

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT MARTIN  
OVERVIEW of SPONSORED FUNDING  
& RESEARCH 2007-2012





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Dear Friend:

On behalf of the dedicated members of The University of Tennessee at Martin Division of Academic Affairs, thank you for your interest in this second edition of our Office of Research, Grants and Contracts' (ORGC) spotlight on grants. This is an extremely talented learning community, and I am proud to recognize faculty and staff who have taken the lead in both cutting-edge research and the provision of a wide variety of co-curricular opportunities for our students.

While our university will never be able to fund every worthwhile educational activity, outside grants allow us to do much more than we could do with state funding alone. The faculty and staff featured here recognize the added value that external resources bring, and I appreciate both their efforts and the ongoing support of Dr. Joan West and her dedicated ORGC team.

I am proud to play a small part in continuing UT Martin's rich tradition of excellence. If you have any ideas of ways we can better serve our region, please let me know.

Thank you again for sharing in our successes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E. Jerald Ogg". The signature is written in a cursive style.

E. Jerald Ogg, Jr., J.D., Ph.D.

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Dear Reader:

In this second edition of *UT Martin Overview of Sponsored Funding and Research*, we feature both the externally sponsored funding from 2007-08 through 2011-12. This edition also features the Hal and Alma Reagan Leave Awardees from 2007-2008 - 2012-2013 that demonstrate how our faculty members use research and professional development to enhance their teaching.

What is the role of externally sponsored grants on a college campus? Many of us associate grants with sophisticated labs, super computers, and medical research. In the past five years, external funding has furthered UT Martin's mission of teaching, research, and service through:

- collaborative research with colleagues in Tennessee, other states, and internationally;
- programs that provide tailored professional development for K-12 teachers, law enforcement, social workers, and business leaders throughout West Tennessee;
- enhanced relationships between UT Martin and community business and industry partners; and
- equipment and facility improvements in science and agriculture.

Sponsored funding also represents a good investment for UT Martin fiscal viability. UT Martin, like many institutions of



higher education, has become a *state-supported* rather than a *state-funded* institution. Consequently, grants provide additional salaries, undergraduate and graduate tuition, and equipment that would be unavailable in this era of flat funding from the state government. Sponsored programs also enable staff to create programs and provide services that support our students in their academic experiences. Our current yield rate is at 73%, which is high, and also speaks well of the quality of work that our campus produces. The University of Tennessee at Martin is committed to student access and success, research and economic development, and outreach and globalization.

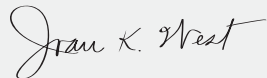
Internal research support is provided through the Hal and Alma Reagan Leave program that awards eligible faculty either a half or full-year leave to pursue their personal research initiatives. As you read the description of their research, you will see how this program not only furthers the recipients' research agendas, but also reignites their passion for teaching. Another venue of achieving these goals is through externally sponsored grants, which are becoming more competitive to secure. Not all proposals submitted are funded; however, all require commitment and many hours of preparation.

The graphics that follow my letter reinforce UT Martin's commitment to achieving these goals and depict the creativity and hard work of the university's faculty and staff in writing, securing, and managing these grants. Continuing Resolutions and Sequestration in the federal budget process have severely limited the monies available from sponsoring agencies, thereby causing many of the agencies to not make awards as they have done historically. All colleges and universities

throughout the United States are feeling this “pinch” in their sponsored funding, and UT Martin is no exception. Several agencies in the State of Tennessee are also experiencing cutbacks or flat funding and are either redacting funds or reducing budgets for all sponsored programs for Tennessee colleges and universities. One major difference on the funding scene for UT Martin is that our cost sharing and matching commitments have decreased, which means new dollars for our campus and the release of funds that might have been used for match for use in other areas.

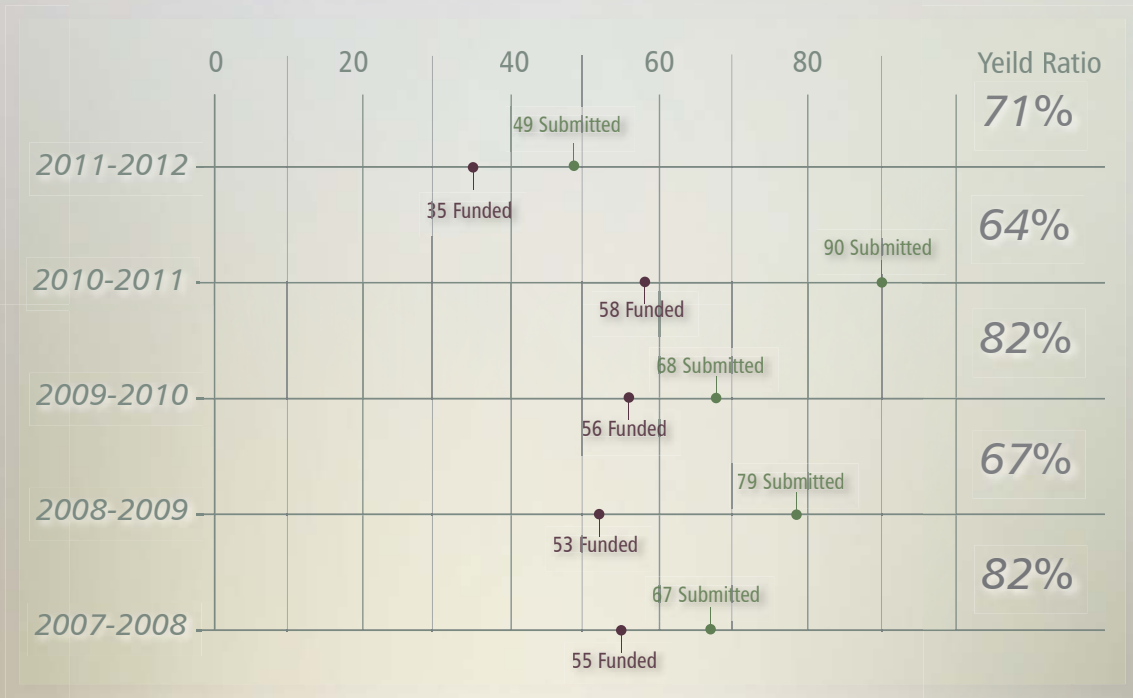
As you read through this publication, you will note how many of these projects involved collaborative partnerships among and between the agriculture, business, education, and health care sectors throughout West Tennessee. The Office of Research, Grants, and Contracts continues to build upon this foundation to amplify the impact of UT Martin in our service area. These are exciting times for UT Martin and our region.

Sincerely,



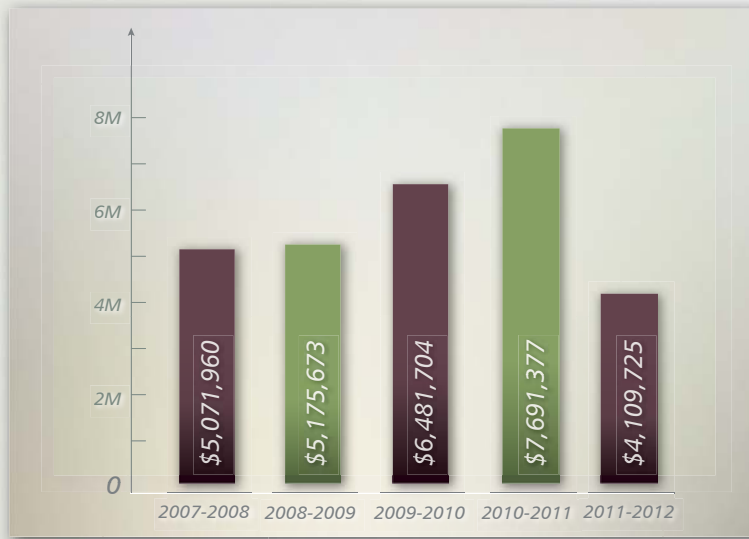
Joan K. West, Ph. D., Chief Research Officer and  
Director of Research, Grants, and Contracts

## UT Martin Proposals Submitted vs. Proposals Funded



*5 Year Average = 73%*





UT Martin  
Dollars from  
Sponsored Programs



UT Martin  
External Funding  
from Federal and  
State Agencies

# COLLEGE of AGRICULTURE & APPLIED SCIENCES



## Agriculture Vocational Education

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Department of Education  
Division of Vocational Education

**Project Duration:** 2007-ongoing

**Project Director:** Dr. James N. Butler, Jr., Professor, Department of Agriculture,  
Geosciences and Natural Resources

This funding has enabled UT Martin to provide professional development to area Agriculture Education teachers. Most recently, topics have included: (1) how to integrate academics into the content area; (2) how to navigate the state website on clusters of related occupations; and (3) how to identify related programs of study. The sessions also presented specific strategies on how Agriculture Education teachers can advise students in selecting a career and new technologies and trends in the agriculture industry. Other training was designed to ensure that colleges and universities continue to meet Tennessee teacher licensure standards and identify ways to assist Agriculture Education teachers in implementing state Agricultural Education Standards, occupational clusters, and programs of study.





## Rapid Carbon Assessment Project

<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	U.S. Department of Agriculture
<b>Project Duration:</b>	2012
<b>Project Director:</b>	Dr. Paula Gale, Professor, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources

UT Martin worked cooperatively with the USDA National Resources Conservation Services to accelerate completion of the NRCS “Rapid Carbon” initiative in MLRA Soil Survey Region 18. The objective of the work was to provide technical and logistical assistance to the NRCS relative to the collection, processing, analysis, and management of soil samples derived from the RaCA project. Undergraduate student research assistants worked with state soil scientists to record site characteristics in the field; collect soil samples in the field; sample preparation including weighing, drying, grinding, and sieving; and assisted the staff with the data analysis and database development.



## Livestock Merchandising Center Addition

**Sponsoring Agency:** U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural  
Development Program

**Project Duration:** 2008-2009

**Project Director:** Dr. Jerry Gresham, Professor and Interim Dean,  
College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences



This award contributed to enhancements of the Ray and Wilma Smith Livestock Merchandising Center at UT Martin. The project included the addition of more pens for holding cattle, a larger sale ring, a classroom for adult educational meetings, and a set of commercial scales. This facility benefits the region by regularly hosting numerous livestock sales and educational events. Livestock have been merchandised outside of Tennessee, which has allowed producers to capitalize on markets outside of their home state while simultaneously creating a positive impact on the profitability of regional livestock producers.



## Improvements to Ray and Wilma Smith Merchandising Center

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Department  
of Agriculture

**Project Duration:** 2008-2010

**Project Director:** Dr. Jerry Gresham, Professor and  
Interim Dean, College of  
Agriculture and Applied Sciences

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture awarded UT Martin funds to expand the Ray and Wilma Smith Livestock Merchandising Facility on campus. The award provided for expanded exhibition and stalling areas, which have enabled the University to host larger and more diversified livestock events and sales. The improvements will have a lasting effect on the local rural economy by enhancing marketing and promotional opportunities for West Tennessee livestock producers.

## Center of Excellence for Agriculture

<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	Tennessee Higher Education Commission
<b>Project Duration:</b>	2007-ongoing
<b>Past Project Directors:</b>	Dr. Jerry Gresham, Professor and Interim Dean, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
<b>Current Project Director:</b>	Dr. Tim Burcham, Professor and Interim Chair, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources

The State of Tennessee operates several Centers for Excellence throughout the higher education system. UT Martin has operated the Center for Excellence in Experiential Learning in Agriculture Sciences since 2005. As the Tennessee Higher Education Commission noted, “will provide an innovative infrastructure through which existing and new experiential inter-disciplinary studies in production agriculture, the environment and conservation techniques can take place...is designed to create a model for quality teaching across various disciplines, facilitate and increase external grant and contract activities, increase public/private partnerships, increase outreach efforts, collaborate with secondary institutions, expand livestock, crops, equipment, natural resource areas and other facilities to enhance experiential learning and have a major impact on the economy of the State of Tennessee.”

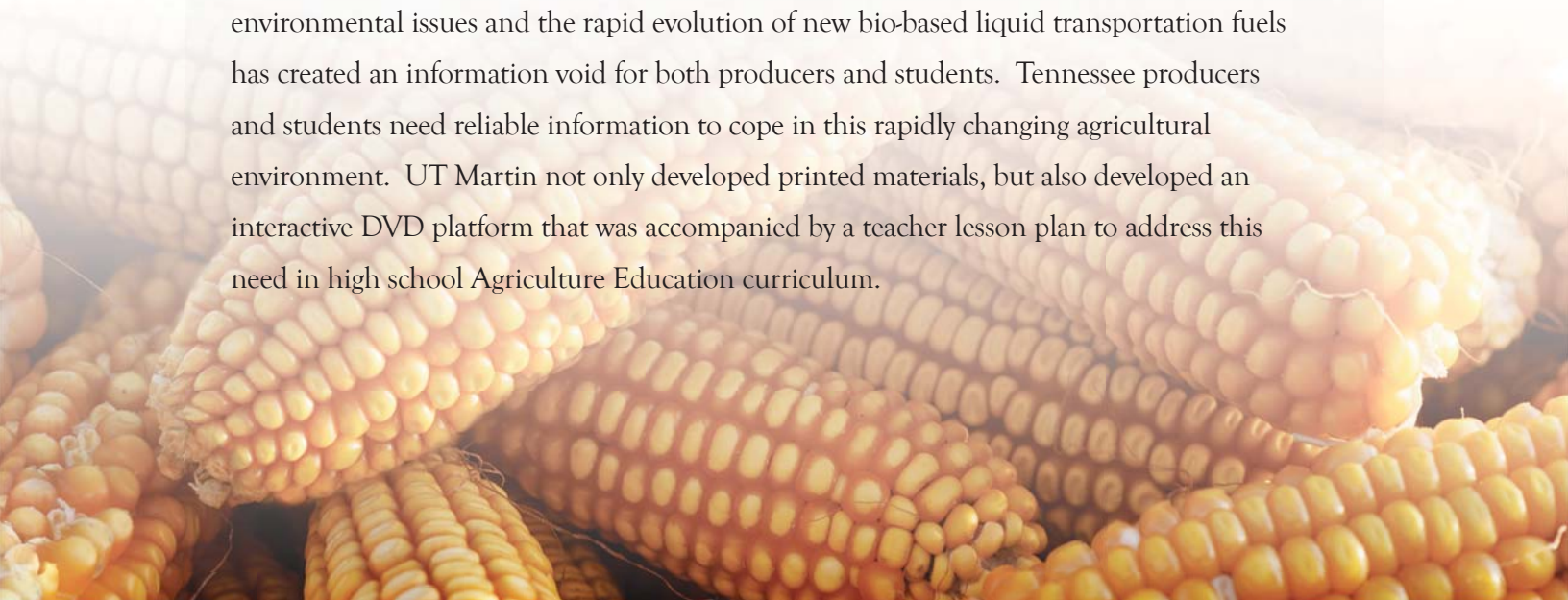
## Development of Biofuels Education Modules for Tennessee High School Agricultural and Science Programs

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Department of Agriculture

**Project Duration:** 2006-2008

**Project Director:** Dr. Joseph Mehlhorn, Professor, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources

This grant enabled UT Martin to host a workshop for biofuels producers and the development of educational materials for agricultural students in Tennessee high schools. Producers are facing a series of critical decisions that affect their competitiveness in a new agricultural paradigm that includes food, fiber, and fuel. Global demand for liquid transportation fuels is at an all-time high. This coupled with increased concern over environmental issues and the rapid evolution of new bio-based liquid transportation fuels has created an information void for both producers and students. Tennessee producers and students need reliable information to cope in this rapidly changing agricultural environment. UT Martin not only developed printed materials, but also developed an interactive DVD platform that was accompanied by a teacher lesson plan to address this need in high school Agriculture Education curriculum.





## Global Agriculture Leadership Incubator Project

**Sponsoring Agency:** U.S. Department of Agriculture  
**Project Duration:** 2008-2011  
**Project Director:** Dr. Joseph Mehlhorn, Professor,  
Department of Agriculture,  
Geosciences, and Natural Resources

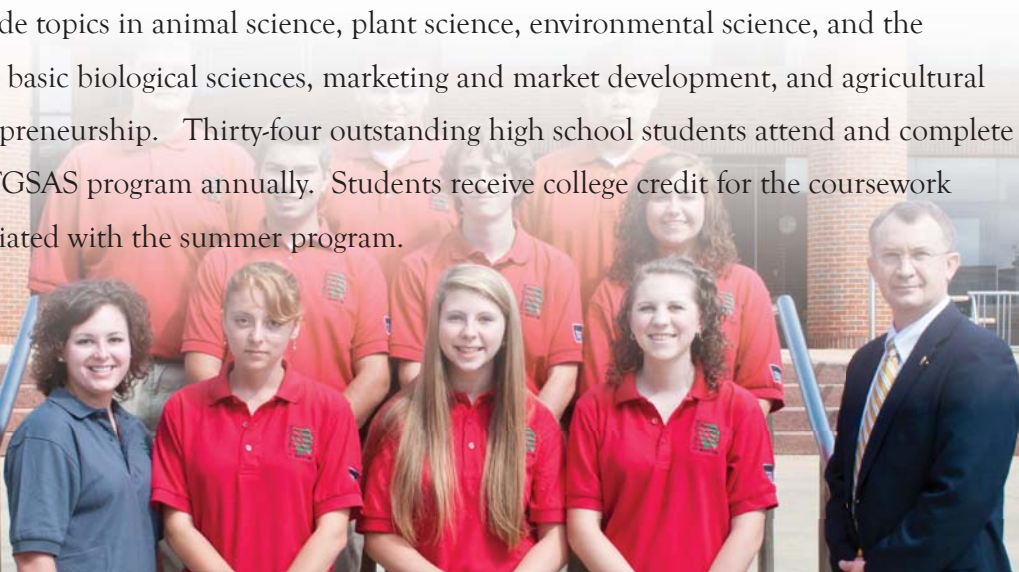


The Global Agricultural Leadership Incubator Project (GALIP) was a pilot a model for internationalizing the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources curriculum to improve the ability of rural students to compete more effectively in the global world of agriculture. Agriculture majors focused on agribusiness trade issues through a combination of coursework, international immersion experiences in Mexico, and interaction with business professionals in Tennessee. The goal of the project was to make UT Martin students more competitive in the job market through increased global competency.

