



FACULTY
RESEARCH
DAY

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

April 8, 2015
Bryant Conference Center
The University of Alabama



The University of Alabama
Faculty Research Day
President's Faculty Research Award Ceremony

Opening Remarks 4:00 PM

Dr. Carl Pinkert
Vice President for Research and Economic Development

Keynote Address

Dr. Denise Barnes
Section Head for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), National Science Foundation

Intermission

Welcome

Dr. Judy Bonner
President

President's Faculty Research Award Presentations

Dr. Jason Scofield
Chair, Research Advisory Committee (RAC)

Concluding Remarks

Dr. Carl Pinkert
Vice President for Research and Economic Development

Reception 5:45 PM

2015 President's Faculty Research Award Ceremony
Keynote Speaker
Dr. Denise Barnes



Dr. Denise M. Barnes is the section head for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) with the National Science Foundation. Prior to this, Dr. Barnes was vice president of New Business Development for the Telecommunications and Electronics Markets with ITECS-Innovative. Past experience also includes adjunct professor of Chemistry at Spelman College in Atlanta, GA., and president, Amalan Networks until April 2004. In this role, Dr. Barnes was accountable for the emerging services business. Previously, Dr. Barnes held the position of vice president of the Optical Connectivity Division Unit for OFS (formerly Lucent Technologies).

Dr. Barnes holds an AB in Chemistry from Vassar College and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Brown University. She has also completed SMU's Executive MBA Program. Dr. Barnes is the immediate past Chairman of the Executive Board of the National Organization for the professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers and serves on the Advisory Board of Noble & Associates. She has also served as a board member of Georgia Industrial Fellowship for Teachers (GIFT), an organization that is focused on enhancing the technical skills of science and math teachers.

Physical and Biological Sciences,
Mathematics, and Engineering

Caroline Boxmeyer, Ph.D., is an associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine in the College of Community Health Sciences. She is also a research scientist in The University of Alabama's Center for the Prevention of Youth Behavior Problems. Dr. Boxmeyer received her undergraduate degree in psychology from Princeton University, *magna cum laude*, and a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of California, San Diego. She won a national training award and completed a two-year pre-doctoral internship at the National Institute of Mental Health. She also completed a clinical psychology internship at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Dr. Boxmeyer's federally-funded program of research focuses on developing, testing, and disseminating preventive interventions that support children's social and emotional development and family well-being. She is a master trainer in the Coping Power program for at-risk youth. She co-developed the Power PATH program for parents of preschoolers, as well as the Mindful Coping Power program, which integrates mindfulness and cognitive behavioral treatment approaches. Dr. Boxmeyer has completed specialty training in children's nature-based learning and examines the benefits of nature exposure for children and families. Dr. Boxmeyer also provides direct psychological services to adults, children and families at the University Medical Center and behavioral health training to family medicine residents, medical students, rural medical scholars, and psychology graduate students.

Samantha Hansen, Ph.D., is an assistant professor at The University of Alabama. Her research is driven by the underlying goal to advance understanding of fundamental geodynamic processes, such as volcanism, continental rifting, and mountain building. Using a variety of geophysical tools that emphasize earthquake seismology and active tectonics, she analyzes seismic data to investigate structure and to infer associated earth processes. Recently, her research investigations have been focused on Saudi Arabia, Africa, and Antarctica. In recognition of these efforts, she was awarded a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers by President Barack Obama.



Dr. Hansen has a B.S. in Geological Engineering, Geology, and Geophysics (2000) and an M.S. in Geophysics (2002), both from The University of Wisconsin - Madison. She graduated from The University of California - Santa Cruz in 2007 with a Ph.D. in Geophysics.

Physical and Biological Sciences,
Mathematics, and Engineering

Yasmin Neggers, Ph.D., professor of Human Nutrition and Hospitality Management, has worked at The University of Alabama since 1978. She has a Master's degree in Chemistry from India and a Masters in Nutrition from the University of Tennessee. She received a Doctorate in Epidemiology from the School of Public Health at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. She teaches Nutritional Epidemiology at the graduate level and Nutritional Biochemistry at the graduate and undergraduate level in the Department of Human Nutrition.

