Students receive Honorable Delegation Award at second annual National Model Congress

Six students participated in the second annual National Model Congress Conference, Feb. 25-27, in Washington, D.C. The students represented real-world senators and representatives in writing, amending and passing bills through committees and in floor sessions.

The delegation received an Honorable Delegation Award for their performance during the proceedings. Rikki Erwin, a sophomore from Brighton, received a Distinguished Senator Award; Breydon Horton, a freshman from Camden, received a Distinguished Representative Award; and Justin Morgan, a senior from Cookeville, received an Honorable Representative Award.

The conference is open to students from domestic and international institutions. Participants introduced almost 50 bills during the mock Congressional session, but only three were ultimately signed into law by the Model Congress president at the end of the conference. Two of those bills were written and sponsored by UT Martin students.

“The experience that is provided by National Model Congress is second to none,” said Jordan Long, a freshman from Martin. “Since it is a new program, we will leave a lasting impression on the program forever with our skills and experience.”

HONORABLE DELEGATION – Six students from the University of Tennessee at Martin participated in the second annual National Model Congress Conference, Feb. 25-27, in Washington, D.C. Pictured during the conference are (l-r) Rikki Erwin, a sophomore from Brighton; Breydon Horton, a freshman from Camden; Justin Morgan, a senior from Cookeville; Dr. Anderson Starling, assistant professor of political science; Drew Cagle, a junior from Dyersburg; Dezie Gude, a junior from Jackson; and Jordan Long, a freshman from Martin.

Dezie Gude, a junior from Jackson, and Drew Cagle, a junior from Dyersburg, also participated in the conference. The students were accompanied by Dr. Anderson Starling, assistant professor of political science.

For more information on the National Model Congress, visit nationalmodelcongress.org/ or contact Starling at 731-881-7305 or by email at astarlin@utm.edu.

Spring Preview Day
March 19
YoUTMs

Dr. Tom Rakes, professor of educational studies and former UT Martin chancellor, will be inducted into the University of Tennessee Educators Hall of Honor during a ceremony March 31 at the Knoxville Crown Plaza Hotel. The event is hosted by Dr. Bob Rider, dean, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences, and emceed by Bob Kesling, the “voice of the Vols.” Rakes will be honored for more than 44 years of commitment and contributions to higher education for his leadership, development and scholarly productivity. Rakes received his doctorate from UT Knoxville in 1972.

Drs. Kim Williams, Karen DiBella, Patricia Hewitt, Louis Glover and Joyce Swan, all of the Department of Educational Studies, will attend the National Science Teachers Association National Conference on March 31-April 3. The Teacher Quality Partnership Grant team has awarded full scholarships for 11 local K-12 science teachers to attend as well. The TQP Grant also allowed 18 local K-12 mathematics teachers to attend the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Regional Conference and Exposition in Nashville last fall.

Drs. Elaine Harriss (above, left), professor of music, and Johnathan Vest (above, right), associate professor of music, presented a program titled “Piano Music of Poulenc” at Union University in Jackson on Feb. 22 and at Delta State University in Cleveland, Miss., on Feb. 29. Harriss opened the program with Poulenc’s musical setting for piano of “L’Histoire de Babar” (“The Story of Babar, the Little Elephant”). Vest served as narrator using illustration slides prepared by Lane Last, professor of art. Harriss and Vest then performed Poulenc’s “Sonata for Two Pianos,” considered to be one of the masterpieces for piano duo.

The X4 Percussion Quartet, which includes Drs. Julie Hill (background, right) and Dan Piccolo (foreground, left), both of the Department of Music, performed three concerts in its debut tour. The ensemble performed at UT Martin on Feb. 26, at Vanderbilt University on March 1 and at the Tennessee State Day of Percussion on March 5. The other ensemble members are Ji Hye Jung (foreground, right), of Vanderbilt University, and Dr. Josh Smith (background, left), of Bethel University.

Send your Addenda news to Nathan Morgan at nmorga15@utm.edu by Wednesday of each week.

The UT Martin Department of Music recently hosted three distinguished guest performers as part of their spring 2016 percussion guest artist series. Albert Alfonso, of Dallas, Texas, presented an Irish bodhrán workshop Feb. 4, and Brian Rice, of the bay area, presented a two-day Brazilian pandeiro residency Feb. 7-8, both sponsored by the UT Martin Percussion Society. Rich Redmond, of Nashville, presented a clinic Feb. 29, which included drum set techniques and tips for working in the freelance music scene.