## Governor's School for Agricultural Science

<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	Tennessee Department of Education
<b>Project Duration:</b>	2004-Ongoing
<b>Project Director:</b>	Dr. Joey Mehlhorn, Professor, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources

The Tennessee Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences (TGSAS) is one of two such programs in the United States, with the other programs at Virginia Polytechnic and State University. The TGSAS experience provides a broad understanding of the diverse field of agriculture to high school juniors and seniors. The students stay on the UT Martin campus for four weeks in the summer, taking classes, and learning about new research and technologies related to agriculture. Special emphasis is placed on cultural and social issues not normally explored in high school and even college classes that impact the way our society envisions the agricultural sciences. Classes include topics in animal science, plant science, environmental science, and the more basic biological sciences, marketing and market development, and agricultural entrepreneurship. Thirty-four outstanding high school students attend and complete the TGSAS program annually. Students receive college credit for the coursework associated with the summer program.



## US/Canada Collaborative Agricultural Research Experience for Students (CARES)

**Sponsoring Agency:** Canadian Embassy

**Project Duration:** 2010-2012

**Co-Project Directors:** Dr. Joseph Mehlhorn, Professor and  
Dr. Scott Parrott, Associate Professor,  
Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources

Through the CARES program, UT Martin and Old College in Olds, Alberta, Canada built upon an existing collaborative relationship to offer an innovative undergraduate student research program. UT Martin students studied and participated in research projects at Old College's School of Innovation. Drs. Parrott and Mehlhorn traveled to Olds to discuss research opportunities for UT Martin students. In spring 2011, five students selected from the Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources Fellows Research Program traveled to Olds College's School of Innovation and participated in a five-day networking and research trip. Students collected data and participated in round-table discussions.





## **Collaborative Research: St. Elias Erosion/Tectonics Project (STEEP)**

**Sponsoring Agency:** National Science Foundation

**Project Duration:** 2008-2013

**Project Director:** Dr. Benjamin Hooks, Assistant Professor, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources

The St. Elias Erosion/Tectonics Project (STEEP) is a large multi-university collaboration focused on the study of the interaction between tectonics and surface processes (i.e. glacial erosion). Dr. Hooks collaborated with researchers at the University of Texas at El Paso, GNS Science of New Zealand, and the University of Maine to develop three-dimensional thermo-mechanical numerical simulations of the southern Alaska orogeny that reproduce the first-order deformation patterns over the last 10 million years. These simulations suggest that the role of erosion is to enhance the pre-existing strain patterns and otherwise provide little control on the patterns of deformation.

## Bird Surveys

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency  
**Project Duration:** 2008-2011  
**Project Director:** Dr. Eric Pelren, Professor, Department of  
Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources



Dr. Eric Pelren conducted three replicate bird surveys on 11 paired CP33 fields. The protocols for surveys were provided by the State. The purpose was to provide evidence to support or reject the hypothesis that enrollment of land in the Conservation Practice 33 (“Buffers for Bobwhites” program) in the Conservation Reserve Program of the Food Security Act results in increased densities of the following bird species: Northern Bobwhite (this was the primary species of interest); Dickcissel; Eastern Kingbird; Eastern Meadowlark; Field Sparrow and Grasshopper Sparrow. This was part of a long-term region-wide study; coordinated by researchers at Mississippi State University. Students were involved in the research.





## Meteorological Research and Teaching Station

<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	Tennessee Department of Agriculture
<b>Project Duration:</b>	2009-2010
<b>Project Director:</b>	Dr. Mark Simpson, Professor, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources

This award assisted in the establishment and operation of the West Tennessee Meteorological Research and Teaching Station, which serves primarily as a satellite laboratory designed to collect and disseminate meteorological data to producers, educational units, and the National Weather Service as needed. Weather data is made available to assist severe weather forecasting for the region and state, as well as assisting in planning for planting, and maintenance and harvesting of multiple agronomic and specialty crops. The purpose of the station is to support and provide advisories to agricultural production and food security activities in Tennessee. The station also assists stakeholders in provision of meteorological and related services to the agricultural community that: help develop sustainable and economically viable agricultural systems; improve production and quality; reduce losses, risks, labor and energy; and decrease costs. The source of funding for this grant came through the revenue generated from the sales of the agricultural specialty license plates.



## Tennessee Beef Cattle Producer Profitability Field Day

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Department of  
Agriculture

**Project Duration:** 2007-2008

**Project Director:** Dr. Matt Spangler, Assistant  
Professor, Department of  
Agriculture, Geosciences,  
and Natural Resources

This project developed a state-wide field day held at UT Martin to educate beef cattle producers in the use of state-of-the-art electronic identification equipment, the benefits of premise identification, and the general usefulness of EID for smaller cattle producers in the state. The field day also focused on describing, understanding, and using expected progeny differences and the economic value in correct forage utilization including methods of hay storage to reduce losses. The source of funding for this grant came through the revenue generated from the sales of the agricultural specialty license plates.



## Technological, Agronomic, and Foliar Nutrient Application Effects on MG IV and V Soybean for Teaching and Demonstration

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board

**Project Duration:** 2009-ongoing

**Project Director:** Dr. Eric Walker, Assistant Professor, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources

While many of today's agriculture students will be tomorrow's producers, researchers, agronomists, consultants, sales people, lenders, insurers, lobbyists, and policymakers, many of the students who have chosen agriculture as their major either did not grow up on a farm or do not have family who are crop, forage, or livestock producers. Therefore, this award sought to provide all UT Martin students with the opportunity to gain practical and applied experience in crop production and management through field demonstrations and research plots, ultimately improving student learning and marketability. Students will participate in crop establishment, monitoring, management, and harvest by applying crop production principles, practices, and problem solving skills. To accomplish the program goals, Dr. Walker will continue to work with the Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board, private industries, the UT Extension Service, and local producers in conducting field studies on the UT Martin farm to evaluate technological, agronomic, and foliar nutrient application effects on maturity group IV and V soybeans to maximize yields and profitability.

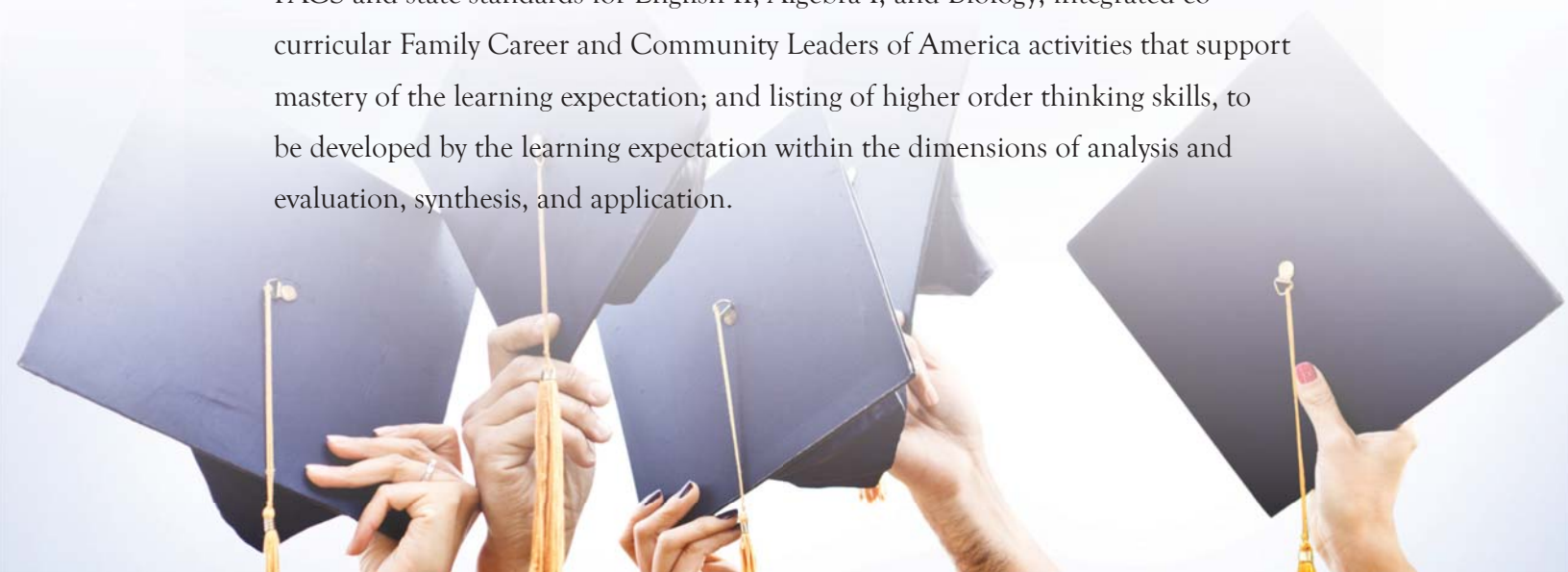


## Career and Technical Education

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Department of Education  
**Project Duration:** 2007-ongoing  
**Project Director:** Dr. Lisa LeBleu, Professor, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences



UT Martin's Department of Family and Consumer Sciences continues to work with State Department of Education officials to update course matrices that were provided to high school Family and Consumer Science educators to ensure that content was aligned with state standards. The award produced a set of online and print educational resources available for use in teaching the standards with working links to online resources; all applicable end of course alignments with national FACS and state standards for English II, Algebra I, and Biology; integrated co-curricular Family Career and Community Leaders of America activities that support mastery of the learning expectation; and listing of higher order thinking skills, to be developed by the learning expectation within the dimensions of analysis and evaluation, synthesis, and application.



# COLLEGE of BUSINESS & GLOBAL AFFAIRS



## REED Center TSBDC-REED Center

### Sponsoring Agency:

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Middle Tennessee State University

### Project Duration:

2004-2009, 2010-ongoing

### Past Project Directors:

Hollie Holt

Dr. Tom H. Payne, Professor; Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking; and Interim Department Chair of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science

### Project Director:

Landy Fuqua, Director

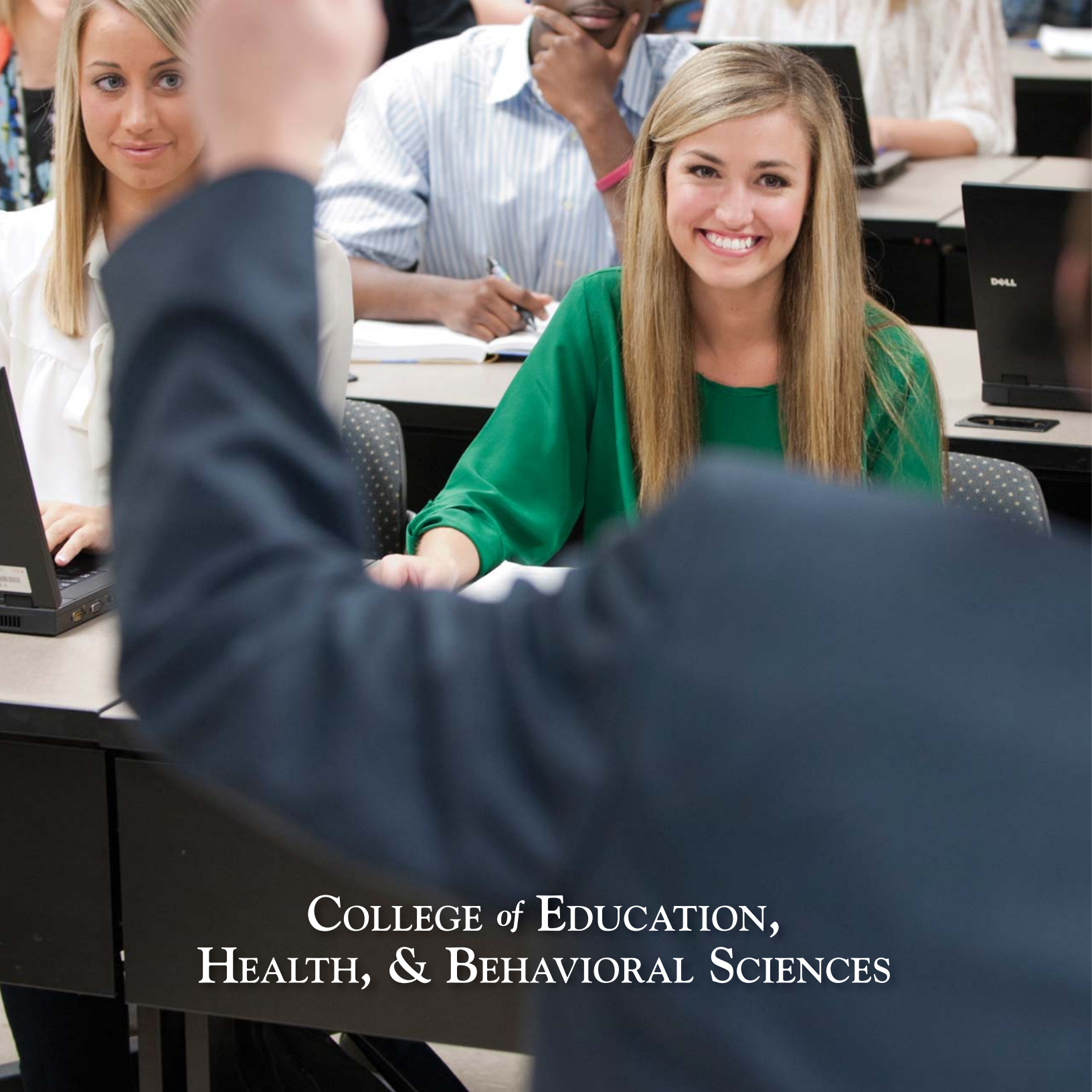
The mission of the UT Martin includes community outreach and economic development. To advance that mission and in accordance with their service objectives, the UT Martin chairs of excellence in banking and free enterprise founded the

Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center in 2005. UT Martin partnered with the City of Martin in the original proposal submitted to the Rural Business Opportunities Grant program (RBOG) through USDA. The City of Martin was awarded \$60,000 in the grant to renovate a building in downtown Martin. The REED Center served existing and prospective entrepreneurs and supports economic development in rural northwest Tennessee. Through its network of partners including regional banks, governmental agencies, the Dortch Oldham Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Education, and other service organizations, the Center promotes job creation and retention, provides training and associated resources, and enhances the overall quality of life in rural northwest Tennessee.

In July, 2009, The REED Center partnered with the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC) to meet the needs of existing and potential business owners through one-on-one consultations and interactive training programs. It now serves as a hub of information for prospective entrepreneurs and owners of existing small

businesses who need individual consultant services, group training services and associated technical resources. The REED Center combines the resources of regional businesses, chambers of commerce, small business development centers, rural development services, lending institutions, city governments, the UT Martin College of Business and Global Affairs, the Hendrix Chair of Free Enterprise, the Dunagan Chair of Banking, the Financial Services Center, the Oldham Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Education and other public and private organizations to provide innovative and ongoing training and consulting services. The REED Center's primary service area includes Weakley County, Henry County, Benton County, Carroll County, northeastern Gibson County, and Obion County. The Center's secondary service area includes the remainder of Gibson County, along with Crockett, Dyer and Lake Counties. Counseling services are free and training programs are free or low cost.





