

REUNION



Programs under
the CHES umbrella
prepare students
for careers aimed at
improving lives.



2018

THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA | College of
Human Environmental
Sciences



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Doster Hall is one of eight UA buildings where you will find CHES students and faculty hard at work – improving lives.

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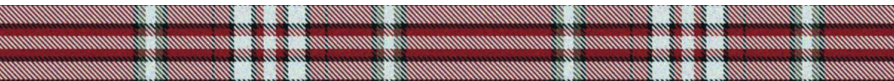


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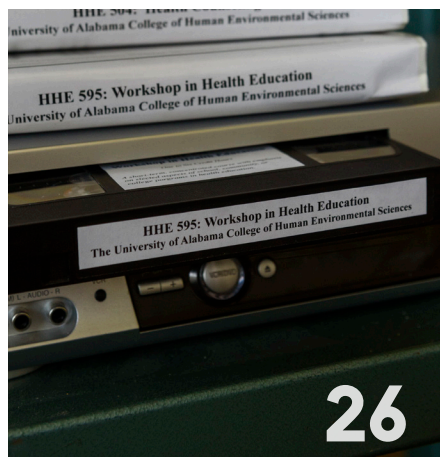
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DEAN'S MESSAGE

A JOURNEY OF THE HEART

In July 2018, I began a one-year sabbatical, after which I will retire from The University of Alabama, completing a personal journey that began more than 50 years ago.

I arrived at UA in fall 1966 from my hometown, Brent, Alabama, as a freshman. I was wearing a navy blue suit and carrying a set of red American Tourister luggage, along with a generous portion of excitement and anticipation about what the future held. But I had no idea then how important the University would become to me.

First, I checked into Harris Hall as one of three girls in a room, where I had a temporary bed and 18 inches of closet space. The next day, I moved to Martha Parham West where I had a bit more room and where I lived for the next two and a half years.

In 1966, freshmen were allowed to stay out until midnight only on weekends. During the week our curfew was 9 p.m., with one date night permitted when we could stay out until 10 p.m. Girls were allowed to

wear pants only on the "Women's Campus," and then only when covered by a raincoat.

Those days were so full of promise. The longer I stayed, the more I was impressed with the opportunities for academic growth and leadership that the University offered to my fellow students and me. I thought of the people who had come before us — governors, legislators, doctors, award-winning writers and artists — and realized that the doors that had been opened for them were open for me too. How I would walk through them was up to me.

It was a time of activism on our campus. Every Friday protesters marched from the Student Center (now Reese Phifer Hall) to Denny Chimes. When I graduated with a B.S. in spring 1970, only those receiving doctoral degrees marched across the stage. Today, all graduates can take that walk and shake hands with their dean and the UA president.

In 1977, I returned to the Capstone, this time as an instructor in the department of consumer sciences. I expected to stay another four years. The University was very different then. Total enrollment was 16,920 students, with only 610 in CHES, including 572 undergraduates and 38 graduate students. Today, 3,868 students, including 665 at the graduate level, are enrolled in CHES, and 38,563 at UA.

CHES was housed in Doster and Adams halls, plus the Child Development Center. Today, the College occupies a portion or all of eight buildings. In 1977, 33 faculty members taught in four departments; today 87 full-time and 101 adjunct faculty members teach in our



five departments. In 1977, the only equipment in most classrooms was an overhead projector. Now CHES has more than 300 computers.

Over the years, the facilities and people have changed, but some things have not: the commitment to our students and to the creation of new knowledge, and the chance to form lifelong bonds with the people you meet here. I have friendships from my earliest days at UA, including some with people who now live a world away, but we stay in touch because of our common ties to the University. Today, at various functions, I see many of my UA classmates. We reminisce about our earth science class in Lloyd Hall and our many hours in the dorm talking about the meaning of life and where we might be 20, 30, even 50 years later.

It is the people who have had the greatest impact on me during my years here. My professors who helped mold me into the person I am, through not only their courses, but also their own exemplary professional lives that I observed day after day. Many of them were still in the College when I returned as an instructor, and they graciously welcomed me as a colleague. It was these dedicated women and men who laid a solid foundation and built a far-reaching reputation for the College — as teachers who cared deeply about their students, and as national leaders and prominent researchers and authors.

I cannot say enough about my current colleagues, the CHES faculty and staff. The College has grown in enrollment with exceptional students who have

become our alumni living all over the globe. Because CHES is a professional school, our faculty are actively involved with the professions and can give our students the tools they need to remain on the leading edge of their fields throughout their careers.

Our current faculty members are committed to enhancing the lives of individuals, families and communities through their research on such topics as health disparities, international fashion retailing and mindful eating to prevent obesity. The results of their studies can begin right away to make a difference in people's lives — the true mission of CHES, which has given my work here its purpose.

There are many staff members who have been so important to CHES and to my growth. These men and women are full members of our team. In my 41 years as a faculty member, I have seen staff in CHES reach out to students, to care for them, stay in touch with them and assist them in myriad ways. The staff has supported all of the academic endeavors of the college.

And then there are the thousands of students whom I have had the privilege of teaching, mentoring and admiring — those who came from Alabama, as well as those from far away. Many have stayed in touch to talk about career opportunities and to share happy personal times. I delight not only in their professional achievements, but also in their contributions to their communities as sound, well-rounded citizens who are leaders and civic servants wherever they are.

As I move to the next stage of my life, I take great pride in being a part of The University of Alabama and the College of Human Environmental Sciences — the Crimson Nation is strong and vibrant around the world. I want to thank all the remarkable people whose lives have touched mine here, who have given me opportunities to serve and grow, thereby contributing so much to who I am today. As I continue to treasure my time at CHES and UA, I will remain a friend, colleague and true supporter of our beloved College for the rest of my life.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Milla".

Milla Boschung, Ph.D., CFP®

Under *our* Umbrella

Preparing Students for a Variety of Careers with One Mission — Improving Lives

The seeds of The University of Alabama College of Human Environmental Sciences (CHES) were planted in 1914 with a non-credit summer school class in foods. Elective courses including cookery, household management and sewing grew steadily over the next decade. In 1927, the Alabama Council on Education approved the establishment of a program focused on families that has evolved to encompass human sciences such as nutrition, athletic training, financial planning and hospitality management.

Over the past 15 years, Dr. Milla Dailey Boschung has led the College to a position of strength and stability. Dean Boschung, who joined the faculty in 1977 as a consumer sciences instructor, has been instrumental in elevating CHES to a position of prominence among colleges of human sciences. The largest human sciences school in the state, CHES is ranked among the largest of its kind in the nation. Today, it boasts close to 4,000 students, encompasses five departments, 12 undergraduate areas of study, 19 graduate areas of study and a rich offering of online courses.

A common thread running through each CHES area of study is the determination to empower our students to improve the quality of life of individuals, families and communities. The College brings together disciplines that impact the human condition: clothing, textiles, and interior design; consumer sciences; health science; human development and family studies; human nutrition; and hospitality management.

Because CHES is student-focused, our advisers, faculty and staff members provide a great deal of individual attention to our students. "From the moment we meet a prospective student, we work hard to discover their strengths and interests to direct them toward the best fit within our College," says Dr. Jennifer Humber, director of Student Services. "We want them to not only find their calling but to succeed in their academic journey and their professional career. Within the many areas of study under the CHES umbrella, we have a place for students from all walks of life who have the same goal that CHES promotes — to improve lives."



Undergraduate Areas of Study

Athletic Training | Apparel Design | Consumer Affairs
Early Childhood Education
Family Financial Planning & Counseling
Fashion Retailing | Food & Nutrition
General Studies in Human Environmental Sciences
Hospitality Management
Human Development & Family Studies
Interior Design | Public Health

Graduate Areas of Study

Athletic Training | Clothing & Textiles
Community Nutrition & Clinical Nutrition
Consumer Conflict Management
Consumer Economics | Consumer Quality Management
Family Financial Planning & Counseling
General Studies in Human Environmental Sciences
Health Education & Health Promotion
Health Studies | Hospitality Management
Human Development & Family Studies | Human Nutrition
Interactive Technology | Marriage & Family Therapy
Parent & Family Life Education | Public Health
Rural Community Health | Sports Business Management

In the clothing and textiles area, our undergraduate majors decide between **fashion retailing and apparel design**. Two study abroad opportunities, the China Retail Study Tour and Fashion Capitals of the World, offer students a broader view of their chosen field and its place in international markets. Both retail and design students have the opportunity to complete formal internships. Recent placements have included Neiman Marcus, Tory Burch, Buffalo Jeans, Tommy Hilfiger, BCBG, Karen Kane, Kleinfeld, Modern Luxury and Hunter Bell. Graduates enter a field that is about more than stylish trends — the fashion industry is a significant segment of our economy.

Accredited for over 30 years by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) and the National Association of Schools of Art and

(Left) Sydney Marino wowed the crowd at Tee Time 2018 with her repurposed necktie creation modeled by Morgan Machiski. (Photo courtesy of Eric Gray Photography)

(Below) Dr. Melissa Wilmarth, professor in a consumer protection class.





