

addenda



The University of Tennessee at Martin Faculty and Staff Newsletter | Oct. 3, 2022

UT MARTIN NURSING PROGRAM CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF NURSING EDUCATION



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS – The UT Martin nursing program is celebrating 50 years of educating nurses for service in the region and beyond. In this file photo, nursing student JaKiya Bond (standing) works with fellow nursing classmate Alexia Flowers in a nursing lab. Both are from Jackson.

More clinical experience is one reason why UT Martin nursing graduates excel in the health-care world. The university's nursing program is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2022, and the program's tradition of experiential learning continues.

The program began in 1972 by providing an associate degree in nursing, and in 1992, the

curriculum fully transitioned into a four-year baccalaureate degree program. The Bachelor of Science in Nursing program is fully accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing and includes three years of clinical rotations offered at local and regional sites, including hospitals, long-term care and rehabilitation facilities,

community organizations and schools. Students receive hands-on instruction through lab experiences and high-fidelity simulations at the main Martin campus and the UT Martin Parsons Center.

In 1999, the Department of Nursing began offering a program intended to help registered nurses receive a Bachelor of Science degree

in nursing. Applicants can transfer select credits from past associate-degree courses, hospital diplomas and existing licenses to streamline the process. Additional courses are offered to supplement the individual nurse's existing experience in areas such as evidence-based practice,

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YoUTMs

highlighting the excellence of our faculty and staff



Brian Carroll, lecturer in food and nutrition and director of the Graduate Dietetics Internship program, was one of the experts on the recent Tennessee General Assembly Chronic Weight Management Task Force Report. The Task Force made recommendations for addressing the obesity and diabetes epidemic in the state.



Dr. Derrick Shepard, assistant professor of counseling, was recently nominated as the Treasurer of the Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (SACES). SACES is the largest region in the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision and comprises 14 southern states. Shepard's term will begin on July 1, 2023.



Faculty and staff from the Paul Meek Library participated in the fall 2022 virtual meeting of the West Tennessee Academic Library Consortium. Supporting the meeting's theme of "Marketing the Library," **Ronne Jones** and **Caren Nichter** presented on "Public Libraries and Academic Libraries as Community Partners." In a separate session, **Kathryn Brown**, **Bridgette Whitt** and **Dr. Erik Nordberg** discussed "Improving Our Value Statement: Marketing and Outreach at UT Martin."

Brian Johnson, lecturer of psychology, is performing in Purchase Players' upcoming production of Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Orient Express* adapted by playwright Ken Ludwig in Mayfield, Kentucky. He plays the role of Hercule Poirot, a detective. Performances are October 21-23 and October 28-30. This is his fourth production with Purchase Players and he has appeared in over 50 plays and musicals throughout western Kentucky and Tennessee.



Drs. Cooper Johnson and **Jamye Long**, both associate professors of management, have been invited to be guest speakers for Go Cloud Careers' upcoming webinar and training where they will provide their expertise in soft skills for business professionals to an international online audience. Training classes with Go Cloud Careers typically have more than 150 participants in real time with additional viewings of the recorded sessions.

FACULTY / STAFF TOWN HALL MEETING
Thursday, Oct. 6
Watkins Auditorium

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

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leadership and population health. All RN-BSN completion courses are offered online so that practicing nurses can take classes from anywhere and accommodate hectic schedules.

The most recent expansion of the program came in 2014 when UT Martin began offering the BSN program at the university's Parsons Center. The nursing courses offered at

the regional center are taught by on-site instructors, which allows students to receive one-on-one guidance and build face-to-face connections with faculty members. Students in Decatur County and the surrounding area can pursue a nursing degree while staying close to home.

The UT Martin Department of Nursing prepares its students for success in licensure exams and professional placements. Students take

a series of courses centered around leadership and professionalism in nursing, and faculty members advise students on resume writing and interview preparation. As of 2022, the program's current job placement rate is 100% for students pursuing jobs immediately following graduation.

Dr. Mary Radford, nursing department chair, attributes the program's successes to the faculty. "We have a

small faculty-to-student ratio compared to many of our peers in both the classroom and clinical setting," she said, "Our faculty also remain active in clinical practice, community and professional organizations so they can use current, evidence-based practice to guide instruction."

Learn more about the UT Martin Department of Nursing by calling 731-881-7131 or on the Web at www.utm.edu/departments/nursing/.

UT Martin to host first 'Technology Against Tornado' competition

UT Martin will host the first Technology Against Tornado Student Competition and Exposition on April 21, 2023, in the newly constructed Latimer Engineering and Science Building. With rapid growth of emerging technology and the need to protect people and property against tornadoes, the competition aims to inspire and engage students by transforming their innovative ideas into real-world functional products.

West Tennessee is a part of the tornado region called Dixie Alley, which is known for deadly, long-tracked, violent tornadoes. On Dec. 10, 2021, six states, including Tennessee, were hit with tornadoes that left trails of devastation behind. The main goal of this conference is to provide a sustainable impact on local communities by turning disaster into windows of opportunity by bringing together academic units, organizations and industries that are active in tornado management and recovery.

