

Quality Enhancement News

As a part of UNA's expansion of undergraduate research through the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) *Building Success through Discovery*, the University of North Alabama has become an enhanced institutional member of the **Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR)**. This membership includes unlimited memberships for any interested faculty, staff, or students. This is an open invitation to campus faculty, staff, and administrators. For instructions on how to join CUR [download the pdf](#). ~ Lisa Keys-Mathews

In support of professional development through the QEP, Dr. Linda Nilson (Director, Clemson University's Office of Teaching Effectiveness and Innovation) will provide several professional development opportunities October 22-24 in the Guillot University Center. The topics will be in two- to three-hour increments so that participants can attend as their schedules permit. The final schedule will be announced within two weeks. The topics include, but will not be limited to:



- * Teaching and assessing critical thinking
- * Teaching millennial students
- * Engaging students in out-of-class learning
- * Engaging students in interactive lecturing
- * Teaching students how to read academic material
- * Top 10 Best and Top 10 Worst teaching practices

Dr. Thomas Calhoun,
Interim Vice President for
Academic Affairs & Provost
Phone: 256.765.4258
tcalhoun@una.edu

Ms. Renee' P. Vandiver,
Assistant to the Vice President
Phone: 256.765.4258
rpvandiver@una.edu

Ms. Phyllis Underwood
Administrative Assistant
Phone: 256.765.5950
punderwood@una.edu



New M.S. in Family Studies

The Department of Sociology and Family Studies is pleased to announce that the **Master of Science degree in Family Studies** was approved by the Alabama Commission on Higher Education on Friday, June 13, 2014. The **ONLINE** program requires 33 hours of graduate work in the field and is designed to focus on the family as a social unit in its developmental, dynamic, comparative, and structural aspects, and the significance of the family as a system that impacts individuals and society. Students seeking additional information should contact Dr. Amber Paulk, Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Sociology and Family Studies, at 256.765.4855 or apaulk@una.edu.

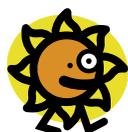
Congratulations!

Congratulations to Dr. Paul Davison, Professor of Biology, who received a \$20K grant from the USDA Forest Service. The grant supports collection of rare bryophytes found in the Southern Appalachian region and development of an instructional field guide. The University of North Alabama and the U.S. Forest Service have a three-year cooperative agreement to produce an identification guide to 30 rare species of mosses and liverworts. The aim of the guide is to provide botanists working in the southern Appalachians the necessary information to both locate and identify these extremely small plants that are of conservation concern.

New Faculty

Dr. Jason P. Imbrogno, Assistant Professor of Economics, completed his undergraduate degree in Engineering and Economics at Johns Hopkins University in 2007. He continued his studies at Carnegie Mellon University receiving a Ph.D. degree in economics in 2014. His research interests are in applied microeconomics and econometrics, specifically the evaluation of education policy changes at classroom, school, district, and state levels. He has focused on the effectiveness of magnet programs as a school choice mechanism in urban districts and the effectiveness of a software-based math curriculum in algebra classrooms. Outside of work at UNA, Jason is interested in politics and sports, umpiring baseball games throughout the spring and summer as high as the D-II level.

Dr. Jason Watson, Assistant Professor of Computer Information Systems, has an undergraduate degree in Computer Science, an M.S. degree in Information Technology and received his Ph.D. degree in Computing and Information Systems, all from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Jason has over 15 years work experience with enterprise systems in the information technology industry. Currently, Jason conducts research in the Human Computer Interaction area with a focus in usable privacy and security. His previous research included developing novel prototype computer interfaces that used enhanced visual feedback and community feedback to improve complex default settings. Jason's teaching interests include a broad range of Computer Science and Computer Information System courses.



Hang in there!!

