

Academic Affairs Newsletter

by Office of the Provost
and Vice President for Academic Affairs



University of North Alabama

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Where Did They Go: An analysis of why admitted students did not enroll in UNA

The Office of Institutional Research conducted this study to determine possible causes for a reduced yield rate for the freshman class in the fall of 2013. To read the study follow this [link](#).

Kenya Scholars and Studies Association (KESSA)

The 2014 annual conference of the Kenya Scholars and Studies Association (KESSA) is coming to the UNA Campus on September 5-6, 2014. KESSA is a Ohio-based professional organization that UNA Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Geography Dr. Francis Koti and three others founded in 2007 for the purpose of advancing scholarly, scientific, and research work on the Republic of Kenya. The theme of this year's conference is "Environment & Security: Perspectives on Kenya's Resources." This year's conference will provide a forum to explore the connections between environment and security issues, their underlying scientific and socio-economic threads, and the policy and governance structures needed to address the security risks posed by a rapidly changing environment. UNA faculty, staff and students are encouraged to submit abstracts to participate in the conference. The abstract submission deadline is **June 13, 2014**. Further information on the conference and abstract submission guidelines can be found in the conference page on the KESSA website at: http://kessa.org/2014_conference or you can contact Dr. Koti at: ftkoti@una.edu. Special thanks to President Cale for inviting KESSA to the UNA Campus. ~ Dr. Francis Koti

Good Job!

Congratulations to Dr. Tom Coates, Chair and Professor in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. Dr. Coates received the Southern District American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance "Recreation Professional of the Year" award for 2013-2014 at the SDAAPERD Conference in Lexington, Kentucky on Saturday, February 22, 2014. Also, congratulations to Dr. Mike Hall, Professor of Health, Physical Education and Recreation for receiving the Southern District American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance "Acknowledgement Award" for his continued service to the Alabama State Association for AAHPERD.

New Faculty Member

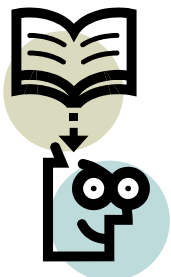
Master Sergeant (MSG) Labrosse currently serves as the Senior Military Instructor at the University of North Alabama, Army ROTC – Lion Battalion in Florence, Alabama. As the Senior Military Instructor, MSG Labrosse is responsible for recruiting, training, developing and commissioning of our Nation's future Army officers. MSG Labrosse started his Army career in 1991 as a Soldier in the Active Duty Army as an Infantryman. MSG Labrosse has since held every leadership position available to him in the United States Army. He has graduated from the U.S. Army's following Leadership Schools: the Warrior Leaders Course, the Advanced Leaders Course, the Seniors Leaders Course (Commandants List) and the First Sergeants Course (Commandants List). MSG Labrosse has also completed the Equal Opportunity Leaders Course. Joseph is happily married to the former Vicki Lynn Welsh.

More Lexophiles

To write with a broken pencil is pointless.

A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.

He had a photographic memory which was never developed.



Overhaul of Federal Financial Aid

The Department of Education plans to tie awards of student financial aid to institutional performance factors by 2018. Shown below are the main elements of the plan.

President Obama's Higher Education Ratings Plan IN A NUTSHELL

By the 2015 academic year, the U.S. Department of Education would develop a ratings system to evaluate higher education institutions according to "value," using factors such as:

- Tuition costs and the availability of scholarships
- Access, as measured by, for example, the percentage of students who receive Pell Grants
- Graduation rates
- Students' post-graduation earnings
- Student debt levels
- Institutions will be ranked in "peer groups," which are yet to be defined.

The system will initially rely on data from Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). IPEDS graduation-rate data include only first-time, full-time students, and do not include transfer students.

To develop the system, the Department of Education would plan public hearings to seek input from students, parents, college and university presidents, and others.

The Obama administration's goal is to "transform the way federal aid is awarded," tying the ratings system to federal aid by 2018. Doing so would require approval from Congress. Under such a plan, students who choose to attend colleges and universities rated by the new system as "high-performing" could receive more financial aid, including larger Pell Grants and better student loan rates.

The Presidency, Winter 2014, page 23.

