

addenda



The University of Tennessee at Martin Faculty and Staff Newsletter | July 17, 2017

Carver appointed to represent Tennessee's four-year institutions

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission selected Dr. Keith Carver, UT Martin chancellor, to serve as the four-year implementation lead on Tennessee's Complete College America state team.

Carver, who is entering his 20th year of service within the University of Tennessee System, joined six other team members, including a representative of Tennessee's two-year institutions, at Complete College America's Summer Action Summit on July 13-14 to kick off the national campaign.

Teams from 36 participating states plus the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Central Valley Higher Education Consortium from California met to discuss national and state-specific

policies with regard to higher education and the increase of college completion rates.

According to completecollege.org, only 41 percent of full-time students at four-year flagship schools and 19 percent of full-time students at four-year non-flagship schools complete requirements for a bachelor's degree within four years. These numbers rise to 75 percent and 48 percent, respectively, when students are given six years to complete their degrees.

The Complete College Act strives not only to increase the number of Americans who finish their college degrees, but also to increase the number who finish within the intended four-year period.

UT Martin has already implemented the Soar in Four academic plan, approved by the

UT Board of Trustees in June 2016, which encourages students to complete 15 credit hours per semester and complete their undergraduate degrees in four years.

The tuition model also funded the creation of a new Office of Career Planning and Development, which helps students narrow their career goals and connect with potential internships and employers before graduation.

This model, combined with the efforts of the Complete College America teams, aims to help Gov. Bill Haslam's higher education initiatives including the Tennessee STRONG Act and the Drive to 55 campaign.

For more information on Complete College America, visit completecollege.org.



Dr. Keith Carver, chancellor

**COMPLETE
COLLEGE
AMERICA**

UT Martin recognized as affordable degree option

Four recent program rankings have cited the affordability of the University of Tennessee at Martin's various degree programs as a major asset to those choosing to attend.

Schools.com has ranked UT Martin sixth among the "Best four-year colleges in Tennessee," making it the top-ranked institution in the UT System. According to the Tennessee College Guide, there are approximately 35 public and private universities in the state.

The website cites UT Martin's affordability as a major factor in the ranking, stating that the university placed in the 96th percentile nationally for both middle and low-income student cost.

The UT Martin master's degree program in educational counseling is also praised for its price tag. AffordableColleges.com has ranked the program 17th in its list of the "most affordable online master's degrees in educational

counseling." UT Martin is the top-ranked Tennessee program on this list.

This ranking follows the program's recent mentions by AffordableCollegesOnline.org, OnlineU.org, CollegeValuesOnline.com and BestColleges.com for price, course selection, time to completion and program quality.

Master-of-Finance.org ranks UT Martin's Master of Business Administration degree with online cohorts for financial

service professionals 16th on its list of the "Most Affordable Online MBA in Finance Degree Programs."

UT Martin's MBA program is also nationally ranked on MastersProgramsGuide.com's list of the "50 Best Online MBA Degree Programs." UT Martin is the only Tennessee school to be included in this ranking.

YoUTMs

highlighting the excellence of
our faculty and staff



Dr. Jeffrey Longacre, associate professor of English, attended the 2017 North American James Joyce Conference in Toronto, Canada, on June 21-25, where he presented a paper titled "Gabriel's Galoshes and the Diaspora of 'The Dead.'"



Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean, College of Humanities and Fine Arts, has published an article titled "Diminishing Violence: Strategizing Character in Industrial Fiction," in the summer issue of "Victoriographies." The essay examines the strategies used by Elizabeth Gaskell and George Eliot to create sympathy for their working-class characters, even when the men resort to violence.



Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music, recently served as state chair for the Tennessee Music Teachers Association's 2017 conference and state competitions held on campus June 3-6 and hosted by the UT Martin Department of Music and the Martin Area Music Teachers Association. Approximately 200 pre-college students participated in the two-day competitions. Harriss and **Elwood Doss**, UT Martin piano technician, both presented conference sessions.

Several UT Martin faculty members attended the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences annual conference and expo held June 25-28 in Dallas, Texas. **Dr. Keith Dooley**, assistant professor of family and consumer sciences, presented a research poster titled "Ambivalence in Late-Life Caregiving Relationships - Examinations, Findings, and Implications for Families." **Dr. Lisa LeBleu**, professor of family and consumer sciences, and **Dr. Teresa Collard**, associate professor of communications, gave a joint oral presentation titled "Financial and Emotional Bank Accounts: Learning to Manage Your Money and Your Relationships." **Dr. Marti Herndon**, professor emeritus of family and consumer sciences, also gave a presentation titled "Financial Well-Being of At-Risk Families Receiving Child Care Scholarships." **Dr. Sue Byrd**, former chair of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, also attended the event.

