Dr. Andy Lewter named vice chancellor for student affairs

Dr. Andy Lewter, current dean of students at Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville, Georgia, will become UT Martin’s new vice chancellor for student affairs, effective Jan. 1, 2019. Lewter’s appointment follows a national search and recommendation by a search committee to Chancellor Keith Carver.

Lewter succeeds Dr. Margaret Toston who retired June 30.

“Dr. Lewter has the experience and vision needed to lead our Division of Student Affairs,” said Carver. “He emerged as the top person from an excellent candidate pool, and his professional background and familiarity with the university position him for success in this important role. I’m grateful to the search committee for their hard work identifying student-centered candidates capable of moving this division to the next level.”

Lewter is a native of Chapel Hill and received a bachelor’s degree in political science from UT Martin in 1994. He also holds a master’s degree in education from the University of South Carolina in Columbia and a doctor of education from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He previously served in several student affairs positions from 1996-2013 at Maryville College in Maryville.

“Returning to campus in this role has been a dream of mine since graduation (from UT Martin),” Lewter said. “I am excited about this opportunity to serve the students of UT Martin and look forward to working with the student affairs staff to ensure student safety, promote student success and provide students with an amazing college experience.”

Lewter has significant experience in key student-affairs areas, including programming, student counseling and health, Greek life, campus recreation, career services and assessment. As a UT Martin student, he was active in both Greek life and student-leadership positions. He will lead the UT Martin Division of Student Affairs, which serves students at the main campus and five educational outreach centers in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley, Selmer and Somerville.

Lewter will be joined in Martin by his wife, Megan, who is also a 1994 UT Martin graduate, and their two sons: Andrew, 18, and Mitchell, 7.

The search committee was chaired by Dr. Todd Winters, dean, UT Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences. Other search committee members were: John Abel, interim vice chancellor, Division of Student Affairs; Debi Adcock, administrative specialist, Division of Student Affairs; Kameron Echols, success counselor, Student Success Center; Marvin Flatt, community representative, fraternity adviser and Weakley County director of career education; Jenifer Hart, clinical coordinator, Office of Student Health and Counseling Services; Devin Majors, Student Government Association president; Ryan Martin, assistant director, Office of Housing; Kurt McGuinn, director, Office of Intercollegiate Athletics; Renard Miles, interim director, Office of Career Planning and Development; Jemima Potter, international student and student athlete; and Jason Stout, associate professor of art, Department of Visual and Theatre Arts.
Dr. Michael Mathenia, adjunct instructor of music, and Chelsea Jones, lecturer of music, co-coordinated the university’s second-annual Contemporary Music Festival, Nov. 2-3, in collaboration with the Paul Meek Library. This festival included a concert of original student compositions and a Call for Scores concert featuring submissions from across the country. Mathenia also composed an original piece titled “Pastorale” for the UT Martin University Trio, which performed the selection in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada on Oct. 13. This is Mathenia’s first original composition to be performed outside the United States.

Dr. Bill Waterman, director of athletic bands, recently served as the featured artist during a three-day residency at the University of Kansas. He performed a solo recital, guest spoke in a low-brass pedagogy class, taught lessons and rehearsed the Kansas Tuba Euphonium Consort. Waterman completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Kansas and was principal tuba in the Topeka Symphony for nine seasons. Waterman and the UT Martin tuba euphonium studio hosted more than 30 guest performers Oct. 29 to perform alongside studio members in the fifth-annual OcTubafest concert.

Dr. Amy Yeung, professor of music, and Amy Jarman, senior lecturer in voice for Vanderbilt University’s Blair School of Music, recently co-coordinated a student competition for the Tennessee state chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing. Yeung also adjudicated in the event, which included 136 student singers from 12 universities and some private voice studios.

Dr. Stephanie Kolitsch, director, Office of SACS Accreditation, and professor of mathematics, has been named an alumni ambassador for the Department of Mathematics at Texas A&M University at Commerce. She will become the department’s official ambassador beginning in February 2019.