COLLEGE of EDUCATION,  
HEALTH, & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

## STEM Integration for Middle School Teacher Academy

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Higher Education Commission

**Project Duration:** 2012-ongoing

**Project Director:** Dr. Becky Cox, Associate Professor,  
Department of Educational Studies

**Co-Project Director:** Dr. Ray W. Witmer, Jr., Associate Professor,  
Department of Engineering



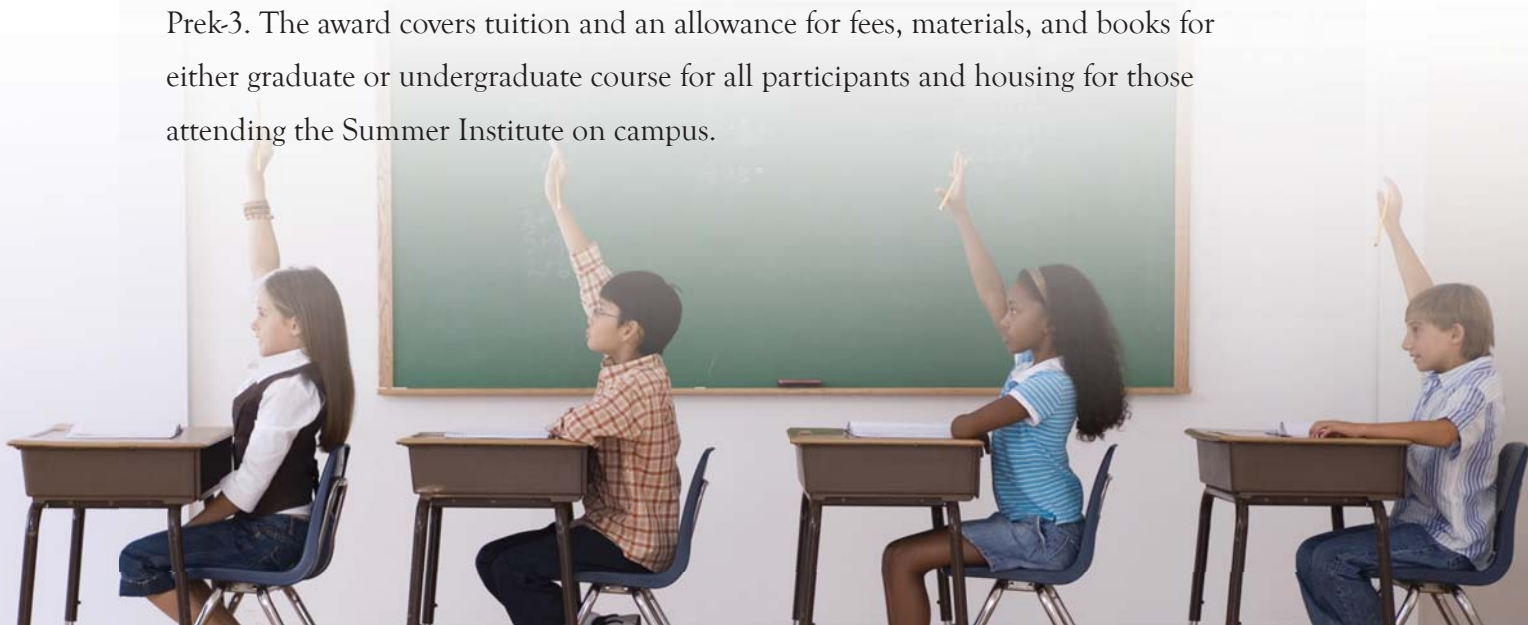
The STEM Integration for Middle School Teacher Academy (SIMS-TA) is an 18-month professional development experience for teachers of grades 5-9. The overall goal of the project is to help improve teacher effectiveness with an integrated STEM Teaching approach that includes inquiry, problem-solving, and performance-based teaching and learning. UT Martin's main campus and Jackson Center partnered with Dickson County, Henderson County, and Jackson-Madison County School Systems to provide professional development to 30 teachers in summer workshops and subsequent follow-up sessions. The SIMS-TA teachers became part of a multi-level Professional Learning Community that included other SIMS-TA teachers from their schools, and SIMS-TA teachers from other schools. They collaboratively developed and tested integrated STEM lessons and collected and analyzed pre/post test data on their students. Technology is an integral part of the program design with the use of iPads, SmartBoards, and electronic communication platforms.



## Special Education Institute

<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	Tennessee Department of Education
<b>Project Duration:</b>	2007-Present
<b>Past Project Directors:</b>	Dr. Barbara Gregory, Dr. Michelle Arant
<b>Current Project Director:</b>	Dr. Cherry Watts, Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Studies

UT Martin has offered the Special Education Summer Institute (SESI) since 1989, and Dr. Cherry Watts has continued to direct the program since 2006. The program is designed for teachers and educational assistants who serve students with disabilities and are not currently fully licensed in special education. The courses apply toward a licensure in Special Education in Modified K-12 or Special Education Early Childhood Prek-3. The award covers tuition and an allowance for fees, materials, and books for either graduate or undergraduate course for all participants and housing for those attending the Summer Institute on campus.



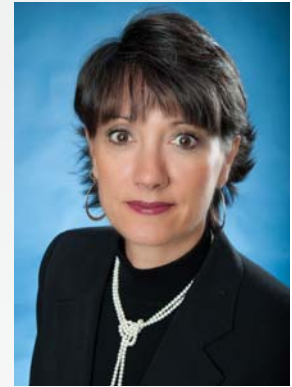
## Vocational Education for Health Sciences

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Department of Education

**Project Duration:** 2007-ongoing

**Past Project Director:** Dr. Karen Greenockle

**Project Director:** Dr. Janet Rasmussen-Wilbert, Associate Professor,  
Department of Health and Human Performance



UT Martin Department of Health and Human Performance planned, organized, and coordinated professional development activities for the teachers of the health science curriculum from across the State of Tennessee. The purpose of these activities has been to provide resources to the teachers on the required course content and introduce them to professionals in the field. It is important to provide to the teachers opportunities to learn from their peers about best practices and how to integrate cross-curricular subject matter into the health science education standards. Assessment of the activities was also incorporated into the professional development. UT Martin has hosted Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) events and/or coordinated many of the events for Upper West Tennessee. This includes assisting HOSA Management in coordinating activities at the site for regional competition, assisting with procurement of judges and supplies, and assisting on the day of the event.

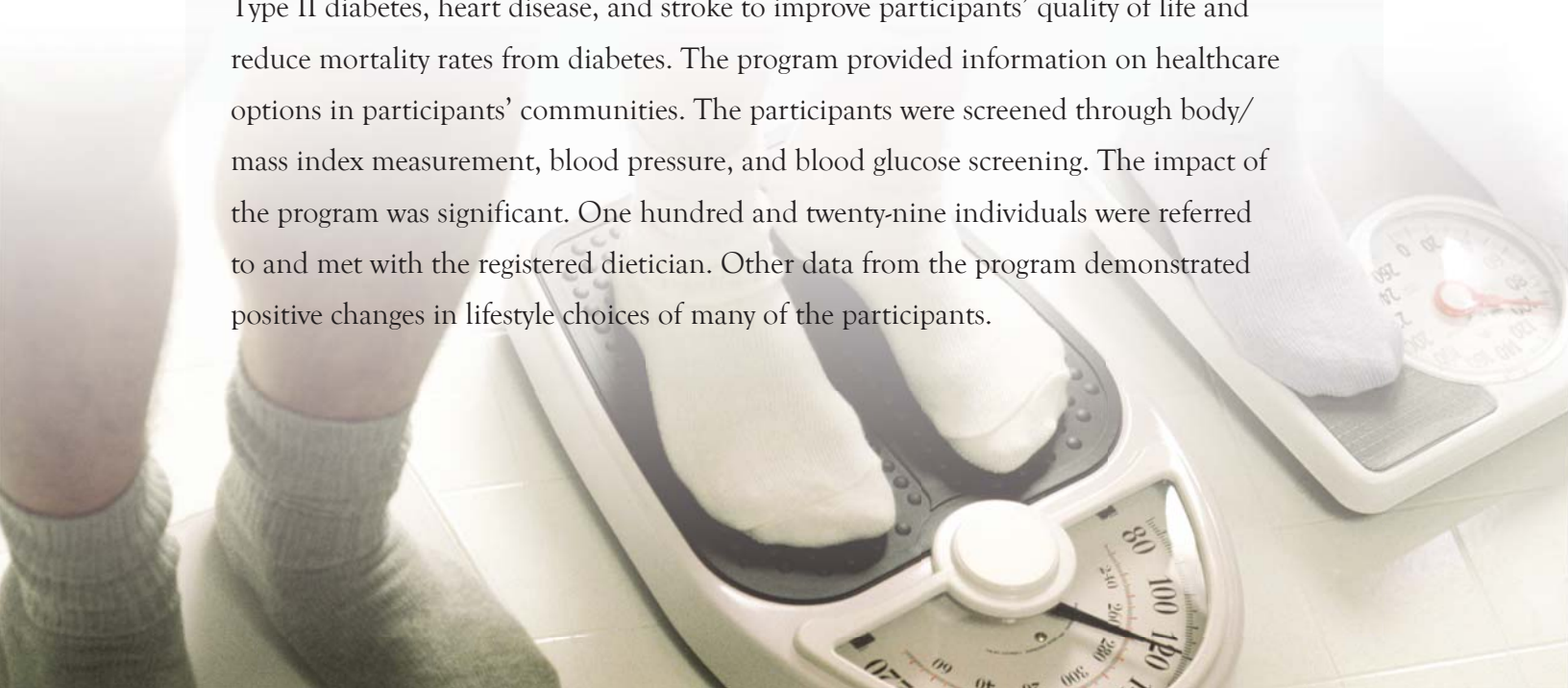




## Tri-County Community Wellness Initiative

<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	Tennessee Department of Health
<b>Project Duration:</b>	2007-2009
<b>Project Director:</b>	Dr. Deborah Gibson, Professor and Acting Chair, Department of Health and Human Performance

The Tri-County Community Wellness Initiative targeted lifestyle behaviors of residents in Obion, Weakley, and Gibson Counties. The goals of the program were to increase knowledge about the relationship between lifestyle and behavior to reduce the risk of Type II diabetes, heart disease, and stroke to improve participants' quality of life and reduce mortality rates from diabetes. The program provided information on healthcare options in participants' communities. The participants were screened through body/mass index measurement, blood pressure, and blood glucose screening. The impact of the program was significant. One hundred and twenty-nine individuals were referred to and met with the registered dietician. Other data from the program demonstrated positive changes in lifestyle choices of many of the participants.







## Success in Teacher Education Program

**Sponsoring Agency:**

Tennessee Higher Education Commission

**Project Duration:** 2007-2010

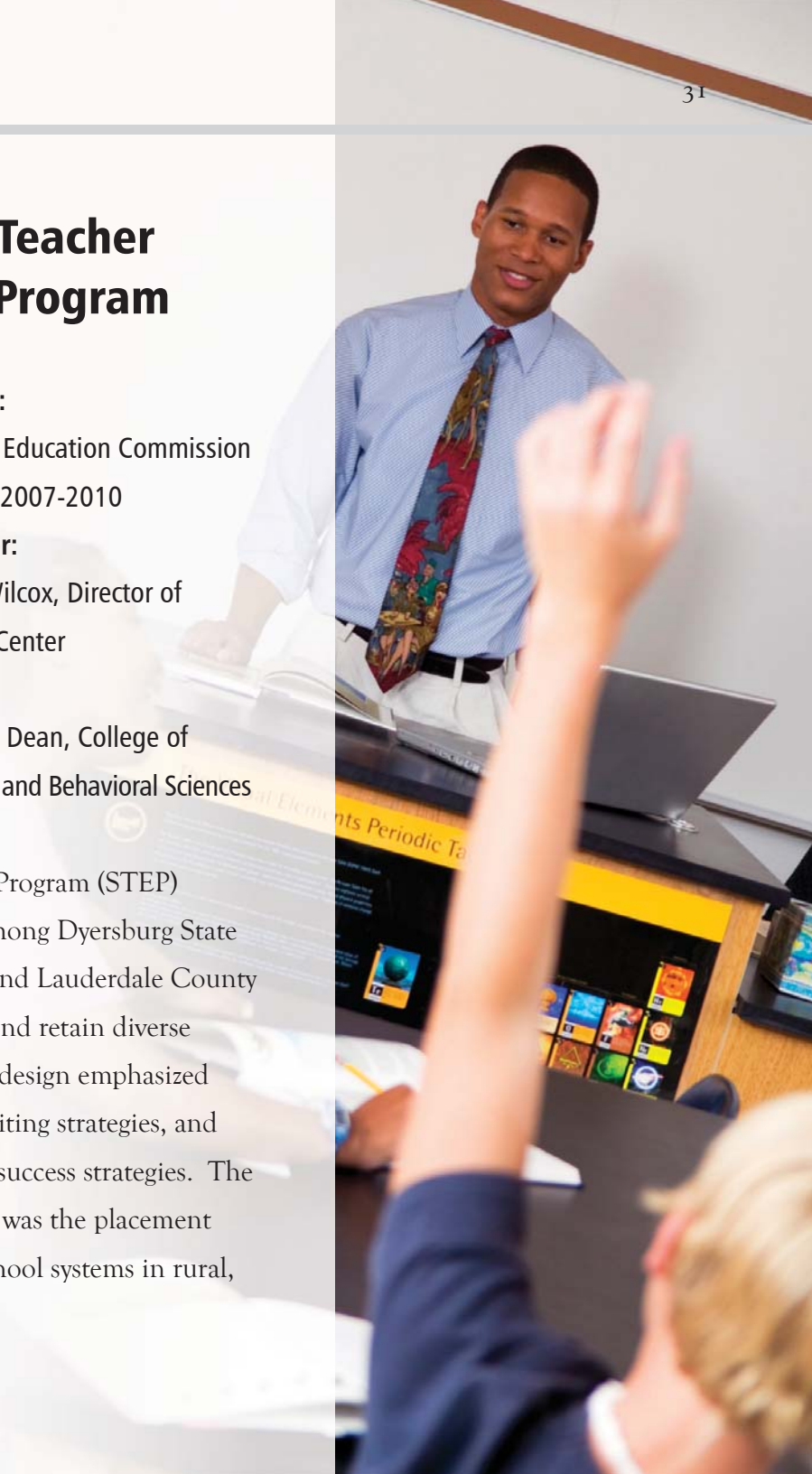
**Past Project Director:**

Youlanda Jones-Wilcox, Director of  
UT Martin Ripley Center

**Project Director:**

Dr. Mary Lee Hall, Dean, College of  
Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences

The Success in Teacher Education Program (STEP) project was a collaborative effort among Dyersburg State Community College, UT Martin, and Lauderdale County School System to recruit, prepare, and retain diverse teaching candidates. The program design emphasized two key areas: (1) intentional recruiting strategies, and (2) individually designed academic success strategies. The intended outcome of Project STEP was the placement of more diverse teachers in local school systems in rural, West Tennessee.



## Reading to Increase Comprehension in Academics

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Higher Education Commission

**Project Duration:** 2008-2009, 2010-2011

**Project Director:** Dr. Beverly Hearn, Associate Professor,  
Department of Educational Studies

UT Martin partnered with Crockett County Schools and Jackson Madison County School System to deliver the second Project RICA (Reading to Increase Comprehension in Academics). Designed for middle school content area teachers, Project RICA modeled and taught the target teachers evidence-based content area strategies for reading and writing with the aim to yield increases in reading comprehension in grades 6-8 on standardized (TCAP) tests. These content reading and writing strategies were the primary focus of Project RICA. A second focus of the grant was to assist teachers to select and use multiple resources in addition to the traditional textbooks. Finally, the project aimed to increase student motivation and to differentiate instruction for struggling readers by teacher creation of original multimedia presentations which incorporated the multiple strategies in support of content area learning objectives.

## Technology Enhanced Curriculum for Hispanic Students

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Higher Education Commission

**Project Duration:** 2008

**Project Director:** Dr. Suzanne Maniss, Associate Professor,  
Department of Educational Studies

Project TECH provided intensive professional development for 18 K-12 teachers from school systems in West Tennessee. The training incorporated the integration of technology with pedagogy to improve the learning and academic achievement of the limited-English-proficient Hispanic students. The Project represented a collaborative effort among UT Martin's Departments of Educational Studies, Modern Foreign Languages, and the Teaching English as a Second Language Program. Four school districts in West Tennessee partnered with UT Martin. The primary goal of TECH was to equip the teacher participants as resources and leaders in their schools, in their systems, and in the profession to bridge standards-based curricula with accountability, educational technology, and current research on how Hispanic students learn best. To accomplish this goal, TECH provided teachers with a rich background in basic Spanish for teachers, English as a Second Language pedagogy, and Hispanic culture, all of which served to equip them to serve students from this cultural group more effectively. To participate, teachers were required to apply with another teacher from their school (i.e. dyads) to facilitate collegiality and in-school support for the sustainability of the professional development.



## UT Martin Growing Gardens

<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	UT Alliance for Women Philanthropists Giving Circle
<b>Project Duration:</b>	2010-2011
<b>Project Director:</b>	Dr. Angelina MacKewn, Associate Professor, Department of Behavioral Studies

UT Martin Growing Gardens was led by Psychology Professor, Dr. Angie MacKewn who established objectives that would serve as a “great teaching center for agriculture majors and for the summer program, the Governor’s School for Agriculture. Students would learn how to grow a variety of produce using compost produced on campus from cafeteria food waste”. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, Dr. MacKewn has championed recycling efforts on campus and in the community, and she designed this year-long project with two phases. Phase I involved the planting of an herb garden in front of the University Center and a series of small vegetable gardens near the residence halls. Sodexo Dining Services and campus resident students had access to the harvest. Student organizations and students applied for sectional plots in the garden with the expectation that they would maintain their area and participate in project meetings. Priority was given to students on financial aid and/or who were single mothers. The gardens also provided experiential learning to attendees of UT Martin’s Governor’s School of Agriculture. Phase II provided a “good will” garden near the residence halls of international students, many of whom lack transportation to local grocers.

