

THE OPPORTUNITY

The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Heersink School of Medicine (HSOM) and the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at UAB are leading a **recruitment to significantly expand the number and diversity of investigators across basic and population science and translational research efforts in cancer**. Recruitment is for tenured and tenure-track faculty applicants with an MD, PhD or MD/PhD at all ranks and includes academic appointment in one or more of 27 academic departments across the HSOM, many of which rank in the top 10 nationally in NIH funding.

Successful applicants will join The O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center, one of the first eight NCI-designated Cancer Centers in 1972, that has been continuously funded by the NCI since its inception 50 years ago. It is the only NCI-designated comprehensive cancer center in a four-state region. The O’Neal treats over 5,000 new cancer patients annually and is engaged in comprehensive and integrated efforts in cancer care and delivery research – especially for our Black and Brown patients coming from the Black Belt of the region who are particularly vulnerable to aggressive forms of cancer.

In fact, the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at UAB recently announced that Timiya S. Nolan, Ph.D., APRN-CNP, ANP-BC, has been named Associate Director for **Community Outreach & Engagement** effective July 1, 2023. In this role, she will be responsible for overseeing the Office of Community Outreach & Engagement, which fosters transdisciplinary cancer research along with bi-directional communication and collaboration with communities statewide.

In addition to bringing her expertise in creating partnerships that support the development and testing of self-management interventions to the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center, Nolan will also join the Division of Preventive Medicine in the UAB Heersink School of Medicine’s Department of Medicine as an Associate Professor.

“Guided in part by a plan to enhance diversity, The O’Neal continues to eliminate health inequities through promoting holistic diversity, equity and inclusion in our patient care, research, and education.” —**Rodney Tucker, MD, MMM** Professor of Medicine, Ritchie Endowed Chair in Palliative Care Leadership Director, UAB Center for Palliative and Supportive Care Associate Director for DEI, O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at UAB

Nolan is a native of Brewton, AL, and a three-time graduate of the UAB School of Nursing and former Instructor of Nursing. She completed postdoctoral training in cancer prevention and health disparities at The Ohio State University and has been on faculty at The Ohio State University School of Nursing since 2018. Nolan holds certifications as an adult nurse practitioner and teacher of nursing.

The center was just awarded its latest renewal, a five-year **Cancer Center Core Support Grant** of \$27,477,570 from the NCI, receiving the highest impact score in its history. This prestigious federal grant renewal provides support for UAB’s cancer research program through 2026.

The O’Neal has over 400 members conducting outstanding cancer research across four interdisciplinary scientific programs. Center members receive approximately \$100 million in extramural cancer research funds annually, including multiple program project and larger “team science” grants. The O’Neal has 12 shared resources that enable cutting-edge science and a robust clinical trial infrastructure that supports the seamless translation of this science. UAB is one of 42 institutions with an NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award, which supports translational research and creates a collaborative environment that synergizes with the O’Neal to promote junior investigators.

Driven by an intensely collaborative and entrepreneurial character, UAB is one of the leading economic engines of the state, with a nearly \$4 billion budget and a statewide economic impact exceeding \$7 billion annually. UAB is Alabama’s largest employer with more than 23,000 employees; it supports more than 64,000 jobs statewide. UAB currently is experiencing major and sustained investment and growth, due to both its exceptional research faculty and its culture of collaboration. UAB was awarded \$602,024,372 in total research grants and awards for the 12-month period ending Sept. 30, 2019. The figure represents an extraordinary increase of \$75 million in funding over one year — a 14.2 percent increase — and a second consecutive year of double-digit percentage growth. UAB has now averaged 10 percent growth in its research funding awards in each of the past three years and a

| UAB is a diverse and vibrant academic community that values and is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion and which works in a team environment.

staggering 34 percent overall increase since 2014-15.

Research funding to UAB from the National Institutes of Health exceeded \$325 million in 2020, placing UAB 27th among universities in NIH funding overall. The largest amount of funding, \$269,911,974, went to investigators in the School of Medicine. This was an increase of more than \$13 million over 2019, good for 24th overall among the nation’s medical schools.

A 13.7 Million grant from the NIH is helping The **University of Alabama at Birmingham** and **Tuskegee University**, longtime partners in addressing health disparities, health equity, and diversity in research, to establish the **Benjamin-Carver FIRST Scientists** program, an initiative to build a community of scientists that are committed to inclusive excellence in all areas of healthcare innovation and productivity.

