Globalization is an integral part of doing business today. It has become crucial that higher education in general, and business schools in particular, provide students with meaningful international experiences. The International Business grant enabled us to meet that objective in very innovative ways. In addition to bringing international speakers and academic experts to UT Martin, our students and faculty participated in a variety of travel study, study abroad, and associated professional development activities. The grant also facilitated the development of an ongoing program that provides UT Martin business students the opportunity to study side-by-side with students enrolled in the University of Orleans (France) European Management Program. Our students interact with the UO students as well as business and faculty mentors who also participate in the program. Of course, a major aspect of this particular travel study is to provide business students with a broader perspective and context for global decision making. The cultural experiences and historic sites facilitated by visits to Paris and London are also important aspects of the overall experience. This is but one example of the dozens of international experiences that were made possible by the grant and the outstanding inter-disciplinary environment fostered at UT Martin. Since the inception of the international grant program, UT Martin’s College of Business and Public Affairs has seen a four-fold increase in student participation in international study: as importantly as the growth in involvement, the program has changed the lives and the long-term ambitions of individual students.

Dr. Thomas H. Payne
Professor/Dunagan Chair of Excellence
See page 15.

Dear Friend:

On behalf of the dedicated members of The University of Tennessee at Martin Academic Affairs team, thank you for your interest in reading about a number of exciting recent initiatives on our campus. This is a very special learning community, and I am proud to spotlight faculty and staff who have taken the lead in providing a wide variety of co-curricular opportunities for our students.

While we will never be able to fund all of the educational activities we would like to offer, outside grants allow us to do so much more than we could do with state funding alone. The faculty and staff we feature here recognize the added value that external resources bring, and I appreciate both their efforts and the ongoing support of Dr. Joan West and her dedicated staff in the Office of Research, Grants and Contracts.

I am proud to be a part of this University’s rich tradition of excellence. If you have any ideas of ways we can better serve our region, please let me know.

Thank you again for sharing in our successes.

Sincerely,

E. Jerald Ogg, Jr., J.D., Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

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College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences

Dr. James N. Butler, Professor, Agriculture and Natural Resources

Tennessee Department of Education Agriculture Education Grant

Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Education
Project Amount: $36,556
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07

Funding for this award enabled UT Martin agricultural education teachers in West Tennessee to update teachers on trends and events in the field of agricultural education, discuss issues and problems of concern, and discuss ways to improve their agricultural education program. In addition, faculty provided assistance to agricultural education teachers in the development of activities that will be linked to the core academic subjects of Biology, Algebra I, and English II. The foundations for a reading program for 9-12 grade agricultural education students was developed at these meetings, as well as the development of teacher mentoring programs. UT Martin also provided individual assistance to first- and second-year teachers in agricultural education. Dr. Butler served as a member of the Agricultural Education Joint Staff for Tennessee to discuss issues such as in-service workshops and FFA activities, helped plan the West Tennessee meeting for agricultural education teachers, and coordinated a five-day workshop for agricultural education teacher professional development.

Dr. Richard E. Joost, Professor, Agriculture and Natural Sciences

Pasture Systems for Meat Goat and Sheep Production: A Research-Education Model

Sponsoring Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Project Amount: $50,000
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06

The primary goals of this project were to develop an infrastructure for developing and providing useful information to goat and sheep producers in the Mid-South. At the current time, there are limited data and resources available to support the small-scale producers who make up the majority of the sheep and goat industry in this region. Due to ethnic changes in the U.S. population, particularly increases in the population of Middle Eastern and Hispanic immigrants, a significant increase in the demand for goat and sheep meat has developed. Small-scale producers are particularly suited to this market. The remainder of the demand from this section of the population is due to an ethnic preference for goat- and sheep-meat products. Tennessee and the surrounding Mid-South region is ideally suited to meet a large proportion of this increased demand due to its location, topography, and changes in the structure of the livestock industry in the state. The location of Tennessee in the Mid-South and its long east-west axis places the state within a one-day shipping range of over 40% of the U.S. population, primarily along the eastern seaboard. Excellent road and rail networks readily connect all portions of Tennessee to the major population centers. The project provided information to producers regarding production and marketing models for the sheep and goat industry.

Tennessee Meat Goat and Sheep Research Center

Sponsoring Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Project Amount: $88,676
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06

The funding of this Center enabled Dr. Joost to develop a 24-paddock research pasture system for goats to evaluate different forages and management practices to manage goats. It also allowed for the construction of a small slaughter processing facility. In addition, animals raised on different forage systems will be analyzed for growth rate and live carcass traits. Workshops were provided on goat grading and marketing, goat production, and appropriate forage systems.

Dr. Richard E. Joost, Professor, Agriculture and Natural Sciences

Forage Systems for the Sustainable Production of Uniform Goat Carcasses

Sponsoring Agency: Southern SARE Program
Project Amount: $159,001
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07

This project was designed to evaluate the requirements for supporting a dedicated goat slaughter facility and develop goat forage/handling systems that will result in the steady production of uniform goat carcasses. An economic feasibility study will be conducted through survey of goat producers in West Tennessee to determine the potential for the development of a goat slaughter facility. A separate component of the feasibility study will evaluate the number and characteristics of goat carcasses necessary to sustain a dedicated goat slaughtering/processing facility. In addition, animals raised on six different forage systems will be analyzed for growth rate and live carcass traits. Workshops were provided on goat grading and marketing, goat production, and appropriate forage systems.

Development of Soybean Production Systems to Control for Control of Weeds and Diseases

Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board
Project Amount: $16,900
Project Duration: 2005-06

Soybean rust (SR), a fungal leaf disease, has the potential to cause soybean yield losses of up to 80% within 14 days of initial infections. Because of no known resistance in existing cultivars, the use of systemic fungicides early in the infection, coupled with cultural practices that avoid infection, appear to be the best means of controlling the disease. Dr. Joost and his research team evaluated two row spacings and two planting dates for fungicide penetration into the canopy with three different fungicide materials compared to no treatment. A separate study evaluated four herbicide systems for controlling populations of problem weeds by evaluating the increase of species in the seed bank. The study determined herbicide efficacy and attempted to use seedbank data to develop treatment thresholds for problem weeds.