Vince Thompson (l) CEO of MELT and Cole Price (c) UA Director of Trademark Licensing share industry knowledge at a forum for sports business management and hospitality management students.



Chosen as 2018 Crenshaw Academy Fellows, (l-r) Luke Thalman, Marla Hogue and Gunn Pradat present research on ways to innovate client-counselor communications in financial planning.

Design (NASAD), our **interior design** program is well-known and respected in the industry. The program develops skills in drafting, client analysis and space planning, and nurtures the creative use of the principles and elements of color, form and light. Students graduate with a portfolio in hand that has been reviewed by professionals and enter the workforce in an industry that shapes our surroundings.

Those who move on to a master's degree in clothing & textiles pursue careers in higher education, business and government, including teaching on the college level, research, product development and entrepreneurship.

A **consumer affairs** concentration offers an applied approach to understanding consumers in home and market environments. With coursework in consumer economics, consumer policy, demographics, consumer communications and family resource management, the curriculum builds students' capacity to analyze markets and matters of personal finance from the perspective of consumers, and to communicate these issues to stakeholders. Graduates enjoy careers as analysts, entrepreneurs, sales professionals, customer care and engagement specialists, and financial professionals in private, public and non-profit sectors. The skills learned in this

In CDRC's research lab, Joshua Brown takes notes on his observations of a Children's Program class.



Interior design gallery highlights student work for a recent accreditation visit.

concentration also prepare students for law school and graduate school.

Family financial planning and counseling

students gain the knowledge and skills necessary for a career in financial planning and related areas. Financial planners guide clients in many aspects of their financial lives: financial goals, cash flow, taxes, retirement, college, business planning, estate planning and insurance needs, among others. Financial counselors also advise clients on developing sound personal finance principles such as reducing debt, building an emergency fund, negotiating payments and developing a budget. The family financial planning and counseling coursework fulfills the educational requirements to sit for the Certified Financial Planner (CFP®) exam and the Accredited Financial Counselor® (AFC) exam.

Graduates from both areas of study can further their education through graduate specializations such as **consumer economics and consumer quality management**.

The CHES **athletic training** program emphasizes evidence-based practice and patient-centered care. Our students participate in a variety of clinical education experiences — all involving work with University of Alabama athletes.

We also offer opportunities to learn from and work side by side with other healthcare professionals as athletic trainers in the field often do. Students leave our program prepared to take

the Board of Certification (BOC) examination, which is the only accredited certification program for athletic trainers in the United States. Because of their role in preventing injuries and reducing health care costs, athletic trainers are in high demand.

The undergraduate program in **public health** offers two concentrations: health education and health promotion, and health professions. Students enrolled in health education and promotion will prepare for careers in an expanding field that includes jobs in public health departments, governmental agencies such as the Centers for Disease Control, public and private medical practices, work-site health education, wellness programs and fitness facilities. The health professions concentration is appropriate for students interested in graduate study in physical therapy or medicine, as well as other allied health and public health professions.

Graduates from both areas of study can further their education through specializations at the master's level and, in health education and health promotion, progress toward a doctorate.

Human development and family studies

(HDFS) focuses on helping children, families and relationships thrive. Students majoring in HDFS examine the cognitive, social, emotional and physical development of people from birth through death in the context of families and communities. Students can choose to concentrate in family life

education and advocacy, adolescence and youth development or child life. Graduates go into the workplace advocating to improve the lives and resources of people of all ages in hospitals, governmental agencies, nonprofits, faith-based programs and community resource centers.

Early childhood education majors learn to work with a diverse population of young children and families using research-based, developmentally appropriate educational practices. The department has an on-campus childcare program, which allows both observation and practical experience for our students.

Another learning resource is the RISE Center, a nationally recognized program that serves young children with special needs along with their typically developing peers. Graduates of our early childhood education, who also meet additional state-level requirements such as acceptable scores on national teacher preparation exams, will be eligible to apply for a birth to pre-k teaching certificate from the Alabama State Department of Education. Graduates are prepared to be classroom teachers and directors of child care centers. Others choose to work in agencies that promote the welfare of young children.

For students who wish to progress to a master's degree, CHES offers three avenues. The goal of the **marriage and family therapy** course of study is to train competent, professional marriage and family therapists. The specialization in **human development and family studies** provides students with the theoretical foundation and research skills necessary for pursuing doctoral work or advanced employment in occupations serving children, adults and families. **The parent and family life education** path is approved by the National Council on Family Relations and leads to the Certified Family Life Educator credential.

Most students who come into our **food and nutrition** major intend to pursue a registered dietitian (RD) credential. We have been educating dietitians for more than 75 years and offer three undergraduate programs that lead to the credential — a coordinated program in dietetics, a didactic program in dietetics and an individualized supervised practice pathway. CHES also offers the didactic program in dietetics via



Pleased with the final product, Ben Marino shows off his version of quiche in the Foods Lab.

distance learning — one of only three such online programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). Graduates are most often employed in clinical, hospital or long-term care settings, although child nutrition programs, food service operations and food companies also hire food and nutrition majors.

In addition to these programs, students may major in food and nutrition and complete the requirements to apply for medical, pharmacy or physical therapy schools. We also offer human nutrition degrees through the doctoral level.

In **hospitality management**, CHES educates future leaders for the hospitality and tourism industries by creating successful managers and future executives for positions in restaurants, hotel and lodging properties, convention bureaus, conference and meeting centers, private clubs, commercial, institutional and health care food services and contract management companies. Students progress through intensive academic courses and work experiences in approved practicums and internships that prepare them for success after graduation.

A master's of human environmental sciences with a focus in hospitality management is available for those who want to climb the executive ladder or venture into teaching.

CHES houses **general studies** in human environmental sciences bachelor's and master's degrees and certificates in **consumer conflict management, consumer quality management and sports business management**.

Finally, the College offers a graduate area of study in **interactive technology**, a popular area of study for professionals across all industries. The program focuses on computer-mediated communications and analyzes how consumers and organizations interact with technology. Graduates strengthen communication, research and collaboration techniques, and become technology leaders in the workplace. ■ ■ ■

Because umbrellas are most useful when open — we hope that in sharing what's under the CHES umbrella, we have shed more light on the many ways in which our graduates find professional success by improving the lives of others.

Health science student, Rachel Stoves, presents her research findings on child abuse prevention at the 2018 Undergraduate Research and Creativity Conference. (Photo courtesy of Mary Kathryn Carpenter)

Hospitality management students plan, host and staff "A Night in Venice" wine dinner at the University Club.



SHORT STORIES

We Are Crimson

By Rebecca Cole

Crimson is not just a color we wear on Saturdays in the fall – we live crimson, we bleed crimson, we are crimson. To us, crimson signifies the unity of a wide-reaching UA family.

This University of Alabama family, like other clans, boasts a unique identifier, the “We Are Crimson” tartan.

The tartan is crimson and white, with accents of black and gray. The design has 13 stripes, representing each college at the University. The central plaid reflects the Quad on campus, while the innermost white square symbolizes Denny Chimes. The four corners of the center plaid reflect our past and four original University buildings that remain on campus to this day. “We Are Crimson” is recorded as The University of Alabama’s official tartan with the Scottish Register of Tartans.

As part of a 2010 College of Human Environmental Sciences project, UA’s official tartan was designed by Linnzi Rich, Class of 2012. By purchasing UA tartan products, you help the next generation of our crimson family. All proceeds from royalties of tartan merchandise go toward a scholarship fund for CHES students. “I’m very proud of the fact that we more than quadrupled our sales last year, bringing in over \$19,000 in royalties to the scholarship fund,” says Darryl Thornton, CHES instructor and brand coordinator of the UA tartan. By the end of the Fall 2017 semester, the “We Are Crimson” Tartan Scholarship Fund achieved endowment level. Scholarships will soon be awarded.

Tartan merchandise ranges from golf apparel and chef’s jackets, to hats and sweatshirts. Retailers include the Supe Store, RollTide.com, CrimsonLocker.com, Bama Fever and many more. For product information and the full list of retailers, visit tartan.ua.edu.



CHES students, Brittany Brown and Kaylon Graham, proudly wear UA tartan.

Thornton says the tartan is unique to the University. “It has the story of The University of Alabama built into the tartan pattern itself,” Thornton says. “To me, that’s really the beauty of this symbol for The University of Alabama as an institution and a brand.”

“We Are Crimson” and it shows. ■ ■ ■

A Half Century of Teaching

By Mary Daily

When Dr. Sue Parker was growing up in Red Bay, Alabama, clothing and textiles was part of her world. Her father grew cotton on their family farm, and her mother, an excellent seamstress, taught her clothing construction. But she was more interested in foods and winning baking competitions with her 4H Club.

As an undergraduate at the University of North Alabama, she planned to specialize in food and nutrition. But while she was earning her bachelor's degree in home economics, her textiles and design professor inspired her, and she decided to change her direction.