Dr. Neggers' research interests are in the area of Perinatal Epidemiology and more recently, risk factors associated with Autism. She has conducted extensive research on the factors associated with low birth weight, a major factor associated with infant mortality in Alabama and the U.S. She has published her research in many peer reviewed Journals such as the Journal of American Medical Association, the Journal of American Clinical Nutrition and The Journal of American Dietetic Association. Most of her research projects on low birth weight were funded by federal grants from the National Institutes of Health.

Edward Sazonov, Ph.D., (M'02, SM'11) received his Diploma of Systems Engineer from Khabarovsk State University of Technology, Russia, in 1993 and his Ph.D. degree in Computer Engineering from West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, in 2002. Currently, he is an associate professor in the department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL and the head of the Computer Laboratory of Ambient and Wearable Systems (<http://claws.eng.ua.edu>).



Dr. Sazonov's research interests span wireless, ambient and wearable devices, and methods of biomedical signal processing and pattern recognition. Devices developed in his laboratory include a highly accurate physical activity and gait monitor integrated into a shoe insole; a wearable sensor for objective detection and characterization of food intake; a wearable sensor system for monitoring of cigarette smoking; sensor systems for early diagnosis of risk of falling in elderly and others. His research has been supported by the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, National Academies of Science, as well as by state agencies and private industry.



Kimberly Bissell, Ph.D., is a professor in the College of Communication and Information Sciences at the University of Alabama, serving as the College's associate dean for Research and the director of the Institute for Communication & Information Research. She also serves as the University's director of Undergraduate Research and is the co-director of the Health Communication Lab in the College. Her research interests lie in the intersection of media, health, and children, and she has published more than 50 academic journal articles in her time at UA.

She helped develop the Child Media Lab and the psychophysiology lab in the College's research center and has recently conducted several studies examining the effectiveness of video game devices in helping children at-risk for obesity become more physically active. She has developed several media and health literacy programs for area schools to help children learn how to become more proactive in their health and well-being. She recently served as the co-editor of a special issue of *Mass Communication & Society* on the Media, Olympics, and Society, and she serves on the editorial board of several journals within the discipline. She teaches graduate courses in research methods, mass communication theory, media effects, children and cognition, and health communication, as well as undergraduate courses in magazine design and international journalism.

She is the faculty adviser of *Alpine Living Magazine*, an award-winning, student-produced travel magazine that is a part of the international journalism course she developed. She is a group exercise instructor at the Student Recreation Center at UA and has served as a personal trainer for overweight children. She developed several running programs for children throughout the community and has run more than 26 marathons and ultra marathons.

Jason DeCaro, Ph.D., (Emory, 2006) is a biological anthropologist and biocultural medical anthropologist with interests in human developmental ecology and neuroanthropology. Dr. DeCaro has been honored as a College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Teaching Fellow (2011-2014), and with the 2015 University of Alabama President's Faculty Research Award for Arts & Sciences - Social Sciences.

Dr. DeCaro studies the intersection of cultural models, everyday practices, and human physiology in the production of differential well-being across the lifecourse, especially but not exclusively focusing on children. Physiological responses can be used as a "lens" onto the impact of everyday experience. Biomarkers allow Anthropologists to consider the socialization of physiological aspects of arousal and the social contexts of physical health.



Social and Behavioral Sciences



Jonathon R. B. Halbesleben, Ph.D., is the HealthSouth Chair of Health Care Management and associate professor in the Department of Management in the Culverhouse College of Commerce at the University of Alabama. He also serves as the Management Doctoral Program coordinator and coordinator of the Human Resource Management Program. He received his Ph.D. in industrial/organizational psychology from the University of Oklahoma. His research concerning employee well-being and relationships in and out of the workplace has been published in such journals as the *Journal of Applied Psychology*, *Journal of Management*, *Journal of Organizational Behavior*, *Journal of Occupational Health Psychology*, and *Leadership Quarterly*, among others.

