Happy Holidays and happy end to another successful semester! Now that we’re all done and stress-free (nobody is still stressed, right?!) we thought we would share a few fun and exciting holiday-themed events happening in the Tuscaloosa/Birmingham areas! So take a break from your grad school worries and have some nice winter-oriented fun

- **Holidays on the River**: Go ice skating town by the river off Jack Warner Parkway in Tuscaloosa! The rink is open from 2pm-10pm Sunday-Thursday, 2pm-11pm on Fridays, and 10am-11pm on Saturdays now through January 4th!

- **Uptown Art**: Embrace your inner artist and sign up to paint your own winter-themed masterpiece this season! Uptown art is located right here in Tuscaloosa and they guide you through the painting process (very little artistic skill required!) while you sip on your favorite beverage! Check out their calendar at www.uptownart.com

- **Winter Wonderland Holiday Exhibit**: The McWane Science Center in Birmingham is having a special holiday exhibit now through January 11th. This one is especially great for those of you with little ones!

- **The Nutcracker**: The Birmingham Ballet will have showings for the Nutcracker from December 12-21. A great holiday favorite!

- **Holiday Movie Series**: The Alabama Theatre in Birmingham is having a holiday movie series starting December 12 and going through December 22. Check out the calendar at www.alabamatheatre.com

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Lisa Mieskowski, Karolina Zakoscielna, Meagan Wood, Sara Steele, & Caitie Tighe participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer’s & raised $892!
MEET THE 1ST YEARS

Allie Nancarrow
College: Trinity University
Hometown: Plano, TX
Developmental/Gilpin
Fun Fact: Studied abroad in Scotland

Denver Hunt
College: University of Alabama
Hometown: Birmingham
Developmental/Parker
Fun Fact: Obsessed with Silly Putty

Callie Gibson
College: Samford University
Hometown: New Orleans
Developmental/McDonald
Fun Fact: Obsessed with all things British

Brooke Meyer
College: Gustavus Adolphus
Hometown: Watkins, MN
Developmental/Gilpin
Fun Fact: Went skydiving this summer
Jessica Mendoza
College: California State University Dominguez Hills
Hometown: Los Angeles
Cognitive/Roskos
Fun Fact: Loves roller coasters & sushi

Lauren Browning
College: Lee University
Hometown: Acworth, GA
Social/Gable
Fun Fact: Loves country music & the Braves!

Hunter Threadgill
College: Ouachita Baptist University
Hometown: Memphis
Social/Gable
Fun Fact: Scuba Certified & recently learned how to surf

Tatiana Martyshchenko
College: University of Alabama
Hometown: Novosibirsk, Russia
Social/Hart
Fun Fact: Loves reading & cooking desserts!
Christina Pierpaoli  
**Hometown:** North Brunswick, NJ  
**Gero/Parmelee**  
**Fun Fact:** Has a twin named Mario

Janna Imel  
**College:** University of Louisville  
**Hometown:** Greenup, KY  
**Gero/Dautovich**  
**Fun Fact:** Climbed a mountain in 3 different continents

Keisha Carden  
**College:** Winthrop University  
**Hometown:** York, SC  
**Gero/Allen**  
**Fun Fact:** Has an extra set of non-functioning tear ducts

Sylvia Wang  
**College:** Temple University  
**Hometown:** Taishan, Guangdong, China  
**Gero/Giyeon**  
**Fun Fact:** I don't drink coffee/tea with any caffeine in it
Francesca Kassing
**College:** Duke University  
**Hometown:** Charleston, SC  
**Clinical Child/Lochman**  
**Fun Fact:** Has never broken a bone

Dane Hilton
**College:** Appalachian State University  
**Hometown:** Hickory, NC  
**Clinical Child/Jarrett**  
**Fun Fact:** Has 5 different coffee brewers

Megan Kopkin
**College:** Birmingham-Southern  
**Hometown:** Birmingham  
**Psych & Law/Cox**  
**Fun Fact:** Huge fan of DIY crafts

Sarah Emert
**College:** University of Arizona  
**Hometown:** Tucson, Arizona  
**Health/Lichstein**  
**Fun Fact:** Played in Afro-Brazilian percussion & dance ensemble
Mazher Mulla
**College:** Birmingham-Southern
**Hometown:** Daphne, AL
**Clinical Health/Hamilton**
**Fun Fact:** Drinks coffee out of a purple owl.

Adam Coffey
**College:** Valdosta State University
**Hometown:** Leesburg, GA
**Psych & Law/Brodsky**
**Fun Fact:** Went to high school with a World Series MVP & American Idol winner

Joshua Tutek
**College:** Lewis & Clark College
**Hometown:** Los Angeles
**Health/Lichstein**
**Fun Fact:** Loves guitar & music
What’s one fun thing you did this past summer?
Spent time in South Korea working for Samsung Electronics

Which area of statistics is your favorite or consider yourself to be an expert in?
I’m familiar with a variety of different areas in statistics. However, I’m a regression person, so I’d consider myself an expert in regression-y types of analyses.

Where’s your hometown?
Belo Horizonte, Brazil (the Bar capital of Brazil according to NY Times)

Where were you before coming to UA?
Post doc in Montreal, Canada (1 year) and in Brazil for 9 months working as a Data Analyst for Samsung Electronics

Although, I’m a big fan of exploratory techniques such as Cluster Analysis and Principle Component Analysis.
Big Things Are Happening

Mckensie Martin and Dustin Worley dancing at their wedding on October 11, 2014

Dean Elmore and Catherine Honeycutt pose for a picture at their wedding on May 19, 2014

Field Day 2014
USE IT OR LOSE IT!

a) What works even after it’s fired?

b) An action potential takes the train to school. What is the name of the train station where it gets off for school?

c) What is a sleeping brain’s favorite musical group (rock band)?
MEET JULIE DAVIS

Learn a little more about your new administrative specialist!

What food do you never get tired of?
Hamburgers. I could eat them three times a day, seven days a week. And chocolate. Always chocolate.

What excites you most about your job?
I love to be behind the scenes making things work. I love that I have that ability and that others just trust that I can make things work from A-Z.

Where is your hometown?
Tuscaloosa, AL

What’s one fun thing you did this past summer?
Introduced my 2-year-old granddaughter to the beach. It was amazing, and she loved it.

If you were a superhero what would be your superpower?
Flying. I hate to drive to get anywhere. I would rather fly, and get there really, really quick.

Have Something to Say?
If you have any ideas or information for the newsletter please free to submit them! We’re always interested in new ideas. In addition, feel free to send any of your presentations or achievements and we’ll make sure to put them in the next newsletter! Our graduate students are awesome and we want to make sure everyone knows that! Please email all information to the following people:
Jaime Anderson
janderson5@crimson.ua.edu
Meagan Wood
mmwood2@crimson.ua.edu

Happy Holidays!