All along, she had planned to go to graduate school, so she applied for assistantships at several institutions. UA made her an offer, and she came to Tuscaloosa to meet with Dean Mary Crenshaw and a few faculty members. And even though her father was an Auburn graduate and her family tended to root for the Tigers, today Parker says, "I immediately fell in love with The University of Alabama and have felt that way ever since." Now she is in her 50th year on the Capstone campus.

During graduate school, Parker worked with Carolyn Stewart, chair of the Department of Clothing and Textiles. Part of Parker's responsibility was cataloging some of the first contributions to the historic Fashion Archive. In two years, she completed a master's degree in textile science.

By the next fall, she had landed a teaching position at CHES, and begun working toward her Ph.D. through the School of Education.

In the late 1980s, while she was teaching merchandising and considering opening a fabric store and a drugstore with her pharmacist husband, Parker saw a growing need for entrepreneurship education. "We needed to teach students how to run their own businesses," she says. She proposed a class at CHES – UA's first course in entrepreneurship – and taught it during Interim. Interest grew, and soon the course became part of the regular curriculum.



Parker gives to CHES in many ways – pictured with one of her scholarship recipients, Jennifer Hodnett.

At the same time, Parker readily embraced technology and developed a class in e-commerce. Today she says, "These two courses have become my passion because I have seen the incredible success of my students who choose to become entrepreneurs."

Although she officially retired in 1994, Parker continues to teach entrepreneurship and e-commerce online and on campus. Currently, 17 graduate students are working with her online. Reflecting on her years of teaching, she says, "I have always measured my success by the success of my students. Their success confirms that I chose the right profession for my purpose in life."



Each year, a CHES student receives the Sue Morrow Parker Entrepreneurship Award. To contribute to this scholarship, contact Amy Baker-Parton at aparton@ches.ua.edu.

Waking Up to a Job You Enjoy

By Rebecca Cole

From Spin Again, an award-winning, colorful corkscrew toy for toddlers, and Mad Mattr, a squishy, moldable dough that never dries out, to Magnatiles, 3-D magnetic building tiles that enhance creativity — the Toy Shoppe in downtown Northport offers some of the best developmental toys on the market.

The proprietor of this unique shop, Kate Strickland, is a third-generation CHES graduate whose mother and grandmother also are alumnae of our college. Strickland, who majored in early childhood education, explains that she became a toy store owner serendipitously. "I fell into this job and seemed to have a knack for it," she says. The store opened during her last semester at UA so she applied for and accepted a position there. She worked as a manager from 2009 until she purchased the business in 2013.

"It's not what I expected to do," Strickland says. "But, I've enjoyed it. It's allowed me to be creative and it's a different job than most people have. I have a lot of freedom here to make it what I want it to be."

Strickland says her job, which she never dreads waking up for, has put her CHES education to good use. She calls on her knowledge of child development as she researches toys, and only makes a purchase if the toy will further a child's education and creativity. She also makes it a point to explore and offer toys that can help children with autism or other unique challenges.

"One of the main things we look for is the play value," Strickland says. "Is this something they'll play with longer than a few minutes? Is this something they can put imagination into? Knowing [developmental] milestones helps me determine whether something will be appropriate for a certain age or not."

Many of the toys Strickland purchases and recommends to customers are open-ended: they spark creativity and outside-the-box thinking. She says getting new toys in the store is like Christmas for her and her staff, who are just big kids who love helping customers find the best products for their children.



Strickland enjoys her workdays at the Toy Shoppe.

(Below) The store is located in historic downtown Northport.



"Some of the best days are when you help a customer get the exact right things," Strickland says. "They're appreciative, and you know you've really helped them out."

Toys for all ages, from newborn to teen — and even a few things adults can enjoy — are available both in the store and online. The Toy Shoppe is located at 431 Main Ave in Northport, Ala. and online at toyshoppeinc.com. ■ ■ ■

The CHES Department of Human Development and Family Studies is about helping children and families thrive and flourish. Many of our alumni fill traditional roles in early childhood education, family counseling, and research, or in hospital, governmental and agency settings that support families. Kate Strickland offers a shining example of some of the unique paths our graduates follow that fulfill the college mission of improving lives.

Making His Way in the Restaurant Industry

By Rebecca Cole

Restaurant owner and entrepreneur, Craig Williams, chose where he wanted to be four and a half years ago when he opened Avenue Pub in Tuscaloosa's downtown entertainment district. A CHES graduate who earned his degree in restaurant and hospitality management, Williams says, "Everybody thinks you're supposed to graduate and move on. But at the end of the day, Tuscaloosa is a great city and I just decided to make it home."

Williams says this industry has always excited him. Since he was 14, he has bussed tables, washed dishes, served, bartended, cooked, managed and now opened restaurants.

Opening a restaurant is not a simple task; location, construction, design and concept development must be considered, as well as consulting with regulatory authorities and getting licenses. Williams credits his education for helping him determine the difference between working hard and working smart, "CHES definitely set a foundation for understanding how to accomplish goals in the real world."

Avenue Pub is located in Temerson Square, serving casual American brunch, lunch and dinner. Williams' favorite brunch dish is seared pork served on roasted potatoes with a Conecuh cream sauce, sunny side egg and two pieces of toast.

Williams says the thrill of opening a restaurant is part of what inspired him to open his newest one, Central Mesa.

Opening Avenue Pub was one of the most exciting things he's done. "It was just so rewarding," Williams says. "I felt the challenge would be exciting again. Seeing how Avenue Pub developed and became a sustainable business, I thought why not double down and see if we could do it again?"

In addition to the thrill, he says that creating an opportunity for current staff to grow and advance was another important aspect of opening a second restaurant.

Central Mesa opened less than a year ago on Greensboro Avenue, and has so far proved successful. Williams says the restaurant remains full Thursday through Sunday each week. Popular dishes include spicy chicken tostadas and pork belly tacos.

He says, for now, his current focus is on Central Mesa, but if afforded the opportunity to open a third restaurant in Tuscaloosa, he may go for it.

■ ■ ■



Williams at Central Mesa, a Latin-inspired cantina serving hand-made tortillas, braised meats and craft cocktails.

The CHES Hospitality Management Program educates future leaders in hospitality and tourism with degrees offered both on campus and online. The strength of our program lies in coursework and practical experiences that support industry success. We are proud to count this successful young entrepreneur, Craig Williams, as one of our own.



THE FASHION ARCHIVE

COLLEGE OF HUMAN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Appreciating and Sharing Our Treasures

By Tabby Brown

In Dr. Marcy Koontz, CHES has found the ideal person to guide the care and exhibition of a collection of historical garments and textiles that was established here in the 1930s. Koontz, a faculty member since 1998, has taught fashion illustration, apparel production, textile design and, currently, visual merchandising. Appointed curator of The Fashion Archive of the College of Human Environmental Sciences in 2018, she plans to creatively exhibit collection treasures, streamline donation procedures, improve preservation standards and create an interconnected database documenting every piece.

Searching for the perfect way to describe her appreciation of historic fashions, and why they are important to our College, the University and others beyond our campus, Koontz says, "The most intimate of our possessions, dress can reveal ineffable truths, not just about a person but also about the zeitgeist of the time in which they lived. Through the lens of fashion, students and scholars can examine and explore firsthand

