Students return to campus for Fall 2023 semester

(Right) UT Martin’s new chancellor, Dr. Yancy Freeman, joins a group of Paul Meek Library faculty and staff in welcoming students back to campus Monday as part of the university’s Welcome Weekend.

(Below) Students could be seen traversing the quad Monday on the first day of classes for the Fall 2023 semester.

More welcome-back photos can be found on Pages 4 and 5.
Dr. Bob Peckham, professor emeritus of French, was unable to attend the annual convention of the American Association this year in Trois Rivières, Quebec, but his invited report, “French in the Distance,” was read to the Commission on Advocacy Session on July 26 by its chair, Dr. Kathleen Stein-Smith.

The focus was the role of distance education as an agent of the dramatic loss of enrollment in face-to-face college foreign-language classes. This year, Peckham has also served as a data consultant to the Modern Language Association in the preparation of its survey, “Enrollments in Languages Other Than English in United States Institutions of Higher Education,” focused on the fall of 2021.

Dr. Patrick Baker, associate professor of law in the College of Business and Global Affairs, was featured Aug. 14 on MoneyGeek.com in the feature “How to Protect Yourself from Credit Card Fraud.” Baker answered the questions “What are warning signs that you have been a victim of a credit card scam?” as well as “Which populations or transaction types are most affected by credit card scams?” and “What are some legitimate fraud prevention services?” His Q&A can be found online here.

MoneyGeek.com is a personal finance website covering a broad range of financial topics and provides information and advice on financial matters to help people make financial decisions.

Erica Bell was promoted to executive director of regional centers and online programs. “Erica has done an outstanding job over the past five years overseeing the regional centers,” said Dr. Philip Acree Cavalier, UTM provost and senior vice chancellor for academic affairs. “This promotion reflects her excellent work and my confidence that she will continue to lead RCOP strategically.”

Dr. Cooper Johnson, associate professor of management; Dr. Jamye Long, associate professor of management; and Dr. Sam Faught, professor of management, had their article, “The need to practice what we teach: Outcomes of a diversity mandate” published in the Journal of Management and Marketing Research. This paper is the latest in their diversity, and gender diversity. This article focused on racial and gender diversity of students, faculty, and employees at the eight public universities in Mississippi, and how these groups reflected the degree to which the universities met a mandate once imposed upon them by the commissioner of the institutions of higher learning.
YoUTMs highlighting the excellence of our faculty and staff

Vicki Stewart, a lecturer of accounting in the Department of Economics, Finance and Political Science, was featured on MoneyGeek.com in the feature “Experts’ Advice on Getting Paid by Paying Your Taxes.” It was published on Aug. 4. Her Q&A can be found online here. MoneyGeek.com is a personal finance website covering a broad range of financial topics and provides information and advice on financial matters to help people make financial decisions.

In Memory

Dr. Gary Steinke (seated, center) is shown following the announcement of his namesake scholarship at the Department of Communications Awards Luncheon in April 2012.

Dr. Gary Steinke, professor emeritus of communications, died on Aug. 5.

Steinke came to the university in the mid-1970s. He and Dorotha Norton established in 1978 what is now the Department of Mass Media and Strategic Communication.

Steinke’s experience in the radio industry allowed him to incorporate radio station WUTM into a curriculum specially created for broadcast radio.

Steinke served as a faculty member through 2014.

A group of his former students came together in 2012 to establish the Gary Steinke Scholarship in honor of the longtime faculty member who made many contributions to the Department of Mass Media and Strategic Communication.

The Dr. Gary Steinke WUTM Broadcasting Excellence Award was named in his honor. It provides a $300 check and the recipient’s name on a perpetual plaque for WUTM’s most outstanding staff member.

“Dr. Steinke inspires his students to move beyond their limiting beliefs and to think bigger,” said Terry Goulder (‘85) during the announcement of the Dr. Gary Steinke Scholarship at the Department of Communications Awards Luncheon on April 24, 2012.

“For many of us, he was the first person we met ‘in the business,’” Goulder said. “He didn’t frighten us away. He said, ‘Come on in, the water’s fine.’ Sometimes that’s all you need to get the ball rolling for a young person to begin the journey and open the door to a dream.”

Fall hours announced for Mail Services, Student Rec

Skyhawk Mail Services returned to its regular hours of operation on Aug. 21. The office will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Mail is not picked up from downtown until 8:30 a.m. and is usually not ready for pickup before 10 a.m. Mail coming in from days after a holiday will take longer to sort.

