UT Martin’s 16th annual Civil Rights Conference, hosted Feb. 15-20, will focus on “Unfinished Business: the Continuing Struggle for Civil Rights in America.” Rev. William Barber II will give the keynote address at 7 p.m., Feb. 18.

Barber is currently the chairman of the North Carolina chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the largest chapter in the southern United States and second-largest in the nation.

He is also the leader of the “Moral Monday Movement,” which defends against attacks on voting rights and social programs affecting black and poor people. Barber received his Master of Divinity degree from Duke University.

Conference events began last night with a showing of the Oscar-winning film “Selma,” which focuses on the 1965 civil rights battle in Selma, Ala.

All presentations will be given in Watkins Auditorium of the Boling University Center and are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

UT Martin is one of only two public universities in the country to host an annual Civil Rights Conference.

For more information, contact Dr. David Barber, associate professor of history and conference coordinator, at 731-881-7465 or by email at dbarber@utm.edu.

CONFERENCE PERFORMANCE – The UT Martin Collegiate Gospel Choir is shown performing before the keynote speaker’s address during the 2015 Civil Rights Conference. UT Martin is one of only two public universities in the country to host an annual Civil Rights Conference and boasts the longest-running event in the South.
YoUTMs faculty, staff and student excellence

Sunset Over the Weald

Dr. Roberto Mancusi and Dr. Johnathan Vest, both associate professors in the Department of Music, were recently featured on a British CD release of vocal music by F. L. Dunkin Wedd. The CD is called “Sunset Over the Weald” and includes a song commissioned by Mancusi as the musical setting of the poem “Invictus” by William Ernest Henley. The composer asked Mancusi to record the song for the CD; Vest accompanies on piano. The CD is available on iTunes.

Several faculty members from the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources spoke to the Weakley County Advanced Master Beef Producers class held Jan. 11-16. Brad Buttrey, laboratory instructor, spoke to the group about cattle reproduction, management of the reproductive cycle and the use of various reproductive technologies. Dr. Emalee Buttrey, assistant professor, discussed the nutritional management of a beef cow herd and Dr. Ross Pruitt, associate professor, examined marketing strategies for herd owners. Dr. Jason Roberts, professor, addressed herd health management.

EDUCATING AN INDUSTRY – Dr. Jason Roberts, professor of animal science, was one of four UT Martin faculty members to address the Weakley County Advanced Master Beef Producers class held Jan. 11-16. Roberts spoke on important strategies for beef cattle herd health management. Brad Buttrey and Drs. Emalee Buttrey and Ross Pruitt also gave lectures in their respective fields.

REPRESENTING UT MARTIN – Brad and Dr. Emalee Buttrey, both of the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources, and 10 students attended the Tennessee Cattlemen’s Association annual convention and trade show Feb. 4-6 in Murfreesboro. The group set up informational booths to represent the department and the UT Martin chapter of the Student Cattlemen’s Association during the event.
Sen. Gardenhire takes special interest in UT Martin students

UT Martin engineering students may soon have an opportunity to intern with Astec Industries Inc. thanks to the help of Sen. Todd Gardenhire (R-Chattanooga).

Gardenhire visited the UT Martin campus in August 2015 and toured the Johnson EPS Building, including the only undergraduate asphalt laboratory in Tennessee.

Gardenhire communicated with Astec Industries and opened the door for a potential UT Martin student internship position at the company.

Astec is a global leader in the manufacturing of equipment for asphalt road building; oil, gas and water well drilling; and wood processing, among other industries.

“We’re excited about the possibility of placing a student at Astec,” said Dr. Rich Helgeson, dean, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences. “We’re working to identify an appropriate student for the position.”

Astec is based in Hamilton County, and the summer internship would take place at the operation’s headquarters.

Inaugural State of the University Address
with Dr. Joe DiPietro
3 p.m. CST, Feb. 16, from Nashville -- webcast via www.tennessee.edu

Vanguard Theatre to feature The Bard in upcoming production


Performances will begin at 8 p.m., Feb. 25-27 and Feb. 29-March 3, with a matinee at 3 p.m., Feb. 28, in the Vanguard Little Theatre of the Fine Arts Building.

As London’s longest-running comedy, “The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)” is sure to bring laughter to everyone and will take the audience through all 37 of Shakespeare’s plays in 97 minutes.

Tickets will be available from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. beginning Feb. 22 in the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts Main Office. They can also be purchased at the Vanguard Box Office, which opens two hours prior to each performance. Tickets are $5 for children and students, and $15 for adults.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 731-881-7400 or 731-881-7090.
UT Martin partners with Promethean Foundation to assess and assist at-risk children in Obion County

The Promethean Foundation is a nonprofit organization that allows preschool-aged children from at-risk families to attend high-quality childcare centers at no personal cost.

The foundation will continue to evaluate the impact of early childhood education for generations to come, thanks to a new partnership with UT Martin. Established in 2004 through the Robert E. and Jenny D. Kirkland Foundation, the Promethean Foundation operates under the direction of the Union City Rotary Club.

