



# Academic Affairs Newsletter

by Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

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## NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Lisa Ann Blankinship is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology. Lisa Ann grew up on the family farm in rural West Tennessee. During high school, she was a host for summer foreign exchange students. She received a Ph.D. and M.S. in Biology from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and B.S. in Biology from the University of Tennessee at Martin. Lisa Ann has worked as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology at Troy University in Troy, Alabama, an Instructor for the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Tennessee at Martin, and a graduate teaching assistant at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Her research interests are in bacterial survival strategies, antibiotic resistance trends, natural/ herbal control of microbial growth, and biological treatment of wastes and waste products. Lisa Ann enjoys reading, music, crafts, container gardening, and foreign languages.

Ms. Kathy Atkins has 26+ years of experience as an educator. She received her bachelor's degree in special education from the University of South Alabama and her master's in psychology and school counseling from Troy State of Dothan. She taught special education for 14 years. In 1995, she was named Teacher of the Year for Dothan City Schools. In 1997, she began a second chapter in her professional life as a school counselor in Eufaula, Alabama. There, she was honored with the Make a Difference Award in 2002. Kathy and her husband of 37 years, Gary, moved to the Shoals area in 2008. They learned to appreciate Florence and the surrounding areas as they visited their younger son, Rob, and his wife, Rebecca, while they attended UNA. Their older son, Michael, resides in Nashville with his wife, Kelley, and their two children. Kathy enjoys gardening, fishing, and spending time with friends and family, especially her five grandchildren. She currently serves as Kilby's school counselor and loves being associated with such a warm and family oriented organization.

## GRANTS ASSISTANCE

The Office of Sponsored Programs is pleased to announce that Dr. Robert Koch, Director of the Writing Center, has graciously offered to provide technical writing assistance to faculty who plan to submit external grant proposals. Dr. Koch's assistance will focus on proposal flow and structure. All faculty who are in the process of writing a proposal are welcome to benefit from Dr. Koch's expertise.

## NEW LIBRARY SERVICE

EBSCO Discovery Service Beta: Collier Library is testing the EBSCO Discovery Service and wants your feedback! The revolutionary Discovery Service deploys a single search box (Google--like) to aid users in locating items available in the University Libraries' local collections, journals, databases, and digital collections. To start using EBSCO Discovery now, visit <http://libguides.una.edu/discovery>.