With the Fall 2021 semester underway at The University of Alabama, I want to thank you for all you do to assist your students and families with the college search process. Your important role can make the difference between students being well-informed about a university and beginning their first semester with an ample financial aid package and focused plan of study – or not attending college at all.

At UA, we are changing lives through teaching, research and service, and we’re proud to partner with you.

We attract the best and brightest to the Capstone. As you are counseling your students, I hope you will share the resources and information we have provided, as well as to direct them to ua.edu for a comprehensive look at our application process, degree programs, study abroad opportunities, campus organizations and much more. There is something for everyone at UA; our reputation reflects it and our results prove it.

We offer the tools and support needed for your students to succeed. Much of our strength as a University stems from the work of our people. Our expert faculty and staff work alongside students in labs and lecture halls, challenging and supporting them to unleash their potential and reach their personal and professional goals. Like you, our professors love what they do and have answered the call to invest in students’ lives and futures. I invite you to carefully consider what UA has to offer and share what you have learned with the students you advise.

Even with unique challenges over the past two years, our students have flourished. Our in-state and out-of-state enrollment numbers are both up for this fall, which speaks volumes about the value prospective students and families continue to place on the Alabama experience. It’s not only exciting, it affirms what we already know. A degree from UA means something to our students and to employers and communities who benefit from the contributions of our alumni. The accolades are impressive:

- We currently have almost 800 National Merit Scholars enrolled. Our projections for our incoming Fall 2021 National Merit numbers place us first or second in the nation for these outstanding students.
- UA’s team of 65 students spanning a variety of majors from engineering to communications and business recently took home first place in the EcoCAR Mobility Challenge.
- Our Astrobotics team took first place once again in NASA’s Robotic Mining Competition.
- Two UA students were selected as Goldwater Scholarship recipients, bringing our total to 59.
- UA continues to strengthen its position as one of the fastest-growing research universities in the nation, and that growth places us at No. 1 in the SEC, No. 1 in Alabama and No. 9 in the nation.
- UA’s Dance Marathon, a student-led organization, raised more than $300,000 last year for Children’s of Alabama and has donated more than $2 million over the past 10 years.

I’m very proud of the dedication, drive and success exemplified by our students. While at UA, they have opportunities to lead, grow and thrive. In fact, there are over 600 student organizations on campus to help our students develop personally and connect with their peers. It is our goal to help students find community while they prepare for a promising professional career.

UA is the place Where Legends are Made, and the students you serve possess legendary potential. We want them to enroll at Alabama, and we are honored to partner with you as you help your students make critical decisions about their future. Please reach out if we can answer any questions for you or the students you advise.

Thank you, again, for your investment in tomorrow’s leaders and for helping build a bridge between your high school and The University of Alabama. I look forward to seeing your students on our campus soon.

Roll Tide!
Stuart R. Bell
President