Cultural Lens Film and Speaker Series featuring Dr. Andrew Baer

Join us as we sit down and discuss Dr. Andrew Baer’s latest book *Beyond the Usual Beating: The Jon Burge Police Torture Scandal and Social Movements for Police Accountability in Chicago* and its implications for police reform in the United States. Specifically, we will explore and unpack how local social forces coinciding with issues of the 60s and 70s influenced this scandal, the resistance movement that led to Burge’s exposure, and the lasting impact on those communities. As important, we beg the question: What are the parallels between then and now?

The discussion of "Beyond the Usual Beating: The Jon Burge Police Torture Scandal and Social Movements for Police Accountability in Chicago" will be held virtually on Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 6:00 pm. Registration for the event is required. This event is co-sponsored by the UAB Institute for Human Rights.

Register [here](#).

Civic Engagement Academy

In July of 2020, The Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Student Multicultural &
Diversity Programs launched the Civic Engagement Academy (CEA), an initiative created to enhance student learning, role participation, and broaden student-networking opportunities across the state in actively addressing the dynamics of systemic oppression, privilege, and isms through an equity lens. Rooted in the social justice framework, we posit that for students to effectively create sustainable change, they must first understand their agency in a society is the product of historically rooted, institutionally sanctioned stratification along socially constructed group lines that include race, class, gender, sexual orientation, and ability (among others). In providing this foundational understanding, we are able to guide participants into (a) fostering a culture of critical self-reflection in relation to their socialization into this matrix of unequal relationships and its implications, (b) give them the tools and resources to analyze the various mechanisms of oppression, and (c) empower them to create positive sustainable change in challenging these constructs.

The Civic Engagement Academy consists of several program components: (1) Agents for Change Social Justice Training Retreat (4 consecutive Saturdays), (2) monthly follow-up social justice workshops; (3) social justice common read followed by an invited book talk with the author; and (4) capstone project through community engagement, scholarship, or presentation at the ORCA Social Justice Conference.

If you are an undergraduate, graduate, or professional student at UAB who is interested in strengthening your capacity in the realm of social justice work, click here and sign up on Engage now. The deadline for application submission is September 15, 2020.

Submit an application for the Civic Engagement Academy [here](#).

**UAB Cares Suicide Prevention Initiative**

UAB cares deeply about the overall health and wellbeing of our entire campus community. In an effort to reach those in need, the university has established the UAB CARES Suicide Prevention Initiative to provide education, resources, support and access to care for those who may be experiencing a mental health crisis or who may be concerned about a friend or colleague’s mental health. Visit the UAB Cares website to learn more about the resources available to students and employees. You can also access the full UAB Cares toolkit with logos, social media assets, posters, and more so you can spread the message of suicide prevention at UAB. Students and employees also have access to a free, online, interactive training platform, Kognito, to learn the skills of how to intervene and help someone who is in distress. No matter who you are in the UAB community, remember that you matter, you are important, and you are not alone. UAB has resources and information to help connect students and employees with crisis and mental health resources on campus and in the community.

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Services**

UAB Medicine is committed to providing members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community with compassionate, respectful, and personalized health care that is relevant to their particular needs.
Through this commitment, UAB Medicine has now created a search function within their provider database that lists 44 LGBTQ-friendly providers, including providers with advanced expertise in LGBTQ health. UAB encourages patients to be open with their providers about personal sexual orientation, sexual behavior, and gender identity to provide the best possible care.

Read more and find the list of providers [here](#).

**Drop-in youth study program is open**

UAB opened its drop-in study program on Aug. 31 at The Hilton at UAB for children of university faculty, staff and students. The program provides a safe, supervised site for children in grades K-8 to school assignments or activities provided by their parents. It is one of several child-care options UAB is providing for employees with school-age children.

Parents will pay a nominal fee, $15 per child per session, to help defray operational expenses; financial assistance may be available based on income. Two sessions will be offered each day, 8-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-4 p.m. Children may attend up to three sessions per week but are limited to one per day. Parents are expected to provide masks and devices or other study materials for their children, who may arrive or leave any time during a confirmed session.

For more information, email uabyouthstudyprogram@outlook.com or call 205-644-4371.

**Athletes and Activism Forum**

Join the Department of Sport Management at the College of Health & Human Performance and Clemon Consulting Group for an exciting lecture series. The five-part Athletes & Activism Forum is a series of conversations exploring elite athletes' engagement of social justice causes, including history, effectiveness, impact on careers and recent increases in activity around racial injustice.

**SESSION 2 | Nothing New Under the Sun: Athletes and Protest in the U.S.**

9/10/2020 @ 3 p.m. EDT via Zoom - Register Now

This session will provide a brief historical overview of athletes’ protests and examine how modes of protest have evolved over time and what lessons can be gleaned from previous protest efforts. The panelists for the discussion will include:

- **J. Kenyatta Cavil**, Ed.D., Professor of Sport Management, Sport Studies & Sports Entertainment, Texas Southern University
- **Maurice J. Hobson**, Ph.D., Associate Professor of African American Studies and Historian, Georgia State University
- **Kathryn Morgan**, Ph.D., Full Professor, Director, African American Studies Program, University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Facilitator/Moderator:** A. Michelle Clemon, JD

**SESSION 3 | Perspectives from the Social Justice Field: Community Activists and Social Justice Organizations on Athletes' Activism**
This discussion will provide insight from the social justice practitioner’s perspective on the impact that athletes have on social justice movements and efforts. Panelists will also provide specific examples of what player engagement in activism looks like and assess the effectiveness of their efforts. The panelists for the discussion will include:

- **Diahann Billings-Burford**, CEO of RISE (Ross Initiative in Sports for Equality)
- **Damon Hewitt**, Executive Vice President, Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
- **Marie King**, Head of Local Voices Network Alabama, Activist, Speaker and Trainer

**Facilitator/Moderator:** A. Michelle Clemon, JD

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**United for our common good**

UAB is united in the fight against coronavirus and advocating for the safe return of faculty, staff and students. That's why we must work together to unite on campus by reducing the risk of COVID-19. In order to better communicate to our faculty, staff and students, the university has launched a new version of the campus entry website - [uab.edu/uabunited](http://uab.edu/uabunited). The information has been broken down by audience to help you find the relevant information to come to campus safely. Together, we can fight COVID-19.

