



College of Arts and Sciences



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Volume 4, Issue 2

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A word from our Dean



We Appreciate Our Military Students

by Dr. Carmen Burkhalter, Dean

It seems fitting that as we move into the Holiday Season, we appreciate our military. Currently, UNA has over 300 veterans, military dependents, active-duty, National Guard, and Reserve members attending as undergraduate or graduate students. Nationally, it is estimated that by the year 2020, over 1.2 million veterans will be eligible to use their GI Bill to further their education. What does this mean for UNA? Before delving into the realities of military and veterans in college, let's acknowledge the geographical disproportion of military service. The "south" makes up 34% of the US population but veterans from Southern states make up 44% of the recruits. Interpretation suggests that universities in the south, such as UNA, have an imperative to create a positive military/veteran climate. We must do everything we can to enhance the cultural transition back home. This means universities supporting advisors who are knowledgeable about tuition assistance, counseling, student health, career counseling, disability services, retention efforts just to name a few.

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Congratulations Graduates!



COAS News



Academic Updates

By Dr. Sara Lynn Baird, Associate Dean

The College of Arts and Sciences faculty have been actively engaged in curricular innovations, online course development, graduate degrees, unique collaborations, international connections, and experiential learning, which all offer exciting opportunities for our current and future students.

This fall COAS welcomed the faculty in the culinary, fashion merchandising, hospitality management, and interior design areas who have been working diligently to develop new curricula which will result in full majors in each area. Fall 2018 will witness the first graduates in the Electro-Mechanical Engineering Technology curriculum, and the department has recently recorded 100% employment prior to graduation for the first

graduates. The newly available option in Chemical-Engineering is being led by new faculty member Dr. Jonathan Sullivan. The major in Geographic Information Services (GIS) major has been granted STEM designation, and a restructured curriculum in this major incorporates current trends in the academy and industry.

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Student and Faculty Spotlight

Student Spotlights:



Chloe Brownell

Chloe Brownell will graduate in May 2019 with a Bachelor's degree in Sociology with minors in Family Studies and Psychology.

During her time as a UNA student, she has been involved with Housing and Residence

Faculty Spotlight:



Dr. Patricia F. Sanders, Associate Professor

Dr. Sanders is an Associate Professor of Communications, at the University of North Alabama where she teaches in the areas of Radio-Television-Interactive

Life as a RA, been a member of the Lagrange Society, and served as a SGA Chief Justice and a SGA Senator.

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Maggie Freeman

Maggie Freeman is a Theatre major with a Concentration in Acting.

As a UNA student, she has been involved in many clubs and organizations such as: member of the Lagrange Society, 2019 Panhellenic President, Student Union of Performing Artists President, American Sign Language Club, Phi Mu, and a Miss UNA Contestant.

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Media and Journalism. She has worked as a journalist primarily in the commercial and public sectors of radio broadcasting, as a public speaker, and as a professional voice-over artist for over 30 years.

Dr. Sanders has won numerous awards for her journalistic work and received numerous recognitions on campus and in the community for her work inside and outside the classroom including the Outstanding Service Award by the UNA Student Government Association, a Faculty Alumni Award at UNA, and Advisor of the Year from the National Broadcasting Society. Most recently, she was selected in an inaugural program as an Administrative Fellow with the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Office. In relation to and outside her faculty role at UNA, Dr. Sanders enjoys interacting with and providing mentorship to students and leading them on national and international learning experiences.

In addition, the Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence presented Dr. Sanders with a State Media Award for coverage of services for victims of domestic violence. She was also part of a team that produced pieces that won Regional Edward R. Murrow Awards for various



Seth Jacobs

Seth Jacobs is a dual major studying both German and French Language and Literature in hopes of graduating in 2020.

As a UNA student, he has founded the German Club and is the current President, worked as the Recruitment Chair for Delta Chi this semester, and will serve as the fraternity's Vice President next year. Seth is also a College of Arts and Sciences Ambassador and works as a RA for Housing and Residence Life.

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radio stories for Alabama Public Radio. She has won numerous Alabama Associated Press Awards.

Dr. Sanders has served on numerous campus committees and community boards and is a graduate of Leadership Alabama, an elite group from across the state who are chosen to assist in moving it forward. She is a past board member for the Society for Professional Journalists National Education Committee and is a member of the Broadcast Education Association where she makes scholarly presentations each spring. She also serves on the Multicultural and Religion and Media Boards. She holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the University of North Alabama and a Ph.D. in Communication from Regent University. She has been with the University of North Alabama since 1999.

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Alumni Spotlight



Alumni Spotlight:

Dustin and Natalie McCown

Dustin and Natalie McCown are married and graduated from UNA with Political Science degrees. Dustin graduated from UNA in 2005. He majored in Political Science. After graduating from UNA, he attended law school. Dustin has been a practicing attorney in Florence since 2009. Natalie graduated in 2013 with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science and Legal Studies. She obtained her Juris Doctorate from Samford University's Cumberland School of Law in May 2016 and then successfully passed Alabama's Bar examination in July 2016. Natalie and Dustin now share a law practice in Florence, Alabama.

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alumni

What have you been up to? Let us know!

Click [Here](#) and fill in our alumni update form with your up-to-date information.

THE COLLEGE OF
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FACULTY THROUGH THE YEARS

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