

addenda

The University of Tennessee at Martin Faculty and Staff Newsletter | Nov. 28, 2022



UT MARTIN LEGISLATIVE INTERNS – Six University of Tennessee at Martin students will spend the spring semester in Nashville as legislative interns. Pictured are (l,r) Ethan Bledsoe, of Jamestown; Cindy Solis, of Shelbyville; Iman Ahmed, of Memphis; Patrick Davis, of Jackson; and Dezarai White, of Bradford. Not pictured is Julia Law, of Memphis.

UT MARTIN STUDENTS TO SERVE AS LEGISLATIVE INTERNS IN 2023

Six UT Martin students will spend the spring semester in Nashville as legislative interns. Five students interviewed for and accepted positions with the Tennessee Legislative Internship Program for the spring 2023 session of the Tennessee General Assembly, and one student will intern with the UT System's Office of Government Relations and Advocacy.

Iman Ahmed, of Memphis; Ethan Bledsoe, of Jamestown; Patrick Davis, of Jackson; Cindy Solis, of Shelbyville; and Dezarai White, of Bradford,

will be legislative interns for the Tennessee General Assembly. Ahmed and Solis are political science majors, Davis and White are criminal justice majors, and Bledsoe is majoring in agricultural business. Julia Law, a political science major from Memphis, will be interning with the UT System.

As legislative interns, these students will assist in tracking legislation, keeping records of committee meetings, researching policy issues and communicating with constituents. UT Martin has been represented through

internships in Tennessee state government since 1973 when the late **Dr. Ted Mosch**, UT Martin professor of political science, helped start the Legislative Internship Program.

"These interns work hard, and leaders in state government will recognize their talents and potential and will support them in obtaining jobs," said **Dr. Chris Baxter**, UT Martin professor of political science. "The most immediate benefits (from the internship) are enjoyed by the students who use

Continued on PAGE 2

UTM student chosen to serve on 2023 AFA Student Advisory Team

UT Martin student Jordan Stringfield was selected as a member of the 2023 Agriculture Future of America Student Advisory team at the AFA Leaders Conference on Nov. 10-13. Only 10 members were selected to serve on the advisory team out of 792 delegates that attended from 103 colleges.

The AFA student advisory team helps plan and facilitate the AFA Leaders Conference and AFA Leader Institute. To be eligible for the team, students must be an undergraduate student majoring in agriculture, food or natural resources, have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0, be 17-25 years old, and have attended at least one track of AFA leaders conference.

As a member of the AFA student advisory team, Stringfield will have the opportunity to travel to different locations for meetings and professional development. She will have a role in planning and facilitating the annual conference and other agriculturally-based institutes located across the country while working alongside her teammates, staff and students.

Preparation for this moment began as early as Stringfield's freshman year in high school when she chose to heavily

Continued on PAGE 3

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Chancellor Keith Carver was the guest presenter Nov. 21 for a [“Weekday Workshop at the Chamber,”](#) sponsored by the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce. His topic was “Building a Brand: Marketing Your Boat in a Sea of Messages.” The presentation covered information for business owners as well as individuals simply wanting to build their personal brand.



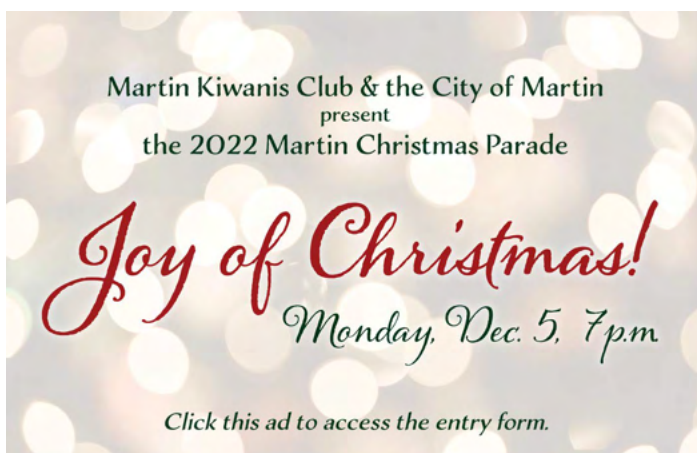
Dr. Christopher Brown, professor of philosophy, participated in an author-meets-critics session at the American Catholic Philosophical Association (ACPA) meeting Nov. 18 in New Orleans. He responded to three philosophers who offered criticisms of his latest book, *Eternal Life and Human Happiness in Heaven*.



During a recent meeting of the Martin branch of the American Association of University Women, Dr. Renee LaFleur presented a summary of the purposes and activities of the Verna B. Coleman Center for Women and Gender Equality. The center offers students, faculty and staff an environment that encourages discourse, skill building and growth opportunities in areas related to gender issues. LaFleur described the daily services available to UT Martin students and encouraged support of their efforts. AAUW members present at the hybrid meeting included Heidi Busch (president), Dr. Alice Catherine Carls, Dr. Harriette L. Spiegel, Dr. Amy Richards, Tiffany Emerson and Dr. Marti Herndon.