## BASE-TN

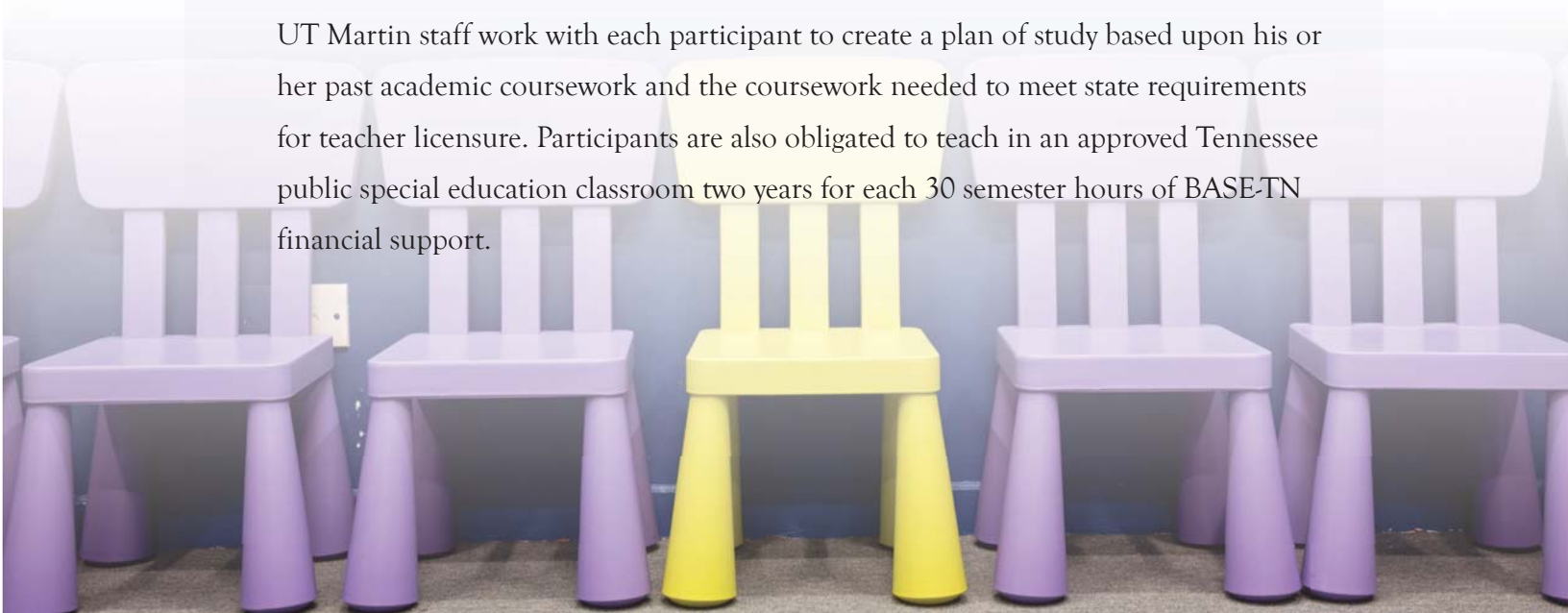
**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Department of Education

**Project Duration:** 2011-ongoing

**Project Director:** Dr. Beth Quick, Professor and Chair,  
Department of Educational Studies



In an effort to recruit more qualified teachers into special education, BASE-TN provides tuition and academic support services to participants. Students receive an initial special education license issued by the State after completing an approved licensure program and submitting minimum qualifying scores on required teacher licensure examinations. Teachers who already hold a valid teaching license can also participate in the program to earn an additional endorsement in special education. UT Martin staff work with each participant to create a plan of study based upon his or her past academic coursework and the coursework needed to meet state requirements for teacher licensure. Participants are also obligated to teach in an approved Tennessee public special education classroom two years for each 30 semester hours of BASE-TN financial support.



## Transition to Teaching

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Department of Education

**Project Duration:** 2007-2011

**Project Director:** Dr. Mary Lee Hall, Dean,  
College of Education, Health,  
and Behavioral Sciences

In recognition of the shortage of highly qualified teachers in subjects such as mathematics and science, the State of Tennessee authorized the Transition to Teaching program to provide an alternative track to teacher licensure. Eligibility required that candidates hold a degree in engineering, math, or science and want to become public school teachers. Transition to Teaching provided tuition assistance and accelerated coursework to provide the participants with the content and pedagogy for success in the K-12 classroom. Once the participants completed the coursework and were hired by a school system, they continued to receive professional development through a mentor who provided feedback for the newly minted teacher in issues such as classroom management, time management, and aligning lesson plans with state standards.



## Midwest Tennessee Center for Child Welfare

**Sponsoring Agency:** Middle Tennessee State University

**Project Duration:** 2007-2012

**Project Director:** Cynthia West, Associate Professor and Chair,  
Department of Behavioral Sciences

**Co-Project Director:** Michelle Horton, Associate Professor,  
Department of Behavioral Sciences

The Tennessee Department of Children's Services awarded MTSU with a contract to provide training and professional development for department employees and subcontracted with other universities to provide training throughout the state. UT Martin provided pre-service, in-service, and resource (foster) parent training throughout Northwest Tennessee and surrounding areas. The UT Martin Trainers provided assistance across the state in quality assurance and program monitoring. The professional development and mentoring curriculum required that trainers deliver classroom training and participate in field observations of trainees to assist with skill assessments that occur during on-the-job-training. UT Martin offered training at locations convenient to Department of Children Service employees and resource parents so that they are not required to travel more than 50 miles to the training site. The grant also provided the opportunity



Cynthia West



Michelle Horton

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for UT Martin Social Work students who were interested in a career in child welfare to apply for ten positions which offered full tuition and stipends for four semesters and employment upon graduation. This project provided extended networking opportunities for the Social Work program at UT Martin.

## Coalition for Healthy and Safe Campus-Communities



<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities
<b>Project Duration:</b>	2008
<b>Project Director:</b>	Alicia Maya Donaldson, Assistant Professor, Department of Behavioral Sciences

As a member of the Coalition for Healthy and Safe Campus-Communities (CHASCo), UT Martin received an award for social norms marketing. CHASCo received this award through the Department of Mental Health, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services to support alcohol and other drug prevention work at the collegiate level.



## Heart Disease: Awareness and Risk Management Health Fair

**Sponsoring Agency:** Office of Women's Health/John Snow, Inc.

**Project Duration:** 2009

**Project Director:** Ruby Black, Professor, Department of Nursing



Through this award, one-day health fairs were held at three local churches in Weakley County to increase awareness of heart disease and the associated complications among at-risk populations, particularly in women and African Americans. The health fairs consisted of educational programs on risk factors for heart disease and offered information about how heart disease relates to blood pressure, cholesterol, and glucose. Vendors attended to display their products for the management and treatment of heart disease and its related complications. Participants were also informed about community resources for assistance with the management and prevention of diseases such as walking trails, gyms, and Dining with Diabetes.





COLLEGE of ENGINEERING  
& NATURAL SCIENCES

## **STEM Project for Pre-Service Secondary Education Biology Teachers**

**Sponsoring Agency:** U.S. Department of Education

**Project Duration:** 2009-2011

**Project Director:** Department of Biological Sciences

Through this funding, the UT Martin Reelfoot Lake Research and Teaching Center (RLRTC) was the site of professional development to K-12 teachers in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). The UT Martin RLRTC was a Biological Station located on Reelfoot Lake at Samburg, Tennessee. Reelfoot Lake is a natural lake created by a meandering of the Mississippi River and localized subsidence that occurred during the New Madrid earthquakes of 1811-1812. It covers approximately 13,000 acres and lies in an agricultural watershed of 38,000 acres in northwest Tennessee and southwest Kentucky. A major wetland, it is rich in biodiversity, the home of several endangered species (e.g., Least Tern and Bald Eagle), and located on a major flyway for migratory birds. The Lake and the Center provide a unique opportunity for students to investigate sciences in an outdoor laboratory setting, as well as providing numerous scientists and students a field laboratory station suitable for monitoring and assessing of the biological and the physical phenomena of the lake and its surrounding watershed.



## Institutes for Chemistry and Physics (ICaP)



- Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Department of Education
- Project Duration:** 2008-2011
- Past Project Director:** Dr. Rosemary Effiong, Associate Professor,  
Department of Chemistry and Physics
- Project Director:** Dr. Lionel Crews, Associate Professor,  
Department of Chemistry and Physics

Institutes for Chemistry and Physics (ICaP) was a partnership among the UT Martin's College of Engineering and Natural Science and the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences with two high priority school systems in West Tennessee. ICAP was a three-year series of two-week summer institutes, with supporting online and on-site follow-up for science teachers. Over the three-year period, teachers from grades 5-9 received instruction from a chemistry faculty member, a physics faculty member, and an education faculty member, using laboratories, computers, and library on the UT Martin. Dr. Robert Hartshorn, who held a dual appointment in the Department of Chemistry and Physics and the Department of Educational Studies, assisted the teacher participants in creating instructional units that were aligned to revised state standards. In addition to receiving lesson units developed by their colleagues, participants also

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received teaching kits to implement their new methods and activities into their classrooms. The content included rigorous physical science content knowledge, modeling guided inquiry instructional methods, designed to address the new curriculum standards for science. A major benefit of ICaP was creating a continuous knowledge channel to enhance and sustain student interest between the middle school and high school levels.

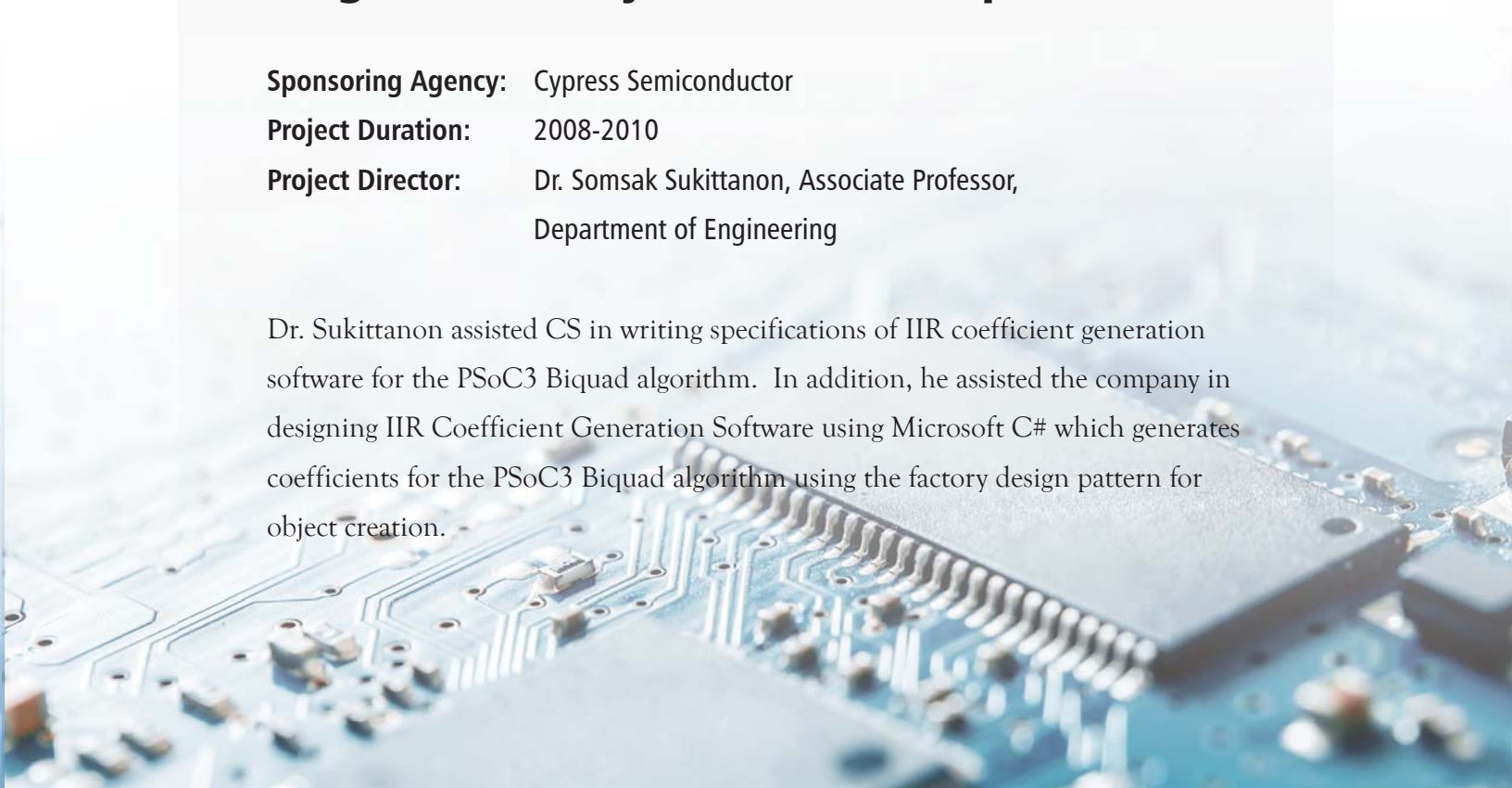
## **Digital Filter Design Toolbox for Programmable System on the Chip**

**Sponsoring Agency:** Cypress Semiconductor

**Project Duration:** 2008-2010

**Project Director:** Dr. Somsak Sukittanon, Associate Professor,  
Department of Engineering

Dr. Sukittanon assisted CS in writing specifications of IIR coefficient generation software for the PSoC3 Biquad algorithm. In addition, he assisted the company in designing IIR Coefficient Generation Software using Microsoft C# which generates coefficients for the PSoC3 Biquad algorithm using the factory design pattern for object creation.



## Neutron Defraction Testing Oak Ridge National Laboratory

**Sponsoring Agency:** National Science Foundation

**Project Duration:** 2008-2009

**Project Director:** Dr. Robert LeMaster, Professor of Engineering

Dr. LeMaster and UT Martin engineering students worked with Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) scientists to determine the total stresses (residual and externally induced) in statically loaded carburized gears. The experiments used Y-tilt methods and were conducted using the NSRF2 instruments at ORNL. Y-tilt methods are used extensively with x-ray diffraction to determine surface residual stresses. The goal of the proposed research was to improve the techniques and methods used to determine do using the NRSF2 instrument and Y-tilt methods. The previous research assumed that the Y-tilt methods would work and they were applied to a very complicated problem. For this research, a less complicated specimen was used: a beam from a homogeneous material and loaded in four-point bending. A beam loaded in this manner has a relatively large region in which the bending moment is constant. The primary strain was due to bending and the variation of strain across the cross section is well understood. It is expected that the experience gained in applying the Y-tilt

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methods to this problem will reveal techniques and issues that must be addressed with carburized materials. The proposed work required the design and fabrication of a four-point bend loading fixture that is compatible with the NRSF2 instrument. The fixture was designed by Dr. LeMaster and two UT Martin engineering students. Dr. LeMaster coordinated the design and integration issues with Dr. Camden Hubbard, the NRSF2 instrument scientist. The machining and assembly of the fixture was performed by Dr. LeMaster and the students.

## Tennessee Pre-engineering Math and Science

**Sponsoring Agency:** Subcontract with Tennessee Technological University

**Project Duration:** 2008-2011

**Project Director:** Dr. Somsak Sukittanon, Associate Professor  
Department of Engineering

Dr. Sukittanon collaborated with faculty members at Tennessee Technological University on a Math/Science Partnership Award through the State Department of Education. The purpose of the award was to provide high quality content instruction to mathematics and science teachers. Dr. Sukittanon participated in the summer institute at TTU and also provided instruction in the summer and follow-up sessions in the fall.



## Project Immersion in Mathematics, Pedagogy, Application, Content, and Technology (IMPACT)



**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Department of Education

**Project Duration:** 2007-2009

**Project Director:** Dr. Stephanie Kolitsch, Professor,  
Department of Mathematics and Statistics

**Co-Project Director:** Dr. Joyce Swan, Assistant Professor,  
Department of Educational Studies

UT Martin partnered with local school districts in McNairy, Hardin, Gibson, Carroll, Henry, and Obion Counties to recruit teachers from grades 5-8 for Project Immersion in Mathematics Pedagogy, Application, Content, and Technology (IMPACT). The content of IMPACT focused on geometry, data analysis, probability, and engineering and mathematics applications in the context of the Tennessee State Framework and Blueprint for Learning by blending technology, standards, applications, instructional methods, and research on adolescent learning. Expected outcomes included: (1) improved content knowledge and teaching methodologies for middle grades math teachers; (2) increased student achievement; and (3) enhanced utilization of technology as an instructional tools. UT Martin provided content knowledge expertise through mathematics, engineering, and education faculty members. Participating teachers made a commitment for three years and applied in pairs to have support once they returned to the classroom to continue using the technology and new content.