Dr. Richard E. Joost, Professor, Agriculture and Natural Sciences

Dr. Jerry Gresham, Chair, Agriculture and Natural Resources

Tabletop Exercises for Aerial Applications of Pesticide

Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Agriculture
Project Amount: $20,000
Project Duration: 2005-06

Dr. Joost and Dr. Gresham received funding through the Tennessee Department of Agriculture to develop and deliver a tabletop exercise on the aerial application of a pesticide and involved the Tennessee Public Health workforce, Aerial Applicator Regulators, the Agricultural Crime Unit, and other allied health professionals and law enforcement officials. The exercise was based on a hypothetical, intentional delivery of a biological or chemical terrorism agent that is harmful to animal and human health as a part of Homeland Security efforts. The exercise objective was to assess the role of public and animal health responders and Aerial Applicator Regulators including law enforcement in a terrorist attack utilizing an airplane equipped for the aerial application of chemicals. The exercise objective also included the identification and availability of necessary resources, interaction with other participating organizations and groups, and coordination of local, state, and federal public health information offices to provide timely and accurate information to the public.
Livestock Merchandising
Sponsoring Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Project Amount: $48,225
Project Duration: 2004-05
Funding from the USDA enabled the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources to renovate a building which would be used as a farm merchandising center of the UT Martin farm. The funding also included a 60’ x 150’ open-sided covered pavilion to the existing barn.

Center for Excellence in Experiential Learning in Agricultural Sciences
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Higher Education Commission
Project Amount: $1,149,007
Project Duration: 2005-06, 2006-07, Ongoing
The State of Tennessee operates several Centers for Excellence throughout the higher education system. UT Martin has operated the Center for Excellence in Experiential Learning in Agriculture Sciences since 2005. As the Tennessee Higher Education Commission noted, the center “will provide an innovative infrastructure through which existing and new experiential inter-disciplinary studies in production agriculture, the environment and conservation techniques can take place. It is designed to create a model for quality teaching across various disciplines, facilitate and increase external grant and contract activities, increase public/private partnerships, increase outreach efforts, collaborate with secondary institutions, expand livestock, crops, equipment, natural resource areas and other facilities to enhance experiential learning and have a major impact on the economy of the State of Tennessee.”

Animal Diagnostic Lab
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Agriculture
Project Amount: $200,000
Project Duration: 2005-06, 2006-07
Dr. Jerry Gresham received a grant from the Department of Agriculture to operate an Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory and the state-wide animal identification system.

Evaluation of Eastern Wild Turkey Nesting Habitat
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge
Project Amount: $17,285
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07
Eastern wild turkey populations have exhibited sharp increases in density throughout much of their historic range during the past two decades. These increases have been less dramatic in Western Tennessee than in Middle Tennessee. One possible reason for this difference in population increase is that Middle Tennessee has experienced greater recruitment due to greater availability and suitability of forested habitats. The Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge (TNWR) contains several thousand acres of mature upland hardwood forest. Although this habitat is generally considered desirable for wild turkeys, the vast majority of this forested habitat on TNWR is composed of even-aged stands with full canopies and nominal understory and ground-level vegetation. TNWR recently initiated a study to examine effects of forest thinning on canopy-dwelling songbirds. This thinning may also increase understory and ground-level vegetation quantity and diversity by permitting an increase in sunlight through the canopy.

Animal Identification System
Laboratory and the state-wide Animal Disease Diagnostic to operate an grant from the Department Project Duration: 2005-06, 2006-07 Project Amount: $200,000 Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Agriculture to operate an Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07 Eastern wild turkey populations have exhibited sharp increases in density throughout much of their historic range during the past two decades. These increases have been less dramatic in Western Tennessee than in Middle Tennessee. One possible reason for this difference in population increase is that Middle Tennessee has experienced greater recruitment due to greater availability and suitability of forested habitats. The Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge (TNWR) contains several thousand acres of mature upland hardwood forest. Although this habitat is generally considered desirable for wild turkeys, the vast majority of this forested habitat on TNWR is composed of even-aged stands with full canopies and nominal understory and ground-level vegetation. TNWR recently initiated a study to examine effects of forest thinning on canopy-dwelling songbirds. This thinning may also increase understory and ground-level vegetation quantity and diversity by permitting an increase in sunlight through the canopy.
College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences

Dr. Joey Melthorn, Associate Professor, Agriculture and Natural Resources

Governor’s School for Agricultural Science
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Education
Project Amount: $450,000
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, Ongoing

The Tennessee Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences (TGAS) is the third such program in the United States, with other programs at Penn State University and Virginia Polytechnic and State University. The TGAS experience provides a broad understanding of the diverse field of agriculture to high school juniors and seniors. The students stay on the UT Martin campus for four weeks in the summer, taking classes, and learning about new research and technologies related to agriculture. Special emphasis is placed on cultural and social issues not normally explored in high school and even college classes that impact the way our society envisions the agricultural sciences. Classes include topics in animal science, plant science, environmental science, and the more basic biological sciences, marketing and market development, and agricultural entrepreneurship. Thirty-four outstanding high school students attend and complete the TGAS program annually. Students receive college credit for the coursework associated with the summer program.

Promotion of Ag Tags to West Tennessee High School Agriculture Students
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Agriculture
Project Amount: $5,066
Project Duration: 2004-05

The UT Martin NAMA student group received funding for this project to promote the sale of agriculture license plates to high school students throughout West Tennessee. There are many potential customers who do not understand the benefits of owning an agriculture license plate, and the valuable support that it provides for Tennessee agriculture. Members of NAMA developed an educational/promotional demonstration to deliver to West Tennessee high school vocational agriculture and science classes. The educational program consisted of topics in agribusiness, animal science, plant and soil science, and agricultural engineering. All educational topics emphasized methods for improving or related directly to agriculture.

Development of Agricultural Producer Education Workshop and Online Materials
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Agriculture
Project Amount: $5,850
Project Duration: 2006-07

This award enabled Dr. Melthorn to develop and present producer workshops in the area of biofuels and alternative fuels. UT Martin faculty members have been actively involved in this area of research, and they have involved local farmers in the discussion of research and possible market ideas.

