



Joe DiPietro

UT Institute of Agriculture Vision and Mission

A saying about vision by Harvard Business School Professor Rosabeth Moss Kanter that I like is: "A vision is not just a picture of what could be; it is an appeal to our better selves, a call to become something more." To my mind, that describes the Institute's Vision and Mission Statement, which we have recently been in the process of revising and refining. It's meant to encapsulate who we are and what we can become.

The mission and vision are still a work in progress. I have received considerable input from many already that we are considering, and we value additional thoughts on how we can improve them.

Vision: To plant knowledge, cultivate discovery, and harvest solutions for economic growth.

Mission: The University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture embodies the University of Tennessee's commitment to its land-grant mission, providing teaching, research, and outreach through the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, the College of Veterinary Medicine, UT AgResearch, and UT Extension for the benefit of citizens in Tennessee, the region, nation, and world.

The functions of the Institute help to increase agricultural productivity and income, protect and improve the environment through stewardship of natural resources, and promote the health, safety, and economic well-being of individuals, families, and communities. The Institute's programs improve the lives, interests, and well-being of students, farmers, families, youth, forest landowners, agribusiness, state and federal governmental agencies, consumers, the general public, and their livestock and companion animals.

As it pursues all activities in support of its mission, the UT Institute of Agriculture is committed to civil rights, equal employment, and affirmative action, which contribute to cultural and ethnic diversity.

The Institute fulfills its mission by:

- Providing comprehensive, high-quality undergraduate, graduate, and veterinary medicine

degree programs through incorporating the latest curricula and teaching methods appropriate to meet student and societal needs, consistent with the goals of lifelong learning, ethics, and leadership, ultimately producing graduates qualified to compete for employment at the national and international level.

- Attracting and maintaining a uniquely qualified, nationally and internationally recognized teaching, research, and Extension faculty and staff.
- Maintaining a strong and unbiased basic and applied research program to support all segments of the agriculture and natural resources communities and placing emphases on critical issues such as plant, animal and human health; a safe, nutritious and plentiful food supply; natural resource sustainability; environmental quality; renewable energy; and animal reproduction programs.
- Maintaining and enhancing the specialized teaching, research, and clinical services of the College of Veterinary Medicine.
- Providing outstanding educational programs and outreach in Tennessee's 95 counties to enhance productive and sustainable agricultural and natural resources industries, strengthen families and youth, and make our communities better places to live, work, and enjoy life.

Vision and Mission continued page 5

Curt Pate Featured at Steak and Potatoes Field Day

Renowned stockmanship instructor Curt Pate will be the featured speaker at the Steak and Potatoes Field Day. The event starts at 8 a.m. on Aug. 4 at the **Plateau AgResearch and Education Center in Crossville.**

Working with live cattle, Pate will demonstrate the low-stress cattle handling techniques for which he is so famous. His appearance is part of a national Stockmanship and Stewardship Tour. For more information, call the Center at 931-484-0034.



Curt Pate

What's news

- » **Sumner County 4-H** will receive a **first place award** for the **Special Project of the Year from the National Energy Education Development Program**. The award is for the group's "**Sumner County Keeping Green**" curriculum. Sumner County 4-H organized educational programs as part of a family fun night in October. They were entertained by the "Energy Vampire," who drains power through his wasteful ways. Other events included hayrides where kids learned about the chemical use of hand warmers, energy tips for Trick or Treaters, and tours of a biodiesel shop at a local high school. The 4-H'ers also held photography, poster, and recycled craft contests and performed energy skits.
- » **Adrienne Roach**, a doctoral student in the **Department of Food Science and Technology**, was awarded a **W.K. McClure Scholarship** from the **McClure Fund for the Study of World Affairs**. Roach will work in the parasitology group of Dr. Volker Heussler at the **Bernhard-Nocht-Institute for Tropical Medicine** in Hamburg, Germany. The goal of Roach's summer abroad is to evaluate the capabilities of the casein micelle, the major protein in milk, as a suitable carrier for triclosan and its potential use as an antimalarial agent.
- » **Michael Davidson**, professor and head of **Food Science and Technology**, **has been elected to the board of directors of the Institute of Food Technologists**, a professional scientific society with 15,000 members working in food science, food technology, and related professions in industry, academia, and government. The Board of Directors is composed of twelve members who serve three-year terms and are elected by society members. The board is responsible for governance of the society. It ensures that the institute has a clearly established direction and oversees the resources of the institute. Davidson continues as scientific co-editor of the *Journal of Food Protection*.