## Mathematical Applications, Technology, and Content for High School Education Standards (MATCHES)

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Department of Education

**Project Duration:** 2008-2011

**Project Director:** Dr. Stephanie Kolitsch, Professor,  
Department of Mathematics and Statistics

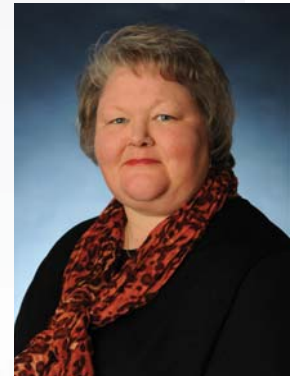
**Co-Project Director:** Dr. Desiree McCullough, Associate Professor,  
Department of Mathematics and Statistics

UT Martin partnered with two local school systems on Project Mathematical Applications, Technology, and Content for High school Education Standards (MATCHES) for West Tennessee teachers from grades 7-12. Research indicates that teacher content knowledge is a powerful leverage in the process of improving student achievement. Project MATCHES focused on problem solving, geometry, probability, data analysis, algebra, and

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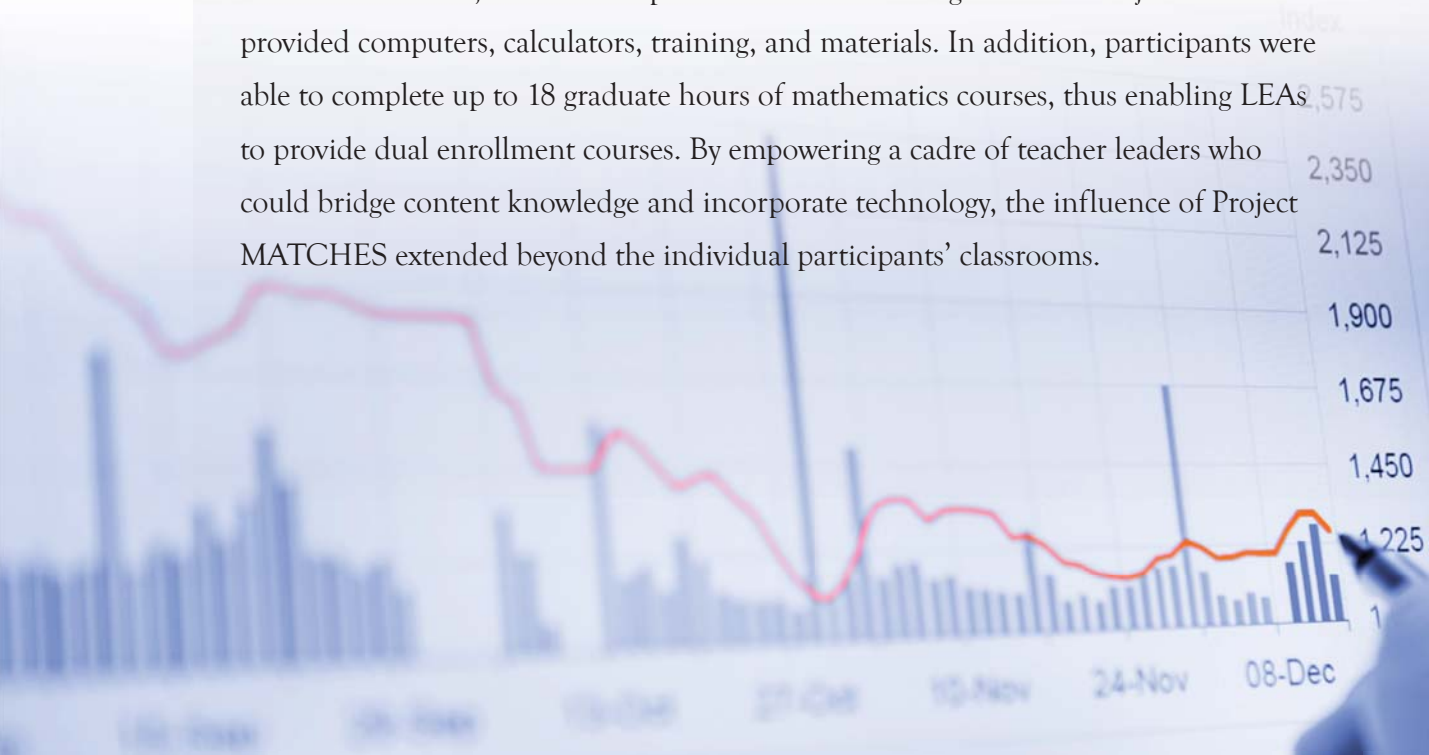
Dr. Stephanie Kolitsch



Dr. Desiree McCullough

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applications in the context of the Tennessee State Curriculum Standards by blending technology, standards, and applications. Expected outcomes for the school systems represented by the teacher participants included: (1) improved content knowledge for grades 7-12 math teachers; (2) increased student achievement; and (3) enhanced utilization of technology as an instructional tool. UT Martin faculty provided content knowledge expertise through mathematics, statistics, and engineering faculty members. These faculty members coordinated the two-week summer institutes in mathematics. Project MATCHES targeted two geographic arenas: Northwest (Martin) and Southwest Tennessee (Selmer). Participants were required to make a three-year commitment to the project. This commitment included participation in not only the two-week institutes, but also in a professional teachers' organization. Project MATCHES provided computers, calculators, training, and materials. In addition, participants were able to complete up to 18 graduate hours of mathematics courses, thus enabling LEAs to provide dual enrollment courses. By empowering a cadre of teacher leaders who could bridge content knowledge and incorporate technology, the influence of Project MATCHES extended beyond the individual participants' classrooms.

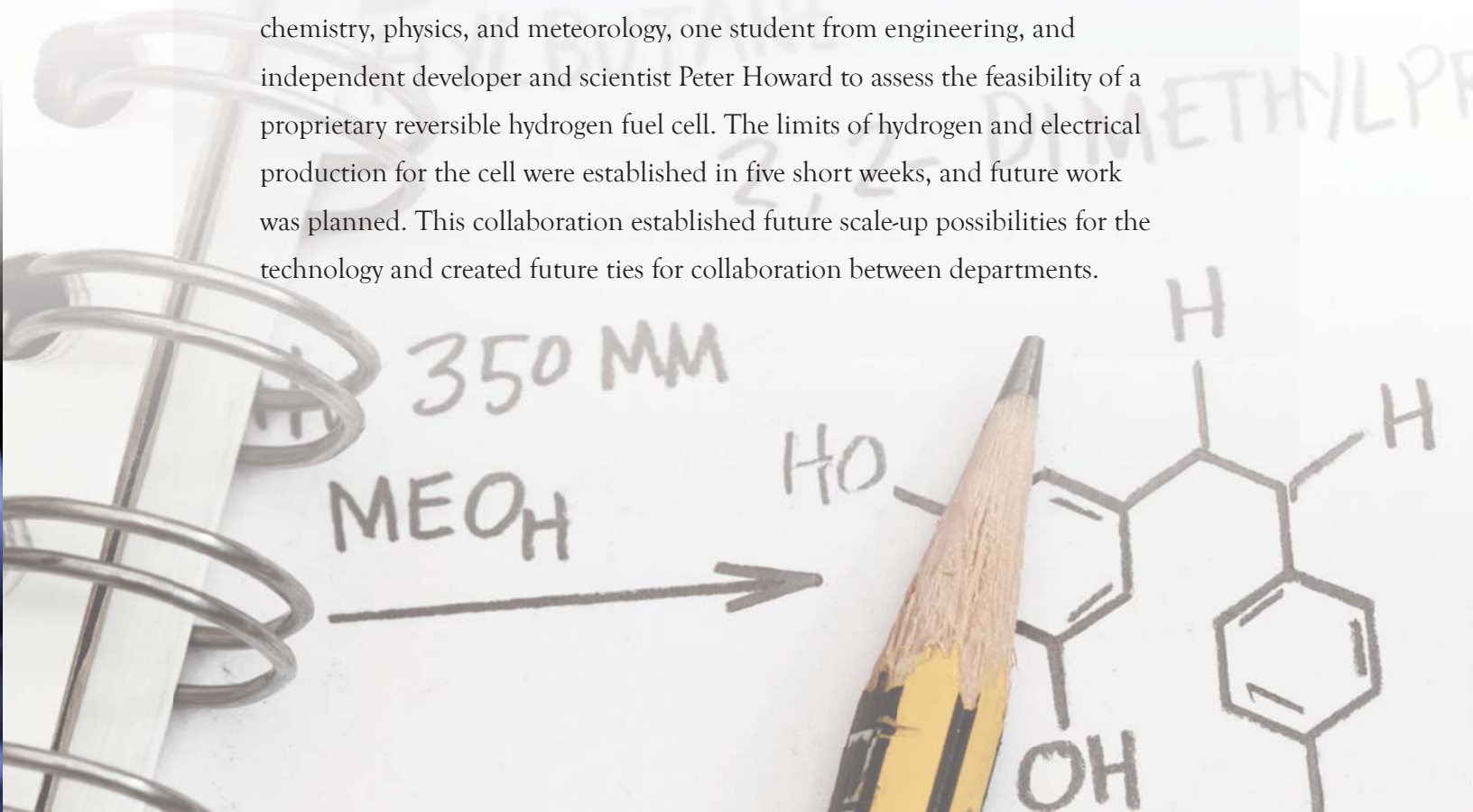


## TNSCoR

**Sponsoring Agency:** National Science Foundation  
**Project Duration:** 2010-ongoing  
**Project Director:** Dr. Karoline Pershell, Assistant Professor,  
Department of Mathematics and Statistics



This multidisciplinary project brought together professors from mathematics, chemistry, physics, and meteorology, one student from engineering, and independent developer and scientist Peter Howard to assess the feasibility of a proprietary reversible hydrogen fuel cell. The limits of hydrogen and electrical production for the cell were established in five short weeks, and future work was planned. This collaboration established future scale-up possibilities for the technology and created future ties for collaboration between departments.





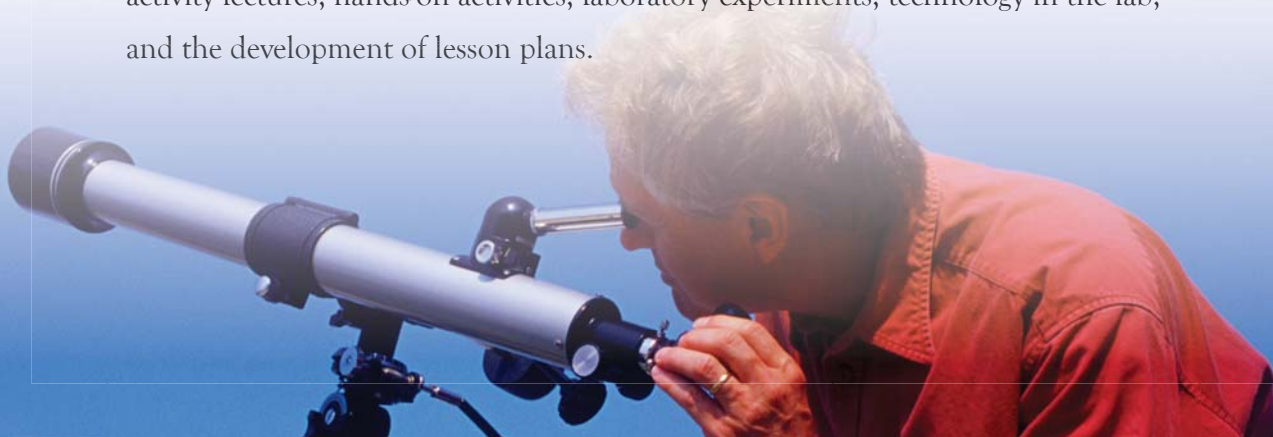
## Activity Based Physics & Astronomy Summer Institute

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Higher Education Commission

**Project Duration:** 2008

**Project Director:** Dr. Cahit Erkal, Professor,  
Department of Chemistry and Physics

The Activity Based Physics and Astronomy Summer Institute offered a series of workshops over a five-day period in the summer of 2008 for the middle school and junior high science teachers of West Tennessee. The focus of this Institute centered on selected topics from the middle school/junior high curriculum in the areas of physics, astronomy, and earth science. This format was based on the Summer Science Institutes of 2003-2007 and adopted pedagogies from Physics Education Research to model best classroom practices for teachers. Activities introduced the teachers to appropriate technology and research-based teaching skills in the classroom and lab and a data acquisition system. The attendees participated in activity lectures, hands-on activities, laboratory experiments, technology in the lab, and the development of lesson plans.



## Tennessee Architectural and Engineering Examiners Equipment Grants



<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance Board of Architectural and Engineering Examiners
<b>Project Duration:</b>	2008-ongoing
<b>Past Project Directors:</b>	Dr. Doug Sterrett, Professor and Dr. Richard Helgeson, Dean, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences
<b>Current Project Director:</b>	Dr. Ed Wheeler, Professor and Interim Chair, Department of Engineering

These grants were used to purchase equipment to enhance engineering laboratory experiences at UT Martin. The equipment purchased ensures that UT Martin students have robust and up-to-date lab experiences. Some of the equipment purchased: a Marshall Compaction Machine to support the asphalt laboratory; an Agilent Test Fixture for use in upper division electrical laboratories; a CNC lathe to support student projects in the fabrication lab; total stations, levels, and GPS units to support surveying labs; a Shake Table System consisting of hardware and software equipment to support the Vibrations and Controls Laboratory; and National Instruments Educational Laboratory Virtual Instrumentation Suites to support electrical laboratories.



COLLEGE of HUMANITIES  
& FINE ARTS

## Governor's School for the Humanities

<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	Tennessee Department of Education
<b>Duration of Project:</b>	1986-ongoing
<b>Project Director:</b>	Dr. E. Jerald Ogg Jr., J.D., Ph.D. Provost and Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs



The State of Tennessee funds Governor's Schools at colleges and universities across the state, focusing on various disciplines. UT Martin proudly hosts the Governor's School for the Humanities, where students investigate the vitality and centrality of the humanities in both Western and non-Western cultures. Rising high school juniors and seniors are eligible to apply for the four-week summer program. Students examine, under the tutelage of a cadre of experienced university faculty, the roles of language, history, values and art in defining the relevance of the humanities in our modern age. Through coursework and seminars, exposure to visiting scholars, films, field trips, and practical experiences, the students gain an enhanced appreciation of the intellectual diversity of the world in which we live. The curriculum, broad in perspective, includes specific courses from disciplines such as English, philosophy, geography, communications, music, religion, art and history; emphasis is placed on the interrelationship of knowledge in these areas. In addition to regular curricular offerings,

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students also develop independent and group programs to cultivate critical thinking, creative expression, and technological innovation. Seminars typically include the design, editing, and publishing of both a yearbook and a newspaper; the use of computers to create graphic and multimedia content; the shooting and production of a video anthology; the planning and execution of a group talent show; and an ethics bowl competition.

## Women Leading Locally



**Drs. Teresa Collard and Lisa LeBleu**

### **Sponsoring Agency:**

UT Alliance of Women Philanthropists Giving Center

**Project Duration:** 2011-ongoing

**Project Directors:** Dr. Teresa Collard, Assistant Professor, Department of Communications and  
Dr. Lisa LeBleu, Professor, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences

Females face unique challenges that can sometimes discourage young women from attempting to assume leadership roles. This is particularly true of minority and first generation college females as they have fewer resources and role models to sustain them through the challenges. However, these same individuals often fail to recognize that while they do face challenges, they have opportunities not afforded to women on a more global scale. In this program funded by a Giving Circle Grant from the UT Alliance of Women Philanthropists and UT Martin's Office of Student Affairs, students are given access to

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local leaders and knowledge about global issues facing women. Upon exploration of these ideas and experiences, the students emerge empowered to embrace their own leadership opportunities to build their communities and improve the status of women throughout the world. This project provided the participants with specialized instruction, opportunities for networking with females in leadership positions in government and business, and an understanding of global issues and opportunities for women. The project also included a visit to the Heifer International Headquarters and the Clinton Presidential Library in Little Rock, Arkansas, and participation in a three day global gateway immersion activity conducted at the Heifer Ranch in Perryville, Arkansas. In addition to these opportunities, the participants designed and implemented a project that focused on leading through volunteerism. The group raised money for the Weakley County Backpack Program, an organization that provides food for children with non-secure food sources.



## “Yes, We Can Read!”

**Sponsoring Agency:** Phi Kappa Phi  
**Project Duration:** 2009-2010  
**Project Director:** Mary Carpenter, Director  
of Paul Meek Library

UT Martin’s chapter of Phi Kappa Phi, an academic honorary, and the Paul Meek Library were awarded funds for the “Yes, We Can Read” program. In partnership with the Martin Housing Authority, UT Martin students and Meek Library staff worked with 80, K-5th graders participating in an after-school and summer camp program. With volunteers from Phi Kappa Phi, the Meek Library staff, teacher education students, and members of the American Association of University Women, the program provided a minimum of reading one hour a week to the children. In addition, the grant purchased multi-cultural children’s literature for the program. The books were selected using positive multicultural and quality literature selection criteria; award-winning titles were given priority. All books purchased through the grant were catalogued in the juvenile section of the Meek Library and are available to all students, faculty, local educators, and community members (i.e. all state residents).

