

Congratulations!

In August 2014, Dr. Clarissa Hall, Assistant Professor of Nursing, completed a Doctorate of Nursing Practice degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Dr. Hall has been the primary researcher in a project focusing on pediatric obesity in conjunction with Children's Hospital of Alabama in Birmingham. In March, she presented a poster featuring her research at the UAB Doctorate of Nursing Practice Spring Intensive Student Conference. Additionally, this summer Clarissa traveled with other nursing faculty and students to Guatemala as part of the University's Study Abroad Program.

Dr. Angela Hollingsworth, Assistant Professor of Nursing, joined the College of Nursing faculty in August 2014. She completed a Doctorate of Nursing Practice degree at the University of South Alabama in July 2014. Her doctoral focus was in stroke care in rural settings. She was successful in implementing a stroke protocol for the emergency department at an area hospital and completed an inpatient plan to be implemented later this year. Dr. Hollingsworth has submitted her dissertation for publication in the *Journal of Rural and Remote Health Research, Education, Practice and Policy* journal which is currently in peer review.

ABA Certificate Program

The Department of Psychology's new Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) certificate program has recently received approval from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc. ® (BACB) to offer four classes that meet the 180-hour coursework requirement necessary for individuals to be eligible to take the Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst (BCaBA) examination. Individuals completing these courses must also meet additional fieldwork requirements before taking the national certification exam. ABA is the only therapy approved by the United States Surgeon General's Office for the treatment of individuals with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder. Students interested in finding out more about the ABA certificate program and potential career opportunities in the field are encouraged to speak with Dr. Ryan Zayac, Assistant Professor of Psychology.

Education Students Experience Cherokee Culture

On September 11-14, six College of Education students traveled to Tahlequah, Oklahoma to experience Cherokee culture with the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokees (UKB), which has the largest percentage of full blooded Cherokees and Cherokee speakers. This was an excellent opportunity for the students to experience another culture without having to leave the United States. The students were able to tour historic Tahlequah, see schools that serve American Indian populations, and participate in a stomp dance. Lauren Franklin, secondary education student, stated that, "This trip has changed my entire outlook on Cherokee culture. I now have a deeper respect for everything they have gone through and are still currently experiencing. This type of living history is something that can go into my classroom and be taught to future generations." This life changing experience, which will translate into their future classrooms, was a unique opportunity provided by the COEHS. ~ Dr. Gary Padgett

New Faculty

Dr. Mohamad Elmasry is an Assistant Professor of Communications. In 2009, he received his Ph.D. degree in mass communication from the University of Iowa, where he was a Presidential Fellow. His Ph.D. dissertation examined constraints on news production in Egypt. Dr. Elmasry held an assistant professorship at Qatar University from 2009 – 2011, and at the American University in Cairo from 2011 – 2014. His research on Arab press systems and the sociology of news has appeared in reputable refereed publications, including the *International Communication Gazette*, the *International Journal of Communication*, the *Journal of Middle East Media*, the *Journal of Arab and Muslim Media Research*, and the *Global Media Journal*. Dr. Elmasry is also a political and media analyst appearing regularly on international television news networks, including CNN, The BBC, Al-Jazeera English, and Al-Jazeera America.

Dr. Ansley Quiros, Assistant Professor of History and a native of Atlanta, Georgia, attended Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina, for undergraduate degrees, and Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, for a Ph.D. degree. Under the direction of Dr. Gary Gerstle, her dissertation, "God's On Our Side, Today: Lived Theology in the Civil Rights Movement in Americus, GA.," explored the theological elements present in the conflict over civil rights in the South. Her research interests include History of the Civil Rights Movement, American Religious History, African Americans' History and History of the South. Ansley is happy to be a part of the UNA family and equally happy to remain in the South since she loves college football, biscuits, and soul music.

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