The University of West Alabama has appointed two new deans to lead the College of Education and its Division of Online Programs.

Dr. Kathy Chandler is dean of the Julia Tutwiler College of Education, the University’s largest educational unit with the Department of Teacher Education and the Department of Physical Education and Athletic Training.

Chandler served most recently as head of Judson College’s Department of Teacher Education. She has also taught at Birmingham-Southern College and the University of Alabama at Birmingham after 13 years of K-3 classroom experience. Chandler has received both National Board Certification and the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching from the National Science Foundation and the White House.

“Dr. Chandler has a strong record in research, publications and presentations, as well as in participation in national organizations,” said Provost David M. Taylor. “We believe she will uphold the University’s 174-year tradition of training quality teachers.”

Chandler holds both doctoral and master’s degrees in early childhood education from UAB. She also completed a Samford University bachelor’s degree in early childhood and elementary education.

Chandler succeeds Dr. Martha Hocutt, who will now lead the Division of Online Programs, which offers three education specialist degree, 13 master’s degree and two bachelor’s degree programs.

Hocutt, a UWA alumna, joined the faculty in 2003 after a decade teaching middle school. In her tenure as education dean, Hocutt re-established the University’s education specialist degree offerings, introduced the BEST Fellows scholarship program and strengthened relationships with UWA’s Partnership School Program.

“Dr. Hocutt has worked closely with the online division and is equipped with the knowledge and skills to allow her to readily assume the helm of the program,” Taylor said. “She will bring the same energy and creativity to the online program that she has brought to the Tutwiler College of Education, which has grown tremendously under her leadership.”

In addition to her UWA master’s in elementary education, Hocutt holds a doctorate in educational leadership and instructional technology from the University of Alabama and a bachelor’s in business administration from Auburn University.
The University of West Alabama in the May 2009 issue of *U. S. News and World Report* received recognition as a top online education program, as measured by enrollment.

The eighth largest online graduate-level education program in the country, UWA has nearly 2,500 students enrolled in three education specialist degree, 13 master’s degree and two bachelor’s degree programs accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), with the teacher education programs also accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

“We are very pleased with this national acknowledgment,” said Dr. David Taylor, UWA Provost. “UWA has found its niche in offering accredited degree programs that very few other schools offer online. The remarkable enrollment figures are due to the quality of the programs and the convenience offered by this type of coursework.”

UWA also offers affordability, charging less per online credit hour than more well-known colleges with higher enrollment numbers.

With online classes limited to 30 students and technical help offered daily, UWA has seen tremendous growth since beginning its online program in 2002 with only 13 students.

Developed by full-time, on-campus faculty, UWA online courses have the same requirements as the traditional classes meeting on campus. However, with five accelerated 8-week terms offered each year, most students complete their degrees in a year and a half, working wherever they are most comfortable. Many students cite another important benefit of online learning — saving money on gas because they do not have to commute to campus.

“Value, flexibility and access are important factors to our students,” said Online Division Dean Louis Smith. “Our online programs allow students to maintain their family and job responsibilities while earning advanced degrees to further their careers.”

The 174-year-old institution also focuses on academic integrity. UWA requires online students taking tests at home to install software that locks down their Web browsers and a camera that monitors the exam environment.

UWA President Richard D. Holland says the University’s online classes offer the same personal service for which the University is known with its on-campus courses.

“This is one reason why our online programs repeatedly receive such positive feedback and high approval ratings from our students,” Holland said. “The University will continue to add more online degrees in the future as our graduates, our best recruiters, share their positive UWA experience with colleagues and friends.”

### Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 25</td>
<td>Online comprehensive exams for all master’s degrees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 9</td>
<td>End of Fall Session One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 10 – 18</td>
<td>Break Between Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12</td>
<td>Final day to register for Fall Session Two classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 14</td>
<td>100% fees due by noon (Central Time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 19</td>
<td>Fall Session Two begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 23</td>
<td>Last day for 80% refund of tuition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 26</td>
<td>Registration for both 2010 Spring Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 30</td>
<td>Last day for 50% refund of tuition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 9</td>
<td>Last day for dropping courses/ withdrawing without academic penalty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 13</td>
<td>Online Comprehensive Exams for all Master’s Degrees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 30</td>
<td>Last day for filing application for a degree to be completed at the end of Spring Session One. Applications for degree received after this date will incur a $25 late fee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 10</td>
<td>End of Fall Session Two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 12</td>
<td>Fall Commencement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Face Behind the Voice

