UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE



PROJECT OBJECTIVES

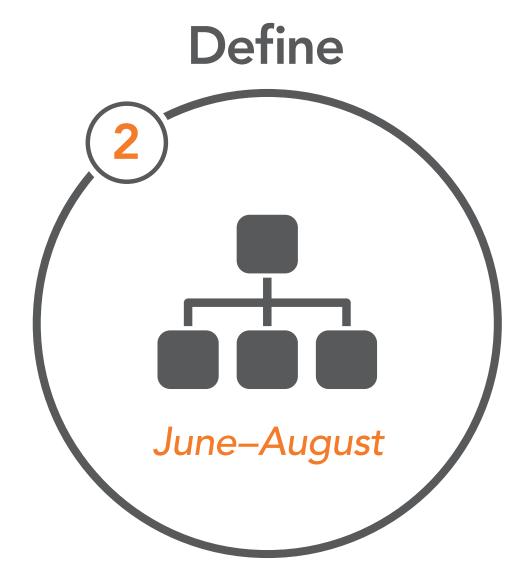
- Create a consistent brand image and message
- Tell a compelling story
- Shift common misperceptions

- Build awareness and visibility
- Advance the reputation
- Increase differentiation
- Attract exceptional students

OUR PROCESS

Discover 1 May-June

- Facilitate a kickoff meeting to initiate the project
- Review the background, collateral, and research provided
- Conduct interviews with leaders, faculty, staff, students, and alumni
- Perform a competitor audit
- Review other communications and marketing materials



- Conduct a collaborative workshop with the core team to review insights and brainstorm ideas for messaging, voice, and personality
- Develop a preliminary strategy for messaging and communications flow
- Share the preliminary strategy with the core team
- Refine the strategy and submit it for final approval



- Develop and share two creative concepts that bring the strategy to life
 - Identify a single creative direction for further exploration and refinement
 - Submit the creative direction for final approval
 - Develop brand guidelines

DISCOVERY

DISCOVERY — PROCESS

To help define the University of South Alabama story, we undertook a series of discovery activities to help us understand the current situation and how the brand should evolve in the future.

Stakeholder Interviews and Group Discussions



Peer Review









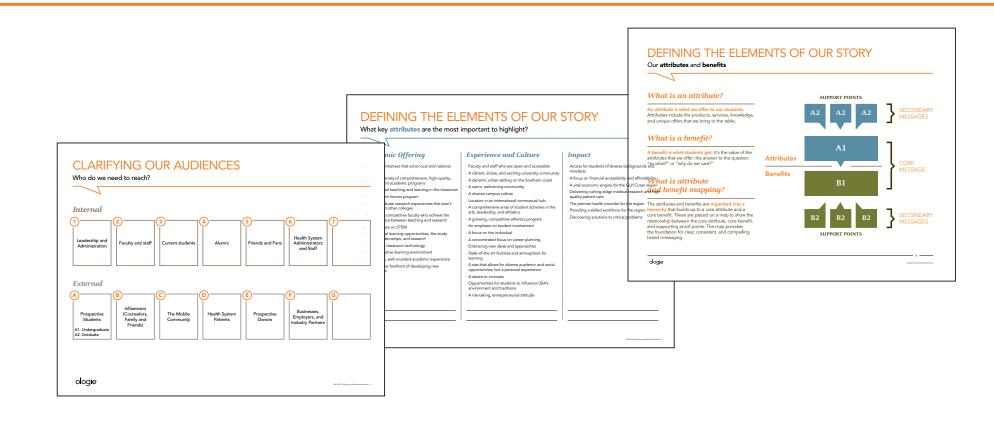




Communications Audit



Collaborative Workshop



IMPLICATIONS FOR STRATEGY

IMPLICATIONS FOR STRATEGY

- All of South's peers are saying the same thing. South has the opportunity to own a unique place in the landscape.
- To battle common misperceptions, we must emphasize South's high-quality academics and research and its vibrant student life.
- To attract key audiences, we need to tout the advantages of South's urban, coastal location.
- At South, relationships matter. There's a shared spirit and a supportive culture.
- 5 South's purpose is to advance the Gulf Coast region.

STRATEGY OVERVIEW

STRATEGY OVERVIEW

The brand strategy sets the foundation for the way South communicates to its various audiences. It clarifies who South is and what South does at its core, in a way that's clear, compelling and authentic.

It also provides a guidepost for creative expression. Both creative concepts are from the same strategy, demonstrating the flexibility of the brand.

BRAND STRATEGY

STRATEGY COMPONENTS

AUDIENCES
(WHO we speak to)

 Determine who we need to influence today and in the future through a phased approach 2 MESSAGING (WHAT we say)

- Define the core attribute and core benefit that articulate who South is and how it stands out
- Create supporting messages and hierarchy

PERSONALITY
(HOW we look, feel, and sound)

 Begin to shape tone and voice for communications

AUDIENCES

Prioritization

THE **BEST-FIT** SOUTH STUDENT

- Prospective undergraduates and graduates
- Influencers (parents, family, counselors)

THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

- Leadership and administration (also for the Health System)
- Board of trustees
- Faculty and staff
- Current students
- Current parents
- · Alumni, donors, and friends

THE POTENTIAL PARTNERS AND NEIGHBORS

- Referring physicians
- Patients
- Businesses, employers, and industry partners
- Gulf Coast community

THE INFLUENTIAL LEADERS

- Local and state government
- Media
- Peer schools
- National admissions organizations and counselors
- Ranking organizations

