



MEMORANDUM

TO: UAH Faculty, Staff and Students

FROM: Robert A. Altenkirch, President

DATE: January 16, 2018

SUBJECT: Delois Smith announces retirement

Delois Smith, Vice President for Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, will retire from UAH effective April 2018.

Delois has been associated with UAH for 38 years in a variety of roles. She was appointed to her current position in 2009. Prior to that appointment she held increasingly responsible positions involving student affairs:

- Vice President for Student Affairs – Aug. 2002 to Dec. 2008
- Interim Vice President for Student Affairs – Nov. 1999 to Aug. 2002
- Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs – Sep. 1996 to Dec. 1999
- Special Assistant to the Vice President for Student Affairs – Feb. 1994 to Sep. 1996
- Director, Student Development Services – Feb. 1992 to Feb. 1994
- Counselor, Student Development Services – May 1990 to Feb. 1992
- Women's Counselor – Jan. 1987 to May 1990
- Admissions Counselor – Jul. 1984 to Jan. 1987
- The North Alabama Educational Opportunity Center, UAH, Counselor Coordinator – Mar. 1980 to Jun. 1984

Delois developed numerous initiatives to advance the interests of UAH students and the greater Huntsville area:

- Primary revision of new student orientation format
- Establishment of SGA Jeanne Fisher Outstanding Student Leadership Award
- Establishment of the Late Night Breakfast tradition in conjunction with Sodexo Food Services
- Formation of the Student Counseling Center and Disability Support Services
- Establishment of the SSAFE fund: Students, Staff and Faculty Emergency fund. A fund established to support and help UAH students, staff and faculty in emergency situations
- Establishment of UAH as a diversity leader in the Huntsville community
- Coordination of the successful Community Conversations on Race Relations series, 2016-17

Delois' professional activities have been recognized through a number of awards:

- Educational Leadership Award, Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter, Inc., Alabama A&M University Alumni Association, Inc., for recognition and appreciation of stellar achievements in education and contributions to the community, 2017
- Congratulatory Acknowledgement, Resolution 17-370, City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, 2017
- Outstanding Contribution to Higher Education Award, Alabama National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, 2013
- Village of Promise (Families in Poverty) Early Adopter Award, 2011
- Interfaith Missions Service Racial Harmony Award, 2010
- The University of Alabama in Huntsville Foundation Award for Outstanding Performance and Achievement, 2001
- Women's Community Leadership Award, The Women's Economic Development Council of Huntsville, Alabama (WEDC), 1998

We are grateful for the many years of service and leadership that Delois has provided to the UAH campus. As a Licensed Professional Counselor, Delois' retirement plans are to launch a local LLC Counseling and Consulting service. We wish Delois and her husband, Ed, the best on their post-retirement plans.