Dr. Halbesleben is the editor of the *Journal of Occupational and Organizational Psychology* and co-editor of *Research in Occupational Stress and Well-Being* and *Research in Personnel and Human Resources*. He serves on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Applied Psychology*, *Journal of Management*, *Journal of Organizational Behavior*, *Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes*, *Journal of Business and Psychology*, and *Journal of Occupational Health Psychology*. He served on the board of directors for the Southern Management Association (2010-2013), is a fellow of the Society for Industrial/Organizational Psychology, and is a member of the Academy of Management, American Psychological Association, Society of Occupational Health Psychology, and Society for Human Resource Management.

Marietta P. Stanton, Ph.D., RN, CNAA, BC, CMAC, CCM, CNL, is a professor of nursing at The University of Alabama, Capstone College of Nursing (CCN). A major focus of the CCN masters' program is case management and leadership for rural populations. The CCN has also developed a Clinical Nurse Leader, Nurse Educator, and Doctor of Nursing Practice.



Dr. Stanton is an Emeritus faculty from the University of New York at Buffalo School of Nursing. She has published a number of articles in case management; patient and provider education; and nursing leadership. She has had federal funding for two research projects through the Tri-Service Nursing Research Grant Program and was recently funded for an advanced nursing education grant through the Bureau of Health Professions.

Dr. Stanton received her PhD in Educational Administration, Instructional Communication from the University of Buffalo, her MS in Business through Salve Regina University, her MA in Nursing at New York University and her BSN and AAS from Mount Saint Mary's College. She is certified through the American Nurses Credentialing Center in Staff development and continuing education, Nursing Administration (Advanced) and case management. She is certified through the Center for Case Management as a Case Management Administrator. She is also currently certified as a Certified Case Manager (CCM). Dr. Stanton has served on active duty as the Senior Case Manager for Clinical Operations, Southeast Regional Medical Command.



Amy Traylor, Ph.D., is an assistant professor in the School of Social Work. Her research interests include issues related to adolescent and young adult substance abuse and mental health, as well as the use of emerging technologies in social work research, practice, and education. Since arriving at UA, Dr. Traylor has collaborated on a RGC project aimed at developing virtual reality environments for use as a component of intervention for girls residing in juvenile detention facilities in Alabama. In addition, she has worked to develop interdisciplinary relationships within the College of Engineering in order to facilitate creation of virtual environments for a variety of projects. In Fall, 2014, she was awarded \$275,000 by the National Institutes of Health to develop and test virtual environments aimed at providing a novel intervention component for adolescents receiving treatment for marijuana use. Her virtual reality laboratory is one of three dedicated virtual reality labs housed in a school of social work in the country.

The use of virtual reality technology in assessing reactions to drug cues has been a common theme in Dr. Traylor's prior research collaborations. Previous work has focused on assessing reactions to smoking, alcohol, and marijuana cues in adult populations and these studies have been published in journals ranging from *Addictive Behaviors* to *CyberPsychology & Behavior*.

A native of Tuscaloosa and a graduate of the MSW program here at the University of Alabama, Dr. Traylor practiced social work in Wyoming and Arizona, mainly in the areas of school social work and treatment foster care. She received her Ph.D from the University of Georgia, where she was a graduate research assistant at the Virtual Reality Clinical Research Center, working on several NIH funded projects exploring virtual reality and drug craving. Dr. Traylor also completed a two-year post-doctoral fellowship at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center and a year on the faculty at the University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work where she worked with faculty using emerging technologies, such as virtual reality, to explore behavioral and environmental factors related to smoking and other substance use.

John Vincent, Ph.D., (Florida State, 2000) is a professor and graduate coordinator of the Sport Management program in the Department of Kinesiology at The University of Alabama. He teaches sport management, sport sociology, and sport marketing. His main research focus is on how media discourses shape, (re)produce, and reflect issues of national identity, gender, and race in the context of major international sporting events.

