Dr. Yancy Freeman named next UTM chancellor

“I want to walk in such a way that you don’t have to listen to what I say, but I will prove every day that I am the person who will…continue to try to move us forward.”

Dr. Yancy Freeman, a 1993 UTM graduate in nursing and a member of the first graduating class of the UTM four-year nursing program, was named the next chancellor of UT Martin on July 14.

“Dr. Freeman is the right person at the right time to lead UT Martin. His student-centric focus is just what UT Martin needs, and I believe he will be enthusiastically welcomed by all students,” Boyd said. “Dr. Freeman has proven to be a great listener, collaborator and team builder, and with the leadership already in place, I think the sky is the limit!”

Freeman has served at UT Chattanooga for the past 25 years in various admissions, recruitment and enrollment roles. A first-generation college graduate, Freeman completed an undergraduate degree in political science, a master’s degree in public administration and a doctorate in learning and leadership from UT Chattanooga. He currently serves on the boards of the Public Education Foundation in Chattanooga, The River City Company, and Chattanooga 2.0. Freeman was named a 2018 Top 30 Influential Leader in Chattanooga by City Scope Magazine, and he holds active memberships within several honor societies including Golden Key, Alpha Society and Phi Eta Sigma. Freeman is also a 2020 graduate of the UT System’s Executive Leadership Institute.

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His favorite quote is “Let my actions speak so loudly that people do not hear my words” by Ralph Waldo Emerson.

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YoUTMs highlighting the excellence of our faculty and staff

Dr. Brad Baumgardner, the director of retention in the UTM Office of Student Engagement, was invited to the 50th annual International Clarinetfest in Denver, Colorado.

His bass clarinet and wind ensemble concerto “Up to No Good” was performed by Alcides Rodriguez of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra with the United States Air Force Academy Band under the direction of 1st Lt. Michael P. Flynn in the July 6 evening featured concert.

Artists and participants from 34 countries and six continents were present July 5-9 in Denver. As this was the 50th anniversary of the event there was record-breaking attendance.

The 2024 Clarinetfest will be held July 31-Aug. 4 in Dublin, Ireland.

Dr. Matthew Braddock, professor of philosophy at the University of Tennessee at Martin, has been chosen to receive the 2023-24 Hal and Alma Reagan Faculty Leave. Braddock will take his leave during the Spring 2024 semester and will research medical ethics.

The Hal and Alma Reagan Faculty Leave Program is a faculty development program that is designed to enable participants to become more effective teachers and scholars by engaging in a variety of academic/renewal experiences.

Tenured faculty members with six or more years of full-time service at UT Martin are encouraged to apply for a one-year Reagan Faculty Leave at one-half salary or a half-year Reagan Faculty Leave at full salary.

The Faculty Research and Development Committee reviews the applications and determines awardees.

The work of the committee and oversight of the Faculty Research and Development Committee are coordinated through the Office of Research, Outreach and Economic Development. Applications are reviewed by the UT Martin Faculty Research and Development Committee, which is comprised of faculty members from UT Martin’s five colleges.

The first Reagan Leave awards were given for the 1989-90 school year. The most recent recipient was Dr. John Schommer, a professor in the department of mathematics and statistics, who took his leave in the Fall 2021 semester to research math history.

The collaborative work by Dr. Jamye Long and Dr. Cooper Johnson with Go Cloud Careers in providing elite training for their technology-centered programs continues.

In a new twist on their offerings, Long and Johnson created content that will be available on demand to selective participants seeking to advance their business knowledge and learn better business practices used by top industry professionals.

The content they developed for this unique program is titled “Inventory: Asset or Liability?” Based on their past success with Go Cloud Careers’ live trainings, Long and Johnson have been invited to continue to add content to this program as well as contribute their expertise in the company’s roundtable discussions, webinars and trainings.

View photos online at utm.edu/photo
Hide and Meek: Library to host scavenger hunt

The Paul Meek Library is always searching for new ways to engage students and improve their access to information. Last year, a team of library staff developed a scavenger hunt designed to guide students through the most common services and resources the library offers.

Participants learn how to find appropriate databases, navigate the physical collection and operate the library's online search tools.

These tasks improve information literacy skills, which have a positive impact on students' overall academic performance.

After a successful launch last year, the hunt was included in the GENS 101 course syllabus for Fall 2022. More than 1,000 first-year students explored the Paul Meek Library for the first time and learned basic skills that will be valuable throughout their academic career and beyond.

"Experiential learning activities that incorporate hands-on learning are one of the most effective practices included in first year seminars," said Dr. Brad Baumgardner, the UTM director of retention. "Providing this opportunity for our GENS 101 students allows them to develop confidence and familiarity with library resources through an interactive in-class assignment."

The scavenger hunt will continue to be available as an option for future GENS 101 classes.

The scavenger hunt has a permanent webpage where any student can find a printable version as well as a mobile-friendly version of the activity, which they can complete at their discretion.

The page also includes information for teachers who are interested in including the hunt in their own syllabi. The library's goal is to help all students overcome barriers that prevent them from feeling comfortable and confident in the library environment. "Many students haven’t had access to libraries in their schools or communities and often find the building intimidating," said library dean Dr. Erik Nordberg. "This exercise gets them in the door, providing their first key to the larger information landscape."

For more information on the scavenger hunt and including it in classes, visit libguides.utm.edu/scavengerhunt.
The Conference of State Bank Supervisors named a student team from the UT Martin as winner of the 2023 Community Bank Case Study Competition.

