Accolades, Fall 2012

College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences

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ACCOLADES

FALL 2012

ROCKY TOP RETAIL

BRANDING UT’S ANTHEM

Enhancing quality of life through research, outreach, and practice.
FALL 2012

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It is my honor and pleasure to welcome you to the newly redesigned and revamped Accolades. As you will read and see in the following pages, this has truly been another exciting year for the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences. Our students continue to excel on so many fronts and our faculty continue to serve the needs of our students and communities through their energy in teaching, scholarship, and service. I’m now entering my ninth year as dean of this great college, and I continue to be amazed by the incredible ideas emanating from the minds of our students, faculty, and staff. In this year’s magazine, you will read about some of the stories created and lived by members of the CEHHS family. One of this year’s central themes is Practicing what we teach. I would like to take this one step further and expand this theme to Living what we teach. Oftentimes, institutions of higher education fall under heavy criticism for their perceived lack of engagement. Some think that professors at these institutions sit in their offices, daydream, and, upon awakening, realize that they have only a few minutes to get to the tennis courts for their daily match. Well, I’m here to dispel this myth!

Take for instance, the story of Brian Barber and his critically important work documenting the recent revolution in Egypt. While professors elsewhere may have been studying from afar, Brian was in Cairo, in the midst of violent interactions between the Mubarak government and Egyptian youth. This work has earned Brian kudos from all over the world and piqued the interest of the Jacobs Foundation enough to fund his documentary. You’ll also read about a big idea that took the shape of a new center in our college. The Center for Sport, Peace, and Society came into existence through the work of Sarah Hillyer and Ashleigh Huffman in the Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies. The center received a $1.2 million grant from the US Department of State—titled Empowering Women and Girls through Sport—even before the center received official approval from the university. This work will assist in providing opportunities for girls and women from impoverished nations to participate in sport and physical activity previously denied to them by their socioeconomic status. Sarah and Ashleigh have extended their “sport diplomacy” to countries in the Middle East, Africa, and now the East Caribbean.

And, while there is not nearly enough space in this magazine to tell you about all that our faculty and students are doing around the world, please know they are hard at work helping the college to live our motto, Enhancing quality of life through research, outreach, and practice.

By living what we teach, our teacher interns are helping improve student achievement in Knox County Schools. You’ll also read about how impressed the US Department of Education was with Ernest Brewer’s grant proposal for creating the Educational Opportunity Center—so much so, they funded it to the tune of $2.3 million. Suffice it to say that the students, faculty, and staff of the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences are doing more than their share in helping create a better community and a better world.

Enjoy the latest issue of Accolades and let us know what you think. Don’t hesitate to contact me if I can provide additional information on any or all of the programs and projects featured. Thank you for your continued support and advocacy for our students, faculty, and staff and the important work they do.

Best Regards,

Bob Rider, Dean
The center will focus on undergraduate and graduate education, scholarship on the use of sport in community development, and service-learning opportunities.

In June, the center was awarded a $1.2 million grant to implement the Empower- ing Girls and Women through Sports initiative. The initia- tive provides a key diplomatic effort by the UT State Department, aiming to engage young girls and women on how success in athletics can develop important skills and improve academic achievement. It also is designed to increase cross-cultural understanding between international partici- pants.

“We’re honored to be part of this impor- tant U.S. public diplomacy effort,” Hillier said.

Hillier and co-director Dr. Sarah Hillyer were in Washington DC, in June, when Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton announced the US Department of State’s New Global Sports Mentoring Program—the flagship component of the initiative.

UT is crafting the program’s curriculum and will coordinate the logistics, including travel and lodging.

Ann Stock, assistant secretary of state for educational and cultural affairs, noted: “The University of Tennessee’s legacy of empowering women and girls through sports is a rich one. We look forward to partnering together to blaze new paths where girls won’t think twice about pursuing their passion,” she said.

About 135 girls and women from developing countries will participate in the program.

