

January 12, 2022

FACULTY & STAFF VIRTUAL TOWN HALL

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12 | 9:00 - 10:00 A.M.

LEARN MORE

Town hall for employees is tomorrow

Hear campus and COVID-19 updates, operational plans and more from speakers including President Ray Watts, Provost Pam Benoit and UAB Health System CEO and Heersink School of Medicine Dean Selwyn Vickers and others during a virtual town hall 9-10 a.m. tomorrow, Jan. 12. Register to receive a Zoom link, submit questions ahead of time and see a full list of presenters online.



Purcell to retire as UAB's chief of police

Anthony Purcell, associate vice president and chief of UAB Police and Public Safety, will retire June 1. During his 16-year tenure, Purcell expanded the use of modern technology and helped create partnerships on campus and with other law-enforcement agencies to help keep UAB and its health system secure.



New problem-solving method helps teams come together to create change

UAB Hospital's Clinical Practice Transformation group developed a unique method for helping teams come together to create change and boost employee satisfaction. Its 3D Problem-Solving approach can work in any setting, they say.

Refresh your memory on campus COVID protocols

As 2022 begins and the spring semester begins, here are some quick reminders about UAB's COVID safety guidelines.

- Faculty and staff who have a close-contact exposure or show symptoms should fill out the Employee Exposure and Experiencing Symptoms form for guidance from Employee Health.
- Students who have a close-contact exposure or show symptoms should fill out this form for guidance from Student Health Services.
- Masking continues to be required indoors.
- Quarantine guidance has changed in accordance with updated CDC guidelines. [Learn more.](#)
- Guidance for managers whose employees have tested positive for COVID or have had a close-contact exposure is available [online](#).
- Remote work may be possible due to a family member's quarantine or school/care facility closure. [Learn more.](#)
- In-person student events currently are not permitted. All off-campus student events organized by or for a student or student organization also are prohibited absent special approval. [Learn more.](#)
- Campus visitor protocols remain in place; read them [online](#). UAB Medicine visitor protocols also continue.
- Vaccinations are available for employees and students. [Make an appointment.](#)

Things to know



University to close for MLK Day, no bus service

UAB will close Jan. 17 to observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Although most campus operations will be suspended on this day, essential services will continue. Blazer Express, shuttles and roadside services will be interrupted; Safety Escorts are available. Gates will be raised at the Sixth Avenue Parking Deck for employees who normally use the Express lots.



Nominate an employee for the VIP Awards

Nominate an employee whose work has exemplified and embodied one of UAB's shared values — integrity, stewardship, collaboration, accountability, respect, excellence and achievement and diversity and inclusiveness — for a UAB VIP Award. Submissions are due March 3.

Support the Ronald McDonald House during collection drive

The Graduate School is gathering items such as snacks, laundry and cleaning products, toiletries and more for the Ronald McDonald House, which provides a home away from home for families whose children are receiving treatment at Children's of Alabama. See a list of needed items on the event's Amazon wishlist and drop off donations in Lister Hill Library G03 by Feb. 4.

Faculty senate to meet today

The UAB Faculty Senate will meet 7:30-9 a.m. today via Zoom, and all faculty may attend. The agenda includes updates on UAB Libraries from Dean Kasia Gonnerman and research facilities and infrastructure from Associate Vice President David Schwebel, plus discussions on HB8 and HB11 in the Alabama legislative session.

More news online

Get campus news at uab.edu/reporter and COVID-19 updates at uab.edu/uabunited. If you have news you want to share with UAB faculty and staff, use the Request Publicity form online.

Research & learning



Online biotech master's takes students from bench to business

In the entirely online biotechnology master's program, students learn not just technical skills, but the knowledge and applications to commercialize new ideas — plus integrated professional development opportunities to train in soft skills needed to excel.



Find mental clarity through mindfulness and meditation

Join University Recreation's spring mindfulness series Tuesdays and Thursdays Jan. 25-April 14 to begin practicing mindfulness strategies to reduce stress and improve mental health.

Learn about the intersection of social justice and health care

Hear a roundtable panel of UAB health care professionals, a lecture from Alabama Institute for Social Justice Executive Director Lenice C. Emanuel and a performance by the Miles College Choir 10:30 a.m. Jan. 13 on Zoom.

What are the health benefits of the keto diet?

Eric Plaisance can tell you. The associate professor and chair in the Department of Human Studies explains how ketogenic diets work and how effective they are for weight loss, cognitive health and more.

Mark your calendars



Vickers to present State of the School address

Selwyn M. Vickers, dean of the Heersink School of Medicine and CEO of the UAB Health System and the UAB/Ascension St. Vincent's Alliance, will present via Zoom noon-1 p.m. Jan. 26. Register for the event and submit questions [online](#).



Need help navigating your fitness journey?

URec members and UAB students can attend an Ask a Trainer session with URec personal trainers 4-5 p.m. Jan. 13, 2-3 p.m. Jan. 26 or 2:15-3:15 p.m. Feb. 10 in the Campus Recreation Center to get their expertise and advice.

Don't miss the fun with UAB Men's Basketball

During Employee Appreciation Thursday, employees can score \$8 tickets with their ONE Card at the Bartow Arena Box office for UAB Men's Basketball vs. Florida International 6:30 p.m. Jan. 13 in Bartow Arena. Plus, fans can compete in promotions throughout the game to win up to \$45,000. Then, bring your family to UAB Men's Basketball vs. Florida Atlantic 3 p.m. Jan. 15 — kids can participate in fun activities such as face-painting, a photo station, poster design workshop and baby race. Register your child for the race by Feb. 14 and get four tickets for \$40 [online](#). Masks are required in Bartow Arena.

Check the campus calendar for more events

Lectures	Arts	Athletics
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