

addenda



The University of Tennessee at Martin Faculty and Staff Newsletter | Feb. 13, 2023



PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE

Dr. Chan Mi Jean, a lecturer of music in collaborative piano, performs at the Joan and Sanford I. Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall on Jan. 24, 2023, in New York. Jean received an invitation to perform at Carnegie Hall after she placed first in the piano category of the 8th New York International Concours in June 2022. This was Jean's debut to Carnegie Hall as a solo pianist. Jean will be performing a solo recital in UT Martin's Blankenship Recital Hall on Feb. 25 at 5 p.m.

UT Martin's bike share program doubles fleet

Through a grant awarded by the UT Martin Center for Sustainability and supporting funds from the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources, UT Martin was able to purchase five bikes and docking stations in January 2021. Two years later, the Center for Sustainability has announced they will be adding five more bikes to their fleet, which brings the total to 10.

The current docking stations are located outside of Brehm Hall and the Boling University Center. According to Dr. Eric Pelren, coordinator of the Center for Sustainability, the group plans to add two additional docking stations to other locations on campus.

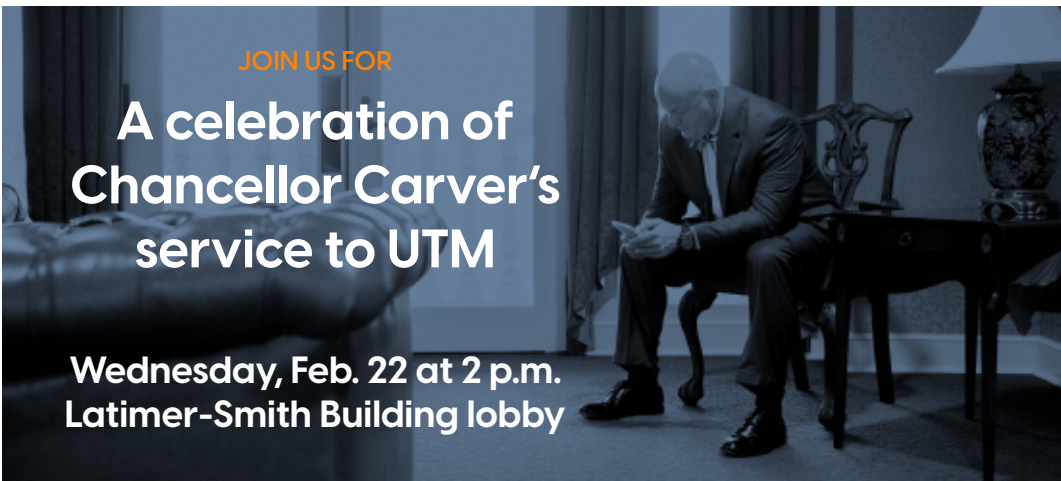
"We will be seeking approval to put them in two new places, so we'll have them in four locations across campus. We should be receiving them soon; assembly and station installation will be completed as early as this semester, but no later than this summer," said Pelren.

Also, this summer the group plans to transfer to a new software program for bike checkout. Users will no longer have to check the bikes in on the app. Check-in will occur automatically when the bike is locked back into the docking station.

JOIN US FOR

A celebration of Chancellor Carver's service to UTM

Wednesday, Feb. 22 at 2 p.m.
Latimer-Smith Building lobby



YoUTMs

highlighting the excellence of our faculty and staff

Dr. Bill Davis, professor of economics, was featured in WalletHub's recent online story titled "Cheap Car Insurance in Tennessee." You can find the story and his related comments in the "Ask the Experts" Q & A [here](#). WalletHub, based in Washington, D.C., is a financial website that offers information such as credit-improvement advice and personalized savings alerts. The site's business-related features are supplemented with information from subject-matter experts.



FALL 2022 MBA CONSULTING PROJECT PROVIDES WORK WITH LOCAL BUSINESSES

The Master of Business Administration program at UT Martin provided fall 2022 students the opportunity to work directly under the owners and managers of local businesses as outside consultants through the Management 790 Consulting Project class. Student teams used all MBA competencies such as data gathering, analysis, interpretation, critical and creative thinking, and decision making when executing the project.

director; and Carolina Vela, graduate assistant.

Vela, an international student from León, México, was hired as graduate assistant to assist with the MBA Consulting Project. She has a bachelor's degree in international business from La Universidad de La Salle Bajío, and an international exchange experience in Lille, France, at IÉSEG School of Management. Vela applied for the graduate-assistant position with the goals to learn, improve and continue to acquire experience in the business field for the future.