UAB is a comprehensive urban university with a nationally recognized academic health center, comprised of the Collat School of Business, the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Dentistry, the School of Education, the School of Engineering, the School of Health Professions, the Heersink School of Medicine, the School of Nursing, the School of Optometry, the School of Public Health, and the Graduate School. In its 2022 Economic Impact Study, the University and its affiliated entities generate over **\$12.1 billion in economic impact annually within the state of Alabama**. UAB is Alabama’s largest single employer and now directly employs nearly 28,000 people. One in every 20 jobs within the state of Alabama either is held directly by a UAB employee or is supported as a result of UAB’s presence. In 2021, **Forbes magazine ranked UAB as #1 America’s best large employer**.

NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS (please visit <https://uab.peopleadmin.com/postings/18972>)

Please direct any nominations and potential applicants to: UAB HSOM Strategic Leadership Recruitment team: HSOMrecruitment@uab.edu

To apply: <https://uab.peopleadmin.com/postings/18972>. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled, although indication of interest is encouraged by September 1, 2023, for full consideration.

UAB is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer committed to fostering a diverse, equitable and family-friendly environment in which all faculty and staff can excel and achieve work/life balance irrespective of race, national origin, age, genetic or family medical history, gender, faith, gender identity and expression as well as sexual orientation. UAB also encourages applications from veterans and individuals with disabilities.

A pre-employment background investigation is performed on candidates selected for employment. In addition, physicians and other clinical faculty candidates who will be employed by the University of Alabama Health Services Foundation (UAHSF) or other UAB Medicine entities must successfully complete a pre-employment drug screen to be hired.

THE O'NEAL COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER

Welcome to the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at UAB. Our compassionate team of specialists supports patients through every step of their journeys, from diagnosis to survivorship.

The UAB Heersink School of Medicine – in partnership with the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center – is seeking dynamic, passionate and experienced researcher-leaders with a proven track record across the spectrum of individual scholarship, collaborative clinical leadership, program development, educational excellence, successful faculty recruitment, and community engagement will support the overarching vision through the creation of novel strategies to continue to enhance the three mission areas of patient care, research, and education.

One of the nation's leading cancer research and treatment centers, the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at The University of Alabama at Birmingham is the only National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center located in a four-state area that includes Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas. UAB's cancer services are routinely recognized as being among the nation's best.

From bench to bedside, the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at UAB is at the forefront of improving cancer prevention, diagnosis and treatment, and researchers here have pioneered advances in chemotherapy, surgery, radiotherapy, immunotherapy, and nutrition.

If you live in Alabama, world-class cancer care is also close-to-home. As the only **National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center** in the state, the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at UAB ensures that the citizens of our state and surrounding regions have access to leading-edge cancer care. Here, you will receive personalized care led by a team of experts who focus only on your **type of cancer**.

Research at the **O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center** at UAB drives the center's vision to eliminate cancer as a public health concern. The O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center is home to some of the brightest minds in cancer research, exploring areas of basic, translational, clinical, and population-based discovery to find newer, better methods for the prevention, detection, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer.

Program members work collaboratively within and cross programs on a broad-range of cancer-related topics.

- **CANCER BIOLOGY & IMMUNOLOGY**
- **CANCER CONTROL & POPULATION SCIENCES**
- **EXPERIMENTAL THERAPEUTICS**
- **NEURO-ONCOLOGY**

Cancer doesn't have borders, and neither do global research efforts at the **O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center**. The Globalization and Cancer Initiative develops sustainable international partnerships to address global health issues related to cancer health disparities. UAB investigators collaborate with scientists across the world to pursue bidirectional cancer research partnerships, sharing lessons learned in the U.S. to other countries and bringing home knowledge gained by others across the world.

The O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at UAB is made up of more than 400 total members representing eight schools and 39 departments across **UAB**, along with individuals from academic research partner institutions across the state. Membership in the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center affords physicians and scientists access to internal and extramural funding opportunities, grant preparation assistance, core research facilities privileges, networking and professional development events, communications and philanthropic development support, and other professional benefits.

Shared Facilities

Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Shared Facility

Comprehensive Genomics Shared Facility

High Resolution Imaging Shared Facility

Human Imaging Shared Facility

Mass Spectrometry/Proteomics Shared Facility

Microbiome/Gnotobiotics Shared Facility

Preclinical Imaging Shared Facility

Recruitment and Retention Shared Facility

Structural Biology Shared Facility

Tissue Procurement Shared Facility

Transgenic Animal Shared Facility

The Center offers a full array of treatment options from multidisciplinary clinics filled with experts from across cancer fields to the latest state-of-the-art technology. The Center is home to an outstanding faculty of more than 330 physicians and researchers, many of whom are internationally and nationally recognized for their expertise in oncology. The Center treats an estimated 5,000 new patients each year.