Dr. Lisa LeBleu, Chair, Family and Consumer Sciences
Family and Consumer Science Vocational Education
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Education
Project Amount: $11,969
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07

Dr. Lisa LeBleu serves as Principal Investigator on this project, which enables UT Martin faculty members to share their expertise with Family and Consumer Science teachers at the high school level. The project requires that UT Martin faculty develop and provide activities to implement curriculum development and professional development programs for FCS teachers. The project also requires that the UT Martin faculty work with FCS consultants at the State Department to collaborate and plan professional development activities necessary in successfully implementing quality FCS education programs.

To accomplish these objectives, UT Martin FCS faculty members make site visits to local schools to provide training and assistance and also contribute to the Web-based Educator Resource.

Dr. Richard Joost, Professor of Agriculture and Natural Resources
“Our research grant from the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program dealing with development of forage systems for meat goats has been very beneficial to our teaching program in the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Students have been given the opportunity to work with goats and see how their management and diet selection differs from other livestock species. The project has also allowed me personally to enhance my interaction with agriculture colleagues throughout the state and become involved in extension programs with the University of Tennessee and Tennessee State University. These interactions have helped me to develop professionally and have improved the relations of our department with other educational institutions in the state.”

Advanced Technological Education
Sponsoring Agency: National Science Foundation
Project Amount: $92,253
Project Duration: 2005-06, 2006-07

UT Martin faculty members and students benefit from the focus on technology in instruction. Dr. Philip Smartt used the Advanced Technological Education grant to implement audio and video materials over the Internet via podcasting. This technology allowed for the distribution of technical and natural resource knowledge into elementary and secondary schools in West Tennessee. In addition, the project provided workshops for K-12 teachers and high school teachers during summer workshops. The teachers not only learned content from UT Martin natural resource management faculty members, but also learned about how podcasting might be useful in their classrooms.

Dr. Philip Smartt, Assistant Professor, Agriculture and Natural Resources

Arboretum Development Project for UT Martin
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry
Project Amount: $19,920
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06

Visitors and alumni of UT Martin are familiar with the idyllic setting of the campus Quad. This project allowed for the improvement of the Quad to qualify for and obtain arboretum status. This project included five components: 1) systematic review of standing trees in the Quad and their condition, 2) produce a long-term management plan for the Quad, 3) mulch all of the trees in the Quad for their protection, 4) install 1D signage for at least 50 different tree species, and 5) initiate process to obtain arboretum status for the Quad from the Tennessee Division of Forestry.

Mr. Steve Vaughn
UT Martin Clay Target Club
Sponsoring Agency: NRA Foundation
Project Amount: $1,935
Project Duration: 2006-07

When approached by students interested in shotgun/clay target competition, Dr. Jim Byford explored possible funding opportunities through the National Rifle Association. The NRA provided support to the Clay Target Club, which ultimately led to two athletes’ participation in the National Junior Olympics in Colorado Springs, Colo. In addition, the TWRA funded a request for the Skyhawk Clay Target Team to provide supplies so the team could compete in the Tennessee State Championships.

Dr. James L. Byford, Dean, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences

Marketplace for Ideas in Agriculture Conference and Trade Show
Sponsoring Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Project Amount: $54,532
Project Duration: 2004-05

The 2004-05 funding represented the final year in a multi-year grant that enabled UT Martin professors to develop and provide a value-added agriculture conference for agriculture producers, land owners, and business owners in West Tennessee and surrounding states. The event provided booths for vendors to showcase their products, workshops for small business owners, and activities targeted to youth who are interested in agriculture, natural resources, and business.

Dr. James L. Byford, Dean College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
Tennessee’s Early Intervention System (TEIS) is an extensive development and planning process which includes information, referral, and continuing support for children, birth to age three, with developmental delays or disabilities, and their families. TEIS is structured to foster family advocacy for improved quality and increased quantity of early intervention, and coordinates a network of nine “points of entry” located in each of the nine planning and development districts with service coordinators and regional telephone numbers. The program is a collaborative effort among state agencies, public and private service providers, and consumers to improve the efficiency of the service delivery system for young children in Tennessee. TEIS has a state-level interagency coordinating council (ICC) and regional and local advisory groups providing support and guidance at all levels of development for this service system.

Healthy Start

Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Health
Project Award: $1,101,600
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07
Healthy Start, Northwest Tennessee is a home-visitation program. It is designed to help first-time parents with children from birth to three years of age better meet the challenges and adjustments of family life. The program is carried out through the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences and is funded through state and federal family preservation/family support dollars. Healthy Start’s focuses on: 1) identifying families in need of support, 2) building trusting family relationships, 3) promoting positive parent-child interaction, and 4) promoting healthy childhood growth and development. Services are provided free of charge, and participation is voluntary for eligible families. Healthy Start serves Benton, Carroll, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion, and Weakley counties.

Infant Stimulation Program

Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Mental Health/Mental Retardation
Project Award: $1,004,263
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07
The UT Martin Infant Stimulation Program, established in January 1976, provides early childhood educational assistance to young, developmentally delayed children and their families in Northwest Tennessee. The purpose of the program is twofold: 1) to serve developmentally delayed children with opportunities to realize their potentials at as early an age as possible, and 2) to provide ideas for growth within the frameworks of families. The UT Martin Infant Stimulation Program is housed on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin. Licensed locations include the UT Martin Child and Family Resource Center. Located on the UT Martin Campus, and the Paris center, located in the Paris Housing Authority in Henry County. Services as described below are provided to eligible children (from birth through age two) to Benton, Carroll, Henry, Lake, Obion and Weakley counties. The program is currently funded to serve fifty-eight children. The variety of services provided include: 1) early intervention focusing on parent involvement in a home-based and center-based setting; 2) screening in conjunction with Tennessee’s Early Intervention System; and 3) small group experience (four to seven children per group) organized to provide socialization experience for 18-month to 36-month-old children, to increase attention span, and to prepare the children for the move into larger group activities. Small groups meet in licensed centers at the UT Martin Child & Family Resource Center and in the Paris Center at the Paris Housing Authority.


Northwest Child Care Resource and Referral/Project REEL

Sponsoring Agency: Signal Centers
Project Award: $1,009,928
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, Ongoing
The Northwest CCR&R provides assistance to childcare providers and families in Northwest Tennessee. The Center provides training opportunities, referral services, a lending library and information on a variety of child care and health and safety topics. The training modules for the childcare providers are in four DHS-identified areas (Administration, Child Development, Early Childhood Education, Developmentally Appropriate Behavior Management) through partnerships with local resources and utilizing workshops, series and self-studies. Special attention is given to the inclusion of children with developmental delays. This project is funded under an agreement with the Department of Human Services and Signal Centers, Inc.

