



Academic Affairs Newsletter

by Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

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NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Sunhui Sim is an assistant professor in the Department of Geography at UNA. She was born in South Korea. Sunhui's hometown of "Jinju" is located in the south, so she is a southern girl, too. Most of her academic trainings (BS and first master's degree) were in Korea. Once arriving in the United States, Dr. Sim continued her passion in the field of GIS science and remote sensing in the Geography Department at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB). After receiving a second master's degree from UCSB, Sunhui attended Florida State University and completed a Ph.D. program which focused on geospatial technology in ecological modeling and urban geography. Dr. Sim indicates a love of teaching geography and meeting new people. Her next focus is to acquire a funding project to bring more students into the Department of Geography. Sunhui's hobbies are racket sports, golf, tennis, ping pong, badminton and bowling. She also loves foods and cooking, especially spicy ones.

CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Wanda Bradford was chosen as a recipient of the Pearson Excellence in Online Administration (eOA) award. This award is presented to educational administrators who demonstrate a significant commitment to quality in online education, and Dr. Bradford was selected for her outstanding achievements in directing, managing and administering online programs. She will receive the award, along with other administrators, at a ceremony in April 2011. As a part of this award recognition, Pearson will be making a donation of \$1,000 to UNA's scholarship fund in her name.

Dr. Matthew Fitzsimmons, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, has been named a finalist for the Whetstone-Seamen Faculty Development Award by the Alabama Humanities Foundation. The honor includes a publication of his essays, participation in the Forum hosted by the Foundation, and speaking engagements across the state.

CURRICULAR ACTIONS

The Curriculum Committee met on March 8. The Committee discussed the ambiguous role of Area V as part of the general studies curriculum. Agreement was reached that the general studies curriculum consists of Areas I-IV. This distinction is needed to clarify our narrative with SACS. The following departments were approved for curriculum changes: Communications, English, Geography, Criminal Justice, Management and Marketing, Nursing, and Interdisciplinary Studies.

FACULTY HANDBOOK

Over the summer and fall, a faculty ad hoc committee reviewed the Faculty Handbook and identified substantial edits needed in preparation for SACS. The changes were approved by the Faculty Senate. The draft document was sent to the President and a few minor edits were identified. Once those have been reviewed by the Faculty Affairs Committee and approved by the Faculty Senate and Board of Trustees, the document will be posted to the web.

THANKS

The George Lindsay Film Festival was once again a success. Thanks to the many UNA faculty and staff who contributed time and effort in support of the festival.

SUMMER SCHOOL

Summer 2010 was a very prosperous time for the University of North Alabama in terms of enrollment, credit hours produced, and revenues generated. The total head count for summer 2010 was 3,045 (<http://www.una.edu/research/DataBook%202010.pdf>, p. 21) along with an undergraduate and graduate credit hour production of more than 18,000 (<http://www.una.edu/research/DataBook%202010.pdf>, p. 36). With an enrollment only slightly lower than our all time high, all areas and departments of the University worked to be as cost effective as possible. Part of the impetus for this was the fact that for the first time in the history of the institution, colleges and departments were to directly benefit from the excess revenues generated by our summer program. After all 2009 – 2010 costs were taken into consideration, approximately \$100,000.00 was distributed to the four colleges as revenues earned by the summer program. These monies were allocated based on the percentage of revenue generated by each college. With this in mind, we are fast approaching summer 2011 and again we have an opportunity for the university, colleges, and departments to gain. Please look at your course offerings to determine those that best meet the needs of students in your area and as pre-registration approaches, encourage all students to take advantage of what we offer as part of our summer program.