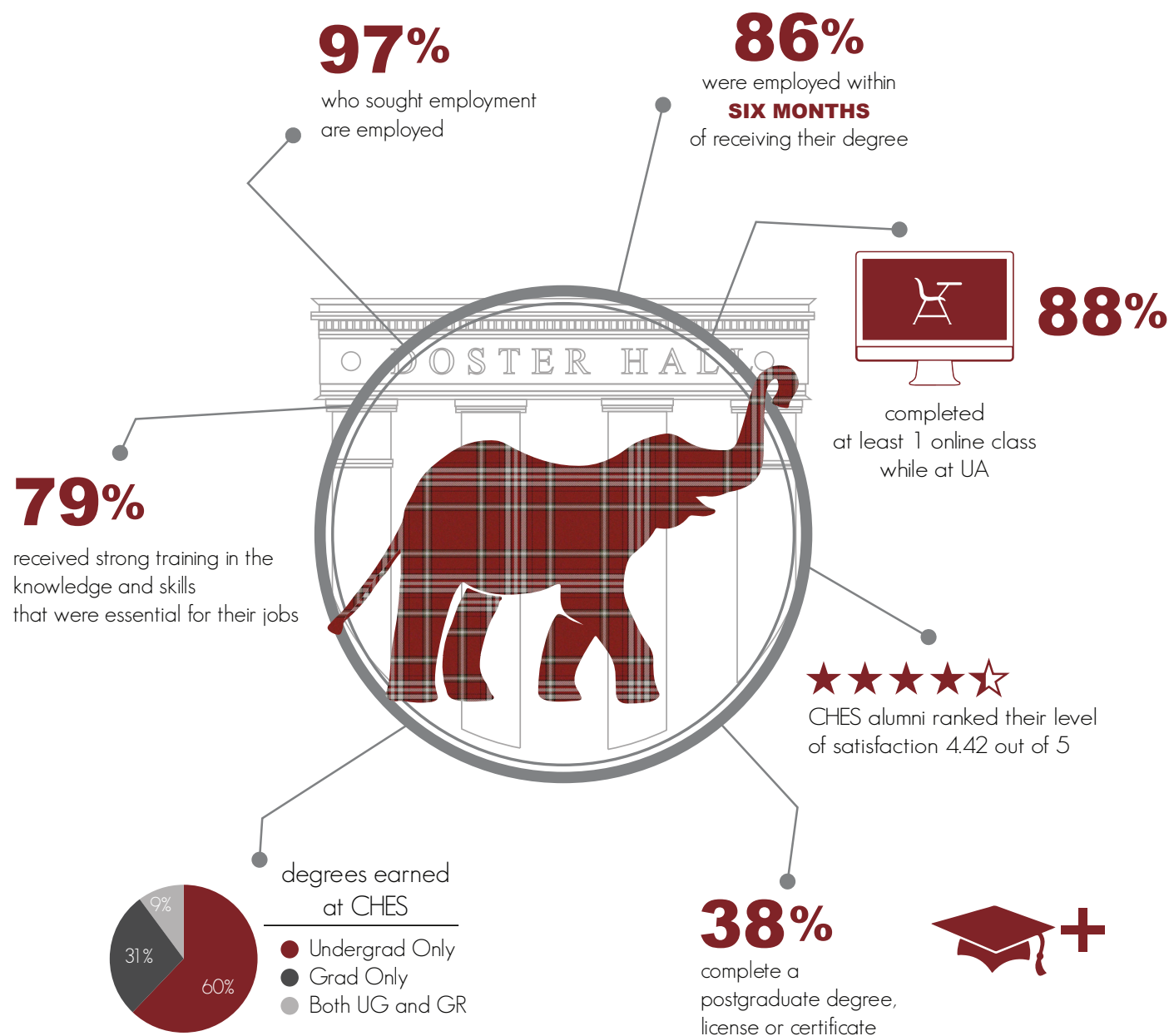
and in three-dimension not only the design aesthetics, construction and function of the item, but also larger issues such as advances in technology and science, social interactions, relationships and culture."

Thoroughly prepared for her duties as curator, Koontz earned a Ph.D. in collections management of historic costume & textiles from Florida State University. The Fashion Archive will be the fifth collection she has curated. Her experience includes working with the Hope B. McCormick Costume Center at the Chicago History Museum, in Florida collections at the Goodwood Museum & Gardens, in the Knott House Museum's collection of oriental carpets and tapestries, and in Florida State University's historic costume and textile collection.

Koontz is eager to put a plan into place that will guide The Fashion Archive at CHES through the next 25 years and into the hands of its next curator. In the meantime, she is enjoying the journey. ■ ■ ■

CHES ALUMNI SURVEY

2018





ALL about style

By Mary Daily

Caitlin Costello always had a knack for styling — working with color, texture and proportion to put elements together in beautiful ways. When the Dallas native entered CHES as a freshman in 2007, she planned to major in interior design, which would certainly call upon her passion for creative coordination. But after she went through orientation, she realized that what she really wanted was fashion retailing.

"The retailing major merged business and fashion," she says, "and I loved that. The two tied together nicely." The courses Costello took ranged from merchandising, design and history of textiles to retail math, accounting and economics. And, capping her coursework, in the fall semester of her senior year, she landed an internship with Italian luxury brand Emilio Pucci in New York City.

"My experience at Pucci sold me on a career in the fashion industry," she says, "and sold me on living in New York. Because they have a small team here in the U.S., I got to be involved with every aspect of the business — tracking sales, managing retail point-of-sale software, working with clients in the two Pucci freestanding boutiques in New York, analyzing sales reports nationwide and reporting results back to the corporate office. I got to interact with the vice president and president of the company. It was an awesome experience. I got so lucky."

After graduation the following spring, Costello immediately moved to New York, where she began an internship with Tibi women's contemporary brand.

"In a few months I was hired as a design assistant," she says, "managing the pattern makers and sewers — work that was more related to the creative side of what I learned at Alabama." But eventually she felt the job wasn't a good fit for her, and she couldn't see what her trajectory would be if she stayed on the design team.

From her time at Pucci, Costello knew that she loved working with sales and analytics, so she next took a position as a sales assistant with Lela Rose. Like Pucci, Lela Rose offered a high-end line, so Costello felt comfortable there, perhaps all the more because Rose, too, came from Dallas, although she and Costello had never met.

After a year and a half, Costello was promoted to account executive, managing Lela Rose's accounts with Neiman Marcus, which included 32 stores; Bergdorf Goodman, which was based in New York; and Bloomingdale's, as well as all of the company's international business. "It was super exciting," Costello says. She stayed with Lela Rose for four and a half years.

"I came away with so many great relationships — with people I knew from the stores, clients I met through the trunk shows and traveling, plus all the people I met in the industry as I was doing different events."

By now, Costello — just seven years out of UA — felt ready to "take the leap" and start her own business.

Because she'd always enjoyed giving wardrobe

advice to friends and friends of friends, Costello knew she would like to work in styling. She saw a widening void in the market with how the retail industry is changing between brick and mortar stores, e-commerce and customers' shopping experience. "I saw the chance to bridge retail stores, technology and the client," she says, "by bringing our service directly to clients where they live with a personalized touch, like a personal shopper who comes to your home." She named the business Affiner (pronounced Ah-fin-ay), French for "to refine." The company is a personal wardrobe styling service based on a technology platform. "We have an algorithm that matches clients with stylists," she says. "Our goal is to work with men and women and their wardrobes to make them feel their best."

In April 2017, after six months of planning, Costello hired her first employees. Today she has two full-time employees and six freelance stylists. Sister and fellow grad, Erin, handles PR and social media for Affiner. Find the company on the web at styleaffiner.com.

The service works like this: Prospective clients complete a style survey. Based on the results, Affiner offers them a choice of three stylists. Each client then makes an appointment with the stylist they chose. Clients may use the service hourly, seasonally, monthly, continually or digitally (which includes a virtual look book and possibly a virtual styling session). Also available is one four-hour session spent sorting and refining a client's wardrobe.

Affiner works with a number of retail partners, including Theory, Carolina Herrera, Lela Rose, Phillip Lim, Tibi and Derek Lam. "With our retail partners, we can constantly know what's on the floor and we have a contact at the store," Costello says. "But, if needed,

we also go beyond our partners to find exactly what our clients need."

One of the main points of distinction that sets Costello's business apart from other styling services such as Stitch Fix is that Affiner delivers wardrobe items directly to clients in their homes, accompanied by a stylist, rather than mailing a boxed selection.

In looking ahead, Costello envisions expanding into the wedding market, extending Affiner's service to brides-to-be for all their wedding events, as well as to the wedding party. And she also still has an eye on interior design. "Your home also reflects your fashion sense," she says, "so a move into that area makes sense." It's all about styling, which is her passion, and which draws every day on what she learned at CHES.



At CHES, Costello tapped into a rich legacy that now spans more than 100 years. UA's programs in clothing, textiles, and interior design (CTD) date back to 1917, when a course in "Sewing and Dressmaking" was first offered.