A lending library of books, videos, toys, and theme boxes with curriculum ideas, health and safety information, and multi-cultural activities is available free to providers for a 30-day period. A unique feature of the new program is that the center is mobile. The CCR&R’s van will travel, as needed, to child care centers and homes. The Child Care Resource and Referral Services Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion, and Weakley counties in Northwest Tennessee.

Therapeutic Visitation Services

Sponsoring Agency: Department of Children’s Services
Project Award: $202,644
Project Duration: 2005-06
TVS provides individual counseling, supervised visitation and counseling for abused or neglected children in state custody and their families in Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion and Weakley counties. The primary goal is to facilitate a safe and successful reunification of the children and their families through the teaching of skills and knowledge about parenting and/or to establish permanency for the children. This project is funded through a grant with the Tennessee Department of Children’s Services.

Infant Stimulation Clinic

Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Health
Project Award: $4,799
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07
The ISP clinic provides consultation services to children with special health care needs through regularly scheduled clinics for physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and feeding evaluations. Evaluation and therapy services are based on individual need with emphasis on written home programs to be carried out by parents on a daily basis. Services are provided to eligible children (from birth through age two) to Benton, Carroll, Henry, Lake, Obion and Weakley counties.

“The Project IMPACT grant has allowed me to work with some very talented and dedicated people, including faculty from three departments at UT Martin, middle school mathematics teachers from West Tennessee, and students who are interested in teaching mathematics. The grant has allowed me to observe mathematics education from different viewpoints, which has given me a better understanding of students’ past and present.”

Dr. Stephanie Kolitsch, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Statistics
Minority Teacher Recruitment Project

Dr. Karen Greenockle, Chair, Health & Human Performance
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Education
Project Amount: $26,004
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07
This funding enabled faculty from the Department of Health and Human Performance to plan, organize, and coordinate professional development events on research in health care, implementation of the Algebra I, Biology I, and English II Gateway Exams, and reading activities in local schools. It included such topics as gene therapy and the cross-referencing of Algebra I, Biology I, and English II into the health science education standards. Assessment of the activities was incorporated as a part of the professional development for academic and health science teachers. Dr. James Wilbert worked on this program in 2004-05 before Dr. Karen Greenockle assumed the role of Project Director.

Transition to Teaching

Dr. Mary Lee Hall, Dean, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Education
Project Amount: $145,833
Duration of Project: 2006-07, Ongoing
The Tennessee Department of Education contracts with UT Martin to plan, organize, and coordinate professional development events on research in health care, implementation of the Algebra I, Biology I, and English II Gateway Exams, and reading activities in local schools. It included such topics as gene therapy and the cross-referencing of Algebra I, Biology I, and English II into the health science education standards. Assessment of the activities was incorporated as a part of the professional development for academic and health science teachers. Dr. James Wilbert worked on this program in 2004-05 before Dr. Karen Greenockle assumed the role of Project Director.

Becky Alexander, Teacher at Northeast Middle School, Jackson Madison County Schools
Jaguar Learning Academy
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Education
Project Amount: $10,433
Duration of Project: 2006-07
A graduate of UT Martin’s graduate program in education, Becky Alexander approached UT Martin regarding a Lottery for Education after School Program grant. Located in Jackson Madison County School System, Northeast Middle School benefits from the support of its neighborhood and community agencies. The funding provided an after school program that focused on academic support, physical activity, and technology exploration in the areas of language arts/reading, math, science, and social studies. The program also included some training for the parents of the NEMS students. Faculty members from UT Martin’s Department of Educational Studies targeted professional development for NEMS teachers to learn more effective ways to teach their students, based upon their demographics.

Dr. Mary Lee Hall, Dean, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences
Minority Teacher Recruitment Project
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Higher Education Commission
Project Amount: $142,743
Duration of Project: 2004-05, 2005-06
The Minority Teacher Recruitment Project provided needed financial aid and support services to minority students pursuing careers in education. The purpose of the project is to increase the number of qualified minority teachers in Tennessee. Former UT Martin professor, Dr. Claudia Joplin, served as the initial Project Director; Dr. Mary Lee Hall assumed the role in 2006. Participants received tuition, counseling, mentoring, and academic assistance to assist them in pursuing their education career goals.

Dr. Cherry Watts, Assistant Professor, Educational Studies
Special Education Institute
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Education
Project Amount: $741,712
Duration of Project: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07
Since 1989, UT Martin has offered the Special Education Summer Institute. The Institute was developed by Barbara Gregory and then managed by Dr. Michelle Arant. Dr. Cherry Watts assumed the duties of the Summer Institute in 2006. The institute provides curriculum for educational assistants and teachers who work with children with disabilities. The program pays for tuition and provides an allowance for fees, materials, books, and lodging. Several hundred students have been served by this Summer Institute since 2001.

Dr. Debora Gibson, Professor
Health and Human Performance
Physical Activity and Nutrition for Schools (PANTS Institute) HIV Prevention
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Education
Project Amount: $20,900
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07
The PANTS program represents another example of UT Martin professors lending their expertise to the community to address a specific issue. Dr. Deborah Gibson assumed the role of Project Director on this project, upon the departure of Dr. Paul Blair, former chair of the Department of Health & Human Performance. UT Martin established a Health Education Resource Center in 2003, and this grant purchased HIV prevention education materials for the Center. The Center is used by local education agencies in the immediate geographical area to augment their health and HIV prevention education programs.
Dr. Crystal Whitlow, Assistant Professor, Educational Studies

Mentoring in Inclusive Environments

Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Higher Education Commission–Improving Teacher Quality Program
Project Amount: $66,765
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06

This professional development program was funded through the Improving Teacher Quality Grants, administered by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. The focus of the project was to provide mentoring for new teachers and experienced teachers who find themselves challenged by the increased demands of inclusive environments. The teacher mentors attended training and then were assigned to a mentee in their schools. The mentor-mentee relationship was additionally supported by meetings and consultations with special education faculty members from UT Martin.

Research supports this type of teacher professional development that is intensive and sustained.