Jason Stout, associate professor of art, has three paintings on display in the “Equality Matters: Conversations on Gender and Race” exhibit at William Woods University in Fulton, Mo. This exhibit is part of a weeklong symposium on equality topics. Stout also has two drawings included in the Dogwood Arts Regional Fine Arts Exhibition at the Emporium Center in Knoxville and one piece selected for the 29th annual McNeese State Works on Paper show at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, La. Stout is also included in the UT Martin faculty arts show opening March 15 in the Fine Arts Building Gallery.
Fine arts faculty to display talents in upcoming exhibit

Several faculty members from the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will display their personal artwork during an exhibition titled “Clue.” The display will be open to the public March 15-27 in the Fine Arts Building Gallery.

Department faculty members Jason Stout, associate professor; Sarah Haig, assistant professor; David McBeth, professor; Grace Eckert, lecturer; Dr. Carol Eckert, professor; and Diane Shaw, professor, will assemble an eclectic assortment of artistic styles, including abstract oil landscapes, three-dimensional work and mixed-media sculpture.

An opening reception will be held from 5-6:30 p.m., March 15, to welcome guests and introduce the artists to the community. Refreshments will be available.

The Fine Arts Building Gallery is open 5-7 p.m., Tuesday; 1-7 p.m., Wednesday; 4-8 p.m., Thursday-Saturday; and 1-5 p.m., Sunday. There is no charge for admission.

For more information, contact the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7400.

Schedule a university photographer early!
Call University Relations at 731-881-7615

Did you know...
A record number of the 2014 freshman class (74.5 percent) returned to UT Martin for their sophomore year!

Weekend power outages affect main campus services

Heavy rains Saturday night likely contributed to power and Internet outages that stretched into late Sunday on the main campus. The backup generator in Crisp Hall failed to respond because of a broken part, which complicated the situation.

The Weakley County Municipal Electric System, Physical Plant, Department of Public Safety, Information Technology Services and Office of Housing all responded as power and Internet service were restored gradually through the day Sunday.

Many worked overnight Saturday to address the critical interruptions in service, and Department of Housing employees conducted fire watch walks of all buildings every hour until power was restored.

“Numerous people stepped up to work late and long hours to address this situation,” said Interim Chancellor Bob Smith. “We’re grateful for the response by our own staff members in multiple areas, as well as the quick action of WCMES to restore power. We are fortunate to have a dedicated staff so committed to doing what it takes to keep us functioning.”

All services are functioning normally as of Monday morning. Anyone who experiences further difficulties should contact the Information Technology Helpdesk at 731-881-7900.

WORKING TOGETHER – Employees from the Weakley County Municipal Electric System responded to power and Internet outages on the UT Martin main campus over the weekend. Power went out around 11 p.m. on Saturday and was gradually restored through the day on Sunday. The employees pictured are working to restore power on the quad side of the Sociology Building.
This week in music

The Department of Music will host two public performances this week. All events are free and held in the Blankenship Recital Hall in the Fine Arts Building unless otherwise noted.

• The University Trio will present a program at 7:30 p.m., March 15. The trio is comprised of UT Martin Department of Music faculty members Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music, on piano, and Charles Lewis, adjunct professor, on the flute, as well as Dr. Krista Frye, adjunct professor of music at Bethel University, on clarinet.
  
  The group will perform a variety of works including composer Eric Ewazen’s “Palisades Suite,” which musically explores the four seasons of nature, and Gwyneth Walker’s “Full Circle.” Dr. Amy Yeung, UT Martin professor of voice, will join the trio as a soprano in Catherine McMichael’s “Dog Chronicles,” a whimsical look at dogs and their masters.
  
  • Dr. Roberto Mancusi, associate professor of music, will give a recital titled “Letters, Love and All That Jazz” at 7:30 p.m., March 19, accompanied by Dr. Wayne Crannel, director of the choral/vocal area at Austin College in Sherman, Texas. Crannel served as Mancusi’s vocal instructor during the latter’s days at Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa. The pair will present a concert of solos, duets and vocal ensembles.

For more information on these and other music events, contact the department at 731-881-7402.

The Paul Meek Library Speaker Series presents
Jeff Hardin, author

“Imagining the Language, Imagining a Life”

7:30 p.m., April 7, Paul Meek Library

YoU Tell Me

“Questions and Answers” about UT Martin

• Question – How does a UT Martin student earn a place on the Chancellor’s Honor Roll?

• Answer – Students must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses are not included) and achieve at least a 3.2 (B) grade point average on a 4.0 scale. Students can make the Chancellor’s Honor Roll with honors (3.2-3.49), high honors (3.5-3.79) or highest honors (3.8-4.0). The Chancellor’s Honor Roll is based on the grade point average earned during that particular semester, not the overall grade point average. A full explanation of eligibility can found on page 71 of the 2015-16 university catalog and in the “Chancellor’s Corner” section of the UT Martin homepage. Names of those who earn this distinction are sent to the hometown newspaper indicated in the students’ Banner records at the end of the spring, summer and fall semesters.