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Contact Ben Jones at bjone155@utm.edu

Addenda is published each Monday during the academic semester. Please send submissions to Erin Chesnut by noon on Thursdays.

DIPIETRO FAREWELL RECEPTION

12-1 p.m. | Nov. 14 | Duncan Ballroom
UT Martin will hold the 15th-annual Empty Bowls fundraiser from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Nov. 17, in the Student Life Center.

Empty Bowls, an international project to fight hunger, started locally in 2003 to support relief efforts by We Care Ministries Inc. David McBeth, event director and associate professor of art, and student and alumni volunteers will hand-craft 1,500 ceramic bowls to celebrate the event’s 15th year.

Attendees will receive a standard-sized bowl to take home after donating $15 to the cause. Larger bowls will also be available for suggested donation amounts. Guests can then enjoy an all-you-can-eat soup lunch provided by community members and organizations.

This year’s event will also include a silent auction of specialty bowls featuring unique designs and colors. The auction will continue for the duration of the event, and directors will contact auction winners in the weeks following.

Attendees can make donations by cash, check or charge. All donations go to We Care Ministries Inc.

The Student Life Center is located at 199 Moody Ave. in Martin. For more information, contact McBeth at 731-881-7416.

CLASROOM DEDICATED – UT Martin dedicated room 203 of the Business Administration Building to the late Dr. Ted Mosch, professor emeritus of political science, during a reception Nov. 8. Many of Mosch’s former colleagues and students as well as donors to the Ted Mosch Scholarship Fund were in attendance. Mosch began working at UT Martin in 1970 and ultimately retired in 2002. Pictured during the naming reception are (l-r) Dr. Chris Baxter, chair of the Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science; Dale Allen (UT Martin ’81), a Nashville attorney, former Mosch student and major scholarship donor; Dr. Ross Dickens, dean of the College of Business and Global Affairs; and Chancellor Keith Carver.
International Ensemble Seksion Maloya to perform Nov. 19 in Allison Nelson Guest Artist Series

The Department of Music will bring the internationally touring musical group Seksion Maloya to campus Nov. 19 as the second performers in the Allison Nelson Guest Artist Series.

Seksion Maloya will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Building’s Blankenship Recital Hall. Tickets are $10 for adults, $5 for non-UT Martin students and free for UT Martin students with a valid student ID. Guests may purchase tickets online at utm.edu/musicevents or at the door before the performance. Seating is limited, so interested guests and students should reserve tickets prior to the concert.

Seksion Maloya, based in Paris, France, performs maloya, a form of music that originated on a French island off the eastern coast of Madagascar called Reunion. The performance will combine percussive instruments such as the rouler, kayanm and bobre with Reunionese creole singing. The UT Martin Department of History and Philosophy and the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages are co-sponsoring this event.

Seksion Maloya will also give a guest lecture on maloya music at 2 p.m. that afternoon. The lecture is free to the public and located in the Blankenship Recital Hall, as well. The Allison Nelson Guest Artist Series brings high-profile musical artists from around the globe to UT Martin’s campus. It was established this semester to honor Dr. Allison Nelson, UT Martin professor emeritus of music. Nelson, a native of Australia, has performed worldwide as a soloist and as a member of the Nelson and Neal piano duo with her late first husband Harry Neal, a native of Paris, Tennessee. Nelson served on the UT Martin faculty for 20 years and helped establish the Bachelor of Music in piano performance and found the UT Martin Piano Ensemble.

The series will continue Jan. 14, 2019, with a performance and guest lecture by Khemia, a contemporary chamber ensemble that showcases the works of living composers in multimedia performances.

Dance showcase slated for Nov. 15

The UT Martin Dance Ensemble will host its fall showcase “Bach to Basics” at 7 p.m., Nov. 15, in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. The dance studio is located in room 3033. A suggested program donation of $3 will be requested at the door.

