



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2015

GROWING IN BOTH SIZE & EXCELLENCE

Enrollment is up, but not
at the expense of quality

INSIDE: REFLECTIONS

A message from
the President



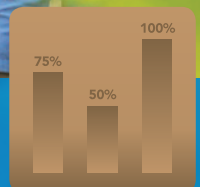
HIGHLIGHTS

A brief recap of
achievements



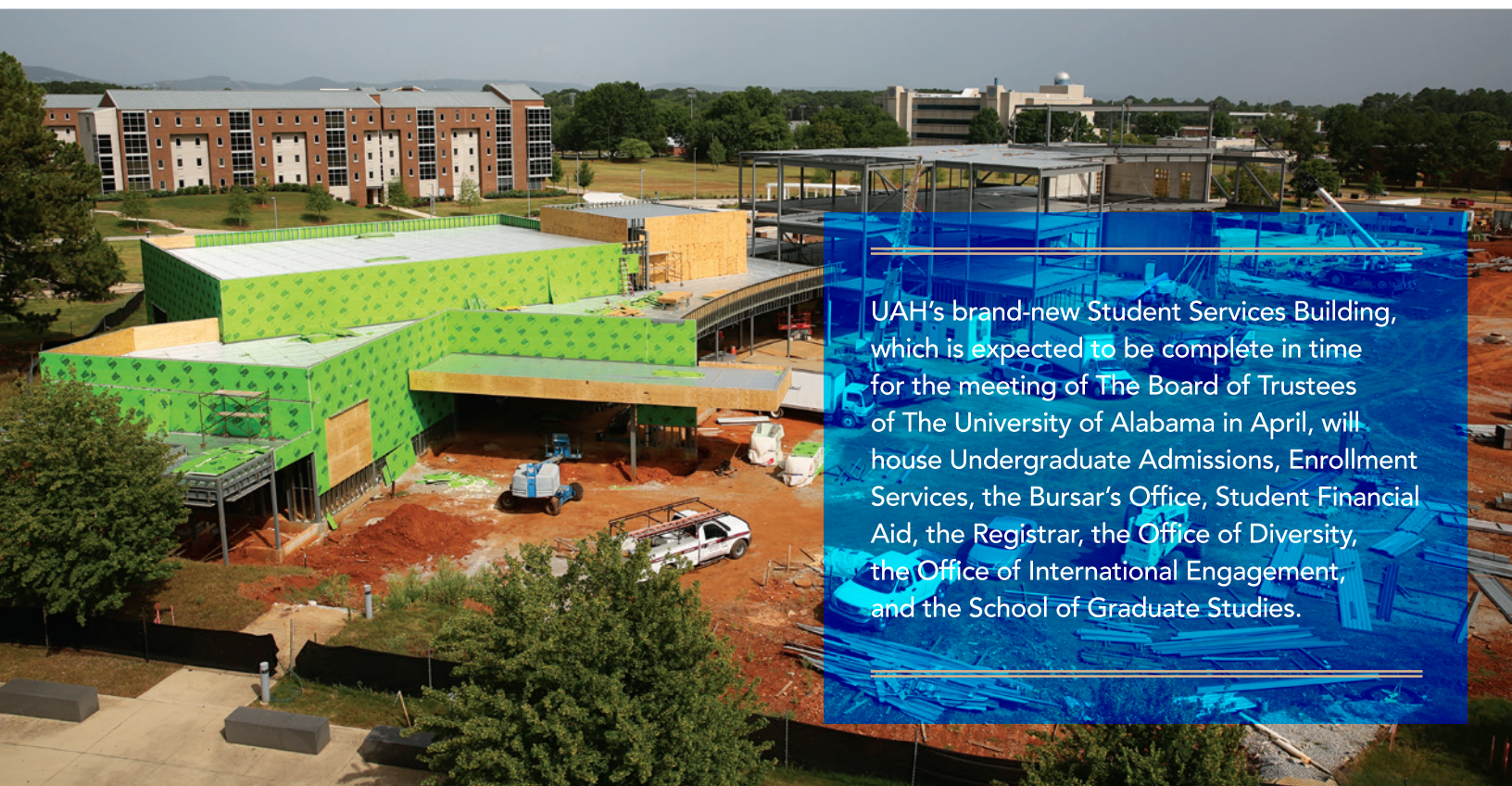
DATA POINTS

An infographic
year in review





THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE



UAH's brand-new Student Services Building, which is expected to be complete in time for the meeting of The Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama in April, will house Undergraduate Admissions, Enrollment Services, the Bursar's Office, Student Financial Aid, the Registrar, the Office of Diversity, the Office of International Engagement, and the School of Graduate Studies.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN
HUNTSVILLE ADMINISTRATION**

President
Robert A. Altenkirch, Ph.D.

**Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs**
Christine Curtis, Ph.D.

**Vice President for University
Advancement**
Robert Lyon

Vice President for Student Affairs
Kristi Motter, Ph.D.

**Senior Vice President
for Finance and Administration**
Ray Pinner

Vice President for Diversity
Delois Smith

**Vice President for Research and
Economic Development**
Ray Vaughn, Ph.D.

**THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA**

The Honorable Robert Bentley, M.D.
Governor and President Ex Officio

Thomas R. Bice, Ed.D., Ex Officio
State Superintendent of Education

Karen Brooks, President Pro Tempore
Tuscaloosa, AL

Paul W. Bryant, Jr.
Tuscaloosa, AL
(through 9/2015)

Judge John H. England, Jr.
Tuscaloosa, AL

Joseph C. Espy III
Montgomery, AL

Ronald W. Gray
Huntsville, AL

Barbara Humphrey
Birmingham, AL

John D. Johns
Birmingham, AL

Vanessa Leonard
Rockford, AL

W. Davis Malone III
Dothan, AL

Harris V. Morrisette
Mobile, AL

Scott Phelps
Tuscaloosa, AL

Finis E. St. John IV
Cullman, AL

William "Britt" Sexton
Decatur, AL

Marietta M. Urquhart
Mobile, AL

Kenneth L. Vandervoort, M.D.
Anniston, AL

James W. Wilson III
Montgomery, AL

CHANCELLOR

Robert E. Witt, Ph.D.

Features



2

President's Message

Reflecting on a historic year that saw increased enrollment and rising ACT scores.



3

Cover Story

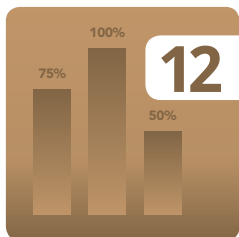
Quantity and quality converge with UAH's largest freshman class ever posting the highest average ACT scores to date.



6

Highlights

A brief recap of the recent accomplishments of UAH's faculty, staff, and students.



12

Data Points

An infographic look at the year in review.