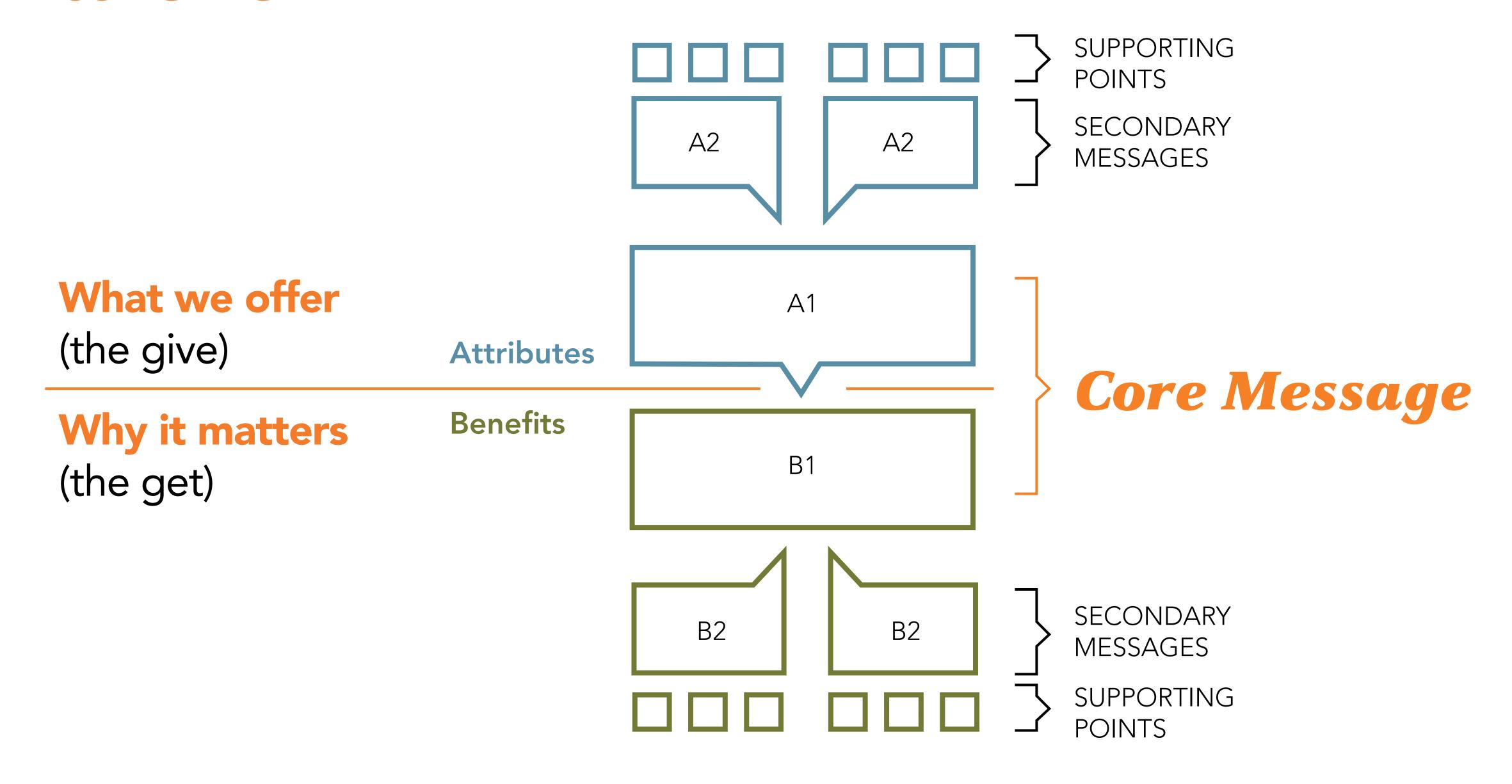
Attract, recruit, and retain the right students, to continually strengthen the university

Build alignment and excitement around the authentic brand story to create ambassadors

Enhance the university's reputation by showing its value and building strong relationships

Build awareness by focusing on broader reputation-building and greater visibility locally and nationally

Creates a hierarchy to articulate what we say and why it matters consistently and compellingly.



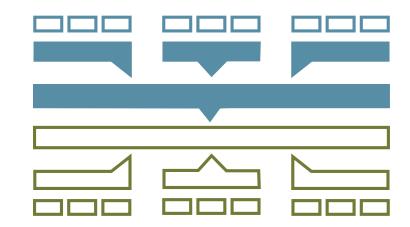
The University of South Alabama is:

A dynamic and ambitious community of individuals who support and challenge one another

To become:

Actively engaged contributors who advance the Gulf Coast region

Core Message



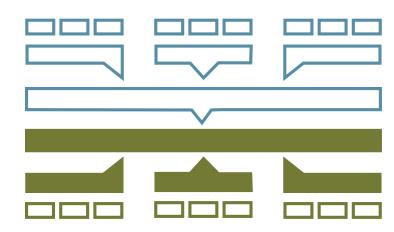
Impactful and relevant academics

An environment that fosters diverse experiences and meaningful relationships

A hub for regional progress

The University of South Alabama is:

A dynamic and ambitious community of individuals who support and challenge one another



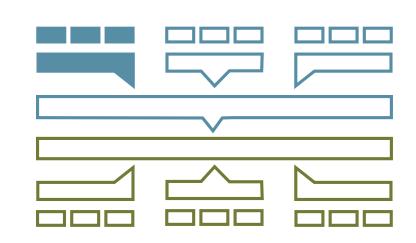
To become:

Actively engaged contributors who advance the Gulf Coast region

Have the capability and confidence to lead

Carve out a distinct, personal path

Enhance the quality of life for all citizens



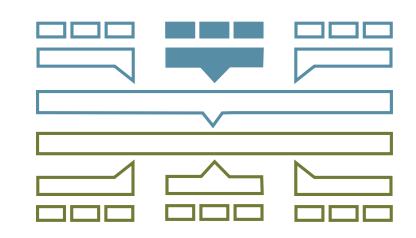
Nationally competitive faculty who balance teaching and research

Practical,
engaging
learning
experiences
that span the
globe

Programs that reflect industry needs

Research
opportunities
that are unique
to South,
especially at the
undergraduate
level

Impactful and relevant academics



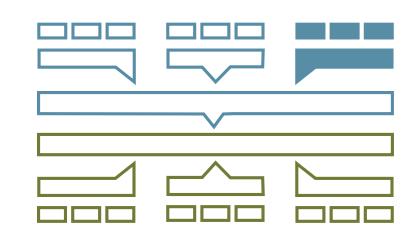
A size that allows faculty and staff to know and support their students

Opportunities
to shape
South's
traditions and
environment

Spirited athletics and an emphasis on student involvement

An urban, coastal setting in the vibrant city of Mobile

An environment that fosters diverse experiences and meaningful relationships



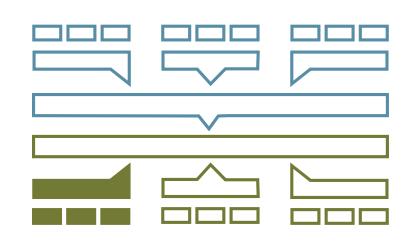
An academic health system delivering leading-edge medical research and high-quality patient care

Resources that attract major national and international commercial businesses to Mobile

Educational access for students of diverse backgrounds and mindsets

Creation of new knowledge, jobs, and companies

A hub for regional progress



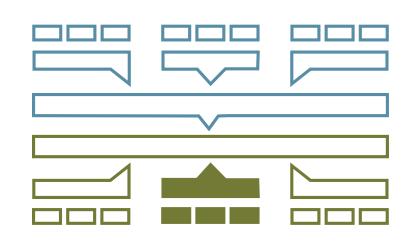
Have the capability and confidence to lead

Gain mentors
who are
academic
leaders in their
fields

Collaborate
with peers
and learn from
their unique
perspectives

Equipped with critical-thinking and creative problem-solving skills

Immediately apply concepts in real-life situations



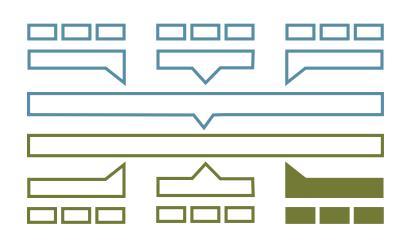
Carve out a distinct, personal path

Form deep connections with a network of Jags

Make a lasting, tangible impact inside and beyond the classroom

Discover and strengthen passions

Explore and enjoy extraordinary opportunities in and around Mobile



Enhance the quality of life for all citizens

Create healthier communities

Develop a significant regional innovation ecosystem

Excel because of an education that's within reach

Enhance the economy as part of a skilled workforce

Nationally competitive faculty who balance teaching and globe research **Attributes** (what we offer) **Benefits**

Practical, engaging learning experiences that span the

Programs that reflect industry needs

Research opportunities that are unique to South, especially at the undergraduate level

A size that allows faculty and staff to know and support their students

Spirited athletics and an emphasis on student involvement

An urban, coastal setting in the vibrant city of Mobile

An academic health system delivering leading-edge medical research and high-quality patient care

Resources that attract major national and international commercial businesses to Mobile

Educational access for students of diverse backgrounds and mindsets

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Opportunities

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A hub for regional progress

The University of South Alabama is:

A dynamic and ambitious community of individuals who support and challenge one another

> Core Message

(what they get)

To become:

Actively engaged contributors who advance the Gulf Coast region

Have the capability and confidence to lead

Gain mentors academic leaders in their fields

Collaborate with peers and learn from their unique perspectives

Equipped with criticalthinking and creative problemsolving skills

Immediately apply concepts in real-life situations

Carve out a distinct, personal path

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Enhance the quality of life for all citizens