## West Tennessee Writing Project

**Sponsoring Agency:** National Writing Project  
**Project Duration:** 2007-ongoing  
**Project Director:** Dr. David Carithers, Associate Professor,  
Department of English and Modern  
Foreign Languages



Through the efforts of former UT Martin professor Dr. Margrethe Ahlschwede, the West Tennessee Writing Project was established in March of 1993 as an affiliate site of the National Writing Project housed in the Department of English at UT Martin. From its inception, WTWP has been important to the service component of UT Martin. It is one of the longest running, on-going consistent programs of professional development for K-16 teachers, in English and language arts, and for teachers wanting to improve the use of writing in subjects across the curriculum in West Tennessee. Teachers meet for intensive writing workshops during the summer and are encouraged to initiate writing clubs or other programs to promote learning in their schools. Teachers also have opportunities to stay connected to WTWP through writing retreats and by taking on leadership roles in the site's programs.

Once upon a time...



## ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS

## National Rifle Award to UT Martin Clay Target Club

**Sponsoring Agency:** Friends of the National Rifle Association

**Project Duration:** 2010-2011

**Project Director:** Steve Vantrease, Director, Boling University Center

The UT Martin Clay Target Club/Team is a student sports club which supports the pastime of sports shooting. Since they are a club sport, they are not aligned with University Athletics and must rely on membership dues, fundraising and grants to fund their events and activities. The Clay Target Club/Team regularly competes in local, regional, and national sports shooting tournaments and has enjoyed success at each level of competition including a 7th place national finish last year in the ACU-I Collegiate Clay Target Championships. The Clay Target Club/Team is open to any UT Martin student in good standing who wishes to begin or improve their target shooting skills.

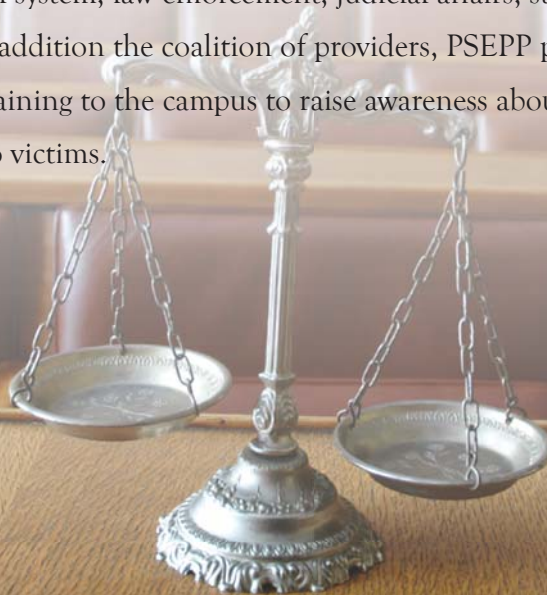




## Personal Safety Empowerment Partnership Project

- Sponsoring Agency:** U.S. Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women
- Project Duration:** 2009-2012
- Project Director:** Steve Vantrease, Director,  
Boling University Center

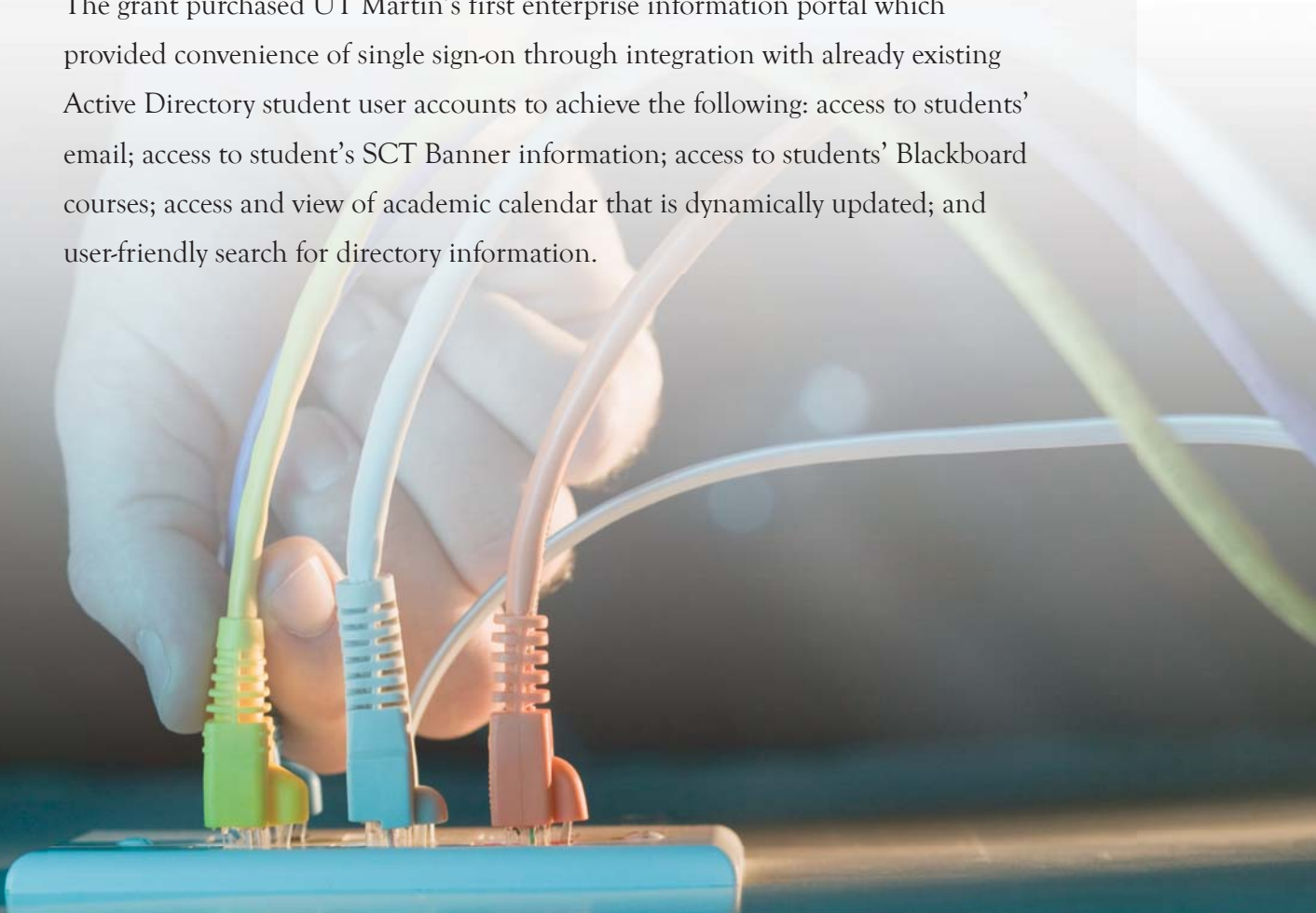
On many campuses, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault and stalking are “hidden crimes.” The Personal Safety Empowerment Partnership Project (PSEPP) coordinated existing campus and off-campus resources for victims of these crimes. The cornerstone of the program was a proactive approach to reducing these crimes through the creation of a supportive network of resource providers including the judicial system, law enforcement, judicial affairs, student affairs, and faculty and staff. In addition the coalition of providers, PSEPP provided extensive programming and training to the campus to raise awareness about these crimes and resources available to victims.



## Campus EAI Oracle Portal Grant Award

**Sponsoring Agency:** Oracle  
**Project Duration:** 2006-2008  
**Project Director:** Shannon Burgin, Assistant Vice-Chancellor  
of Information Technology Services

The grant purchased UT Martin's first enterprise information portal which provided convenience of single sign-on through integration with already existing Active Directory student user accounts to achieve the following: access to students' email; access to student's SCT Banner information; access to students' Blackboard courses; access and view of academic calendar that is dynamically updated; and user-friendly search for directory information.



## Grants to State for Workplace and Community Transition Training for Incarcerated Youth Offenders

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Department of Corrections

**Project Duration:** 2008-2010

**Project Director:** Katy Crapo, Director of Degree Programs and Extended Learning

UT Martin partnered with the Tennessee Department of Corrections by offering courses and training to staff using onsite facilities or via interactive video. Inmates under the age of 25 who were within five years of their release dates were eligible to participate in the program. Students were also expected to have a history of good behavior. The credit they earned could be applied toward a degree upon their release from prison. Studies have shown that former inmates who have academic and vocational training are less likely to re-offend when they return home. Offenders who possess a post-secondary degree have the lowest recidivism rate.



~~impossible~~





## Dyersburg State Community College Peer Mentoring

### Sponsoring Agency:

Dyersburg State Community College

### Project Duration:

2010-ongoing

### Project Director:

Dr. Tommy Cates, Executive Director,  
Extended Campus and Online Studies

UT Martin partnered with Dyersburg State Community College to develop a peer mentor program for adult learners to provide support and guidance in navigating the college process. Two, adult student peer mentors from UT Martin were hired to work with students from both institutions. The goal of the program was to expand the number of dual-admissions agreements among consortia member institutions with an emphasis on degree programs comprising the largest number of adult students.



## NW TN Development District WIA Peer Tutoring Work Experience Program

**Sponsoring Agency:** Workforce Investment Act

**Project Duration:** 2008-2010

**Project Director:** Youlanda Jones-Wilcox, Director UT Martin Ripley Center

This program provided for the establishment of a peer mentor program. The eight peer mentors were required to be Workforce Investment Act economically disadvantaged youth who had excelled in academic coursework and who were given the opportunity to explore a career in teaching, earn a wage, and provide community service and prepare for graduation from a post-secondary program of student in a career of their choice. The Peer Mentors were paired with students based upon the Peer Mentor's academic strengths.



## TRIO Student Support Services

**Sponsoring Agency:** U.S. Department of Education

**Project Duration:** 2007-2010

**Project Director:** Kathy Eskew, Director

The TRIO program emphasizes student success, but specifically targets high-risk students. TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) provided opportunities for academic development, assisted students with basic college requirements, and served to motivate students toward the successful completion of their postsecondary education. The goal of SSS was to increase the college retention and graduation rates of participants and facilitate the transition from one level of higher education to the next.





David Belote

## Rural Business Education Grant

<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	U.S. Department of Agriculture
<b>Project Duration:</b>	2009-2012
<b>Past Project Director:</b>	David Belote, Assistant Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs
<b>Current Project Director:</b>	Charley Deal, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Alumni Affairs



Charley Deal

The purpose and mission of the WestStar Regional Leadership Program is to identify, encourage, and equip community-minded people who want to become more involved, want to help rural West Tennessee become a better place, and who are willing to accept assertive and dynamic leadership roles. This award from the USDA provided funds to WestStar towards achieving the programming goals. In rural West Tennessee, there is an ongoing need for more citizens to engage in the active development of their communities and to provide structure as it relates to developing and enhancing

West Tennessee community leaders. Through WestStar, graduates gain insight on the values and benefits of communities working together from both a local and regional perspective. They enrich their personal leadership development by learning about and practicing new leadership skills. This award enhanced programming opportunities provided through WestStar.

OPEN

## Strengthening Institutions

**Sponsoring Agency:** U.S. Department of Education  
**Project Duration:** 2003-2008  
**Project Director:** Dr. George E. Daniel, III,  
Director, Student Success Center



As a campus within the UT System, UT Martin holds the distinction as the only masters-level only designation, which heightens the focus of the campus on quality instruction. Research in higher education actually quantifies the fact that the support of faculty and staff can increase retention rates. As a result of these unique features of UT Martin, the campus was optimally positioned to receive a grant that promoted student retention through organizational structures. This award provided for the creation of the UT Martin Student Success Center that provides academic support services to students through a central department with coordinated efforts throughout the campus. Housed in Clement Hall, the SSC teams with activity as students come and go for advising, counseling, testing, and tutoring.



## Wal-Mart Recycling Grant

**Sponsoring Agency:** Wal-Mart

**Project Duration:** 2009-2010

**Project Director:** Dennis Kosta, Custodial Manager

UT Martin Custodial Manager Dennis Kosta also serves as UT Martin's Recycling Coordinator. In that role, Kosta works collaboratively with student groups, faculty members, administration, and local government to enhance UT Martin and the City of Martin's recycling efforts. This award from Wal-Mart provided funds for the UT Martin Recycles Club to promote recycling within the Weakley County schools. By educating students about recycling and the environment, a secondary objective was for the students to encourage recycling in their homes, as well.

## Specialized Law Enforcement Training

**Sponsoring Agency:** Memphis Police Department/Byrne  
**Project Duration:** 2010-ongoing  
**Project Director:** Debbie Mount, Director, Extended Campus and Online Studies



UT Martin's Institute of Professional Development (IPD) was established to assist law enforcement officers in specialized training. Since 1995, IPD has trained law enforcement officers from all across the country. These non-credit continuing education programs address a specific educational need which meet and exceed Peace Officers Standard and Training Commission (POST) requirements and the guidelines as set by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. IPD offers courses in Management/Supervisory issues, Criminal Investigation, Patrol and Tactical Operations, as well as Other Law Enforcement Topics. IPD coordinated with the staff at the Memphis Police Department Training Academy and the Memphis Police Department Command Staff in determining and prioritizing specific training needs provided through this award.

## Project Patrol and Train Rural Officers of Law

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee State Attorney General's Office of  
Criminal Justice Programs

**Project Duration:** 2011-2012

**Project Director:** Debbie Mount, Director, Extended Campus and Online Studies

Project Project Patrol and Train Rural Officers of Law (PATROL) provided POST-approved training courses for law enforcement officers in rural West Tennessee. Ten courses were offered with content that was based upon a needs analysis of West Tennessee law enforcement agencies. In addition to the training, PATROL also provided a setting for rural law enforcement officers to have easy access to high quality professional development. Rather than losing staff to a day's drive to a metropolitan area, Project PATROL offered the training in law enforcement agencies in rural West Tennessee.





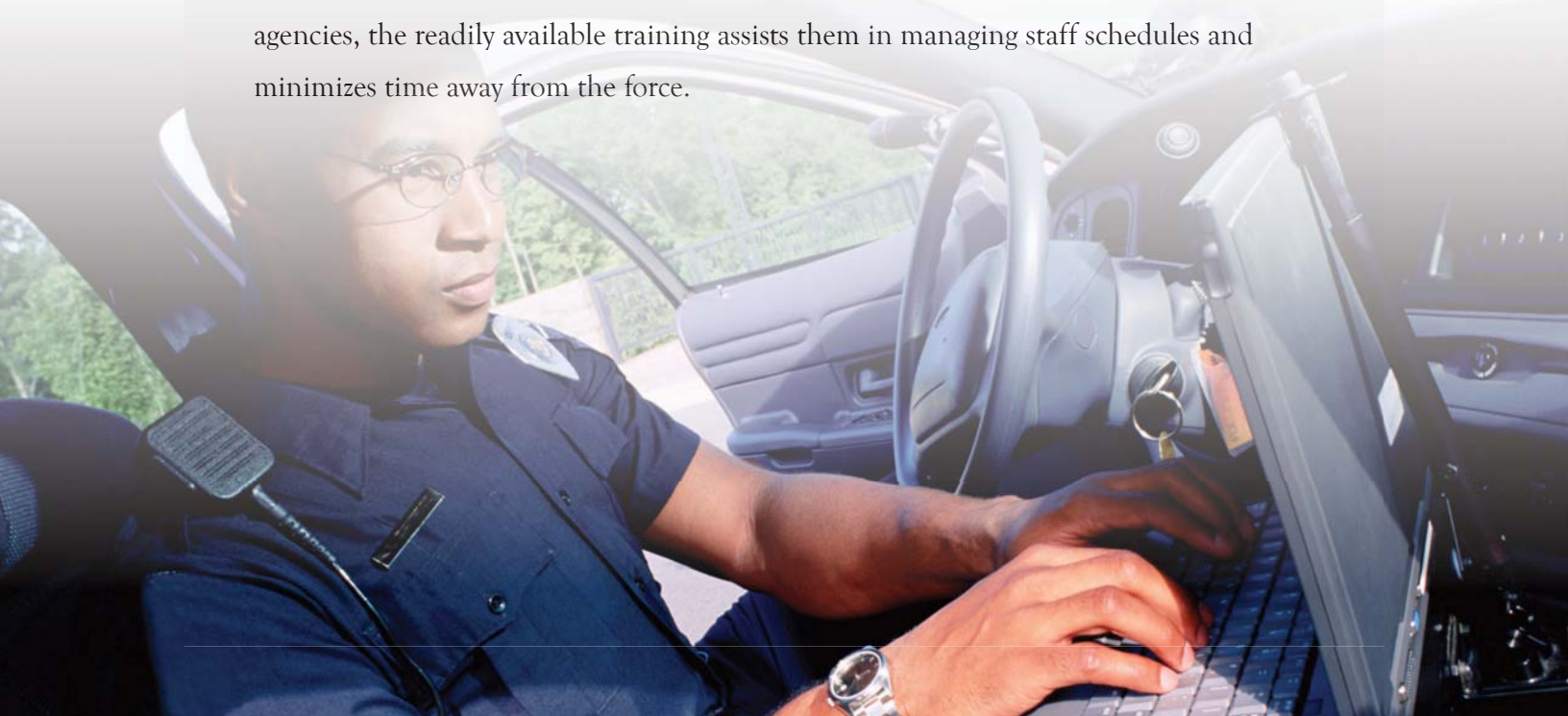
## Technology to Commit/Technology to Convict

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee State Attorney General's Office of  
Criminal Justice Programs

**Project Duration:** 2009-2011

**Project Director:** Debbie Mount, Director, Extended Campus and Online Studies

This project provided 24 hours of POST-certified training to approximately 700 rural law enforcement officers in West Tennessee in the use of technology in criminal investigations. While this program did not carry academic credit for the participants, the POST-certification means that the officers did not have to travel to a large metropolitan area for professional development. For the local, rural law enforcement agencies, the readily available training assists them in managing staff schedules and minimizes time away from the force.



