



UCC Action

The Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UCC) has approved a proposal to create a work group that will review any proposed changes to the course requirements for the general education curriculum as outlined on pages 57-58 of the undergraduate catalog. Upon receipt of proposals to the UCC, the work group will solicit input from the campus and report its findings to the UCC prior to action. This extra step ensures that the entire campus is aware of proposed changes to the general education curriculum. Heretofore, proposals made their way through the colleges directly to the UCC for action.

Geography Department Welcomes a Sabbatical Faculty Member

Dr. Mark Bockenbauer is spending much of his sabbatical semester here at UNA. Bockenbauer is a Professor of Geography at St. Norbert College in De Pere, Wisconsin (near Green Bay), where he teaches courses in world, regional, human, and urban geography, plus sections of environmental studies. He has extensive experience in K-12 professional development in geography, and is Coordinator of the Wisconsin Geographic Alliance. Through National Geographic's Network of Alliances for Geographic Education, he has collaborated with UNA's Drs. Bill Strong and Lisa Keys-Mathews for many years. Strong and Keys-Mathews offered their guidance and the UNA Geography Department is hosting Mark as he works to improve his skills in Geographic Information Science (GIScience), and to design integrative GIScience teaching activities for his courses. Bockenbauer has been a geographer-in-residence at the National Geographic Society, has co-authored several NGS books and atlases, and was president of the National Council for Geographic Education in 2007. He says he's thrilled to have the opportunity to live on the lovely UNA campus and to work with and learn from geography colleagues here. Mark is also happy to spend several months of the semester here in balmy Florence - far away from the "frozen tundra" of Green Bay, Wisconsin!

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Kylemore Abbey, Ireland. (Google Images)

Study Abroad—Ireland

The UNA Chamber Choir, in conjunction with UNA's Study Abroad program, will present a series of concerts in Ireland during spring break. Musical highlights include a recital in Kylemore Abbey, an exchange concert with the Galway Gospel Choir, providing liturgical music during Mass at St. Michael's Church Blackrock in Cork, singing the Maundy Thursday Eucharist at Christ Church Taney in Dundrum, and a lunchtime concert at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin. Other planned events include exploring the Cliffs of Moher, visiting Blarney Castle and a 4th-century cathedral in Cashel, and participating in an Irish dancing workshop in Cork.

New Faculty Introduction

Nikita Duke, Instructor in Nursing, has a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of North Alabama and a Master of Science degree in nursing from the University of South Alabama, specializing as a Family Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner. She is a member of the National Nursing Honor Society, Sigma Theta Tau, and was inducted as a member at both UNA and USA. Nikita worked locally at J.W. Sommer Rehab and Riverbend as a child and adolescent nurse. She is married and the mother of a three year-old daughter. Nikita is happy to be back at UNA and looks forward to a future teaching here on campus.

Congratulations!

Dr. Greg Gaston, Professor of Geography, has been selected for a 2013-14 Fulbright U.S. scholar grant to study in Tanzania. UNA is proud of Dr. Gaston and commends him for this honor. Good Job!

Drs. Cynthia Stenger and Jessica Stovall in the Department of Mathematics, and Drs. James Jerkins and Janet Jenkins in the Department of Computer Science and Information Systems were recently awarded the Mathematics and Science Partnership Grant of the Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative (AMSTI). This grant of \$188K will fund the first-year of a three-year collaboration effort with four local high schools to teach mathematical Reasoning through Computer Programming (CPR²). Great Work!

UNA chemistry and mathematics major, Alexander Edwards, created one of 60 research posters selected from among 800 by the National Council on Undergraduate Research. Dr. Jessica Stovall, Department of Mathematics, collaborated with him in this research. Congratulations to Alexander, and Dr. Stovall!

