

Congratulations! →

★ The Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE) recently invited proposals for competitive grants authorized by the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) legislation to eligible partners for projects to be implemented in the 2014-2015 academic year. The goal of the NCLB grant program is to increase student academic achievement through strategies for improving teacher and principal quality, and increasing the number of highly qualified teachers in the classroom, along with highly qualified principals and assistant principals in schools. Four faculty members from teacher preparation programs across the state of Alabama were invited to participate in evaluating the grant proposals October 16-17, 2014, in Montgomery, Alabama. **Dr. Katie Kinney**, Associate Professor of Elementary Education, was one of the four chosen. Well done, Dr. Kinney!

★ Dr. Kevin Jacques, Director of Residence Life, successfully defended his dissertation on October 14, 2014, receiving his Ph.D. degree in Education and Human Resources with a specialization in Higher Education Leadership (HEL) from Colorado State University. His dissertation title was, "Revisiting the Impact of a Residence Hall Staff Training Class on the Moral Judgment Development of College Students." Dr. Jacques holds a master of education degree (M.Ed.) from Clemson University in Counseling and Guidance Services with an Emphasis on Student Affairs (2000), and a bachelor of applied arts degree (B.A.A.) from Central Michigan University. He and his wife, Tammy, enjoy competing on the BBQ circuit. They have a one-year-old son, Brayden.

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EMBA Student Wins International Competition →

Mike Veigel is an online EMBA student working on mobile solutions for mortgage software. He has worked in this field for three years... "so when he decided to pursue an Executive MBA degree, he needed a combination of flexibility, affordably and quality from a respected institution. After extensive research, Mike found UNA to fit all three qualifications." (from source below) Read more about the competition Mike won, the *Capstone Challenge*, at <http://www.una.edu/business/Newsletter/July/mba-student-wins-international-competition.html>

IDCE Announces Student Research Expo →

The International Disaster Conference and Expo (IDCE) is pleased to announce another component to the show, the 2015 Student Research Expo, co-hosted by UNA and the Security and Emergency Management Program. This program is available to both undergraduate and graduate students who are currently conducting research in fields related to disaster and emergency management and/or crisis response. The IDCE will be held in New Orleans, February 12-14, 2015. [Click here](#) to find out more information.

Regalia →

As October 2014 winds down, the UNA Bookstore would like to encourage faculty and staff to begin submitting their regalia needs for the upcoming fall commencement. To ensure all requests are processed in a timely manner, please utilize the new online submission form which can be found [HERE](#). Should any questions arise during the process, please do not hesitate to contact Griffin Hite, Bookstore Manager.

New Faculty →

K. Brenna Wardell is an Associate Professor of English, working in film and literature. Originally from Alaska, she received her Ph.D. degree from the University of Oregon and worked for UO and for The University of Alabama before moving to UNA. Her work focuses on aesthetics, gender and sexuality, and issues of place/space in media and literary texts. Recent works include "Almost a Golden Glow around It: the Filmic Nostalgia of Walt Disney's *Pollyanna* (1960)" for the collection *Pollyanna at 100*; and "The Murderer in the Garden: Something Rotten in Alfred Hitchcock's *Frenzy* (1972)," which is under consideration by *The Hitchcock Annual*.

Daniel Stevens joined UNA as an Associate Professor of Music, Orchestra Conductor, Conductor of the Shoals Symphony at UNA, and Director of the Peery Center for Orchestral Studies. His role also includes the teaching of applied violin/viola. Previously, Daniel served on the faculty of Southwestern College (KS) as the Kilmer Chair for String Education. He is regularly invited to clinic/present at high school festivals and universities. As a professional violist/violinist, Daniel has performed with the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, Tulsa Symphony Orchestra and Canton Symphony Orchestra, and has held esteemed positions in the Aspen Music Festival Orchestra and the Colorado Springs Music Festival Orchestra. In March 2010, Daniel performed in a Carnegie Hall – Weill Recital Hall debut through Distinguished Concerts International, New York.

