

Congratulations!

★ Dr. Daniel Stevens, Associate Professor of Music and Conductor of the Shoals Symphony at UNA, was invited to be a guest conductor for the Western Kansas Orchestra Festival on November 21-22. Over 500 high school and middle school strings students from Hays, Salina, Great Bend, Hutchinson, Dodge City, Garden City, and Beloit auditioned for acceptance into four orchestras. Dr. Stevens conducted one of two upper-level orchestras, hosted at Salina South High School in Salina, Kansas. Students in the orchestra rehearsed with Dr. Stevens for ten hours before performing for the public on November 22.

★ On November 1, three computer science students participated in the International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC). Dr. James Jerkins, Assistant Professor of Computer Science, traveled with the UNA team and served as coach for the "MythicBit" squad of Morgan Burcham, Kyle Khurzal, and Ben Etheredge. The ICPC is held each year by the Association of Computing Machinery (ACM), the professional organization for computer scientists, and sponsored by IBM. UNA's MythicBit team competed in the Mid-Central regional contest held at Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky and placed in the site's top ten.

★ The University of North Alabama Pride of Dixie (POD) Marching Band, under the direction of Dr. Lloyd Jones and assistant Dr. Tracy Wiggins, performed as an exhibition band at the prestigious Bands of America Grand National Championships at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, Indiana, on November 14. The event was the culminating competition for high school bands and included nearly 100 high school marching bands competing for the national championship. The 238-member UNA POD was the featured collegiate exhibition band, performing for over 20,000 students, parents, school officials, corporate sponsors, and other spectators. This marked the UNA POD's fourth appearance at a Bands of America event. The UNA Band has also appeared at other nationally sanctioned band competitions sponsored by the USBands organization.

★ Dr. Ernestine B. Davis attended the Southern Regional Education Board (S.R.E.B.) Board Meeting and Conference, November 8-11, in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Davis is a member of the S.R.E.B. Planning Committee and Workforce Diversity Committee. She also moderated the evening session: "Disruptive Educational Initiative to Foster Flourishing Within the Context of a Health Promotion Course for Masters Prepared Nurse Practitioners."

★ Dr. Ernestine B. Davis received a renewal of the North Alabama Council of Local Government (NACOLG) Grant, 2014-2015, in the amount of \$12,000.00. The NACOLG Grant is provided to allow nursing students to render preventive services to Senior Centers in Colbert and Lauderdale Counties. The total amount of the grant received is now \$153,600.00.

★ Dr. Whitney O'Neal, UNA Adjunct Instructor in Music and UNA flute teacher, performed recitals this semester at MTSU and the University of West Georgia, as well as at Lincoln Memorial University (TN) with her flute, harp, and soprano trio, the Druid City Ensemble, where they gave a master class and performed a recital at the Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum.

New Faculty

Dr. Miranda Parries, Assistant Professor of Counselor Education, received her bachelor's degree in English from Cleveland State University in 2000; she received a master's degree in English from Old Dominion University (ODU) in 2003 before pursuing her longstanding interest in counseling. She earned the M.S.Ed. degree in counseling (2010) while working as a full-time instructor in ODU's English Department. She also served as Director of Student Affairs and Career Services at the Virginia Beach branch of The Art Institute. She continued her scholarly pursuit to obtain the Ph.D. degree in Counselor Education which she completed at ODU in August 2014. Her research interests include paraprofessional training, microaggressions in supervision and interprofessional collaboration. In her spare time she enjoys reading, travel, spending time with family, exercise and is an avid movie-goer.

Dr. Katerina Hybnerova received her Ph.D. in Business – Marketing from the University of Mississippi in 2014. Katie is an Assistant Professor of Marketing in the College of Business, and the Assistant Director of the Center for Professional Selling at UNA. She conducts research in the areas of selling and sales management, focusing on team selling and team presentation management. Dr. Hybnerova's research has been published in the Journal of European Ethics. She is a frequent speaker at Regional and National Marketing Conferences.

Dr. Thomas Calhoun,
Interim Vice President for
Academic Affairs & Provost
tcalhoun@una.edu

Ms. Renee' P. Vandiver,
Assistant to the Vice President
rpvandiver@una.edu

Ms. Phyllis Underwood
Administrative Assistant
punderwood@una.edu

256-765-4258