## Governor's Highway Safety

**Sponsoring Agency:** Tennessee Department of Transportation

**Project Duration:** 2007-ongoing

**Project Director:** Scott Robbins, Director of Public Safety

The grant funds were utilized to up-grade police cruisers with enhanced video recorders and speed detection radars, along with personal video recorders for each officer. These technological improvements will be integrated into the Department's case files for evidentiary presentment in court and quality control review of the officers by Departmental Commanders.



POLICE

## Canadian Students Enhancement Grant

**Sponsoring Agency:** Canadian Consulate General

**Project Duration:** 2007-2008

**Project Director:** Dr. Paul Crapo, Director, Center for Global Studies

Formerly known as the Center for Global Studies, the Center for International Education coordinates partnerships with numerous universities throughout the world. The Canadian Embassy made this award to UT Martin for the purpose of extending learning experiences through the development of student exchanges, faculty exchanges, travel study opportunities, and other cultural and professional development types of experiences involving Canadian historical, cultural, language (French), and political studies. This grant facilitated UT Martin students' travel to Canada for two weeks and for guest speaker presentations in both Canada and at UT Martin.



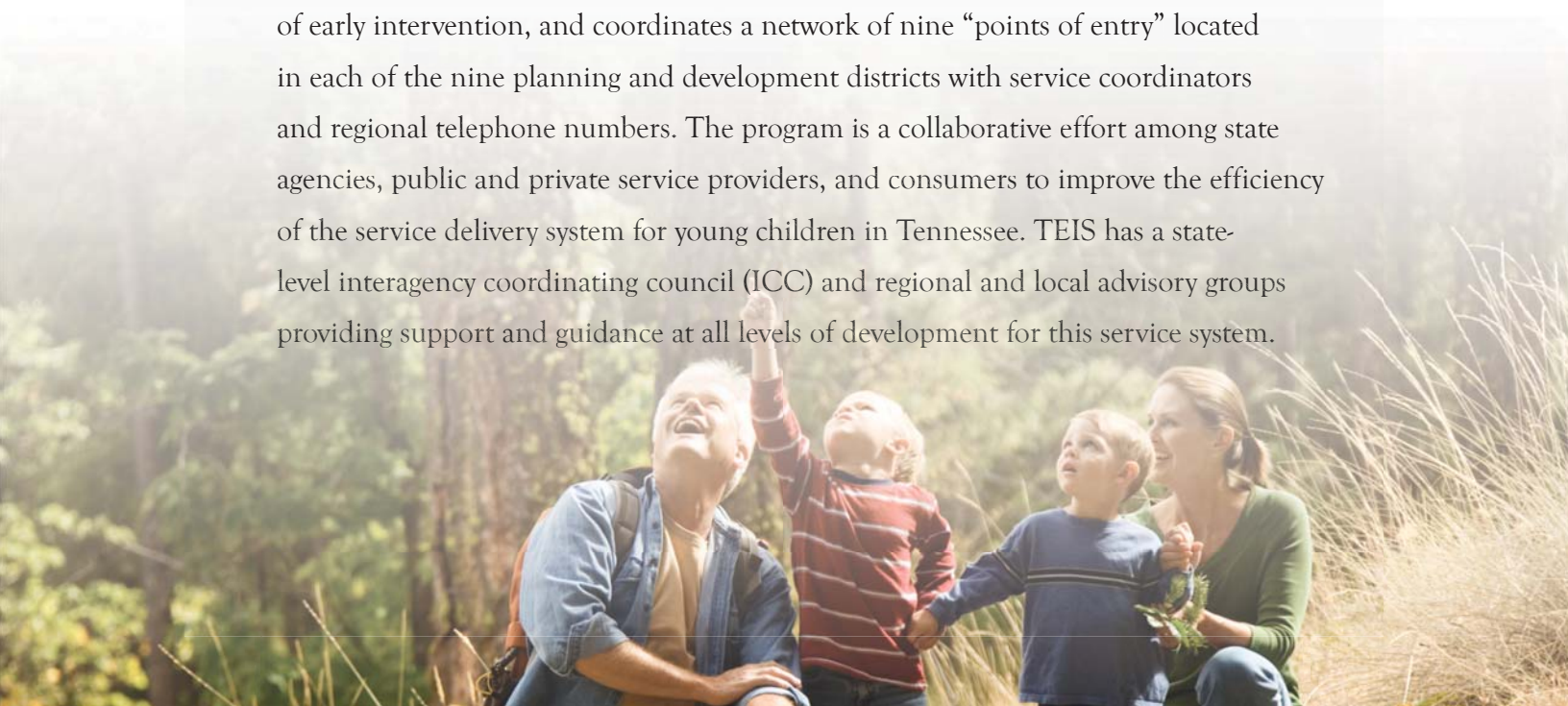


# CHILD & FAMILY PROGRAMS

## Tennessee's Early Intervention System (TEIS)

<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	Tennessee Department of Education
<b>Project Duration:</b>	2004- ongoing
<b>Current Project Director:</b>	Ang O'Brien
<b>Past Project Directors:</b>	Sharon Wenz, Rene Bard

Originally awarded to UT Martin in 2004-05 under the leadership of Sharon Wenz, the Tennessee's Early Intervention System (TEIS) is an extensive development and planning process which includes information, referral, and continuing support for children, birth to age three, with developmental delays or disabilities and their families. TEIS is structured to foster family advocacy for improved quality and increased quantity of early intervention, and coordinates a network of nine "points of entry" located in each of the nine planning and development districts with service coordinators and regional telephone numbers. The program is a collaborative effort among state agencies, public and private service providers, and consumers to improve the efficiency of the service delivery system for young children in Tennessee. TEIS has a state-level interagency coordinating council (ICC) and regional and local advisory groups providing support and guidance at all levels of development for this service system.



## Healthy Start

<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	Tennessee Department of Health
<b>Project Duration:</b>	2007-ongoing
<b>Current Project Director:</b>	Ang O'Brien
<b>Past Project Director:</b>	Sharon Wenz

Healthy Start, Northwest Tennessee is a home-visitation program. It is designed to help first-time parents with children from birth to three years of age better meet the challenges and adjustments of family life. The program is carried out through the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences and is funded through state and federal family preservation/family support dollars. Healthy Start's focuses on: 1.) identifying families in need of support; 2.) building trusting family relationships; 3.) promoting positive parent-child interaction; and 4.) promoting healthy childhood growth and development. Services are provided free of charge, and participation is voluntary for eligible families. Healthy Start serves Benton, Carroll, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Dyer, Obion, and Weakley counties.



## Infant Stimulation Program

<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	Tennessee Department of Mental Health/Mental Retardation
<b>Project Duration:</b>	2007-ongoing
<b>Current Project Director:</b>	Ang O'Brien
<b>Past Project Director:</b>	Sharon Wenz

The UT Martin Infant Stimulation Program, established in January, 1976, provides educational assistance to young, developmentally delayed children and their families in Northwest Tennessee. The purpose of the program is twofold: (1) to serve developmentally delayed children with opportunities to realize their potentials at an age as early as possible, and (2) to provide ideas for growth within the frameworks of families. The UTM Infant Stimulation Program is housed on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin. Licensed locations include the UTM Child and Family Resource Center, located on the UT Martin Campus, and the Paris center, located in the Paris Housing Authority in Henry County. Services as described below are provided to eligible children (from birth through age two) to Benton, Carroll, Henry, Lake, Obion and Weakley counties. The program is currently funded to service fifty-eight children. The variety of services provided include: (1) early intervention focusing on parent involvement in a home based and/or center based setting; (2) screening in conjunction with Tennessee's Early Intervention System; and (3) small

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group experience (4 to 7 children per group) organized to provide socialization experience for 18 month to 36 month old children, to increase attention span, and to prepare for transitional movement into larger group activities. Small groups meet in licensed centers at UT Martin Child & Family Resource Center and in the Paris Center at the Paris Housing Authority.

## **Northwest Child Care Resource and Referral/Project REEL**

<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	Signal Centers
<b>Project Duration:</b>	2007-2012
<b>Current Project Director:</b>	Ang O'Brien
<b>Past Project Director:</b>	Sharon Wenz

The Northwest CCR&R provided assistance to childcare providers and families in Northwest Tennessee. The Center provided training opportunities, referral services, a lending library and information on a variety of child care and health and safety topics. The training modules for the childcare providers were in four DHS identified areas (Administration, Child Development, Early Childhood Education, Developmentally Appropriate Behavior Management) through partnerships with local resources and uti-

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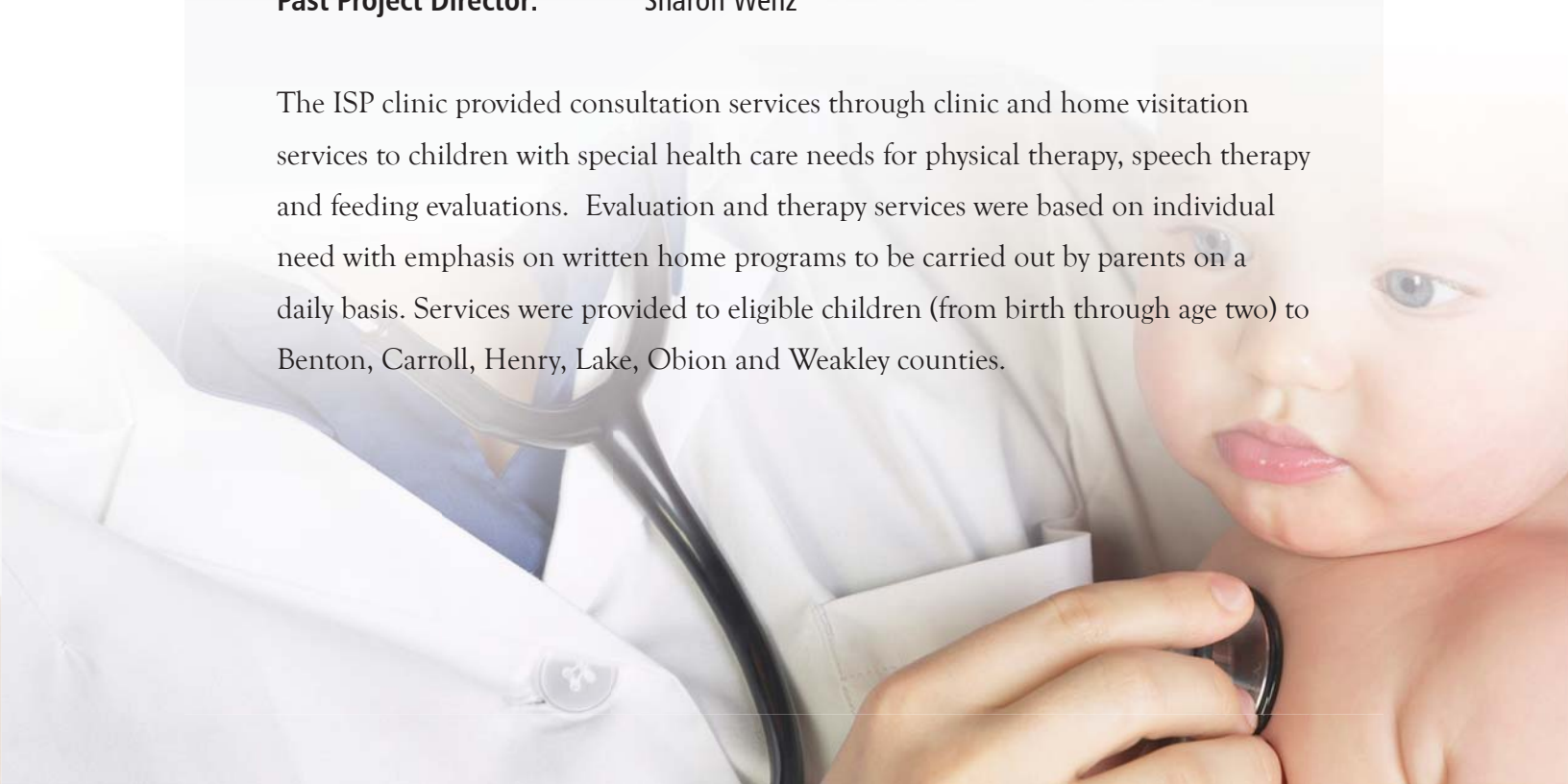
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lizing workshops, series and self-studies. Special attention was given to the inclusion of children with developmental delays. This project was funded under an agreement with the Department of Human Services and Signal Centers, Inc.

## **Infant Stimulation Clinic**

<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	Tennessee Department of Health
<b>Project Duration:</b>	2004-ongoing
<b>Current Project Director:</b>	Ang O'Brien
<b>Past Project Director:</b>	Sharon Wenz

The ISP clinic provided consultation services through clinic and home visitation services to children with special health care needs for physical therapy, speech therapy and feeding evaluations. Evaluation and therapy services were based on individual need with emphasis on written home programs to be carried out by parents on a daily basis. Services were provided to eligible children (from birth through age two) to Benton, Carroll, Henry, Lake, Obion and Weakley counties.



The Hal and Alma Reagan Faculty Leave Program is a faculty development program that is designed to enable participants to become more effective teachers and scholars by engaging in a variety of academic/renewal experiences. Tenured faculty members with six or more years of full-time service at UT Martin are encouraged to apply for a one-year Reagan Faculty Leave at one-half salary or a half-year Reagan Faculty Leave at full salary. The Faculty Research and Development Committee reviews the applications and determines awardees. The work of the committee and oversight of the Faculty Development is coordinated through the Office of Research, Grants, and Contracts. Applications are reviewed by the UT Martin Faculty Research and Development Committee, which is comprised of faculty members from UT Martin's five colleges.

## Past Recipients

1989-1990

Dr. Parker Cashdollar, Fall 1989  
 Dr. Neil Graves, Spring 1990  
 Dr. George Kao, Spring 1990  
 Dr. Robert Peckham, Spring 1990  
 Dr. Pat Taylor, Spring 1990

1990-1991

Dr. Tommy Cates, Fall 1990  
 Dr. Ernest Harriss, Spring 1991

1990-1991, *continued*

Dr. Barbara Jones, Spring 1991  
 Maria Malone, Spring 1991  
 Dr. Charles Ogilvie, Spring 1991  
 Dr. David Pitts, Spring 1991

1991-1992

Dr. George Drew, Spring 1992  
 Dr. Louis Mauldin, Spring 1992  
 Dr. Wintfred Smith, Spring 1992

1992-1993

Dr. Robert Cowser, Spring 1993  
 Dr. Charles Harding, Spring 1993  
 Dr. Choong Kim, Spring 1993

1993-1994

Dr. John Overby, Spring 1994

1994-1995

Dr. William Solomons, Spring 1995  
 Dr. Victor Depta, Spring 1995

1995-1996

Dr. Bobby Hathcock, Spring 1996  
 Dr. James Deck, Spring 1995 2005-2006  
 Dr. Donna Cooper-Graves, Spring 2006  
 David McBeth, Spring 2006  
 Dr. Laura Jarmon, Spring 2006  
 Dr. Parker Cashdollar, Spring 2006  
 Dr. Kevin Hammond, Spring 2006

1996-1997 No leaves awarded

1997-1998

Dr. Michael Gibson, Spring 1998  
 Dr. Ernest C. Harriss, Full year  
 Dr. Choong S. Kim, Spring 1998  
 Dr. Norman S. Lillegard, Spring 1998

1998-1999

Dr. Neil Graves, Fall 1998  
 Dr. Richard Palmer, Spring 1999  
 Dr. Robert Peckham, Spring 1999

1999-2000

Dr. Margrethe Ahlschwede, Spring 2000  
 Dr. Chris K. Caldwell, Spring 2000

2000-2001

Dr. Mahmoud Haddad, Fall 2000/Spring 2001  
 Dr. Walter D. Haden, Fall 2000/Spring 2001

2001-2002

Dr. Tahira Arshed, Fall 2001 and Spring 2002  
 Dr. Ernest Harriss, Spring 2002  
 Dr. Richard Chesteen, Spring 2002

2002-2003

Dr. Jim Fieser, Fall 2002

Dr. Henry Parker, Spring 2003

Dr. Daniel McDonough, Spring 2003

2003-2004

Mary Ellen Cowser, Fall 2003

Dr. Martha Herndon, Spring 2003

Dr. Norman Lillegard, Spring 2004

Dr. Teresa Collard, Spring 2004

2004-2005

Dr. Lynn Alexander, Spring 2005

Dr. Judy Maynard, Spring 2005

2006-2007

Dr. Sue Byrd, Spring 2007

Dr. Louis Kolitsch, Spring 2007

Jenna Wright, Spring 2007



**Dr. Georgina Awipi**  
**Spring/Summer 2008**

Dr. Georgina Awipi, Professor in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, received a Reagan award for Spring and Summer 2008 to conduct a research study entitled, "Epidemiological Survey: Investigating Relationship Between Lifestyle and Health in Urban and Rural Communities." She spent time at the University of The Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa. In collaboration with South African colleagues, research was conducted on 200 mothers. The epidemiological survey investigated the relationship between lifestyle and health in urban (Bloemfontein) and rural (Philippolis) communities of South Africa. Assisting Dr.

