Advisory board meeting covers athletics, transfer students and retention

The 23rd annual Civil Rights Conference, sponsored by UT Martin, will feature several events throughout the month of February. The conference will address the theme “Who Will Stand in the Gap? – A Clarion Call for Justice Seekers.”

“Once again, the UTM Civil Rights Conference is bringing nationally recognized individuals to share their experiences and perspectives on justice and equity,” said Henri Giles, conference chairperson and lecturer of mass media and

UTM ADVISORY BOARD MEETS – UT Martin Advisory Board chair Art Sparks and Dr. Keith Carver, UT Martin chancellor, lead the discussion during the board’s winter meeting Friday, Jan. 20, in the Ed and Carolyn Boling University Center.

The UT Martin-TVA Investment Challenge team attended the 9th annual Student Managed Investment Fund Consortium Conference on Oct. 6 and 7 in Chicago. The students joined more than 400 students from 81 universities to improve their portfolio management skills, hear professional guest speakers and tour the Chicago Board Options Exchange trading floor. Team members were recognized during

Intercollegiate athletics, transfer students and student retention were the topics for updates presented to the UT Martin Advisory Board during its winter meeting Friday, Jan. 20, in the Ed and Carolyn Boling University Center. The advisory board meets three times annually and advises the university’s chancellor regarding operations and budget matters. All meetings are open to the public, and all meeting are livestreamed and archived for later viewing.

Kurt McGuffin, vice chancellor and director of athletics, opened with a review of Skyhawk athletics in 2022. He summarized the program’s past year based on what he called “the three Cs”: how the program performed competitively, in the classroom and in the community. “(I’m) very proud of where we’ve been in the last five or six years,” he said. “Six of our sports have won a combined 10 conference championships, and last year we set a record for the university in having four different teams win OVC championships.” The program finished the highest ever in the Ohio Valley Conference Commissioner’s Cup that measures competition success among member universities.

McGuffin reported that the university has almost 500 student athletes, and student-athlete numbers and academic success have both increased since he became athletics director in 2017. He credited improved academic achievement in part to increasing the number of academic advisers from one person to more than three, which has improved classroom performance for at-risk athletes.

In recapping community involvement, McGuffin said that all athletes are required to complete 12 hours of community service, which included volunteer work at the

Continued on PAGE 2

Continued on PAGE 3
YoUTMs highlighting the excellence of our faculty and staff

The Cambridge University Press has published Dr. Nathan Howard’s (professor of history) new book, Christianity and the Contest for Manhood in Late Antiquity, in November 2022. The book illustrates how concepts of masculinity among fourth-century bishops informed social networking, civic identity, and the theology of God that became the standard in western Christianity. The book can be ordered, with a 20% discount, by visiting www.cambridge.org/9781316514764 and entering the code HOWARD22 at the checkout.

Jenny Killebrew was recently promoted to the position of director of the MBA program and undergraduate student services in the College of Business and Global Affairs. Killebrew formerly served as the MBA program and student services coordinator. You can contact Killebrew via email at jkilleb5@utm.edu, or by phone at 731-881-7208.

Two College of Business and Global Affairs faculty members were featured in recent weeks in WalletHub. Dr. Mahmoud Haddad, professor of finance, was featured in WalletHub’s recent online entry titled “Best Visa Credit Cards.” You can find the story and his related comments about secured credit cards in the “Ask the Experts” Q & A here. Also, Vicki Stewart, lecturer of accounting, was featured in an entry titled “Best Secured Credit Cards,” which can be read 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.

Visit utm.edu/news for the full story!
TVA from PAGE 1

A student manager presentation event Dec. 2 in the Business Administration Building.

While at the conference, students created posters that explained their investment philosophy and in-firm analysis, then performed and presented a financial evaluation of the assigned company. UT Martin student managers were also invited to serve as presenters with students from three other universities for a student-led panel discussion of portfolio management strategy, stock selection and performance metrics. UT Martin’s fall session portfolio managers outperformed Standard and Poor’s market index by 113 basis points.