The children selected to participate in the early childhood intervention program are assessed from preschool through high school graduation in order to study the variables found at different life stages.

Now, a new agreement between the foundation and the university allows UT Martin faculty increased access to the program’s information database and clears a path for greater cross-disciplinary study of the results.

A program task force, comprised of three UT Martin faculty members and three foundation members, will soon be created to ensure the validity and continuation of this research.

UT Martin students will be able to partner with faculty members to conduct research on the collected data, thus opening the doors for more advanced student research projects, which could in turn benefit the children and families of the local area.

Cathy Waggoner, Promethean Foundation administrator, and Dr. Martha Herndon, retired professor, UT Martin Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, developed the program in collaboration with community professionals and the foundation’s board of directors.

The curriculum used by participating childcare providers includes school readiness skills based on the Tennessee Early Learning Developmental Standards with a character development component unique to the foundation.

More than 1,600 local children have applied to participate in the Promethean Foundation since 2004, of which more than 1,400 have been approved for funding. The foundation currently finances an average of 260 children who attend childcare daily.

For more information on UT Martin’s role in this project, contact Dr. Keith Dooley, assistant professor, UT Martin Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, at 731-881-7112 or by email at wdooley@utm.edu. Dooley will serve as project leader in this endeavor.

A NEW AGREEMENT – UT Martin has partnered with the Promethean Foundation to ensure continued support and research of early childcare intervention practices in Obion County. Pictured at the signing meeting are (seated, l-r) Jenny Kirkland, co-founder, Promethean Foundation; Dr. Robert Smith, UT Martin interim chancellor; (standing) Cathy Waggoner, administrator and program co-creator, Promethean Foundation; Dr. Martha Herndon, UT Martin retired professor and program co-creator; Dr. Keith Dooley, assistant professor and project leader; Dr. Todd Winters, dean, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; and Dr. Sue Byrd, chair, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Last call for nominations for the 2016 Harold Love Outstanding Community Service Awards

Due to Dr. George Daniel, Administration 218, by 5 p.m. tomorrow
Send your Addenda news to Nathan Morgan at nmorga15@utm.edu.

• Feb. 15-20 – 16th annual UT Martin Civil Rights Conference, see article on pg. 1
• Feb. 15 – Junior/Senior Day
• Feb. 15 – Women’s basketball vs. Belmont; Elam Center; 2 p.m.; wear orange
• Feb. 16 – League of Striving Artists exhibition opening; Fine Arts Building Art Gallery; 9 a.m.
• Feb. 16 – Nominations due for the 2016 Harold Love Outstanding Community Service Awards; 218 Administration; 5 p.m.
• Feb. 18 – Men’s basketball vs. Eastern Illinois; Elam Center; 6 p.m.
• Feb. 19-21 – Softball at Chattanooga Frost Classic
• Feb. 19 – Baseball at Jackson State; 6 p.m.
• Feb. 20 – Rifle at NCAA Qualifier; Murray, Ky.
• Feb. 20 – Tennis at Middle Tennessee State University; noon
• Feb. 20 – Men’s basketball vs. SIU Edwardsville; Elam Center; 4 p.m.; senior/alumni night
• Feb. 20 – Tennis at East Tennessee State University; 4 p.m.
• Feb. 20 – Men’s basketball vs. SIU Edwardsville; Elam Center; 6 p.m.
• Feb. 21 – Baseball at Jackson State; 1 p.m.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH – Rebecca Bloodworth (left), a senior biology major from Hornbeak, and Amber Taylor, a senior chemistry major from Martin, recently attended the 2016 American Physical Society Conference on Undergraduate Women in Physics and presented a poster titled “Progress toward the Design and Construction of a Low-cost Raman Spectrometer.” Bloodworth and Taylor were invited to attend the conference based on application essays, academic achievement and service to their campus organizations. Six other students are also involved in the research project but were unable to attend the conference. The research is supported by a grant from the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the Department of Chemistry and Physics.

Did you know...
UT Martin is home to the first and only meteorology concentration in Tennessee.

Skyhawk Saturday Tours
Next Tour Date – Saturday, March 12
Register at utm.edu/departments/admissions/campvisit.php

Send your Addenda news to Nathan Morgan at nmorga15@utm.edu.

“Questions and Answers” about UT Martin
• Question – Does UT Martin publish a speakers guide?
• Answer – Yes, you can find the university’s Guide to Speakers and Sources at www.utm.edu/departments/univrel/resources.php. Being listed in the guide is voluntary, and faculty and staff members who participate are listed according to expertise. Listings do not have to be related to academic or professional credentials. Persons who are knowledgeable in other subject areas, such as a personal hobby, can also be listed. Updates are typically completed in the fall after the arrival of new faculty, but if you wish to be added other times of the year, contact Norma Coalter at ncoalter@utm.edu in the Office of University Relations.

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