Create healthier communities

Develop a regional innovation ecosystem

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PERSONALITY

GENUINE

sincere in our words and actions

FRIENDLY

warm and welcoming, in a uniquely Southern way

INCLUSIVE

embracing the members of our community and a spirit of togetherness

PROGRESSIVE

constantly challenging ourselves to create and try new things

PROUD

exuding confidence and passion

DARING

taking calculated risks and unafraid to be different

Less Aspirational

More Aspirational

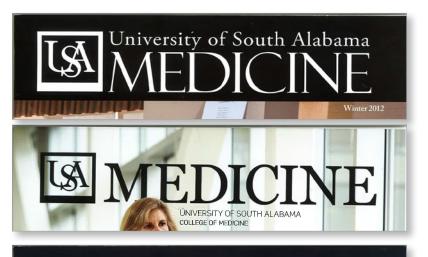
CREATIVE EXPLORATION

COMMUNICATIONS REVIEW

How USA is communicating today

ALL OVER THE MAP

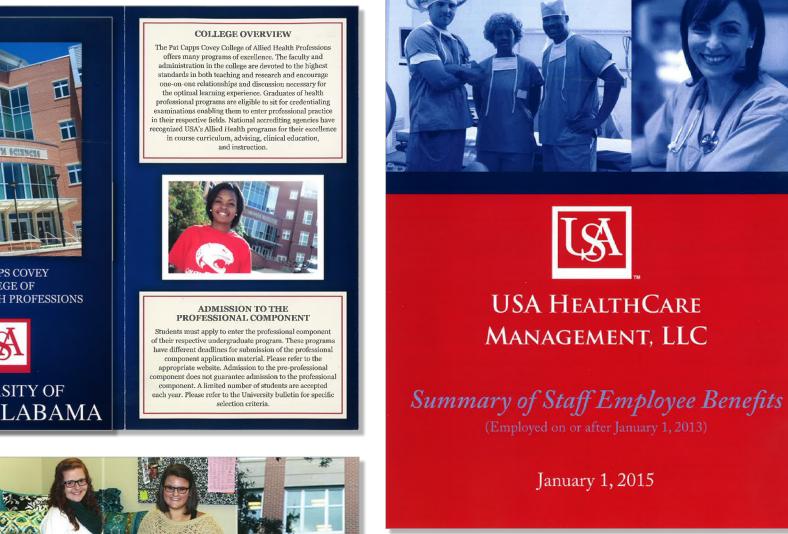
— ALL OVER THE MAP —

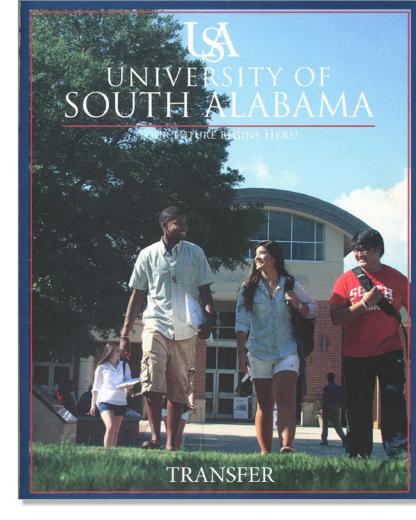


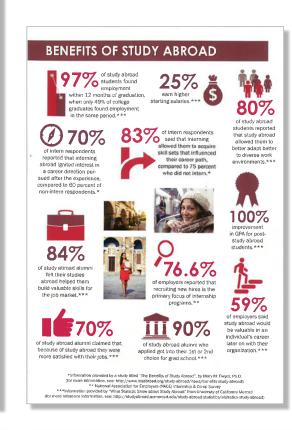
MEDICINE



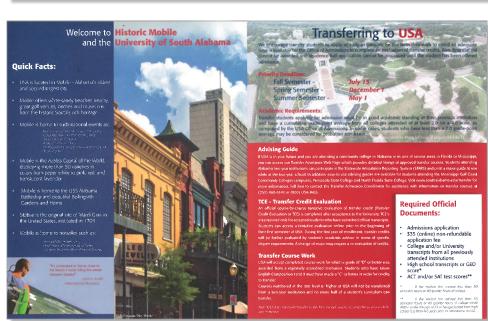


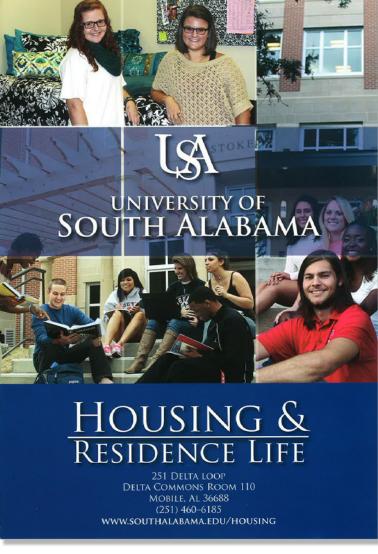






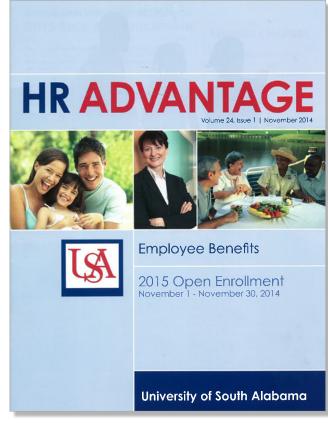












LESS WHAT, MORE WHY

— LESS WHAT, MORE WHY —

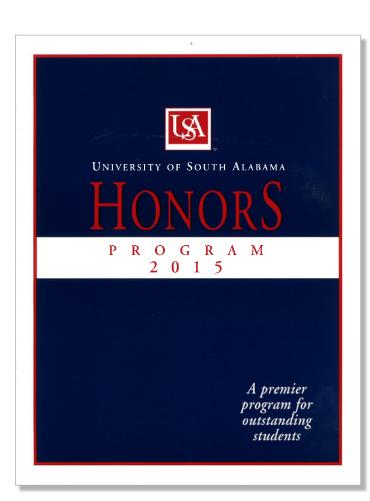
"USA is one of the fastest growing universities in the south.

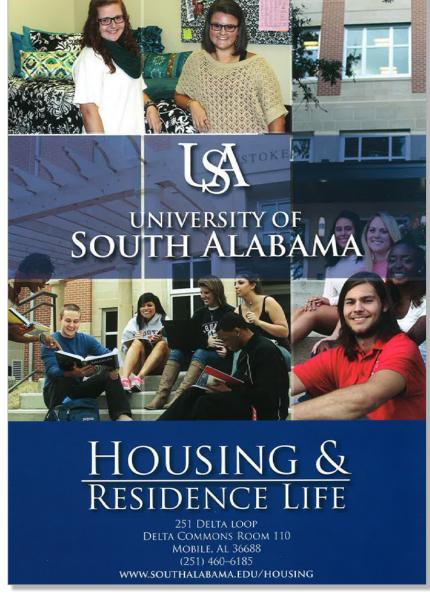
Our state of the art facilities complement our prestigious academic programs and exciting student life!"

