

A PUBLICATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE

May 2025

Welcome to the latest digital edition of UAH Magazine! Here's a glimpse of exciting things happening at UAH.



UAH welcomes 1,280 new Chargers to its alumni family

UAH awarded 1,280 degrees during the spring 2025 commencement ceremonies on Monday, May 5, at the Von Braun Center (VBC) Propst Arena.

“Commencement is a day to take a pause, take a breath, look around and celebrate. This is the day students had in mind when they arrived, sometimes doubted they would ever see, and now can’t wait to experience,” noted Dr. Rhonda Gaede, associate provost for undergraduate education and associate

professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. “It’s my great privilege to be a part of it.”

Commencement spotlights: Meet the new grads!

- **Maggie Crosby**: This spring 2025 UAH nursing grad encourages fellow first-gen students to find their community
- **Evey Hensley:** From Let’s Pretend Hospital kid to UAH nursing grad, this new alum faces and calms fears
- **Daniel Navarro:** This UAH grad is ready to take Army ROTC skills, econ degree into active duty
- **Sam Womack:** UAH master’s grad expands his teaching techniques through Project DIAL

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WATCH: Commencement Recording



Bryant Bank adds new $250K, 5-year Athletics commitment to its UAH investment portfolio

UAH has long been a blue chip investment for Bryant Bank. Now a new pledge to Athletics – $250,000 over five years – emphasizes Bryant Bank’s strategy of supporting the Chargers.

“We are so honored and humbled that Bryant Bank would choose to make such a long-term investment in our athletic department,” said UAH Director of Athletics Dr. Cade Smith. “They do so much for us, our campus and our community already, and this just further cements their impact upon UAH Athletics.”

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UAH hosts inaugural Army ROTC commissioning ceremony

UAH marked a historic milestone on May 2 as its Army Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) program hosted its inaugural commissioning ceremony on the UAH campus. Three students were commissioned as second lieutenants into the U.S. Army.

“This commissioning represents the culmination of years of dedication, both academically and militarily, for these outstanding cadets,” said Dr. Charles Karr, President of UAH. “It also reflects the remarkable growth of our ROTC program, which now includes more than 40 students, and highlights its rising impact and visibility within the university community.”

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UAH researchers quantify Urban Heat Island warming effects related to population density

How much have urban areas warmed from the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect? Scientists at the UAH Earth System Science Center (ESSC) have spent several years developing a novel method that quantifies, for the first time, average UHI warming effects related to population density. Their new study is published in the Journal of Applied Meteorology and Climatology.

“One of the interesting results was that the most rapid warming occurs as for population growth at the lowest population densities,” notes Dr. Roy Spencer, ESSC researcher. “Then in heavily urbanized areas the warming reaches a peak, with little additional warming as population increases.”

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‘Astronaut Breakfast Day’ showcases innovative, interdisciplinary Health in Space course

Near the end of the spring semester, UAH undergrads met to sample genuine astronaut fare as part of “Health in Space,” a multidisciplinary honors seminar. The course integrates nursing, exercise kinesiology, psychology, biology and engineering to examine the various factors affecting human health in space and understand the physical and mental challenges faced by humans beyond Earth's atmosphere.

“By bringing together students from diverse disciplines, we foster teamwork and collaboration, helping students develop essential skills crucial for tackling multifaceted challenges in space exploration,” says Dr. Azita Amiri, associate dean for research in the College of Nursing.

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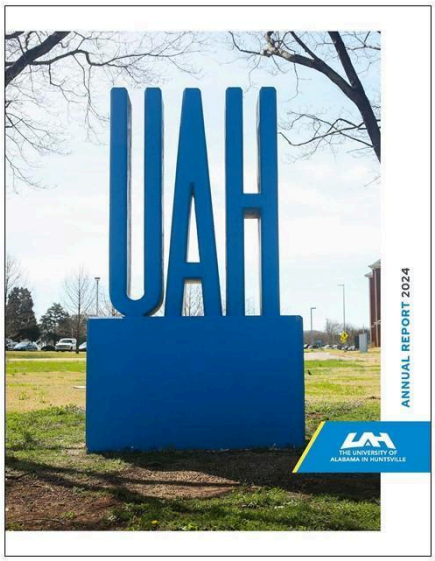


Men’s track and field claims fifth GSC Outdoor Championship; women place second

Last week, the UAH men’s track and field team captured the program’s fifth Gulf South Conference Outdoor Championship and first since 2022, while the Chargers women’s team earned second overall.

Overall, UAH garnered a combined total of 17 All-GSC performances on the men's side and 13 from the women’s competition. The Charger men featured eight First Team All-GSC honors, while the UAH women’s squad recorded four First Team All-GSC performances.

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CHECK IT OUT: 2024 Annual Report now available

The President's *Annual Report* is published each April and includes an overview of UAH's academic, research and service activities during the previous year; faculty, staff and student highlights, and features from across campus.

Read the Annual Report



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Memorial Day holiday: The university will be closed on Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day.
Limited summer hours: Buildings across campus may have limited hours of operation for the summer. To view Charger Union's current hours, view this page.

Click the link below to check out a list of upcoming events across campus!

See All Events

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