



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SPECIAL MEETING BOARD OF TRUSTEES	
Friday, May 16, 2025	Virtual Meeting
9:00 a.m. (EDT)/8:00 a.m. (CDT)	Room 169, Student Union, UT Knoxville 1502 Cumberland Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37916

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Remarks of the Chair
- III. Update from the President – Information
- IV. University Officer Appointments – Action/Roll Call Vote Tab 1
 - A. Appointment, Initial Compensation, and other Terms of Employment of the Chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga..... Tab 1.1
 - B. Appointment, Initial Compensation, and other Terms of Employment of the Chancellor of the University of Tennessee Southern..... Tab 1.2
- V. Board Appointments – Action/Roll Call Vote Tab 2
 - A. Appointment of the Student Member of the Board Tab 2.1
 - B. Appointment of a Faculty Member to the Education, Research, and Service Committee Tab 2.2
- VI. Other Action Items – Action/Roll Call Vote..... Tab 3
 - A. Capital Project Budget Increase – Presidential Court, UTK Tab 3.1
 - B. Proposed College and Building Naming, UTK Tab 3.2
- VII. Enterprise Resource Planning Project Update – Information
- VIII. Planning for Annual Meeting – Discussion
- IX. Closing Remarks and Adjournment



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: May 16, 2025

Item: Appointment, Initial Compensation, and other Terms of Employment of the Chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Type: Action

Presenter: Randy Boyd, President

Background Information

As authorized by the Bylaws of the Board, the Chair has designated this item for action by the Board without prior review and recommendation by the Executive Committee.

President Boyd recommends the appointment of Lori Mann Bruce, PhD, as the next Chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, with the initial compensation and other terms of employment as set forth in the offer letter attached hereto. The offer has been accepted by Dr. Bruce, subject to approval by the Board. Additional supporting materials for this recommendation, including a copy of Dr. Bruce's biographical profile and full curriculum vitae, are attached.

Board Action

The Chair will call for a motion for consideration and adoption of the following Resolution.

Resolved:

The Board of Trustees hereby approves the appointment of Lori Mann Bruce, PhD, as Chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, effective June 30, 2025, with the initial compensation and other terms of employment as set forth in the executed offer letter. A copy of the offer letter shall be attached to this resolution following approval hereof.



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE SYSTEM

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

RANDY BOYD
President

May 5, 2025

Dr. Lori Bruce



Dear Lori,

It is my pleasure to offer you the position of Chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, subject to the terms and conditions outlined in this letter and approval by the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees at the next scheduled meeting on May 16, 2025.

The effective date of your appointment will be June 30, 2025. Your initial compensation package as Chancellor consists of the following:

1. Base salary: \$37,500.00 per month (annualized salary of \$450,000.00).
2. Housing allowance: \$1,666.67 per month less applicable taxes.
3. One-time moving allowance: \$35,000.00 less applicable taxes, to be used for relocation and travel expenses.

As a full-time employee, you are also eligible for various benefits including comprehensive health insurance, retirement, paid time off, tuition waivers and discounts, in addition to other benefits. For additional information regarding benefits, please visit <https://hr.tennessee.edu/benefits>.

The University will reimburse travel expenses relating to your duties as Chancellor in accordance with the University's travel policies (e.g., BT0030 and FI0705), including expenses for your spouse for events he is expected to attend.

Article VI, Section 6.7 of the Bylaws of the Board states that the position of Chancellor reports directly and solely to the President and serves at the pleasure of the President. The position of Chancellor is without tenure and without a definite term. In accordance with Board of Trustees Policy BT0006 (Policies Governing Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure), I will seek consideration for your tenure upon hire as a full professor in a full-time faculty appointment in an appropriate department of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, without compensation as long as you are serving in the Chancellor position.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE SYSTEM
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

RANDY BOYD
President

Subject to tenure approval, should you choose to remain a member of the faculty at the conclusion of your administrative service, your appointment would revert to a full-time, tenured faculty appointment based on an academic year (9-month) appointment at an annual salary that is in accordance with the University’s then-current policy BT0012 (Setting Faculty Salaries Upon Conclusion of Administrative Appointments).

While you serve as Chancellor, the President will review your performance annually and may conduct periodic comprehensive performance reviews. The President has the authority to increase your annual base salary in accordance with Article VI, Section 6.8 of the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees.

While serving as Chancellor, you may serve on external boards or commissions with prior approval of the President as governed by the University’s Conflicts of Interest & Commitment policy (GE0002).

I look forward to working with you and seeing the continuation of great progress being made at UT Chattanooga. Please sign and return this letter to me to indicate that you agree to these terms and will accept this appointment upon approval by the Board of Trustees.

Sincerely,

Randy Boyd
President

cc: General Counsel Ryan Stinnett
cc: Human Resources

ACCEPTANCE: I accept the appointment to serve as Chancellor for the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga under the terms and conditions outlined above and with the understanding that the offer is not binding until the appointment, compensation and other terms of employment are approved by the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees.

DocuSigned by:
Lori Mann Bruce
CDBDDFB5DA16469

5/8/2025 | 06:00:56 PDT

Lori Bruce

Date

Lori Mann Bruce, PhD

Dr. Lori Mann Bruce serves as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Tennessee Technological University, where she leads academic operations, research and scholarship, and strategic planning. Under her leadership, Tennessee Tech achieved a perfect academic program quality score from the state—the first university to do so in over 40 years—and significantly expanded its academic offerings, launching multiple new bachelor’s, master’s, and Ph.D. programs aligned with workforce needs.

Dr. Bruce has led the faculty through dramatic growth in research funding and scholarship, increasing extramural awards from \$16 million to over \$46 million annually. During her tenure as Provost, campus infrastructure projects have totaled over \$350 million, including the construction of multiple new buildings for science and engineering. A champion of faculty development, she launched the Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence and led a university-wide compensation study that significantly improved faculty and staff salaries.

Previously, she served as Associate Vice President and Dean of the Graduate School at Mississippi State University and held college-level leadership roles in engineering and research. Dr. Bruce holds a Ph.D. in electrical and computer engineering and has extensive experience in crisis leadership, fundraising, academic planning, and research administration.

Lori Mann Bruce

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Tennessee Tech University, 2018-present
Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Graduate School, Mississippi State University, 2013-2018
Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, Bagley College of Engineering, Mississippi State University, 2008-2013
Giles Distinguished Professor, Mississippi State University, 2012-2018.
Executive Director, High Performance Computing Collaboratory, Mississippi State University, 2008-2010
Director, Raspet Flight Research Laboratory, Mississippi State University, (Interim), 2010-2012
Associate Director of Geosystems Research Institute, Mississippi State University, 2006-2008
Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2006-present
Associate Professor, Mississippi State University, 2003-2006
Assistant Professor, Mississippi State University, 2000-2003
Assistant Professor, University of Nevada Las Vegas, 1996-2000
Engineer, Product Developer, Marketing, and Sales, DiAcoustics, Inc, 1995-1996
Graduate Researcher and University Instructor, The University of Alabama in Huntsville, 1995-1996
NSF Graduate Research Fellow, 1992-1995
Teaching Assistant, Georgia Institute of Technology, 1991-1992
Technical Staff, U.S. Army Strategic Defense Command, 1987-1990

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Electrical & Computer Engineering Department, The University of Alabama in Huntsville
M.S., Electrical Engineering and Computer Engineering Department, Georgia Institute of Technology
Biomedical Engineering Graduate Certificate Program - Georgia Tech/Emory Medical School
B.S.E., Electrical & Computer Engineering Department, The University of Alabama in Huntsville

EXECUTIVE SKILLS

Strategic Vision & Leadership	Cultural Competency & Inclusivity
Entrepreneurial Mindset	Political & External Relations
Interpersonal & Communication Skills	Change Management
Financial Acumen	Crisis Management

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, April 2018-present (Tennessee Tech University)

As Provost, my responsibilities include providing leadership and academic oversight for eight academic colleges, 32 academic departments and schools, and 20 support units, offering 200+ programs of study to more than 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students. These units are composed of approximately 825 employees, housed in 28 academic buildings, and funded with an annual E&G budget of approximately \$90 million.

Student Enrollment

- Increased undergraduate enrollments by 9.4% over the past three years
- Increased graduate applications and admissions by approximately 80% over the past three years
- Led a university-wide team to overhaul undergraduate recruitment events, such as our fall Preview Day, Spring Showcases, and VIP family tours
- Led an initiative to better utilize foundation funds for competitive, early awards of “guaranteed” undergraduate scholarships
- Led the development of internal data dashboards, so departments can see real-time enrollment funnel data for freshmen, transfer, and graduate students
- Instituted the use of a new, advanced CRM for improved communications with and management of student applicants
- Facilitated a six-sigma/lean overhaul of admissions processes to ensure timely admissions decisions
- Led initiatives for competitive marketing/advertising campaigns for new and under-enrolled graduate programs

Student Success and Retention

- Significantly improved undergraduate student success metrics while also increasing student diversity and university access
 - Increased the six-year graduation rate from 51% to 58%
 - Increased the number of total degrees awarded annually per 100 students from 21 to 30
 - Increased the percentage of Pell-Eligible students from 42% to 48%
 - Increased the percentage of first-generation students from 41% to 50%
 - Increased the percentage of minority students from 16% to 22%
- Created a university-level academic advising center for first-year undergraduates, locating the LaunchPad in the university’s Volpe Library. It serves as a one-stop-shop for students to receive academic, as well as financial and social, advising.
- Led an initiative to enhance and in some instances redesign “gateway” courses in math, physics, chemistry, and English – courses where a DFW has a high correlation to low student retention.
- Led an initiative to empower academic advisors to actively monitor students’ class attendance and early-semester grades to identify those at academic risk. Advisors then intervene through direct outreach, offering personalized support and resources to help students improve their performance and stay on track.

Academic Excellence

- Achieved a perfect score of 100 by the state for the quality of the university’s academic programs (the first university to achieve a perfect score in the 40+ years Tennessee has had the Quality Assurance Program)
- Successfully led the development and submission of the university’s SACSCOC 5th Year Interim Report and received approval for a differentiated review for the university’s upcoming SACSCOC reaffirmation.
- All academic programs successfully obtained/renewed accreditations and/or program reviews.
- Gained state approval for and launched multiple new academic programs, including three PhD, three Master, and seven Bachelor degree programs, as well as numerous new degree concentrations, minors, and certificates.
 - PhD, Computer Science
 - PhD, Counseling & Psychology
 - PhD, Higher Education
 - Master of Arts, Learning Design & Technology
 - Master of Science, Community Health & Nutrition
 - Master of Science, Engineering Management
 - Bachelor of Science, Animal Science
 - Bachelor of Science, Design Studies
 - Bachelor of Science, Music
 - Bachelor of Science, Nuclear Engineering
 - Bachelor of Science, Studio Arts

In final stages of approval by Board of Trustees and State, slated for Fall 2025 launch

- Master of Science, Child Life
- Master of Science, Agriscience Technology
- Bachelor of Science, Interdisciplinary Computing
- Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence (CAFÉ) - Launched a university-wide program to promote and provide opportunities for faculty professional development in areas related to teaching, research/creative works, scholarship, leadership, and career development. This effort significantly expanded opportunities for faculty to participate in internal and external workshops, seminars, conferences, mini-grants, sabbaticals, etc.