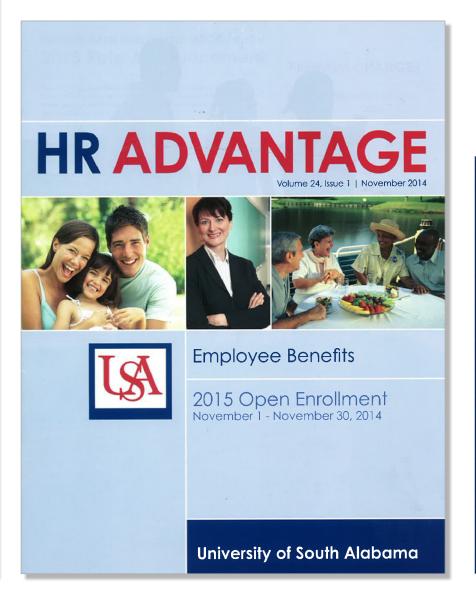
"In addition, our coastal location by the Gulf of Mexico provides unlimited opportunities for year round activities in warm sunshine. Make your way to South Alabama."

MAKING HEADLINES WORK HARDER

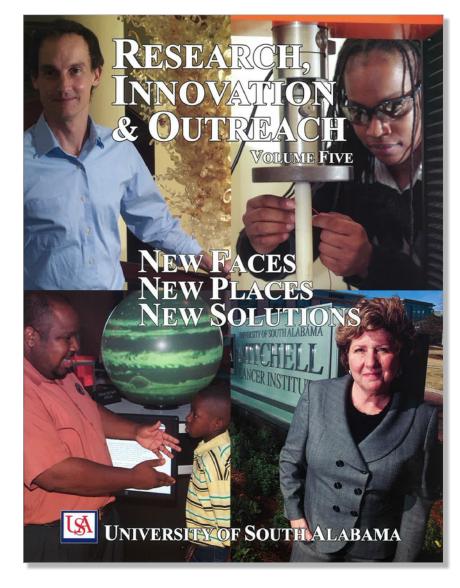
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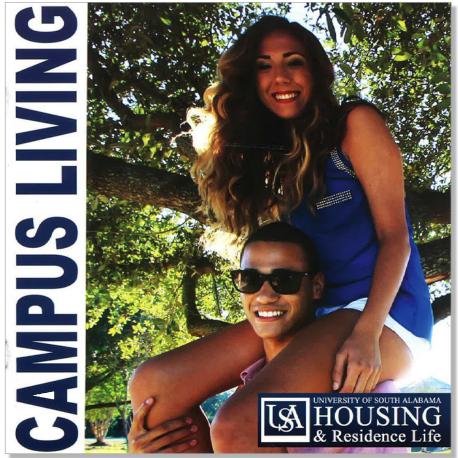


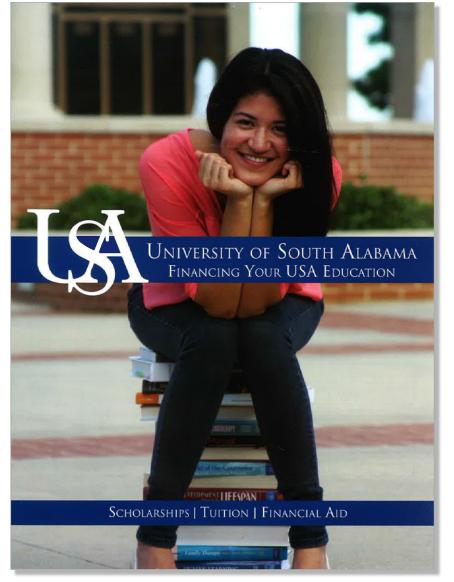


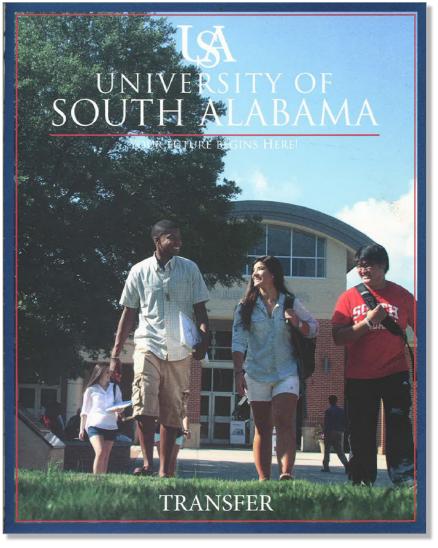


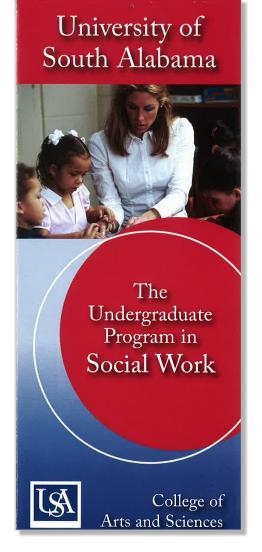












DOING MORE WITH LESS

— DOING MORE WITH LESS—

UNDERSTANDING NATURE



onald Kiene's

the Department of Marine Sciences and Senior Marine Scientist III at the Dauphin Island Sea but honored. He credits his hard work and McGlothren National Alumni Outstanding Scholar Award by the USA National Alumn Association in 2014. He also delivered the Dean's Lecture at the Waterman Globe in the Mitchell Center for the College of Arts &