The announcement came July 12 from the Conference of State Bank Supervisors (CSBS).

Teams from Iowa State University and Messiah University in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, placed second and third, respectively.

“The work of these three teams was top-rate, and we are pleased to see such in-depth findings,” said CSBS Executive Vice President for Policy and Supervision Karen Lawson. “The University of Tennessee at Martin’s case study earned top honors due to its particularly rich insight and detail as well as its excellent executive summary.”

The annual competition is open to undergraduate students in all fields of study as an opportunity to gain valuable first-hand knowledge of the banking industry.

This year, 34 student teams representing 28 colleges and universities entered the competition. The teams examined how local community banks are recruiting and retaining talent, approaching succession planning and using technology to advance operations.

In the competition, the student team partners with a bank. The top officers of the bank tell the students their story and background information related to the topic of the case study provided by CSBS.

The UTM team partnered with Commercial Bank & Trust Company of Paris and its officers, President/COO Clint Davis, Human Resource and Professional Development Director Jennifer Starks, Chief Financial Officer Brett Stoots and Chief IT Officer Scott Freschi.

The members of the UT Martin team are May 2023 graduates Dan Hoffman of McKenzie, Cole Hollis of Trenton and Abbey Strong of Cookeville and December 2023 graduates Ben Arnold of Henderson and Libby Rushton of Waverly. John Clark, Dr. Lajuan Davis and Dr. Mark Farley served as faculty advisors.

Clark is the interim director of the UTM Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking, while Davis is an associate professor of information systems and Farley is an assistant professor of finance.

The winning team will present its findings at the Community Banking Research Conference in St. Louis in early October. Each member will receive a $1,000 scholarship.

The second-place Iowa State University team members will each receive a $750 scholarship, and the third-place Messiah University team members will each receive a $500 scholarship.

Posing at the UTM banking team’s partner bank, Commercial Bank & Trust Company (CBTC) in Paris, are (from left) CBTC Human Resource and Professional Development Director Jennifer Starks, CBTC Chief IT Officer Scott Freschi, UTM banking team member Abbey Strong, CBTC Chief Financial Officer Brett Stoots, faculty advisor Mark Farley, UTM banking team member Ben Arnold, faculty advisor John Clark, UTM banking team member Cole Hollis, CBTC President/COO Clint Davis, UTM banking team member Dan Hoffman and UTM banking team member Libby Rushton.

Read more UT Martin news online at utm.edu/news.
He is a fellow in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, past president of the Tennessee Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and is the president-elect for the West Tennessee Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

He also served on the Tennessee Obesity Task Force in Nashville from 2021 to 2022.

Carroll teaches graduate courses in dietetics and undergraduate courses in nutrition and food science. Before coming to UT Martin, he practiced as a clinical registered dietitian and sports nutritionist. “As you can see, I have a passion for food and nutrition policy, whether it be school, the Women, Infants and Children program, the UT Extension, health care, food service, and so on,” Carroll said.

“I have tried to help in some other areas to help our profession, which in turn helps almost everyone in Tennessee, and I want to see what I can contribute to this board.”

The Board of Dietitians and Nutritionist Examiners was created in 1987 by an act of the state legislature.

Its mission is to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of Tennesseans by requiring those who practice dietetics and nutrition within this state to be qualified. The board interprets the laws, rules and regulations to determine the appropriate standards of practice in an effort to ensure the highest degree of professional conduct.

The board is authorized to issue licenses to qualified candidates who have completed appropriate education and successfully completed required examinations. It is responsible for the investigation of alleged violations of the Practice Act and rules and is responsible for the discipline of licensees who are found guilty of such violations.

The UTM Department of Family and Consumer Sciences is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics and the Council for Accreditation of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. Areas of study include child and family studies, dietetics, gerontology, hospitality and food service management, fashion merchandising and food and nutrition.

For more information about the UTM Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, call 731-881-7100 or visit www.utm.edu.

For more information about the Tennessee Board of Dietician and Nutritionist Examiners, visit tn.gov/health and search for “board of dietician/nutritionist examiners.”

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**You Tell Me**

**Question** – UT Martin celebrates the university’s quasquicentennial in 2025. Are any plans being made to celebrate this milestone in university history?

**Answer** – A group led by the Office of Alumni Relations met July 12 to begin initial planning for the observance. All plans are tentative, but the initial idea is to hold the opening celebration Oct. 2, 2025, and the closing celebration Sept. 2, 2026. This commemorates the university’s founding as Hall-Moody Institute on Oct. 2, 1900, and the first students starting classes Sept. 2, 1901. The yearlong observance will include a visual identity and branding for the celebration, signature special events, and traditional and social media support. Athletics, existing events and communications will be used when possible to publicize UT Martin’s 125 years of history. Much more planning is ahead, but if you wish to refresh your knowledge of university history, go to the Paul Meek Library website or find a copy of Bob Carroll’s book “The University of Tennessee at Martin: The First One Hundred Years.”

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

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**addenda**

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**There are two ways to help others on Tuesday, July 18!**

- The Margaret N. Perry Children’s Center is raising money for St. Jude Children’s Hospital with a pink lemonade sale from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Boling University Center. Each cup of lemonade is $1 and must be bought in person.
- Lifeline Blood Services will host a blood drive from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Welcome Center inside the Boling University Center. Donors have an option to get a free T-shirt or a $25 gift card and a chance to win a Ford Mustang!