Research and Scholarship

- Led multiple initiatives to increase faculty-led extramural funding resulting in an increase in extramural grant/contract awards from \$16million in 2018 to \$46million in 2024, with a projection of \$60million for 2025.
 - Launched an on-going series of professional development initiatives designed to increase the overall number and success rate of faculty-led extramural proposals
 - Established a university “Cluster Faculty Hiring Program”, with centrally supported advertising, start-up packages, and mentoring program, with the first two clusters being cybersecurity and artificial intelligence.
 - Established a structured research start-up package program for new faculty hires
 - Developed and shepherded through shared governance processes a new faculty workload policy that better enables faculty release time for research and scholarship
 - Initiated a partnership with a federal government relations firm to assist with funding requests for large-scale multidisciplinary research initiatives
 - Worked closely with the vice president for research to ensure the necessary research administrative services are in place to support faculty members and empower them to focus on their disciplinary work rather than grants administration tasks

University Infrastructure

- Worked closely with architect firm on development of campus master plan, creating academic themed corridors throughout campus, as well as a public art trail.
- Successfully led proposal development teams to garner state funding for construction of multiple new academic buildings and major renovations of existing buildings and worked closely with chief financial officer and architect/construction teams for successful planning and construction.
- \$90million 160,000 square feet Lab Science Commons and Stonecipher Lecture Hall, first LEED certified building on campus. Successfully led academic team through final phases of design, construction, and move-in.
- \$70million 100,000 square foot Ashraf Islam engineering building. Personally authored proposal to the state, led university team for building program and design, led university team to value engineer design during a period of dramatic inflation in building costs, partnered with development officers to secure donation to name the building, and led team for grand opening.
- \$100million 80,000 square foot advanced construction and manufacturing engineering building. Personally authored proposal to the state, led university team for building program and design, led university team to value engineer design during a period of dramatic inflation in building costs, partnering with development officers to secure donations to name major sections of the building.
- \$100million 90,000 square foot social sciences building. Led the team to author proposal to the state, have been awarded state funding for design phase, currently working with architectural design teams to program the building and complete preliminary designs of the building.
- Successfully led teams for several major projects to completely gut and renovate four academic buildings: one for Curriculum and Instruction; one for Earth Sciences; one for Math, Computer Science, and Physics; and one for the College of Business. All of these projects required strategic movement of departments to swing spaces, fund-raising for matching funds, and programming/design of new spaces. The first three projects have completed, and the academic units have returned to their new spaces. The fourth project has passed through the design phase and is now entering the construction phase.

Crisis Management

- Successfully led academic affairs, as well as the university during the President's absence, through several university crises. I personally led teams of the President's cabinet and academic leadership teams including Deans, Chairs, and Faculty Senators, to make timely decisions and take judicious actions related to campus-wide communications; public communications; coordination with city and county officials; coordination with state representatives (THEC, state legislators, state attorney general's office, etc); campus closures; resource reallocations; policy interpretations, waivers and/or revisions; etc. I also led leadership teams in post-crisis debriefs to assess and potentially revise protocols, procedures, policies, and resource allocations, based on lessons learned. With some of the crises, great care had to be taken to ensure the university appropriately balanced academic freedom and freedom of speech with the need to maintain institutional operations.
- The following are the major university crises for which I provided university leadership:
 - Tornado – In February 2020, an EF-4 tornado struck Cookeville (very near to campus) causing widespread destruction, leveling homes and businesses, and tragically killing 19 individuals. The university closed for several days, organized opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to participate in recovery efforts, and provided on-campus and community support via counseling services, access to clothing and food pantries, temporary on-campus housing, etc.
 - COVID19 – In March 2020, the university closed temporarily due to the COVID pandemic and reopened with all academic programs being delivered fully online. Prior to this event, fewer than 5% of all faculty members had taught an online course at Tennessee Tech. In

July 2020, the university returned to fully in-person staffing. And the academic programming transitioned to approximately 67% online in fall 2020; 33% online in spring 2021; and approximately 15% online fall 2021 to the present.

- Active Shooter – In February 2024, the university experienced an active shooter on campus. The shooting occurred in the early evening when a variety of academic courses were in session; a basketball game was in progress in the arena; and students, faculty, and staff were active in a variety of areas of campus. The university went into lockdown for several hours until the shooter was taken into custody.
- Negative National PR – In January 2021, fliers were distributed on campus that targeted a faculty member and a group of students for their perceived conservative ideologies. The fliers called out individuals by name, referred to them as criminals, called for their removal, and invited others to harass and intimidate them. The situation resulted in national media coverage, sparking concerns over academic freedom, freedom of speech, and targeted harassment.
- Negative National PR - In September 2022, a drag show at the university sparked controversy after a video of the event circulated online, showing a performer in front of an audience that included children. The situation resulted in significant national media coverage and fueled campus and public debate over free expression, LGBTQ+ representation, and age-appropriate entertainment in public spaces.
- Litigation – During the past five years, the university has dealt with multiple lawsuits related to personnel actions and civil rights, such as wrongful termination, freedom of speech, and gender discrimination.

Fundraising

- Participated in the design and scoping of a university capital campaign, which is currently in its silent phase and has raised approximately \$75million thus far.
- Collaborated with development teams and external stakeholders to secure funding for academic programs, research initiatives, and faculty endowments. These efforts have resulted in some of the first endowed professorships for the university.
- Championed strategic partnerships with donors, corporations, and grant agencies, leading to increased philanthropic support for institutional priorities. These efforts have resulted in the naming and financial endowments for teaching labs and research labs, as well as student scholarships.
- Played a key role in securing a multimillion-dollar gifts for the construction of new academic buildings, including the Ashraf Islam Engineering Building.

Financial Stewardship (

- Spearheaded a university-wide employee compensation study resulting in significant compensation increases for three consecutive years. With the upcoming third year increases, the project will have moved the faculty salaries, as a whole, from 7% below the market median to approximately 3% above the market median and the staff salaries as a whole from 16% below the market median to approximately the market median.
- Collaborated closely with the CFO to build and manage the university's budget through both periods of financial constraint and growth. Co-led a university strategic budget planning committee made up of faculty, staff, students, and administrators to review current budgets and to make recommendations on budget reallocations and investments of new revenues.
 - Increased Academic Affairs fiscal gain (E&G revenue to instructional cost ratio) from 2.0 to 2.4.
 - Increase the University's Composite Financial Index (CFI) from 2.3 to over 4.7, surpassing our peer institutions in Tennessee.

Associate Vice President and Dean of the Graduate School, 2013-2018 (Mississippi State University)

As AVP and Dean, my responsibilities included providing academic leadership for and shared oversight of the more than 800 graduate faculty and approximately 3500 graduate and professional students participating in more than 150 graduate programs across campus. Responsibilities included

Selected Accomplishments:

One of my major focuses was on graduate enrollment management, including new initiatives in building the brand and image of graduate education at MSU, development of new graduate programs within various departments across the university, strategically marketing programs, launching new student recruitment activities, and modernization of the university's graduate admissions processes. Accomplishing these goals required partnering with college deans, mentoring department heads and graduate coordinators, building consensus among the faculty, and managing an office of approximately 20 staff members. As a result, our graduate admission applications increased by 10%, selectivity rates improved by more than 10 percentage points resulting in higher national rankings of academic programs, and graduate enrollment increased by 5% with an increase in new graduate students by 8%.

Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, Bagley College of Engineering, Mississippi State University (2008-2013)

While serving in the college leadership team, the College had approximately 2700 undergraduate students, 625 graduate students (300 MS and 325 PhD), 100 academic faculty, and 100 research faculty, post-docs, and research staff. The College housed 8 academic departments and approximately 10 research centers. NSF ranked the College in the top 10% of engineering colleges in the nation in terms of its annual research expenditures which exceed \$70million (approximately \$55million/year). As Associate Dean, my responsibilities included providing leadership and administrative management of all research, graduate programs, distance education programs, and industrial outreach and economic development activities.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Led the development of a research strategic plan for college, resulting in the selection of six research thrust areas for strategic college-level investments, including start-up packages, cost-share, infrastructure investments, and faculty working group funds.
- Successfully led college's research enterprise through transition from reliance on federal initiatives to majority competitive funding, while maintaining a ranking in the top 10% nationally by NSF.
- Coordinated the funding of all faculty start-up packages, including the coordination of funds from Dean's office, VP for Research, and Departments/Centers. Mentored junior faculty's establishment of research programs, with 5 NSF CAREER awards.
- Oversaw the college's industrial outreach and economic development activities, resulting in over \$5.5 Billion in economic impact and more than 2,300 industrial jobs created or retained in Mississippi, as reported by NIST.
- Led college-wide graduate student recruitment efforts, fellowship application workshops, professional development workshops – resulting in college graduate enrollments increasing by 15% (545 to 625) and PhD graduation rates increasing by 100% from approximately 20/year to 45/year.
- Partnered with development officers to raise private funds for doctoral fellowships, expanding our PhD fellowship program to approximately 55 PhD fellowships per year.

- Oversaw college's distance learning programs, resulting in launch of 6 additional graduate distance programs and growth of distance enrollments by 100% (100 to 230) and a US News and World Report ranking of 12th nationally.
- Established the college's Distinguished Lecture Series, including lectures by Dr. Subra Suresh, Vannevar Bush Professor and Dean of Engineering, MIT and since named as Director of NSF, and Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson, Frederick P. Rose Director of Hayden Planetarium, American Museum of Natural History and Host of Nova ScienceNOW.
- Established Think Big @ Mississippi State program, a college-wide innovation contest where student teams propose projects aligned with college's six research thrust areas. Winning teams receive up to \$10,000 and faculty support to carryout projects.

Interim Director, Rasper Flight Research Laboratory (2010 – 2012)

The Rasper Flight Research Laboratory (RASPET) is a college-level research center, established in 1948, with a focus on low-speed aerodynamics, composites, and unmanned aerial systems (UAS). RASPET's infrastructure includes two large hangers (>80,000 square feet), composite storage and fabrication rooms, extensive machine shops, CNC machines, walk-in ovens, autoclaves, engine test cells, electronics shop, structural test area, and seven general aviation aircraft (six fixed-wing and one rotary wing), as well as multiple UAS, including two pilot-optional aircraft designed, prototyped, and flight tested for the U.S. Army. RASPET has full-time research and administrative staff and three part-time pilots. As Director, my responsibilities included providing leadership and administrative management of all research, teaching, and economic development activities at RASPET.

Associate Director, Geosystems Research Institute, Mississippi State University (2006 – 2008)

The Geosystems Research Institute (GRI) is a research leader in geospatial information systems, remote sensing, data/image visualization, data fusion, scientific modeling, and high-performance computing with applications to coastal zone management, precision agriculture, and homeland security. GRI performs funded research for DHS, DOD, DOT, NASA, NOAA, NSF, USDA, USGS, and other state and local agencies and industry. While Associate Director of GRI, its external funding was approximately \$28 million/year to support 75 active research projects involving more than 50 faculty and over 100 students and post-docs. GRI is a member of the university's High-Performance Computing Collaboratory (HPC²), housing and providing system administration for MSU's supercomputing clusters, regularly ranked in the top 20 most powerful academic computing sites in the U.S.

