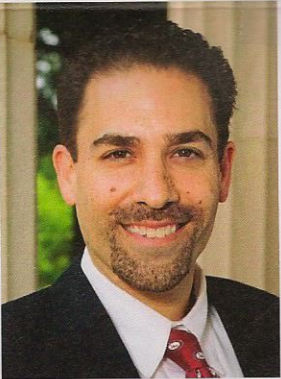


2011 Teaching Award Winners Recognized

The University of Alabama National Alumni Association has announced the 2011 recipients of the University's highest honor for excellence in teaching – the Outstanding Commitment to Teaching Awards.

Established in 1976, OCTA recognizes dedication to the teaching profession and the positive impact outstanding teachers have on their students. The National Alumni Association, which gives the annual OCTA awards, is made up of more than 31,000 active alumni and friends of the University organized into more than 100 local chapters nationwide. The association stimulates interest in and supports the betterment of the University and awards \$2.5 million per year in academic scholarships.



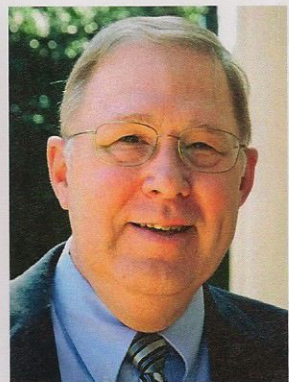
Seth Panitch

Professor Seth Panitch is associate professor of acting and directs the MFA and BA acting programs for the department of theatre and dance at UA. Although his particular area of expertise is the study of classical theatre in performance, he has also developed on-camera acting courses in conjunction with the department of telecommunication and film to prepare graduates for the multi-medium reality of professional acting.

His retooling of the undergraduate and graduate acting curriculum includes technique coursework in musical improvisation, Suzuki physical training, classical clowning, character mask, film and television performance, comedic styles (from Shakespeare to Seinfeld) and stage combat.

He has directed 10 productions for the department of theatre and dance and performed onstage as a guest artist in "Moon Over Buffalo," "A Flea in Her Ear" and "Blithe Spirit." He directs the yearly MFA/Senior Actor NYC Showcase, which presents graduating actors the opportunity to audition before New York agents, producers and casting directors.

In 2008, Panitch became the first American director in decades to helm a professional production for the Cuban Ministry of Culture when he directed a Spanish-language production of Shakespeare's "The Merchant of Venice" at the Teatro Adolfo Llauro in Havana. The following year, he brought up a company of professional Cuban actors to work with UA students on a production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream." ●



Dr. Lawrence F. Kohl

Dr. Lawrence F. Kohl joined UA's history department in 1987 after teaching at Fordham University in New York City. In his 25 years at UA, he has taught 30 different courses, including every level of history course from beginning surveys to directing doctoral dissertations.

In addition to teaching regularly in the Interim program and summer term, Kohl has taught in the honors program, the Blount Undergraduate Initiative and the study abroad program. In the history department, he has served as both the director of undergraduate and of graduate studies and as interim department chair. While director of graduate studies, he created and taught the first course on "Teaching History" for graduate students in the department.

An interest in Irish participation in the American Civil War led Kohl to offer courses on both Irish and Irish-American history, as well as teach Irish history in UA's study abroad pro-

Civil War, and he has appeared in television documentaries on the History Channel and the Smithsonian Channel.

He is the recipient of the Last Lecture Award, the Lilly Teaching Distinguished Teaching Fellow of the College of Arts and Sciences



Dr. Patrick R. LeClair

Dr. Patrick R. LeClair joined the UA astronomy in 2005, following a th at the Massachusetts Institute of ily teaches introductory and mid- maintains an active research group materials.

Since 2008, LeClair has been for physics and astronomy. His ma implementing personal, face-to-f student every semester and cham and computer engineering double responsible for increasing majors four years.

LeClair has been actively committed to revising the undergra With the help of a teaching grant from the College of Arts and Sci developed and implemented a computerized laboratory system fo magnetism labs which has been in use ever since. In 2009-2010, "Modern Physics" laboratory with entirely new equipment and a fall 2009, he and Dr. Ray White developed a freshman seminar co physics and astronomy majors to the latest developments in the f

At UA, LeClair has also been a pioneer in the use of social me be engaged by interacting with the tools they enjoy and feel com