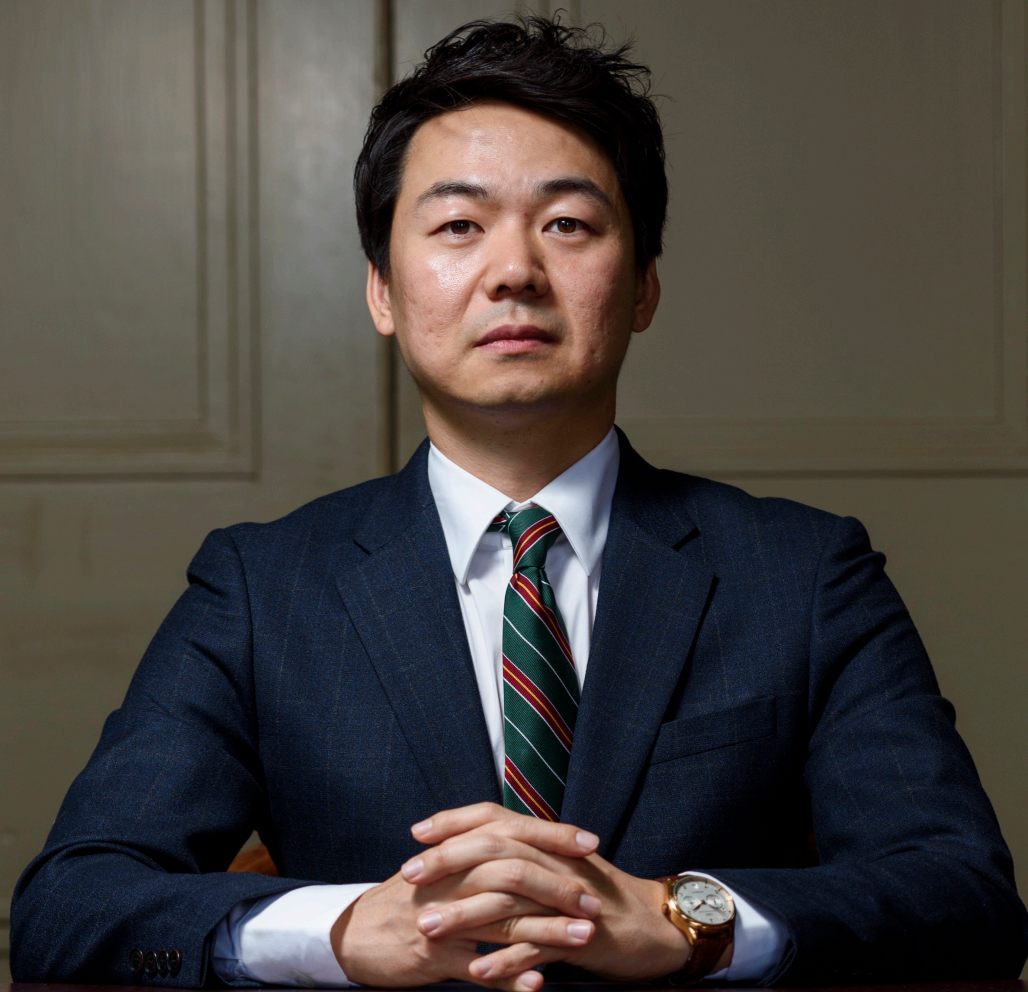
The subject matter was a natural for Alabama, a textile-rich state that was founded by enterprising landowners eager to take advantage of the ideal growing conditions for cotton. Throughout its history, the state has been home to many cotton and woolen mills, as well as garment and textile product manufacturers. Alabama still produces more than 850,000 bales of cotton a year, and now claims world-renowned fashion designers among its citizens.

As early as 1930, CHES had established a retailing program that included field experience, pioneering the concept of off-campus internships that continue to be a vital part of the curriculum. In 1937, the University made a cooperative arrangement with department stores in Birmingham and Atlanta to provide apprentice experience in retailing. Over the years, those arrangements have been expanded to include stores in major U.S. cities including New York. Like Costello, other CHES graduates remember their internships as an invaluable part of their education, bridging classroom and career. CHES interns are sought after by some of the nation's premier retailers, both online retailers and those with storefronts.

Costello — at home in the city — NYC.

Affiner works with men and women styling special ensembles and refining wardrobes.





Finding

INSPIRATION

for Research in the
Classroom

By Rebecca Cole

Family financial planning and counseling (FFPC) professor, Dr. Kyoung Tae (KT) Kim believes teaching and research are closely linked. He often uses his research studies in the classroom and also gains a great deal of insight for topics from his students.

"I really enjoy teaching because I'm still learning new things from my class," Kim says. "In my Capstone class, for example, students find Wall Street Journal articles related to that week's topic. A recent topic was cryptocurrency — like Bitcoin, Ripple and Ethereum — so the question was, 'What would be a reasonable and plausible viewpoint as a financial planner if our client was to invest their money in cryptocurrency?' It was a great learning experience for me because I don't have experience investing in cryptocurrency."

Kim acknowledges that there are challenges in balancing teaching and research, but when he prepares his classes, he also thinks about his research.

"I'm teaching insurance planning in the fall, and one of the major topics is life insurance," Kim says. "From the class, I obtained a research idea and developed one research project about life insurance ownership in the United States. That initially started, not from my idea, but from a class discussion."

Over the last three years, Kim published 22 peer-reviewed journal articles, one book chapter, 12 manuscripts under review and contributed to almost 30 research presentations. It is fair to say that Kim plays a significant role in meeting The University of Alabama's strategic goal to increase productivity and innovation in research, scholarship and creative activities that impact economic and societal development.

Kim came to the United States from South Korea in 2004 as an undergraduate student at The Ohio State University, where he received his bachelor's degree in economics. He went on to pursue his master's degree in economics at Purdue University. He returned to Ohio State for a doctorate in family resource management, with a minor in statistics. Just six days after commencement in August 2014, he began teaching at The University of Alabama.



Kim leads discussion of Wall Street Journal article "Where Retirees Underestimate Spending."




Kim in the classroom.

Recruiting Kim for the faculty of the College of Human Environmental Sciences has been a boon to the College's research output. "Kim is prolific," says Dr. Robert Nielsen, professor and chair of consumer sciences at UA. "In the last several years, the department's productivity numbers are on a very sharp climb. There's an upward trend in both the quantity and quality of the research from 2013 to present. In terms of sheer numbers, the lion's share of that increase is Dr. Kim."

Nielsen says the College, and the University as a whole, places much greater emphasis on the role research plays within the College.

"The environment to support faculty research is maturing in ways that should only cause productivity to increase," says Nielsen. "From a visiting scholar initiative that brings external



"...the College is making great strides in support for research that affects consumers and their families. This growing support signals the seriousness of the College about its research mission."

-Dr. Robert Nielsen



researchers to UA to collaborate with our faculty, to a new CHES Grant Writing Institute where early-career researchers receive support for seeking external research funding, the College is making great strides in support of research that affects consumers and their families. This growing support signals the seriousness of the College about its research mission.”

Kim has two areas of research that focus on the consumer’s financial wellbeing. The first is financial decisions consumers make throughout their life, such as saving and investment decisions. His second area of research — and one of his favorite topics to teach — is retirement savings and readiness among U.S. workers.

“My main research interest is to assess and analyze retirement preparedness of U.S. workers,” Kim said. “The goal of retirement preparedness is simple: to maintain their pre-retirement standard of living in retirement. But from my previous studies, roughly half of working households in the United States are not saving enough to be able to maintain their current spending level after retirement.”

According to the 2013 Survey of Consumer Finances, only 41 percent of working baby boomers — those born between 1946 and 1964 — were adequately prepared for retirement, Kim says. One population projection placed the number of boomers (in 2016) at approximately 74 million, making this issue a weighty one for Americans.

Kim’s research looks at how he can help workers save adequately for retirement. He found that Americans often look at their retirement preparedness optimistically rather than realistically. Kim says that by reasonably assessing worker’s retirement plans and sharing that information widely, U.S. households may be encouraged to create well-diversified financial portfolios that will generate greater retirement income.

Ultimately, Kim hopes his research improves the financial wellbeing of Americans. He says he stays motivated by researching how to help society to improve social welfare and how to aid consumers financially.

“My research has been cited in 10 different news articles so far,” Kim says. “I believe these news inquiries are a good window to help a more general population of U.S. households to get practical ideas from my research studies. I want to be an influential researcher in our field, that’s why I’m trying to be a highly productive person.” ■ ■ ■

Artist Frank Fleming Leaves Lasting Legacy

By Mary Daily

Renowned Alabama artist Frank Fleming, who created the whimsical animal sculptures at UA's Child Development Research Center, passed away on March 18, following a brief illness. He was 77.

As a child growing up on a farm in Bear Creek, Alabama, Fleming developed a love of animals. Because of a speech impediment that he later overcame, he was teased by other children and came to feel more at home with the farm animals. That bond with the natural world remained with him and was a major creative force in his work.

The artist once said, "I deal with animal imagery, with plant life and with my surroundings, what I grew up with and what I know." He didn't find it necessary

to sketch the works before creating the sculptures. He just brought the subjects to life in his hands. His work is known for its intricate, lifelike detail. He has credited his childhood experience of picking cotton with helping him develop the dexterity he called upon in his work.

As an undergraduate at the University of North Alabama, Fleming planned to major in biology but an elective course in art revealed his talent and he soon changed his major to art. After earning his B.A. he continued his education with an M.A. and M.F.A. at The University of Alabama. Then, setting up a studio in Birmingham, he began making functional and decorative pottery as well as sculpture.

His first one-man show — in 1974 at the Birmingham Museum of Art — received rave reviews and garnered attention from curators around the country. Over his life span, his work was featured in more than 40 solo exhibitions and more than 100 group shows. He also lectured and taught workshops across the nation and abroad. His sculptures are part of public and private collections around the world.

"We are so honored to have his works on our campus at the Child Development Research Center," says CHES Dean Milla Boschung. "The children love them." Dean Boschung commissioned the first works in 2009; they were a gift on behalf of John L. and Margaret E. Rhoads. ■ ■ ■

**"We are so honored
to have his works on
our campus at the
Child Development
Research Center."**

—CHES Dean, Milla Boschung



Peter the Rabbit, John the Turtle, Frank the Frog, and Ducks, Judy, Milla and Amy — serve as lasting reminders of the talent of Frank Fleming.



Frank Fleming
(Courtesy of Andrew Thomas Lee.)