KEY FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS & RECOGNITIONS

Taught approximately 50 sections of 17 different courses at the undergraduate, split, and graduate levels, resulting in more than 3000 student credit hours (excluding dissertation and thesis hours)

Maintained a high level of dedication to teaching, resulting in instructor evaluation scores averaging 4.5/5.0, where the Bagley College of Engineering and the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department averages are 4.0 and 3.9, respectively

Developed new graduate and undergraduate courses in the areas of Digital Image Processing, Automated Target Recognition, Biomedical Signals and Systems, and Medical Imaging, as well as conducted complete overhauls of various existing courses

Served as major professor (thesis or dissertation chair) for more than 20 PhD and Masters students

Served as thesis/dissertation committee member for more than 50 PhD and Masters students

Received various teaching awards and faculty appreciation awards from university alumni associations and student chapters of Society of Women Engineers, Tau Beta Pi, and National Society of Black Engineers

Served as PI or Co-PI on more than 25 federally-funded grants and contracts, totaling more than \$20million

Published 150 refereed, archival, scholarly publications that have been cited more than 6000 times resulting in citation indices of h-index = 31 and i10-index = 74

Served as conference chair or on organizing committee for multiple national and international research/scholarship conferences

Invited to be keynote/plenary speaker at multiple national and international conferences

IEEE, Distinguished Lecturer (2016-2020) – Selected by the Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society as one of 10 international Distinguished Lecturers, including only 5 from the US. In this role, I gave keynote lectures and plenary talks in the US, France, Italy, Japan, China, and India, as well as online webinars with thousands of participants from more than 20 countries.

Elected to serve on the Administrative Committee (AdCom) which provides international leadership for the IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society (GRSS) from 2016 to 2020. Served as Chair of Programs for Underrepresented Members (women and minorities). AdCom has approximately 15 voting members that provide leadership and administrative oversight for GRSS which has approximately 4200 members in 79 chapters in 94 countries, with an annual operating budget of more than \$1million. During my time on AdCom, I co-led the establishment of an international “Women Mentoring Women” program, designed to assist early-career and mid-career women with professional development and career success.

Mississippi State University, Giles Distinguished Professor – This was a life-time honor, with typically no more than eight professors holding the title at any given time.



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: May 16, 2025

Item: Appointment, Initial Compensation, and other Terms of Employment of the Chancellor of the University of Tennessee Southern

Type: Action

Presenter: Randy Boyd, President

Background Information

As authorized by the Bylaws of the Board, the Chair has designated this item for action by the Board without prior review and recommendation by the Executive Committee.

President Boyd recommends the appointment of Melinda S. Arnold, PhD, as the next Chancellor of the University of Tennessee Southern, with the initial compensation and other terms of employment as set forth in the offer letter attached hereto. The offer has been accepted by Dr. Arnold, subject to approval by the Board. Additional supporting materials for this recommendation, including a copy of Dr. Arnold's biographical profile and full curriculum vitae, are attached.

Board Action

The Chair will call for a motion for consideration and adoption of the following Resolution.

Resolved:

The Board of Trustees hereby approves the appointment of Melinda S. Arnold, PhD, as Chancellor of the University of Tennessee Southern, effective July 1, 2025, with the initial compensation and other terms of employment as set forth in the executed offer letter. A copy of the offer letter shall be attached to this resolution following approval hereof.



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE SYSTEM

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

RANDY BOYD
President

May 8, 2025

Dr. Melinda Arnold



Dear Melinda,

It is my pleasure to offer you the position of Chancellor of the University of Tennessee Southern, subject to the terms and conditions outlined in this letter and approval by the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees at the next scheduled Executive Committee meeting on May 16, 2025.

The effective date of your appointment will be July 1, 2025. Your initial compensation package as Chancellor consists of the following:

1. Base salary: \$27,083.34 per month (annualized salary of \$325,000.00).
2. One-time moving allowance: \$35,000.00 less applicable taxes, to be used for relocation and travel expenses.
3. For the convenience of UT Southern and as a requirement of your duties while serving as Chancellor, you shall reside, as your primary residence while in Pulaski, in the President's House located at 429 West Flower Street, Pulaski, Tennessee. So long as residence in the President's House remains an expectation of the position, you will not be charged for rent, maintenance, utilities, or other standard costs of maintaining the residence.

As a full-time employee, you are also eligible for various benefits including comprehensive health insurance, retirement, paid time off, tuition waivers and discounts, in addition to other benefits. For additional information regarding benefits, please visit <https://hr.tennessee.edu/benefits>.

The University will reimburse travel expense relating to your duties as Chancellor in accordance with the University's travel policies (e.g., BT0030 and FI0705), including expenses for your spouse for events he is expected to attend.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE SYSTEM

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

RANDY BOYD
President

Article VI, Section 6.7 of the Bylaws of the Board states that the position of Chancellor reports directly and solely to the President and serves at the pleasure of the President. The position of Chancellor is without tenure and without a definite term. In accordance with Board of Trustees Policy BT0006 (Policies Governing Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure), I will seek consideration for your tenure upon hire as a full professor in a full-time faculty appointment in an appropriate department of the University of Tennessee Southern, without compensation as long as you are serving in the Chancellor position. Subject to tenure approval, should you choose to remain a member of the faculty at the conclusion of your administrative service, your appointment would revert to a full-time, tenured faculty appointment based on an academic year (9-month) appointment at an annual salary that is in accordance with the University's then-current policy BT0012 (Setting Faculty Salaries Upon Conclusion of Administrative Appointments).

While you serve as Chancellor, the President will review your performance annually and may conduct periodic comprehensive performance reviews. The President has the authority to increase your annual base salary in accordance with Article VI, Section 6.8 of the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees.

During your service as Chancellor, you may serve on external boards or commissions with prior approval of the President as governed by the University's Conflicts of Interest & Commitment policy (GE0002).

I look forward to working with you and seeing the continuation of great progress being made at UT Southern. Please sign and return this letter to me to indicate that you agree to these terms and will accept this appointment upon approval by the Board of Trustees.

Sincerely,

Randy Boyd
President

cc: General Counsel Ryan Stinnett

cc: Human Resources



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE SYSTEM

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

RANDY BOYD
President

ACCEPTANCE: I accept the appointment to serve as Chancellor for the University of Tennessee Southern under the terms and conditions outlined above and with the understanding that the offer is not binding until the appointment, compensation and other terms of employment are approved by the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees.

Signed by:
Dr. Melinda Arnold
67DAG086C72F043D...

Melinda Arnold

5/8/2025 | 20:53:37 CDT

Date

Melinda Arnold, PhD

Dr. Melinda Arnold is a higher education leader with more than 20 years of experience in academic administration, student success, and public service. She currently serves as Special Assistant to the President at Texas A&M University–Texarkana, where she previously held the role of Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. Her work has focused on expanding access, launching high-demand academic programs, and driving enrollment growth. During her tenure, the university achieved record enrollment gains, expanded student support services, and secured millions in grants and external funding.

Prior to joining TAMUT, Dr. Arnold served as Provost at Montana State University Billings and held academic leadership positions at the University of North Texas at Dallas and Texas A&M University. Her background also includes executive roles in criminal justice organizations and extensive grant and policy development experience.

Dr. Arnold holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in Criminal Justice from Rutgers University, an M.A. in Liberal Studies from Northwestern University, and a B.A. in Philosophy from the University of Texas at Austin. She has authored numerous peer-reviewed publications on criminal justice and offender reentry and is a graduate of the Harvard Graduate School of Education’s Institute for Educational Management.

MELINDA S. ARNOLD, PH.D.**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Inclusive, energetic, innovative, results-oriented change agent and leader with over two decades of progressively increasing experience in government and as a higher education administrator serving regional, comprehensive universities supporting first-generation, rural, urban, adult, transfer, and ethnically diverse student populations. \$11 million in grants secured, \$4.5 million in fundraising/contracts acquired.

HIGHER EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Texas A&M University-Texarkana (TAMUT), Texarkana, Texas

Rural, regional comprehensive university (2,400 students) serving adult, transfer, and first-generation students. Minority-Serving Institution; emerging Hispanic-Serving Institution. NAIA (Red River Athletic Conference).

Special Assistant to the President

02/25-present

Responsibilities:

Advise and represent the president as necessary to meet the needs of the university. Oversee and coordinate special projects, contribute to policy formation, assist with institutional strategic planning, help resolve problems and issues, prepare reports, briefings, and communications, respond to concerns from the campus or community.

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

09/23-02/25

Responsibilities:

Oversaw the academic enterprise including the College of Arts, Sciences, and Education, College of Business, Engineering, and Technology, College of Nursing, Health and Human Services, School for Professional Education and Community Engagement, and the Honor's College (105 full-time faculty, 85 adjunct faculty, four deans), 15 direct reports, and a division budget of \$24M. Led the following: Assistant Provost, Student Life (to include Counseling, Residence Life and Student Services), Enrollment and Student Engagement (to include Recruitment, Admissions, Enrollment Services, Financial Aid, Advising and Student Success), Library, Office of Graduate Studies, Grants and Sponsored Programs, Institutional Effectiveness and Research, Technology Innovation and Digital Education, Registrar, Academic Senate, and Office of Teaching and Faculty Advancement.

*Selected Accomplishments at TAMUT:**Institutional*

- Orchestrated highest enrollment increases in TAMUT history Spring 2024 (5%), Summer 2024 (22%), Fall 2024 (15%), Spring 2025 (18%).
- Generated highest increase in scholastic credit hour production in Texas A&M University System Fall 2024 (21.6%).
- Facilitated recruitment of 60 new student-athletes Fall 2024 including 30 students in eSports.
- Created operational efficiencies reducing application processing to 5 minutes.
- Developed new scholarship structure and awarded over \$3,000,000.
- Increased institutional grant acquisitions from \$6,000 to \$4,500,000 since 2021; \$2,000,000 in grants awaiting review.
- Authored exceptional item funding request for \$6M to support Center for Financial Literacy last legislative session.
- Crafted \$8M exceptional item funding request for current legislative session for Center for Rural Health and several STEM and healthcare academic programs.
- Obtained \$200,000 from Texas A&M System to implement AI technology to support transcript articulation and efficient advising/course registration.
- Directed development of university's first Strategic Enrollment Management Plan.
- Partnered to develop MOUs with business and community partners as enrollment drivers.
- Collaborated to launch a new modular housing campus community to house 40 additional students (online Fall 2024).
- Oversaw general building design of new \$45 million business, engineering, and technology building (online Spring 2026).
- Launched campus-wide wellness initiative for students, faculty, and staff.

Academic Affairs

- Managed \$24 million division budget.
- Realigned budget process resulting in \$2 million savings.
- Generated revenue of over \$4,500,00 providing non-credit programming to military spouses.
- Acquired \$250,000 grant to launch EagleLead leadership program.
- Facilitated book bundle program to increase Day 1 student readiness; 60% opt-in rate.
- Expanded use of Open Educational Resources by 40%.
- Supported faculty participation in ACUE effective online teaching practices; 85% faculty participation, 3% reduction in student DFW rates.
- Reorganized division and launched new College of Nursing, Health and Human Services and Honor's College.
- Created School for Professional Education and Community Engagement to support Competency-Based Learning, Prior Learning Assessment, and micro-credentials for adult learners.
- Partnered with federal correctional institution on a \$250,000 grant to support education for people leaving prison and returning to the community.
- Collaborated to implement educational pathway for students in the foster care system.

MELINDA S. ARNOLD, PH.D.

PAGE 3

- Redesigned First-Year Experience to include an 8-week option for freshmen and transfers.
- Launched 11 academic programs to meet workforce demand for Fall 2025.
- Arranged 33 new academic pathways with four community colleges.
- Secured initial accreditation for Social Work (CSWE, 2024) and Mechanical Engineering (ABET, 2024)
- Obtained reaffirmation for Business (AACSB) and Counseling (CACREP) programs.
- Oversaw transition from Blackboard to Canvas.

