

addenda

The University of Tennessee at Martin Faculty and Staff Newsletter | July 28, 2025

Boyd, Martin visit UTM main campus



University of Tennessee President Randy Boyd (at left in the above photo with Chancellor Yancy Freeman) and Dr. Linda Martin (photo at right), UT executive vice president, visited with Dr. Freeman and his cabinet during a morning meeting July 23 in the Johnson EPS Building. Also attending were Dr. Sandy Mehlhorn and Dr. Sean Walker, current and former faculty senate presidents, respectively. Current faculty senate presidents serve on the chancellor's cabinet. The discussion covered multiple topics as the university develops the UT System 2030 Strategic Plan. Questions about the strategic plan process can be emailed to systemstrategicplan@tennessee.edu. Martin most recently served as UT Southern chancellor before returning to the UT System in her new role.



YoUTMs

highlighting the excellence of our faculty and staff

Dr. Richard Garlitz, professor of history, presented “Anbara Salam Khalidi and Halide Edib Adivar: Political Feminism, Opposing Nationalisms, and the End of the Ottoman Era” at the World History Association annual conference held June 26-28 in Louisville.

The paper explores how historians can use the memoirs of two prominent early 20th-century feminists to examine the diverging nationalisms that

pulled the Ottoman Empire apart between 1911 and 1919.

Historians have long used feminist memoirs to illustrate modernizing trends in the late-Ottoman Middle East.

This paper argues those same memoirs reveal a great deal about political developments that sought to strengthen but ultimately undermined the Ottoman state during its tumultuous last decade.



Garlitz

UT Martin has secured its second research grant from the National Institutes of Health through the work of **Dr. Jaycob Warfel**, assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences.

Prior to his arrival at UTM in fall 2024, Warfel secured the NIH research grant totaling \$225,000 for his project titled “Activated ER alpha as compensation for HuR controlled lipid oxidation in skeletal muscle” in 2023.

His work is conducted in partnership with Pennington Biomedical Research Center at Louisiana State University.

The Office of Research, Outreach, and Economic Development has finalized the transfer of the grant to UT Martin for its final year with a budget of \$98,168.



Warfel

Dr. Mahmoud Haddad, professor of finance in the College of Business and Global Affairs, was featured in WalletHub’s story “Best Credit Cards of July 2025,” published July 25.

The story and related Q&A with Dr. Haddad can be read [at this site](#).

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



Haddad

features are supplemented with information from subject-matter experts.

The Jackson Purchase Historical Society will host a program at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 16, in the Tennessee Room at Discovery Park of America in Union City.

Dr. Renee LaFleur, associate professor of history, will discuss her extensive research on the women’s suffrage movement in Tennessee.

The issue of women’s suffrage was part of American politics for many years. Between January 1918 and June 1919, the House and Senate voted on the Constitutional amendment five times.

Finally, in early June, the proposed amendment passed the Senate and was sent to the states. Tennessee’s ratification



LaFleur

of the 19th Amendment gave women the right to vote.

LaFleur’s presentation will explore this important and interesting topic.

Those attending the program will enjoy free admission to the Discovery Park, excluding special exhibits.

The news at news.utm.edu

[UTM graduate receives Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship](#)

[UTM Jackson Center, JSCC team up for meteorology camp](#)

[UTM tractor team places 10th in international competition](#)

[UTM takes third title in CSBS bank case-study competition](#)

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Upcoming Skyhawk Home Events

Sunday, Aug. 17

- Women’s soccer vs. Arkansas State, 7 p.m., Skyhawk Soccer Field.

Thursday, Aug. 21

- Women’s soccer vs. North Alabama, 7 p.m., Skyhawk Soccer Field.

Sunday, Aug. 24

- Women’s soccer vs. Austin Peay, 7 p.m., Skyhawk Soccer Field.
* - conference competition.

Full athletics schedules can be found at utmsports.com.

Dates and times are subject to change.