Ms. Cindy West, Interim Chair, Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice
Ms. Michelle Horton, Assistant Professor, Social Work

Subcontract with Department of Children’s Services

Sponsoring Agency: Middle Tennessee State University through Tennessee Department of Children’s Services
Project Amount: $1,262,473
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, Ongoing

The State of Tennessee Department of Children’s Services awarded MTSU with a contract to provide training and professional development for department employees and subcontracted with other universities to provide training throughout the state. UT Martin provides pre-service, in-service, and resource (foster) parent training throughout Northwest Tennessee and surrounding areas. University of Tennessee at Martin trainers provide assistance across the state in quality assurance and program monitoring. The professional development and mentoring curriculum requires that trainers deliver classroom training and participate in field observations of trainees to assist with skill assessments that occur during on-the-job-training. UT Martin provides training at locations convenient to Department of Children Service employees and resource parents so that they are not required to travel more than 50 miles to the training site. The grant also provides the opportunity for UT Martin Social Work students who are interested in a career in child welfare to apply for ten positions which offer full tuition and stipends for four semesters and employment upon graduation. This project has provided extended networking opportunities for the Social Work program at UT Martin.

College of Education and Behavioral Sciences

“...I appreciate the opportunities to service not only our local area of Northwest Tennessee, but the entire state with some of our funded programs. One grant provided a “jump start” to the K-6 licensure program in Ripley, Tennessee, and another has enabled our Health and Human Performance faculty members to provide targeted programming to local school systems. Additional funding provided the opportunity for UT Martin to be recognized across the state as the Transition to Teaching grant reaches out to all high-need school districts that need Math and Science teachers. Through a partnership between UT Martin and agencies at the state level, our sociology department has been able to provide internships to our undergraduate social work students and training to social work professionals. We welcome opportunities that allow our faculty to share their expertise through outreach and for our students to gain practical experiences.”

Dr. Mary Lee Hall, Dean, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences

See page 12.
**College of Engineering and Natural Sciences**

**Activity Based Physics and Astronomy Summer Institute for Middle and Junior High School Teachers**

**Sponsoring Agency:** Improving Teacher Quality Grant Program, Tennessee Higher Education Commission  
**Project Award:** $298,416  
**Duration of Project:** 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07

This project offered a series of workshops over a five-day period in the summers for middle school science teachers with a focus on selected topics from the middle school/junior high curriculum in the areas of physics, astronomy, and earth science. The institutes consisted of hands-on activities, discussion sessions, laboratory experiments, building experiment set-ups, demonstrations, and unit and writing lesson plans that promote scientific inquiry. The goal of the project was to provide an opportunity for middle-school and junior-high teachers to enhance their science curriculum through inquiry-based, hands-on activities, with the added benefit of teaching them how to integrate mathematical skills into the science curriculum. Prototype setups were designed and taken to the schools during visits before the workshop to field-test their effectiveness. Institute participants received a “teacher kit” with supplies and materials to perform all workshop activities once they returned to their classrooms in the fall. In addition to the high-quality content, teachers were able to network with their colleagues and received follow-up instruction to their classrooms in the fall. In addition to the high-quality content, teachers were able to network with their colleagues and received follow-up instruction.

**Project RESET**

**Sponsoring Agency:** Institute for Global Environmental Strategies  
**Project Amount:** $82,586  
**Project Duration:** 2005-2006

This funding enabled Dr. Crews to research structural properties of isolated molecular cores using high-resolution maps obtained from deep, near-infrared observations to examine the dust properties within the core. Dr. Crews and a student research assistant presented their findings at a professional meeting.

**Dr. Lionell Crews, Assistant Professor, Physics**

**Analysis of the Structure and Dust Grant Properties of Dense Molecular Cloud Cores**

**Sponsoring Agency:** American Astronomical Society  
**Project Amount:** $25,560

This activity-based project involved the analysis of dust properties in dense molecular cloud cores, specifically using high-resolution maps obtained from deep, near-infrared observations. The project aimed to examine the structural properties of isolated molecular cores to gain insights into the dust properties within the core. The research findings were shared at a professional meeting.

**Dr. Lionell Crews, Assistant Professor, Physics**

**Project RESET**

**Sponsoring Agency:** Improving Teacher Quality Grant Program, Tennessee Higher Education Commission  
**Project Award:** $298,416  
**Duration of Project:** 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07

This project offered a series of workshops over a five-day period in the summers for middle school science teachers with a focus on selected topics from the middle school/junior high curriculum in the areas of physics, astronomy, and earth science. The institutes consisted of hands-on activities, discussion sessions, laboratory experiments, building experiment set-ups, demonstrations, and unit and writing lesson plans that promote scientific inquiry. The goal of the project was to provide an opportunity for middle-school and junior-high teachers to enhance their science curriculum through inquiry-based, hands-on activities, with the added benefit of teaching them how to integrate mathematical skills into the science curriculum. Prototype setups were designed and taken to the schools during visits before the workshop to field-test their effectiveness. Institute participants received a “teacher kit” with supplies and materials to perform all workshop activities once they returned to their classrooms in the fall. In addition to the high-quality content, teachers were able to network with their colleagues and received follow-up instruction.

**Project RESET**

**Sponsoring Agency:** American Astronomical Society  
**Project Amount:** $25,560

This activity-based project involved the analysis of dust properties in dense molecular cloud cores, specifically using high-resolution maps obtained from deep, near-infrared observations to examine the dust properties within the core. The project aimed to examine the structural properties of isolated molecular cores to gain insights into the dust properties within the core. The research findings were shared at a professional meeting.