Our Passion for families shows

By Tabby Brown

The University of Alabama has a rich history of serving, educating and championing children and their families. On the forefront of this effort, the CHES Department of Human Development and Family Studies (HDFS) makes a difference in lives every day through outreach programs that strengthen human development across the lifespan and by training tomorrow's leaders in early childhood education and family advocacy.

Reflecting on her association with CHES, graduate and retired HDFS faculty member Dr. Carroll Tingle says, "Even though there has been a lot of evolution in the College, the strong passion for families that was there in 1966, when I was an undergraduate, is here now. Members of the department have always been active professionally and politically. We continue to be influential in setting precedents and securing funding that helps families through our collaborations with governmental agencies and our service in elected offices of associations and boards such as the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the Alabama Association for Young Children, VOICES for Alabama's Children, and the National Board of Child Life Professionals. The passion for making life better for families and children is the catalyst for the amazing things the College is doing today — much of it thanks to Dean Milla Boschung."

In 2005, Dean Boschung donned a hard hat and work boots to oversee construction of a project that pulled together child care, clinical, laboratory and classroom facilities that encompass our efforts to improve the lives of families. The Child Development

Research Center (CDRC) was constructed on property adjacent to the RISE Center, another important component of our HDFS family.

The 64,000-square-foot CDRC facility houses research suites, the Children's Program, Child Development Resources, the Capstone Family Therapy Clinic, the Pediatric Development Research Laboratory and the Department of Human Development and Family Studies. Thanks to a recent multimedia technology update, it remains a state-of-the-art facility.

The research-based Children's Program serves as a laboratory school for undergraduate students majoring in early childhood education. It evolved from the Child Development Center and Infant Laboratory, which was first established at UA in 1942. Some of the most well-known child development experts including Margaret Mead and Benjamin Spock visited the lab, which was one of the first child development research centers in the nation. It also became one of the first programs for young children in the state to be accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. This year, the Children's Program received the first five star rating in Alabama from Alabama Quality STARS which rates childcare centers in the state.

Over its history, this area of HDFS experienced a number of other firsts. In the mid-60s, the department became heavily involved with the training of Head Start personnel. CHES continues to train Head Start teachers today, many through an online program that is every bit as vibrant as its on-campus counterpart.



(Top Left) The Children's Program Music Garden provides hours of family fun.

(Top Right) Child Life Specialist students gain practical experience in area hospitals.

(Bottom) Baby TALK provides developmentally appropriate activities for parents and their children.



work to clarify issues, explore options and find solutions to problems.

The Pediatric Development Research Laboratory conducts research of interest to faculty and students that is focused on children's development from birth to 18 years of age. It features a social interaction room to study interactions, such as those between family members (e.g., mother and infant), among peers and friends, and between adults and children. A separate infant testing laboratory is set up to study infant perception and memory of inter-modal stimuli (e.g., audio-visual events or visual-tactile objects). Observation booths allow for unobtrusive observation and recording of interactions and infant performance. The lab also has a physical and biochemical room for tracking children's growth. Ongoing studies include prenatal and maternal depression effects on infant development, preschool children's temperament and cortisol levels during social interactions, and moral and language development.

The RISE Center opened in 1974 to enrich the lives of infants and preschoolers with and without special needs. In 1994, it moved to its current facility — the Stallings Center which was named after Alabama football coach Gene Stallings and is located adjacent to the CDRC. The RISE model is a unique blend of early childhood education, child development and integrated therapy. The purpose of the program is to optimally prepare children for their next educational environment, and to provide support to families.

Apart from the outreach services each of these programs offers families, they also provide research opportunities to enrich faculty classrooms and hands-on training to prepare students in human development and family studies for work beyond graduation.

According to Dr. Robert Laird, HDFS department chair, "HDFS is about finding ways to help children, families and relationships thrive. Our curricula and coursework will not only prepare students to be successful in their professional roles, but it will also enable students to be better parents, partners, friends, and more generally, better human beings." ■ ■ ■

In 1970, the department received a federal grant to create the Model Day Care Center (MDCC) designed to serve disadvantaged infants and children. Taking a holistic approach, the center was one of the first in the country to provide transportation, in-house health services, parent education and a full-time nutritionist for children from 6 weeks through 6 years old.

Over the years, it became obvious to members of the department and experts throughout the country that you can't reach the child without reaching the family. For that reason, HDFS programs have come to include much more than early childhood education.

Child Development Resources (CDR) assists families across the state of Alabama to provide a safe, loving, and enriching life for their children. It is west, central Alabama's resource for information about the well-being of young children. CDR provides training for professional child care providers, offers child care resource and referral information, and conducts parenting education and support programming. It also works to increase the availability, affordability and quality of child care for families in Bibb, Choctaw, Fayette, Greene, Hale, Lamar, Marengo, Marion, Perry, Pickens, Sumter and Tuscaloosa counties.

The Capstone Family Therapy Clinic provides members of the community help in resolving personal problems and trains graduate students specializing in marriage and family therapy. The Clinic offers psychotherapy for individuals, couples and families, conducted by marriage and family therapy master's level graduate students-in-training. These students are educated and closely supervised by faculty who are licensed marriage and family therapists. Providers



Adapting to **CHANGING INDUSTRY** and **STUDENT NEEDS**

By Rebecca Cole

Beginning in 1995, the Department of Health Science offered one of UA's first master's degrees delivered in a distance format. The development of this program was in response to goals set forth by then UA President Andrew Sorensen to increase enrollment and develop more distance programs. The department created an innovative degree — the Master's of Arts in Health Studies that is still in existence today. In 1995, courses were recorded and mailed to each student, but today students are able to log in and complete course work online.

The first cohort of 28 students in the M.A. in Health Science grew to more than 200 in two years. Responding to the needs of students around the world led this program to success over the last 23 years.

As health promotion, education and the healthcare industry in general evolve rapidly in today's environment, the College of Human Environmental Sciences is changing to meet those needs. The UA Board of Trustees approved introducing a new graduate program in Fall 2018 — a Master's in Public Health (MPH) which will be offered both on campus and by distance.

The new program in public health is 42 credits and will be eligible to be accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health. Its curriculum focuses on health education and promotion — offering more public health courses, such as biostatistics and environmental

health, which can currently be taken as electives but will be mandatory courses for the MPH.

Dr. Angelia Paschal, an associate professor and coordinator for the M.A. in Health Studies campus program, says hands-on applications will be added to the new curriculum, as well.

"Students will also be required to have a practical experience," Paschal says. "They will participate in some type of activity, course or program where they can apply what they've learned."

Dr. David Birch, professor and chair of health science, believes the new MPH will be more marketable to prospective students and more valuable to them both in seeking employment and for admission to graduate school.

"Fifteen years ago, few people outside of the public health profession knew the term 'public health.' However now public health is understood and recognized by many in the general public," Birch says. "We anticipate that students who have a public health interest will immediately recognize the fact that we're offering a Master's in Public Health, [while] they might not make that connection with a Master's in Health Studies."

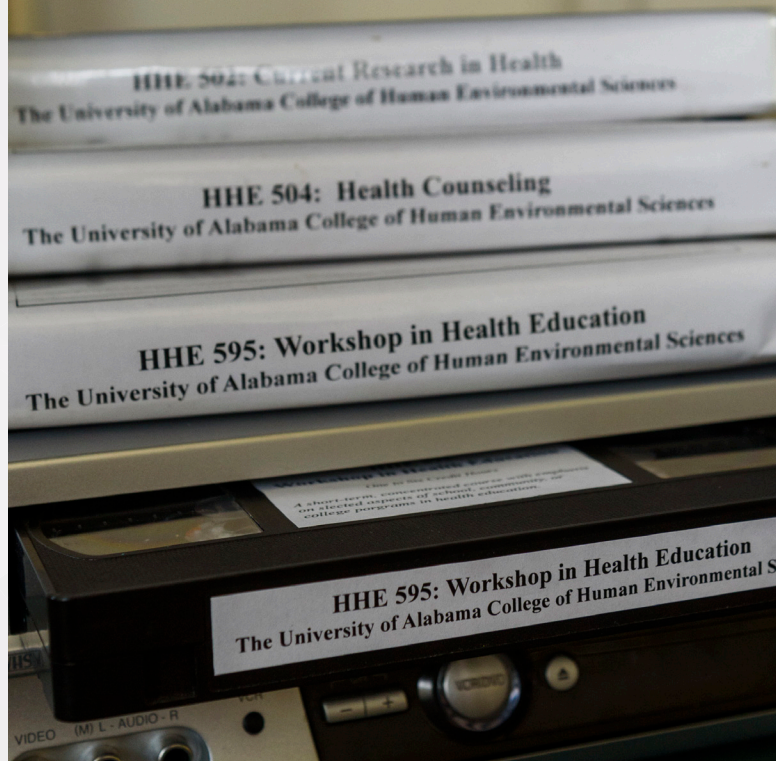
Public health consists of five core knowledge areas; epidemiology, biostatistics, environmental health, health behavior and health administration. Students earning an MPH will be required to either have a course in these areas or

will have to show that those areas were integrated adequately into the program's courses.