Sharing Laura Foltz's celebration



Dr. Laura Foltz, Division of Finance and Administration, was greeted with a surprise celebration complete with confetti and lunch July 22 at the Dungan Alumni Center. The celebration covered two significant accomplishments: Laura recently "rang the bell" as she completed cancer treatments, and she is completing her successful tenure as interim human resources director when Dr. Debbie Stairs assumes the director of human resources' role in August. Friends and colleagues from finance and administration, the Office of Human Resources, and Skyhawk Printing and Mail Services were among those expressing appreciation and congratulations. Also attending was her husband, Dr. Brian Foltz, professor of information systems.

Officer training on campus



Officers from the UT Martin Police Department and the City of Martin Police Department conducted joint training exercises July 16 on the UT Martin campus. The training focused on active shooter response, defensive tactics and tactical emergency care. Matlock Brazilian Jiu Jitsu provided the defensive tactics portion of the training. This collaboration enhances interagency coordination and strengthens safety preparedness.

Wellness Mini Grant application approaches

There's still time to apply for a \$5,000 UT Wellness Mini Grant – but the deadline is fast approaching on Friday, Aug. 1.

Faculty and staff are invited to submit proposals for collaborative, student-centered wellness projects with the potential to make a lasting impact on their campus and

across the UT System.

Whether you're launching a mental health initiative, leading a student outreach campaign or building a multi-campus partnership, this can help bring the idea to life. Learn more and apply [at this site](#).

More information can be found [at this site](#).

**Submit a YoUTM or
question
to addenda@utm.edu!**

UTM hosts nutrition workshop



The UTM Department of Family and Consumer Sciences hosted a two-day nutrition workshop for nutrition staff members of the Weakley County, Bradford, Milan and Trenton school districts. Shown is Keely Spain, a 2022 UTM graduate and culinary arts instructor at Lake County High School, demonstrating the use of spices in food preparation.

Campus has access to SRAI program

The UT Martin campus now has free access to the Society of Research Administrators International (SRAI) LevelUP Micro-credential program through the UT Knoxville institutional subscription.

LevelUP consists of online courses through Modules and mGuides covering Pre-Award, Post-Award, Compliance, Department Administration and NSF/NIH Proposal Guides.

The courses can be completed online any time from any location, and participants are awarded micro-credentials for successful completion.

Read the LevelUP Program FAQs and review the

LevelUP Course Catalog for more information.

Principal investigators of sponsored projects, grant writers, departmental administrators of sponsored projects and anyone interested in learning more about financial management, compliance and proposal development would benefit from these trainings.

To get access to begin this free online training opportunity, contact Alisha Melton at amelton6@utm.edu to establish an account.

Once the access is activated, there is unlimited access to the LevelUP trainings.

Women and Gender Studies to host seminar

The Women and Gender Studies program will have its annual Women and Gender Studies summer seminar for faculty and staff.

Through reading short texts and guided discussion, participants will explore the many facets of feminism and gender diversity.

Topics for the 2025 seminar include:

- “Women’s Rhetoric and Reform,” led by **Dr. Kelle Alden**, associate professor of English and director of the Hortense Parrish Writing Center.

- “Gender and Dance,” led by Sarah McCormick (coming out of retirement for this special presentation).

- “CENESEX, Cuba’s National Center for Sex Education,” led by **Dr. John LaDue**, information literacy librarian.

The seminar will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 13, in Room 118 of The Paul Meek Library (in the Media Center). Coffee and lunch will be provided.

The deadline to register at [this site](#) is Monday, Aug. 4. Space is limited.

You Tell Me

• **Question** – Who is responsible for repairing streets around the university?

• **Answer** – The city of Martin monitors street conditions for repairs, including University Street, Mt. Pelia Road, Hannings Lane and Jeffress, Moody, Hurt (east of the intersection at the Steam Plant) and Loveless streets. The “streets” repaired by the UTM Physical Plant are the ones internal to the campus, such as the part of Hurt Street that goes by the Latimer-Smith Building toward Clement Circle, as well as Wayne Fisher Drive that goes to the Boling University Center. The university also maintains Jerry Gresham Road (formerly the Farm Road), which the university paved several years ago in two phases.

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

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