UT Martin students who attended the conference were Joshua Dare, a senior finance major from Hollow Rock; Alex Jones, a senior double majoring in finance and economics from Dyer; Logan Alfano-Webb, a graduate student from Counce who is seeking a Master of Business Administration; and Maxwell Halford, a senior finance major from Rutherford.

TVA’s Investment Challenge was established in 1998 and is a partnership between TVA and participating universities in its service territory. The challenge provides a real-world learning experience in portfolio management by allowing students to manage actual stock portfolios within TVA guidelines. In addition to TVA, other investment-team supporters include the family of Kelly Murray and FirstBank.

For more information about the UT Martin-TVA Investment Challenge team, contact Dr. Mahmoud Haddad, managing director of the UT Martin TVA Investment Challenge Program and professor of finance, at mhaddad@utm.edu.

INVESTMENT CHALLENGE TEAM RECOGNIZED – Members of the UT Martin-TVA Investment Challenge team were recognized by faculty members and others Dec. 2 in the Business Administration Building. Pictured in the top row (l, r) are Isaiah Puckett, a double major in accounting and finance; Maxwell Halford; and Ben Jones, UT Foundation director of development. Pictured in the middle row (l, r) are Dr. Mahmoud Haddad, professor, Department of Accounting, Economics, Finance and Political Science; Dr. Sandra and William Murray, supporters of the team and parents of the late Kelly Murray; and Dr. Nell Gullet, professor, Department of Accounting, Economics, Finance and Political Science. Pictured in the bottom row (l to r) are Joshua Dare; Alex Jones; Dr. Ahmad Tootoonchi, College of Business and Global Affairs dean; Logan Alfano-Webb; and Ryan Stover, a Certified Financial Planner with Ameriprise Financial.

CRC from PAGE 1

In addition to TVA invites to serve as presenters with students from three other 4.

strategic communication. “I am proud to be associated with a university that sees the value in expanding the classroom for our students and faculty and providing a platform to address issues on justice.” The conference begins with the opening of “I Am a Man,” a photography exhibit of the Civil Rights Movement. The exhibit will be in the J. Houston Gordon Museum in the UT Martin Paul Meek Library from Feb. 1 - March 10. Keynote speakers for the month-long conference include Tamika D. Mallory, social justice leader and movement strategist; Anthony Ray Hinton, justice advocate and author of “The Sun Does Shine: How I Found Life and Freedom on Death Row”; Torri Yates-Orr and Kahlil Greene, Generation Z historians and advocates; Jarrod Benjamin, Florida International University Cybersecurity Apprenticeship Program Director; and Jemele Hill, Emmy-award winning sports journalist and host.

All events are free to the public and located in Watkins Auditorium unless otherwise noted. A schedule of events is as follows:

• Feb 1: “Night of Dance: A Celebration of African American Dance,” presented by the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts; 7 p.m.
• Feb. 2: “Intersections of Trauma, Mental Health, and Addiction in the Black Community,” Tamika D. Mallory; 6 p.m.
• Feb. 6: “Life and Freedom on Death Row,” Anthony Ray Hinton; 6 p.m.
• Feb. 7: “Gen Z History Reframed,” Torri Yates-Orr and Kahlil Greene; 6 p.m.
• Feb. 9: Student and Professional Networking Event, Boling University Center Room 206; 6 p.m.
• Feb. 13: “The Economics of Slavery,” John Ashworth; 6 p.m. (presented by the Weakley County Reconciliation Project)
• Feb. 15: Roots of Rhythm, presented by the Department of Music; 7 p.m.
• Feb. 17: “A Cautious Look at Cancel Culture,” Jarrod Benjamin; 6 p.m.
• Feb. 20: “Indigenous Contributions to the World Around Us,” Kimberly Bugg; 6 p.m.
• Feb. 21: “An Uphill Journey through Sports, Journalism, Politics, and Pain,” Jemele Hill; 6 p.m.
• Feb. 22: Movie Night: “Till,” a movie based in the life of Mamie Till-Mobley; 6 p.m.
• Feb. 24: Student Health Fair, Boling University Center 2nd Floor Lobby; 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
• Feb. 27: “Democracy & Race,” Joyce Washington; 6 p.m.