THE UAB HEERSINK SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The University of Alabama Heersink School of Medicine is a multi-campus medical school; UAB serves as the main campus, with three regional campuses: Huntsville (UAB-Huntsville campus), Montgomery (UAB-Montgomery campus), and Tuscaloosa (University of Alabama), as well as a residency program in Selma. All students spend their first two years of medical school in Birmingham. The School was established as the Medical College of Alabama in 1945 and renamed as the University of Alabama School of Medicine in 1969. In 2021, a transformational \$95 million lead gift from longtime UAB supporter Marnix E. Heersink, M.D., named the school the UAB Marnix E. Heersink School of Medicine.

The record gift, the single largest philanthropic commitment in university history, also helped establish and name the Marnix E. Heersink Institute of Biomedical Innovation and the Mary Heersink Institute for Global Health. The gift will provide support with both endowed and outright funds for key initiatives of the School of Medicine. Dr. Heersink, a renowned eye surgeon, innovator, and entrepreneur, desires this gift to inspire and catalyze additional philanthropic contributions that support high-impact recruitments, programs, and research in the School of Medicine. UAB will enhance this philanthropic support with a generous contribution of \$5 million from Triton Health Systems, bringing the total support for the school to \$100 million.

The School is currently comprised of nearly 800 students, more than 1,000 residents, and nearly 1,700 full-time faculty. In 2022, **UAB received over \$715 million in research grants and extramural awards** with \$555 million to the Heersink School of Medicine. The UAB Heersink School of Medicine is the home of The Kirklin Clinic, a multi-disciplinary medical home; University Hospital, one of the largest academic hospitals in the country; and our faculty members serve the Children's of Alabama hospital.

The 27 Departments within the School include: Anesthesiology & Perioperative Medicine; Biochemistry & Molecular Genetics; Biomedical Engineering (joint dept. with School of Engineering); Cell, Developmental & Integrative Biology; Dermatology; Emergency Medicine; Family & Community Medicine; Genetics; Medical Education; Medicine; Microbiology; Neurobiology; Neurology; Neurosurgery; Obstetrics & Gynecology; Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences; Orthopaedic Surgery; Otolaryngology (ENT); Pathology; Pediatrics; Pharmacology & Toxicology; Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation; Psychiatry & Behavioral Neurobiology; Radiation Oncology; Radiology; Surgery; and Urology.

The faculty is noted for excellence in clinical service, education, and research activity, and it leads the academic and clinical achievement of outstanding cohorts of students, residents, and

fellows. Student achievement is a key element of state success; over 80 percent of physicians in Alabama trained at the UAB School of Medicine.

Clinical education is a strength at all campuses, and the Heersink School of Medicine graduates are widely perceived by residency programs to be “intern ready.” The Heersink School of Medicine was approved for a full, eight-year LCME re-accreditation in April 2022.

AT A GLANCE

- § **The first and one of only 36** proton therapy centers in the US, Proton International at UAB
- § **More than 2 million** patients treated at UAB and Children’s of Alabama in 2019
- § **Largest and only** magnet-designated infusion therapy center in the state of Alabama
- § **5,000** new cancer patients seen each year at the O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center at UAB
- § **One of only two** Level 1 ocular trauma eye centers in the US
- § **Only** adult Level I trauma center in the state of Alabama (as verified by American College of Surgeons)

- § **One of the first** in the US to offer clinical trial of the treatment of patients with severe COVID-19 using nitric oxide
- § **One of eight** national Udall Centers of Excellence in Parkinson’s disease
- § **One of eight** inaugural NIH-designated Centers for AIDS research
- § **107%** growth in clinical trials expenditures over the past 5 years (\$36.2M to \$75M)

UAB Medicine is guided by the strategic plan “AMC 21,” providing broadly-accepted guidance to joint and partner efforts of the School of Medicine and the UAB Health System. Key initiatives supported in AMC 21 include faculty recruitment (with an emphasis on mid-career, NIH-funded physicians and scientists). UAB Medicine is firmly committed to being a preferred academic medical center of the 21st Century, attractive to all constituencies, including students, residents, and fellows, faculty, patients, staff, and donors. UAB Medicine will achieve its goals through uncompromising focus on the four pillars of the strategic initiative: knowledge, quality, satisfaction, and financial performance. These pillars will be based on a foundation of innovation and advancement of knowledge, the encouragement of collaboration to promote fresh ideas and scientific breakthroughs and aligning goals and outcomes to create a system of accountability. Approximately \$30 million has been invested this past year to support research, faculty retention and recruitment, and education programs focused in strategic areas.

