Scholars Senior Award
Candice Mock	Golden Key International Honour Society
Blake Myers	Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society For Freshmen University Honors Program
Milton Nettles	Capstone Engineering Society Outstanding Senior Award Omega Chi Epsilon Most Outstanding Member Award 2008-09 Vice President, Ambassadors of the College of Engineering (ACEs) Black Scholars Senior Award McNair Scholars Program President, Omega Chi Epsilon National Chemical Engineering Society
Jacquelynn Parks	Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society Tau Beta Pi National Engineering Society University Honors Program
Andrea Passwater	Alpha Epsilon Delta International Premedical Honorary University Honors Program
Nilem Patel	University Honors Program
Latrisa Pugh	Beta Beta Beta Biological Society
LaPrecious Russell	Black Scholars Senior Award
Sarah Shipp	Black Scholars Freshman Award EBSCO Honors College Scholarship Phi Eta Sigma National Freshman Honor Society University Honors Program
Chase Smith	University Honors Program
Teresa Snowden	Black Scholars Sophomore Award
Zachari Swiecki	University Honors Program
Yaleshia Taylor	Black Scholars Sophomore Award
Yoshanda Taylor	Black Scholars Sophomore Award National Society of Collegiate Scholars
Johnny Tice	Clinical Excellence in Nursing Award Linda and Terry Olivet Endowed Scholarship Black Scholars Senior Award University Honors Program
Corey Whaley	Black Scholars Freshman Award University Honors Program
Karyn White	Black Scholars Freshman Award
Calvin Williams	Black Scholars Junior Award
Erin Williams	Black Scholars Senior Award Treasurer and Director of Special Events for the Alabama Student Society for Communication Arts
Kelvin Williams	Black Scholars Award Academic Excellence - Freshman Phi Eta Sigma National Freshman Honor Society University Honors Program
Shantay Williams	University Honors Program
Joseph Wright	Outstanding Performance in New College Seminar
Justin Zimmerman	University Honors Program

## JACKIE PARKS – MAY STUDENT ACHIEVER

My name is Jackie Parks, and I am a junior majoring in Biology. People are my main passion in life, and I have been able to find that passion through my journey at UA! By being a Coca-Cola 1st Generation Scholar, I have been able to speak and meet wonderful people who fight for the cause of helping others achieve their goal in higher education. This scholarship means the world to my family and me because it has given me the opportunity to find and pursue my passion for helping others in the medical field.



Recently, I was chosen to be the Vice-President of Administrative Affairs for Project Health. Project Health is a peer-mentoring group made up of college students who mentor their fellow students on living healthy lifestyles. I have recently conducted peer sessions on relieving stress, planning a safe spring break, and discussing issues women face with body image. Project Health has given me the opportunity to learn about educating others on being healthy individuals. My biggest endeavor has been my current research project called Beautiful Health. I am developing a mentoring program where college women will mentor young girls on having healthy perceptions of themselves and promoting a healthy regard for others.

I also love my experience in the Honors College. Thanks to the wonderful service learning classes I have learned about mentoring young children, and have been fortunate enough to mentor two young 3rd graders in math at Holt Elementary and also 6th and 7th graders in the *Speak Up, Tuscaloosa!* Program. In *Speak Up*, we taught the children debating skills as well as the importance of civic responsibility. I am a member of the Honors College Student Advisory Board, and I believe the Honors College has allowed me to get a diverse education here at UA!

Additionally, I am involved in several honoraries on campus. I currently serve as the Cardinal Key Secretary where I organized a trip to DCH Pediatric Center to deliver stockings to the children in the Christmas Season. I am a new member of the senior honoraries, Anderson Society and Mortar Board. I currently have a part-time job as a Physical Therapy Aide where I help the therapist with patients and their daily exercises. I owe all of my opportunities to God and my family. They inspire me daily to pursue my passions of helping others and pursuing my dream of a medical career.