One month remaining!

If you have not yet attended a training session on the new Canvas Learning Management System, please see the calendar on page 5 for dates. Blackboard will no longer be accessible after Aug. 31. All accounts will be disabled and courses will be archived after this date.

Drs. Rachna Tewari, Craig Darroch, Barbara Darroch, Ross Pruitt, Clint Ary, Sandy Mehlhorn and Todd Winters, all with the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, presented scholarly research at the annual North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture Conference at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind., on June 28-July 1. Presentation topics included UT Martin educational activities dealing with entrepreneurship, experiential learning, teamwork, online learning, homework and living-learning communities.

Dr. Elaine Harriss also conducted UT Martin's 2017 Piano Camp June 12-16 in the Fine Arts Building. Students attended daily sight-reading classes, ensemble rehearsals, theory classes and performance lessons. **Dr. Charles Lewis** taught theory courses. The University Trio - comprised of Harriss, Lewis and clarinetist Christa Frye - also performed for participants.

The Office of Educational Outreach welcomes **Dr. Adam Wilson** and **Jason Holloway** to its leadership team. Wilson began July 1 as the director of online delivery. He previously held this position in an interim capacity. He holds bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in history and has previously served as interim director of the Somerville operation. Holloway also began July 1 as assistant director of the UT Martin Ripley Center. He holds two Bachelor of Business Administration degrees with majors in finance and economics and has served the UT System in a variety of roles. Both are UT Martin alumni.

Addenda is published bi-weekly during the summer months. Please send Addenda news to Erin Chesnut at echesnut@utm.edu by noon on Thursday, July 20, for inclusion in the July 31 issue.

YoUTMs

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Dr. Adam Wilson (left), director of online delivery, and Craig Ingram (right), UT Martin webmaster, co-sponsored two weeklong summer workshops for online course development in June and July. Sixty faculty members representing all five academic colleges attended the workshops and learned best practices in online instruction as well as how to use the new tools in the Canvas Learning Management System.

Dr. Otha Britton, professor emeritus of computer science, was elected to serve as the next governor of the Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District of the Kiwanis Club during the 99th-annual convention on June 23-25 in Natchez, Miss. Britton has been a member of the Martin Kiwanis Club for 38 years, and his presidential term will begin Oct. 1. Several Kiwanis members with UT Martin affiliations attended the convention as area delegates.

**MARK YOUR
CALENDARS!**

UT Tribute
picnic with
President Joe
DiPietro
4:30 p.m.
Aug. 31

PLAN A TRAVEL STUDY!

Do you have an idea for a travel-study? Contact Lorrie Jackson (881-3582) or Jewel Franklin (881-1023) to make it happen!

Study shows Weakley County non-profit arts and culture sector to be \$1.4 million industry

The national “Arts and Prosperity 5” study, conducted by Americans for the Arts, recently concluded that the non-profit arts and culture sector in Weakley County is a significant contributor to the local economy, generating \$1.4 million in local expenditures.

According to the study, the eight non-profit arts and cultural organizations in Weakley County that chose to participate in the study spent just over \$211,500 and leveraged approximately \$1.2 million in additional spending by their audiences, for a total of around \$1.4 million.

These organizations and their audiences ultimately generated approximately \$160,000 in local and state government revenue.

This only includes organizations and audience members who responded to the survey, so the actual economic impact is likely much higher than recorded.

“We are fortunate, especially for a rural community, to have an array of opportunities to be exposed to in the arena of art and cultural experiences,” said Brad Thompson, director of community development for the city of Martin. “The university institution here in our own backyard has pushed us, in a positive way, to expand our horizons as a community through joint celebrations, events and collaborations.”

UT Martin participated in the study as one of 250 partners nationwide. Previous studies have concentrated on large

metropolitan areas, however this study included rural areas for the first time.

The Tennessee Arts Commission provided a grant to fund the local research component, while students from UT Martin’s Ned Ray McWherter Institute provided the manpower to collect more than 530 surveys from audience members and participants at various local arts venues in 2016, including the Tennessee Soybean Festival, and concerts and theatrical performances at both Westview High School and UT Martin. Dr. Charles Bradshaw, UT Martin Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages, directed the grant.