Additional data about the School may be found at: <https://www.uab.edu/medicine/home/welcome>

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM

UAB is a comprehensive urban university with a nationally recognized academic health center, comprised of the Collat School of Business, the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Dentistry, the School of Education, the School of Engineering, the School of Health Professions, the Heersink School of Medicine, the School of Nursing, the School of Optometry, the School of

Public Health, and the Graduate School. In its 2022 Economic Impact Study, the University and its affiliated entities reported generating more than **\$12.1 billion in economic impact annually within the state of Alabama**. UAB is Alabama's largest single employer and now directly employs nearly 28,000 people. One in every 20 jobs within the state of Alabama either is held directly by a UAB employee or is supported as a result of UAB's presence. In 2021, Forbes magazine ranked UAB as #1 America's **best large employer**.

UAB is the only public, four-year degree granting university in Birmingham, the state's largest metropolitan area, and is the largest research institution in the state of Alabama. With enrollment of over 21,000 students, employment of more than 24,000 full- and part-time individuals, and more than 120,000 active alumni worldwide, the University is a powerhouse for academic, clinical, and research innovation with statewide, regional, national, and global impact. In addition, UAB continues to be one of the most diverse universities in the nation. **As of 2022, the student body was 39 percent minority, with minority students making up 48.5 percent of the total student body. The student population is 21% black and 63.5% female. UAB has nearly 1,500 international students enrolled, who along with our numerous international faculty, staff, and visiting scholars, represent more than 100 countries.**

The University of Alabama at Birmingham traces its roots to the 1859 founding of the Medical College of Alabama and the 1936 opening of the Birmingham Extension Center of The University of Alabama. In 1945, the Medical College of Alabama was moved from Tuscaloosa to Birmingham and the University's Medical Center was founded. Later, in November of 1966, the Extension Center and the Medical Center merged to form the "University of Alabama in Birmingham," an organizational component of The University of Alabama. In 1969, UAB became an independent institution, one of the autonomous universities within the newly created three-campus University of Alabama System.

Today, UAB is the heartbeat of Birmingham and an integral medical leader in the Southeast. The Birmingham campus is within walking distance of some of the region's best parks, entertainment, and dining options. Our regional campuses—in Huntsville, Montgomery, and Tuscaloosa—expand our academic reach and responsibilities in addition to educating physicians in rural and underserved areas of the state. UAB is a thriving campus that has experienced unprecedented growth in recent years, with additional expansion planned and construction underway. Strong partnerships with other prestigious organizations such as Southern Research and Hudson Alpha help the university expand its impact and cultivate opportunities for groundbreaking research and learning.

More information on UAB, including a downloadable copy of the University's current *Facts & Figures*, is available at uab.edu/home/.

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

The Magic City. That's what Birmingham has been called for nearly 150 years, and it's true. There's magic here.

Birmingham is diverse.

Among the roughly 1.15 million residents of the greater Birmingham-Hoover metro area, about 29% are black, 4% are Hispanic, and 1% are Asian, according to the most recent U.S. Census Bureau data. Women make up nearly 52% of the population.

Birmingham is artsy.

Arts and culture in the city are supported by multiple museums, including those devoted to the civil rights struggles of Birmingham's past, along with numerous galleries, music and arts festivals, multiple performance theatres, live music venues, a ballet, a symphony orchestra, an opera, a School of Fine Arts, and a Jazz Hall of Fame.

Birmingham is progressive.

In 2018, Birmingham Mayor Randall Woodfin was selected to join the NewDEAL (Developing Exceptional American Leaders), a 150-person national network of state and local leaders working to expand opportunity and enact pro-growth progressive solutions.

A section of the beautiful Ross Bridge subdivision, in Birmingham's suburbs, is a federal "smart neighborhood." These homes are 35% more energy efficient than comparable new homes, with a nearby solar panel field, integrated battery storage, electric vehicle charging stations in each garage, high-efficiency heating and cooling, and app control of things such as door locks and window shades.

Birmingham is smart.

Birmingham has the highest per capita concentration of health care jobs nationwide. The city is the 12th largest banking center in the nation and third in the Southeast.

In April 2019, MarketWatch named Birmingham the No. 2 up-and-coming "tech hub" in the nation, thanks in part to the presence of tech and small business startup incubator The Innovation Depot and its Velocity Accelerator program. The city is home to leading grocery delivery service Shipt, which was purchased by Target Corp. in 2017 for \$550 million.

Metro Birmingham boasts some outstanding schools. The Mountain Brook, Homewood, Vestavia, Hoover, and Shelby County school systems are ranked among the best in Alabama and compete with other public school systems in the country.

Birmingham is tasty.

