

Academic Affairs Newsletter

by Office of the Provost
and Vice President for Academic Affairs



University of North Alabama

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SACSCOC Substantive Change Visit

UNA hosted a SACSCOC Committee on September 23-25 to review a request to offer our MBA at Athens State University. The exit interview was conducted the morning of September 25. The visiting committee chair described our documents as the "perfect report." We are in "full compliance with all standards." Special thanks to Greg Carnes, Guihua Li, Paulette Alexander, Celia Reynolds, and Phyllis Underwood for helping achieve such a positive outcome. Also, thanks to all the COB faculty and staff who support our MBA program.

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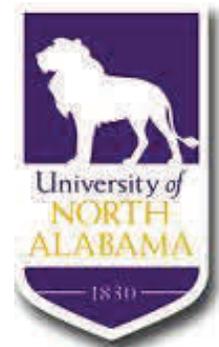
Retention

The Office of Institutional Research, Planning, and Assessment reports that our freshman to sophomore retention rate increased from 68.7% to 70.7%. This is a very positive trend. Thanks to all members of the UNA community for their efforts on behalf of retention.

New Faculty Introduction

Dr. Alejandra Alvarado-Brizuela is an Assistant Professor of Spanish in the Department of Foreign Languages. Her journey in the United States began 11 years ago as an exchange student at Cornell College, in Mount Vernon, Iowa. She came to the U.S. as an ESL/EFL teacher in Costa Rica to learn the culture and to practice the language. From Iowa, the winds took her to Terre Haute, Indiana, where she obtained a master's degree in Linguistics and a Ph. D. degree in Language Education from Indiana State University.

Dr. Alvarado-Brizuela is excited to join a vibrant academic community here at UNA where she has found people are friendly and helpful; faculty and staff do an exceptional job to support students; and all of this happens in an engaging campus in a beautiful town! She says she couldn't ask for more!



Dual Degree Engineering Partnership

On September 18, a group from the College of Engineering at the University of Alabama met with faculty and staff at UNA to finalize details for this partnership between the two schools. Thanks to James Jerkins and Cynthia Stenger for their leadership of this effort on behalf of our students who are interested in engineering.

Library Archives

Here is another Collier Library [article](#) for you to enjoy. Note the date of the oldest book in library.

Change in Age Demographic for University Faculty

A recent issue of [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#) reported changes in the percentage of faculty age 60 and older at selected colleges from 1990—2010. Results show a definite trend. To see the article and bar graph, click [here](#).

THE BORN LOSER