Student Access and Success

- Received \$250,000 grant to implement Needs, Evaluation, and Support Team (NEST) to support at-risk students.
- Created Learning Commons to support better student engagement and retention.
- Campus liaison for AASCU/Bill and Melinda Gate Foundation Student Success Equity Intensive.
- Partnered with NASH and ASPEN-AASCU Transfer Student Success initiatives to improve transfer policies and processes that increase completion rates and equitable access.
- Increased campus community and civic engagement by 50% through volunteering initiatives, voter registration drives, and attendance at campus events.
- Facilitated new Study Abroad/Study Away program to launch Spring 2025.
- Expanded Greek life campus presence through additional sororities and fraternities.
- Implemented Jed Foundation initiative to support student mental health.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

01/21-9/23

Responsibilities:

Oversee all academic operations including two colleges (102 full-time faculty and two deans), ten direct reports, and a division budget of \$20M. Lead the following: Advising, Student Success, Library, Office of Graduate Studies, Grants and Sponsored Programs, Office of International Studies, Institutional Effectiveness and Research, Technology Innovation and Digital Education, Extended Education and Community Development, Career Development, Registrar, Academic Senate, and Honors program.

Selected Accomplishments at TAMUT:

Academic Affairs

- Conducted salary equity analysis; developed plan to adjust faculty and staff salary inequities.
- Implemented Responsibility Center Management-like budget model; achieved balanced budget.
- Collaborated with Faculty Senate on Summer pay model resulting in savings of \$250,000 the first summer it was implemented.
- Managed special item funding for academic programming (Mechanical Engineering, Nursing, Social Work, Physical Therapy, Center for Financial Literacy and Investment) totaling \$6M/year.
- Increased hiring of diverse faculty and staff by 50% and female faculty and staff by 30%.
- Facilitated cost of education study that assesses program/course profitability to assist with strategic decision-making.

MELINDA S. ARNOLD, PH.D.

PAGE 4

- Collaborated with faculty on numerous shared governance efforts (e.g., faculty evaluations, academic planning process, Office of Teaching and Faculty Advancement, job descriptions/duties for program coordinators, chairs, directors).
- Created Faculty Fellows program to support internal faculty leadership development.
- Authored data-informed faculty hiring process.
- Developed Academic Affairs division strategic plan.
- Oversaw successful reaccreditation of Electrical Engineering program (ABET, 2022).
- Facilitated TAMUT's SACSCoC 5th year report submission.
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Institutional Liaison.

Student Access and Success

- Reimagined Advising/Career Services to create the Academic and Career Experience (ACE) Center to promote better synergy from backpack to briefcase. 75% of students now work or are enrolled in graduate school post-graduation; a 15% increase since inception.
- Managed Title V Department of Education grant (\$750,000 over five years) to support student access and success.
- Institutional liaison for AASCU Student Success Equity Intensive funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to accelerate equitable student access and success.

Montana State University Billings (MSUB), Billings, Montana

Urban, regional comprehensive 4-year university with embedded 2-year college (4,400 students, multiple campuses) serving adult, first-generation, transfer, and Native-American students. Part of Collective Bargaining Unit (9 unions). NCAA (Great Northwest Athletic Conference).

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

10/18-12/20

Responsibilities:

Oversee all operations related to instructional programs, educational policy, academic planning, academic resources, and management. Facilitate the academic affairs budget and faculty and staff in five colleges, including an embedded two-year college (166 full-time faculty, 292 part-time faculty, 20 staff). Lead and manage academic support units (approximately 90 staff) including the Library, Office of Graduate Studies, Grants and Sponsored Programs, Office of International Studies, Academic Success Center, TRIO/SSS, Disability Student Services, Institutional Research, Assessment and Accreditation, Dual Enrollment, eLearning, Registrar, Advising and Career Services, Academic Senate, Honors Program, and the Montana Center for Inclusive Education.

Selected Accomplishments at MSUB:

Institutional

- Raised last \$2,000,000 to support new academic science building.
- Served as Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Access and Success (VCSAS) resulting in a 3% enrollment increase.

MELINDA S. ARNOLD, PH.D.

PAGE 5

- Secured seed funding (\$1.2M) from private foundation for the Institute for Neurodiversity to support K-12 children on the Autism Spectrum.
- Developed 10 affiliation agreements (two-year, four-year, professional schools).
- Facilitated institutional reorganization to consolidate operations in Student Access and Success and Academic Affairs.
- Actively engaged with the community to build partnerships and workforce ready degree programs including Dental Hygiene collaborative.
- Supervised institutional space allocation effort including temporary lab/classroom space creation to align with construction of new science building.
- Oversaw institutional strategic planning process.

Academic Affairs

- Increased faculty salary floor from \$37,500 to \$50,000 through collective bargaining.
- Led strategic program alignment process (eliminated 119 programs; 135 remaining, 47% reduction).
- Supervised development of 1+3 program for Education majors with K-12 school district.
- Developed comprehensive program review process aligned with state and regional accreditation requirements.
- Collaborated with faculty to revise the general education curriculum to enhance transferability and streamline time to graduation.
- Facilitated faculty-led taskforces: academic program policy, workload, course caps, advising, teaching and learning, space allocation, summer school operations, independent study courses, internships, strategic program alignment, and predictive student success.
- Led successful NWCCU reaccreditation and follow-up visit (October 2018, April 2020).
- Oversaw successful AACSB reaccreditation visit (October 2019), ABAI initial accreditation (May 2019), and JRCERT initial accreditation (January 2020).

Student Access and Success

- Oversaw Native American Achievement Center that provided academic, social, and peer support for Native American students and promoted enrollment and retention of Native students.
- Reimagined Academic Support Center through Title III Department of Education grant (\$2.3M over five years) to focus on retention and academic student support.
- Partnered with local non-profit equine therapy program to develop mentoring program for veteran students.

University of North Texas at Dallas (UNT Dallas), Dallas, Texas

Urban, regional comprehensive university (3,300 students) serving first-generation and transfer students. Minority-Serving and Hispanic-Serving Institution. NAIA (Sooner Athletic Conference).

Interim Associate Provost

08/16-10/18

Responsibilities:

Created and implemented academic pathways between high schools, two-year institutions and UNT Dallas. Developed, reviewed, and approved university policy. Collaborated with general counsel to develop and

MELINDA S. ARNOLD, PH.D.

PAGE 6

implement articulation and other legal agreements. Engaged with faculty, deans and senior university, community college and high school administrators. Assisted in graduate and undergraduate program development. Actively participated as a member of the SACS Reaffirmation Executive Committee and University Executive Council.

Accomplishments:

- Initiated 19 curricular pathways with Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD) and UNT Dallas.
- Evaluated and assessed university policies (12 in the 2018-2019 academic year, including campus carry).
- Collaborated on legal agreements with Dallas Independent School District (DISD), Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD), and UNT Dallas (3 completed 2018-2019 academic year).
- Participated as executive member in university-wide strategic planning.
- Facilitated high level meetings with stakeholders regarding reimagining student pathways (e.g., Dallas Chamber of Commerce, DCCCD, DISD, university presidents, private funders).

Executive Director, Caruth Police Institute

10/14-10/18

Responsibilities:

Guided the strategic vision, operational leadership, and management of an institute that supports leadership training for law enforcement and criminal justice personnel and conducts applied research that supports best practices in policing and criminal justice. Oversaw the financial planning and budget management of a ten-million-dollar endowment. Actively fundraised to support institute operations, programming, and research. Promoted collaboration and engagement with academics, the community, the police, and public/private partners. Identified and capitalized on opportunities for sponsored research. Published and disseminated research.

Accomplishments:

- Grew alternative funding streams by 90%.
- Secured private donor contributions of over \$1 million (2015-2018).
- Acquired \$150,000 in grants in 2018.
- Achieved 60% increase in the number of law enforcement agencies that took part in leadership programming.
- Expanded staffing by 50% to support program growth.
- Oversaw strategic growth initiatives of the institute.
- Re-engineered professional development programs.
- Assisted the Dallas Police Department (DPD) in policy and program development.

MELINDA S. ARNOLD, PH.D.

PAGE 7

East Texas A&M University [formerly Texas A&M University-Commerce (TAMUC)], Commerce, Texas

Rural, regional comprehensive university (14,000 students) with a satellite campus in Dallas serving first-generation and transfer students as well as students from a large metropolitan area. Emerging Hispanic-Serving Institution. NCAA, Division 2 (Southland Conference).

Associate Dean, College of Humanities, Social Sciences and Arts

08/12-10/14

Responsibilities:

Co-managed a college (7 departments and 2 programs, 10-million-dollar budget) of approximately 2,000 undergraduate and 500 graduate students, 120 faculty, 25 adjuncts, and seven staff members. Provided leadership for and coordination of all academic programs offered by the college, including strategic planning, resource allocation, implementation, evaluation, and continuous improvement. Represented the college regarding curriculum, faculty, budget, scheduling, course delivery, and facilities. Served as a member of the Advising Taskforce and Academic Appeals committees.

Accomplishments:

- Developed merit-based award system for faculty.
- Managed curriculum development, course rotations, and faculty load for the college.
- Facilitated tenure and promotion process.
- Initiated program for transfer and at-risk students to increase student retention.
- Assisted in fundraising activities and community development.
- Engaged in enrollment efforts at recruitment events.
- Managed staff personnel evaluations and other HR matters with faculty.
- Chaired college-level institutional effectiveness efforts.
- Managed program for Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL).
- Created professional development opportunities for full-time and adjunct faculty.
- Streamlined office operations and data and information management.
- Facilitated the college strategic plan and strategic enrollment initiative using data-driven decision making.
- Oversaw college SACS reaffirmation efforts including writing reports and verifying faculty credentials.
- Worked with Art Department regarding space allocation/facilities management.
- Performed as Acting Dean, Summer, 2014.

Director, Master of Science, Applied Criminology Program

08/10-10/14

Responsibilities:

Managed and led all aspects related to creating, developing, and implementing an 18-month, cohort-based online master's program for professionals in criminal justice.

MELINDA S. ARNOLD, PH.D.

PAGE 8

Accomplishments:

- Increased program enrollment from 4 to 200 in two years.
- Prepared and submitted program accreditation materials for The Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) and SACSCoC.
- Worked with university administrators and IT to develop online program infrastructure.
- Managed program budget, including hiring faculty.
- Designed curriculum to achieve Quality Matters designation.
- Oversaw student recruitment, enrollment, and retention.
- Implemented course and program assessment.
- Created program marketing.
- Assigned and managed faculty, including performance evaluations.
- Facilitated recruitment events.
- Taught courses
- Served as faculty mentor.
- Developed alumni outreach program.

OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Dallas County Community Supervision and Corrections Department, Dallas, Texas

Community Supervision and Corrections department in Dallas County supervising 55,000 adult offenders.

Deputy Director

01/06-12/07

Responsibilities:

Assisted in planning, directing, and coordinating the day-to-day administration of the agency (600 employees), including fiscal and budgetary matters. Provided policy direction and program development on operational objectives of the department. Collaborated with criminal justice stakeholders including the District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, Judges, Defense Attorneys, defendants, victims, and the community. Knowledge of regulatory compliance/oversight, and local, state, and federal laws.

Accomplishments:

- Co-managed a department with \$45M budget.
- Assisted in developing agency strategic plan using data-driven decision making; established benchmarks for achievement.
- Streamlined operations for improved performance and efficiency through revising policy, process and standard operating procedures.
- Initiated progressive discipline policy for employees.
- Promoted team building; facilitated focus group to develop agency mission/vision statement.
- Developed an innovative strategy to supervise and manage offenders on probation.
- Acted as agency press spokesperson.
- Managed local, state, and federal grants.