The national results from

“Arts and Prosperity 5” include data from more than 340 communities and regions representing all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. More than 14,000 organizations and 212,000 event attendees participated nationwide, making this the largest national arts study ever conducted.

“Arts and Prosperity 5” specifically seeks to examine how the arts have advanced since the end of the Great Recession.

Project economists from the Georgia Institute of Technology analyzed the collected data and customized an analysis model for each participating region.

To see complete national and local survey results, visit americansforthearts.org.

UT Martin alumna named 2017-18 UTAA president



Betsy Brasher, 2017-18 UTAA president and 1998 and 2003 UT Martin alumna

The University of Tennessee Alumni Association's board of governors selected UT Martin alumna Betsy Brasher as the organization's new president for the 2017-18 academic year.

"I have had the privilege of working with Betsy for more than 10 years, and I am convinced she is a great choice to lead and represent our alumni," said Kerry Witcher, UTAA assistant vice president

for alumni affairs. "Beyond dedicated, Betsy is a tremendous ambassador for UT Martin and the entire UT System."

Brasher is a 1998 and 2003 UT Martin graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a major in economics and a Master of Business Administration. She currently works as a senior vice president and relationship manager for First Tennessee Bank in Memphis.

Brasher first served on the UTAA board of governors in 2009-10 as chair of the UTAA Women's Council. In 2013-14, she served as treasurer and held positions on the UTAA finance and engagement committees. Prior to her service on the board, Brasher was active with the UT Martin Alumni Council and served as president in 2005. In 2016, she was named president-elect to serve alongside previous UTAA President Kimbrough Dunlap.

Part of the University of Tennessee Foundation, the University of Tennessee Alumni Association began in 1836 and

is one of the oldest alumni associations in the country. The association has grown to serve more than 370,000 former students who have studied at UT System campuses in Knoxville, Chattanooga, Martin, Memphis and Tullahoma. The UTAA board of governors, led by the UTAA president and consisting of 32 members, manages the affairs and finances of the association.

The UTAA board of governors also elected three additional executive officers.

John Staley (UT Chattanooga, '93) is now president-elect. He resides in Knoxville and is president and chief executive officer of Champion Physical Therapy. Along with being past president of the UT Chattanooga Physical Therapy Alumni Association, Staley served on the UT Chattanooga Alumni Council and board of directors. He is also involved with the UTAA Career Services Career Guide Program and has served on the UTAA annual giving, communications, marketing services and

engagement committees.

Delmont Jones (UT Knoxville, '97) has been elected UTAA treasurer. Jones resides in Nashville and is a recruiting manager for Ettain Group. He has been active with the Davidson County alumni chapter and served as president of the Nashville Region UT Knoxville alumni chapter. Jones has also served on the UTAA communications, engagement, marketing services and nominating committees.

Kimbrough Dunlap III is now the organization's past president and chair of annual giving. Dunlap resides in Brentwood and recently retired after the sale of his company, American Cellular. He has been an active member of the Davidson County Alumni Chapter and served as chapter president in 2008-09. He currently serves as a member of the Alumni Legislative Council and has served on the UTAA annual giving and communications committees.

UT Martin hosts workshops for area educators

The UT Martin Department of Educational Studies sponsored 55 professional development workshops throughout the month of June to help area educators prepare not only for the coming academic year, but also for the new Tennessee standards scheduled for implementation in 2018.

The workshops, funded by a U.S. Department of Education Teacher Quality Partnership Grant, focused on a variety of subjects including classroom organization and management; the universal design for learning; elementary, middle and high

school science; high school chemistry; robotics and more. More than 300 teachers from across West Tennessee attended the sessions.

"They're giving us some labs and activities that they do at the college level that we can also use in our classrooms to teach those standards and reinforce them so our students will hopefully do well on their end-of-course tests," said Kim Crews, a ninth-grade biology teacher at Obion County Central High School.

Many of the workshops sent participants home with kits of equipment to replicate the

activities in their classrooms. Kits from one particular high school STEM workshop included microscopes, beakers, scales, dissection kits, modeling materials and other equipment.

The TQP Grant provided approximately \$225,000 worth of educational supplies to area educators through these workshops. Versions of some kits will be stored in the UT Martin STEM Center for check-out by teachers who were not able to attend the workshops in person.

Read the full story in [the UT Martin news archives](#).

UT Martin is hosting the 94th Tennessee 4-H Roundup and All-Star Conference on July 24-28.

Please welcome these students to campus!