UT AgResearch Mission:

Enhancing the Lives of Citizens of Tennessee and the World through Research Excellence in Agriculture and Food Systems and Natural Resource Management



*by Bill Brown
Dean, AgResearch*

Great institutions are known for their current accomplishments and history of excellence. They have a culture of productivity that transcends generations of employees. These institutions have successfully identified output measures that constitute great performance. They have identified and found solutions for the factors that impede great performance, and they have implemented the conditions necessary for achieving great performance.

Bill Brown

In the business sector, money is judged as an input and output. In social organizations such as universities, performance is most often measured relative to the organization's mission; return on investment is not measured in strict financial terms. **In a university**, funding (state, federal, extramural) is an essential resource for program implementation; however, **our value is judged based on our effectiveness at delivering our mission, which results in a distinctive impact on society.**

A challenge for social sector organizations is identifying and quantifying the output measures that lead to effective mission delivery. A great land-grant institution is one that delivers sustained superior performance over the short and long term; it has an established culture of productivity and excellence. A great-land grant university has very loyal customers. **Our public must think of us as an economic engine that drives the state's economy and as a source of reliable, unbiased information that provides solutions to their questions and challenges.** In this way, a great-land grant institution fulfills a mission that makes a contribution that sets it apart from the crowd.

Several activities currently underway are designed to help AgResearch address the issues discussed above. A faculty-based committee, representing all academic departments including faculty engaged in basic and applied research and extension, is identifying measures of research productivity that will assist us in raising our stature as a premier land-grant research university. This committee's report will be forwarded to academic departments for faculty discussion and quantification of the identified research productivity measures. Another faculty-based committee is discussing grantsmanship within UTIA and developing strategies and procedures to assist in obtaining increased extramural funding as a means of enhancing our mission. Additionally, each academic department has submitted a list of highly respected scientific journals in their disciplines along with a list of peer institutions that enjoy high national regard. We are benchmarking UTIA faculty publications in these journals relative to the peer institutions. Further, through the USDA CRIS (Current Research Information System), we are summarizing financial and personnel data (state and federal support, grantsmanship, faculty and staff FTE) for UT AgResearch relative to peer and southern region institutions.

These activities will help us identify goals for research productivity and establish effective mechanisms and infrastructure for achieving these goals. I am confident that these results will also show that UTIA faculty programs are already very competitive and productive regionally and nationally and these efforts will help to further establish a culture of excellence and effectiveness in our research programs. 🌱

Research Profile: The AgResearch and Education Center at Greeneville

We interviewed **Center Director Rob Ellis** about what the **AgResearch and Education Center at Greeneville** offers Institute scientists.

Describe your location and general facilities.

The AgResearch and Education Center at Greeneville is located in southern Greene County, six miles south of the county seat of Greeneville in upper East Tennessee. The Center consists of 500 owned acres with an additional 295 leased acres that adjoin the Center. Approximately 600 acres of the 795 acres are suitable for crops, pasture, and hay. The Center was established in 1932 with research focused primarily on developing improved varieties and production practices in burley tobacco. Our location is highly suitable for research conducted in burley tobacco, forage production, and beef cattle production.

How many and what types of employees work at your Center?

There are currently 11 full-time employees, consisting of the director, an administrative specialist, two research associates, a farm crew leader, a research technician, a senior equipment operator, three senior field workers, and one field worker.

What does your Center offer faculty in terms of land and infrastructure resources?

The Center consists mostly of open uplands best suited for grazing and pasture. This land would be well utilized in grazing studies and larger plot forage trials. There is adequate acreage for intensive, small plot studies of tobacco. The Center has up-to-date equipment from tractors to planting and hay equipment. A relatively new addition to our equipment inventory is a self-propelled, small plot forage harvester capable of handling a wide range of forage crops from grasses and legumes up to larger species such as switchgrass. A six-foot no-till drill gives us flexibility to plant small plots or large acreages. We have approximately 5,000 square

feet of glass-covered, heated and cooled greenhouse space available, as well as two heated 3,360 square feet plastic houses used to produce tobacco transplants.

Tell us about current research and extension projects underway at your Center.

Our research efforts focus mainly on burley tobacco production. The Center has long been recognized as a world leader in variety development. Ongoing research is aimed at developing new varieties with higher levels of disease resistance combined with high yields and leaf quality. Other research of burley consists of trials evaluating optimum fertility levels, pesticides, labor and time, minimum tillage systems, and the potential for mechanization in burley production. Also underway are evaluations of forage variety and heifer development in beef cattle.