"They come out with a solid background in the core public health knowledge areas," Birch says. "Since our program focuses on health education and promotion, our courses will address competencies that are appropriate for certification as a health education specialist (CHES)."

Health education is any combination of educational efforts that are targeted from small groups of individuals to large populations. Health education is found in five settings, the college/university, the worksite, the community, in medical care and pre-K-12 school settings. Health promotion, on the other hand, includes education and initiatives in areas such as policy change, environmental change, legal change or cultural change.

MPH students will not only gain knowledge and experience in health education and promotion, but they will be eligible to sit for the CHES exam. Having a CHES certification sets graduates apart from others, making them more attractive to employers. While not required, organizations, agencies and local and state departments of health often give preference to a certified health educator over prospects who are not certified.



VHS tapes from the beginnings of our distance program in health science.

"The kinds of jobs that our students will be eligible for and we anticipate they'll fill, will be jobs as health educators in local, county, or state departments of health, in volunteer agencies (i.e., American Heart Association), in organizations that are often formed to address specific public health problems (i.e., obesity, heart disease) and even positions in federal agencies, like the CDC," says Birch. ■ ■ ■



"In December 2017, I graduated with a Bachelor of Science from The University of Alabama. Not knowing which area of the public health field I wanted to pursue led me to many conversations with professors and advisers. It became clear that the best option for me was to keep learning about public health instead of jumping into the field. After learning that there was no current MPH program at UA I started researching other programs around the country, always wishing that I could stay at UA with the amazing faculty and staff. When UA announced the new MPH program, I didn't need to think twice about staying here. I am proud to be the first student officially accepted into The University of Alabama Master of Public Health program. Over the next two years, I cannot wait to explore all of the opportunities that both the University and public health field have to offer."

Megan Campbell
Class of 2017
College of Human Environmental Science Alum from Bedford Hills, New York





Tackling U.S.

Health Crisis

By Expanding Nutrition Education

By Bryant Welbourne

It doesn't take a degree in nutrition to see the problem: obesity and overweight are a critical public health crisis in the United States. In the state of Alabama, 35.7% and 33.9% of adult residents are obese or overweight (respectively), and it is among the top seven states in the nation for obesity and overweight prevalence.¹ Not surprisingly, five of the top 10 leading causes of death in the state, including heart disease, cancer, stroke, diabetes and kidney disease, are directly related to poor dietary intake.

Dr. Jeannine Lawrence, chair of the department of human nutrition and hospitality management, stated "In any positive category, like the number of Fulbright scholars or national championships, I would love for the state of Alabama to be number 1! But, in the case of having so many Alabamians affected by, and dying of, nutrition-related diseases, it would be better for us if

we were last on the list."

To address this crucial need, The University of Alabama's College of Human Environmental Sciences will expand its menu of graduate programs next fall with a new Ph.D. in human nutrition. The innovative curriculum was designed to align with the objectives of the National Institutes of Health's National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences. The goal of UA's new program is to train students in translational nutrition methodology, teaching them to move nutrition interventions from the laboratory to the individual in a bench-to-bedside-to-community approach.

Lawrence credits growth of existing programs, and the growing need for effective nutrition interventions as key areas for contributing to the program's addition.

"I wish there had been a Ph.D. program of this emphasis and scope when I was a student"

—Dr. Jeannine Lawrence

"First, our master's degree program has grown exponentially over the past decade and a significant amount of those students wanted to go on and earn their Ph.D.," says Lawrence.

Second, we simultaneously have experienced a growth in the number of faculty researchers. Since I arrived at UA in 2007, we have quadrupled the number of active nutrition research faculty and they are receiving strong external grant funding. This gives our doctoral students a wide variety of mentors and research projects to choose to work with."

And finally, while there is a large amount of nutrition research going on nationally, the skills needed to translate current research into practices that can impact the health of patients and communities are not commonly taught in many programs. This is a critical need that needs to be addressed if we are going to effectively improve the health of our state and nation."

The push for a Ph.D. in human nutrition started four years ago with full support from CHES Dean Milla Boschung who found the focus of the program a good fit for the mission of the college "to contribute to the generation of new knowledge in the field and to the application of this knowledge to improving the quality of life of individuals, families and communities." A well-timed construction project added further impetus when the infrastructure to accommodate advanced research was strengthened last year with the completion of the Nutrition and Metabolism Research Lab, a state-of-the-art facility in Russell Hall.

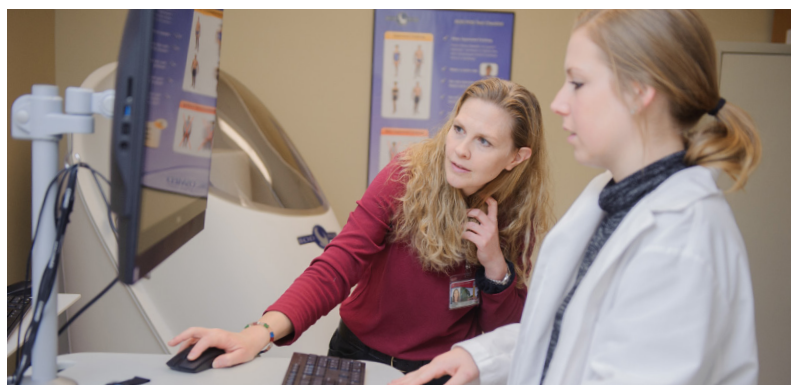
"We are very excited about the translational aspect of the program," says Dr. Lawrence. "This

program will give students a strong foundation in bench research methodology and teach them how to translate that research to directly help patients and the community."

While the program's core is nutrition, it will also place an emphasis on communication. Doctoral candidates will be required to teach a course and will be assessed on their performance. They will also take courses in how to present research to various audiences, including the community and scientists.

"I wish there had been a Ph.D. program of this emphasis and scope when I was a student," says Lawrence. "The integration of basic, clinical and community nutrition research methods into a cohesive doctoral program sets up our graduates to make a strong and positive impact on the health of the population for generations to come." ■ ■ ■

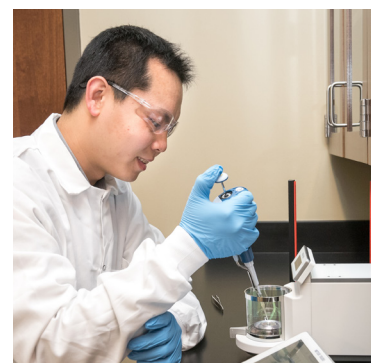
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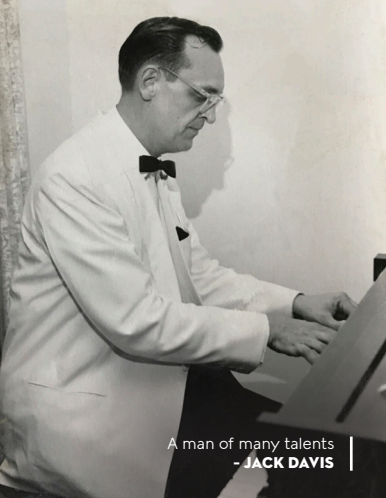


Dr. Amy Ellis and student in the Nutrition & Metabolism Research Lab.

(Top Right) Nutrition students measure each other's resting metabolism with the latest technology.

(Bottom Right) Dr. Lingyan Kong works in the Nutrition Lab on research to improve food quality and nutrition.





A man of many talents
— JACK DAVIS

Recognizing LEGENDS

at CHES

By Tabby Brown

Anually the College of Human Environmental Sciences recognizes legends among our alumni with professional achievement awards. In their 32nd year, the Jack Davis Professional Achievement Awards honor those who, like their namesake, have distinguished themselves in their careers.

The family of Dr. Lewis Clifton "Jack" Davis, Jr. has been supportive in creating and maintaining this annual recognition of excellence honoring the first man to graduate from CHES with a degree in nutrition. After receiving his bachelor's in 1939, Davis went on to dental school. He became a pioneer in making the connection between nutrition and dental health. With a lifelong thirst for knowledge and determination to put that know-how to use in business and in life, he exemplified what it means to be a legend. We are proud that he belonged to CHES.

Members of the Davis family including Jack's wife, Dee, daughter, Alice Davis Maxwell, and son, Clif Davis, were on hand to give out the 2017-2018 awards to deserving CHES graduates. In her comments at the awards ceremony, Dee Davis said, "I'm sure that Jack would be very pleased at all that these recipients have accomplished."

Kimberly Fryar received the Jack Davis Professional Achievement Award for her work in human development and family studies. A native of Austin, Texas, Fryar serves as the program director and senior child life specialist for Wonders and Worries, a non-profit organization with a mission to provide professional psychosocial support for children impacted by a parent's serious illness. Fryar received a bachelor's degree from Oklahoma State University, a Master of Education from The University of North Texas and a master's degree from The University of Alabama in the area of human development and family studies.