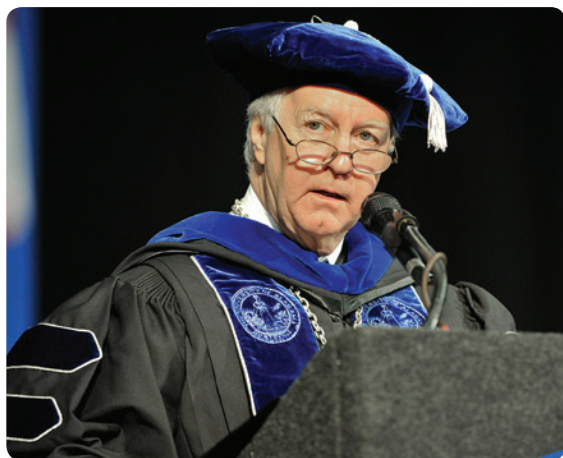
14

Alumna Profile

Renowned artist and jewelry designer Kathy Chan speaks to the importance of education and alumni support.

A Lesson from Shakespeare

"It is not in the stars to hold our destiny, but in ourselves."



William Shakespeare was an English poet, playwright, and actor, widely regarded as the greatest writer of the English language. But his writing also contained very powerful philosophical thoughts. One sentence in particular proffers wise advice: "It is not in the stars to hold our destiny, but in ourselves."

That mantra would serve people well in the conduct of their own lives, but it is that maxim that is driving the growth of the UAH campus 400 years following Shakespeare's death.

With that thought in mind, "holding our destiny within ourselves" has resulted in unprecedented advancement for the UAH campus this past year.

We experienced a 45 percent growth in our freshman class for the fall of 2015, and also a record enrollment of 7,866 students. But in addition to those accomplishments, we were able to build the quality of our 2015 freshman class. The average ACT score of the class during the current academic year was 27.1, a new record for the university and up from 26.7 from a year ago.

Producing record enrollment and record test scores simultaneously is really quite a feat. A lot of people deserve credit for establishing this dynamic environment – way too many to mention. But it's great to be a part of the team that has

accomplished so much. The impetus for creating this achievement? Back to Shakespeare: "It is not in the stars to hold our destiny, but in ourselves."

Our campus is being confronted by many challenges. One serious threat is a national trend of dwindling state support for higher education.

Alabama has not been immune to this shift. It was not so long ago that UAH was receiving nearly 36 percent of its annual revenues from the state of Alabama. Today, that figure has dropped to 21 percent. During the 2007-2008 fiscal year, UAH's state appropriations totaled \$58.1 million. This year, that figure is \$44 million – \$14 million less annually.

Our best chance for the continued financial health and growth of this university is through the enrollment and retention of new students – motivated and intelligent young adults.

We must also remain competitive for prospective students. Between the 2012-2013 and 2015-2016 fiscal years, our annual tuition increase has been minimal, averaging just 1.3 percent.

With those factors driving higher education, the campus embarked on an aggressive plan to grow enrollment. There were three key tactics. 1) Transition to a block tuition structure. In the past, students were charged for every credit. Today, they have the same tuition bill whether they take 12 or 18 hours. 2) Creation of a scholarship matrix for incoming first-time freshmen that rewards high school students for academic performance. Today, UAH is much more competitive with our peer universities as a result. 3) Initiation of a much more aggressive marketing and recruiting campaign seeking top-notch Alabama students as well as outstanding students in targeted areas around the eastern United States.

The results have validated our efforts. Success with record enrollment. Success with record academic scores.

As a greater writer once said – "It is not in the stars to hold our destiny, but in ourselves."

GROWING IN BOTH SIZE AND EXCELLENCE

UAH'S ENROLLMENT IS UP, BUT NOT AT THE EXPENSE OF THE QUALITY OF ITS STUDENT BODY

For several grueling weeks in fall 2014 and throughout the spring and fall of 2015, top administrators and admissions officers at The University of Alabama in Huntsville traveled to major cities connected by Interstate Highways to recruit prospective students to the university.

In their possession to impress these students were improved financial aid incentives, more academic opportunities and a prime location for job opportunities upon graduation.

All the hard work paid off in a big way. UAH set an enrollment record for undergraduate and graduate students combined, and for the size of its freshman class. An added bonus for the university's record book — entering freshmen also had the highest ACT scores in the school's history.

UAH's fall 2015 enrollment numbers were astounding. Total enrollment increased 7.1 percent compared with the number of students a year ago.

New transfer students increased 8.8 percent, and the freshman class, which makes up 1,037 students, had a 45 percent increase when compared with numbers last year. The incoming freshman class scored an average of 27.1 on ACT exams, an increase from 26.7 from fall 2014.

"This was a major team effort," said Christine Curtis, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. "There were a number of things that led to the university's record-breaking enrollment numbers and the high ACT scores," she said, crediting President Robert Altenkirch for creating a strong infrastructure designed to increase enrollment.

Perhaps the most profound impact on UAH's enrollment was the enactment of several policies designed to make tuition more affordable. The Office of Student Affairs began the rollout of a block tuition structure to allow full-time students to pay a flat

rate per semester rather than paying by the credit hour. UAH's academic achievement-based tuition assistance program was restructured to make it more competitive. Also, a financially advantageous summer incentive program — which will be accompanied by a residence hall incentive in the summer of 2016 — was also introduced. This incentive allowed first-time freshmen to get a head start by taking summer classes whose cost structure was rolled into the fall semester leading to a refund for the tuition paid in the summer.

These initiatives not only bolstered UAH's ability to attract and retain high-achieving students from across the state, region and the nation, but they also solidified UAH's place atop the list of Alabama schools with the best return on investment, according to Dr. Curtis.

"Students are different now. They are more mature. They want to know

COVER STORY



if there is a bright and equitable future for them based on their academic endeavors,” she says. “But even in difficult times, parents and students both still see the value of education – and there’s no better investment than UAH.”

Another key aspect of the university’s efforts was the implementation of recruiting efforts that broadened the university’s search area without sacrificing personalized contact. “We developed an ambitious plan that included visiting more counties and cities within Alabama and within more states overall,” she says. Drs. Altenkirch and Curtis traveled to such destinations as North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi, Kentucky, Ohio, and Missouri.

The Provost’s Office expanded the university’s academic offerings, adding bachelor’s degrees in economics and computational analysis, aerospace engineering, secondary education, and kinesiology. Also, the Office of Admissions increased the number of Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses for which students could receive credit, while at the same time widening the range of accepted scores.

While on recruiting trips, UAH administrators and admissions officers stress academic excellence to prospective students. “Our merit scholarships are geared toward academically strong students,” Curtis said.

Elevating an honors program to the Honors College also proved to be a draw for academically talented students. Freshmen in the UAH Honors College increased to 228, a 66 percent increase over last year’s enrollment of 137 students.

“Our record-setting freshman class possesses an outsize energy that has already wrought a profound change

in the academics and the community that defines Honors,” said Dr. William Wilkerson, Dean of the Honors College. “Altogether, these students represent 25 states and several countries. They have the highest grade point average (more than 4.0) and ACT average (median of 31) of any Honors class.”

