I truly believe that the College of Humanities and Fine Arts (CHFA) is the heart of UT Martin. We have some of the best faculty, students, and staff on campus. And we are involved in everything!

We provide students and faculty a place to create, think, and innovate. As idealistic as this sounds, it’s true. Our classes challenge students to stretch their abilities and try things that are new and different. It holds true for faculty and staff as well. From working with the latest broadcasting equipment to preforming plays in unusual settings to traveling to distant countries, we expect people to be willing to take a chance.

Yet we are in a time when the value of a liberal arts education is questioned: law makers ask why state dollars should be used to fund programs in music, art, and literature. Parents want to know if their children will find jobs with degrees in history or communications. National programs call for a greater emphasis in science, technology, engineering, and math—the STEM areas.

But not all the news is bad. In January, USA Today announced that a “liberal arts education lends an edge” and that graduates in those fields “do well in a down economy” because of “how well they think, reason and write.” A survey of employers commissioned by the Association of American Colleges and Universities had similar findings.

The mission of CHFA is to provide you with the richest education we can. We know that if we help students develop their analytical ability, hone their communication skills, and enhance their creativity, we are providing them with the tools they need to be successful in whatever path they choose.

In this edition of the CHFA newsletter you will read about the achievements of students, faculty, and alumni. I look forward to hearing about what you have been doing in the next issue.

Lynn Alexander, Dean
UT Martin College of Humanities and Fine Arts
Departmental News:

The Department of Communications is proud to sponsor some of the most essential organizations of any University. The UTM radio production, newspaper, and yearbook are all organized by the department for the campus.

The department has had a wonderful year. Here are some highlights:

Best in the Nation!

Our campus radio station, WUTM, was named best college radio station in the NATION by the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System during awards ceremonies in New York City. This award recognizes the best station at universities of all sizes across the nation. (See photo.) A number of WUTM staff members also won individual awards at this ceremony for either being best in the nation or in the Top 4.

WUTM was also again named Best College Radio Station in the South by the Southeast Journalism Conference. This is the third year in a row that WUTM was won this award. The station’s faculty adviser is Dr. Richard Robinson.

Oprah’s Producer Is Honored

Terry Goulder, who graduated from our department in 1985, has been a senior producer for “Oprah” for almost 20 years. He returned to campus in April to accept our department’s first-ever Communications Distinguished Alumni Award.
While here, he also delivered the keynote address during our annual Communications Awards Banquet. Terry is a native of Brighton, Tenn.

Endowment is created for Dr. Steinke

Dr. Gary Steinke, one of the founding faculty members of our department, was surprised recently to learn that a scholarship endowment has been established in his name. He has been with the department 35 years. More than a dozen of Dr. Steinke’s former students who were lead donors for the scholarship, attended our Awards Banquet, where the announcement was made.

Hosted 8-state journalism conference

For the first time in our history, we hosted the Southeast Journalism Conference, which comprised 8 Southeast states and hundreds of students. Our own Tomi McCutchen Parrish is president of SEJC, and she served as coordinator of the event, assisted by student coordinator Kara Kidwell.

Tomi Parrish named best adviser

Tomi McCutchen Parrish, who has been with the department 16 years, won the UTM Outstanding Adviser Award this spring for her years of diligent work in advising our students.

Department secretary retires

We also share the bittersweet news that our longtime department secretary, Glenda Cagle, retired at the end of April after more than 20 years with our department. We wish her well as she takes the time to relax and travel. Glenda was honored with a reception in the McCombs Center, where lots of friends across campus wished her well.

For more news on the Department of Communication please visit its webpage at: http://www.utm.edu/departments/comm/ or find us on Facebook under the fan page name of: The UT Martin Department of Communications.
“The faculty appreciate hearing from all of our alumni and welcome them on campus for any English and Modern Foreign Languages events.”

—Jenna Wright
Department Chair for English and Modern Foreign Languages

Student Awards in the English and Modern Foreign Languages Department:
Sarah Rowland—Paul and Martha Meek Leadership Award

Alex Hasting and Allison Sprague—Who’s Who

Departmental News:
The EMFL faculty welcome the new professor of technical writing, Dr. Trisha Capansky.

Both the English and Modern Foreign Languages lounges for students and faculty have been recently redesigned. The first-floor lounge now displays local art.