## ERICKA EZELL – JUNE STUDENT ACHIEVER

Ericka M. Ezell is our Student Achiever for the month of June 2009. A junior transfer student from Alabama Southern Community College majoring in Business Management and Marketing, Ericka has found herself as busy at UA as she was at Alabama Southern where she was a very active student. Some of the many clubs and organizations of which she is a part include the Transfer Student Association (TEA), Sophomore Year Experience Subcommittee of the Undergraduate Student Success Council, Junior Achievement Volunteer, Entrepreneurship Club, Future Alumni for Tradition of Excellence (FATE), and of course Student Support Services (SSS).



Ericka is also the recipient of the Betty H. Loomis Endowment Scholarship in Management for the 2009-2010 academic year. But perhaps her proudest accomplishment is being elected as the first African-American female president of The University of Alabama Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team. The SIFE team was recently named 2009 Regional Champion at the SIFE USA Regional Competition in Atlanta. UA is one of more than 500 SIFE programs in the United States and is preparing to go to the 2009 SIFE USA National Exposition in Philadelphia, PA, May 10-12. Good luck, Ericka!!!!

## ROBIN'S RHETORIC – HAVE A COPACETIC & CONSTRUCTIVE SUMMER



As summer break is upon us I want to encourage you to use your time to your advantage. Opportunities of which you can avail yourself include:

- Read for pleasure – It can help improve your reading skills and vocabulary.
- Take a class – To catch up on requirements, to get ahead in your coursework, or even to explore an interesting subject unrelated to your major.
- Volunteer – You are helping the community, plus it is great for resumes, it can be fun and related to your field of interest.
- Work – To make money, of course, either to save for school or to have some spending change but also to get experience and boost your resume.
- Relax – After two long semesters at UA you just might deserve a true summer break and take some time out. I do not advocate sitting at home and being a couch potato (and neither will the folks at home). Be useful around your home and find some constructive things to do.

Above all, be sure to enjoy your summer break. We'll see you back at SSS in the fall.

## THE WORLD ACCORDING TO WILSON



### THE IMPORTANCE OF CULTURAL EVENTS

Because you have chosen to be a member of Student Support Services, you have already committed yourself to obtaining the best education possible here at The University of Alabama. Along with the many academic opportunities offered through SSS, several cultural events are provided each semester to help round out your educational experience. "Why are cultural events necessary or important?" students sometimes ask. This question often comes from students who feel they are too busy to take advantage of these programs. We are so fortunate that our campus and surrounding areas are spilling over with events in the arts and entertainment world. From dance concerts to symphonies, poetry readings to plays, art exhibits to film festivals; our community is rich in culture. It may sound cliché to say that culture enriches our lives, but it is so true, and when our lives are enriched we in turn are able to enrich the lives of those around us.

What are some of the other benefits of including cultural events in our busy schedules? While academics can be more structured and sometimes even rigid, the arts can be more freeing and reflective. Research shows that study of the arts can build confidence, help us develop creative expression and healthy risk taking, enhance our communication skills, the ability to analyze, make decisions and solve problems (Arts Education Partnership, 1999). Many students tend to associate cultural events with something that may be stuffy, boring, or more high-brow, when in reality these experiences can be exciting and just plain fun. At the most recent *Dance Alabama* all of the pieces were performed and choreographed by students, one even being set to a Kanye West song.

It is also important to remember that when you expand your experiences and increase your body of knowledge, you give yourself more talking points in employment, educational, and social settings. Many of our students have never had the opportunity to be involved, or even exposed to the arts; therefore, in order to give our students every possible advantage we feel it is most important to provide fine arts opportunities, even if it is only by being an observer, or audience member. Be sure to be on the lookout for our Fall cultural events!

## SSS COMPUTER LAB PRIVILEGES



One of your privileges as an SSS participant is free use of the computer lab. The only requirement is that you sign in for each use of the facility. The sign-in book is conveniently placed at the front of the lab. Failure to comply with the sign-in procedure will result in your lab privileges being revoked. If you have any questions, please check with Ms. Cynthia Tucker in Osband 225.