The dance ensemble has performed this showcase for students from five middle and high schools in Middle Tennessee this semester. Sarah McCormick, associate professor of dance, and five of her ensemble students have presented master classes and performances at both Mt. Pleasant middle and high schools, Creswell Middle Prep School for the Arts in Nashville, and both Overton High School and Hickory Ridge Middle School in Memphis.

UT Martin student dancers Michaela Bland, of Spring Hill; Keinessia Mason, of Memphis; Alyssa Salazar, of Adams; Jeorgia Lamb, of Nashville; and Alaina Harvey, of Owens Cross Roads, Alabama, will be featured in the showcase. Kimberly Schwartz, a spring 2018 graduate, will also join the ensemble as a guest performer.
Spotlight Series: Dr. Kent Kelso

Dr. Kent Kelso took the long way around on his journey to becoming a college professor. “(People) always say that education is a calling,” he said. “It’s not a career. It’s not a job. It’s really a calling.”

“When I became a faculty member, ... I saw how I could turn around the life of a student and keep (him or her) in school. There’s something very satisfying about that,” said Kelso, who has a personal mission to make a difference in students’ lives.

However, Kelso did not achieve his dream of becoming a professor for the first 24 years of his career, during which he served eight different universities in student affairs and enrollment positions. “I was not living the life I had envisioned,” he said. “I considered myself an educator and knew I was having an impact on students and institutions, but I longed for the chance to enter the classroom full-time.”

He chose to pursue a second bachelor’s degree in secondary education and coaching to get closer to his dream of becoming a teacher but found himself crossing into student affairs while earning his master’s degree at Pittsburgh State University. He eventually earned his doctorate in educational administration and leadership during this time, as well.

This was different from the “Indiana Jones-type” professor lifestyle he had pictured for himself as a child. “I had these images of myself being this flamboyant archaeologist (who) would travel the world and find, you know, mummies, gold and all kinds of treasure,” said Kelso, who holds both a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in history.

“I still wanted to be a professor. ... I finally came to that point in my life (where) I knew if I didn’t do it now, this is what (I was) going to be the rest of (my) life,” he said.

So, he joined the faculty of Columbia Southern University in Alabama as a history professor after transferring there to serve in a vice president’s position. “I finally got the opportunity— it kind of fell in my lap—and I jumped on (it).”

Kelso finally found the joy he had been lacking. “I enjoy working with faculty and students. ... I find that I have more joy in my job than I did before,” he said.

After serving for two years as the associate dean for the College of Education and teaching in the education doctoral program at St. John’s University in Queens, New York, Kelso joined the UT Martin faculty in May as interim department chair for educational studies.

In this position, the faculty is his primary focus. “I want to make sure that faculty have what they need and the support, encouragement and the recognition that they deserve so that they have joy in their job, which will obviously benefit students,” he said.

Kelso has high aspirations for the department. “We’ve done a lot to build a team ... since May. We have a new vision of what we want to become over the next 10 years,” he said. This vision includes increasing enrollment and retention rates, a concept Kelso is very familiar with.

“The strongest, most influential retention agent at any university is the faculty,” said Kelso. “If the faculty does a fantastic job, if the faculty cares about their students and spends time with their students, that in and of itself has the greatest impact on student retention and graduation rates.”

Kelso, who grew up on a farm in rural southwest Iowa, is now fulfilling his calling in a familiar environment. He says, “I feel like I’m coming home.”

To nominate a colleague for this series, please send their name and information to echsmut@utm.edu. All nominations are subject to the editor’s final decision. Self-nominations will not be considered.

State to rededicate WWI memorial fountain in Jackson on Nov. 17

A dedication of the restored World War I memorial fountain in downtown Jackson will be held at 10:30 a.m., Nov. 17, on the northeast lawn of the Madison County Courthouse.

The dedication will include the presentation of an official certificate from Susan Mennenga, co-program manager of 100 Cities/100 Memorials and a representative of the Pritzker Military Museum and Library.