Sciences in October 2014.
The Olivia Rambo McGlothren award honors a full-time faculty member who has been at USA for at least five years for her or his excellence and high achievements in an academic discipline. Throughout his 22 years teaching as USA, Kiene has actively research projects and publications. The majority of his research focuses on the role of microorganisms in the cycling of organic

and nitrogen in aquatic systems. "I really love trying to understand Nature," Kiene said. "In particular I love to try to environment and transform chemicals that influence the larger ecosystem and even the Earth system as a whole."

In February 2014, he was part of a research group affiliated with the University of Georgia at Athens that was awarded a new \$2 million National Science Foundation grant, allowing hem to further document how genes in ocean nicrobes transform sulfur into clouds in the

This team of marine scientists worked off of the Georgia coast, learning more about marine organisms and compounds they produce called osmolytes to balance salinity outside the cells. Kiene focused on marine phytoplankton that produce sulfur osmolyte Once released into seawater from the cells, different pathways. One keeps the sulfur from DMSP in the ocean, and the other creates a sulfur gas that escapes into the atmosphere

to become a key component of cloud condensation nuclei.

The marine scientists utilized an autonomous ocean-going instrument, able to in the ocean, all while taking in water, extracting DNA from cells, analyzing DNA, and sending the information back to shore via

The results from the ocean-going instrument were successful as the group caught an example of DMSP pathway regulation as it occurred for the first time ever.
Kiene and his fellow scientists plan to use the NSF grant for future deployments.
When informed he was the recipient of

success to the USA Marine Sciences program Kiene, originally from Brooklyn, New University of New York at Stony Brook.

Before teaching at USA, he was a faculty member at the University of Georgia Marine at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Kiene enjoys include fishing, watching baseball with his

BORCHERT: NSF



pecting to actually receive the funding, but this is a huge step for students in my lab and for my career." Assistant professor in the Department of Biology for the past two years and a graduate from both the University of Tennessee and University of Iowa, Borchert teaches Genetics and Computational Genetics. He is one of Biology Department awarded a grant through

Early Career Development Program for The grant, totaling over \$532,000 and spanning over a five year period, is the most prestigious award offered by the

foundation and is presented to professors to help them to continue their research and expand knowledge in the fields of science. NSF recipients are typically individuals or a like Borchert's, provide funding to scientists, engineers and students for research centers, instruments and facilities.

In his favorite class, Computational Genetics, Borchert and his undergraduate students are researching how to better understand microRNAs, tiny molecules regulating the body and controlling up to 30 different types of genes. Each is important to basic cell function and, according to Borchert, there are thousands yet undiscovered in our

students to conduct research and contribute their findings into a published academic article is typically one they would not have

"This is great for my students," Borchert a great experience for them in the world of

With respect to his application, Borchert highlighted his and his students' work with microRNAs and the process he takes them through for scientific publication in his grant application. There were 40 applicants who submitted proposals for the type of grant Borchert received. Many of these applicants were from elite schools such as Harvard and Stanford. Borchert's research with microRNAs and his inclusion of undergraduate student in his project made for an impressive

With the NSF award, the university was presented with \$369,000 for use in the first three years, and as Borchert verifies significance in his research, the additional Currently, he has installed a fully functional added a computer lab to the Life Sciences Building. Moreover, additional funds have provided extra graduate assistantships in the

The grant is big step for Borchert and for his students' future as they are able to contribute to these projects. Borchert has big plans for the remainder of the grant and knows department, his students and himself.

Howard Hughes Medical Institute, the largest philanthropy project in the world, and this is a huge step towards that goal," he said.



GETTING STARTED





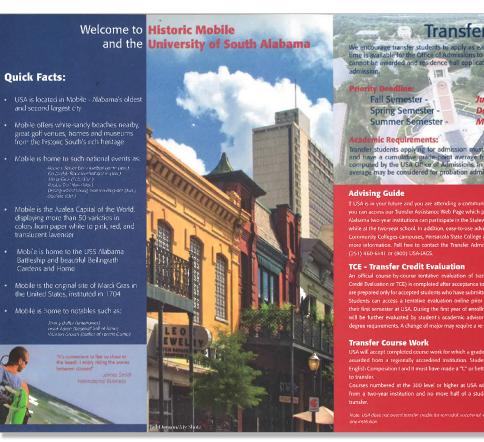






SPECIAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

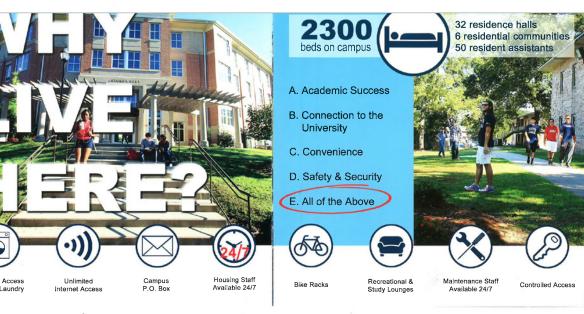














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Admissions application \$35 (online) non-refundable application fee College and/or University transcripts from all previously

