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June 15, 2021



## UAB Medicine again designated a Healthcare Equality Leader

UAB Medicine earned the LGBTQ Healthcare Equality Leader designation, bestowed every two years by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation. Its maximum score of 100 is attributed to LGBTQ-inclusive policies, services and support for patients and employees and its community engagement.



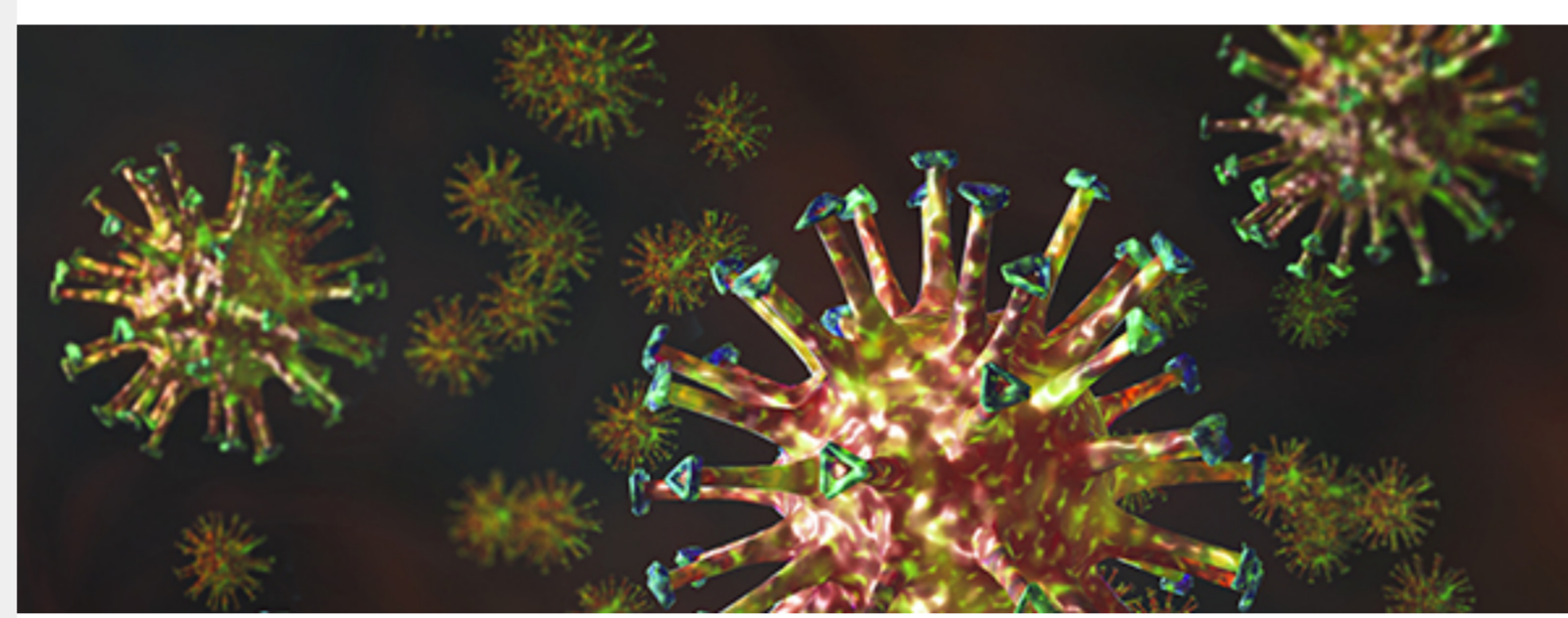
## New writing guide, course to encourage inclusive language

An Inclusive Language Guide to promote inclusiveness in presentations, lectures and other communications is available online and for download. The guide, which is not meant to be exhaustive, provides definitions and examples in seven areas.

### More news online

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

## COVID-19 by the numbers



## Alabama does not have high enough immunity to eradicate SARS-CoV-2

"With only 29.4 % of Alabama's population fully vaccinated, we're playing a dangerous game of chicken with COVID-19's continued impact on our future. That's not the road we need to travel on if we want to put an end to this pandemic," said Suzanne Judd, Ph.D., an epidemiologist in UAB's School of Public Health.



## In a nutshell: Why you or anyone should get the vaccine

The vaccines are safe, effective, readily available and free. People age 65-plus once had the highest sickness and deaths from COVID-19. Now, they're among the least affected. Where's the increase? People ages 35-54 who aren't vaccinated. It's all here in this one-page document to read or share.

## UAB continues to track, report campus COVID cases

From June 4-10, one new positive case was reported among non-clinical faculty and staff, three new positive cases were reported among clinical enterprise employees and two positive cases were reported among UAB students.

- Vaccines are available for all UAB employees; register online.
- Anyone can get a vaccine at [uabmedicinevaccine.org](http://uabmedicinevaccine.org).



