

Academic Affairs Newsletter

by Office of the Provost
and Vice President for Academic Affairs



University of North Alabama

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Thanks

One of many things that make UNA a special place to work is the effort of colleagues who plan and offer educational programs that enrich the campus. The UNA Writer's Conference, the Tennessee Valley Historical Society Scholarship Competition, the Lindsey Film Festival, performance concerts by the Music and Theatre Department, art exhibits by the Art Department, and yesterday's DL Conference are but a small sample of the offerings in recent weeks made available to UNA and the Shoals community. To those UNA faculty and staff who work tirelessly, often behind the scenes, to make this a rich environment for learning, inside and outside the classroom, we say thank you.

More Thanks

Keith Lindley, Associate Professor of Foreign Languages, and Ian Loeppky, Associate Professor of Music, spent spring break conducting study abroad trips for UNA students. Dr. Lindley took a group to France and Dr. Loeppky took a choral group to Ireland. Thanks to these two faculty for devoting their break to the benefit of our students. From all accounts both trips were excellent. Shown below is an e-mail Dr. Loeppky received upon his return.

Dear Dr. Loeppky,

I want to take a moment to thank you and your chorale group for a wonderful performance at St. Patrick's in Dublin on Saturday afternoon. I happened upon it with what I thought was going to be just a quick stop to look at the cathedral; on my list of things I was trying to jam into the day. Encountering your group; with the richness of sound and diverse works you performed, was a most magnificent surprise. It proved to be the highlight of my day and a delightful contribution to the Easter weekend.

Please extend my thanks to your student group. They should be proud of their performance and know that it was much appreciated; by an unsuspecting American traveling through Ireland for the week and through Dublin for the day.

Keep up the good work with your students at UNA.

Ed Hollinger, Evanston, IL

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Black Faculty & Staff Association

The UNA BFSA held its 3rd Annual Black Scholars Program on March 18. Thirty-nine African-American UNA students received recognition for outstanding academic achievement, and five students received book scholarships for exceptional achievement. Thanks to BFSA for its support of our students.

Lincoln at the Library

From April 9 - May 5, the Florence Public Library is hosting a series of events on different aspects of the Lincoln presidency. Lisa Minor is one of the speakers and Terry Pace is one of the actors. For more information contact the Florence Library at 256-764-6564, ext. 28.

ACHE

At the ACHE meeting on March 15, the establishment of a master's degree program in elementary education on the Athens State University campus was approved. Thanks to Dean Donna Lefort, Department Chair Vicky Hulsey, and others who contributed to this successful outcome.

Announcement

Dr. Mark Lawrence assumed the position of Chair of the Department Accounting and Business Law effective April 1. Thanks to Dr. Sharon Campbell for her service as chair. Sharon is returning to full-time faculty status.

Distance Learning Office Featured in Newsletter

UNA and the Distance Learning Office have been featured as a "Customer Success Story" in the latest issue of the *Software Secure* newsletter, published on Tuesday, March 26. The Distance Learning Office was recognized for its adoption of "Remote Proctor NOW" to offer faculty an easier and more secure system to administer online exams. Prior to using RPNOW, truly distant online learners at UNA had two options for taking proctored tests: finding a suitable, approved proctor or going to a test center. These methods were time-consuming, costly, and inconvenient for students. The article mentioned that the DL office has reported increased student satisfaction and that faculty members have been pleased with the ease of giving online exams without sacrificing integrity. Congratulations to Bonnie Coats and our online faculty for launching this successful program.