



ALBANY STATE UNIVERSITY ACCOLADES

(June 2017)

- Albany State University (ASU), with support from the University System of Georgia (USG), established a partnership with the Flint RiverQuarium and Dougherty County to promote environmental education and health and wellness opportunities for the residents and students of Albany and Southwest Georgia. The USG provided \$1 million in grant funding for the partnership. The new relationship between ASU and the Flint RiverQuarium enables the university to use its academic strengths to support the RiverQuarium through increased education and research programs. Specifically, ASU will enhance the work of its Georgia Water Planning and Policy Center and natural sciences disciplines.
- ASU has partnered with Procter & Gamble to promote the university's Global Sustainability Communication project. The project aims to raise awareness about environmental and sustainability issues and to encourage local and global action. In March 2017, P&G presented a \$10,000 check toward the project.
- Albany State defensive tackle, Grover Stewart, was selected by the Indianapolis Colts in the 2017 NFL Draft. The Colts selected Stewart in the fourth round with the 144th pick. Stewart led Albany State to the 2013 SIAC championship, the 2014 and 2015 SIAC title games and three SIAC East Division crowns. He also played in the 2016 NFL Players' Association Senior Bowl. He received his bachelor's degree in criminal justice in December 2016.
- Albany State University Director of Theatre and Associate Professor, Eve Graves was selected for the prestigious Fulbright Specialist roster. The Fulbright Specialist Program serves and promotes international engagement between U.S. scholars and professionals and overseas institutions. Graves will serve a three-year tenure in the program, affording her the opportunity to make multiple two to six week visits to countries around the world to share knowledge as an expert consultant on curriculum, faculty development, institutional planning and related topics.

- The Albany State University Golf Team won its first conference title at the 2017 SIAC Men's Golf Championship.
- In 2016, more than 30 students participated in study abroad opportunities in Belize, China, England, Ireland, France, Spain, the Dominican Republic, Japan and Trinidad and Tobago. Since 2010, more than 130 students, in various majors, have explored other cultures, histories and languages while taking classes and earning credits toward graduation.
- The Golden Rams won the 2017 SIAC Men's Track & Field Championship. It's Albany State's first conference title since 2014.
- The ASU Summer Learning Academy (SLA) was recognized by the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (AACTE) as an innovative program in education. The Summer Learning Academy, which has been active since 2014, is a STEM-based summer enrichment program that teaches advanced concepts in math and science to children ages 7-11.
- Albany State University developed the "Fostering through College" (FTC) initiative, a comprehensive support program that provides peer encouragement to ASU students who are or were in foster care, homeless, orphaned, or wards of the state. Through FTC, participants receive comprehensive living support and extended housing availability. There are plans for campus and community champions, those who will receive training in mentoring students and helping FTC participants matriculate through college. Essential forums for students, including financial literacy and career preparedness are available for students.
- Dr. James Hill, chair of the Albany State University Department of English, Modern Languages and Mass Communication will serve a two-year term as a Policy Analyst for the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). The Policy Analysis Initiative has one representative from each state to support the interests of English college and university faculty in that state.
- The Albany State University forensic science program received reaffirmation of accreditation through 2022 by the Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC), making it the only FEPAC accredited program in the state of Georgia.

- Albany State men's athletic programs claimed the 2017 SIAC Commissioner's Cup. The acclaimed SIAC Commissioner's Cup is presented to the athletic department within the conference that has excelled in both men's and women's sports.
- Albany State University, along with district and state partners, will receive approximately \$5.5 million from the Wallace Foundation, over a four-year period, to redesign the Educational Leadership Program offered by the ASU College of Education. The initiative will examine state policy efforts to strengthen quality training for aspiring principals statewide. ASU is one of seven universities selected by the Wallace Foundation, the only college or university representing the State of Georgia, and one of two historically black colleges or universities (HBCUs) in the nation to receive funding for 2016.
- The Albany State University Center of Excellence for Community Engagement is a community partnership dedicated to exchanging knowledge in efforts to improve the quality of life for Albany area citizens. Starting spring 2016 and concluding fall 2016, the Center of Excellence for Community Engagement and student researchers designed and implemented a Student Perceptions of Downtown Albany Survey. The survey will provide solid data to the Downtown Development Authority on potential business growth based on student needs and interests.
- Albany State University received more than \$600,000 in funding from the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to conduct interdisciplinary forensic science research that relates to forensic detection. ASU currently has the only university Forensic Science degree program accredited by the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. Funding for interdisciplinary research will be provided over a three-year period.
- ASU student, Cervantes Jackson, won the national title in the men's triple jump and the national title in the men's high jump at the 2017 NCAA Division II Outdoor Track & Field Championships.
- Albany State University students now have the opportunity to receive free tuition for graduate programs at any of the 10 University of California (UC) institutions through the "UC-HBCU Initiative," which aims to increase the number of scholars from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) enrolling in UC academic graduate programs.

- The Darton State College, now ASU West Campus, Cavalier baseball team won the East Central District Tournament in May 2016, which took them to their first Junior College World Series in Grand Junction, Colorado.
- The Albany State University chemistry program received three-year certification by the American Chemical Society's Committee on Professional Training (CPT) for excellence in chemistry education. The accreditation, the department's first by the committee, validates the ASU Bachelor of Science in Chemistry degree program as one that provides quality academic and training opportunities for students.
- The Albany State University Women's Cross Country team won the 2016 SIAC Cross Country Championship.
- Albany State University received a \$1.2 million grant from the Department of Defense for breast cancer research. ASU Professor Ashok Jain is the principal investigator for the grant. He and his team will explore the effects chemicals found in specific foods have on the body and how they may play a part in the development of breast cancer.
- Albany State University faculty is leading a 10-year, \$8.4-million initiative funded by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities to create a Center for Health Disparities Research at ASU, which will be integrated with Southwest Georgia research organizations.
- Dr. Ashok Jain and Dr. Seyed Roosta were awarded a grant in the amount of \$1,984,704 from the National Institute of Health (NIH) MARC U*STAR program. The Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC) Program is designed to train and prepare highly qualified, underrepresented minority undergraduate students in the biomedical and related fields such as biology, chemistry, mathematics and computer science for entry into graduate school and medical schools.
- The College of Education received accreditation through spring 2019 under the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) standards. NCATE's performance-based accreditation system for teacher preparation ensures that teacher candidates are prepared to make a difference in P-12 student learning. The accreditation review noted that educator preparation programs at ASU meet NCATE's rigorous standards of excellence while demonstrating a commitment to produce reflective,

transformative, culturally-responsive and technologically-competent education professionals.

- The Flint River Water Planning and Policy Center at Albany State University provides the institutional framework and academic expertise to proactively address the state's water policy issues on a regional basis. In 2016, the center received \$499,000 to improve USDA agricultural programs.