## What are the long-term effects of low vaccination rates?

Mike Saag, M.D., says those who are not yet unvaccinated remain at risk for infection — especially with relaxed rules for masking, social distancing and more — and increased infections mean increased transmissions, cases, hospitalizations and deaths.

## Things to Know



## Flaming motorcycles and 6 tips on acing high-stakes writing

Proposing a new program or initiative in your area? Assistant Professor J. Nicholas Dionne-Odom, Ph.D., of the School of Nursing, shares insider advice that can make any piece of writing more compelling.

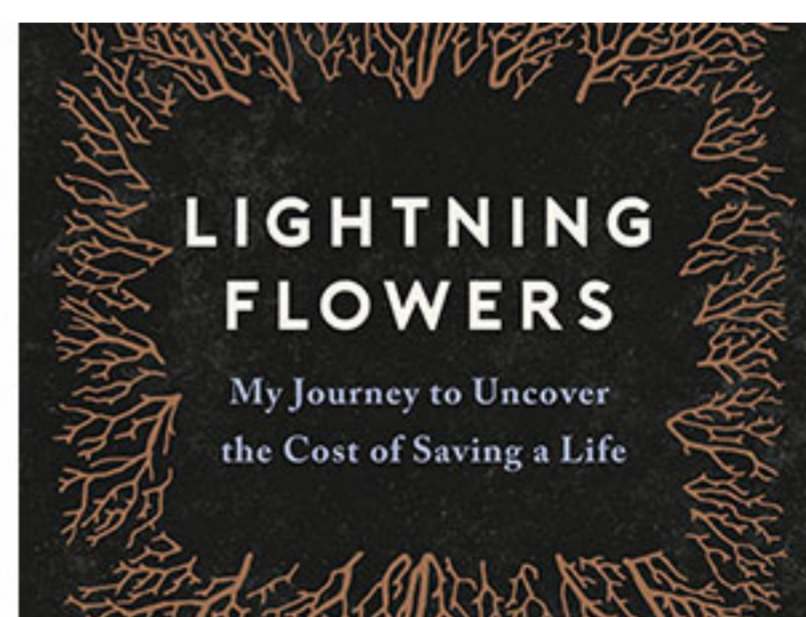
## Tier 2 employees to contribute more to retirement plan Oct. 1

The State of Alabama has enacted new legislation that will increase the amount of money Tier 2 members are required to contribute to their TRS retirement plans in the new fiscal year and also enable those members to convert sick leave to retirement service credit. Tier 2 members are those who did not participate in the Teachers Retirement System prior to Jan. 1, 2013. Effective Oct. 1, the amount will increase to 6.2% from 6% for Tier 2 employees. Direct questions to the HR Service Center at [humanresources@uab.edu](mailto:humanresources@uab.edu) or 205-934-5321.

## Town hall to discuss genomics building project June 16

This virtual town hall will outline the timeline, immediate next steps and impact to vehicle and pedestrian traffic for construction of the Altec Stylsinger Genomic Medicine and Data Sciences Building. Feel free to submit questions for the panel in the chat.

## Lectures and Learning



## 'Zoom book club might just have a future'

The pandemic opened up new ways to meet and collaborate. For Engineering Dean Jeff Holmes, it was a book club he started to discuss Katherine Standerfer's "Lightning Flowers: My Journey to Uncover the Cost of Saving a Life." He and students met online Thursday evenings during spring semester, each bringing their life experiences and unique perspectives to the discussion.



## Russell to be a Harvard Macy fellow for arts in medicine

Stephen Russell, M.D., professor of internal medicine and pediatrics, will design and pilot a new UAB program using art works from artists of color to teach medical students about diversity and clinical insights.

## Panel to discuss humanitarian crisis in Cameroon

Panelists will examine the ongoing human rights and humanitarian crisis in Cameroon and the state of refugees and internally displaced persons in Cameroon and Nigeria during this Zoom lecture 9 a.m. June 19.

## Register, submit abstracts for ENRICH Week

ENRICH Week 2021 is scheduled Sept. 20-24. The annual conference for health care educators promotes teaching skills, fosters curricular innovation and showcases research in health education for the 21st century. Abstracts for the Sept. 21 ENRICH Week poster session are due July 12; details online. Live and virtual options are available for the Sept. 23 Emerging Educators Workshop; register online.

## One more thing



## Pivoting a nonprofit during a pandemic and other first-year pivots from an alumna

Laura Gilmour's HUB Worldwide launched in 2019 with a mission to take unused medical equipment from the United States to the nations. When the pandemic brought operations to a halt, this MBA and public health grad focused on Alabama, proving it isn't necessary to travel overseas to reach the world.

## Check the campus calendar for more events

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