For outstanding achievements in interior design, Meredith McBrearty received a professional achievement award. The Atlanta, Georgia designer is the owner of Meredith McBrearty Interiors, which she established in spring 2009. McBrearty's work has been featured in *Décor*, *Traditional Home*, *Lonny*, and *Southern Home* magazines. *D Home*, Dallas/Fort Worth's home and garden magazine, named her in their list of "Best Designers in Dallas" in 2016. McBrearty earned her bachelor's degree from The University of Alabama in 2002.

Candice Rosenkranz took this year's prize for exceptional professional achievement in sports business management. Rosenkranz is a team member in the industry-leading football division of Creative Artists Agency in Nashville, Tennessee. She works with many of the top football players and coaches in their off-the-field strategies, including marketing activations and public relations. Rosenkranz graduated from The University of Alabama with a bachelor's degree in marketing and a master's degree in sport management.

Tuscaloosa native, Carol Sanders, collected a professional achievement award for her work in hospitality management. As an account manager with The VAL Group in Birmingham, Sanders provides comprehensive, professional concierge service to hospitals, corporations, government agencies and other businesses that need prospect visits.

DEE DAVIS speaks at the 2017-2018 Jack Davis Professional Achievement Award presentation.



managed in an exemplary fashion. Sanders received her bachelor's degree in public relations from The University of Alabama in 1984 and her master's degree in human environmental sciences with a focus in the area of restaurant, hospitality management from UA in 1997.

The College chose Paige Weatherford Stephenson as the honoree for exceptional professional achievement in consumer sciences. The Spartanburg, South Carolina native serves as the president and CEO of the United Way of the Piedmont in her hometown. In this role, she leads a 25-employee organization that raises almost \$5 million in corporate and individual financial support, which generates \$35.7 million in economic impact for Spartanburg, Cherokee and Union counties. Stephenson received her bachelor's degree in consumer economics from The University of Alabama in 1989 and her master's degree in consumer sciences, also from UA, in 1993.

CHES recognized Anna Threadcraft for her achievements in human nutrition. She is a registered dietitian and nutritionist who serves as the employee wellness director at The University of Alabama at Birmingham. Threadcraft previously worked as a corporate wellness specialist at Regions Bank, which was named one of the "Top 100 Healthiest Employers in the Country" during her tenure. She attained her bachelor's degree in human environmental sciences in the area of nutrition at The University of Alabama in 2005.

Ron Williams was honored for his outstanding professional achievement in health science. Dr. Williams is an associate professor in the department of health and human performance at Texas State University. He is also an adjunct professor at the University of Western States in Portland, Oregon, where he teaches lifestyle and functional medicine. Williams received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Education from Northwestern State University in Louisiana and his Doctor of Philosophy in health education and health promotion from UA in 2006.

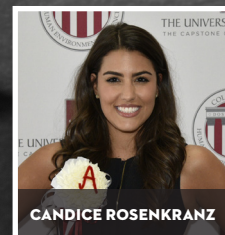
In the area of interactive technology, Christopher Williams from Bartlett, Tennessee, won a professional achievement award. Williams is the infrastructure manager of a \$100 million health care and food service apparel manufacturer, Landau Uniforms. There, he is responsible for information technology strategy as well as backup strategy to ensure business continuity in the event of a disaster.

Williams earned his master's degree from The University of Alabama in 2011 and while here received the CHES Outstanding Graduate Student in Interactive Technology Award.

"The College of Human Environmental Sciences has long been known for excellence in teaching — a place where legends in the classroom work diligently every day to nurture graduates who go on to be legends in their professions. These outstanding alumni honored with Jack Davis Achievement Awards are evidence that CHES is definitely a place where legends are made," says Dean Milla Boschung. ■ ■ ■ ■



CHES LEGENDS



Award Winner in sports business management



Award Winner in consumer sciences



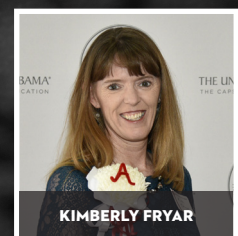
Award Winner in interior design



Award Winner in interactive technology



Award Winner in hospitality management



Award Winner in human development and family studies

Not pictured: **ANNA THREADCRAFT** and **RON WILLIAMS**.



You play a vital role in achieving the CHES mission of improving lives.

When you give to the College of Human Environmental Sciences, you are investing in the people and programs that help us build leaders of tomorrow. CHES alumni will shape our world through their endeavors as business executives, entrepreneurs, scientists, counselors, artists, teachers and humanitarians. With your support, we can do more to improve the quality of life of individuals, families and communities.

Give to CHES at ches.ua.edu/giving

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA®

WEARING MANY *Hats*

During a 41-year tenure at the College of Human Environmental Sciences, Milla Boschung poured her heart into all the roles she undertook at UA. She excelled at a multitude of tasks — serving the school as a talented teacher, a wise adviser, a detail-oriented general contractor, a dedicated mentor, an enthusiastic ambassador, a fair-minded referee, a financial planning whiz, a compassionate counselor, a five-star fundraiser, a gracious hostess, a loyal fan, a respected team leader and a beloved dean.

We thank Dean Boschung for her loyal service to the College she loves. Building upon a strong foundation, Boschung is leaving the College of Human Environmental Sciences in a position of strength, poised to continue its job of serving our community and educating students who improve the lives of families all over the globe.



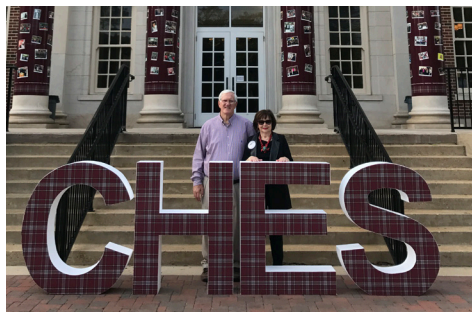
Boschung — the alum — with her mother and fellow UA grad, Ruth Dailey.



Boschung — the teacher — in an early computer lab.



Boschung — the scholar — with new CHES graduate, and then-dean, Judy Bonner.



Boschung — the hostess — with husband, Paul, at Homecoming festivities.

"Milla has provided exceptional leadership for the College during a time of tremendous growth and opportunity. We will miss her leadership."

University of Alabama President

Stuart Bell

"When I began my undergraduate career at UA in 1972, Milla was one of the first people I met. She was a graduate student in the newly formed Department of Consumer Economics. I was drawn to her warm, charismatic personality. Over the years our relationship grew into a close friendship, knitted together by shared life experiences filled with laughter and tears. In her roles as department chair and dean, I watched her use her compassionate leadership skills at the highest level, drawing strength and determination from her profound commitment to doing that which is right in every situation. Knowing, trusting, and loving Milla has made my life better in so many ways. Happy retirement, dear friend."

Retired Consumer Sciences Faculty Member

Jan Brakefield

"I had not been on campus many months in 2003 when I realized that UA's future depended on creating — University-wide — the student centered supportive environment that you had created in CHES. Many thanks for your values, dedicated leadership and for being a role model for UA's new president."

Retired University of Alabama Chancellor & Former President

Bob Witt

"The University of Alabama takes great pride in producing legends. Without question, Dean Milla Boschung will go down as one of the legends. She left her mark on The University of Alabama as a truly gifted teacher and an equally gifted academic leader.

Dean Boschung was there for the students! We will never know the many lives she touched because she was willing to listen to students and find ways to help them solve their problems. Because of Dean Boschung's leadership, CHES is recognized as the College that puts students first and foremost in everything the College does!"

Former University of Alabama President and Dean of CHES

Judy Bonner

"Dr. Boschung's ability to relate candidly, care emphatically and communicate effectively with students, and her ability to do the same when these students became alumni, is something I personally experienced during my path from college well into my professional career. These are a group of traits that only a few hold, and even fewer can actually implement. Students, parents, peers, administrators, alumni and donors all experienced a better life when they interacted with Dr. Boschung."

Managing Director & Wealth Advisor at Level Four Advisors

Stephen D. Iaconis

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CONNECT WITH CHES



NEW DEAN NAMED

COLLEGE OF HUMAN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Meet the new dean of the College of Human Environmental Sciences, Dr. Stuart Usdan. Dr. Usdan joined UA as an associate professor in 2005, earned tenure in 2008 and was named associate dean for graduate studies, research and assessment in 2010. He was promoted to professor in 2011 and has served as senior associate dean since 2014.

Usdan is a strong academic leader with a respected research record and a firm commitment to teaching and service. He has helped our College make significant gains in research funding and infrastructure. With extensive experience in the oversight of graduate academic programs and curricula, Usdan saw the College nearly double its graduate school enrollment over the last decade.

Usdan earned his bachelor's degree in health sciences from the University of Arizona, his master's degree in health promotion and behavior from the University of Georgia and his doctorate degree in health education and health promotion from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

We look forward to continuing our mission of improving lives under his leadership.