Awipi with the study were her faculty colleagues and senior dietetics students and preceptors. The project focused on areas of understanding relationships between public health nutrition, health promotion, and the prevention of diseases that would benefit South Africa and the United States in finding solutions to improving peoples' lifestyles and health. For example, Dr. Awipi observed and later instructed students at the University's Medical Center, Pelonomi Regional Hospital, and various rural and city Primary Health Clinics on medical nutrition therapy of chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and cancer.



**Dr. Chris Caldwell**  
**Spring 2008**

Dr. Chris Caldwell, Professor from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics took Reagan leave in Spring 2008. Having studied prime numbers for over two decades, Dr. Caldwell worked on two goals: (1) write a book entitled *The Prime Curios! The Dictionary of Prime Number Trivia*, and (2) to make his website on prime numbers more accessible internationally and to improve the website's functionality. *The Prime Curios! Collection* (<http://primes.utm.edu/curios/>) contains over 7,000 curios about individual prime numbers and reports approximately one-half million hits per month. His collaborator on the project was G.L. Honaker, a teacher of at-risk, high

school students in Virginia. For their book, they chose a subset of the curios to format into a book with additional material such as a glossary, suggested books and websites, references, and other materials related to prime numbers. Dr. Caldwell's *The Prime Pages* (<http://primes.utm.edu/primes/>) also contains the database of the 5,000 Largest Known Primes and is presented as dozens of lists of primes, information on hundreds of provers, and other records. The lists and records are updated daily with submissions from hundreds of contributors world-wide. To improve the functionality and access of international users, Dr. Caldwell, used the faculty leave opportunity to make the framework of the key submissions, bibliography, and record-list pages in multiple languages. The translation work was done collaboratively with volunteers, but Dr. Caldwell rewrote several programs and dozens of web page templates (i.e. alternate

language editions including Persian, Spanish, Chinese, Italian, and French). Dr. Caldwell was also able to engage in professional development in making presentations at the annual southeastern regional meeting of the Mathematical Association of America and the Joint National MAA, AMS, SIAM meeting.



**Dr. James Fieser**  
**Spring 2009**

Dr. James Fieser, Professor of Philosophy, worked during his leave time to complete a philosophy book about the “great issues in philosophy” with chapters covering the topics metaphysics, aesthetics, critical thinking, philosophy of science, and non-western philosophies. Some of his time was spent at

Vanderbilt University's library. Dr. Fieser says that completing the project provided him new perspectives and increased his understanding of the "most recent philosophical discussions" surrounding multiculturalism. The completed manuscript was available to his students free of charge, through a web page dedicated to the course. "The Reagan Leave provided time for me to regenerate my acquaintance with and appreciation of many topics in contemporary philosophy that I may have formed perspectives on some time ago," notes Dr. Fieser.



**Dr. Eric Pelren**  
**Spring 2009**

Dr. Pelren, Professor of Wildlife Biology in the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources, traveled to several wildlife facilities in Tennessee to study the diversity and

richness of biota in the state, visiting with the managers of these facilities and photographing the habitats of those sites. He also wrote several nature-related essays toward completion of a book for publication. He used the CD from his observations of the areas and interviews with the wildlife managers in his Wildlife Biology 350 and 450 classes the following academic year. Dr. Pelren notes that his interest in writing the nature-related essays started with his involvement in UT Martin's Voice Lessons workshop in 2002. "Wildlife Biology curricula are primarily science based," he states. "Opportunities for personal reflection and philosophy are limited, and students seem to find value in the opportunity to explore their own wildlife- and nature-related values and philosophies." He adds that "students are a secondary motivation for me completing my essays because I believe that the work involved in writing these essays is formative to my own evolving values and philosophies with regard to wildlife and nature."



**Dr. Jozsef Devenyi, Full Year 2009-2010**

Dr. Jozsef Devenyi, Professor of Chemistry, conducted research at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, during the 2009/2010 academic year. Dr. Devenyi explained “there has been significant interest over the past several decades in creating active surfaces that respond to cues from their environment.” Through collaborative research, Dr. Devenyi and his ORNL colleagues worked on the preparation of novel polymeric brushes, “a dense layer of long polymer chains that are tethered at one end to a surface. Due

to spatial crowding, the polymer chains are forced to extend away from the surface to avoid crowdedness.” In the last phase of his work, Dr. Devenyi tested the response of the prepared polymeric “brushes” to outside stimuli, such as pH, ionic strength, and temperature change.



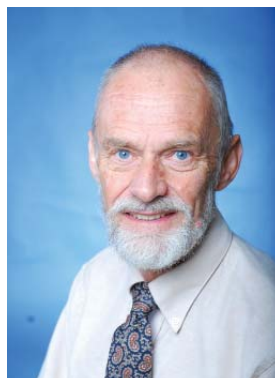
**Dr. Chris Brown  
Spring 2010**

Dr. Christopher M. Brown, Associate Professor of Philosophy, conducted research that focused on the 13th century philosophical theologian, St. Thomas Aquinas, and his views on the nature of human happiness in heaven. Brown explained that “happiness” in this context does not refer so much to the experience of an overall positive feeling or mood, but rather



to the satisfaction of those conditions that are necessary for living a human life that is good in all respects. As far as happiness in heaven is concerned, Aquinas speaks about the essence of human happiness in heaven as an intellectual vision of God's essence, one which does not depend upon the existence of the body. That being said, Aquinas also thinks that all the saints in heaven will enjoy a bodily existence eventually, since humans are by nature rational animals. Brown made progress on a book project that puts these views of Aquinas into conversation with contemporary philosophical discussions of the nature of human happiness and argues that Aquinas' views are not only plausible but preferable in some ways to dominate contemporary views about the nature of human happiness. "The nature of human happiness is a subject getting a lot of attention from philosophers nowadays," said Brown, and "a book-length treatment of Aquinas's views on human happiness would make a real contribution

to contemporary discussions of that topic, especially since Aquinas holds some views that challenge contemporary assumptions about what it means for a human being to be good in all respects."



**Dr. Phillip Davis**  
**Spring 2010**

Dr. Phillip Davis, Professor of Chemistry, researched and revised instructional videos used in introductory chemistry laboratory courses at UT Martin. The revision included retaping, editing and preparing the videos for delivery in multiple formats. He also revised procedures for laboratory exercises in introductory chemistry courses at the university, which currently utilize the Calculator Based Laboratory (CBL) data

collection interface to make these procedures compatible with the newer Lab Quest interface. “Through the Reagan Leave, I had opportunities to tie together the various strands of course development currently in progress, which would be a source of considerable personal satisfaction to me and, ultimately, a benefit to UT Martin and its students,” said Davis.



**Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls**  
**Spring 2011**

The Tom Elam Distinguished Professor of History, Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls spent her Reagan Leave Spring of 2011 to write a substantial portion of a history textbook entitled *In the World's Crucible: Europe in the*

*20th Century*. The textbook covers the period 1914-Present and is organized in two major time periods: 1914-1945, and 1945-Present. She worked on the first time period, 1914-1945, completing research and editing the draft. The focus of her research covered a broad range of topics both geographically and thematically. In her work, she looks at a broad range of issues including political, military, social, economic, diplomatic, and cultural, in a comparative perspective, seeking to uncover the common experiences and shared moments of the European experience. In early 2013, the book's publisher, Pearson, upon outside readers' recommendations, assigned it a development editor. Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls is co-authoring the book with her husband, Dr. Stephen D. Carls.



**Dr. Richard Griffin**  
**Spring 2011**

The Reagan Leave enabled Dr. Griffin, Professor of Accounting, to conduct research in two specific areas related to Business and Accounting Education at UT Martin, as well as internationally. The first area involved gathering information from all The Associations to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) accredited business programs in the spring of 2011 and accounting accredited programs. The first goal within this area was to examine mathematics, statistics, and other quantitative coursework required by AACSB programs. The second area involved examining education requirements for both sitting for the Certified Public Accountant's (CPA) Exam and those for awarding the CPA

license; these requirements are established separately by each state/territory in the U.S. The data gathered have resulted in three conference presentations. At the International Conference on Learning and Administration in Higher Education the paper, "Should Boards of Accountancy Be More Concerned with the Quality of Accounting Education Obtained by Candidates for The Uniform CPA Exam?," was accepted as a refereed proceeding and won a best paper award when submitted. Also, at the Academic Business World Conference, International Conference on Learning and Administration in Higher Education the paper "Universally Different: The Uniform CPA Examination" was accepted as a refereed proceeding and won a best paper award. The two proceeding have been reworked since presentation as a result of accounting changes and have been accepted as a two-part series in the same journal.



**Dr. Michelle Merwin**  
**Spring 2011**

Professor of Psychology, Dr. Michelle Merwin was able to pursue her interest in the psychology of historical figures in her Reagan Leave. She became interested in Abraham Lincoln after reading *Lincoln's Melancholy: How Depression Challenged a President and Fueled His Greatness* (Shenk, 2005). Shenk contends that the marvel of Lincoln is not that he accomplished great things despite his depression, but rather, that he accomplished great things because of his depression. Merwin notes that this assertion resonated with her existential-humanistic psychology study. She studies the writings of Rollo May, an existential psychoanalyst,

who emphasized the role of destiny, will, freedom, responsibility, and the importance of developing purpose and meaning. How Lincoln lived his life seemed a manifestation of May's ideas about the human experience: a model life of developed meaning, contemplation, deep feeling, and exertion of will. Discovering Lincoln invigorated Merwin's study of existentialism. The purpose of the leave was to research Lincoln's great humanity and quest for purpose, and to assess the transformational consequences of studying his life. The first facet of the research involved Dr. Merwin's own readiness to further investigate: (1) Lincoln's life (specifically in relation to developing meaning); and (2) fatalism (determinism, fate, and predestination) culminating in a manuscript that was published in the *Journal of Humanistic Psychology*, titled "Lincoln and May: Destiny Visible in the Life of the Great Emancipator." The second facet of the leave was to research and write a proposal to

qualitatively research transformational changes in those who study Lincoln.



**Dr. Suzanne Maniss**  
**Fall 2011**

Dr. Suzanne Maniss, Associate Professor of Counseling, spent her leave with two specific goals: (1) To produce an evaluative report in preparation for a self-study as part of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) accreditation process, and (2) To produce a text manuscript for submission for publication and use at minimum in COUN 783 Clinical Mental Health Counseling and COUN 784 Mental Health Services Management, Consultation & Supervision. Because the

program recently moved to an online format, she is using the accreditation standards as a basis to ensure the quality and appropriateness of the content. After reviewing all CACREP-accredited online counseling programs, Dr. Maniss attended a CACREP Self-study Training Workshop. Ultimately, she will compile a report comprised of her review of other programs and knowledge gained during the workshop for submission to the Counseling faculty and to the Chair of the Department of Educational Studies for consideration.



**Dr. Michael Park**  
**Fall 2011**

Dr. Michael Park, Associate Professor of Marketing in the Department of Management, Marketing, Computer Science, & Information System was awarded a Reagan Leave for Fall 2011 to conduct research related to ethics in marketing. Dr. Park notes that “the College of Business and Global Affairs’ mission statement says ‘The College of Business and Global Affairs ... develops graduates whose skills, abilities and ethical standards contribute to a diversified and dynamic society.’ It is important that I teach UT Martin students how to make ethical marketing decisions, and this time to conduct research will provide depth to this element of

my marketing classes.” The dedicated time to research also enabled Dr. Park to publish two academic articles in referred journals, which is an important criteria for maintaining the College of Business and Global Affairs accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business-International, and to develop several drafts related to marketing ethics for future publication.



**Dr. Susan Buckelew**  
**Spring 2012**

While some people may sleep on the job, Associate Professor of Psychology Dr. Susan Buckelew likes to study sleep; specifically, she studies applied psychophysiology and sleep and dreams. Not only has she established a

state-of-the-art research and training applied psychophysiology lab, but also her research assisted her in the development of a new course on sleep and dreams. During her Reagan Leave, she developed a bibliography of peer reviewed journal articles regarding sleep impairments in college students; she submitted an article on EEG brain wave patterns and sleep which has been accepted for publication; and she attended a national conference in Baltimore where she presented research, winning a citation for best poster presentation, and where she taught a 4-hour workshop on treatment of sleep disorders in collaboration with colleague Dr. Doug DeGood at the University of Virginia. Buckelew observed, “I am excited about this opportunity for renewal and anticipate that this focused study will greatly enhance my current research and teaching activities.” Since her sabbatical, she has received IRB approval to collect pilot data on a brain wave intervention study to potentially help people with sleep impairment.

She has also developed and taught her first online course and recently completed the first international psychology travel study to London and Paris.



**Dr. Charles Bradshaw  
Spring 2012**

Dr. Charles Bradshaw, Associate Professor of English, took Reagan Leave to travel, research, and write in Philadelphia and Boston. He visited many of the historic, cultural, and literary sites on the eastern seaboard where much of the early American literary tradition established itself and documented these visits with photographs to be used as teaching aids on his website for early American literature and

culture (<http://www.utm.edu/staff/cbradshaw/Research%20Links.htm> ). His research in Boston and Philadelphia gave him access to primary documents and images he is using for his book project on political conspiracies and paranoia in early American literature.



**Dr. Betty Cox**  
**Fall 2012**

Dr. Betty Cox, Associate Professor of Educational Studies, was awarded a Reagan Leave for fall 2012 to complete a book manuscript entitled, *The Costs of Education*. Pro Active Publishers has contracted with Dr. Cox to serve as lead author. The dedicated time enabled Dr. Cox to complete her research

on school system budgets and expenditures. With both an Ed.D. and a J.D., Dr. Cox is a regular contributor to the “School Law Reporter” and recently published a book on school policing, *The Challenges of School Policing*. Regarding her current research, Dr. Cox noted, “The purpose of *The Costs of Education* is two-fold: first, to provide a fact-based overview of how money is spent in schools and districts, including a presentation of the funding and budgeting processes; and second, to analyze these processes with regard to actual practices (i.e., waste, lack of oversight, and accounting practices) in order to recommend policies that will better ensure expenditures are made efficiently and wisely.” As an online faculty member, Dr. Cox also values the ability to focus solely on research and writing that will ultimately benefit her instructional effectiveness in the educational leadership courses that she teaches.





**Dr. Charles  
Hammond, Jr.**  
**Fall 2012**

As a new faculty member at UT Martin, Dr. Charles Hammond, Assistant Professor in the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages, spent the first two years of his employment teaching and limited his scholarly work to presenting conference papers. Once he completed his doctorate and at the urging of a colleague, he began to submit articles to academic journals and was pleasantly surprised by the enthusiastic response he received regarding his topic. Dr. Hammond's research focuses on the German writer Franz Kafka (1883-1924), one of the most influential writers of the 20th century. During his Reagan Leave, Dr. Hammond traveled to the German Literary

Archive in Marbach, Germany, which recently acquired correspondence that Kafka sent to his sister Ottla along with an additional 32 new letters from Dora Diamant, Kafka's last lover, and Robert Klopstock, Kafka's doctor and friend. Dr. Hammond explains, "I would like to capitalize on the success of my first article by conducting archival research on this largely unpublished cache of personal correspondence for my current article. The Reagan Leave afforded me both the opportunity to conduct archival research and the time necessary to produce two first-rate articles on one of the most internationally renowned authors in the German language."



**Dr. Daniel Nappo**  
**Spring 2013**

Dr. Daniel Nappo, Associate Professor of English and Modern Foreign Languages spent his Spring 2013 Reagan Leave researching and writing a book that will, hopefully, lead to a reconsideration of the general understanding of popular expression and propaganda in post-Revolutionary Mexico (1920 to about 1950). A Spanish professor who started at UT Martin in 2003, Dr. Nappo stated, “I have always considered myself first a scholar of Mexican literature, history, and culture. I believe that with this leave period I will be able to produce an important book, the foundation of which is my unpublished dissertation, *Looking Back*

*to the End of Time: Millennial Imagery in Selected Corridos and Novels of the Mexican Revolution.*

The time away from the classroom will be spent at libraries with extensive resources in Mexican studies: the Jean and Alexander Heard Library of Vanderbilt University, the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection of the University of Texas, and the Cineteca Nacional in Mexico City. Dr. Nappo added, “The Reagan Leave permitted me to fulfill my potential as a scholar of Mexican literature, culture, and history. It was this facet of my professional development that helped me to be awarded a García-Robles Fulbright for 2001.” Immersion in this type of discipline-specific study inspires faculty members to return to their classrooms with new insights, perspectives, and energy.



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# THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE MARTIN

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