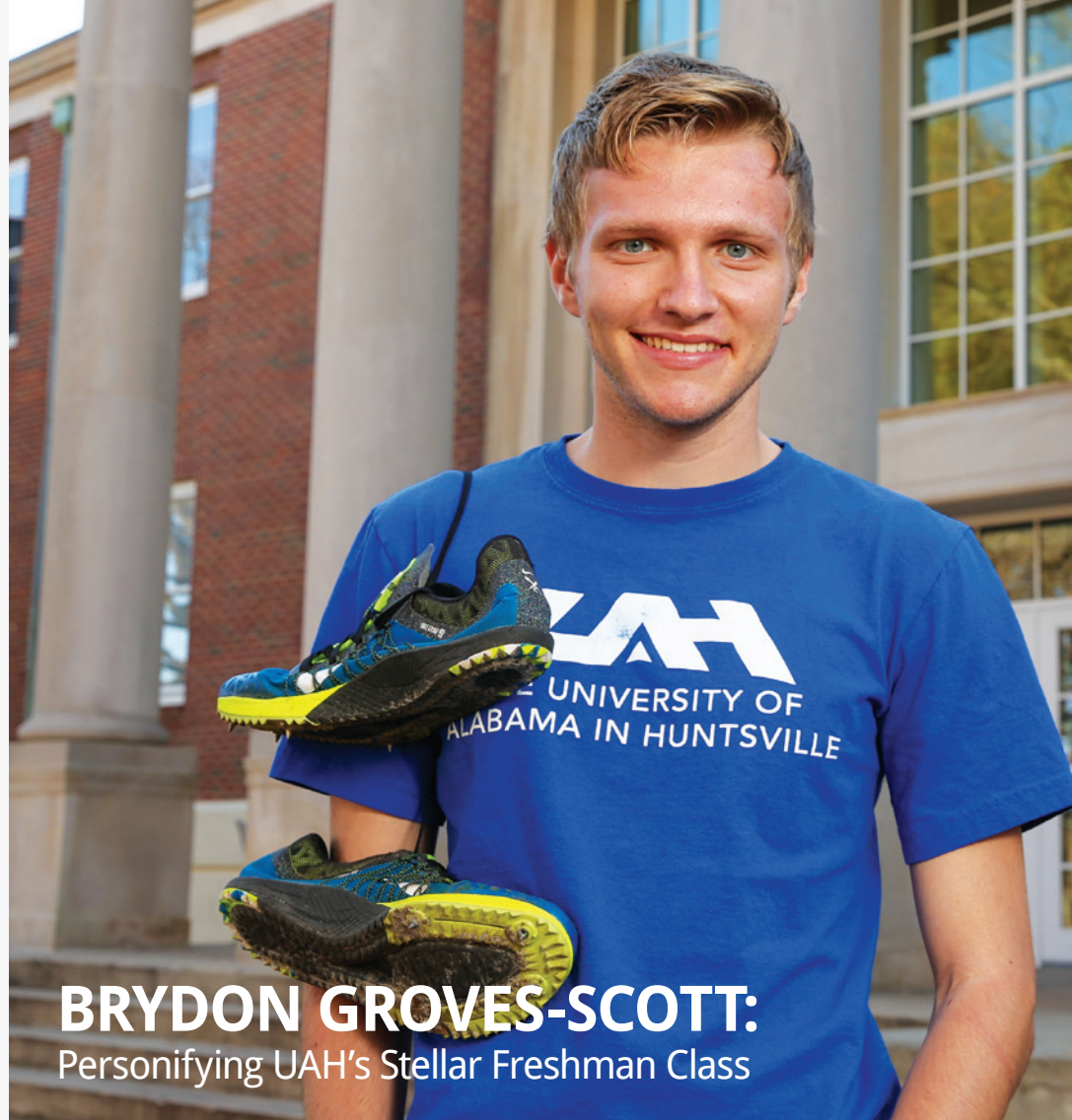
Word of mouth about UAH is getting out and it is making a huge difference, Curtis said. “Students visiting our campus are very interested in what UAH has to offer, and they are also thinking about the future and how they can make a living. Students want to make sure they can compete in this highly competitive job market and succeed in their chosen professions.”

This led to UAH’s location as a great “selling point.” Prospective students, Curtis said, interested in internships, and cooperative education jobs with national and international research and technology firms, have done their homework and know that from an employment perspective, UAH is literally sitting in one of the sweetest spots of any university in the country.

Being situated as the anchor tenant of Cummings Research Park—the second largest in the United States, UAH is in close proximity to NASA, the U.S. Army and Redstone Arsenal, and numerous companies—many started by UAH alumni.

UAH achieved a coupe de grâce in substantially growing student enrollment in a relatively short period of time. But the question looms large. Is the new growth sustainable?

“Yes,” Curtis said. “President Altenkirch made sure of that with sound infrastructure. Our focus must remain on the students and everyone campus-wide will have a role to play...to make sure students study hard, and excel in their coursework to ensure success.”



BRYDON GROVES-SCOTT: Personifying UAH's Stellar Freshman Class



An academic and athletic standout in high school, Brydon Groves-Scott exemplifies the impressive qualities of UAH's 2015 fall freshman class.

Brydon Groves-Scott was a standout student in his Edwardsville, IL, high school. In addition to taking advanced placement classes in calculus, biology, economics, Spanish, and programming, he was also a member of his school's Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, track & field team, and cross-country team. So when he scored a 34 on his ACT – just two points shy of perfect – he knew he'd have his pick of universities. His choice? UAH.

"I visited the campus and fell in love with the school," he says. Indeed, he knew from meeting both Dean William Wilkerson and Head Coach David Cain that he'd find a welcoming home in both UAH's Honors College and on the track & field and cross-country teams. But just as important, he knew he would be able to afford

it after being awarded a combination of scholarships. "The top thing that draws students to a college is the price," says Groves-Scott, who received a Merit Tuition Scholarship, a Charger Excellence Scholarship, and a track and field scholarship.

Now, as a member of UAH's largest and arguably highest-achieving freshman class in history, Groves-Scott is in the process of deciding what direction his academic career will take. "It's tough asking an 18 or 19 year old what they want to do for the rest of their life," he says, though he is considering a double major in economics and either psychology or sociology with a minor in Spanish.

He's also looking forward to growing as an athlete. This past fall, Groves-Scott ran cross country at the 8K and 10K distances; this spring he plans to

run track at the 5K and 10K distances. "I love competing, I love improving myself, and I love the energy of racing," he says. "It's electric." It's also a serious time investment, but one that Groves-Scott says incentivizes him to manage his time wisely when it comes to his studies. "Keeping the team grade point average high is a great motivator!"

As for what the academic superstar will do once he graduates, he's leaving his options open. "I'm looking for a way to change the world for the better and I haven't yet decided how to do that," he says. "I think that there is an obligation to give back and do things for your community and the world." In the meantime, he's hoping to give back a little closer to home. "I want to bring back some conference championships," he says, "for the university that has already given me so much."

FACULTY & STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. David Berkowitz, Dean of the School of Graduate Studies, was asked to renew his appointment to the Executive Committee of the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools (CSGS). His previous one provided him with opportunities to shape policy and also serve as a panelist during the Freshman Deans' Reflection session of last year's annual CSGS conference.

Dr. Pavica Sheldon, Assistant Professor of Communication Arts, was named by the Southern States Communication Association (SSCA) as the recipient of the 2015 Janice Hocker Rushing Earling Career Research Award, honoring SSCA members who have demonstrated exceptional scholarly ability through research and publication early in their academic years.