Most recently, Dr. Vincent has published several papers that have examined how newspaper narratives and images about major international sporting events, such as the Olympic Games and the FIFA World Cup, become arenas where ideologies linking country and culture are (re)produced and contested in national identity politics. He has over 50 publications in peer-reviewed journals and chapters in academic textbooks. His scholarly contributions were recently recognized when he was selected for the University of Alabama College of Education 2014 McCrory Faculty Research Excellence Award.





Julie Andersen Hill, J.D., joined the University of Alabama School of Law as a tenured associate professor in 2013. She was previously an assistant professor at the University of Houston Law Center. Professor Hill writes and teaches in the areas of banking and commercial law. Her scholarship, which has appeared in the *Indiana Law Journal*, the *Wisconsin Law Review*, and other respected publications, often focuses on the unwritten rules of financial institution regulatory enforcement. Before entering the legal academy, Professor Hill practiced law in the Washington, D.C. office of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meager & Flom LLP. As part of the litigation group, she represented large financial institutions that found themselves the subjects of government investigations.

Professor Hill also has significant experience with small financial institutions. Before becoming an attorney, she was employed in various capacities at Gunnison Valley Bank and Far West Bank. Professor Hill received her undergraduate degree in economics *summa cum laude* from Southern Utah University. At SUU, she was honored with the Trustee's Scholarship -- the University's highest award for academic achievement, given to a single student per year. Professor Hill earned her J.D. degree *summa cum laude* from the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University. She served as managing editor of the Brigham Young University Law Review. After law school, Professor Hill clerked for Judge Wade Brorby on the United State Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. She is admitted to the bar in the District of Columbia, Utah, and Wyoming.

Vincent F. Scalfani, Ph.D., was born in West Islip, NY in 1985. He received a B.S. in Chemistry from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Oswego in 2007. Under the direction of Prof. Travis S. Bailey, he studied self-assembled block copolymer systems at Colorado State University and earned a Chemistry Ph.D. in 2012.

Dr. Scalfani joined the University of Alabama Libraries in 2012 as an assistant professor and Science & Engineering Librarian. His primary responsibilities are to provide reference, teach information literacy, and manage the collections in the areas of Chemistry and Chemical & Biological Engineering. Vincent also leads the UA Libraries 3D Studio and scientific software training. He is the editor of the American Chemical Society Chemical Information Bulletin and an active researcher in the areas of chemical information literacy, cheminformatics, and 3D printing.





Rachel Stephens, Ph.D., (B.A. University of the South, Art History, 2002; M.A. Vanderbilt University, Art History, 2004) is an assistant professor of Art History in the Department of Art and Art History. She received her Ph.D. in Art History in 2010 from the University of Iowa. From 2009 to 2013 she was an assistant professor of Art History at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux (Tib-uh-do), Louisiana. She joined the UA faculty in 2013 and teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in historical American art such as Southern Architecture, The Civil War and American Art, and American Art Survey.

Dr. Stephens' research interests include nineteenth-century Southern portraiture, American political art, and representations of race in nineteenth-century southern visual culture. Her completed book manuscript (currently under review) is entitled *Selling Andrew Jackson: Ralph E. W. Earl and the Politics of Portraiture* and investigates the created identity of portraits of Jackson by his confidante and personal artist, Earl. Her article, "Striking Likenesses: Ralph E. W. Earl's Early Tennessee Portraits," was recently published by the *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*. Her research has been funded by grants from UA, Nicholls State, the American Antiquarian Society, and the Tennessee Historical Society. Her second book project (currently under preparation) addresses representations of African Americans in nineteenth-century Tennessee visual culture. She is also the editor-in-chief of the *SECAC Review*, a national scholarly art history journal. Dr. Stephens is the recipient of the 2014 Educator of the Year award from the Tuscaloosa County Preservation Society, and was a finalist for the 2014 Fulbright-Terra Foundation Award in American Art.

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