Update on HPER Scholarship Efforts from Dr. Eric O’Neal

The HPER Department has been keeping its undergraduate and graduate students busy conducting research in the Human Performance Laboratory. To help coordinate research efforts, the department has created the Human Performance Research Group (HPRG). Two of Dr. Eric O’Neal’s students were nominated as finalists for the prestigious Southeastern American College of Sports Medicine’s research awards. A dozen HPER students have authored or co-authored international level journal articles and presentations. Dr. O’Neal’s primary research interest involves the influence of hydration on endurance performance, and Dr. Matt Green has continued to expand his lines of research concerning caffeine and perceptual measures during various modes of physical activity.

Students in the HPRG have volunteered 100’s of hours per year collecting and analyzing data and preparing manuscripts and presentations. These projects have included wildland firefighter candidates, dozens of local endurance athletes, and multiple UNA athletic team members as participants. Drs. Green and O’Neal are excited about chairing thesis projects this semester pertaining to golf, body dissatisfaction, and resistance training. Multiple campus outlets have helped the HPRG succeed. As a Registered Student Organization, the HPRG has received monetary support from the Office of Student Engagement allowing more than 30 students to travel to conferences to present their work. HPRG members have also been able to purchase equipment to complete their research projects with funds from two URP grants awarded through the Office of Sponsored Programs. Thanks to the campus for your support of these efforts!

Criminal Justice Update

Interim Chair Wayne Bergeron is serving on the program committee for the 2013 International Conference on Forensic Science and Criminalistics Research (FSCR). He is looking for faculty colleagues who might have an interest in research on the topic of Forensic Investigation Considerations in Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents. If interested contact Mr. Bergeron at wpbergeron@una.edu.

New Faculty Introduction

Jonathan Cain, native of Florence, is an Instructor in the Department of Art teaching ceramics, sculpture, and art appreciation. He received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in graphic design from the University of North Alabama in 1993 and a Master of Fine Arts degree in sculpture from the University of Mississippi in 1999. Jonathan also pursued a Master of Arts degree at the University of Mississippi concentrating on modern women sculptors and their use of symbolism in autobiographical works.

From 2003 to 2006, Jonathan was the Curator of Exhibitions and Education at the Tennessee Valley Museum of Art in Tuscumbia, AL. He has exhibited in collegiate and local exhibitions and has taught various courses in studio art and art history at Northwest Shoals Community College and UNA since 2000.

North Alabama Historical Review

The Department of History and Political Science recently released the 2012 edition of this journal. It can be accessed, along with the 2011 edition, at http://www.una.edu/history/history-graduate-student-association.html. The journal focuses on the scholarship efforts of the department’s graduate students. If you enjoy history, (and even if you don’t, but enjoy being reminded what good students we have) read away. Good Job!