Dr. Vladimir Kolobov, Principal Research Scientist with UAH's Center for Space Plasma and Aeronomic Research, was selected as the winner of the

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Region 3 Outstanding Engineer Award. This award is given for distinctive contributions to plasma science through advances in theory and the development of computational tools.

David Kyle, Senior Associate Director of the Department of Kinesiology, gave an invited presentation entitled "Paratriathlon 101" at the 2015 USA Paratriathlon Summit in Chicago.

Dr. Nicholas Jones, Associate Professor of Philosophy, presented a paper entitled "Unified and Disunified Explanation of Parameter Robustness" at the Society for Philosophy of Science in Practice's biennial conference in Aarhus, Denmark.

K. Jill Johnson, Katie Baldwin, and Roxie Veasey, faculty members of the Department of Art, Art History, and Design, were among a select group

of women artists featured in this summer's *Celebrating Our Own: Huntsville Women Artists* exhibit at the Huntsville Museum of Art.



▲ **Dr. Emanuel Waddell**, Associate Professor of Chemistry, received the Dr. Adriel D. Johnson Sr. Power of One Award from the UAH Minority Graduate Student Association.

► **Dr. Susan Alexander**, Associate Professor of Nursing, was appointed to both the Governor's Task Force on Improving Health Care in Alabama and the Alabama Board of Nursing's Advanced Practice Advisory Council. She was also appointed to the editorial board of *Clinical Nurse Specialist: The Journal for Advanced Nursing Practice* and awarded the 2015 Suzanne B. Smith Mentoring Award from the International Academy of Nursing Editors.





◀ **David Harwell**, Associate Professor of Theatre, partnered with Mark Roberts, creator of the hit television series *Mike & Molly*, to premier his latest play, *New Country*, at UAH this past spring. Following its premiere, the production moved to New York City for a four-week run, providing UAH students working on the show with real-world project experience.

Dr. Lori Lioce, Associate Professor of Nursing and Executive Director of UAH's Learning and Technology Resource Center, received the 2015 Excellence in Service Award from the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning for her work as chair of the committee for Standards of Best Practice: SimulationSM and her lead work on the development of the simulation design standard.

Dr. Richard S. Miller, Professor of Physics, was interviewed by the American Association for the Advancement of Science about his recent research entitled "Lopsided Ice on the Moon Points to Past Shift in Poles."

Dr. Timothy Newman, Professor of Computer Science, was promoted to Senior Member of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM).

Dr. Luciano Matzkin, Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, was awarded a UAH Individual Investigator

Distinguished Research Award for "Reproductive Incompatibilities: A Tool for the Biological Control of Insect Pests."

Dr. Gary Zank, Distinguished Professor and Chair of the Department of Space Science, was internationally recognized with the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society's Axford Medal, which is the society's highest honor for outstanding achievements in the geosciences.

Dr. Chad Thomas, Assistant Professor of English, published an article entitled "Queer Shakespeare at the Citizens Theatre" in the *Shakespeare Bulletin*.

Dr. Beth Quick, Dean of the College of Education, was named President-Elect of the Alabama Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. The association serves as the state affiliate of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, a national alliance of over 800 member institutions dedicated to high-quality, evidence-based educator preparation.



▲ **Dr. Yu Lei**, Assistant Professor of Chemical and Materials Engineering, was selected to receive the 2015 Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Award by Oak Ridge Associated Universities. He also received funding from the National Science Foundation in support of his work on the development of nanocatalysts.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. W. David Allen, Professor of Economics, published a research article entitled "The Demand for Younger and Older Workers: Patterns from NFL Labor Markets" in the *Journal of Sports Economics*.

Dr. Anna Foy, Assistant Professor of English; **Dr. Andrei Gandila**, Assistant Professor of History; **Dr. Kyle Knight**, Assistant Professor of Sociology; **Dr. Christina Steidl**, Assistant Professor of Sociology; and **Chris Taylor**, Assistant Professor of Art, all received New Faculty Research awards from UAH's Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development.

Dr. George Nelson, Assistant Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, received a five-year,

\$502,491 NSF Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) award. The award will help further his research into our understanding of the degradation of lithium-ion battery electrodes operating under elevated temperature conditions.

Dr. Mike Newchurch, Professor of Atmospheric Science, and his group have been awarded a three-year, \$4M (UAH share: \$1.4M) grant from NASA to take measurements and perform scientific analyses on the Tropospheric Ozone Lidar Network (TOLNet), their recently formed national network of five tropospheric-ozone lidars.

Dr. Jason Cassibry, Associate Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, received an ARPA-E award in collaboration with Los Alamos National

Laboratory, HyperV Technologies Inc., and the University of New Mexico to study plasma liner formation for a promising thermonuclear fusion concept. UAH will be conducting smooth-particle hydrodynamic modeling in support of the experiments. The duration of UAH's share of the award, totaling \$384,000, is three years.

Dr. John Gregory, Professor of Chemistry, received a NASA grant for \$1,375,000 and a Research Infrastructure Development grant for \$375,000 from the Alabama Space Grant Consortium.

Dr. Jakobus le Roux, Associate Professor in the Department of Space Science and Principal Investigator with UAH's Center for Space Plasma and Aeronomic Research, was awarded a three-year, \$438,229 NASA grant for his proposal entitled "Particle Acceleration in Inner Heliospheric Regions with Multiple Contracting and Reconnecting Magnetic Islands."

Dr. Liwu Hsu, Assistant Professor of Marketing, was lead author on a paper entitled "The Role of Social Media and Brand Equity During a Product Recall Crisis: A Shareholder Value Perspective," which was accepted for publication in the *International Journal of Research in Marketing*.

The Department of Kinesiology in the College of Education received a \$110,000 grant from the Alabama State Department of Education for the development of an adapted-youth sports league.



- ▶ **Dr. Monica Dillihunt**, Associate Professor of Education, co-authored "The Importance of Critical Thinking, Verbal Reasoning, and Mathematics in Teaching Chemistry in the 21st Century," which was published in *Modern Chemistry and Applications*.

- **Dr. Marsha Adams**, Dean and Professor of Nursing, submitted a proposal for UAH's Learning and Technology Resource Center to the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation that was accepted and funded for \$30,000. She also presented "Nurse Education: Purpose, Power, and Passion" at both the Wisconsin League of Nursing Annual Conference in Madison, WI, and the National Student Nurses Association 63rd Annual Convention in Phoenix, AZ. And she served as a co-sponsor of the 2015 national nursing research round table "The Nexus of Practice, Research, and Education for the Health of the Nation."



- **Dr. Michael Briggs**, Assistant Director of UAH's Center for Space Plasma and Aeronomic Research and a Principal Research Scientist, won a \$376,686 NSF CubeSat award for a proposal submitted in partnership with Auburn University entitled "Observing Terrestrial Gamma-Ray Flash Beams with a Pair of CubeSats."

Dr. David Coe, Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, is the lead principal investigator on an NSA grant that will build cybersecurity into systems such as automobiles, industrial robots, and cloud-based computing systems. His collaborators include faculty members **Dr. Jeffrey Kulick** and **Dr. Aleksandar Milenkovic** from the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and **Dr. Letha Etzkorn** and **Dr. Sun-il Kim** from the Department of Computer Science.

