

## Faculty Performances

Two UNA music faculty members made session presentations at the 2015 Alabama Music Educators Association In-Service Conference on January 22-23 in Montgomery. Dr. Daniel Stevens, Director of the Peery Center for Orchestral Studies, presented a session titled *String Intonation through Ghost Shifting*, and Dr. Ian Loeppky, presented a session titled *Ask Not for Whom the Bells Toll*, regarding effective rehearsal practice within the choral idiom. Other UNA music faculty attending the conference and participating in various capacities were Dr. Meghan Merciers, Dr. Lloyd Jones, Dr. Edd Jones, Dr. Tracy Wiggins, Mr. Sam Merciers and Dr. David McCullough. One highlight of the conference was the annual Music Alumni Reception hosted by Carol Lyles, UNA Director of Alumni Relations. The Thursday evening event had an attendance of over 40 music alums and was attended by former faculty and alum Mr. Joe Groom, Dr. Mitzi Groom, and Dr. Jimmy Simpson, former Chair of the Music Department.

On December 2, music faculty Alan Flowers, piano, and Daniel Stevens, viola, joined music performance major Ashlyn Riley, harpist, in presenting a program for the Florence Study Club. Club members enjoyed seeing the harp up close and learning about the instrument and how it is played. The three performed several seasonal works in various combinations.

## Honors Program

In the 2014-2015 school year, the UNA Honors Program welcomed its largest ever first year (i.e., freshman) class. This outstanding group hails from nine states across the U.S. and after one semester reported a cumulative 3.68 GPA. First year honors students currently represent all four academic colleges and 34 distinct majors or degree options out of the University's course offerings. Way to go, honors first years!

## Student Achievement

UNA undergraduate math majors John Carr and Daniel Branscomb were selected to talk at a research conference on undergraduate mathematics at Lee University on Saturday, February 7, 2015. Mr. Carr's talk, entitled "Groups, Quasigroups, and the Sudoku Property," includes his own original findings in non-associative structures. He is mentored by Dr. Mark Greer of the Mathematics Department. Mr. Branscomb's talk, entitled "Metric Distances Between Cayley Tables", includes his original findings in the mathematical field of Combinatorics. He is mentored by Dr. Jesse Prince-Lubawy of the Mathematics Department. We congratulate these students on their success.

## New Assessment Process in COEHS

Developed by Stanford University faculty at the Stanford Center for Assessment, Learning, and Equity (SCALE), edTPA is a pre-service assessment process designed by educators to answer the question: "Is a new teacher ready for the job?," edTPA includes a review of a teacher candidate's authentic teaching materials as the culmination of a process that documents and demonstrates each candidate's ability to effectively teach his/her subject matter to all students. Drs. Lisa Clayton, Katie Kinney, and Lamont Maddox, faculty members in the COEHS, and Christy Waters, Director of Field and Clinical Experiences, traveled to the University of California at Los Angeles on October 24-25, 2014, to study edTPA. The COEHS will be exploring using edTPA as a tool for discussing the impact of candidates' teaching performance on P-12 student learning and determining ways to improve teaching as well as using edTPA as a tool for analyzing evidence of candidate performance to guide decision-making about program revision.

## New Faculty

Stephane Singleton Bolton, a Kilby Laboratory School first grade teacher, graduated from the University of North Alabama in 2004. She graduated with a B. S. degree in elementary education and a minor in Spanish, also earning the Keller Key to signify academic excellence. Stephane returned to UNA to complete a master's degree in elementary education in 2008 and an instructional leadership certification in 2014. Stephane began her career in Florence City Schools in 2004 as a primary grade teacher for eight years and an instruction coach for two years. She was named the Alabama District VII Elementary Teacher of the Year in 2008.

Douglas Eugene Andrews, Associate Professor in the Department of Chemistry and Industrial Hygiene, is a graduate of Muscle Shoals High School, the University of North Alabama with a B.S. in Secondary Education in 1971, and The University of Mississippi with a M.C.S. (Combined Science) in 1976. After teaching chemistry at Austin High School for 20 years, Doug went to work for Amoco Chemical Company due to his expertise in instrumentation and was given charge of all instrumentation in the Laboratory including 135 pieces of equipment. As instruments became computer-controlled, he was given the responsibility for the Laboratory Instrument Management System. He retired from British Petroleum in July of 2008 and began teaching that year.

**Dr. Thomas Calhoun,**  
Vice President for  
Academic Affairs & Provost  
Phone: 256.765.4258  
[tcalhoun@una.edu](mailto:tcalhoun@una.edu)

**Ms. Renee' P. Vandiver,**  
Assistant to the Vice President  
Phone: 256.765.4258  
[rpvandiver@una.edu](mailto:rpvandiver@una.edu)

**Ms. Phyllis Underwood**  
Administrative Assistant  
Phone: 256.765.5950  
[punderwood@una.edu](mailto:punderwood@una.edu)