MELINDA S. ARNOLD, PH.D.

PAGE 9

CJ Research and Policy Associates, Coppell, Texas*President*

07/05-12/12

Responsibilities:

Led and managed a consulting business designed to assist criminal justice organizations with project management, program evaluation, and grant writing.

Accomplishments:

- Provided project and change management services to local, state, and federal jurisdictions (e.g., Volunteers of America-Delaware Valley, New Jersey State Parole Board).
- Developed strategic plans and benchmarks for achievement.
- Conducted program evaluations to determine adherence to best practice.
- Assisted in development and implementation of computerized offender case management systems.
- Wrote grants.

New Jersey State Parole Board, Trenton, New Jersey*Director, Policy and Planning*

07/04-08/05

*Acting Director, Community Programs and Grants Management***Responsibilities:**

Led the strategic and long-term priorities of the agency. Provided a full range of planning, evaluation, compliance, and implementation assistance to the Chairman and Parole Board members. Managed halfway house, drug treatment, and other community-based parole programs.

Accomplishments:

- Led agency legislative initiatives; revised agency policies and procedures.
- Collaborated with stakeholders from the Governor's Office, Department of Corrections, Juvenile Justice Commission, community leaders, and faith-based organizations.
- Testified before the New Jersey Senate and House Committee on Corrections.
- Participated in gubernatorial committees on Corrections, Mental Illness, and Offender Reentry.
- Launched community-based one-stop parole office.
- Managed five halfway houses, three inpatient drug treatment centers, and four specialized community-based parole programs.

MELINDA S. ARNOLD, PH.D.

PAGE 10

Program Director

07/01-08/03

Responsibilities:

Oversaw the coordination and administration of all aspects of parole programs including planning, organizing, staffing, leading, and managing program activities.

Accomplishments:

- Acquired and implemented federally funded Serious and Violent Offender Reentry grant (\$2,000,000.00).
- Coordinated and managed all agency grants.
- Fostered inter-agency collaborations with Attorney General's Office, Department of Corrections, Department of Health and Human Services; promoted community partnerships.
- Promoted team building; facilitated focus group to develop agency mission/vision statement.
- Facilitated creation of an innovative community-based parole program.
- Developed agency-wide professional development curricula for parole office recruits.
- Revised agency training manual.

TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

Texas A&M University-Texarkana, Texarkana, Texas <i>Professor, Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences (tenured)</i>	2021-present
Montana State University Billings, Billings, Montana <i>Adjunct faculty, Department of Social and Cultural Studies</i>	2018-2020
University of North Texas at Dallas, Dallas, Texas <i>Professor, Department of Criminal Justice (tenured)</i> <i>Associate Professor, Department of Criminal Justice (tenured)</i>	2014-2018
East Texas A&M University, Commerce, Texas <i>Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice (tenured)</i> <i>Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice (tenure-track)</i>	2008-2014
University of North Carolina-Pembroke, Pembroke, North Carolina <i>Adjunct Professor, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice</i>	2008-2011
University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas <i>Assistant Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice (tenure-track)</i>	2005-2006
The College of New Jersey, Ewing, New Jersey <i>Assistant Professor of Criminology and Justice Studies (one-year appointment)</i>	2003-2004

MELINDA S. ARNOLD, PH.D.

PAGE 11

Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey 1998-2001
Adjunct Professor, Department of Criminal Justice

William Patterson University, Newark, New Jersey 1997-1998
Adjunct Professor, Department of Sociology

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Houser, K., and Schlager, M.D. (2023). *Rethinking the Reentry Paradigm: A Blueprint for Action*. 2nd ed. Raleigh: Carolina Academic Press.

Schlager, M.D. (2013). *Rethinking the Reentry Paradigm: A Blueprint for Action*. Raleigh: Carolina Academic Press.

Peer-reviewed journal articles

Balter-Reitz, S., Meredith, S.E., Powell, M., and Arnold, M. (2022). Assessing mission fulfillment: Utilizing collaboration to support strategic planning and decision-making. *Assessment Update*, 34(5), 1-2.

Schlager, M.D. (2018). Through the looking glass: Taking stock of offender reentry. *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*. 34(1), 69-80.

Wong, I., Bishopp, S.A., & Schlager, M. (2016). Costs of policing: An examination of jail efficiency related to medical intake procedures. *Criminal Justice Review*, 1-16.

Cantora, A., Mellow, J., & Schlager, M. (2015). Social relationships and group dynamics inside a community correction facility for women. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*, 1-20.

Schlager, M.D., & Moore, B. (2014). Risk and resiliency of incarcerated mothers. *Families in Society: The Journal of Contemporary Social Services*. 95(2), 100-106.

Cantora, A., Mellow, J., & Schlager, M. (2014). What about nonprogrammatic factors? Women's perceptions of staff and resident relationships in a community corrections setting. *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 53, 35-56.

Schlager, M. & Pacheco, D. (2011). An examination of changes in LSI-R scores over time: Making the case for needs-based case management. *Criminal Justice & Behavior*, 38, 541-553.

Schlager, M. (2009). The organizational politics of implementing risk assessment instruments in community corrections. *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*, 25, 412-423.

MELINDA S. ARNOLD, PH.D.

PAGE 12

Paparozzi, M., & Schlager, M. (2009). Reconciling what works and broken windows: The policy relevance of individual and social correlates to recidivism reduction. *Victims & Offenders*, 4, 427-434.

Schlager, M. (2008). Improving parole practice in New Jersey: A longitudinal analysis of organizational and attitudinal changes of parole officers. *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, 47, 271-289.

Schlager, M., & Robbins, K. (2008). Does parole work-revisited: Reframing the discussion of the impact of post-prison supervision on offender outcome. *The Prison Journal*, 88, 234-251.

Mellow, J., Schlager, M., & Cohen, J. (2008). Using geographical information systems to evaluate post-release prisoner reentry needs in greater Newark, NJ. *Journal of Criminal Justice*, 36, 416-425.

Schlager, M., & Simourd, D. (2007). Assessing the validity of the Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R) among Hispanic and African-American offenders. *Criminal Justice & Behavior*, 34, 545-554.

AWARDS AND HONORS

At Texas A&M University-Commerce, I was awarded the Provost's Award for Research and Creative Activities and the Junior Research Faculty Award. While in graduate school, I was awarded the Richard J. Hughes Award and the Graduate Scholars Award. I also served as a fellow in the Department of Criminal Justice.

SERVICE

Community service contributions include my work as Board Member of the Community Relations Board for the federal correctional institution in Texarkana (2023-present). In addition, I served as Board Member and Chair of the Program Committee for Alternatives, Inc., in Billings, Montana (2018-2020); a halfway house and alternative to incarceration program where I assisted the organization with successfully seeking state certification and developing assessment measures. I also served as a member of the HIDTA Training Advisory Board in Dallas (2015-2018), Secretary for the Dallas Police Youth Foundation (2015-2018), and a member of the Dallas Police Department Community Support Coalition (2016).

MELINDA S. ARNOLD, PH.D.

PAGE 13

EDUCATION

Rutgers University, Newark, NJ	Ph.D., Criminal Justice M.A., Criminal Justice
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL	M.A., Liberal Studies
University of Texas, Austin, TX	B.A., Philosophy

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Harvard Graduate School of Education, Institute for Educational Management	2024
AALI Mastering the Presidential Search Process	2022
AASCU Academy for New Provosts	2021-2022
AALI Becoming a Provost Academy	2018-2019
CASE Conference: Fundraising for Deans and Senior Leaders	2019
Fundraising Certificate	2018
Certificate for Non-Profit Management	2018
Strategic Planning Workshops	2017
Grant-writing workshops	2016, 2017

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Texas Council of Chief Academic Officers	2021-present
International Association of Chiefs of Police	2015-2018
American Probation and Parole Association	2005-2018
American Society of Criminology	1996-2018



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: May 16, 2025

Item: **Appointment of the Student Member of the Board of Trustees**

Type: Action

Presenter: John C. Compton, Chair

Background Information

Pursuant to state law, a non-voting student member shall be appointed to the Board of Trustees. The student member shall: (i) be selected and appointed no later than May 31 of each year; (ii) rotate among the institutions of the University; and (iii) serve a one-year term, beginning July 1 of the year of appointment. The student member of the Board also serves as a voting member of the Education, Research, and Service Committee.

The non-voting student seat on the Board of Trustees rotates to UT Martin for FY 2025-2026. Chancellor Yancy Freeman has recommended the appointment of Ms. Ashlee Mallon, who is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration, with a concentration in Finance, in the College of Business and Global Affairs. A copy of the recommendation letter and supporting materials follow this memorandum.

Board Action

The Chair will call for a motion for consideration and adoption of the following Resolution.

Resolved:

The Board of Trustees hereby appoints Ashlee Mallon as the non-voting, student member of the Board of Trustees for a term beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.



Office of the Chancellor
319 Johnson EPS Building
20 Mt. Pella Road
Martin, TN 38238
office: (731) 881-7500
fax: (731) 881-7019

April 14, 2025

Chairman Compton
University of Tennessee Board of Trustees
UT Tower, Suite 1235
400 W. Summit Hill Dr.
Knoxville, TN 37902

Dear Chairman Compton:

It is with great enthusiasm that I recommend Miss Ashlee Christine Mallon for the position of Student Trustee on the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees. Having closely observed her academic achievements and leadership contributions, I am confident that Miss Mallon would be an exceptional addition to the Board.

Miss Mallon is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance at the University of Tennessee at Martin's College of Business and Global Affairs. She has maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout her academic career, demonstrating her commitment to excellence and strong work ethic. Her academic prowess is further evidenced by her status as valedictorian of her Dresden High School graduating class and her numerous academic honors, including Lion Scholar, Weakley County Scholar, and Tennessee Scholar distinctions.

Beyond her impressive academic credentials, Miss Mallon has established herself as a remarkable student leader. She serves on the UTM College of Business and Global Affairs Student Advisory Board, the Student Government Association Freshman Council, and the Student Alumni Council. She is also an active participant in the Ned Ray McWherter Institute, which has further honed her leadership abilities through weekly seminars with faculty from across campus. Her involvement in these organizations demonstrates her commitment to serving the university community and her desire to make a positive impact.

Miss Mallon's dedication to service extends well beyond campus. Her resume reflects an extraordinary commitment to volunteerism, participating in various service activities spanning university and community initiatives. From disaster relief efforts to youth mentoring programs, Miss Mallon has consistently demonstrated her willingness to give back to her community. This servant leadership mindset would be invaluable to the Board of Trustees.

As a Weakley County native, Miss Mallon brings a unique understanding of the impact that the University of Tennessee at Martin has on the surrounding rural communities. This perspective, combined with her part-time position at a local law firm where she has developed professional communication, collaboration, and management skills, gives her practical insights that would benefit the Board's decision-making processes.



Office of the Chancellor
319 Johnson EPS Building
20 Mt. Pella Road
Martin, TN 38238
office: (731) 881-7500
fax: (731) 881-7019

Dr. Ahmad Tootoonchi, Dean of the College of Business and Global Affairs, has described Miss Mallon as among the top 1% of students he has encountered in terms of intelligence, talent, commitment, dedication, leadership, positive attitude, and work ethic. This assessment speaks volumes about her character and potential to serve effectively as a Student Trustee.