**Dr. Lionell Crews, Assistant Professor, Physics**

**Analysis of the Structure and Dust Grant Properties of Dense Molecular Cloud Cores**

**Sponsoring Agency:** American Astronomical Society  
**Project Amount:** $25,560

This activity-based project involved the analysis of dust properties in dense molecular cloud cores, specifically using high-resolution maps obtained from deep, near-infrared observations to examine the dust properties within the core. The project aimed to examine the structural properties of isolated molecular cores to gain insights into the dust properties within the core. The research findings were shared at a professional meeting.
Project IMPACT (Immersion in Mathematics Pedagogy, Applications, Content, and Technology)

Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Education
Project Amount: $382,826
Project Duration: 2005-06, 2006-07, Ongoing

Project IMPACT was a professional development opportunity for West Tennessee teachers in grades 5-8. The Tennessee Department of Education required a partnership of universities and local education agencies. In Project IMPACT, UT Martin partnered with Hardin County, Humboldt City, McNairy County, Obion County, Paris, and South Carroll School Districts. The districts regarded enhanced teacher content knowledge as a powerful lever in the process of improving student achievement. Project IMPACT focused on geometry, data analysis, probability, and engineering and mathematics applications in the context of the Tennessee State Frameworks and Blueprint for Learning by blending technology, standards, applications, instructional methods, and research on adolescent learning. Due to the range of topics, faculty members from various departments offered their expertise in the appropriate content areas during the two-week summer institutes. Participants were required to apply in pairs and to make a three-year commitment to the project. This requirement scaffolded support within the schools and among the teacher participants beyond the institutes and courses. Participants received computers, calculators, software, training, and other teaching materials. This project was able to target teachers throughout West Tennessee as it held the summer institutes at the main campus, as well as at the UT Martin Selmer Center.

In-situ Measurement of Stresses in Carburized Gears via Neutron Diffraction

Sponsoring Agency: American Gear Manufacturers Association Foundation
Project Amount: $12,959
Project Duration: 2006-07, Ongoing

Dr. LeMaster secured this funding to measure total stresses (externally induced and residual) in a pair of statically loaded spur gears that had been carburized, heat treated, and finish ground. Dr. LeMaster was assisted by two engineering students. This research was conducted at Oak Ridge National Laboratory under a High Temperature Materials Laboratory User Agreement.

Institutes for Middle Grade Science Education in West Tennessee (IMEGS)

Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Education
Project Amount: $521,936
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07

Much of the media spotlight on No Child Left Behind legislation has focused on student achievement. Lesser known to many people is the fact that NCLB provided significant funding for teacher professional development. For rural areas such as Northwest Tennessee, the infusion of money for quality professional development provided novel opportunities for teachers that ultimately benefited their students.

IMEGS was a 3-year series of two-week summer institutes, with supporting follow-up throughout the following a year. The institutes targeted middle-school teachers in West Tennessee. Eight science faculty and two education faculty members provided inquiry-based instruction in life sciences, earth and planetary science, and physical science designed to help teachers reach content proficiency in all of these areas. The institutes were taught at Coon Creek Science Center in McNairy County and at the UT Martin Reelfoot Lake Research and Teaching Center in Lake County. Participants accrued up to nine hours of graduate science credit and six hours of corresponding education graduate credit. Participants also attended one follow-up content workshop at the Tennessee Science Teachers Association and received comprehensive teaching kits for their classrooms.
West Tennessee Writing Project

Sponsoring Agency: National Writing Project
Project Amount: $545,813
Duration of Project: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, Ongoing

Through the efforts of former UT Martin professor Dr. Margrethe Ahlschwede, the West Tennessee Writing Project was established in March of 1993 as an affiliate site of the National Writing Project housed in the Department of English at UT Martin. From its inception, the WTWP has been important to the service component of UT Martin. It is one of the longest-running, on-going consistent programs of professional development for K-16 teachers in English and language arts and for teachers wanting to improve the use of writing in subjects across the curriculum in West Tennessee. Teachers meet for intensive writing workshops during the summer and are encouraged to initiate writing clubs or other programs to promote learning in their schools.

English Teacher Summer Institute

Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Higher Education Commission
Project Amount: $37,526
Duration of Project: 2004-05

Funding for this project enabled public school teachers to attend a summer institute to learn best practices in teaching language arts. This project represented a collaborative effort between the Departments of English and Educational Studies. Approximately 12 teachers participated in the program.

Governor’s School for the Humanities

Sponsoring Agency: U.S. Department of Education
Project Amount: $1,444,288
Duration of Project: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07

The U.S. Department of Education’s Teaching Traditional American History Program funded a proposal submitted by Dyersburg City Schools and UT Martin to provide a three-year professional development experience to elementary, middle, and high school social studies and history teachers. The Vertical Immersion Project required that teachers apply in triads (elementary, middle, high school) to promote discussion of curriculum alignment across grade levels. The participants were divided into two cohorts: travel and traditional. The travel participants spent two summers on immersive travel studies visiting historical sites in the mid-west, south, and the northeast. The traditional participants enrolled in history courses that focused on the same history content as that which the travel participants learned. All participants were loaned laptop computers to use in their classes and to develop instructional units that focused on the use of primary historical documents, American history, and Tennessee curriculum standards for social studies and American history. The computers became the property of the participants upon completion of all grant activities.

Governer’s School for the Humanities

Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Education
Project Amount: $800,658
Duration of Project: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, Ongoing

The State of Tennessee funds Governor’s Schools across the state, focusing on various disciplines. UT Martin proudly hosts the Governor’s School for the Humanities where students investigate the vitality and centrality of the humanities in both Western and non-Western cultures. Rising high school junior and senior students are eligible to apply for the four-week summer program. Students examine, under the tutelage of a cadre of experienced university faculty, the roles of language, history, values, and art in defining the relevance of the humanities in our modern age. Through coursework and seminars, exposure to visiting scholars, films, field trips, and practical experiences, the students gain an enhanced appreciation of the intellectual diversity of the world in which we live. The curriculum, broad in perspective, includes specific courses in English, philosophy, geography, communications, music, religion, art, and history, emphasis is placed on the interrelationship of knowledge in these areas. In addition to regular curricular offerings, students also develop independent and group programs to cultivate critical thinking, creative expression, and technological innovation. Seminars include the design, editing, and publishing of both a yearbook and a newspaper, the creation of thematic photography portfolios; the shooting and production of a video anthology, the planning and execution of a group talent show, and a workshop on contemporary advertising.
College of Humanities and Fine Arts

Dr. Elaine Harriss, Professor, Music

Clara’s Visitor: A One Woman Play with Music
Sponsoring Agency: Northwest Tennessee Development District
Project Amount: $1,080
Duration of Project: 2004-05

Dr. Elaine Harriss received funding to sponsor pianist, actor, and playwright Stephanie Wendt in a public performance of “Clara’s Visitor,” a one-woman play based on the life of Clara Schumann with performances of piano music composed by Clara Schumann, Robert Schumann (Clara’s husband) and Johannes Brahms (a family friend of the Schumanns).

