University of Tennessee System President Randy Boyd and University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Chancellor Donde Plowman announced last week that Dr. Keith Carver will serve as the new leader of the UT Institute of Agriculture (UTIA). Pending board approval, Carver will begin March 1.

UTIA is thriving with record research expenditures, increased enrollment, expanding programs, including its first School of Natural Resources, and a strong Extension presence in all 95 counties.

Over the next several months, Castille will advise the president on issues of agriculture-related policy and federal grant opportunities.

Carver, who previously served as executive assistant to UT President Joe DiPietro, will head UTIA in a two-year limited duration appointment to provide stability and leadership to the institute. The UT Institute of Agriculture provides solutions to problems across the
YoUTMs highlighting the excellence of our faculty and staff

Health Organization (WHO), cardiovascular diseases are the leading cause of death globally. Sargolzaei’s article evaluated various machine learning techniques for their performance in heart disease prediction.

**Kyoko Hammond**, lecturer of Japanese, served on a panel organized by the Japan-America Society of Tennessee (JAST) and sponsored by Mitsui USA on Jan. 24. The theme of the discussion was “Japanese Arts and Culture in The Classroom – How Tennessee Students are Discovering Japan.”

**Dr. Matthew Braddock**, professor of philosophy, recently published three papers and received a research grant. His paper “Resuscitating the Common Consent Argument for Theism” was published in International Journal for Philosophy of Religion (2023). His paper “Do Humans Have a Reliable Conscience?” was published in Theological Puzzles (2022). His paper “Don’t Risk Homicide” is forthcoming in The Journal of Medicine and Philosophy. Braddock also received a 2022-2023 Follow-On Funding Grant (£25,000) from the NViTA Project based at University of St. Andrews, Scotland.

**Dr. Saman Sargolzaei** recently had an article titled “Comparative Study of Decision Tree, AdaBoost, Random Forest, Naive Bayes, KNN, and Perceptron for Heart Disease Prediction” accepted for presentation at the IEEE SoutheastCon 2023 Conference. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), cardiovascular diseases are the leading cause of death globally. Sargolzaei’s article evaluated various machine learning techniques for their performance in heart disease prediction.

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state through UT Extension, UT AgResearch, the UT College of Veterinary Medicine and the Herbert College of Agriculture. “We appreciate Carrie’s service and are very excited to have Keith move into this statewide role with UTIA,” said Boyd. “His experience across the UT system, collaborative spirit and his deep appreciation for UT’s land grant mission made him an obvious choice for this role.”

“Agriculture is central to Tennessee’s economy and way of life,” said Plowman. “Keith will hit the ground running and support the important work happening all across UTIA. I look forward to working with him in this new way. I appreciate the energy and passion for agriculture that Carrie has and wish her all the best in her new pursuits.”

**Dr. Philip Cavalier** will serve as interim chancellor at UT Martin. The university will launch a search for a new chancellor in the coming weeks.

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View more UT Martin photos online at utm.edu/photo.
The University of Tennessee at Martin 23rd Annual Civil Rights Conference

WHO WILL STAND IN THE GAP?
A CLARION CALL FOR JUSTICE SEEKERS

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
All events will be held in WATKINS AUDITORIUM unless noted otherwise.

FEB. 1 - MAR. 10
MON. - FRI. 7:30 A.M. - 5 P.M.
(or by special appointment)
Paul Meek Library
J. Houston Gordon Museum

FEB. 1 7 P.M.
NIGHT OF DANCE: A Celebration of African American Dance (presented by the Department of Visual & Theatre Arts)

FEB. 2 6 P.M.
TAMIKO D. MALLORY: Intersections of Trauma, Mental Health, and Addiction in the Black Community

FEB. 6 6 P.M.
ANTHONY RAY HINTON:
Life and Freedom on Death Row

FEB. 7 6 P.M.
TORRI YATES-DRR & KAHLIL GREENE:
Gen Z History Reframed

FEB. 9 6 P.M.
STUDENT & PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING EVENT
Boling University Center, Room 206
Kimberly Bailey (Information Technology, Kenneth Burnett (Health & Wellness), Patrice T. Chambers (Education/Fulton Co. KY School Superintendent), Dr. Danny Donaldson (Optometry), LaQuita Jones (Digital Media and Marketing), Jerrita Patterson (Journalism/Anchor, WREG-TV Memphis), Dr. Danny Pirtle (Criminal Justice & Higher Education)

FEB. 13 6 P.M.
JOHN ASHWORTH: The Economics of Slavery (presented by the Weakley County Reconciliation Project)

FEB. 15 7 P.M.
ROOTS OF RHYTHM: Music of the African Diaspora (presented by the Department of Music)

FEB. 17 6 P.M.
JARROD BENJAMIN:
A Cautious Look at Cancel Culture

FEB. 20 6 P.M.
KIMBERLY BUGG (Northwest TN Local Food Network): Indigenous Contributions to the World Around Us

FEB. 21 6 P.M.
JEMELE HILL: An Uphill Journey through Sports, Journalism, Politics, and Pain

FEB. 22 6 P.M.
MOVIE NIGHT: TILL
Based on the life of Mamie Till-Mobley, the mother of Emmett Till

FEB. 24 10 A.M.-2 P.M.
HEALTH FAIR
Boling University Center
2nd Floor Lobby

FEB. 27 6 P.M.
JOYCE WASHINGTON: Democracy & Race
Building managers to receive designated parking spots

Faculty and staff members who serve as building managers will soon receive an incentive for their work in these positions. Each building manager will receive a dedicated parking spot, which will be indicated by a permanent sign (see sign photo with this story). The parking assignments will begin after each building manager submits an emergency plan, which should be sent to Lt. Jerry Garcia, Department of Public Safety, at jgarcia@utm.edu.

The idea originated with Dr. David Coffey, building manager for the Holt Humanities Building. Petra McPhearson, senior vice chancellor and vice chancellor for finance and administration, approved the idea and moved it forward. The result is a new way to recognize the work done by university building managers at the main campus and five regional centers.

Coffey, whose full-time job is professor of history and department chair for history and philosophy, said that the new parking spaces recognize the important work of building managers. “Building managers are not compensated for their efforts, so this is a nice recognition of the often thankless work we do,” Coffey said. “While the building manager job is by no means full time, it does nonetheless require attention, especially during times like Homecoming.”

In addition to safety responsibilities, building managers are responsible for monitoring temporary sign postings in buildings, coordinating facilities fees requests, assisting with accommodations for Disability Services, and reporting building problems to the Physical Plant. A complete list of university building managers can be found in the university’s emergency response plan.

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

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

You Tell Me

• Question – What’s the current status of AED availability around the main campus?

• Answer – The university currently has 42 Automated External Defibrillators or AEDs deployed around the main campus to address medical emergencies. An additional three units are ordered for the new Latimer-Smith Building. The AEDs were first placed around the main campus in 2009 and are funded from the university’s Office of Environmental Health and Safety budget. Simple operating instructions are included with each unit, and anyone can use them to assist a person in an emergency situation.

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