

## Professional Achievement

Dr. Andrea Hunt, Assistant Professor of Sociology, was appointed to a two-year national task force on the sociology major for the American Sociological Association. Dr. Hunt will serve the subcommittee on online education and will represent four-year institutions offering a degree in sociology.

Dr. J. Douglas Barrett, David Black, Dr. Keith D. Malone, and the late Dr. Jim F. Couch contributed a chapter to *Improving Lives in Alabama: A Vision for Economic Freedom and Prosperity*, a new study edited by Daniel Sutter (<http://business.troy.edu/JohnsonCenter/improving-lives-in-alabama.aspx>). In the chapter, Taxing Alabama: How the State Generates Revenue and the Impact on Residents, the authors consider effects of the current state tax structure, as well as delineate possible alternative tax structures. The authors also investigate potential effects of changes in the state tax system.

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## University Awards Gala

Dr. Jerome Gafford served as the Master of Ceremonies at the University Awards Gala on April 26, 2015. Faculty awards presented included: Dr. Gary Padgett - Faculty Diversity; Mrs. Julie Taylor - Outstanding Service; and Dr. Lisa Clayton - Eleanor Gaunder Phi Kappa Phi Excellence in Teaching. The Academic Affairs Faculty Award winners were: Dr. Carolyn Barske - Outstanding Advising; Dr. Eric O'Neal - Dr. Jim F. Couch Outstanding Scholarship/Research; Dr. Kerry Gatlin - Outstanding Service; and Dr. Matthew Fitzsimmons - Dr. Lawrence J. Nelson Outstanding Teaching. Congratulations and thank you for your excellent service at UNA!



## Student Achievements

The 2nd Annual Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Research Symposium at the University of North Alabama was hosted by the Department of Sociology and Family Studies on Monday, April 6, 2015, in conjunction with Research Day. Nineteen student presenters participated in the roundtable discussions sharing research with their peers. Dr. Andrea Hunt was the organizer and received a Sociological Research Grant from Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honor Society to support this event.

Chellie Hogan, an undergraduate economics major and a COB Ambassador, was recently accepted into two competitive programs this summer: Foundation for Economic Education—Communicating Capitalism: exploring the moral justifications for capitalism at the Clemson Institute for the Study of Capitalism on the campus of Clemson University in Clemson, South Carolina, May 21-24, 2015; and The Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University—Liberty and Society: Beyond the Foundations of Freedom, thinking critically about timeless questions related to the relationship between liberty and society, at Bryn Mawr College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 27-July 3, 2015. Scholarships for the cost of lodging, meals, books, materials, and lectures were awarded.

## University Hosts Math Contest

The UNA Mathematics Department hosted the Alabama Statewide Mathematics Contest on Saturday, April 11, 2015. Over 1,000 students from 38 schools across Alabama competed in the first round of the State Contest and 116 of these students qualified to compete in the final round at UNA. Students traveled to UNA from as far away as Mobile, Montgomery, and Dothan High Schools. In D1, the first place team was Vestavia Hills; in D2, first place went to Saint James School; and in D3, the winner was Good Hope High School. The State Contest Executive Director, Dr. Cynthia Stenger, reported that this year's contest was highly successful thanks to the dedicated leadership of Dr. Ashley Johnson and Dr. Miranda Bowie. Over a dozen hardworking undergraduate Kappa Mu Epsilon members joined with math and chemistry faculty to provide supervision and entertainment at this year's contest.