Dr. Laird Burns, Assistant Professor of Management Science, published a paper entitled "An Extended Framework for Supply Chain Risk Management: Incorporating the Complexities of Emerging Industries and Large Scale System Engineering Projects" in the *International Journal of Manufacturing Technology and Management*.

Dr. Ellise Adams, Associate Professor of Nursing, published two chapters entitled "Complications of Pregnancy" and "Anatomy & Physiology of Pregnancy" in *Women's Gynecologic Health*. She also published an article entitled "Living the NLN Life Through Member Engagement" in *Nursing Education Perspectives*.

Dr. Phillip Ligrani, UAH Eminent Scholar in Propulsion; **Dr. Robert Frederick**, Director of UAH'S Propulsion Research Center; **Dr. Kader Frendi**, Professor of Mechanical Engineering; **Dr. Keith Hollingsworth**, Chair of the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering; and **Dr. William Seidler** and **Dr. Richard Tyson**, Principal Research Scientists for the Propulsion Research Center, received a \$247,544 grant from the Alabama Innovation Fund to help develop a new transonic, supersonic wind tunnel that will reside in the Air Breathing Test Cell at UAH's Johnson Research Center.

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Yi-Yin “Ian” Chang, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Atmospheric Science; **Vikalp Mishra**, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering; **Xiaocan Li**, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Space Science; and **Anthony DeStefano**, a master’s student in the Department of Space Science, were all awarded the prestigious NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship, which provides up to \$30,000 a year in funding.

Victoria Duncan, a senior in the Department of Art, Art History, and Design, was one of only a handful of students selected for the 2015 Dacia Gallery New York City Artist Residency, an intensive two-week program that incorporates classes in painting, drawing, and the business of art; guest lectures; and a final group show.

Eric Anderson, a master’s student in the Earth System Science program, received the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools Thesis Award in the category of Digital Scholarship for his thesis “Analysis of Rainfall-Triggered Landslide Hazards Through the Dynamic Integration of Remotely Sensed, Modeled and in situ Environmental Factors in El Salvador.”

Kari Potter, a senior nursing major, spent five weeks over the summer serving as a Health Justice Intern for the Native Health Initiative, which is dedicated to helping address health inequities faced by tribal communities in New Mexico.

Erin Looney, a double major in history and mechanical engineering, received the Highest Academic Achievement

Award from both the College of Engineering and the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences. Looney drew from both of her fields of study for her thesis on enzymatic fuel cells for the Honors College and her senior capstone project on Climategate for the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences.

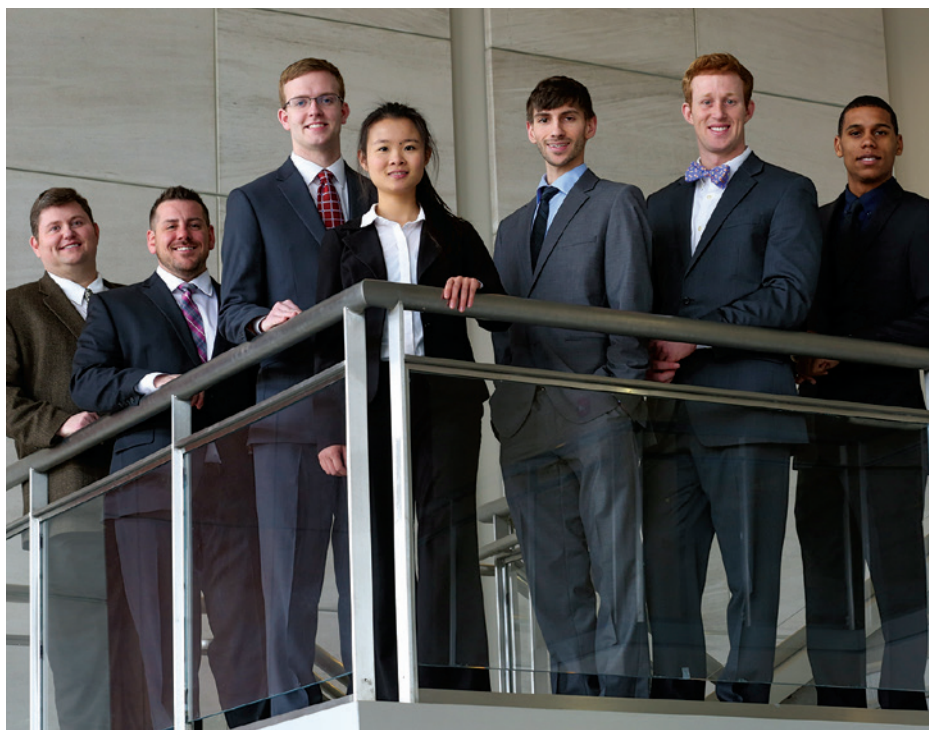
Kelly Marie Steinberg, an undergraduate chemistry major, was named the Organic Student of the Year by the American Chemical Society.

Aleksandra Pivovarova, a graduate student in the Department of Biological Sciences, placed second at the Regional

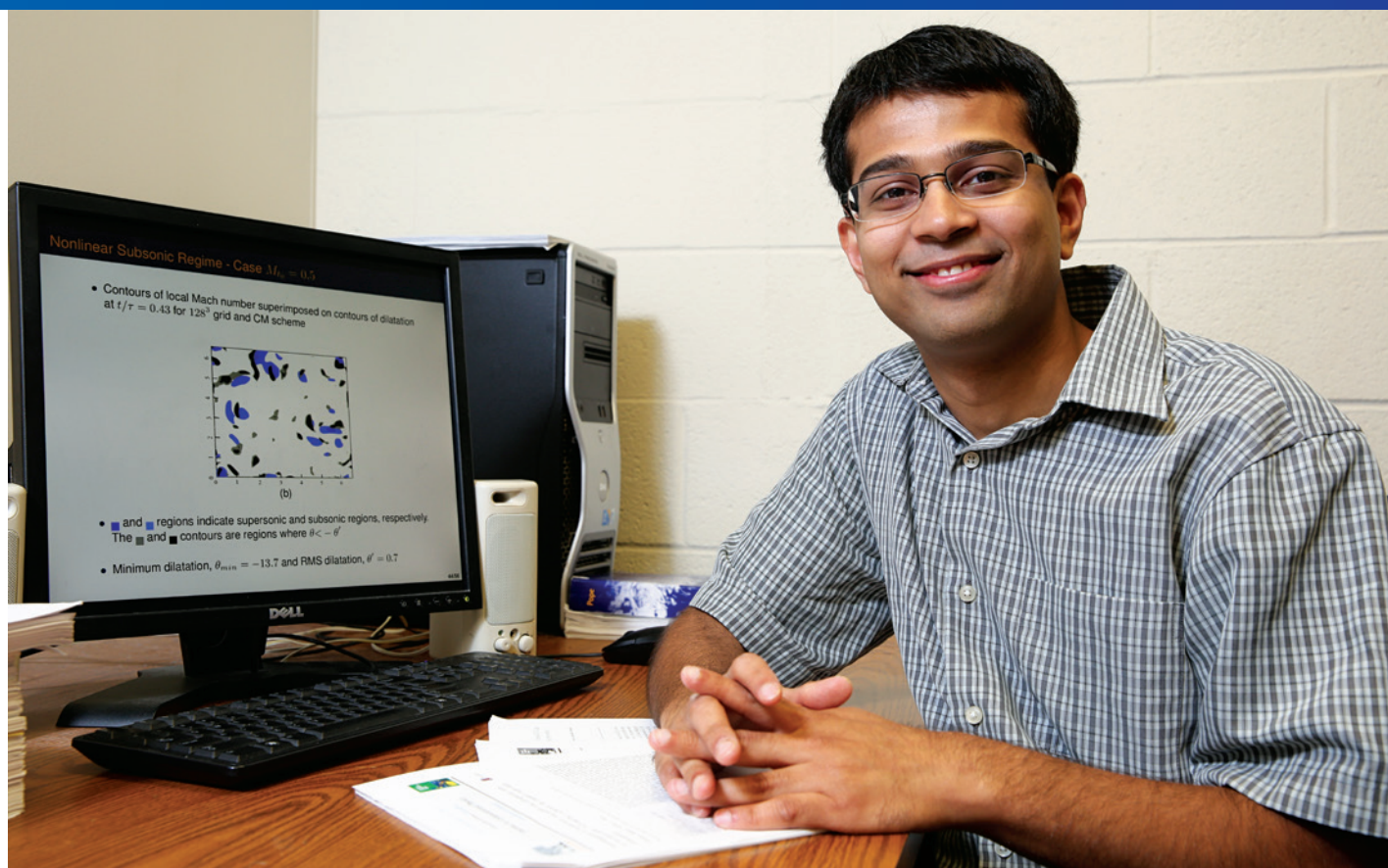
Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) Competition for her presentation entitled “The Effect of Monocarboxylate Transporters Inhibition on Viability of MCF7 and MDA-MB-231 Breast Cancer Cell Lines.”

