

Academic Affairs Newsletter

by Office of the Provost
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University of North Alabama

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Excellent Undergrad Research Report—Biology Department

Undergraduate biology majors and faculty mentors presented the results of their collaborative research at the annual meeting of the Alabama Academy of Science at Samford University in Birmingham, March 20-22. Zeke Nichols' presentation was "Encystment and excystment of anhydrobiotic microturbellarians." Mr. Nichols won the award for best undergraduate paper presentation in the biological sciences section. Drs. Paul Davison and Glenn Marvin served as faculty mentors for his research. Vivian Lesende and Dr. Tina Hubler presented results of their research, "Using comparative genomics to study molecular evolution in New World and Old World monkeys." Dr. Lisa Ann Blankinship mentored several students who presented posters of their research at the meeting, "Identification of hand and cell phone associated bacteria and their antibiotic resistance profile," by Symphony Keeton, Lauren Bates, and Vansh Shah, and "An investigation of antibiotic resistant bacteria found on common surfaces in medical facilities," by Jesse Faulk and Alicia Darracott.

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NO'ALA

A recent issue of this magazine was entitled "Why Not?". Writers from across the Shoals offered suggestions, asking citizens to think differently about our communities. UNA was well represented. The following is a list of articles from UNA.

- ◆ "Why not be a citizen of the Shoals?" - Vince Brewton
- ◆ "Why not broaden our entertainment options?" - Jeremy Britten
- ◆ "Why not 'River Row'?" - Cynthia Burkhead
- ◆ "Why not be a friend to an international student?" - student, Mack Cornwell

Online at <http://www.noalapress.com/shoals/read-online/?i=marchapril-2013-s>



Follow-up on Dr. Greg Gaston's Fulbright

Dr. Greg Gaston, from the Department of Geography, was recently awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to spend a year at the University of Dar es Salaam Department of Geography in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, teaching physical geography, conducting research on various geomorphological processes in the region of East Africa, and implementing a hands-on GIS program under the Fulbright Scholar program. It is expected that the proposed activities for this leave will enhance his knowledge of landforms and landscapes in the East African rift valley for his teaching and research purposes. More importantly, this experience will enhance his capacity to contribute to the objectives of UNA — especially through UNA's study abroad offerings.

Research Day

This event was a big success! Thanks to all departments who participated. The various displays reflect the productivity of our faculty and the numerous student research displays and presentations reflect significant faculty/student research efforts. A special thanks to Kilby School for embracing the research component of its lab school mission. Also, thanks to Lisa Keys-Matthews for her leadership of the event.

National Library Week

We celebrate this occasion next week and Collier Library has several events planned. The library is one of the pillars of the academic community, but sometimes its importance gets overlooked. Say thank you to our librarians next week for all they do for our students and for the campus.