Workshop for Piano Teachers with Dr. Maurice Hinson
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Arts Commission
Project Amount: $1,000
Duration of Project: 2004-05

Dr. Elaine Harriss received funding to bring renowned piano literature scholar, author, and editor Dr. Maurice Hinson for a one-day Piano Literature Workshop for piano teachers.

Administration

Captain Ray Coleman, Public Safety

Bulletproof Vests
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of Safety
Project Amount: $4,960
Project Duration: 2005-06

While grant writing is typically associated with faculty, UT Martin administrators and staff actively pursue funding opportunities. Captain Ray Coleman recently applied for and was awarded funding for the purchase of bulletproof vests for campus police officers. Captain Coleman has also participated on other grant-writing teams that involved safety and security issues (e.g. rape awareness, alcohol abuse, etc.).

Ms. Shannon Burgin, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Information Technology Systems

SMARTer Kids
Sponsoring Agency: SMARTer Kids Foundation
Project Amount: $71,000
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07

This program provided UT Martin with classroom projectors. With the increased presence of technology in colleges and universities, equipment such as overhead projectors have become increasingly important to the instructional mission of the institution.

Oracle Portal Grant
Sponsoring Agency: Campus EAI
Project Amount: $681,000
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07

This grant provided software, installation, configuration, and training to establish the portal. Ultimately, the portal interfaced with email, web services, Blackboard, Banner, calendars, and other systems on the UT Martin campus to provide seamless access to multiple systems. It has improved access for students to UT Martin-related information and processes. The portal implementation also provided a place for sharing information and communication for any university organization, as well as community members.

NEC Grant for Classroom Use
Sponsoring Agency: NEC
Project Amount: $41,900
Project Duration: 2005-06, 2006-07

Like the other two projects, the NEC grant also bought new equipment for UT Martin.

Mr. Richard Saunders, Museum Director, Paul Meek Library

Tennessee Museum Grant
Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Department of State
Project Amount: $1,951
Project Duration: 2006-07

Tennessee Museum Grant funding allowed the Museum to acquire a modern low-energy track-lighting system for the gallery space in the Paul Meek Library, based on a recommendation made in a report generated by Conservation Assessment Program grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Studies received in 2003.
The Special Education Institute enables school systems to find teachers to teach in special education classrooms and to get them licensed. With this grant, the Department of Educational Studies is able to reach into the public school community to support teaching and learning in the classroom.”

Dr. Cherry Watts, Assistant Professor, Educational Studies
See page 13.
Administration

Ms. Bethany Worley, Director, Extended Campus and Continuing Education

Rural West Tennessee Learning Initiative

Sponsoring Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Project Amount: $594,526
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06

The economic and educational levels of West Tennessee position UT Martin favorably in writing grants that can improve the quality of life for the citizens of the region. The Rural West Tennessee Learning Initiative served five rural counties—Benton, Carroll, Dyer, Henry, and Tipton Counties—where 67% live in rural areas; poverty levels range from 12%-16%; and most communities face high unemployment rates. In addition, an average of 18% of adults 25 years and older have not completed high school, and 90% have not earned a college degree. This project established six distance-learning facilities that provided services for K-12 education, higher education, adult and continuing education and employment opportunities. The tech coordinators from the high schools worked closely with Ms. Worley in writing this grant to meet the needs of all partners.

Tennessee Integrated Training and Alert Network

Sponsoring Agency: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Project Amount: $367,435
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06

The Tennessee Integrated Training and Alert Network (TITAN) represented an innovative, multi-agency approach to build upon existing educational programs and share the experience of subject matter experts across the entire state. The network coordinated the efforts of various public agencies to equip that region’s workforce of healthcare professionals with the skills, knowledge, and abilities to address the medical consequences of deliberate or unintentional public health emergencies. The strength of this project hinged on its multi-agency model and collaborative approach, with each project partner bringing different resources to cover the gamut of needs in continuing education. TITAN partners included the University of Tennessee College of Medicine, the UT Graduate School of Medicine, the UT Medical Center in Memphis, the UT Graduate School of Medicine and the UT Martin Center for Health Sciences, the Tennessee Department of Health, and the Tennessee Department of Human Services.

As a campus within the UT System, UT Martin holds the distinction as the only masters-level only designation, which heights the focus on quality instruction. This focus is echoed in alumni reflections on how supportive UT Martin was in their college experiences. Research in higher education actually quantifies the fact that the support of faculty and staff can increase retention rates. As a result of these unique features of UT Martin, the campus was optimally positioned to receive a grant that promoted student retention through organizational structures that support academic services. The Student Success Center complements this emphasis by providing academic support services to students through a central department with coordinated efforts throughout the campus. housed in Clemmons Hall, the SSC teems with activity as students come and go for advising, counseling, testing, and tutoring.

Mission: Increase the retention rate and graduation rate of first-time full-time entering freshmen and provide faculty with tools and skills related to teaching freshmen.

Goals:
1. To improve student services, increase student retention success rate, and increase retention that leads to increased graduation rates through developing and implementing a comprehensive Student Success Center encompassing orientation, academic tracking, college adjustment and survival, and supplemental instruction for entry-level courses.
2. To enhance and increase professional development opportunities for faculty to develop sensitivity toward rural, disadvantaged, and underrepresented populations of students to increase the success rate of these students.
3. To enhance and increase professional development opportunities for faculty in sensitivity and mentoring skills training.

Student Success Services Program

Sponsoring Agency: TRIO-Student Support Services, U.S. Department of Education
Project Amount: $385,000
Duration of Project: 2005-06, 2006-07, Ongoing

Somewhat similar in focus as Title III, the TRIO program also emphasizes student success, but specifically targets high-risk students. TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with basic college requirements, and serves to motivate students toward the successful completion of their postsecondary education. The goal of SSS is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of participants and facilitate the transition from one level of higher education to the next.

Dr. George Daniel, Director, Student Success Center

Program Access for College Enhancement (PACE)

Sponsoring Agency: Tennessee Vocational Rehabilitation
Project Amount: $593,352
Duration of Project: 2004-05

The PACE program has offered a range of academic services to UT Martin students for over a decade. Former professor of education, Dr. Michelle Arant, assisted in the launch of the program and services. From tutoring to counseling and from note taking to academic advising, the PACE staff offers services to 100+ students per academic year.

