

addenda



The University of Tennessee at Martin Faculty and Staff Newsletter | March 31, 2025

UTM hosts Wildlife Society Southeastern Conclave



Members of the UT Martin student chapter of The Wildlife Society that hosted the 2025 Wildlife Society Southeastern Conclave on March 27-29 include (front row, l-r) Shelby Baylor, President Amber Ingleburger, Clara Lindsey, Noah Hickman, Adalia Hewell, (middle row, l-r) Drake Hodge, Hayden Demastus, Kaycee Luker, Savannah Slusser (past student), Sydney Finley, Matthew Engelberg, Brett Mann, Zack Hudgens, Logan Stewart, (back row, l-r) Brady Coleman, Jason Stoll, Clayton Sneed, Joseph Staten and Rob Stockman. Dr. Eric Pelren, professor of wildlife biology and faculty advisor for the UTM Chapter of The Wildlife Society, and Ingleburger co-led the event.



The university community may have noticed an airhorn and students running across campus on March 28. This was the Conclave's team competition. Twenty tables were set up on a course across campus. Each school started at a table and answered wildlife questions, and a horn would blow every five minutes, signaling each school's team to run to the next table and answer as many wildlife questions as they could. Each table's questions had a different theme. The team from Virginia Tech is shown running from Paul Meek Library.

YoUTMs

highlighting the excellence of our faculty and staff

Dr. Daniel Nappo, a professor of Spanish, was awarded a Don Quijote Scholarship by the University of Castilla La Mancha to participate in a week-long teaching workshop sponsored by the Spanish university and the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities.

Nappo was in Toledo, Spain, from March 16 through March

22. All room and board and tuition were paid.

Nappo was one of only 50 Spanish professors and instructors from around the United States to have received this scholarship.

“It was a great workshop,” Nappo said. “It was a great way to refresh what I’ve been doing for so long.”



Above photo: Dr. Daniel Nappo shows the city of Toledo, Spain, with the Alcázar de Toledo in the background. Below photo: You can’t get a Don Quijote Scholarship without visiting windmills in Spain, and Dr. Daniel Nappo did just that in Toledo (seen to the Nappo’s right in the background).



The laboratory of Dr. Jaycob Warfel, assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, published an article on Feb. 19 entitled “Male mouse skeletal muscle lacking HuR shows enhanced glucose disposal at a young age” in the journal [Frontiers in Physiology](#).

The study reveals that removal of a piece of cellular machinery called HuR from the skeletal muscle of mice results in greater similarity between male and female muscle.

Four UTM students collected and analyzed data for this study in Warfel’s laboratory: junior cell and molecular biology major Maitri K. Chauhan of Ripley; and human health and performance majors Ally C. Goad, a senior from Dyer; Layla G. Loftis, a junior from Madison; and Christin F. Rickman, a junior from Wartrace.

These students and Warfel



Warfel

worked on this project in collaboration with investigators at Louisiana State University’s Pennington Biomedical Research Center.

With this study, Warfel’s group has revealed important differences in metabolic processes between male and female mammals, which will aid in our understanding of why males can be more susceptible to the development of metabolic diseases such as Type 2 diabetes.

Tara Tansil-Gentry, lecturer in the Department of Health and Human Performance, is in her 30th year as a UT Martin employee. She is also an assistant coach for the Greenfield state championship girls’ basketball team.

She began assisting the team in 2019, when Greenfield was undefeated and top-ranked in the state. The team won its first game in the 2020 state tournament before the entire tournament was canceled because of COVID-19.

The team won its first game in the 2024 state tournament before losing the semifinal game, but the 2025 Yellowjackets returned to Murfreesboro to claim the state championship.

Tansil-Gentry is a UT Martin Athletics Hall of Fame member whose jersey is retired in the



Tansil-Gentry

rafters of the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

A highly recruited player at Greenfield High School, she played for UT Martin from 1991 to 1995 and worked eight years as an assistant coach and five years as a head coach for the Skyhawks.

Tansil-Gentry is an inaugural inductee into the Weakley County Sports Hall of Fame.

YoUTMs

highlighting the excellence of our faculty and staff

Heidi Busch, associate professor of library science, has an article [in issue 75.1 of Tennessee Libraries](#).

Titled "Have a Seat! Chair Survey in an Academic Library," the piece reports on a survey the library conducted to assess patron preference for seating options in the building. The project helped to inform the purchase of new furnishings and surplus of other items.



Busch

Dr. Jamye Long and **Dr. Cooper Johnson**, both professors of management, participated in the Go Cloud Career's Enterprise Architect roundtable discussion, which invited participant questions on a variety of business topics.

Questions included subjects such as ethical business decisions, career advancement, day-to-day work life of an enterprise architect, interviewing skills that will land you the job and leadership skills needed for enterprise architects.



Long



Johnson

Roediger to speak April 1

Dr. David Roediger, a historian of race and of labor, will speak at 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 1, in the quad window area of Paul Meek Library.