The historic site was granted funds for restoration by the Pritzker Military Museum and Library and United States World War I Centennial Commission in 2017 and has been designated as one of the 100 Centennial Memorial Monuments in the United States. The restoration’s goals are to remember “America’s forgotten war” and to give acknowledgement to Madison County servicemen and women regardless of gender, race or religion. Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls, professor of history, serves as the project’s director of restoration.

“The purpose of this restoration is to remember all parts of that story and to honor everyone of whom we are aware and who deserve to be named or mentioned,” said Carls.

The grant has been used to restore the drinking fountain to its original appearance by repainting the structure and restoring the missing urn to the top. The restoration also includes the installation of three new plaques: one recognizing African-American citizens of Madison County who were not honored in the past, one listing the previously omitted names of the dead not mentioned on the original plaque, including African-American soldiers, and the official plaque designating the fountain as a Centennial Memorial Monument.
The Tennessee Association for Community Leadership honored the WestStar Leadership Program with the 2018 Outstanding Leadership Program Award during its annual conference held Oct. 17-19 in Knoxville. This is the first year WestStar has received this honor.

The WestStar Leadership Program, established in 1989, is the oldest and largest regional leadership program in the state and currently boasts more than 800 alumni. The 2019 class, chosen in December, will be the 30th in program history.

Each year, approximately 30 new WestStar class members participate in sessions across West Tennessee to discuss the challenges and successes of the region and develop new ideas to improve the economic prosperity of the area. The WestStar Leadership Program also hosts the Working Women’s Conference each February and the first and only regional African-American Leadership Conference each April. The FutureStar and RisingStar regional programs for youth also provide leadership development for students in grades seven, eight, 11 and 12, respectively. “Through my involvement as a participant, alumnus and board member, I have seen the value of this program and the benefit it has to rural West Tennessee,” wrote Jake Bynum, mayor of Weakley County, when recommending the program for this award. “WestStar not only teaches invaluable leadership skills and information about our communities, but it also provides a network of connections that I have been able to use time and time again.” Bynum is a 2013 WestStar graduate.

The third-annual Special Needs Prom, hosted by the Non-Traditional Student Association, will begin at 2 p.m., Nov. 17, in the Boling University Center’s Duncan Ballroom. Special needs students and their families from the Weakley County and surrounding areas are invited to attend.

This unique event has been held each November since 2016 and allows students with sensory, mobility or other special needs to enjoy a high school prom in an accommodating environment. Styles on Broadway in Martin will again provide free hair and makeup services for attendees from noon-2 p.m. prior to the event.

A benefit concert featuring singer/songwriter Jourdan Rystrom was held Oct. 27 to raise money in support of the event.

For more information, contact Julie Durham, Non-Traditional Student Association president, at juladurh@ut.utm.edu or 615-997-5930.

The Office of Student Health and Counseling Services will host the annual Stigma Cutting Ceremony beginning at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 13, on the back patio of the Boling University Center. This observance brings awareness to various stigmas surrounding mental illness and encourages those dealing with such issues to seek appropriate professional assistance.
Keith Paluso, a 2012 graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin, is a current contestant on season 15 of NBC’s performance competition “The Voice.” Paluso has advanced to the live performance rounds, and fans can now vote in his favor to help him stay in the competition.

Supporters can download ‘The Voice’ app for both iPhone and Android smartphones and vote for Paluso. Specific voting information is also available through his social media accounts and at keithpaluso.com.

Paluso, originally from Atoka, holds a bachelor’s degree in biology with a concentration in ecology and environmental biology from UT Martin. He performed at the university Oct. 19 as a kickoff for homecoming festivities. Currently working as a Tennessee State Park Ranger, he says he was inspired to return to singing, songwriting and performing after the birth of his first child. Clips of his previous on-show performances can be found on YouTube and through NBC.com.

