Three UT Martin administrators complete Executive Leadership Institute

Three UT Martin administrators have completed the University of Tennessee Executive Leadership Institute program. Dr. Nancy Buschhaus, of Palmersville, interim dean for the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences; Edie Gibson, of Martin, senior adviser to the chancellor; and Dr. Mark McCloud, of Martin, chief diversity and inclusion officer, were among 23 participants in the institute’s 2022 class. This year’s cohort is the third in the program’s history.

Buschhaus has taught in the Department of Biological Sciences for 25 years and was serving as department chair before being named interim dean in June. She previously served as undergraduate council chair for the UT Martin Faculty Senate and has participated in committee work associated with enrollment and faculty evaluation.

In addition to her role as senior advisor to the chancellor, Gibson serves as secretary to the UT Martin Advisory Board and is institutional compliance chair for the campus. During her 32-year UT Martin career, Gibson has overseen institutional research and served as senior woman administrator for intercollegiate athletics.

McCloud was appointed chief diversity and inclusion officer in spring 2021 and previously served as the director for the Office of Career Planning and Development. McCloud also serves as the director of diversity and inclusion for the Southern Association for College and Employers and received the organization’s 2020 Mosaic Award for his dedication to diversity and inclusion initiatives.
YoUTMs highlighting the excellence of our faculty and staff

After serving a year as president-elect, Dr. Todd Winters, dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, became president of the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) at the group’s national conference in June.

Dr. Tommy Cates, Tom E. Hendrix COE in Free Enterprise, provided two presentations “Recipe For An Entrepreneur?” and “Supersize SWOT Analysis That Develops a Strategy for a Business” at the 2022 Institute for CTE Educators in Chattanooga on July 20.

Dr. Mahmoud Haddad, professor of finance, provided information for WalletHub.com’s “Best Credit Cards With No Annual Fee” feature, where he answered questions about credit card annual fees. WalletHub is a personal finance website; the article can be read here.

Paul Anderson, assistant professor emeritus of journalism, died July 9 in Danville, Kentucky. He came to the Department of Communications on Sept. 1, 1986, and he retired from UT Martin at the end of the 1995-96 academic year. You can read more about his life at this link. Visitation was July 13 at Stith Funeral home in Danville, and graveside services were July 14 at Camp Nelson National Cemetery.

Dr. Adnan Rasool, assistant professor of political science, recently had his article titled “The case for smart diplomacy: Evidence from Taiwan’s New Southbound Policy” published in the journal Asian Politics and Policy. The article was coauthored with Casey Ruggiero, a senior international studies major.

Rasool also had a second article titled “Tuning into Student Learning: The Music of IR Theories” published in the Journal of Political Science Education. This article was coauthored with Dr. Carrie Humphreys, also assistant professor.

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In Memory

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year since the conference’s inception in 1999. A panel at the conclusion of the conference will address questions about global economics, trade, agricultural markets, weather and climate change and their effects on business.

For more information, contact Traci Crawford, Mid-South Agricultural Finance Conference program coordinator, at tcrawf19@utm.edu or 731-881-7350.
ENTERS TENNESSEE SPORTS HALL OF FAME – Bettye Giles, pictured with Chancellor Keith Carver, was officially welcomed July 23 into the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame in Nashville. The induction event was held at the Omni Nashville Downtown Hotel and follows the 2020 announcement of her hall of fame membership. The induction event was delayed two years because of the pandemic, so the July 23 event included recognition of the 2020 and 2021 classes and the announcement of the 2022 class. Giles served as director of UT Martin women’s athletics from 1969 until her retirement in 1994. Her leadership and activism coincided with the Title IX education amendments of 1972, which require federally funded educational institutions to provide fair and equal treatment in all areas of educational programming, including sports. Honored in the 2021 class was UT Martin graduate Brandon Rowland, of Jackson, a double amputee and accomplished athlete who led the Jackson Generals wheelchair basketball team to two National Wheelchair Basketball Association titles in the early 2000s. Art Sparks, also an alum and UT Martin Advisory Board chair, is a member of the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame board of directors.

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The institute is part of UT System President Emeritus Joe DiPietro’s legacy and was established to prepare internal candidates for future leadership positions and complement current succession-planning efforts within the UT System. The institute is led by Dr. Bob Smith, senior associate for leadership and talent development to the UT president and UT Martin chancellor emeritus. The institute offers participants coaching and mentorship as well as experiential learning opportunities and access to online leadership courses to use toward creation of individualized development plans. This year’s class met six times throughout the year for multi-day sessions.

The 23 members of the 2022 class represented each UT campus and institute and oversee critical functions within the UT System. Participants must be nominated by a university president, a campus chancellor, an institute’s vice president, the UT Foundation president or a UT System vice president. Other 2022 institute class members were:
- Evan Beech, UT Foundation Inc., director of specialized giving;
- Doug Bohner, UT Institute of Agriculture, human resource officer;
- Brian Daniels, UT System administration, chief audit and compliance officer;
- Ellie Dougherty, UT System administration, director of marketing;
- Vicki Farnsworth, UT Chattanooga, chief information officer;
- Dr. Teresa Hartnett, UT Health Science Center, associate dean for finance and administration in the College of Medicine;
- Adam Heller, UT Foundation, Inc., chief financial officer and treasurer;
- Pam Jeffreys, UT System administration, risk management director;
- Dr. Mark La Branche, special assistant to UT System President Randy Boyd;
- Dr. Mónica Lebrón, UT Knoxville, deputy athletics director for championship resources;
- Stacy Lightfoot, UT Chattanooga, vice chancellor for diversity and engagement;
- Dr. Paul Leuepke, UT Institute of Agriculture, associate dean for research.

For more information about the institute, visit president.utk.edu/executive-leadership-institute/.
You Tell Me

• **Question** – Is hitting golf balls permitted on campus where Skyhawk teams practice and play outdoors? Are faculty, staff and students ever allowed to use the Rhodes Golf Center to hit golf balls or putt? If all of these spaces are not approved for this activity, is there an approved space on campus for hitting golf balls?

• **Answer** – Hitting golf balls on the main campus is limited to the Rhodes Golf Center and no other athletics facility. At times athletics will have open use or camps for people interested in practicing golf at the on-campus range, but all is structured through Austin Swafford, Skyhawk head golf coach. For those seeking the health and psychological benefits of hitting a bucket of golf balls, the privately-owned Brooks Driving Range located at 391 Fowler Road serves as the “field of golf-practice dreams” in Martin. Load up your clubs, and don’t forget to bring your quarters for the ball-dispensing machine. (Information provided by intercollegiate athletics, campus recreation and Brooks Driving Range.)

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