April Atkinson, Online Records Assistant ~ Registrar’s Office

April Atkinson moved to Livingston, Alabama in November of 2006 from her hometown of Jackson, Tennessee. She recently celebrated her ninth wedding anniversary to her husband Will. They have a daughter, Neely, who will be four in November. Neely attends the UWA Campus School and loves interacting with the children, teachers and the college students. Will is the UWA Softball Coach. Both April and Will received their undergraduate degrees from Lambuth University in Jackson, Tennessee.

Prior to working in the Registrar’s office, April worked in the Small Business Development Center on the UWA campus for almost a year. “I thoroughly enjoy my position in the Registrar’s office. My co-workers are wonderful to work with and I love being able to help students work toward completing their degrees. The family environment at UWA makes it a wonderful place to work.”

The Atkinsons, especially Neely, are huge fans of all the Tiger athletic teams. Neely loves going to all of the events and getting to see LUie, the UWA mascot. April spends her free time with family, reading, travelling with the UWA softball team, playing disc golf and geocaching.

Remote Proctor Technical Support Center

The University of West Alabama has incorporated the use of the Remote Proctor in its online programs.

In order to better serve those students who may experience difficulties with installing or using the device, we have established a Remote Proctor Technical Support Call Center to assist students on a 24/7 basis. Students needing assistance should call 1-866-401-7758 (toll free) at any time.

UWA is pleased to have you as an online student, and we are continually searching for ways to strengthen our programs and enhance our service to you.

Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Virus Information

Everyday Preventive Methods for Students, Faculty and Staff:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Avoid close contact with sick people.

If you get flu-like symptoms, CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to seek medical care. Limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

Symptoms of H1N1:
- Fever
- Cough
- Sore throat and runny nose
- Body or muscle aches, chills, fatigue
- Headaches
- Occasionally, diarrhea and vomiting

If you get these symptoms, stay home unless seeking medical attention. This means avoiding normal activities, including work, school, travel, shopping, social events, and public gatherings. However, those who are pregnant or who have chronic illnesses [e.g., asthma, diabetes] should immediately seek medical attention.
Graduate Degree Completion

The Application for Degree must be submitted to the Registrar's Office with the appropriate fee, and must be received by the appropriate deadline in order for the degree to be noted on the official university transcript. Transcripts must be requested from the Registrar's Office using the Transcript Request Form.

The University transcript is the legal documentation of the degree; the diploma merely commemorates the commencement/graduation ceremony. The University of West Alabama holds commencement ceremonies twice a year—in May and in December.

December Commencement includes students completing their program in the following terms: Summer On-Campus, Summer Online, Fall 1 Online, Fall 2 Online and Fall On-Campus.

Commencement Ceremonies: Students who wish to participate in the commencement ceremony MUST contact Dean Tina Jones at tnj@uwa.edu. Diplomas are mailed to students who do not participate.

Application for Certification: Upon satisfactory completion of requirements for the master's degree (including the State approved professional education requirements and experience) students who initially held or met requirements for an Alabama Class B Professional Certificate will qualify for the appropriate Alabama Class A Professional Certificate. Out-of-state students should check carefully the requirements of their respective states and mail the appropriate forms to the Certification Officer. Application for certification is the student's responsibility and is made through the Certification Officer, The University of West Alabama, Station 8, Livingston, Alabama 35470.

You may email Mrs. Pam Ozment at pozment@uwa.edu or call 205-652-3423 to request an application packet to upgrade your Alabama Certification.

Online Advising Center

The University of West Alabama Division of Online Programs has an advising center staffed with Online Advisors. We are here to help our online students from the application process to graduation and everything in between. Just give us a call or email us today and let us help you.

Do you have a question about your online program? Not sure what courses you should register for? Have you met all of the requirements needed for your degree? Call the Online Advising Center today!

1-877-UWA-1835
online@uwa.edu

The University of West Alabama Division on Online programs
Station 46
Livingston, AL 35470

The University of West Alabama does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, or sexual orientation in employment or the provision of services.