An extended play album titled “The Linden Ave. Sessions,” written, recorded and produced by Paluso and his brother, Keegan, a 2013 UT Martin graduate, is available on all online music distribution platforms.

For more information, visit keithpaluso.com.

VETERANS HONORED – UT Martin hosted a Veterans Day Exposition Ceremony on Nov. 8 in Watkins Auditorium. Members of the Skyhawk ROTC Battalion posted the colors (left) before event speakers Johnny Dyer (above), veterans services coordinator; Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls, Tom Elam Distinguished Professor of History; state representative Bill Sanderson; and Chris Gunlefinger, assistant director of student life, discussed the importance of Veterans Day and the struggles faced by student-veterans in their transition back to civilian life.
Employee Relations Council meeting notes, Nov. 9

The Employee Relations Council met Nov. 9 to hear project and budget updates from the chancellor and members of his staff. For additional information, contact the council representative for your campus area. Highlights from the Nov. 9 meeting are included below.

Chancellor Keith Carver says the new UT Board of Trustees recently finished its first full meeting, and the proceedings were efficient and productive. The next full board meeting will be held on the UT Martin campus during the spring semester. A new, five-person campus advisory committee is being created, and Dr. Chris Caldwell, past president of the Faculty Senate, will serve as the faculty advisor on this committee.

Petra McPhearson, vice chancellor for finance and administration, says facility request forms are due in her office by Nov. 21.

According to Tim Nipp, director of the Physical Plant, steam line work across campus will continue through February 2019. Renovations to the Harriet Fulton Theatre in the Fine Arts Building should be completed by Fall 2019, and the windows in the Elam Center concourse are leaking and will be replaced soon. The Latimer Engineering and Science Building is in the design phase and construction bids will begin in the spring. Construction is estimated to begin in the fall of 2019. There has also been discussion of adding pedestrian lights along Mt. Pelia Drive, and this project is dependent on available budget resources.

PAGEANT QUEENS – Amanda Mayo (center, left), a junior from Lilburn, Georgia, took home the Miss UT Martin 2019 crown and Tera Townsend, a student at SAE Institute Nashville, was named Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival 2019 during the combine Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Scholarship Pageant held Nov. 11. Also pictured are the members of their courts: (from left) Rachael Friedrich, of Jackson, and Kailey Duffy, of Holladay (second and first runner-up for Miss UT Martin, respectively), and Kara Smith, of Cordova, and Miranda Colegrove, of Lake Jackson, Texas (first and second runner-up for Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival, respectively).

INTERNATIONAL WEEK EVENTS

• Nov. 12 – International Move Night – “The Book of Life”; Watkins Auditorium; 7 p.m.
• Nov. 13-14 – International Recipes Spotlight – Special recipes from Japan and India featured in the Skyhawk Dining Hall; 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; $10
• Nov. 13 – Literature from Around the World – Hortense Parrish Writing Center; Andy Holt Humanities Building, room 209; 3-4 p.m.
• Nov. 14 – International Day – Features culture, clothing and games from various countries; C.E. Weldon Library in downtown Martin; 3-5 p.m.
• Nov. 15 – International Student Panel – Comparing academic, personal and social experiences in the U.S. and other countries; Robert M. Smith Legislative Chamber, Boling University Center, room 111; 3 p.m.
• Nov. 16 – Study Abroad/Home University Showcase – Highlights cultural exchange programs from seven universities in four countries; Boling University Center, downstairs hallway; 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
• Nov. 17 – International Yard Sale – Sale to support the John Eisterhold International Scholarship Fund; Gooch lawn, street side; 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Employees who have want to use the employee fee waiver for dependents or spouses who will be enrolled during the spring 2019 semester must submit a family/related persons form to the Office of Human Resources by Dec. 9. Dependents are eligible for assistance with undergraduate degrees until the age of 26.


**You Tell Me**

- **Question** – I want to communicate my event information to the student body. What is the best way to do this?