Roediger, the author or editor of nearly a dozen books on American history - including the influential "Wages of Whiteness: Race and the Making of the American Working Class" - will discuss his memoir, "An Ordinary White: My Antiracist Education."

The event is open to the public, and admission is free.



Roediger

This event is sponsored by the Department of History and Philosophy.

Ronne Cox, assistant professor in the Paul Meek Library, served as a moderator for several sessions at the [Electronic Resources and Libraries Annual Conference](#) March 23-26 in Austin, Texas.

Now in its 20th year, the ER&L conference serves those working in the e-resource and digital services community across higher education.

Cox helped to moderate sessions on e-resource



Cox

management, engagement, licensing and assessment.

New databases available in Paul Meek Library

The Paul Meek Library has three new databases now available for trial.

African American Newspapers, Series 1 (1827-1998): Access 280 U.S. newspapers that chronicle the African American experience across 150 years, including rare 19th-century titles; [1-minute video](#); [site](#).

African American Newspapers, Series 2 (1835-1956): Featuring over 75 newly digitized newspapers, this collection expands on Series

1, offering deeper insight into African American life and history; [site](#).

Civil Rights in America: A comprehensive archive of primary source materials from Reconstruction to the Great Society, essential for research in history, political science and social justice; [site](#).

These trials are available until April 30.

The library invites faculty, staff and students to explore these valuable collections and [share their feedback](#).



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
APRIL 2

< Click on the graphic for more information! >



Shannon Perry (left) and Priscilla Price of the UTM Office of Student Conduct and Care are shown at the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators Conference held March 15 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The conference had more than 6,500 attendees from around the world.

Perry, Price represent at NASPA Conference

Shannon Perry and Priscilla Price of the UT Martin Office of Student Conduct and Care (OSCC) facilitated a dynamic half-day preconference presentation March 15 at the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana.

With more than 6,500 attendees from around the world, the session titled “Creating and Marketing an Effective and Engaging Care Campaign” provided a valuable platform to showcase UTM’s commitment to student well-being and the innovative work being done on campus.

Through a series of creative campaigns, Perry and Price shared insights into how their team has engaged students while fostering a culture of care.

The session served as an opportunity for them to discuss the UTM office’s evolution in student engagement, focusing on the importance of proactive programming that prioritizes prevention and awareness.

The workshop, designed to be interactive, allowed participants to brainstorm, share ideas and develop actionable strategies to implement similar care campaigns at their institutions.

The OSCC’s ongoing efforts to build partnerships, provide a variety of programming and create a positive campus culture were also showcased, with activities such as “Rock Your Mental Health” and “Care Team Fishing Rodeo” being highlighted as successful examples.

Perry and Price emphasized how these initiatives have not only increased awareness of the OSCC but also improved student participation in non-clinical case management, ultimately enhancing students’ sense of comfort in seeking support.

You Tell Me

• **Question** – Who schedules use of the Blaylock Inspiration Oracle?

• **Answer** – The Boling University Center schedules The Oracle and has it built into the university center’s facility request form as a space to request. The space/area is booked so that two groups don’t overlap each other. However, if tables, chairs, etc., are needed, those must be booked through the Physical Plant (this information is also listed in the request form). You can find that request form [by clicking here](#). Remember, too, that Veterans Park, formerly the space occupied by Grove Apartments, is also scheduled for use by the Boling University Center using the same link.

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

Grant opportunities announced by ORSP

Several grant opportunities that might be of interest to faculty and staff have been released through the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP).

Click on each header for more information about that grant opportunity.

[SCORE Future Forward Grant](#)

Recipients of the Future Forward Innovation Grant will receive up to \$75,000; get one year of strategic consulting from SCORE to design, implement and evaluate their pathway program; and participate in a cohort-style learning fellowship.

This grant will help stand up the design or implementation of innovative education-to-work models that support students on pathways to high-demand, high-wage careers.

Deadline to apply is Friday, April 11.

[Edward Mallinckrodt Jr. Foundation](#)

The Edward Mallinckrodt Jr. Foundation supports early-stage biomedical investigators engaged in basic and translational research that has the potential to make fundamental advances in biomedical science.

Tenure-track faculty members in their first to fourth year are

eligible to apply for start-up support to move the project forward to the point where R01 or other independent funding can be obtained.

The grant provides \$75,000 annually for a period of up to three years and is not renewable. Institutions may submit one proposal per session, and submissions must come from sponsored projects office.

Deadline to apply is Friday, Aug. 1.

[William T. Grant Foundation](#)

This program supports research to build, test or increase understanding of programs, policies or practices to reduce inequality in the academic, social, behavioral or economic outcomes of young people age 5 to 25 in the United States.

Studies that aim to reduce inequalities that exist along dimensions of race, ethnicity, economic standing, sexual or gender minority status, language minority status or immigrant origins are prioritized.