Ms. Kathy Eskew, TRIO Project Director

Ms. Sharon Robertson, Assistant Director, Student Success Center

GED Testing

Sponsoring Agency: Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Project Amount: $34,150
Duration of Project: 2004-05

This project enabled UT Martin to provide the GED testing for Tennessee residents who have not received a high school diploma.
Dr. Tom Payne, Professor/ Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Accounting, Economics, Finance, and International Business

Dr. Paul Crapo, Director, Center for Global Studies

Business and International Business Education Program

Sponsoring Agency: U.S. Department of Education
Project Amount: $649,388
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07

The Global Business Education through Partnerships program was developed to enhance global awareness in West Tennessee through internationalizing the business curriculum and promoting international professional development and training programs through collaboration with economic development organizations and business partners. This program provided business leaders, faculty, and students a means to reshape their educational and training priorities by acquiring knowledge about the global economy (global awareness), gain a working knowledge of other cultures, languages, and business environments (global competence), and participate with business leaders from other countries in cross-cultural business training programs (global competition).

The program met its goal of enhancing global awareness in West Tennessee. It has enhanced College of Business and Public Affairs’ (CBPA) emphasis on globalization and had an enduring effect on the manner in which international programs are facilitated, both within the CBPA and across the university. As a direct result of the project, the CBPA has witnessed a more than four-fold increase in student participation in travel-study and study-abroad activities. As related to the awareness goal, over 75% of these students had never traveled outside of the United States. In addition, unprecedented numbers of students attended lectures and trade symposia and interacted with business leaders. Deeper experiences through study abroad and scholarly activities were also successful. The project has made a positive difference in the lives of the participating students. While more than 100 students were involved in travel-related programs, this effectiveness was exemplified by International Business Scholar Rachel Albritton, who compiled research, took classes, and studied abroad in support of her University Honors thesis entitled “The Role of Transparency and Requirements for Policy Standardization in Economic Development: The Case for Russian Bank Reform.”

Ms. Hollie Holt, Director, REED Center

Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center – City of Martin Building Renovation

Sponsoring Agency: USDA
Project Amount: $290,725
Project Duration: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07 - Ongoing

The mission of the University of Tennessee at Martin includes community outreach and economic development. To advance this mission and in accordance with their service objectives, the UT Martin chairs of excellence in banking and free enterprise founded the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center in 2005. UT Martin partnered with the City of Martin in the original proposal submitted to the Rural Business Opportunities Grant program (RBOG) through USDA. The City of Martin was awarded $60,000 in the grant to renovate a building in downtown Martin. The REED Center serves existing and prospective entrepreneurs and supports economic development in rural northwest Tennessee. The Center meets the multifaceted needs of entrepreneurs through a combination of one-on-one consultations, interactive training programs, and technical resources. The Center encourages and supports the emerging small business ventures and provides support to current businesses in the region. Through its network of partners including regional banks, governmental agencies, the Dortch Oldham Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Development, and other service organizations, the Center promotes job creation and retention, provides training and associated resources, and enhances the overall quality of life in rural northwest Tennessee.

In fiscal years 2004-2005 through 2006-2007, agencies awarded UT Martin more than 65 external awards totaling more than $20,000,000. Funding sources included private foundations, and federal and state agencies such as the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Education, the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, the Tennessee Arts Commission, and the Tennessee Department of Human Services.

Faculty and Staff Salaries from Sponsored Programs

Financial Information

Dollars from Sponsored Programs

Proposals Submitted vs. Proposals Funded

From 2004-2007, the yield rate of proposals submitted and funded at UT Martin increased from 59% to 72%.
Dear Fellow Tennessean:

What is the role of externally sponsored grants on a college campus? Many of us associate grants with sophisticated labs, super computers, and medical research. As a campus that emphasizes teaching, service, and research, UT Martin uses sponsored funding:

- to create programs that provide professional development for K-12 teachers throughout West Tennessee;
- to establish distance learning facilities to afford educational and training opportunities to rural West Tennessee populations in public schools, law enforcement institutions and agencies, and social and medical services providers;
- that connect faculty and students with numerous cultural and international opportunities;
- that develop and/or strengthen relationships between UT Martin and community business and industry partners; and
- that further research agendas of faculty members.

Sponsored funding also represents a good investment for UT Martin fiscal viability. UT Martin, like many institutions of higher education, has become a state supported rather than a state funded institution. Consequently, grants provide additional salaries, undergraduate and graduate tuition, and equipment that would be unavailable in this era of flat funding from the state government. Sponsoring programs also enable staff to create programs and provide services that support our students in their academic experiences.

The University of Tennessee is committed to student access and success, research and economic development, and outreach and globalization. One venue of achieving these goals is through externally sponsored grants, which are becoming more competitive to secure. Not all proposals submitted are funded, however, all require commitment and many hours of preparation.

The graphics on the previous page reinforce UT Martin’s commitment to achieving these goals and evidence the creativity and hard work of the university’s faculty and staff in writing, securing, and managing the grants. Between FY04/05 and FY06/07, the university increased its awards from 59% to 72%, which is significantly higher than the national average of 30% proposals funded. During this same time, dollars from sponsored funding have steadily increased, and additional salaries have provided fiscal flexibility in a restrictive state budget environment. As you read through this publication, you will note how many of these projects involved collaborative partnerships among and between the agriculture, business, education, and health care sectors throughout West Tennessee. The Office of Research, Grants, and Contracts continues to build upon this foundation to amplify the impact of UT Martin in our service area. These are exciting times for UT Martin and our region. Sincerely,

Joan K. West, Ph. D.,
Director of Research, Grants, and Contracts

*Working on funding for our grant introduced us to a wonderfully competent and experienced Research and Grants staff. With their help, successful funding has resulted in full tuition, stipends, and guaranteed employment upon graduation for ten social work students annually, certification of students interested in working in the field of child welfare, and endless research opportunities for our faculty and with other universities’ faculty throughout the state. In addition, funds for faculty development and other projects have been provided which otherwise would not have been available. Through this grant we are contributing to our region and having a real impact on children and families’ lives daily.*

Ms. Cynthia West, Associate Professor (Acting Chair), Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work, and Criminal Justice

See page 15.