Miss Mallon has expressed her readiness to serve the full term for the Student Trustee position and views this opportunity as a chance to learn from established leaders and advocate for students across the entire UT System. Her commitment to personal responsibility, ethics, honesty, and integrity makes her an ideal representative of the student body on the Board of Trustees.

I strongly recommend Miss Ashlee Mallon as the Student Trustee. Her exceptional academic record, leadership abilities, commitment to service, and unique perspective would make her an invaluable asset to the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yancy E. Freeman'.

Yancy E. Freeman, Sr., PhD
Chancellor



COLLEGE of BUSINESS & GLOBAL AFFAIRS

103 Business Administration Building
 Martin, Tennessee 38238
 Office: 731.881.7306
 Fax: 731.881.7241

Dr. Philip A. Cavalier, Provost
 University of Tennessee at Martin

March 7, 2025

Dear Dr. Cavalier:

After consulting with Dr. Jamye Long and Dr. Paula Moore, I am proud to nominate Miss Ashlee Mallon for an appointment as the Student Member of the Board of Trustees.

Ms. Mallon is an outstanding student in our college majoring in Finance with a perfect GPA of 4.0, and well qualified to be the UTM student representative on the UT Board of Trustees.

As the Dean of CBGA, for the past five years, I have been privileged to interact with hundreds of students and can attest confidently that Ms. Mallon is among the top 1% in terms of intelligence, talent, commitment, dedication, leadership, positive attitudes, and work ethic.

Although she is presently a sophomore entering junior stage, she has already built a strong resume that reflects the depth and breadth of her engagement in institutional and community activities as a leader and/or a significant contributor.

Ms. Mallon has rich work experience with five local companies and is a highly engaged member of the Freshman Council of SGA, Student Alumni Council, and the Student Advisory Council of the College of Business and Global Affairs. She has been the recipient of 12 Awards and Honors and has a remarkable record of 26 volunteer service activities as a leader or a strong contributor as part of her involvement with 16 campus and community organizations.

Ms. Mallon is also a part of the Ned Ray McWherter institute and participates in the institute's weekly leadership seminars to further develop her leadership skills. She was one of the most engaged and impressive members of the Student Advisory Council at the meeting with the AACSB Peer Review Team for reaffirmation of our college's accreditation.

I strongly recommend Ms. Mallon, not only for her outstanding leadership qualities and communication skills, but also for her unwavering commitment to personal responsibility, ethics, honesty, and integrity. In the three colleges that I served as Dean at three universities, she is one of the absolute best students I have been privileged to meet.

Thank you for considering my nomination. For additional information, please contact me via phone: 731-881-7227, or email at tootoonchi@utm.edu.

Sincerely,

Ahmad Tootoonchi, Ph.D.
 Dean, College of Business and Global Affairs



MARTIN

COLLEGE of BUSINESS & GLOBAL AFFAIRS

111 Business Administration Building
 Martin, Tennessee 38238
 Office: 731.861.7226
 Fax: 731.861.7541

March 4, 2025

Dr. Ahmad Tootoonchi
 Dean, College of Business and Global Affairs
 University of Tennessee at Martin
 Martin, TN 38238

Dear Dr. Tootoonchi,

I am honored to apply for the Student Trustee position on the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees. I am ready to serve the full-term for Student Trustee position. I am a Weakley County native, and as such, I understand better than most the influence the University of Tennessee at Martin has on our surrounding area. Serving the University-system in a student leadership role on the Board of Trustees is an opportunity I will cherish. I have always looked up to the leaders in my community, and the leaders I see on our campus inspire me constantly. I would love the opportunity to not only learn more from these leaders but also to leave my mark on the University system through the student trustee role.

I stepped into leadership roles early as a high school student, and I have carried that mentality with me to my college career. Being engaged throughout different organizations in high school has helped me reach out of my comfort zone in college and pursue several new leadership opportunities. I am part of the Student Government Association, having served on the Freshmen Council. I am running for an SGA senator position for the upcoming school year, too. I am a member of the Student Alumni Council, and I also serve on the College of Business and Global Affairs Student Advisory Board. Through my role on the CBGA Student Advisory Board, I met with the AACSB accreditation representatives last fall to discuss the business school's performance, courses, and extracurricular activities. I am also part of the Ned Ray McWherter Institute and participate in weekly leadership seminars with faculty from across the campus through that program. I have pursued each of these opportunities with the hope of improving my leadership and communication skills while collaboratively working with other students and faculty. These organizations have helped shape my skills by further enhancing me to strive to seek higher accountability, active engagement, and more meaningful insights to improve both my college experience as well as my fellow students.

In addition to my schoolwork and leadership activities, I also have a part time position at Rainey, Kizer, Reviere, and Bell PLC in Martin. I work alongside some of the most admired attorneys in the state, and I have accumulated basic managing skills for an office while becoming exposed to customer service and the organization behind an attorney's workload. My role at the law firm allows me to strengthen my communication,



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Martin, Tennessee 38238
Office: 731.881.7226
Fax: 731.881.7541

collaboration, management, adaptability, and professional skills. After college, I want to attend law school and eventually return to Weakley County to practice law. My position at Rainey, Kizer, Reviere, and Bell PLC is preparing me for my future along with my extracurriculars.

I believe I can contribute meaningfully to the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees. I have worked hard to hone my leadership and communication skills, and I know I can be an asset to the board. I also believe serving on the board will amplify my skills on both personal and professional levels. I have high aspirations for my future and becoming the Student Trustee will expose me to new learning opportunities that have no substitutes. I love the idea that I will be an advocate not only for students at the local UTM campus but also across the state at all UT System schools!

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to the opportunity to serve and contribute to the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees as the Student Trustee.

Sincerely,

Ashlee Mallon

Ashlee C. Mallon

Education

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE at MARTIN; Martin, TN
College of Business & Global Affairs, AACSB Accredited
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Finance; May 2026

- [REDACTED]

Bethel University; McKenzie, TN (Fall 2022- Spring 2024)

- Dual Enrollment

- [REDACTED]

Dresden High School; Dresden, TN | Diploma; May 2024

- [REDACTED]

- Valedictorian

- Graduated with Highest Honors and Distinction, Lion Scholar, Weakley County Scholar, Tennessee Scholar

- Certifications: Southwest Airlines Personal Communications

Express Employment Professionals Business Office Technology

Work Experience:

Rainey, Kizer, Reviere & Bell, PLC (Current)- File Clerk/Receptionist

Wendell Alexander Realty – (Work-based learning January 2024-May 2024) Intern

Moore Farms (June 2022-July 2022)

Entrusted with care of children ages 9 months to 3 years and pets

Campaigned for Collin Johnson for District Attorney Campaign

Organizations/Activities/Positions of Leadership

UTM College of Business and Global Affairs Student Advisory Board

UTM Student Government Association Freshman Council

Student Government Association Student Affairs Committee

Financial Management Association

Phi Eta Sigma Honors Society

UTM Student Alumni Council

Ned Ray McWherter Institute

National Society of Leadership and Success

Entrepreneurship Class Enterprise: Chief Executive Officer (CEO) (12)

National Beta Club Member (9, 10, 11, 12): Vice President (12), Secretary (11)

FBLA Member (9, 10, 11, 12): Vice President of Communications and Marketing (12), Student Council Representative (11), Class Representative (9, 10)

National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS) (12)

Student Council Member (9, 10, 11, 12): President (12), FBLA Representative and event planning committee (11), Class Representative (9, 10)

Class Officer: Vice President (12), Vice President (11), Vice President (10), President (9)

First Community Bank Leadership Weakley County Team Leader 2022

Awards/Honors/Recognitions

College of Business and Global Affairs Travel Fund Award

Student Government Association Travel Fund Award

Chancellor's Travel Fund Award

Dresden Foundation 2024 Scholarship Recipient

Dresden Elks Lodge #2373 2024 Scholarship Recipient

National Elks Lodge Legacy 2024 Scholarship Recipient

National Elks Lodge Most Valuable Student Quarter-Finalist

Kaci Bailey 2024 Academic Scholarship Recipient

Tennessee Iris Festival Scholarship Recipient

UTM Chancellor's Scholarship 2024 Recipient
 College of Business and Global Affairs Student Representative for the UT Board of Trustees
 First Community Bank Leadership Weakley County Graduate 2022

Volunteer Experience

- *City of Martin Downtown Great Pumpkin Parade
- *Student Government Association Flood Relief Drive
- *College of Business and Global Affairs AACSB luncheon
- *Student Government Association Quad City Booth
- *Student Government Association Freshmen Council Spring Event- collecting art supplies for the county schools
- *Dresden Middle School Lion's Den Christmas Shopping Day
- *Weakley County Nursing Home Christmas Decorating Project
- *Dresden Elks Lodge – Hoop Shoot, monthly newsletters, Businessmen's Dinners
- *2021 Tornado Relief sponsored by Dresden Elks Lodge
- *Bring Christmas to Dresden Project 2021
- *Breakfast for Heroes 2023
- *UTM Rodeo Booster Club
- *Dresden Quarterback Club: - Golf Tournament, WAMCO fireworks tent, Dresden Lions Youth Football Camp
- *UT Martin 2023 Kid's College
- *Dresden Rotary Club- Weakley County Backpack Program
- *Tennessee Iris Festival— event planning, Opening Ceremony set-up
- *Tennessee Iris Festival 2024 Pageants Emcee
- *Dresden Rotary Club Thanksgiving Turkey Trot
- *West Teach Education Summit 2023
- *Weakley County Prevention Coalition – Magical Martin and Drugs are Despicable Campaigns
- *First Community Bank Leadership Weakley County – DiversiCare Christmas Decorating Project
- *High School Freshman Orientation Leader
- *Dresden Pee Wee Basketball Program-volunteer coach, referee, entry gate, concessions, score table
- *City Of Dresden: "Trunk or Treat" Volunteer
- *Dresden First Baptist Church Nursery-assistant teacher
- *Kaci Bailey Youth Basketball Camp



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: May 16, 2025

Item: **Appointment of a Faculty Member to the Education, Research, and Service Committee**

Type: Action

Presenter: John C. Compton, Chair

Background Information

Pursuant to state law and the Bylaws, the Education, Research, and Service Committee of the Board of Trustees shall include a full-time faculty member, who shall serve as a voting member of such committee. The faculty member shall: (i) be selected and appointed no later than May 31 of each year; (ii) rotate among the institutions of the University; and (iii) serve a one-year term, beginning July 1 of the year of appointment.

For the first time, the faculty seat rotates to the University of Tennessee Southern for FY 2025-2026. Dr. Linda Martin, Chancellor, has recommended the appointment of Kenneth W. Vickers, PhD, who serves as Professor of History, Chair of the School of Social Sciences, and Coordinator of the History Program. A copy of the recommendation letter and supporting materials follow this memorandum.

Board Action

The Chair will call for a motion for consideration and adoption of the following Resolution.

Resolved:

The Board of Trustees hereby appoints Dr. Kenneth W. Vickers as a voting member of the Education, Research, and Service Committee for a term beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.



Office of the Chancellor
 433 W. Madison Street
 Pulaski, TN 38478
 Phone: 931-363-9800
utsouthern.edu/about/chancellor

MEMORANDUM

TO: John Compton, Chair of the UT Board of Trustees

FROM: Linda C. Martin, Chancellor

DATE: May 7, 2025

RE: Nomination of Dr. Kenneth W. Vickers to the Education, Research, and Service Committee

It is my pleasure to write in strong support of Dr. Kenneth W. Vickers' proposed appointment as the faculty representative from the University of Tennessee Southern to the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees Education, Research, and Service (ERS) Committee. Provost & Vice Chancellor, Dr. Prentice Chandler, forwarded Dr. Kenneth W. Vickers for consideration. Dr. Vickers has been fully vetted and has the strong support of Provost Chandler.