- **Answer** – The Division of Student Affairs keeps lines of communication open with current students through The Hub and weekly meetings with SGA and Greek Life leadership teams. They also update the portal announcements on the MyUTMartin portal, which has been shown to be one of the most effective ways to get your headline in front of students. The Pacer newspaper and WUTM radio station operate independently and offer additional promotional opportunities (some charges may apply). Social media is also an effective tool to communicate with students who are interested in your area. Student-wide email blasts are used sparingly and only in high-profile or emergency situations.

Submit your questions to the Suggestion Box link at [www.utm.edu](http://www.utm.edu).

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**Thanksgiving Orders**

Sodexo will accept Thanksgiving orders until Nov. 14. Orders must be picked up from 10 a.m.-noon, Nov. 21.

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**November is a health insurance holiday!**

Health insurance premiums will not be deducted from November checks. (Shown on biweekly checks issued Nov. 20.)

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**Click here for current logo files.**

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**Calendar**

- **Nov. 12-16** – Advising: spring 2019 semester
- **Nov. 12-16** – International Week (see page 8)
- **Nov. 13-14** – Lifeline Blood Drive; Boling University Center; 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **Nov. 13** – Dr. Julie Hill appears on Good Morning West Tennessee; WBBJ, channel 7; 6:30 a.m.
- **Nov. 13** – No Shave November: Test your strength; Student Recreation Center; 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- **Nov. 13** – Women’s Center seminar: Mental Health with Sean Jones, crisis services at CAREY Counseling Center; Paul Meek Library, room 120; 12:15 p.m.
- **Nov. 13** – Contemporary art student exhibition opening reception; Fine Arts Building Gallery; 5 p.m.
- **Nov. 13** – Stigma Cutting Ceremony; Boling University Center back patio; 5:30 p.m. (see page 6)
- **Nov. 13** – UT Martin piano ensemble concert; Blankenship Recital Hall; 7:30 p.m.
- **Nov. 14** – Farewell reception for President Joe DiPietro; Boling University Center ballroom; noon-1 p.m.
- **Nov. 14** – Meek Music: Faculty brass quintet and LCD woodwind trio; Paul Meek Library; 12:15 p.m.
- **Nov. 15** – Faculty/staff lunch; Skyhawk Dining Hall; 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; $6
- **Nov. 15** – David McBeth appears on CBS Noon and Midday interview with Tom Britt; WBBJ, channel 7; noon
- **Nov. 15** – MusicEdLove lecture series: Dr. Angela Ammerman; Band Rehearsal Hall; 7 p.m.
- **Nov. 15** – Bach to Basics dance showcase; Elam Center, room 3033; 7 p.m.; $3 suggested donation (see page 4)
- **Nov. 17** – Young Alumni Council meeting; Graham Stadium Champions Club; 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- **Nov. 17** – WWI memorial fountain dedication; downtown Jackson court square; 10:30 a.m. (see page 5)
- **Nov. 17** – Empty Bowls Soup Supper; Student Life Center; 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; $15 suggested donation (see page 3)
- **Nov. 17** – Women’s basketball vs. Arkansas State; Elam Center; 1 p.m.
- **Nov. 17** – Special Needs Prom; Boling University Center Duncan Ballroom; 2 p.m. (see page 6)
- **Nov. 18** – Trombone night; Blankenship Recital Hall; 7:30 p.m.
- **Nov. 19** – Women’s basketball vs. Christian Brothers; Elam Center; 11 a.m.
- **Nov. 19** – No Shave November: “Check yourself before you wreck yourself” men’s health discussion; Boling University Center, room 206; 11 a.m.-noon or 2-3 p.m.
- **Nov. 19** – Allison Nelson Guest Artist Series: Seksion Maloya; Blankenship Recital Hall; 7:30 p.m. (see page 4)

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**Click here for Canvas Training!**

Training sessions on a variety of Canvas topics are regularly held in room 215 of the Paul Meek Library. A full schedule and registration information are available online.