



Academic Affairs Newsletter

by Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Volume II, Number 9

NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Keith Jones is an Associate Professor in the Department of Accounting and Business Law, having joined UNA in August 2010 after spending the previous five years at Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois. He teaches in the areas of auditing and managerial accounting. Prior to Illinois State, Keith taught at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, Kentucky and at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. He received his Ph.D. in 2001 from the University of Kentucky. Prior to entering his doctoral program, Keith worked for over 10 years as an auditor for the Department of Defense. His research interests are broad within his field, but primarily relate to judgment and decision making. He has presented his research at numerous regional, national and international conferences and he and his coauthors have published articles in approximately 14 peer-reviewed journals. Keith enjoys running, or stated more appropriately, he likes the “runner’s high” that comes from completing a challenging run. Living closer than ever to a body of water, he hopes to return to fishing as soon as possible.

Dr. John Q. Hodges is an Associate Professor of Social Work. John is from Salt Lake City, Utah, and completed his Ph.D. in Social Welfare at the University of California-Berkeley. He then spent eight years at the University of Missouri-Columbia as an assistant/associate professor before accepting a department head position at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC. John’s research interests include services to those with severe mental illnesses as well as support services for first-generation college students. John and his wife Melissa have two beautiful daughters, Sophie, age 4, and Madeleine, age 5 months. John is very happy to be at UNA and the entire family is happy to be “home,” as Melissa’s family is in North Alabama.

LECTURE PRESENTATION

Dr. Terry Richardson, Professor of Biology, received a \$4,000.00 grant from the Alabama Department of Environmental Management to present a lecture on March 28 at the University of Oxford, Harris Manchester College, Oxford, UK on his work on the oil spill last summer. The lecture was entitled “Consequences of the BP Oil Spill: Observations and Perspectives from Alabama” and was one of several lectures on “Climate Change: The Great Matter.”

FIRST AMENDMENT

April is First Amendment month and the Communications Department has several activities planned in support. The Department recently planted a liberty tree (maple) in front of the Communications Building. The First Amendment reads:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

GRADUATE COUNCIL

The Graduate Council met on April 5 and approved new graduate coursework in communications, geography, and music. The College of Education and the Department of Geography Department received approval for minor catalog changes. The Council also had a joint meeting beforehand with the Graduate Faculty to select Graduate Council members for 2011-12.

DIALOGUE ON RELIGION

The UNA Lecture Series will host a Dialogue on Religion event on April 12 at 7 pm in the GUC Performance Center. Among the events scheduled for the evening is a talk by Stephen Prothero, religion professor at Boston University. Professor Prothero was recently featured in USA Today (see http://www.usatoday.com/news/opinion/forum/2011-04-04-column04_ST_N.htm?sms_ss=email&at_xt=4d9c85e6e807caf1%2C0 for a copy of his article)

COLLIER LIBRARY

April 10-16 is National Library Week. Thanks to the faculty and staff of Collier Library for all they do on behalf of UNA.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

On November 16, 2010, the U.S. House of Representatives declared the week of April 11, 2011, as Undergraduate Research Week. Colleges and universities are encouraged to develop and enhance undergraduate research and creative performance programs in recognition of the resolution. Thanks to those departments that have events scheduled. All are encouraged to look for ways to further acknowledge research as a valuable tool to good teaching.