Year-end Greetings 2014

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Year-end Greetings

The end of 2014 is fast approaching, and we will welcome 2015 in a few weeks. December is a good time to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year and to celebrate the impact of the University of Tennessee and its faculty, staff, students and alumni. Our University serves the state and beyond in many ways as we fulfill our mission to educate, discover and connect. UT and our alumni are in all 95 counties of Tennessee and, together, we touch the lives of thousands of people every day in classrooms, laboratories, hospitals, clinics, fields and businesses.

As president of the UT System, I feel privileged to be able to see the University's collective impact. Below are some examples from this year's Annual Report to the General Assembly of the work we do.
Teaching Independence
Julie Hill, associate professor of percussion at UT Martin, encourages students to create their own instruments.

Teaching Creativity
Rob Heller, professor in the School of Journalism and Electronic Media at UT Knoxville, celebrates 20 years of a photojournalism project.

Teaching Service
Rosebelle Peters, a lecturer in nursing at UT Chattanooga, trains students through clinical practice.

Treating Disease
Monica Jablonski, professor of ophthalmology at UT Health Science Center, discovers a way to treat eye disease with nanoparticles.

Advancing Energy
Matthew Mench and Thomas Zawodzinski, UT Knoxville professors, develop better ways to store wind and solar power.

Boosting Agriculture
Neal Schrick and Lannett Edwards, professors of animal science in the Institute of Agriculture, invent fertility treatments to boost beef and dairy production.
Helping Government
Doug Bodary, County Technical Assistance Service consultant, helps counties save money through energy-efficient buildings.

Giving Back
Tim Campbell, UT Extension agent in Dyer County, works with farmers to support Commodities for Communities fundraising.

Improving Health
Paul Juarez and Patricia Matthews-Juarez, researchers at UT Health Science Center, focus on improving the health of the poor and underserved.

Thank you for your support of the University of Tennessee. Our alumni are a great source of pride, and we appreciate your continued interest and involvement. I hope you enjoy a happy holiday season, and I look forward to more good things to come in 2015.

All the best,
Joe