

# Academic Affairs Newsletter

by Office of the Provost  
and Vice President for Academic Affairs



University of North Alabama

Volume IV, Issue 6

## CONAH Receives Excellent Review

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) visited the campus October 3-5 to evaluate our graduate program in nursing. The review is for 10 year accreditation affirmation. The exit interview could not have been more positive. There are four major standards and 26 sub-standards and CONAH successfully demonstrated compliance with every single one. In short they received a perfect score. Congratulations to the nursing faculty, staff, and administration for this significant accomplishment. For the second review in a row, outside visitors have reminded us what we already know-we have great academic programs! CCNE will take formal action in the spring on this institutional report.

## New Faculty Introduction

Beth Sewell is the Chair of the Department of Secondary Education, Coordinator of Instructional Leadership and the University of Alabama Doctoral Program at UNA, and an Associate Professor of Education. She received a bachelor's degree and Ed.D. in education from Mississippi State University. Prior to her appointment in education, she worked as a deputy at the Mississippi Department of Education, served as interim superintendent and curriculum director at the Starkville School District, and was on the adjunct faculty at Mississippi State University. Beth is married to Billy Sewell, a retired educator, and they have a daughter, Sarah Beth, who is a freshman at William Carey University. The Sewell family enjoys the outdoors, especially boating on the Tennessee River.

## Research Collaboration

Teachers at Kilby Laboratory School are engaging in reflective practice and investigating their most "burning questions" with the support of their higher education colleagues at UNA. Based on like interests, professors from the Departments of Counseling, Elementary Education, English, History, Health, Physical Education and Recreation, Human Environmental Sciences, Nursing, Psychology, Secondary Education, and Sociology and Family Studies have paired with Kilby faculty to conduct classroom research. All of the projects will be featured at UNA's Research Day next spring.

Lesley Peterson, member of the English department, is planning a Shakespeare study with sixth grade teacher, Michele Derouen, and the students. Peterson recently stated, "We are very excited at the prospect of working together, and look forward to the energy and creativity that these young people have to bring to the texts and histories they encounter." If you would like more information about any of the projects or if you are interested in partnering with Kilby, please contact Linda Armstrong, Coordinator of Research and Experiential Teaching and Learning at Kilby Laboratory School, at [ljarmstrong@una.edu](mailto:ljarmstrong@una.edu).

## New in the COB

The Department of Management and Marketing in the College of Business is pleased to announce the implementation of the Professional Sales Center and the New Sales Lab in Keller Hall. Planning for this initiative began in June 2011 after Jerome Gafford, Assistant Professor of Marketing, attended the Sales Educators' Academy in Orlando, FL. Upon returning from this meeting, Mr. Gafford met with Dr. Kerry Gatlin and Dr. Dan Hallock and presented information about the opportunities available to the students and to the University with the implementation of this program. Since that time, the COB has established partnerships with local and regional businesses, national corporate organizations, and foundations to pull all the pieces into place. UNA is now one of only 60 universities in the country to offer a full degree program in professional selling as both a major and a minor. The Sales Lab is the integral piece of the plan that provides the platform for the students to apply the academics of professional selling to the practice of professional selling. The facility allows students to record role plays for review and critique by faculty members and is available to all departments on campus as well as businesses conducting interviews with our students. Additionally, students have the ability to record video resumes for submission to HR managers and recruiters around the country. Melissa Medlin and the Career Planning and Development department are working with the COB to facilitate communication with companies about the program. Implementation is on schedule for completion by the end of the 2012 fall semester with integration into the course schedules for the 2013 spring semester. The College of Business is excited about this new initiative and the opportunities it brings to the campus and we look forward to sharing this learning platform with all members of the UNA community.

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### Step one in the Academic Dishonesty Process!