Describe some success stories that have come from work at your Center.

The recent releases of burley varieties KT 204 and KT 206 have had a positive impact on burley production. These two varieties combine the highest levels of black shank resistance available on the market with high yield potential and good leaf quality. These two varieties currently account for approximately 60 percent of the burley grown in the United States.

The addition of the forage variety testing program has been a success story at the Center. These research plots are providing important variety information for forage producers in alfalfa, cool season perennial and annual grasses, and warm season annual grasses. The program is designed to evaluate varieties and also address issues and questions facing forage producers. 🌱

Workers hang burley tobacco for curing in Greeneville.

What's news *continued*

- » **Faculty and staff can now check out books from any UT library** by presenting their university ID cards.
- » The following Institute members received awards at the **2009 Comparative & Experimental Medicine Research Symposium**: Phi Zeta Excellence in Veterinary Clinical Research Award, **Angela Lusby** of Small Animal Clinical Sciences; Research Assistant Professor Award of Excellence: **Seong Ho Lee**, Pathobiology; Awards of Achievement: **Raul Almeida**, Animal Science; Research Associate Awards of Excellence: **Jason Hoverman**, Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries; **Louisa Rispoli**, Animal Science; Intern/Resident Awards of Excellence: **Ferenc Tóth**, Large Animal Clinical Sciences; Graduate Student Awards of Excellence: **Rebecca Payton** and **Ali Elliott**, Animal Science; Awards of Achievement: **Mugdha Sukhthankar**, Pathobiology; **David Roper**, Animal Science; **Kelly Chameroy**, Large Animal Clinical Sciences; and **Glenis Moore**, rising freshman, Veterinary Medicine.



What's news *continued*

- » **PAWSitive Impact**, a new student club in the **College of Veterinary Medicine**, has started a lecture series; "Let's Talk About..." where animal experts discuss various topics of concern for pet owners in the community. **Sharon Patton** will discuss parasites in dogs and cats on July 16. For information, call 865-974-7377.
- » **Extension 4-H and Family and Consumer Sciences Agent Jamie Harris** was voted **Ms. Warren County** in a "Best of the Best" contest sponsored by the McMinnville *Southern Standard*. The honor recognized her outstanding guidance of youth in grades 4-12.
- » **Members of Marketing and Communications** have won **regional public relations and international ACE awards for their work.**

The Volunteer Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America honored Senior Graphic Designer **Jean Hulsey** with an Award of Excellence for the Center for Profitable Agriculture's "Agritourism in Action" bus tour guide. Graphic Designer **Kim Stallings** received an Award of Quality for the recruitment poster "Bioenergy Concentration: Fuel of the Future," which was produced for CASNR's Plant Sciences Department. Videographer/Producer **Chuck Denney** and Information Specialist **Doug Edlund** received an Award of Merit for a television news feature on ground-penetrating radar.

From the international Association for Communication Excellence (ACE), **Edlund** received a Bronze Award for his work on a forestry educational video. **Edlund and Denney** won an ACE Silver Award for their TV program, "UT Connections" and a Bronze Award for the ground penetrating radar story, which highlighted an effort involving Professor **Rob Freeland** of **Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science** and students to detect unmarked civil war graves.



Bob Longmire

Members of the award-winning BioSAT team are, from left, Kerri Norris, research associate, and Tim Young, associate professor, Forest Products Center, Nancy Liu, graduate student, Office of Bioenergy Programs, Sachiko Hurst, IT analyst, Bioenergy Programs, Christy Pritchard, research associate, Forest Products Center, and Jim Perdue, USDA Forest Service.

Southern Growth Policies Board Innovators Award Goes to BioSAT

The 2009 Innovator Award for Tennessee was awarded to **BioSAT (Biomass Site Assessment Tools)** by the **Southern Growth Policies Board** on June 8 in Biloxi, Mississippi. **Jim Purdue**, senior biological scientist with the U.S. Forest Service, and **Tim Young**, associate professor in the UT Forest Products Center, were presented the award by Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour at a governor's reception and innovators' award ceremony.

