

MISSION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

The University of Alabama, the State's oldest public university, is the senior comprehensive doctoral level institution in Alabama. Established by constitutional provision, with subsequent statutory mandates and authorizations, the University's purpose is to advance the intellectual and social condition of all the people of the state through high quality programs of research, instruction, and outreach.

The University of Alabama activities emerge from a broad range of research programs, many of which are recognized for their contributions to the economic, technological, and cultural growth of the State and region. This research, supported by our library, a member of the National Association of Research Libraries, yields continuing stimulation for the instructional programs offered by the University's twelve colleges and schools. At the undergraduate level, the University offers a comprehensive range of baccalaureate programs in the arts and humanities as well as in scientific, technological, pre-professional, and professional fields. A university-wide core curriculum provides a strong general education component as the keystone of every undergraduate program. Graduate programs, built on these strong undergraduate foundations, concentrate on the development of original scholarship and research. In selected areas, including the State's only public law school, professional programs develop the highest levels of competence and leadership. As one of the major residential campuses in the State, the University enhances the academic and personal growth of all its students through its on-campus environment. Recognizing that education is a lifelong endeavor, the University offers a wide array of educational opportunities to adult and non-traditional students.

The University's research and instructional programs form a base for extensive outreach activities, providing a wide array of partnerships with business, non-profit organizations, and government through applications of new knowledge. These relationships cause the University's influence to extend beyond the bounds of the State as it assists developmental efforts at regional, national, and international levels.

Source: *The University of Alabama Self-Study Report*, December 1993, and President's Office, January 2001.