ACT and/or SAT test scores**

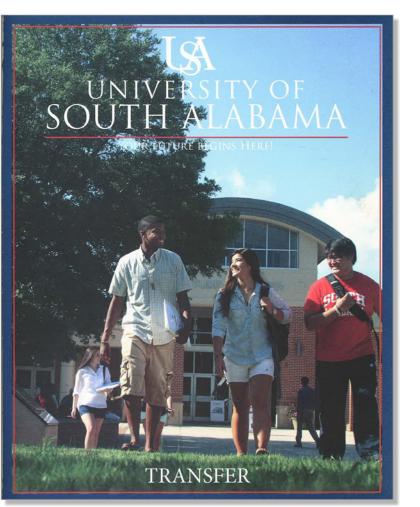
attended institutions

ocuments:

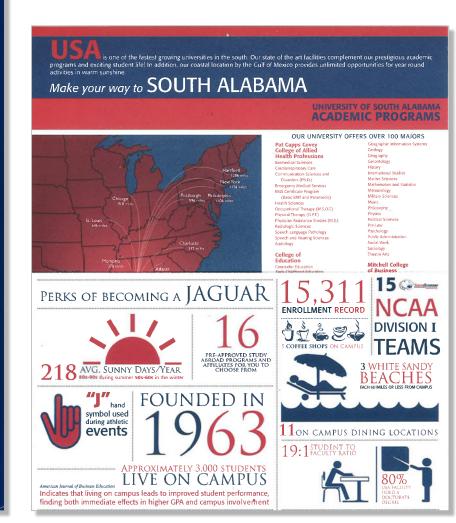
A WIDER PALETE

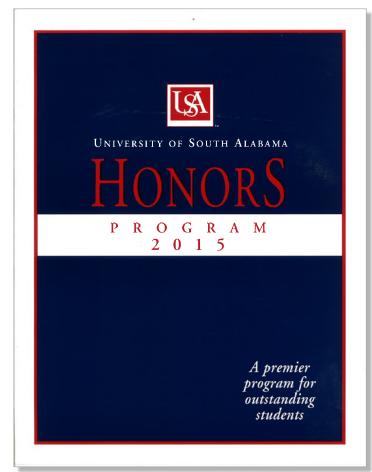
TAWIDER PALETTE

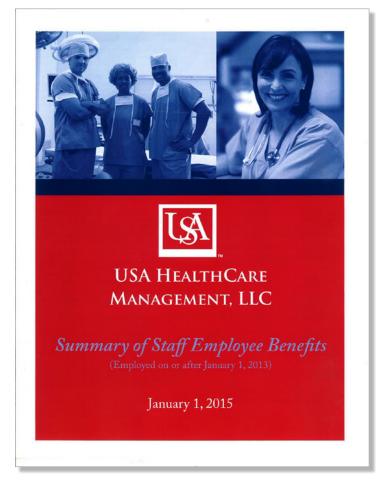




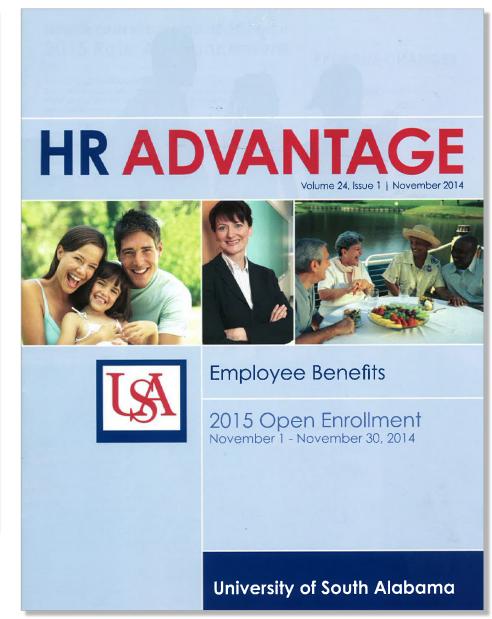




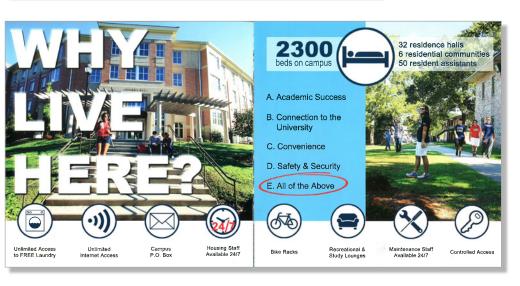










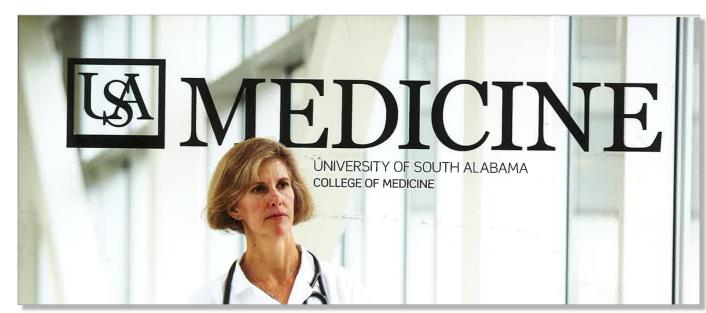


LIMITING TYPEFACES

— LIMITING TYPEFACES—



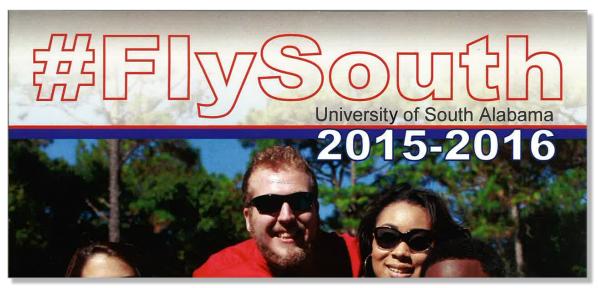