The initiative has three com- ponents: the US Department of State’s and espnW Global Sports Mentoring Program—which pairs up to twenty international emerging leaders with leading American women in the sports world; Sports Visitors, which brings women and girls from overseas to the United States for an exchange that teams them up with their American counterparts; and Sports Envoys, which will send professional US athletes, coaches, and sports admin- istrators overseas to engage underserved youth in clinics and leadership discussions.

For more information, visit the center’s website at sportandpeace.utk.edu.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTU- NITY CENTER RECEIVES $2.3 MILLION GRANT

The University of Tennessee, North Carolina, and Georgia, and North Caro- lina’s rural areas will now have greater access to postsecond- ary education, thanks to a federal grant recently awarded to the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences.

The Educational Opportunity Center’s five-year, $2.3 million competitive grant from the US Department of Education will enable the center to provide counseling and information on college admissions to more than 1,500 adults annually in twenty-seven counties in East Tennessee and Western North Carolina.

The center also serves stu- dents as high school as well as high school dropouts. The goal is to increase the number of adults in postsec- ondary education programs.

The grant will offer services to improve participants’ financial and economic literacy. The center staff will advise students on financial aid op- tions, college planning skills, and assist the students in understanding how to improve their lives.

The award named for her is presented by the Commission for Women and recognizes an outstanding early-career fac- ulty member.

Fouts recently received tenure and was promoted to associate professor. Her research focuses on child rearing practices in diverse cultural and socioeco- nomic contexts with an em- phasis on understanding the role of ecological, biological, and cultural factors in infants’ and children’s experiences and interactions with multiple caregivers—mothers, fathers, siblings, extended kin, and formal child care providers.

FUTURE PROGRAM CELEBRATES FIRST YEAR

Last year, eight students stepped onto UT’s campus to find out what college life is like. It was an opportunity that these students may not have experienced without UT’s FUTURE program.

The two-year post-secondary certificate is designed for students 18 to 29 years of age who have intellectual disabilities and have not received a regular high school diploma. It allows them to take classes and work on campus to increase their employment opportunities.

This year, the students were able to experience college life in different ways, from attend- ing classes and working with an educational mentor, to working at internships on campus.

Each student completed two internships in various depart- ments including Athletics and Theatre. Others worked with the UT Outdoor Program, the UT Welcome Center, and the Instructional Services Center.

Hillery Fouts, assistant profes- sor in the Department of Child and Family Studies was the 2012 recipient of the Angie Warren Perkins Award. The university gives this award to a female faculty member who shows outstanding promise of scholarship, teaching, and/or other contributions to campus intellectual life.

Angie Warren Perkins was the first dean of women at the University of Tennessee at the turn of the twentieth century.
Tom George has been an extremely valuable colleague to me as dean of this great college and as well to all of our faculty and staff. His talent, dedication, and passion for education and human sciences are unparalleled. He truly will be missed,” says Rider.

George served as secretary of the Tennessee Association of Colleges for Teacher Education and was the chair for the Standards Committee for three years. He is a member of Phi Delta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi and Golden Key.

“I came here as a doctoral student and remained—living and working with some of the finest people in the world,” says George. “I’ve been one lucky guy.”

**Camp Koinonia Celebrates 34 Years of Service**

In April, more than 200 students from UT Knoxville spent a week helping children with disabilities at Camp Koinonia.

The Therapeutic Recreation program at UT hosts the weeklong camp that provides children with multiple disabilities with an outdoor, educational experience. More than 150 campers between the ages of 7 and 21 participated in canoeing, horseback riding, arts and crafts, music and movement, cooking, and games during the six-day program. The camp took place at the Clyde M. York 4-H Training Center in Crossville, Tennessee.

The UT students serve as counselors and activity staff at Camp Koinonia. Students come from all majors, but many are in programs such as therapeutic recreation, child and family studies, psychology, and special education. Students are required to take a fourteen-week course to prepare them for working with children with disabilities.

“Camp K has given me a chance to help others, and provide a positive social interaction among the campers,” said Jenni Prince, a UT junior in marketing (’12). This was Prince’s second year working at the camp, and she was a head counselor this year.