Tien Pham, Schuyler Rich, and Christine Woodard, graduate students in the College of Business Administration, participated in a business development program for the Alabama Department of Transportation’s Certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprises.

Brea Roper, a Communication Arts major, won a Top Undergraduate Paper award at the Alabama Communication



- ▶ **The UAH Capital Management Group**, a student investment management team, attended the CFA Society of Alabama’s 2015 Forecast Dinner in Birmingham. Over the course of the year, the group managed two investment funds yielding an average growth of 4.75%.



- **Shreyas Bidadi**, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, was selected for the prestigious Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Center for Research and Advanced Training in Scientific Computation (CERFACS) in Toulouse, France, where he will help develop advanced numerical techniques for predicting aircraft noise.

Association's 2015 Convention for her submission entitled "Story Behind the Image: Exploring Family, Peers, and Media Influence on a Young Woman's Body Image."

Kenna Haycraft, an undergraduate nursing student, was elected Treasurer of the Alabama Association of Nursing Students.

Steven Doyle, an Honors student majoring in mechanical engineering and double minoring in biology and

chemistry, was selected for a summer internship at the University of Virginia School of Medicine, where he conducted research on cancer cell radiosensitivity.

Samuel Nkruma-Agyeefi and **Geordan Burkes**, doctoral candidates in the interdisciplinary Biotechnology Science and Engineering program, received an Advancing Science Travel Award and presented their research at the 2015 annual meeting of the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE).

While there, Nkruma-Agyeefi also won first place at the NOBCChE 2-Minute Drill Research Pitch with his presentation on the novel functionalization of MCL-polyhydroxyalkanoates via click chemistry.

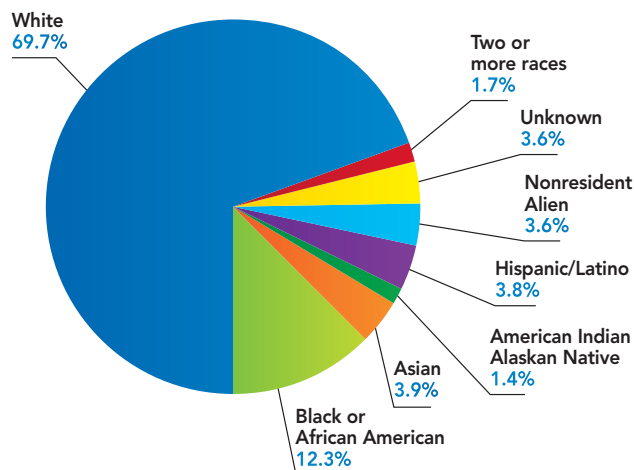
Arinze Aginwa, a junior majoring in business with a focus in cybersecurity, was chosen to be the Google Ambassador for UAH. Over the summer, he was flown to Google's headquarters for training on how to bridge communications between UAH and the multinational technology company.

DATA POINTS

Enrollment

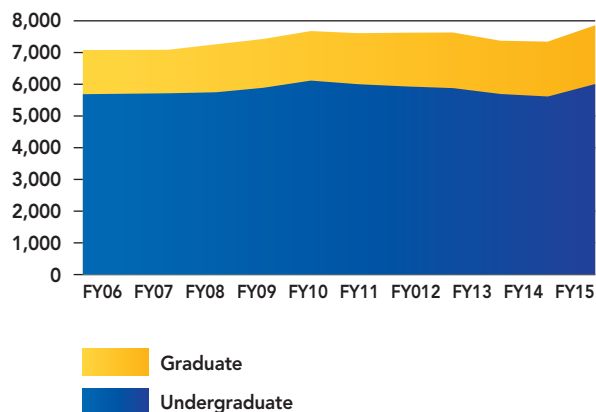
Undergraduate Student Composition

FY15 (Fall 2014)



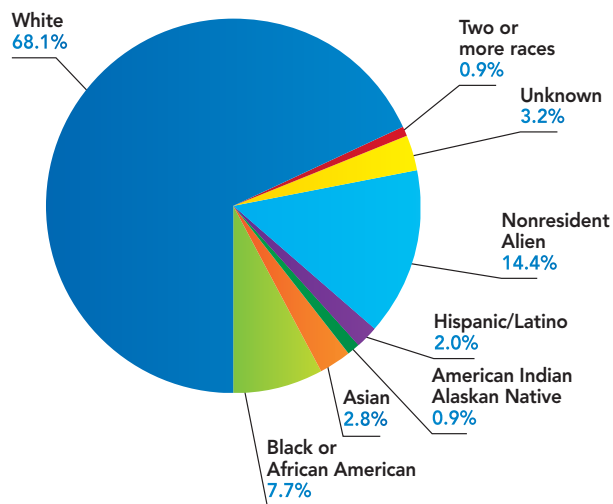
Enrollment

FY06 (Fall 2005) to FY15 (Fall 2014)