Mail will go downtown at 2 p.m. Anything needing to go out that day should be brought to Mail Services by 1 p.m. to ensure there is enough time to get metered.

Mail Services should be notified two weeks in advance for large mailouts of packages or large envelopes.

For more information about Skyhawk Mail Services, call 731-881-7840.

The Student Recreation Center also announced its hours for the fall semester.

Those hours, which took effect on Sunday, are 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 1 to 8 p.m. on Sunday.

For more information about the Student Recreation Center, call 731-881-3754.

Let the UT Martin community know about your most recent accolades by submitting a YoUTM to addenda@utm.edu.

Read more UT Martin news online at utm.edu/news.
UTM soars on UniversityHQ rankings

UT Martin ranks highly in several college and university rankings issued by University Headquarters. Also known as UniversityHQ, University Headquarters compiles a list of more than 4,000 schools and ranks them in several categories.

UniversityHQ takes into account several factors, including affordability and academics. Here is where UT Martin listed in the 2023 UniversityHQ rankings:

• Online degrees in Tennessee: 10th
• Best Affordable Economics Degree, National: 53rd.
• Most Affordable Colleges for Accounting, National: 95th.
• Most Affordable Business Management Degree, National: 97th.
• Best Master’s Degree in Tennessee: 17th.
• Best Bachelor’s Degree in Tennessee: 18th.
• Best MBA Degree in Tennessee: 19th.

These rankings and more information about UniversityHQ can be found at universityhq.org.

You Tell Me

• Question – The recently concluded RISE Campaign raised $178.2 million for UT Martin. Of that total, it was announced that $55 million is available for student scholarships. How much of that total is available now, and how soon do students begin benefiting from these contributions?

• Answer – The RISE Campaign that concluded June 30 raised $55,544,100 in cash and pledges for student scholarships. Of that total, $12,947,873 is cash and $42,596,227 is pledges, so the cash total is available to designated scholarships and endowments and provides immediate benefit to students. The pledges are significant in that they provide support for future generations of UT Martin students.

Submit your questions to Addenda at addenda@utm.edu.
UTM Retirees group seeking new members

The UTM Retirees group is seeking new members, and there’s only one membership requirement: you need to be a UT Martin retiree.

No paperwork is required, there are no fees to pay and no annual dues. The meetings don’t include a formal program and provide an opportunity to reconnect with old friends over good food and conversation. Wanda Yates retired from the university as an accounts payable/accounts receivable clerk. She keeps the group connected through monthly meetings held at area eating establishments.

The next meeting is scheduled for Carmack’s Fish Barn in Cottage Grove. The date and time will be announced at a later date.

Members pay for their own meal, and if members choose, they can make an occasional donation to cover the cost of mailing anniversary, birthday and sympathy cards sent by the group.

Photos from past gatherings can be found at Yates’ personal Facebook page at facebook.com/wandaburrress.yates.

For more information about the UTM Retirees group, contact Wanda Yates at 731-636-1694 or by email at wyates2017@gmail.com.

Picnic welcomes students to campus

The inaugural Welcome Back Picnic was held Thursday adjacent to Ellington Hall and University Village Phase II as a way for students and families to rest after a hectic day of moving into residential halls during Move-In Mania. The picnic was also attended by faculty and staff to help students get acquainted. Grilled hamburgers and hot dogs were the order of the day, and students enjoyed themselves at the cornhole courts and taking selfies at photo booths.

Skyhawt football tickets on sale now

UT Martin Skyhawk football tickets are on sale through the Skyhawk Ticket Office.

General admission for individual games is $20 per ticket, with chair seats costing $25 and Champions Club seating at $100.

Season ticket prices are $65 for general admission ($47 for faculty and staff), and season-ticket chair seats are $85 ($55 for faculty and staff).

Champions Club season tickets are $400 or $200 for those 13 and under.

The Skyhawks boast back-to-back Ohio Valley Conference championships and will seek to make it three titles in a row.

UT Martin opens the season on Sept. 2 at Georgia. Home games this season include:

• Sept. 9 vs. Missouri State (Family Weekend)
• Sept. 16 vs. Houston Baptist
• Sept. 30 vs. Tennessee State (Hall of Fame Game)
• Oct. 21 vs. Charleston Southern (Homecoming)
• Nov. 11 vs. Southeast Missouri

For more ticket information, call the Skyhawk Ticket Office at 731-881-7207.