The University of Tennessee at Martin received national accolades from the U.S. News and World Report 2022 Best Online Programs, including a top-50 ranking for the online Master of Business Administration program.

U.S. News and World Report ranks academic programs based on the excellence of students, graduation rates and instructor credentials. The UT Martin Online MBA program tied 42nd out of 331 universities nationally. The MBA program is housed in the College of Business and Global Affairs and is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, AACSB International. Open to students in all fields, the Online MBA is cohort-based, with approximately 25 students per cohort. The program is designed to be completed in as few as 18 months.

“I was extremely pleased to hear about our Online MBA program being ranked 42nd in the nation and one of the top programs in the state of Tennessee,” said Dr. Ahmad Tootoonchi, College of Business and Global Affairs dean. “I am inspired by the news and proud of our outstanding team of faculty and staff, as well as our students, for their commitment to continuously enhance the reputation of our university.”

UT Martin’s online bachelor’s degree programs tied for 101 out of 363 ranked universities in the report, and the online Master’s in Education also made the list by tying for 192 out of 327 universities.

“We are proud of the efforts our faculty and staff take to engage students and ensure they receive a high-quality education,” Dr. Adam Wilson, UT Martin Online director, said. “Our online programs enable students to be successful and earn an affordable degree on their schedule.”

For more information about UT Martin online degree programs, visit www.utm.edu/onlinestudies.

Jahnae Woods, a senior political science major, works on her laptop in UT Martin’s Paul Meek Library. UT Martin recently received national accolades from the U.S. News and World Report 2022 Best Online Programs.
Dr. David Barber, professor of history, recently had his op-ed, “Confronting Confederate heritage is key to understanding white supremacy,” published in the Commercial Appeal.

Barber’s column, which addresses the ties between Southern heritage and white supremacy, says “if we hold up the heritage of a white supremacist society, even if we do so in denial of what that heritage really is, in the end, we reap only hatred, violence, fear, and our own spiritual impoverishment, as is testified to by the entirety of this country’s history.”

To read Barber’s entire piece, click here.

Dr. Patrick Baker, J.D., associate professor of business law, recently co-authored an article entitled “Accreditation Information Produced by United States Law Schools to the American Bar Association Should be Made Available to the Public from Both Law and Policy Perspectives” published by Loyola University of Chicago Consumer Law Review. Baker’s co-authors were Henry Webb, a law professor at Palm Beach Atlantic University, and Kaleb Byars, a 2018 UT Martin graduate and a 2021 UT Knoxville Law School graduate currently clerking for Federal District Court Judge Thomas Varlan.

Dr. Chris Baxter, professor of political science, has been accepted to the winter 2022 cohort of The National Constitution Center’s Teacher Advisory Council. The council supports the center by sharing best practices for teaching constitutional and civic topics—looking at the intersection of U.S. history and current events. The National Constitution Center in Philadelphia was chartered by Congress “to disseminate information about the United States Constitution on a nonpartisan basis in order to increase awareness and understanding of the Constitution among the American people.”

Dr. Sean Walker, professor of behavioral management, was featured in WalletHub’s recent piece about “States With the Highest Job Resignation Rates.” You can find the story here. WalletHub, based in Washington, D.C., is a financial website that offers information such as credit-improvement advice and personalized savings alerts. The site’s business-related features are supplemented with information from subject-matter experts.

Submit your YoUTM. Email us at addenda@utm.edu

MURDER TO MERCY – Cyntoia Brown-Long (right) holds a book signing Monday, Feb. 7, in the Nunnelly Family Welcome Center. Brown-Long delivered the keynote address earlier that night for UT Martin’s 22nd annual Civil Rights Conference. When she was 16, Brown-Long was sentenced to life for killing a man in self-defense. Fifteen years later, she was granted clemency by former Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam. Since her release, she has used her platform to advocate for criminal justice reform and the ending of human trafficking. The Civil Rights Conference will continue until the 28th.

To see more photos from the Cyntoia Brown-Long event, visit utm.edu/photo.
Love is in the Air

Kneeling to the ground, Tate Chumley proposes to Julie Allen, Saturday, Feb. 12, in the UT Martin quad. Chumley, who graduated from UT Martin in May 2021, is a member of the Skyhawk Golf team, and Allen, who also graduated in December 2021, was a member of the Skyhawk cheer squad. Chumley popped the question by surprising Allen as she made her way onto the quad Saturday afternoon. When Allen rounded the corner of the Hall-Moody Administration Building near Brehm Hall, Chumley was waiting for her in the quad with flowers, balloons, yard signs, and of course, the ring. Allen said “yes,” and the pair plan to wed next summer.
You Tell Me

• **Question** – How can I know the correct way to reference university spaces and buildings that are named for a person or organization?

• **Answer** – Using correct primary and secondary references to university and building spaces honors individuals and organizations who support the university. The Guide to UT Martin Facility Namings and Dedications is found at the Resources link on the Office of University Relations website. In addition to noting the correct primary and secondary references, the link also offers a brief history for many university buildings and spaces. As an example, the Russell Duncan Ballroom is an often-used meeting and event space, and the proper reference honors the late Russell Duncan, longtime Boling University Center director. Duncan Ballroom is an acceptable second reference, but referencing the space as the “University Center Ballroom” is best avoided in official communication.

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