Fall 2011 saw the artwork of Jason Stout. Spring 2012 brought in photography of Italy by Donna Hacker. Presentations were given by both artists.

A new collection will debut in the fall. Current students and alumni are invited to come by and see the featured pieces.

Students enjoy the comfortable furniture and relaxing atmosphere.
Modern Foreign Languages High School Day and the Young Writers Conference brought more than 275 high school students to campus for academic workshops and competitions.

Spring semester 2012 saw record use of the Writing Center with the highest number of students ever during a spring semester.

In 2011 and spring 2012, EMFL faculty presented at 2 international conferences, 21 national and regional conferences, and 14 state conferences.

The faculty of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages had several publications this past year, including two book chapters and at least ten other articles and creative writings.

The Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages hosted the Tennessee Philological Conference in February 2012.

The EMFL Banquet in March 2012 recognized writing award winners in poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, scholarly paper in English, and scholarly essay in a modern foreign language, as well as for the first time hosted the Sigma Tau Delta initiation of new members.

On April 26, the EMFL Department hosted a retirement reception honoring Dr. Laura Jarmon.

For more news on the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages please visit their webpage at: http://www.utm.edu/departments/chfa/index_emfl.php
Departmental News:

Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls made the most of her spring 2011 Reagan leave, publishing a number of articles and reviews and continuing her work on what promises to be a game-changing World History text. She also received the prestigious Enno E. Kraehe Distinguished Service Award in November 2011 from the European history Section of the Southern Historical Association. In spring 2012 she is leading another Holocaust travel study to Europe.

Dr. David Coffey served as assistant editor for and was a major contributor to a new multi-volume encyclopedia of the American Indian Wars and is currently editing a massive new encyclopedia on the Civil War.

Dr. Nathan Howard published “A Sacred Eloquence: The Literary Legacy of the Cappadocian Fathers in Western Europe, 400-1600” in The Patristic and Byzantine Review and presented at the International Conference on Patristic Studies,” Oxford University, August 2011. He and Dr. Ricky Garlitz led a Travel Study to Greece and Turkey in May 2011.

After more than forty years of service, Professor Stan Sieber is entering his final year of teaching at UTM. In July 2011 he led a travel study to Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and France and in December he took a group to the German Christmas Markets. Alumni and members of the community are usually welcome to participate in UTM travel experiences.

Civil War historian Dr. Timothy B. Smith, who works out of our McNairy County center, will publish three books in 2012 and remains a highly sought after speaker, giving numerous presentations around the country and in England.
History lecturer Adam Wilson, based at our new Jackson Center, successfully defended his doctoral dissertation at the University of Mississippi in April 2012.

The department is pleased to welcome Joshua Camper as a full-time lecturer in history. Josh has an MA from Murray State with additional graduate work at Mississippi State. He will be teaching on the main campus and offering dual enrollment classes via distance learning technology.


After almost twenty-five years of service, including the last four in a post-retirement teaching assignment, Dr. Norman Lillegard finally, really, retired at the close of the spring semester 2012. But he's hardly slowing down. He gave presentations at two national conferences, published an article, and in June 2012 will return to China to teach a month-long seminar.

Finally, the department is delighted to welcome a new philosopher. Matthew Braddock, who is completing his doctoral work at Duke, will join the faculty in a tenure track position beginning in August.

For more news on the Department of History and Philosophy please visit their webpage at: http://www.utm.edu/departments/history/
Departmental News:
The Department of Music hosted four hundred and fifty students at its annual pre-college events: Honor Band on January 26-28, Honor Choir on February 3-4, Honor Percussion Ensemble on April 26-28, and the Piano Competition on March 3.

Several UTM music students received special recognitions this year. Andrew Moore, senior piano performance major, won the Beethoven Club’s 2012 Young Artist Competition in the Senior Piano division (ages 21-30) in Memphis. Josh Spaulding, sophomore percussion major, won the 2012 Tennessee Percussive Arts Society Soloist Competition. Five music students were initiated into Phi Kappa Phi, UTM’s academic honor society. They were Alan Jones, Vivian Mak, Jennifer Reese, Victoria Russell, and Kerry Durso. Winners of the UTM Concerto and Aria Competition, Tucker Gillihan, sax, and Josh Gatlin, tenor, were guest soloists on the spring wind ensemble and choral concerts. Senior clarinet performance major Jennifer Reeves was named the department’s outstanding student for the year.