Dr. Vickers is a dedicated scholar, seasoned academic leader, and respected voice among our faculty. Over the course of his nearly two decades at our institution, he has exemplified the highest standards of teaching, service, and collegiality. He currently serves as Professor of History, Chair of the School of Social Sciences, and Coordinator of the History Program—a role he personally shaped when he designed the curriculum that continues to guide our students today.

His deep institutional knowledge, built from years of service at both Martin Methodist College and now UT Southern, positions him uniquely to contribute meaningfully to system-wide discussions. Dr. Vickers has been an active member of the University of Tennessee Faculty Council and currently serves on the editorial board of the University of Tennessee Press. These roles have given him important insight into the broader mission, governance, and academic priorities of the UT System.

Dr. Vickers brings not only academic rigor to the table, but also the kind of thoughtful pragmatism and historical perspective that will serve this Board well. He understands the importance of shared governance and the role faculty play in advancing student success and institutional excellence. His voice is grounded in experience, guided by principle, and delivered with clarity and respect.

I wholeheartedly support Dr. Vickers' appointment and am confident he will represent UT Southern with distinction, thoughtfulness, and a spirit of collaboration that strengthens our collective work across the UT System.

Curriculum Vitae

Kenneth W. Vickers

The University of Tennessee Southern
433 West Madison Street
Pulaski, Tennessee 38478
Email: vickers@utsouthern.edu

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Mississippi State University, May 2000
Dissertation: “T. S. Stribling, 1881-1965: A Life of the Tennessee Novelist,” directed by E. Stanly Godbold, Jr.
- M.A., Mississippi State University, July 1993
Thesis: “John Rankin: Democrat and Demagogue,” directed by E. Stanly Godbold, Jr.
- B.S., University of North Alabama, May 1991

FIELDS OF STUDY

- American South
- American West
- European History to 1500
- American Social and Cultural History
- United States History to 1877
- United States History since 1877

COURSES TAUGHT

Renaissance and Reformation
The American West
The American West in Film (special topics)
Social and Cultural History of the United States
Religion in America (team-taught)
The Comic Book in American History
The American South
Tennessee History
Multiculturalism in America
Native American History (special topics)
The United States since 1945
America and the Vietnam Conflict
American Environmental History
American Environment in Film
Sustainability
American Music and American History (team-taught)
Jeffersonian and Jacksonian America, 1800-1848
American Civil War Era, 1848-1877
Civil War in Tennessee (special topics travel class)
United States History to 1877 and United States History since 1877

Western Civilization to 1500 and Western Civilization since 1500
World Civilization to 1500 and World Civilization since 1500

UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Professor of History, Chair of the School of Social Sciences, and Coordinator of the History Program, University of Tennessee Southern/Martin Methodist College, fall 2016 to present, promoted from Associate Professor of History and Coordinator of the History Program, Martin Methodist College, fall 2010 to fall 2016, promoted from Assistant Professor of History and Coordinator of the History Program, Martin Methodist College, fall 2005 to fall 2010.

Visiting Assistant Professor of History, Mississippi University for Women, fall 2003 to summer 2005.

Instructor of History, Mississippi State University, spring 2003.

Visiting Assistant Professor of History, University of North Alabama, fall 2001 to spring 2002.

Instructor of History, Mississippi State University, summer 2001.

Instructor of History, Mississippi State University, fall 2000 to spring 2001.

Instructor of History, Mississippi State University, summer 1994.

Teaching Assistant/Instructor History, Mississippi State University, fall 1994 to spring 1996, spring 1997, spring 1999, and spring 2000.

Professor's teaching assistant, Mississippi State University, fall 1992 to spring 1994.

UNIVERSITY, SYSTEM, AND COLLEGE SERVICE

Chair of the School of Social Sciences, University of Tennessee Southern/Martin Methodist College, fall 2016 to present.

Coordinator of the History Program, University of Tennessee Southern/Martin Methodist College, fall 2005 to present.

Member, The University of Tennessee Faculty Council, The University of Tennessee System, fall 2021 to spring 2023.

Member, The University of Tennessee Press Editorial Board, The University of Tennessee System, fall 2021 to present.

Director of the W. Garie Taylor Honors Program, Martin Methodist College, summer 2018 to summer 2021.

Creator of the History Program Curriculum, Martin Methodist College, fall 2005.

Member, Academic Council, University of Tennessee Southern/Martin Methodist College, fall 2016 to present.

Member, Curriculum and Academic Policy Committee, University of Tennessee Southern/Martin Methodist College, fall 2005 to present.

Chair, Criminal Justice Faculty Position Search Committee, University of Tennessee Southern, fall 2021 to spring 2022.

Chair, W. Garie Taylor Honors Program Committee, Martin Methodist College, summer 2018 to summer 2021.

Chair, Post-Tenure Review Committee, University of Tennessee Southern/Martin Methodist College, fall 2020 to present.

Member, Sustainability Task Force, University of Tennessee Southern/Martin Methodist College, fall 2019 to present.

Member, Promotion and Tenure Committee, Martin Methodist College, fall 2018 to fall 2020.

Member, Enrollment Unit, University of Tennessee Southern, fall 2020 to summer 2021.

Member, Martin Methodist Sesquicentennial Committee, Martin Methodist College, spring 2019 to fall 2021.

Member, Teacher Education Committee, University of Tennessee Southern/Martin Methodist College, fall 2005 to present.

Member, Assessment Committee, University of Tennessee/Southern/Martin Methodist College, fall 2016 to present.

Member, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges Compliance Report Committee, Martin Methodist College, fall 2017 to spring 2019.

Co-Chair SACSCOC Faculty Compliance Committee, Martin Methodist College, fall 2017 to spring 2019.

Co-sponsor, Tennessee Xi Chapter, University of Tennessee Southern/Alpha Chi National Honor Society, fall 2015 to present.

Chair, History Faculty Position Search Committee, Martin Methodist College, fall 2012 to spring 2013.

Member, Post-Tenure Review Committee, Martin Methodist College, fall 2011 to fall 2014.

Member, Mission Review Committee, Martin Methodist College, fall 2010 to present.

Member, Library Building Taskforce, Martin Methodist College, fall 2010 to present

Member, Core Curriculum Committee, Martin Methodist College, fall 2009 to fall 2019.

Faculty fellow, Center for Teaching Excellence, Martin Methodist College, fall 2013 to summer 2015.

Chair, History Faculty Position Search Committee, Martin Methodist College, fall 2007-2008.

Faculty senator, Martin Methodist College, fall 2007 to summer 2009.

Member, 4-1-4 Semester Calendar Proposal Committee, Martin Methodist College, fall 2007 to fall 2009.

Member, Core Curriculum Requirement Oversight Committee, Martin Methodist College, fall 2007 to fall 2009.

Member, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Accreditation Compliance Oversight Committee, Martin Methodist College, spring 2007 to spring 2008.

Co-Chair, SACS Student Affairs Compliance Committee, Martin Methodist College, spring 2007 to spring 2008.

Chair, SACS Library Compliance Committee, Martin Methodist College, spring 2007 to spring 2008.

Faculty Assistant, W. Garie Taylor Honors Program, Martin Methodist College, fall 2005 to 2011.

Member, Library Committee, Martin Methodist College, fall 2005 to spring 2010.

Faculty Co-Sponsor, Pi Gamma Mu, Martin Methodist College, fall 2005 to present.

Member, South by Southwest Classic Film Series Committee, Martin Methodist College, fall 2005 to 2007.

Member, Martin Scholars Award Interview Committee, Martin Methodist College, February 2006 and February 2007.

Member, Summer School Oversight Committee, Martin Methodist College, spring 2006.

Member, McDevitt Scholarship Interview Committee, Mississippi University for Women, February 19, 2005.

Member, Hearin High School Leadership Conference Interview Committee, Mississippi University for Women, January 22, 2005.

Member, Scholars' Day Interview Committee, Mississippi University for Women, December 4, 2004.

Associate Editor for the *Mississippi Quarterly*, Mississippi State University, June 2000 to August 2001.

Graduate Research Assistant for the *Mississippi Quarterly*, Mississippi State University, June 1997 to May 2000.

PUBLICATIONS

Book

T.S. Stribling: A Life of the Tennessee Novelist. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2004.

Article

"Forgotten but Not Gone." *Humanities Tennessee*. www.chapter16.org. July 8, 2016.

Reviews

James C. Cobb. *C. Vann Woodward: America's Historian*. Reviewed for *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, Winter 2022, 406-407.

Emily Satterwhite. *Dear Appalachia: Readers, Identity, and Popular Fiction since 1878*. Reviewed for *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, Summer 2013, 151-53.

Tiffany Ruby Patterson. *Zora Neale Hurston and a History of Southern Life*. Reviewed for *Florida Historical Quarterly*, Spring 2007, 590-92.

Glenn Feldman, editor. *Reading Southern History: Essays on Interpreters and Interpretations*. Reviewed for *Alabama Review*, July 2003, 208-10.

Bertram Wyatt-Brown. *The Shaping of Southern Culture: Honor, Grace, and War, 1760s-1880s*. Reviewed for *Mississippi Quarterly*, Spring 2002, 276-79.

PAPERS PRESENTED/SESSIONS MODERATED

Moderator, “Multidisciplinary,” 2023 Alpha Chi National Convention, Albuquerque, New Mexico, April 1, 2023.

“The Church of the Messiah,” Lenten Series on Historical Tennessee Churches, St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, Columbia, Tennessee, March 22, 2023.

“The Impact of the American Revolution upon the Episcopal Church,” Tombigbee Chapter of the Tennessee Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, Columbia, Tennessee, January 9, 2023.

“A Brief History of the Industrialization of Food Production and Food Safety,” The MPH (Microbiology/ Public Health/History) Film Fest, The University of Tennessee Southern, Pulaski, Tennessee, October 13, 2022.

Moderator, “Ukrainian FireHawk Forum,” The University of Tennessee Southern, Pulaski, Tennessee, March 8, 2022.

“A History of the University of Tennessee Southern: The Brand New 151-Year-Old University,” The Giles County Historical Society, Pulaski, Tennessee, July 25, 2021.

“150 Years of Martin Methodist College History,” Martin Methodist College, Pulaski, Tennessee, October 17, 2019.

“Martin Methodist College: Early Opportunities and Present Possibilities,” Pulaski Rotary Club, Pulaski, Tennessee, August 20, 2018.

“Ways West: The Santa Fe and Overland Trails,” Polk’s America Lecture Series, President James K. Polk Home and Museum, St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, Columbia, Tennessee, February 20, 2018.

“An ‘Established Church’ for Early America?” Daughters of the American Revolution Luncheon, Pulaski, Tennessee, February 13, 2017.

Commentator, “Puritans in England and America,” Phi Alpha Theta Regional Conference, University of Tennessee at Martin, Martin, Tennessee, April 1, 2017.

“The Rocky Mountain Fur Trade,” “Polk’s America” Lecture Series, President James K. Polk Home and Museum, St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, Columbia, Tennessee, October 25, 2016.

“T. S. Stribling and the Pulitzer Prize: A Commemoration,” Alabama Writers’ Forum’s Alabama Writers Hall of Fame Temporary Exhibit, Florence-Lauderdale County Public Library, Florence, Alabama, October 16, 2016.