The event, sponsored by IEEE Computer Society, will be a one-day free summit that is open to

the public. Students at any level of academic studies are encouraged to participate in the competition. Student teams must include two or more undergraduate and/or graduate students enrolled in any college or university. There is no fee to compete; however, finalists must attend the in-person competition to become eligible as award winners. Proposal submissions are due from each team by Oct. 7.

The five suggested creative technology categories are artificial intelligence-enabled technology, augmented and virtual reality systems, drones, robots, and autonomous systems, games and interactive technologies and other innovation themes. Team awards for each category are \$600 for first place, \$300 for second place and \$200 for third place. People's choice will receive \$300 for first place, \$150 for second place and \$50 for third place.

For more information, visit www.tatcomp.org, or contact local committee member **Dr. Saman Sargolzaei**, UT Martin assistant professor of engineering, at ssargolz@utm.edu or (731) 881-7395.

Featured Faculty Scholar to discuss transparency in law school accreditation

Dr. Patrick Baker, associate professor of law in the UT Martin College of Business and Global Affairs, will discuss research surrounding the accreditation process of law schools in the United States at 4 p.m., Oct. 5, at the Paul Meek Library. He will also be honored as the fall Featured Faculty Scholar during a reception at 3:30 p.m. His presentation is a continuation of the UT Martin Research Series. The lecture will be livestreamed via UT Martin Webcasting on YouTube.

This event is free and will be held in the north reading room of the library. Light refreshments will be served, and attendees can view an exhibit highlighting Baker's work.

During his presentation, he will discuss his research on the American Bar Association's review of graduate law programs and will argue that the ABA should be subject to the United States Freedom of Information Act. He will also share how the recent closure of several law schools has encouraged the ABA to make the information

obtained during accreditation review processes public.

Baker joined UT Martin in 2016 and is a recipient of UT Martin's Ray and Wilma Smith Award for scholarly and teaching excellence. Before joining academia, he practiced at Penn, Stuart & Eskridge, one of the oldest law firms in Virginia. He earned a bachelor's degree in history from Virginia Military Institute and was awarded his juris doctor degree from Appalachian School of Law in Virginia.

The Featured Fall Faculty Scholar award is designed to recognize faculty members for their research and creative works.

Parking for the free event will be in the Paul Meek Library parking lot on Wayne Fisher Drive off Mt. Pelia Road. Parking permits are available online at www.utm.edu/departments/publicsafety by selecting the "Online Visitor Parking Permit" link.

For more information, contact **Dr. Erik Nordberg**, dean of the Paul Meek Library, at 731-881-7070.



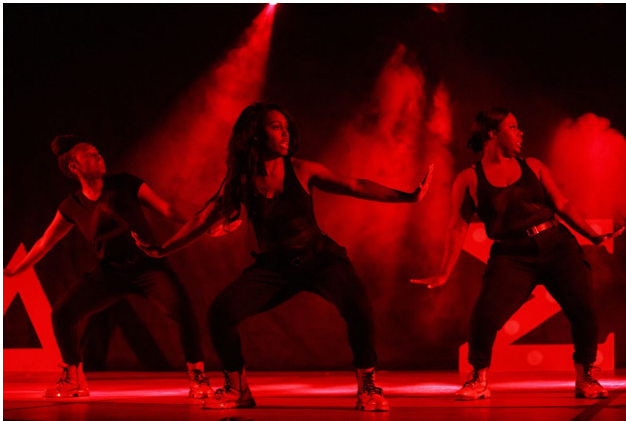
HOMECOMING 2022

photo highlights from "Groovy Days at UTM"



To see more photos from
Homecoming week,
visit utm.edu/photo.

HOMECOMING 2022





Phi Chi Theta, a co-ed professional business fraternity that helps business students obtain skills needed to succeed in the business industry, recently won seven awards at the Phi Chi Theta National Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana. The organization is led by adviser Dr. Sean Walker, associate professor of management, and chapter president Rosalinda Alvarado, a junior from Loretto, Tennessee. Among the awards was an individual honor for Alvarado who received the Phi Chi Theta National Key Award. (above) Alvarado (left) is pictured with Gary Hodge, national president of Phi Chi Theta.



UT Martin Human Resources recently hosted a health fair with West Tennessee Healthcare in the Russell Duncan Ballroom. Pictured (l-r) are Marsha Davis, UT Martin employee benefits and wellbeing coordinator; Frank Burns, director of operations at West Tennessee Healthcare; Shelley Hayes, director of corporate health and wellness at West Tennessee Healthcare; and Chancellor Keith Carver. Other doctors that participated in the health fair were Dr. Robert Chin, obstetrics and gynecology at West Tennessee Healthcare in Martin, and Dr. Dennis Richard Moore, II, provider of pediatrics at West Tennessee Medical Group.

You Tell Me

• **Question** – I have wondered for a long time – why doesn't the back entrance to the Boling University Center have a handicap-accessible door? These are the doors closest to the cafeteria. If a student or anyone in a wheel chair needs to enter the UC, they have to either enter in the front or thru the side entrance. If they are coming from the residence halls, they have to go around the building.

• **Answer** – The Physical Plant recently inspected the west set of doors at the Boling University Center, and the doors are ADA compliant. This set of doors is on the list to receive a motorized operator when sufficient ADA funds are available, but the existing doors intended for ADA accessibility meet all current ADA requirements without any further changes.

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

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