During the fall semester, Nebojsa Jovan Zivkovic, an internationally-renowned percussionist from Serbia, came to UTM for a workshop with the percussion students. Other special guests throughout the year included the piano ensemble of Jungwon Anne Shin, BoWon Hong, and Jung-Won Shin; percussionist Jim Riley; and Duo Sacramento, a father/son percussion duo from Brazil. The Department of Music and the Martin Area Music Teachers Association sponsored Dennis Alexander, noted piano pedagogue and composer in a workshop for teachers. In addition the Department of Music collaborated with the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages, and the UTM Black Student Association to bring to campus Of Ebony Embers:
Vignettes of the Harlem Renaissance presented by the Core Ensemble.

In January, the New Pacer Singers, directed by Dr. Mark Simmons, Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities, toured the east coast performing in Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, and Norfolk.

A special event this spring was a New Works Concert presented by the faculty. Four world premieres were on the program and included Wayne Lu’s Sonata for Trumpet and Piano, Bradford Blackburn’s Postcards from D.C., Scott Roberts’s Perspective, and Dennis DeSantis’s Snake Oil.

Another presentation of note was a John Cage Centennial (1912-1992) Tribute Concert presented by Dr. Julie Hill, Associate Professor of Music and the percussion studio and Dr. Amy Simmons and the single reed studio.

During the summer Dr. Amy Simmons, Associate Professor of Clarinet and Saxophone, and Dr. Mark Simmons, Associate Professor and Director of Choral Activities, will take the UTM Clarinet Quartet on a 10-day tour of Thailand where the students will give concerts and work with refugee children.

Wednesday, June 20, UTM will host its second annual Drum Corps International Sounds of Summer Competition along with a free clinic in the afternoon.

For information regarding conferences, concerts, recitals, and other performances by the Music Department please visit their homepage at: http://www.utm.edu/departments/music/.

Nebojsa Jovan Zivkovic with the excited Percussion students.
DEPARTMENT OF VISUAL AND THEATER ARTS

—Doug Cook, Department Chair for Visual and Theatre Arts

This year's Vanguard Theatre Productions were:

Fall: Shakespeare's *A Comedy of Errors*
Spring: *Proof* by David Auburn

Productions for the upcoming semesters will be posted shortly on the VTA webpage. Keep your eyes peeled for upcoming news!

UTM Dance Ensemble Events:

The Annual Spring Concert was held March 21 and 22 in the Student Life Center.

For information on the UTM Dance Ensemble call 731-881-7400 or check the University Calendar for updates.

Be sure to check out the Art exhibits being displayed in the Paul Meek Library. Some of this past year's exhibits included the VTA Student Art Exhibition/Group Exhibition (The Big Tamale) which ran from April 3-27. More are sure to be coming in the following semesters, with notices to be posted as exhibitions are scheduled. Don’t miss any of the amazing talent that UTM has to offer.
The College of Humanities and Fine Arts is proud to announce the reopening of the Fine Arts building on campus. Renovations are expected to be completed on May 31, 2012. The departments of Music and Visual and Theatre Arts will begin the transition back to the Fine Arts Building from their various temporary locations around campus during the summer and complete the move during the fall semester.

Fine Arts Building before

Fine Arts Building under construction

Fine Arts under construction

Artist’s interpretation of the completed building

Fine Arts majors are highly anticipating the opening of the new building.
2012-13 Faculty Awards:

Reagan Leaves:
Chuck Hammond (English and Modern Foreign Languages)
Daniel Nappo (English and Modern Foreign Languages)

Coffey Outstanding Teaching Award:
Daniel Nappo (English and Modern Foreign Languages)

Cunningham Faculty/Scholar Award:
David Coffey (History and Philosophy)

Outstanding Advisor Award:
Tomi Parrish (Communications)

Smith Award
Christopher Brown (History and Philosophy)

2012 Alumni Awards:

Phillip Gordon was awarded the Frances Bell McCool Dissertation Fellowship in Faulkner Studies for his thesis concerning representations of homosexuality in Faulkner's writings.

Have any recent awards? The College of Humanities and Fine Arts would love to recognize you for your hard work and accomplishments post-graduation.

Please send information to:

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225 Humanities Building
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Or email Dr. Lynn Alexander directly at:
lalexand@utm.edu

To access the Humanities and Fine Arts Home Page please go to:

http://www.utm.edu/departments/chfa/