We are a foodie town. In 2018, Highlands Bar and Grill won the prestigious James Beard Foundation Award for the Most Outstanding Restaurant in America, thanks to its highly acclaimed French-inspired dishes and regional southern flavors. Several area chefs and venues have been nominated since for similar prestigious accolades.

From low country boils and barbecue to five-star fare, Birmingham's active restaurant scene

includes multiple dining districts that feature cuisine from around the world, and from our own back yard and the Gulf Coast.

Fodor's ranked Birmingham among top 10 cities with a surprisingly good food scene!

Birmingham is competitive.

U.S News & World Report ranks Birmingham No. 89 on its 2019 "Best Places to Live" list.

With a cost-of-living index rating of 79 and a median home cost of less than \$204,000, living in the Birmingham area is less expensive than the national average.

Birmingham is fun.

Downtown Birmingham has enjoyed an epic revitalization in recent years, with the advent of numerous residential, retail, craft brewery, sporting, music, and outdoor entertainment developments.

Two professional or minor league sports teams put down roots in the city center in the past decade. Birmingham hosted the 2022 World Games at a \$174 million multi-use stadium built for the heart of downtown. Protective Stadium also plays host to several national and international soccer tournaments, as well as the UAB Blazers Football team's home games.

With its proximity to many state and national parks, lakes, urban greenspaces, hiking and biking trails, and easy access to both beaches and mountains within a few hours' drive, Birmingham is an excellent place to live, work, and raise a family.

In our communities, our historic streets, and our beautiful landscapes, we're holding a place for you.

Birmingham is on the move. We are The Magic City. That's what Birmingham has been called for nearly 150 years, and it's true. There's magic here—in our diverse communities, our historic streets, and our beautiful landscapes—and we're holding a place for you.

Iron ore, coal, and limestone defined Birmingham when it was founded in 1871 at the crossing of two rail lines near one of the world's richest deposits of minerals. The City of Birmingham celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2021 and today, the Magic City is a vibrant metropolis brimming with entertainment, arts, nightlife, outdoor recreation, and world-class cuisine. In addition to these amenities, the city is home to the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute and the **Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument**, which honor the nonviolent protestors that fought against racial discrimination laws and practices.

Nestled in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, Birmingham boasts more green space per capita than any other city its size in the nation, offering easy access from the city center to numerous hiking and walking trails, from downtown's Railroad Park and Rotary Trail to the

1,000-acre **Ruffner Mountain** Nature Preserve and Vulcan Trail at the foot of **Vulcan Park and Museum**. Annual events like the Sidewalk Film Festival and Magic City Art Connection draw thousands of attendees. What was once a Dr. Pepper Bottling Plant is now one of Birmingham's most vibrant downtown destinations—Pepper Place—which hosts the Pepper Place Farmers Market each Saturday.

The city is home to the **Honda Indy Grand Prix of Alabama** in April, great HBCU football matchups in October with the **Morehouse Tuskegee Classic** and the **Magic City Classic**, and the **Birmingham Bowl** in December. In 2022, UAB proudly served as a major sponsor for the 11th edition of World Games, an international multi-sport event held in Birmingham.

The city of Birmingham has a population of 209,880 (U.S. Census Bureau estimate, 2019) and is the central hub of the Birmingham-Hoover Metropolitan Area with a population of 1.1 million—the largest population and economic region in the state of Alabama.

Five interstates provide access to more than 80% of the U.S. population in a two-day drive. The Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport offers domestic and international flights, and is located near Atlanta's International Airport and metro area, to the east. To the south, many lovely beach communities are easily accessible along the Gulf Coast, and frequently enjoyed by our residents. . The area boasts dozens of large lakes within a two-hour drive, and lake life is a popular pastime for Birmingham locals.

In the Birmingham metropolitan area, more than 550 technology companies employ more than 6,300 skilled workers. The city is home to Innovation Depot, which houses 112 startups throughout a sprawling 140,000 square-foot complex — the largest in the Southeast. Birmingham is also home to Southern Research. Founded in Birmingham in 1941, Southern Research is a non-profit scientific research organization that employs 250 scientists and professional staff. In its 80-year legacy of moving science, the organization has helped shape modern cancer treatment practices, including developing seven FDA-approved cancer drugs and testing more than half of active chemotherapies in the United States. Southern Research has conducted more than \$30 million in coronavirus research over the past two years, including collaborations on a COVID-19 vaccine currently in clinical trials, conducting thousands of PCR tests and refining the underlying chemistry of critical treatments. The organization is the highest NIH-funded non-academic research center in Alabama and has a \$150 million annual economic impact.

For more information about Birmingham, please visit: uab.edu/medicine/home/about/birmingham