- Major Research Awards for \$100,000 to \$600,000 for up to three years. Projects involving secondary data analysis are typically at the lower end of the budget range, whereas projects involving new data collection

and sample recruitment can be at the higher end.

Proposals to launch experiments in which settings (classrooms, schools, youth programs) are randomly assigned to conditions sometimes have higher awards.

Deadlines to apply are Wednesday, May 7, and Wednesday, Aug. 6.

- Officers' Research Grants for \$25,000 to \$50,000 for up to two years. Studies may be stand-alone projects or may build off larger projects. The budget should be appropriate for the activities proposed.

Deadline to apply is Wednesday, Aug. 6.

[Engineering Information Foundation](#)

Our grant activity supports developmental projects, instructional projects and training programs in engineering education and research: (1) enhancing communication and use of information skills of engineering students and (2) recruiting and retaining women in engineering.

Awards \$5,000 to \$25,000 for one year.

Deadline to apply is Sunday, Aug. 31.

Upcoming Skyhawk Home Events

Tuesday, April 1

- Baseball vs. Alabama A&M, 3 p.m., Skyhawk Baseball Field.

Wednesday, April 2

- Baseball vs. Murray State, 3 p.m., Skyhawk Baseball Field.

Saturday, April 5

- *Beach volleyball vs. Chattanooga (dh), noon, Skyhawk Beach Volleyball Complex.

Friday, April 11

- *Baseball vs. Western Illinois, 5 p.m., Skyhawk Baseball Field.

Saturday, April 12

- *Softball vs. Tennessee Tech, 2:30 p.m., Bettye Giles Softball Field.
- *Baseball vs. Western Illinois, 3 p.m., Skyhawk Baseball Field.

Sunday, April 13

- *Softball vs. Tennessee Tech (dh), noon, Bettye Giles Softball Field.
- *Baseball vs. Western Illinois, 1 p.m., Skyhawk Baseball Field.

Monday, April 14

- Golf, Carpenter/Chaney Classic, Country Club of Paducah (hosting with Morehead State).

* - conference competition.

Full athletics schedules can be found at utmsports.com.

Dates and times are subject to change.

- Watch "Skyhawk Sports Talk" each week, archived at utmsports.com! New episodes are posted each Monday.



UTM Care Team Well-Being Summit to be held April 25

The Office of Student Conduct and Care announced that registration is now open for the UTM Care Team Well-Being Summit 2025.

The summit will take place from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Friday April 25, at the Boling University Center.

This summit will be a come-and-go event, designed to bring together students, faculty and staff to explore the critical role of relationships in

fostering a culture of care, belonging, well-being and student success.

To register for the well-being summit, go to [this site](#). This event is free to UTM faculty, staff and students.

Those who have questions or need assistance should contact the Office of Student Conduct and Care at 731-881-7703 or via email at utmcareteam@utm.edu.

Promote a faculty or staff member by sending a YoUTM to addenda@utm.edu!

WCRP visits historic Alabama sites

Members of the Weakley County Reconciliation Project visited several historical sites in Selma and Montgomery, Alabama, on March 25-27. Among those attending were (right photo, front row, l-r) Kristian Reid, Sha'Keva Williams, Dr. Henrietta Giles, the Rev. Amanda Crice, Mason Brinkley, (middle row, l-r) Dr. Heidi Huse, Lucy Boykin, Renee Anderson, Nichole Claybrooks, Alexis Millsaps, (back row, l-r) Joyce Washington and Teresa Sadler. They are shown in front of The Legacy Museum in Montgomery. (Below photo) Shown in front of the Dexter Avenue King Memorial Church in Montgomery are (front row, l-r) Reid, Giles, (back row, l-r) Brinkley, Millsaps and Williams. The group also visited the National Memorial for Peace and Justice, the Rosa Parks Museum and took a tour of Selma, including the historic Edmund Pettus Bridge.



Campus Calendar

Tuesday, April 1

- Department of Mass Media and Strategic Communication awards, 3 p.m., Duncan Ballroom, Boling University Center.
- Skyhawk ROTC Battalion promotion ceremony for Staff Sgt. Omar J. Gomez, 3:30 p.m., Watkins Auditorium, Boling University Center.
- Dr. David Roediger, historian of race and labor, speaking presentation, 6 p.m., quad window area of Paul Meek Library.

Wednesday, April 2

- Captain's Challenge, all day; visit challenge.utm.edu.

Thursday, April 3

- ELLI Conference,

Discovery Park of America, Union City; visit www.utm.edu/elli.

Saturday, April 5

- Admissions Preview Day, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

April 7-11

- I Heart UTM Week.

Thursday, April 10

- "Women Speaking Out" tea party, 4 p.m., first floor, north windows, Paul Meek Library.

Sunday, April 13

- Registered Student Organizations (RSO) Awards, 6 p.m., Watkins Auditorium, Boling University Center.

Events are subject to cancellation; dates, times and sites are subject to change.

addenda

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