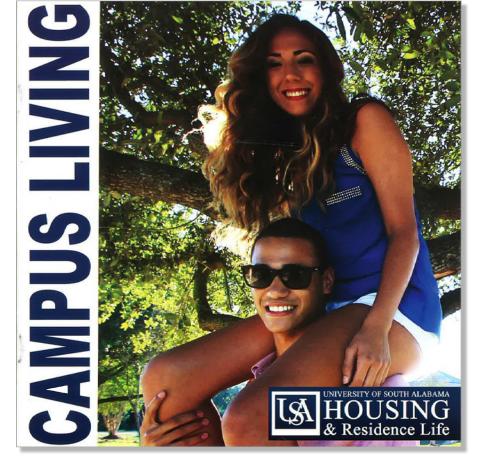




Your Future Begins Here!



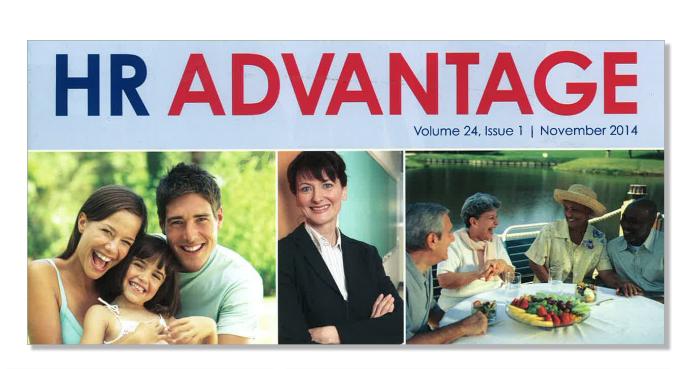


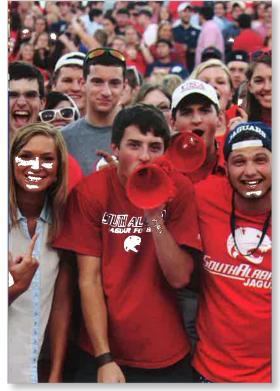




CAPTURING MOMENTS, NOT POSES

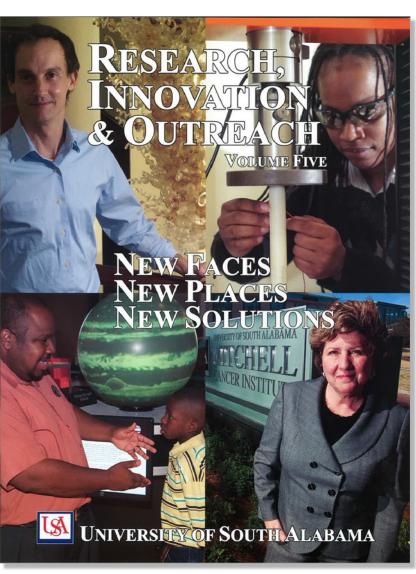
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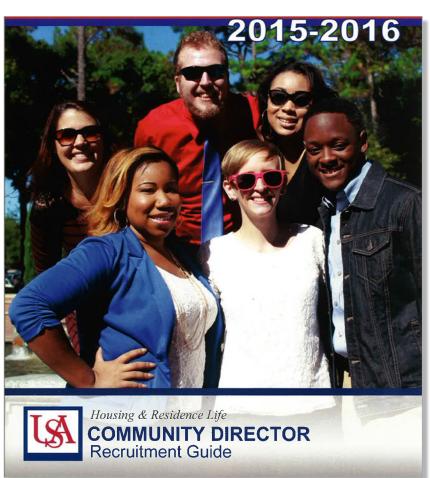


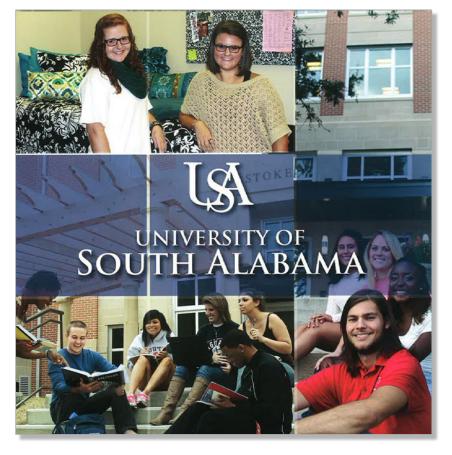


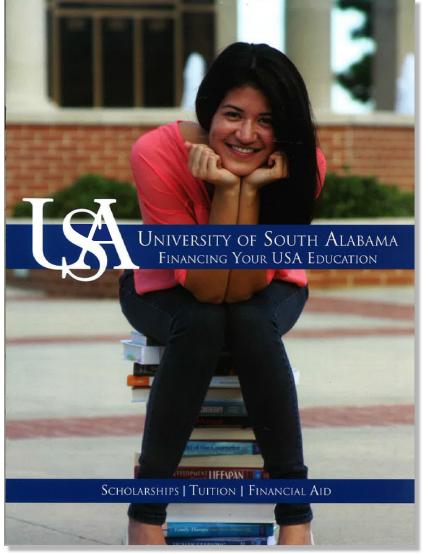


















NEXT STEPS

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