

Academic Affairs Newsletter

by Office of the Provost
and Vice President for Academic Affairs



University of North Alabama

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Certificate Programs

The Curriculum Committee approved several new certificate programs at its meeting on January 21. Among them were Certified Child Life Specialist, Public History, and Child Welfare Practice. Certificate programs provide additional workforce opportunities, not only to UNA students, but also to residents of the area seeking particular skills. Minors can operate concurrently as certificate programs in most cases, so departments are encouraged to explore possibilities.

Commencement

In December, the four colleges were split into two ceremonies for Commencement. This change was a success, but there was a disparity in the size of the crowds for the two ceremonies. To address this concern the split will be revised starting in May. The College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Nursing will be paired in one ceremony and the College of Business and the College of Education and Human Sciences will be paired in the other.

Graduate Council

The Council gave approval to a new M.S. in Family Studies developed by the Department of Sociology and Family Studies. Final edits are being completed prior to submission to ACHE. Assuming approval, enrollment will begin in the fall of 2014. For more information contact Dr. Jerri Bullard at jbullard@una.edu. Thanks to the Department of Sociology and Family Studies for taking this initiative!

Research Day 2014

Student applications are now on the QEP website (www.una.edu/qep) for the April 9-10 Research Day. Students may apply to give an oral presentation or participate in the poster sessions. The departmental registration form is also found on the above website.

QEP Update

Members of the QEP Discovery Leadership Team are currently arranging meetings with departments to discuss the student learning outcomes assessment. Discovery Leadership Team members are: Alex Aguado (Political Science), Lisa Ann Blankinship (Biology), Lisa Clayton (Elementary Education), Kathy Crisler (Social Work), Lisa Kirch (Art), David Nickels (Computer Science and Information Systems), Eric O'Neal (Health, Physical Education, and Recreation), Jeremy Stafford (Management and Marketing), Bill Strong (Geography), Laura Williams (Nursing – Traditional), and Ryan Zayac (Psychology). Our goal is to contact every department chair and/or QEP representative in the next two weeks!

Lisa Keys-Mathews

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee News

The UCC gave approval to a request from the Department of Human Environmental Sciences to add a major/minor in Culinary, Nutrition, and Hospitality. Thanks to the Department of Human Environmental Sciences for taking this initiative on behalf of the students.

Quote

“Go deep and master something. Going wide spreads your focus too thin.” Response by COO to question, “When people ask you to be more creative, what’s your first piece of advice?” *Fast Company*, February 2014.

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