Each year, Southern Growth Policies Board honors all innovative southern initiatives that are involved in the improvement of quality of life in the region. This year the honor was awarded to BioSAT, which is a Web system that rapidly screens and optimally sites cellulosic biomass collection or processing centers by zip-code tabulation area for the 33 eastern states. **The U.S. Forest Service, Southern Research Station, and the Southeastern Sun Grant Center at UT formed a partnership to provide research, policy, and business practitioners with innovative, biomass to energy research** that accommodates regional differences in available feedstock supplies, infrastructure capacities, and environmental benefits for the South and beyond. The Web system identifies local market conditions and reduces screening time to locate sites available for biomass feedstock production.

In addition to Purdue and Young, **other team members associated with BioSAT include Tim Rials**, professor and director of Forest Products Center, Office of Bioenergy Programs and Southeastern Sun Grant Center, **Don Hodges**, professor in Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries, and **Christy Pritchard and Kerri Norris**, research associates in the Forest Products Center.

For more information on BioSAT, visit www.BioSAT.net. For more information on the Southern Growth Policies Board, visit www.southern.org. —Ann Ryan

Vision and Mission *continued*

- Provide positive youth outreach experiences through 4-H that will stimulate young people to gain knowledge, develop life skills, and form positive attitudes to prepare them to become capable, responsible, and compassionate adults.

UTIA Core Values include:

- Excellence
- Scholarship
- Service
- Respect
- Integrity
- Leadership

An organization is never really done honing its vision and mission statements; it is an ongoing and continuing process. I encourage you to provide me with comments you may have about our Vision, Mission Statement and Core Values. I would be pleased to receive them in person, by e-mail, or letter. Wishing you and yours a healthy, happy, and pleasant summer.

All the best,



Curtis Stewart



Plant Sciences Associate Professor **Curtis Stewart**, researchers with UT's Institute for a Secure and Sustainable Environment, and local high school students have built a shed with a **low impact development (LID) green roof**. The project highlighted service-learning collaborations and showcased LID concepts.

What's news *continued*

- » **CVM** will offer a **mindfulness-based stress reduction program series** starting on Sept. 24. Offered in the evening, the weekly program teaches techniques that combat accumulated daily stress, chronic pain, anxiety, high blood pressure, depression and many other conditions exacerbated by stress. To learn more, call Senior Word Processing Specialist **Tressie Brown** at 865-974-5574. You may also contact the instructor, Clinical Assistant Professor **Elizabeth Strand**, at 865-755-9021.
- » **Naima Moustaid-Moussa**, co-director, and **Nishan Kalupahana**, a doctoral candidate, of **UT's Obesity Research Center** joined more than 80 other professors and graduate students from around the world to participate in the **National Institutes of Health Office of Dietary Supplements course, "Dietary Supplement Research Practicum 2009."**

The practicum provides a thorough overview of issues, concepts, unknowns, and controversies about dietary supplements and supplement ingredients. It also emphasizes the importance of scientific investigations to evaluate the efficacy, safety, and value of these products for health promotion and disease prevention, and treatment, as well as how to carry out this type of research. 🌱

In Memoriam

Merton Badenhop, retired professor, Agricultural Economics

Katherine Long, Extension director, Washington County

Grants & Contracts

You can view a PDF containing the second quarter 2009 grants and contracts at <http://agriculture.tennessee.edu/publications/tt/>.

Poultry Scientist's Legacy Continues Through Goff Endowment

The Institute of Agriculture would like to recognize the generous estate gift of Ollia Edward (O.E.) and Wilma Goff. In 1947, O.E. joined UT as the head of the Poultry Department, which was later added to the **Department of Animal Science** in the Institute of Agriculture.

His colleagues and students remember him fondly for his knowledge of the poultry industry and his distinguished achievements. He published more than 100 articles and pamphlets and received several national awards for his work in this field.

The estate gift of \$486,000 from O.E. and Wilma Goff created **the Ollia E. and Wilma B. Goff Graduate Fellowship Endowment in Animal Science**. Alan Mathew, department head in Animal Science, expresses his appreciation of the funds from the estate of Dr. Goff.

"The Animal Science Department is very grateful to the family of O.E. Goff for endowing the Goff Fellowship and are delighted to have these funds to advance our programs in the poultry sciences," Mathews says. "We use the Goff Fellowships specifically to support highly qualified Ph.D. and master's students who have an interest in poultry and conduct research to improve production, health, and well-being of agriculturally important poultry breeds and to provide science-based information to benefit the poultry and egg industries." – *Rhodes Logan*



O.E. Goff

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A SPIRIT • A VISION • A PLAN

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