Let's do this together! #UABUNITED

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**UAB policy regarding use of facilities revised**

Alabama House Bill 498, which went into effect on July 1, 2020, requires the state’s public institutions to adopt policies protecting campus free speech. UAB has posted an updated policy in compliance with HB 498. The Freedom of Expression and Use of UAB Facilities Policy is available in the [UAB Policies & Procedures Library](http://www.uab.edu). This policy reinforces UAB’s commitment to free speech and assembly for faculty, staff, students and registered student organizations while promoting efficient, responsible and safe use of university facilities in support of its mission. The law necessitates that UAB inform all members of the campus community of the new policy and its requirements. Therefore, the university has created an educational video which will soon be available in the Campus Learning Management System for faculty and staff and in Canvas for students. You will receive a direct email communication during the week of September 14, 2020 with instructions on how to access the video.
Hosted by the Alabama ADVANCE Partnership for Achieving Gender Equity in STEM (APAGES), The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Alabama A&M University, Miles College, Oakwood University, the University of Alabama at Huntsville, and Auburn University, on September 24, 2020 as part of the APAGES ongoing programming activities.

The Alabama ADVANCE Symposium will feature Shirley Malcom, Ph.D., who will discuss Re-imagining Our Institutions as Places Where Inclusion is the Norm: What Will it Take?

Thursday, September 24, 2020 | 11:30 AM

Shirley Malcom, Ph.D., is the Director of SEA Change and a Senior Advisor for the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). In this position she works to improve the quality of and increase access to education and careers in STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math and Medicine). Dr. Malcom is a trustee of Caltech, a regent of Morgan State University and a former member of the National Science Board, the policymaking body of the National Science Foundation. Dr. Malcom chaired the NASEM Committee on Barriers and Opportunities to 2-Year and 4-Year STEM Degree Completion. She serves on the boards of the Heinz Endowments, Public Agenda, the National Math-Science Initiative and Digital Promise. In 2003, she received the Public Welfare Medal of the National Academy of Sciences, the highest award given by the Academy.
**Upcoming Courses**

ODEI will continue to offer Diversity Education courses online throughout the fall semester. The courses include the Awareness@UAB video, Cultural Awareness Building Blocks, SafeZone, Unconscious Bias and Bystander Intervention. These courses will be offered as webinars via Zoom Meeting. Available dates and registration for these courses will be accessible through Campus LMS. Download the Fall schedule here. Registration is required through Campus LMS. Registration will help us assess interest in the Diversity Education curriculum during this time and apply individual credit for the course. If you have questions or concerns, please email Dr. Michelle M. Allen at mmallen6@uab.edu.

**Diversity Spotlight**

**UAB Masters of Science in Health Administration Program**

The UAB Masters of Science in Health Administration (MSHA) class of fifty-five sends warm thanks to the program for their support and continued investment in professional development. Last year, the MSHA program allowed students to attend the National Association of Health Services Executives 34th Annual Education Conference and participate in the 24th Everett V. Foxx Student Case Competition. As a group, they had the opportunity to participate in educational sessions, geared towards young health professionals, and tap into a vast network of executives and alumni. The students acknowledged the support of the MSHA program that made this opportunity possible and allowed them to create memories and friendships that will last a lifetime.

As a class, they are grateful for the MSHA program's investment in professional development and they are hopeful that students will continue to have this experience for years to come.

**Campus News and Events**

**Vickers and Pisu receive $3 million National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities grant**
The University of Alabama at Birmingham’s Maria Pisu, Ph.D., professor in the Division of Preventive Medicine, and School of Medicine Dean Selwyn M. Vickers, M.D., FACS, have been awarded a $3 million, five-year National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities grant. They will serve as principal investigators on the grant project.

“We’re delighted to address ways in which underserved populations in our region are disproportionately affected by affordability, availability and other characteristics of quality cancer surgical care,” Vickers said.

Read more here.

**UAB awarded $5 million grant from U.S. Department of Education’s TRIO Student Support Services**

The U.S. Department of Education has announced that the University of Alabama at Birmingham will receive three highly competitive federal TRIO Student Support Services grants of $5 million to help 460 students annually.

“UAB’s TRIO programs are instrumental in providing crucial student support,” said UAB Provost Pam Benoit. “It is encouraging to receive this high level of competitive funding to sustain, grow and deliver the programming. I’m grateful to the Undergraduate Student Success and Retention team for being so proactive in ensuring good resources for UAB students.”

Read more here.

**Forbes lists UAB among America’s Best-in-State Employers**

Forbes has ranked the University of Alabama at Birmingham among the best employers in the United States.

The America’s Best-In-State Employers 2020 title serves to reinforce each organization’s reputation as an employer of high quality.

Read more here.
Upcoming Events

Stay up-to-date with UAB Diversity & Inclusion Events