



ASU

**ALABAMA STATE
UNIVERSITY**

University College

Dean of University College Presentation to the ASU Board of Trustees

June 25, 2021

University College –Dean Evelyn Hodge

Vision

University College, a unit of the Office of Academic Affairs, assists ASU students in achieving their academic and professional goals from the freshmen level to the senior level through its departmental and programmatic activities. All University College activities and instructional practices are research-based and utilize sound pedagogy.

Additionally, University Colleges achieves its goals through partnerships with the ASU Degree-Granting Colleges and the Office of Student Affairs. Through its continuous efforts, University College creates successful pathways for life-long learning of university graduates who become future ASU Ambassadors. **ASU is a Journey to Success!**

Grants & Scholarly Activities :

- U.C. TRIO Programs funded its Student Support Services Program-U.S. Department of Education Fall,2020-\$1,473,625 (five years). -Dr. Acquanetta Pinkard, Director
- U.C. Professor Dr. Ram Alagan Co-Investigator with C-STEM Professor Dr. Mishra submitted application to the National Institute on Aging regarding health related research; the requested amount is 1.7 million (five years) ; currently funded Grant is 2.9 million from the National Institute on Health initiative. Topic: Intersection of Social, Capital, Mentorship, Networking Persistence and Science. ASU is the lead institution on this project.
- Dr. Evelyn Hodge is a supporting author in Textbook chapter, Teacher Leaders as Community Organizer, 2021. She is a program participant at the Gulf Coast Writing Conference, June, 29 2021; Dean Hodge is former President of Alabama Learning Forward (First-African American, and a member of the Board of Directors.
- Faculty Member Sondra Obas has been selected to be a cohort member of K-12 Curriculum Mapping Design Studio.

Grants & Scholarly Activities :

- Textbook-Freshmen Experience 100, contributors, U.C. Instructors-Sondra Obas, Margie Campbell
- U.C. Geography Professors Ram Alagan and Seela Aladuwaka lead editors and publishers of the first edition, Bridging Global Voices Newsletter, Vol. 1. 2021 and they are Editors of Research in Politics and Society. U. C. Professors Seela Aladuwaka, Ram Alagan and Manoj Mishra worked on research, Impact of Socioeconomic Factors on Prostate Cancer Incident in Alabama.
- U.C. Associate Professor Dr. Elisha Dung has published two chapters in a Geography textbook. Dr. Ram Alagan Dr. Seela Aladuwaka were appointed as member of publication committee-World Center for Women Studies

Notable Accomplishments of the College

- ▶ University College W.E.B. Bois Honors Program will host the National Association of African-American Programs Conference, Fall, 2021. **(HBCUs nationally will participate)**. Dr. Cynthia Harris, Honors Program Director and President-Conference planner
- ▶ University College was the host of the 51th Alabama –Mississippi Sociological Conference, Spring 2020. U.C. Professor Dr. Ram Alagan- President and Keynote Speaker, former Senator Hank Sanders
- ▶ University College held the annual Freshmen Virtual Honor's Convocation, Spring 2021-6,589 views, 89 shares, 257 comments-ASU Facebook (343 students honored) Instructor Corey Muhammad , Program Facilitator.
- ▶ University College hosted the Virtual Fall, 2020 Freshmen Convocation; Motivational Speaker was Pastor Courtney Meadows; all ASU freshmen participated.
- ▶ ASU Lyceum Committee, Women of Excellence Recipients: 2020 U.C. Dr. Acquanetta Pinkard, Dr. Evelyn Hodge; 2021 Margie Campbell and Carolyn Davis

Notable Accomplishments of the College

- ▶ University College has successfully worked with SACS' QEP Office and Office of Institutional Effectiveness for the Re-Affirmation for Accreditation of Alabama State University, 2021. U.C. Faculty Facilitator-Sondra Obas
- ▶ University College Publication of the Special Edition of the Beacon Newsletter- Dr. Ram Alagan, Editor and the Committee Members were: Dr. Seela Aladuwaka, Margie Thomas, Denise Roy Felicia Sharpe, Dean Evelyn Hodge, Dr. Parichart Thornton, Jamicia Croskery and Anthony Hill.
- ▶ Campus- wide Student Success Workshops: Study Skills, Testing Strategies and Critical Thinking,- U.C. Reading Center-Lynda Humphrey Director-Spring 2020

Student Achievements

- ▶ University College Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies Program was highlighted in publication Atlanta Black Star, WVAS regarding non-traditional student, Laurene Salter's, success and degree completion-Commencement, Spring 2020.
- ▶ University College W.E.B. Dubois Honor Seniors completed outstanding research Capstone projects and received their ASU Degrees of Distinction.
- ▶ U.C. TRIO's Student Support Program Divonta Palmer 2021 graduate currently is a writer for ELLE Décor Magazine, a publication of Oprah Daily. U.C.
- ▶ TRIO's ETS Program had 133 students to graduate and 50 are enrolled in higher education.

Moving on a Journey to Success!

Student Achievements

- ▶ U.C. BIS recent graduate, Spr, 2020 Gage Dollar was accepted in a Leadership Program for becoming a manager and owner of Chick Fila franchise in Phenix City, Alabama.
- ▶ BIS student Sidney Foster, Creative Director and Image Maker-SAF Studios, Atlanta, Ga. has completed several mini- films and was portrayed in recent commercials; photographer with the Governor's Office-2017-currently.
- ▶ Other BIS students: Cameria Ehis is the recipient of the ASU's 50 under 50 Distinguished Graduate Honoree Award; Alvance Robinson is a Wide Receiver Coach at Gardner Webb University. Others: Cameron Jenkins, Pastor of Mt. Moriah Baptist Church-Birmingham, Alabama; Myrick Cole , Training Coordinator- Boswell Mental Health Center

Updates on New Programs

- ▶ Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies Program currently has an enrollment of 275 students since its inception in 2017. Dr. Parichart Thornton, Director and Carolyn Davis (Advisor and Coordinator)
- ▶ Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies Program since its inception has had 127 ASU Degrees conferred. All graduates are currently employed. Survey data show many graduates have received job position promotions.
- ▶ University College is proposing through the efforts of Geography Professor, Dr. Elisha Dung, a GIS Certificate Program(Geographic Information Systems). Employment opportunities will include: project development in environment management, transportation development, population studies, community health risks and others.
- ▶ University College, in partnership with the College of Business Administration, is proposing Financial Literacy Course for ASU Freshmen students. 2021-2022.

University College Moving Forward and What's Next

- ▶ U.C. will host a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies Degree Program Conference for HBCUs and others to generate new ideas regarding program activities and external funding.
- ▶ U.C. Grant Writing Committee will pursue additional funding from various agencies that support the college's programs and initiatives.
- ▶ U.C. Data and Retention Committee will continue to strengthen what is currently done to enhance students' success in programs and activities.
- ▶ U.C. will continue participation with the National Organization of Student Success for improved best practices in teaching and learning.
- ▶ U.C. will continue to work with Student Affairs' retention efforts and partner with other degree-granting colleges to move students forward on a "Journey of Success".

Questions