Marcie Boutwell, assistant professor and electronic resources librarian, has been elected vice president of the board of directors for Tenn-Share. This consortium of 700 Tennessee public, school, academic and special libraries negotiates shared purchase of information resources and provides professional development workshops for library staff across the state. Boutwell’s term of service extends through December 2024.

**INTERNS from PAGE 1**

the experience as a launching pad for their careers.”

For more information about the Legislative Internship Program, contact Baxter at cbaxter@utm.edu.

Submit a YoUTM.

IT'S HOLIDAY CARD SEASON!

GET YOUR PERSONALIZED CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CALENDARS FROM SKYHAWK PRINTING.

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Drs. Jamye Long and Cooper Johnson, both associate professors of management, lead a training session titled “Time Management” for Go Cloud Careers. This training was part of GCC’s technology career development program that focuses on technical competency and adds in soft skills development to prepare their clients for competing in the job market. The training session attracted an international audience.

AFA STUDENT from PAGE 1

pursue agriculture. Some four years later, she was chosen to represent UT Martin at the AFA Conference as a delegate. Stringfield loved this opportunity and with some help from her adviser, **Dr. Ross Pruitt**, professor of agriculture, geoscience, and natural resources, chose to apply for the advisory team.

“After I submitted the application, it was reviewed, and the AFA staff reached out to me for an interview. I was nervous and doubted myself the entire time,” said Stringfield. “To my surprise, I received a call a few weeks later letting me know that I had been selected. I truly couldn’t believe it.”

Stringfield is a sophomore agriculture business major from McEwen. After graduation, she hopes to earn her master’s degree in agriculture communications and then pursue a career in that field.



Jordan Stringfield

“Agriculture is an industry that people often forget the importance of, and I hope that I can do my part to make a difference,” said Stringfield. “I love everything about AFA and I am forever grateful and honored to have this opportunity.”

For more information about the AFA Leaders Conference or advisory teams, go to www.agfuture.org.

In Memory



Robert Kirk Lee, of Selmer, a longtime adjunct faculty member for the UT Martin McNairy County Center/Selmer, died Nov. 23. He held a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice degree from UT Martin and achieved a successful law enforcement career that included serving as McNairy County sheriff and time with the Criminal Investigative Division of the Tennessee Highway Patrol. Services were held Nov. 27.

Charles Lynn Moore, of Martin, died Nov. 20 at Jackson-Madison County Hospital. Graveside services were Friday, Nov. 25 at Eastside Cemetery in Martin. Mr. Moore retired from the Soil Conservation Service and then worked in ITS for the university from July 1987 until his retirement in September 1995. The complete obituary can be found [here](#).


tennessee.edu/values

View more
UT Martin
photos
online at
utm.edu/photo.

HOLIDAY
SCHEDULE

Dec. 26 – Christmas
Holiday Observed

Dec. 27-30 –
Administrative Closing

Jan. 2, 2023 – New Year’s
Day observed

Let the
UT Martin
community
know about
your most recent
accolades by
submitting a
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Email us at
addenda@utm.edu.



UT MARTIN RECOGNIZES YEARS OF SERVICE

UT Martin honored employees with five or more years of university service during a luncheon held Nov. 5.



Pictured for 30 years of service are (l to r) Robert Nanney, Mass Media and Strategic Communication; Alice-Catherine Carls, History and Philosophy; Donna Butler, Information Technology Services; Edie Gibson, Office of the Chancellor; Mahmoud Haddad, Accounting, Economics, Finance and Political Science; and Dan McDonough, History and Philosophy. Not pictured is Roger Elmore, Telephone Services.



Pictured for 20 years of university service are (back row, l to r) Kenneth Rogers, Custodial Services; Janet Bonar, Agriculture, Geoscience, and Natural Resources; Sally Brannen, English and Modern Foreign Languages; Stacey Freed, Mass Media and Strategic Communication; and Chad Worley, Public Safety. Also pictured are (front row, l to r) Sherry Britt, Psychology; Patty Flowers, Curriculum and Assessment; Stan Dunagan, Agriculture, Geoscience and Natural Resources; and Chris Brown, History and Philosophy. Not pictured are Chris Baxter, Accounting, Finance, Economics and Political Science; Lucia Florido, English and Modern Foreign Languages; Randal Garza, English and Modern Foreign Languages; Thomas Martin, Information Technology Services; Gregory Nail, Engineering and Safety Science; Jason Simpson, Athletics; and Ray Witmer, Engineering and Safety Science.



Pictured for 15 years of service are (back row, l to r) Xavier Andrews, Education Outreach (Ripley); Nelson Davis, Athletics; Donald Shaw, Biological Sciences; John Glass, Honors Programs; Curtis Kunkel, Mathematics and Statistics; and Doug Hauhe, Housing. Also pictured are (front row, l to r) Trena Davidson, Building Services; Kyoko Hammond, English and Modern Foreign Languages; Chara Van Horn, Mass Media and Strategic Communication; Tracy Rutledge, Mass Media and Strategic Communication; Landy Fuqua, REED Center; and Julie Donaldson, Healthy Start Program. Not pictured are Jolene Cunningham, Graduate Studies; Lisa Fagan, Student Health and Counseling Services; Stephen Johns, Building Services; Brandon Kilburn, Management, Marketing, and Information Services; Jeremy Lamb, Custodial Services; Alissa Parrish, Nursing; Matthew Prichett, Biological Sciences; Wesley Totten, Agriculture, Geoscience and Natural Resources; and Angela Watson, Bursar's Office.