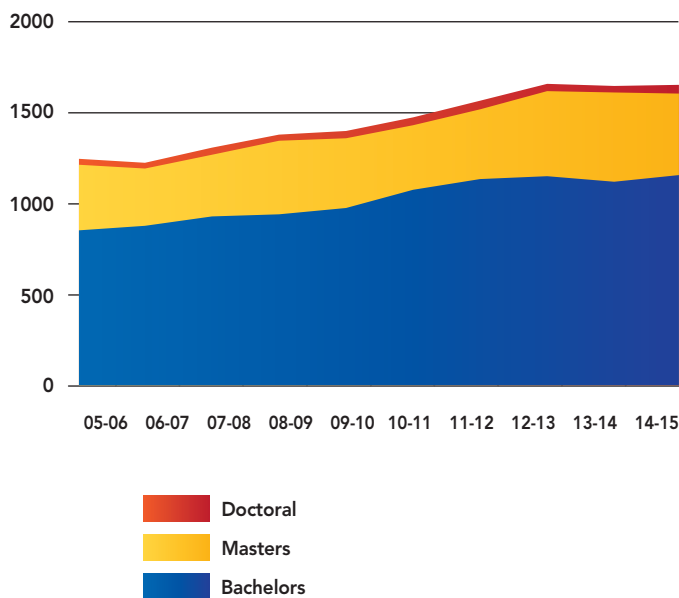
Graduate Student Composition

FY15 (Fall 2014)

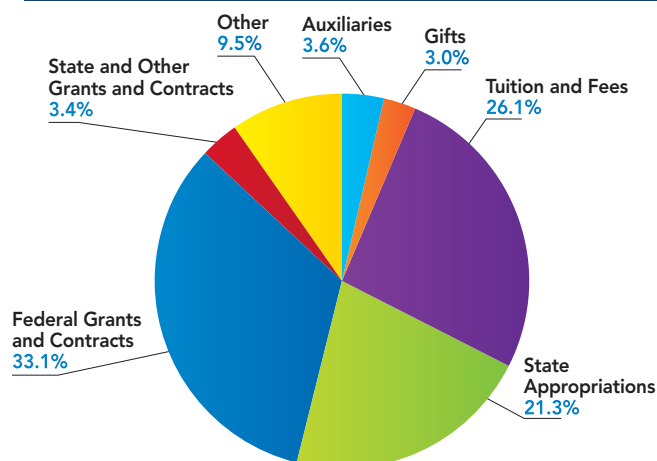


Undergraduate & Graduate Degrees

AY05-06 to AY14-15

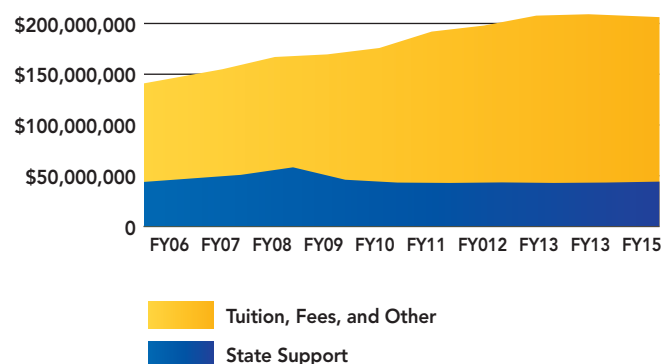


FY15 Revenue \$206,082,157

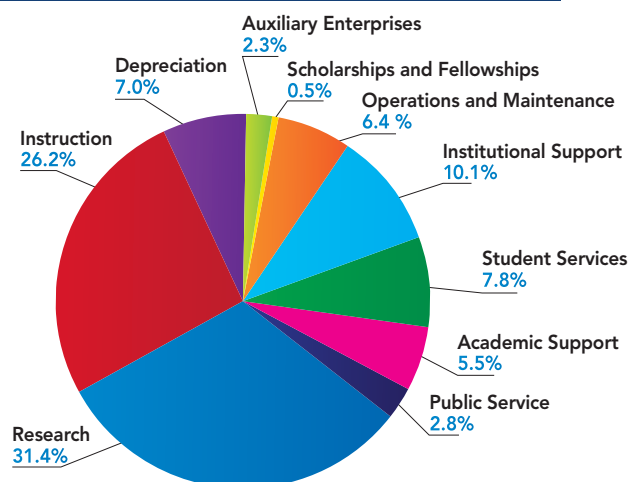


Operating Revenue

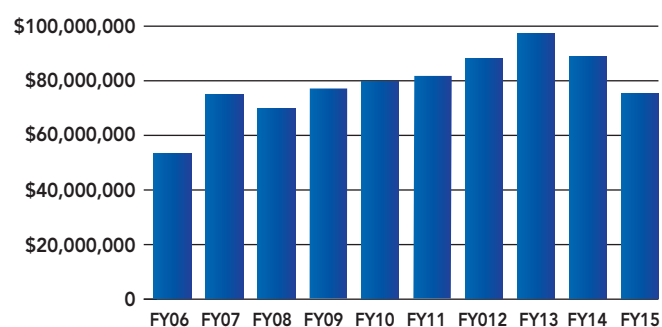
FY06 to FY15



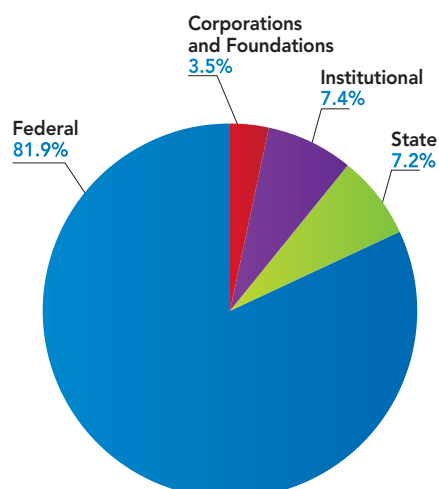
FY15 Expenditures \$206,082,157



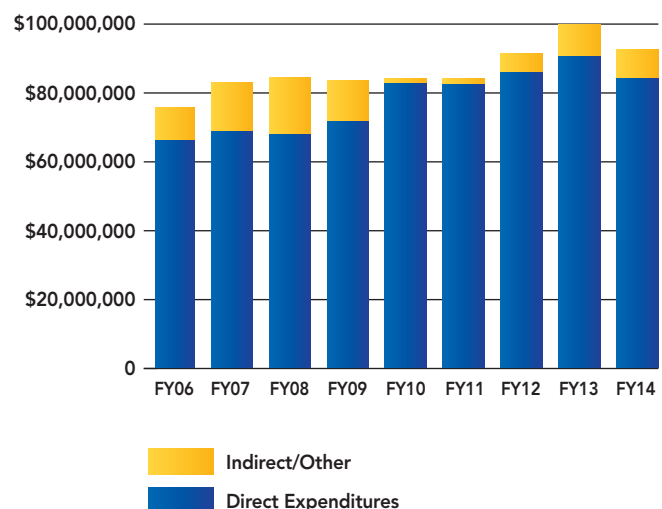
Grant and Contract Expenditures (Research, Instruction, and Public Service)



FY15 Direct Research Expenditures by Source \$64,651,851



Total R&D Expenditures as Reported to NSF* (www.nsf.gov/statistics/)



*FY15 not yet reported to NSF



KATHY CHAN

A Star in the UAH Constellation

“Don’t forget your alma mater,” says Kathy Chan. “Preserve it and nourish it again, so that others have the same opportunity to be successful.”



