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### **UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA, BIRMINGHAM RECEIVES APPA'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE**

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Honolulu, Hawai'i, July 10, 2006—The University of Alabama, Birmingham, Ala., was awarded APPA's highest institutional honor—the Award for Excellence—for its commitment to excellence in the field of educational facilities. Brooks H. Baker III, associate vice president for facilities, accepted the award on behalf of the University of Alabama, Birmingham during APPA's awards banquet at the Campus of the Future conference in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

According to APPA President Jack Colby, assistant vice chancellor for facilities operations at North Carolina State University, the facilities division of the University of Alabama, Birmingham exemplifies excellence in all of the areas necessary to achieve the award: leadership; strategic and operational planning; customer focus; information and analysis; development and management of human resources; process management; and performance results.

“The University of Alabama, Birmingham's Facilities Division has an unusual cohesiveness and unity that is evident in the results of the facilities operation,” Colby said. “The facilities leadership team is experienced, educated and knowledgeable in planning, design and construction; facilities operations; and occupational health and safety.”

“The University of Alabama, Birmingham very much succeeds in its mission to provide a quality environment conducive to the well being of students, patients, faculty, visitors, and staff, and to provide an environment which will enhance instruction, patient care, and research,” Colby added.

The University of Alabama, Birmingham is a comprehensive, urban university and medical center with a student enrollment of over 17,000. The university occupies more than 12 million square feet in 144 buildings spread across 82 blocks in downtown Birmingham. Including its 908-bed hospital, UAB employs more than 16,000 people. The facilities division employs 829 individuals.

The APPA Award for Excellence is designed to recognize and advance excellence in the field of educational facilities. Originally established in 1988, the Award for Excellence is APPA's highest institutional honor and provides educational institutions the opportunity for national and international recognition for their outstanding achievements in facilities management. The award is designed to highlight the essential role of facilities operations in the overall institutional mission and vision.

*APPA is the association of choice serving educational facilities professionals, representing more than 1,500 learning institutions encompassing over 4,700 individuals throughout the United States, Canada, and internationally.*

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