Pictured for 25 years of university service are (l to r) Nancy Buschhaus, Engineering and Natural Sciences; Darrell Ray, Biological Sciences; Linda Husmann, Biological Sciences; Rodney Freed, Mass Media and Strategic Communication; Eric Pelren, Agriculture, Geoscience and Natural Resources; and Staci Fuqua, Educator Preparation Program. Not pictured are Dr. Keith Carver, Chancellor; Shannon Null, Information Technology Services; and Diedra Walker, Admissions Office.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



YEARS OF SERVICE – Pictured for 10 years of service are (back row, l to r) Joshua Camper, History and Philosophy; Daphne McDaniel, Business Services; Amy Davidson, Nursing; Jewel Franklin, Center for International Education; Abigail Shelton, Chemistry and Physics; Genessa Smith, Chemistry and Physics; Clinton Smith, Educational Studies; and Joshua Guerin, Computer Science. Also pictured are (front row, l to r) Amanda Waldon, Agriculture, Geoscience and Natural Resources; Norma Coalter, University Relations; Kelli Deere, Educational Outreach (Parsons); John'na Webster, Student Health and Counseling Services; Kimberly Olive-Milligan, Campus Recreation; and Carah Hooten, Academic Records. Not pictured are Kimberly Barnett-Stone, Family and Consumer Sciences; Matthew Braddock, History and Philosophy; Trisha Capansky, English and Modern Foreign Languages; Kiara Castleman, Academic Records; Brooke Dodd, Regional Centers and Online Programs; Patricia Floyd, Student Health and Counseling Services; Vickie Hardrick, Custodial Services; Jeff Merritt, Transportation Services; John Oelrich, Music; Joseph Ostenson, Psychology; Emily Anne Sparks, Athletics; Sandra Taylor, Child and Family Resource Center; and Bobby Webb, Building Services.



HABITAT HOUSE – Dr. John Schommer, mathematics professor, works with University Scholars volunteers – Logan Coleman, of Jackson, and Xavier Jimenez, of McKenzie – to construct an outbuilding on the quad for Weakley County Habitat for Humanity. The completed structure will later be moved from the quad to Sharon, the site of the next Habitat house, where construction is due to begin later this fall. Schommer, who has taught at the university since 1994, has a long association with Habitat and was honored for his work with the organization in 2009 when he received a statewide Love Community Service Award from the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. Learn more about Habitat for Humanity [here](#).



PAY IT FORWARD – The UT Martin Traffic Office recently held its annual Pay It Forward food drive. Students, faculty and staff members with parking citations were encouraged to donate food items in exchange for one citation dismissal. During the food drive, which ran Oct. 31 – Nov. 4, members of the Traffic Office collected over 500 non-perishable food items and dismissed 101 citations. All of the food collected was donated to Captain's Pantry.

The League of Striving Artists and The University of Tennessee at Martin
Department of Visual and Theatre Arts Presents

HOLIDAY ART BAZAAR

DECEMBER
1ST - 3RD

Thursday 1st 5 P.M. - 8 P.M.
Friday 2nd 11 A.M. - 7 P.M.
Saturday 3rd 10 A.M. - 4 P.M.

UT MARTIN FINE ARTS BUILDING GALLERY
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Lunch at the Library Workshop Series

Nov. 30, 12:15 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.
Paul Meek Library



TENNESSEE COURT OF APPEALS – The Tennessee Court of Appeals visited UT Martin on Nov. 15 to hold oral arguments before a live audience and guests (above left). Students and faculty were invited to sit in and listen to oral arguments in the Boling University Center's Watkins Auditorium. "Bringing the courtroom to the students is a wonderful way to involve them in the judicial process," said Court of Appeals Judge Steve Stafford in a news release. Stafford, of Dyersburg, is a UT Martin alum. "It's also important for us, as judges, to get out into the community and provide this valuable teaching tool. We thoroughly enjoy interacting with the public in these settings." A reception was held for attorneys and judges later that afternoon in the Champions Club. Pictured (above right, l, r) with UT Martin Chancellor Keith Carver are Judge Jeff Parham and attorney Reagan Brock Wallace, both UT Martin graduates. Parham is circuit court judge for Obion and Weakley counties, and Wallace is an associate attorney at Rainey, Kizer, Reviere & Bell, PLC, in Martin.

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

You Tell Me

- **Question** – What is the status of the Grove Apartments demolition project?
- **Answer** – The university has secured funding to proceed with demolition of the now-vacant Grove Apartments. Dates can always change because of many factors, but as of now, demolition work is scheduled to begin September 2023 and is expected to be completed December 2023. Plans for use of the space are not yet finalized, but at a minimum, the cleared site will offer more green space and a gathering point for different activities. The Grove Apartments were built in 1965.

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

addenda

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