

Academic Affairs Newsletter

by Office of the Provost
and Vice President for Academic Affairs



University of North Alabama

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ACHE Action

At its meeting on March 21, ACHE approved dissolution of our agreement with Jacksonville State University where 12 hours of courses in the Master of Science in Nursing degree at UNA were taught by JSU. Starting in fall 2014, the 12 hours will be taught by UNA. Thanks to the College of Nursing for taking this initiative.

Library Literacy Event

The Florence Public Library will host a series of events throughout the month of April for the 75th anniversary of *The Grapes of Wrath*, by John Steinbeck. Dr. Cynthia Burkhead, Dr. Lynne Rieff, and several UNA students will do presentations. For a copy of the schedule [click here](#). Thanks to UNA faculty and students for their engagement to advance education and cultural literacy in the Shoals.

Special Invitation

David Black, Director of the SBDC, will attend a celebration of the 25th anniversary of the presidency of President H. W. Bush on April 4-6 at Texas A&M University. David was a member of President Bush's staff from 1987 to 1991. Dr. Chris Maynard will join him, at David's invitation, since he wrote a definitive book on President Bush's leadership in foreign policy: *Out of the Shadow: George H. W. Bush and the End of the Cold War* (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2008). Congratulations to David and Chris!

3 Minute Thesis Competition



The College of Arts and Sciences held its 3 Minute Thesis competition on March 20. Thanks to the faculty and students for their effort. To see a copy of the program [click here](#).

Research Day 2014

Students should be encouraged to attend any or all of the Research Day events scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on April 9-10 and, in particular, the Wednesday and Thursday presentations, poster displays, and Department Showcase. Students will be asked to swipe their Mane Cards, and gifts will be given away in random drawings the week following the events. Signup sheets can be made available beside the Mane Card Scanner if faculty would like students to sign in when attending. Faculty interested in this option should contact Lisa Keys-Mathews. Faculty should feel free to bring entire classes or give an assignment. Here are a few ideas for assignments:

- Attend three presentations and write a paragraph overview
- Interview a student research or faculty member regarding their research
- Summarize the research from three posters
- Find a research project within (or outside) your major that you are interested in and summarize it

~Dr. Lisa Keys-Mathews

Congratulations

At the annual Shoals Chamber of Commerce banquet on March 20, President Cale was named "Man of the Year" for the Shoals. The Chamber cited his leadership and contribution to the region. As President Cale moves toward retirement, this award is a fitting tribute to his legacy of service to the Shoals area. Good Job!

Five UNA undergraduate students, listed below, will present their research at the annual National Council for Undergraduate Research Conference to be held April 3-4 at the University of Kentucky. The acceptance rate to this national conference is 15% with 600 of 4,000 applicants accepted. Congratulations to these students and faculty mentors. UNA's undergraduate research opportunities continue to grow and enhance the undergraduate experience at UNA. ~Dr. Lisa Keys-Mathews

Matt Allen - *Environmental Hazards: The Colorado Floods of 2013.* Advisor - Dr. Lisa Keys-Mathews

Elly Couch - *Model Rocket Launch and Simulation as a Pedagogical Tool.* Advisors - Dr. James Jerkins and Dr. Cynthia Stenger
and Kayla Dailey

Autumn McMunn - *Determining the Effectiveness of Peer-Led Supplemental Instruction from Undergraduate Mathematics Fellows.* Advisor - Dr. Ashley Johnson

Ricky Moore - *Population Estimation; a Bayesian Approach.* Advisor - Dr. Cynthia Stenger

Congratulations to Nanhee Kim, Assistant Professor of Art, who was awarded a \$10,000 National Endowment for the Arts Challenge America Fast-Track Grant to support Art and Technology, an exhibition and related outreach activities. The Challenge America Fast-Track category offers \$10,000 matching grants to support projects that extend beyond the reach of the arts to underserved populations whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability. ~Tanja F. Blackstone, PhD

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