“Teaching Multiculturalism,” The Lawrence County Organization for Community Improvement Lawrence County Black History Month Celebration, Coleman Memorial United Methodist Church, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, March 1, 2015.

“Memory and Place in T. S. Stribling’s Trilogy,” 6th Annual Alabama Regional Graduate Conference, University of North Alabama, February 27, 2015.

Judge, Best Student Paper, 6th Annual Alabama Regional Graduate Conference, University of North Alabama, February 28, 2015.

Panelist, Doctoral Programs: Ensuring a Successful Experience, 6th Annual Alabama Regional Graduate Conference, University of North Alabama, February 28, 2015.

“Memory and Place in T. S. Stribling’s Trilogy,” Faculty Project Forum, Center for Teaching Excellence, Martin Methodist College, February 23, 2015.

“A Vineyard of Disaster: The Environmental Background to John Steinbeck’s *The Grapes of Wrath*,” *The Grapes of Wrath* at 75, Alabama Humanities Foundation Series at the Florence-Lauderdale County Public Library, Florence, Alabama, April 6, 2014.

“Sustainability, Stewardship, and Martin Methodist College,” Center for Teaching Excellence, Martin Methodist College, February 24, 2014.

Speaker and Moderator, “Sustainability and the Core,” W. Garie Taylor Honors Program Big Picture Discussion, Martin Methodist College, February 18, 2014.

“Mark Twain as a Social Historian,” The Big Read, Martin Methodist College, March 23, 2009.

Speaker and Moderator, “What is the Burden of Democracy?” W. Garie Taylor Honors Program Big Picture Discussion, Martin Methodist College, November 11, 2008.

“From Over There to That Old Ennui: How War, Prohibition, and Jazz Influenced the 1920s,” The Big Read, Martin Methodist College, February 21, 2008.

Moderator, *The Manchurian Candidate*, South by Southwest Classic Film Series, Martin Methodist College, September 23, 2007.

Speaker and Moderator, “American Exceptionalism: Does America Have a Special Mandate?” W. Garie Taylor Honors Program Big Picture Discussion, Martin Methodist College, January 23, 2007.

Moderator, *Birth of a Nation*, South by Southwest Classic Film Series, Martin Methodist College, October 1, 2006.

Reading from *T. S. Stribling: A Life of the Tennessee Novelist*, W. Garie Taylor Honors Program, Martin Methodist College, January 22, 2006.

Moderator, *Kippur*, 2004-2005 International Film Series, Mississippi University for Women, February 15, 2005.

Moderator, Sixteenth Annual Eudora Welty Writers' Symposium, Mississippi University for Women, October 15, 2004.

"Autobiography and the Biographer," T.S. Stribling Conference, Florence, Alabama, March 5-6, 2004.

"Dr. Poggioli's Assistant: The Detective Fiction of T.S. Stribling," Mississippi Philological Association Meeting, Mississippi University for Women, January 30, 2004.

Moderator, "Biography and Autobiography," 2003 Fine Arts Festival, T.S. Stribling: Of this Place: Our Literary Voices, University of North Alabama, March 8, 2003.

"Southern Literature," "History and Historical Fiction," "Mystery Literature," Panelist, 2003 Fine Arts Festival, T.S. Stribling: Of this Place: Our Literary Voices, University of North Alabama, March 7, 2003.

"Alexander Hamilton," Lea Timmons Memorial Class, Institute for Learning in Retirement, University of North Alabama, March 11, 2002.

"T.S. Stribling and Southern Literature," Panelist, Second Annual Stribling Day, Stribling Committee of Heritage Preservation, Florence, Alabama, March 3, 2002.

"Was I Right or Wrong?": The Questions of the Spirit in Lynyrd Skynyrd's Music," Mississippi Phi Alpha Theta State Meeting, Mississippi State University, March 1995.

"John E. Rankin: Mississippi Anti-Semite," Southwestern Social Science Association, San Antonio, Texas, March 31, 1994.

"John C. Calhoun and the Concurrent Majority," Mississippi Phi Alpha Theta State Meeting, Mississippi College, March 26, 1994.

"John Rankin: Demagogue," Mississippi Phi Alpha Theta State Meeting, University of Mississippi, March 20, 1993.

EDITORIAL WORK

Editorial Board Member. Advance Contract Approval. Katie Taylor, "Invaded by Daughters of Eve': Women on the Gridiron, 1890-1960" (working title). University of Tennessee Press. October 2023. Publication Pending.

Editorial Board Member. Approval for Advance Contract. Lee Riedinger, Al Ekkebus, Ray Smith, and William Bugg, "Critical Connections: How Partnerships

Forged at the Dawn of the Atomic Age Helped Transform a University, a National Laboratory, and a City.” University of Tennessee Press. January 2023. Publication Pending.

Editorial Board Member. Approval for Advance Contract. Lukasz Muniowski, “Vancouver to Memphis” (working title). University of Tennessee Press. May 2022. Publication Pending.

Manuscript Editor. Morgan Bingham, “Henry I, ‘Lion of Justice’: A Norman Approach to English Law, *Aletheia: The Alpha Chi Journal of Undergraduate Scholarship* 1, no. 4 (2016): 2-12.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS RECEIVED

Apprentice Bourbon Taster, Certificate of General Completion in General Whiskey Studies, Whiskey University, May 2023.

Certificate in Campus Sustainability Leadership, School of Continuing Education, University of Vermont, June 2012.

Fellowship, National Endowment for the Humanities Seminar, “Faulkner and Southern History,” Vanderbilt University, June 9-July 11, 2003.

Graduate research assistantship, *Mississippi Quarterly*, Mississippi State University, June 1997 to May 2000.

Teaching assistantship, Mississippi State University, Department of History, fall and spring of 1992-1996 academic years, spring of 1997, 1999, 2000 academic years.

Snellgrove Fund Dissertation Research Travel Grant, Mississippi State University, Department of History, spring of 1996 and 1997.

Dissertation fellowship, Mississippi State University, Department of History, fall 1996.

AWARDS

Fred E. Ford Exemplary Teaching Award, Martin Methodist College, May 2014.

Redhawks Athletics S.O.A.R. (Success Over and Above the Rest) Award, Martin Methodist College, September 2014.

Gamma Beta Phi’s Outstanding Teacher of 2005-2006, Martin Methodist College, May 2006.

MEMBERSHIPS

- American Society for Environmental History, 2009-Present
- Western Literature Association, 2008-Present
- Tennessee Historical Society, 2003-Present
- Western History Association, 2003-Present
- Sigma Tau Delta, 2014-Present
- Pi Gamma Mu, 2005-Present
- Southern Historical Association
- Phi Alpha Theta, 1990-Present
- ---President, Gamma Nu chapter 1993-1994
- ---Vice-president, Gamma Nu chapter 1992-1993
- ---Secretary, Rho-Beta chapter 1990-1991
- Phi Eta Sigma, Freshman Honor Society, 1988



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

3.1

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: May 16, 2025

Item: **Proposed Budget Increase - Presidential Court Building Renovation, UTK**

Type: Action

Presenter(s): David L. Miller, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Austin Oakes, Associate Vice President, Capital Projects

Background Information

Based on the architect and construction manager's budget recommendations, the University Administration is requesting a \$10,455,000 increase in the Presidential Court Building Renovation project ("Project") at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, to account for increased costs associated with programmatic requirements and market escalation that have been identified since the original planning was completed.

In June 2021, the Board of Trustees approved the disclosure of the Project as part of a schedule of additional revenue/institutionally funded capital projects for the FY 2022-23 capital budget. The approved budget for the Project was in the amount of \$30,000,000, to be financed with Plant Funds (Non-Auxiliary).

The University Administration is seeking approval of a revised, aggregate Project budget of \$40,455,000, to be financed with Plant Funds (\$28,577,875 (Non-Auxiliary) and \$11,877,125 (Auxiliary-Dining)).

Board Action

The Chair will call for a motion for consideration and adoption of the following Resolution.

Resolved:

The Board of Trustees hereby approves: (i) a budget increase in the amount of \$10,455,000 for the Presidential Court Building Renovations project at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville ("Project"); and (ii) an aggregate budget of \$40,455,000 for the Project, to be financed with Plant Funds (\$28,577,875 (Non-Auxiliary) and \$11,877,125 (Auxiliary-Dining)). Such budget modifications shall be subject to the University receiving any required state government approvals. Further, the proper officers of the University are hereby authorized to take any and all such actions as may be required or which they may deem necessary or appropriate in order to accomplish the foregoing.



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

3.2

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: May 16, 2025

Item: Proposed Naming - College of Law, UTK

Type: Action

Presenter: Randy Boyd, President

Background Information

Pursuant to the Board of Trustees Policy on Naming of Facilities and Other Assets (BT0017), the Board of Trustees has reserved to itself the naming of key assets of the University, including colleges, schools, and programs.

The Bill Gatton Foundation has made a transformational commitment to establish an endowment to benefit the College of Law at University of Tennessee, Knoxville, in honor of Mr. Frank Winston. A 1952 honor graduate of the College of Law, Mr. Winston practiced in Bristol, Tennessee, for 40 years, subsequently joining Mr. Gatton as counsel for his many enterprises for the next 25 years. Mr. Winston's distinguished career included service in the Tennessee House of Representatives, where he was the youngest member of the state legislature at the time of his election in 1955. The endowment will support two distinct fellowship opportunities for students with a focus on public interest and business law. Additionally, financial grants are anticipated to be made to 50 deserving students annually.

Attached is Chancellor Plowman's recommendation letter pertaining to the proposed naming recognition. The recommendation has the full support of President Boyd, and the proposed naming is consistent with the Board's policy.

Board Action

The Chair will call for a motion for the consideration and adoption of the following Resolution.

Resolved:

In grateful recognition of the philanthropic generosity of The Bill Gatton Foundation, the Board of Trustees hereby approves the naming of the College of Law at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville as "The University of Tennessee Frank Winston College of Law," and the current facility housing the college shall be known as the "Frank Winston Law Building." The duration of the naming of the college and the facility shall be consistent with the Board's Policy on Naming of Facilities and Other Key Assets.



May 1, 2025

Randy Boyd
President, University of Tennessee System
UT Tower #1288
505 Summer Place
Knoxville, TN 37902

Dear President Boyd:

In accordance with the Board of Trustees' Policy on Naming of Facilities and Other Assets and the Board-approved Guidelines for Naming Opportunities and Endowments, the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, seeks approval to name the Frank Winston College of Law and the Frank Winston College of Law Building.

The Bill Gatton Foundation has recently made a transformational commitment to establish an endowment to name the college in memory of law alumnus Frank Winston ('52). This gift meets the requirements for naming a college unit as outlined by the Board of Trustees and will have a dramatic impact on the students and faculty for years to come.

The proposal to name the college in memory of Mr. Winston aligns with his known passions: law, the Tennessee Volunteers, and public service to the State of Tennessee and his community.

Thank you for considering this fitting tribute from the Bill Gatton Foundation to honor Mr. Winston's legacy at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Sincerely,

Donde Plowman, Ph.D.
Chancellor

cc: Brian Broyles, Senior Vice Chancellor of Advancement
Kerry Witcher, UTFI President
Paul Byrnes, Senior Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration
Lonnie Brown, College of Law Dean

Office of the Chancellor
800 Andy Holt Tower 1331 Circle Park Drive Knoxville, TN 37996-0180
865-974-3265 chancellor.utk.edu