Employee Relations Council meeting notes, July 11

The UT Martin Employee Relations Council met July 11; a summary of the discussion is below. For more information, [contact the council representative for your area](#).

Karen Elmore, Paul Meek Library, encourages representatives from each area to join library staff members outside in the quad and parking lot areas to welcome students to campus on the first day of classes, Aug. 28, beginning at 7:30 a.m. Library staff members are available to help make welcome signs, if desired.

Construction on the north and east sides of Clement Hall should begin in January. Roofs

are being replaced on the north and west sides of Clement Hall and on the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. HVAC repairs for the Johnson EPS Building should begin in the spring, and lighting is currently being replaced in Gooch Hall.

Work on the north patio of the Boling University Center is replacing a leaking steam line. The Latimer Science and Engineering Building is in the programming phase and design should be completed in the fall. The new city sidewalks near the Hampton Inn will connect to campus sidewalks installed behind Skyhawk Park with new entrance monuments. Safety

concerns for the University Street crosswalk across from the Hall-Moody Administration Building were also discussed.

Training on use of the new position description and approval forms will be held at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., July 18 and 25. The Office of Human Resources is also beginning a complete review of all position descriptions starting with the Physical Plant and Maintenance areas, Office of Housing and the educational outreach centers.

Budget requests for fiscal year 2017-18 have been finalized and are available to view on the SharePoint website. Salary increases as determined by

area supervisors will take effect on the Aug. 1 paycheck for biweekly employees and the July 31 paycheck for monthly employees. All increases are retroactive to July 1.

Enrollment is up for first-time freshmen beginning in the fall semester as compared to this time last year. The first Tennessee Promise class will enter in the fall, and enrollment is up approximately 30 percent for transfer students.

UT Martin welcomes new hires Dr. John Burch, director of the Paul Meek Library, and Kurt McGuffin, director of intercollegiate athletics.

Calendar

•**July 17** - Training: Creating Assignments and Managing Grades in Canvas; 9 a.m.*

•**July 17** - Training: Managing Echo 360 Content in Canvas; 10 a.m.*

•**July 18** - Training: New position description forms; Brehm Hall, room 258; 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

•**July 19** - Training: Creating Assignments and Managing Grades in Canvas; 9 a.m.*

•**July 19** - Training: Tests and Quizzes in Canvas; 10 a.m.*

•**July 19** - Training: Office 365: Overview for Faculty and Staff; 2 p.m.*

•**July 20** - Training: Getting Started with Canvas; 9 a.m.*

•**July 20** - Training: Creating Assignments and Managing Grades in Canvas; 10 a.m.*

•**July 20** - Training: Tests and Quizzes in Canvas; 11 a.m.*

•**July 20** - Training: Office 365: Overview for Faculty and Staff; 2 p.m.*

•**July 21** - Last day to drop summer II courses

•**July 21** - Transfer and Adult Orientation; Boling University Center; 8 a.m.

•**July 21** - Training: Canvas for Campus Administrators; 9 a.m.*

•**July 21** - Training: Creating Assignments and Managing Grades in Canvas; 10 a.m.*

•**July 21** - Training: Tests and Quizzes in Canvas; 11 a.m.*

•**July 21** - Training: Office 365: Overview for Faculty and Staff; 2 p.m.*

•**July 24-28** - 94th Tennessee 4-H Roundup and All-Star Conference

•**July 24** - Training: Office 365: Overview for Faculty and Staff; 9 a.m.*

•**July 25** - Training: New position description forms; Brehm Hall, room 258; 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

•**July 26** - Training: Office 365:

Overview for Faculty and Staff; 3 p.m.*

•**July 27** - Training: Office 365: Overview for Faculty and Staff; 1 p.m.*

•**July 28** - Training: Office 365: Overview for Faculty and Staff; 10 a.m.*

•**July 28** - End of Summer Bash; Boling University Center; 1 p.m.

*All ITC training courses are held in room 215 of the Paul Meek Library. [Register online to attend](#).

You Tell Me

•**Question** - What campus recreational activities are open to the community during the summer?

•**Answer** - Community members can purchase memberships to the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center, which allow use of the pool, racquetball and basketball courts, although any athletics camps take priority when present. The Elam Center can also be accessed periodically for \$3 per day, per person. [Prices are posted online](#). The fitness trail is always open. The pool is open MWF 7:30-9 a.m.; weekdays 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.; T-F 2-6 p.m.; and weekends 1-5 p.m.

Submit your questions to the Suggestion Box link at www.utm.edu.

addenda

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