For more information about the Civil Rights Conference, contact Giles at hgiles1@utm.edu or visit www.utm.edu/civilrights.
ATTENDING UT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE – UT Martin will send three representatives to the 2023 UT Leadership Institute, Feb. 5-10, at Nashville, Cool Springs. Dr. Will Bird, associate professor of agricultural education; Dr. Keith Dooley, chair and associate professor, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences; and Kiara Castleman, assistant registrar, will spend the week practicing leadership skills in a hands-on, experiential learning setting with 40-50 colleagues from across the University of Tennessee. The institute was formed in 1981 and has graduated more than 1,000 participants. A reception to honor this year’s participants was held Jan. 17 in the Nunnelly Family Welcome Center. Pictured (l, r) are Bird, Dooley and Castleman along with Chancellor Keith Carver.

FFA MEMBERS COMPETE – The Tennessee Agricultural Communications Career Development Event was held Jan. 20 at the main campus and welcomed FFA members from high schools around West Tennessee. The four-member teams made presentations in Hardy M. Graham Stadium classrooms and gathered for award recognitions in the Champions Club following the event that was won by Dyer County High School. Matt Hicks, assistant director of admissions, shares university information with members of the Collierville High School FFA team before the competition began. Dr. Will Bird, associate professor of agriculture education, was the event organizer.
UTM TO HOST ONLINE ACT SUPER-SCORE SKILL-UP WORKSHOPS

The UT Martin Office of University Outreach is offering a series of online ACT prep courses throughout the winter for students who are preparing for the test. Online workshops will be held on six separate days, with students having the option of attending Math and Science or English and Reading sessions. The online courses will be held over Zoom, so participants must have access to a computer with audio and video capabilities.

The ACT superscore skill-up workshops, part of the ACT Success Tactics Series, will help students define the challenges of individual subjects and give them the tools to efficiently problem solve. Each class is two hours and cost $25 each. Students may attend both classes for a total of four hours and $50. To see a list of available sessions and to register, visit www.utm.edu/outreach.

Also offered will be an ACT Algebra and Geometry Deep Dive Workshop from 5-7 p.m., Feb. 9 and Mar. 2. Students will review formulas and practice how to utilize them on the test. The workshops also include a comprehensive review of the geometry and algebra problems covered on the exam.

In addition, seven in-person ACT prep sessions will be held as follows: three on the main campus, three at the Parsons Center and one at the Somerville Center. For more information about these sessions, visit www.utm.edu/outreach.

UT Martin adjunct faculty member Alex Beene will teach the courses. He currently serves as a lead instructor for the Tennessee Audit Education in three counties and primarily works with rising high school juniors and seniors needing academic help with major standardized testing.

For more information, go to www.utm.edu/actprep or contact Jennifer Cooper, Office of University Outreach, at jlcooper@utm.edu or 731-881-7104.

Read more UT Martin news online at utm.edu/news.

You Tell Me

• Question – Within the campus, there needs to be signage directing to each building. It can get rather confusing.

• Answer – The campus plans to update inaccurate external building signage and the traffic wayfinding signage, particularly with the recent relocation of popular student-service areas to Clement Hall and the opening of the Latimer-Smith Engineering and Science Building. The timeline has not been confirmed. Incorporating pedestrian wayfinding is a great suggestion. Internal building signage will be updated with planned capital maintenance and renovation projects.

Submit your questions to Addenda at addenda@utm.edu.

addenda

Published weekly during the academic year and biweekly during the summer by UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238
Randy Boyd – President, University of Tennessee System • Dr. Keith Carver Jr. – Chancellor • Nathan Morgan – Addenda Editor
UT Martin is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA employer. E05-0415-00-001-23