As an internationally acclaimed jewelry designer, Kathy Chan has spent the last three decades building an impressive portfolio of award-winning creations. Many of these are now on display in her exhibition *Celestial Dreams, the Art of Space Jewelry*, hosted by the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. But while this well-received retrospective of her life’s work may well be the pinnacle of Chan’s professional career, it is a much more personal accomplishment of which she is most proud – that of earning her college degrees.

Chan, as it turns out, never finished high school. She was still a student in Brazil when she joined her now-husband Dr. C. H. (Tony) Chan in England, where they later got married. And while her intention was to complete her studies there, it wasn’t until two moves – to Turkey and then California – and three

kids later that she was finally able to return her focus to her education.

“I went to classes at night and earned my GED,” she says, adding that when the family then moved to West Lafayette, IN, her plan was to enroll in a degree program at Purdue University. But when she applied, Purdue “made it clear they wouldn’t accept me with just a GED,” she says. “So I audited classes for two semesters, got straight As, and went back and showed them my grades. Then they accepted me as a student.”

After the family made one last move, to Huntsville, Chan was able to transfer the credits she’d earned at Purdue and finally complete not one but two undergraduate degrees with high honors at UAH: a bachelor of arts in modern foreign language in 1979 and a bachelor of arts in art in 1981. She also went on to receive an honorary doctorate from the university, and was named an Alumna



UAH alumni Jan Davis and Kathy Chan at the launch of *Celestial Dreams*.

of the Year when UAH celebrated its 25th and 50th anniversaries.

But while Chan could easily take full credit for the perseverance required to complete such a journey, she is quick to point to other reasons for her success. "I must attribute my achievements to my father – he inspired me a lot," she says. "He always said education is the most important thing in your life, so by the age of 5 or 6, I was already exposed to names like Napoleon, Diderot, and Confucius. He gave me that early curiosity."

Just as important, she adds, was the family's decision to move to America. "I feel lucky we landed here because it really is the land of opportunity. There are so many people in other countries who would love to go to college and they cannot. But here you can go to college whether you're 15 years old or 70 years old! So even though I had a lot of challenges, I was able to take advantage of those opportunities."

That's something Chan hopes other students, both at UAH and elsewhere, also appreciate. "In life, you should cherish what you have – and the same is true of your time at university," she says. "Don't take it for granted. Make

the most of it!" And once you graduate, she continues, "don't forget your alma mater. Turn around and come back and help. Preserve it and nourish it again, so that others have the same opportunity to be successful."

As for her own educational journey, it's still far from over. Now that she is newly retired from her jewelry-designing career, Chan is taking six classes with UAH's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and three more with the Huntsville Senior Center.

There's also no doubt that she'll continue to follow in her father's footsteps. "Even when he was 90 years old, he would look up new words in the dictionary every day," she says. "One should never stop learning!"

The exhibition Celestial Dreams, the Art of Space Jewelry, a retrospective of Kathy Chan's award-winning jewelry, is currently on display through May 15, 2016, at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Incorporating gold, platinum, pearls, diamonds, topaz, opals, aquamarine, rubies, tourmaline, garnets, amethyst, and sapphires, the nearly three-dozen works featured pay homage to the awe of the cosmos and its vibrant oasis, Earth.



Jewelry photo credit: Johnny Miller

ATHLETICS



BASEBALL

- Ranked nationally for the duration of the season, posting a 36-11-1 overall record to make it four straight winning seasons under head coach Hunter Royer.
- Had two All-Americans in Chandler Brock and Colton Simbeck, an MLB draftee in Daniel Koger, and an Academic All-American and GSC Commissioner's Trophy recipient Luke Mould.

SOFTBALL

- Head coach Les Stuedeman achieved her 900th victory during the 2015 campaign, as the Chargers went 40-16 overall and reached the NCAA Tournament for the 13th consecutive season.
- Kaitlyn Bannister headlined as the GSC Player of the Year and the South Region Player of the Year, and received an All-American Honorable Mention.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

- The Chargers captured their second GSC Championship this past season, while reaching the NCAA Tournament for the fifth time in program history.
- Head coach Lennie Acuff was named GSC Coach of the Year in his 18th year at the helm of the program, forward Seab Webster received NABC All-South District honors, and guard Troy Saxton earned Academic All-District accolades.



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

- Reached the GSC Tournament in the first season under head coach Andrea Lemmond, with Halle Jarnagin earning Academic All-District honors.

HOCKEY

- Clinched a berth to the WCHA Playoffs in the second year playing in the prestigious league and under head coach Mike Corbett.
- Mike Richter Award nominee Carmine Guerriero paced the defense during the season, while WCHA All-Rookie honoree Max McHugh led the offense.

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

- Finished first in all four regular season races.

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

- Vicky Winslow earned All-American status with a program-record time of 21:16.90 for 34th place at the NCAA Championships. She finished her three-year career at UAH with three trips to the NCAA Championships, three All-South Region honors, three First Team All-GSC awards, and a total of eight career GSC Runner of the Week nods.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

- Made it to the GSC Tournament, with Cristina Cabanas leading the way as an All-GSC honoree.



MEN'S TENNIS

- Made it to the GSC Tournament, with Jose Soto pacing the Chargers with a No. 21 ranking nationally and ITA All-American honors.

MEN'S SOCCER

- Reached the GSC Tournament after notching the third consecutive winning season under head coach Matt Watts.
- Had a trio of All-South Region performers in John Imwalle, Leo DeSmedt, and Jordan Wright.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

- Alexia Alexander and Sydnie Fiocca earned All-South Region honors after impressive showings, while Sydney Pfankuch garnered Academic All-District accolades.

TRACK & FIELD

- Katelin Barber and Ackiesha Burnett earned All-American status in the indoor and outdoor season, while Barber also received Academic All-America honors.

VOLLEYBALL

- Had the program's best-ever start to the 2015 campaign, rattling off 11 consecutive victories to begin the season.
- Earned a berth to the GSC Tournament for the third season in a row, with Haley Snyder earning All-GSC honors.





The UAH College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences presented *Peace on Earth: A Gala Celebration of the Arts* at the Von Braun Center Concert Hall on Friday, Dec. 4, 2015. Sponsored by Hewlett Packard Enterprise, the family-friendly holiday concert featured acoustic "newgrass" quartet Act of Congress, the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, the Huntsville Community Chorus, and the U.S. Army Materiel Command Band.

301 Sparkman Drive
Huntsville, Alabama 35899

UAH.EDU

The University of Alabama in Huntsville
is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section
504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision
of its education and employment programs
and services.

#1

HIGHEST AVERAGE
STARTING SALARY AFTER
GRADUATION AMONG
ALL ALABAMA SCHOOLS

- College Scorecard


THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE

One of America's 100
Best College Buys

— Institutional Research
& Evaluation Inc.

"VERY COMPETITIVE"

— Barron's Profile of
American Colleges

MOST AFFORDABLE
public university in Alabama

— Self Lender

#1 IN ALABAMA
physical science research

— National Science Foundation



27.1
AVERAGE FRESHMAN
ACT SCORE

.....
among the highest in Alabama