Supervisors of the student teams included Dr. Sam Faught, management professor; John Clark, interim director of the UT Martin Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking; Landy Fuqua, Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center

The first student team worked with Hamilton-Ryker Group, a staffing and total workforce solutions agency, to provide an in-depth analysis

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HELPING SMALL BUSINESS – Carolina Vela, of Leon, Mexico, is a UT Martin MBA student who served as a liaison between the REED Center, small businesses and Management 790 students involved in the course's consulting project. The project provided Management 790 students an opportunity to work with businesses as outside consultants. Students worked directly with business owners and managers in a real-world consulting experience. Vela is pictured with Chancellor Keith Carver at the City of Martin/UT Martin Town and Gown meeting in August 2022 at the Dunagan Alumni Center.

In Memory

Dr. Anne Looney Cook, of Crossville, professor emeritus of food science, died Dec. 23, 2022 in Chattanooga.

Cook worked at UT Martin from September 1969 until she retired May 31, 1997, at that time serving as chair of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. A memorial service is set for 2 p.m., Feb. 19, in Crossville.

Her ashes will be interred later at East Side Cemetery, but no additional memorial service is noted at this time for Martin.

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Email us at addenda@utm.edu.



MBA from PAGE 2

of the environment affecting the company, addressing both internal and external factors. They were also asked to create a strategic recruitment and retention action plan. On Dec. 3, the group presented their project and recommendations to company representatives.

“The team that worked on our project was like a breath of fresh air,” said Winston Howard, Hamilton-Ryker branch manager. “I’m happy to say that whatever company that is able to land any of these remarkable young men and women will be blessed to have them.”

Students involved on the Hamilton-Ryker project were Alexis Dixon, of Gates; Ali Seyedkavoosi, of Martin; IndiAnn Agee, of Dyersburg; James Fogg, of Nashville; Marshall Hamill, of Martin; and Melissa Starling, of Martin.

The second group of students

was asked to provide an in-depth strength, weakness, opportunity and threat analysis for Wendell Alexander Realty Group. Additionally, they needed to identify a suitable customer-relationship management software to keep and use information among the group’s three different companies that operate in different markets: Wendell Alexander Realty, Top Tier Auctions and Skyhawks Rentals. On Dec. 3, the group presented their project and recommendations to representatives from Wendell Alexander Realty Group.

“The MBA consulting project with local businesses allowed our companies the opportunity to gain insight and prospective on how we are perceived by our community,” said Jacob Crowe, director of marketing for Wendell Alexander Realty. “The university and its resources are something to be proud of, and we

are grateful for the opportunity to participate with our future peers in business to help make each of us better.”

Students participating in the Wendell Alexander Realty project were Aleya Brent, of Martin; Baylee Parton, of Camden; Connor Stanley, of Gates; Darnesha Guy, of Martin; Ethan Whitley, of Mason; and Mizuki Sakurai, of Tokyo, Japan.

“The MBA Consulting Project was established to utilize the knowledge and talents of our MBA students to provide research and solutions for real-world business issues. We appreciate the time, trust, and commitment from the management teams of Hamilton-Ryker and Wendall Alexander Realty,” said Landy Fuqua, UT Martin REED Center director.

For more information about the consulting projects, contact Fuqua at lfuqua@utm.edu or 731-587-7333.

More than 100 students to attend African American Youth Leadership Summit

More than 100 West Tennessee high school sophomores are registered to attend the UT Martin WestStar Leadership Program’s first in-person ALStar African American Youth Leadership Summit on Tuesday, Feb. 14, at the West Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center in Jackson. The inaugural summit was held in 2021, and the conference was offered virtually until this year. The summit was originally set for Jan. 31 but was postponed until Feb. 14 because of inclement weather.

For more information about the ALStar African American Youth Leadership Summit, contact Jennifer Black, WestStar program manager, at jblack32@utm.edu, or Bud Grimes, Office of University Relations, 731-881-7615.

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

You Tell Me

• **Question** – When UT Martin cancels class for weather, the announcement usually says staff will telework and essential personnel will report as directed by supervisors. Who are the essential personnel that usually have to report and how are they chosen? It would be great to know and give a shout-out to those who still have to work when the rest of us are at home safe and warm.

• **Answer** – When UT Martin cancels classes for inclement weather, employees who work with Public Safety, the Physical Plant and farm animal care giving often report to work to keep the campus operational. Also, Sodexo, although a vendor for the university, has employees report to work in order to provide dining services for our students.

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

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