The campers, who come from surrounding counties and schools near UT, have disabilities that include mental retardation, cerebral palsy, hearing and visual impairment, spinal bifida, autism, and muscular dystrophy.

Gene Hayes, a professor in the Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies, founded Camp Koinonia in 1977 at Virginia Tech. In 1986, Hayes brought Camp Koinonia to UT.

Koinonia comes from the Greek word meaning “fellowship” and “caring community.” The camp allows the disabled children to interact with their peers and UT students while working on key behaviors.

**DEPARTMENTS ADD NEW ONLINE DEGREES**

Students looking to further their education in an online environment now have three new options in CEHHS with the addition of three programs.

The Applied Educational Psychology Distance Education master’s degree program is designed for pursuing or furthering professional careers as K-12 teachers, instructors in community colleges, literacy education programs, correctional education, and related areas. The program may also be used as a stepping stone to doctoral study in educational psychology, school psychology, and other areas. The program’s primary focus is on concepts, principles, techniques, and models of educational psychology as they are used to facilitate teaching and learning and the creation of effective classroom environments for learners of all ages.

The Instructional Technology program will prepare leaders in the field to design, develop, implement, and evaluate online learning environments. This thirty-three credit hour program leads to an MS in education with a concentration in instructional technology. It will be facilitated through asynchronous and synchronous course delivery technologies.

The Education Psychology and Counseling department already offers a third online degree program in counseling with a concentration in rehabilitation counseling.

A new online principal preparation program—part of the Knox-Prince Leadership Preparation Program in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies—began in fall 2012. The new program can lead to the MS, EdS, or certificate for principal licensure. The first cohort includes twenty-two students from across the state. This online program has resulted in new partnership agreements with several school systems including: metro Nashville, Memphis, Williamson, Dyer, Clarksville-Montgomery, Jackson-Madison, Sumner, and Shelby, as well as current partner school systems Knox, Loudon, Maryville, and Oak Ridge.

For more information, visit cehhs.utk.edu.
In addition to CELTALKS, the center will also contribute to the app a bank of interviews on various leadership topics with winners of the Promethean Leadership Medal, which is given annually to individuals who transcend their own profession to contribute significantly to education. Medall recipients include forensic anthropologist William Bass, former vice provost Sarah Gardiul, architect Hansjörg Döbrz, president emeritus Joe Johnson, and Lady Vols Head Coach Emeritus Pat Summit.

DIXIE THOMPSON NAMED ASSOCIATE DEAN

Dixie Thompson, former professor and head of the Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies, has been named the new associate dean for the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences.

She has been a member of the UT faculty as well as director of the Center for Physical Activity and Health since 1994. Her research focuses on the health impact of regular physical activity—particularly among women.

“I am pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Thompson as our new associate dean for Research and Academic Affairs,” said Dean Bob Rider. “She has distinguished herself as an outstanding leader and researcher in the field of exercise science, and I have no doubt that she will greatly enhance the research efforts of our faculty in the college and provide strong leadership in the academic arena as well.”

Thompson earned a BA in physical education and an MA in exercise physiology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She received a PhD in exercise physiology from the University of Virginia.

MATH, SCIENCE TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM LAUDED AS STATE MODEL

VolsTeach, a program that targets undergraduate math, science, and engineering majors who may be interested in teaching, is being recognized for helping to solve one of the state’s most critical education problems.

Richard G. Rhoda, executive director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC), recently noted that the work of VolsTeach’s faculty and staff “have surpassed even the highest expectations set for this program.”

More than 200 students have enrolled in VolsTeach since its implementation in fall 2010. UT received a grant from THEC in 2009 to establish the program, which is a collaboration between UT’s College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences.

The program replicates UTeach, a proven model developed by the University of Texas, Austin. VolsTeach is a partner program of the UTeach Institute. The program’s mission is to address the shortage of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) teachers in middle and high schools.

“This robust growth (of the University of Tennessee’s program) has led to VolsTeach being quickly recognized as a model site,” Rhoda said, noting that it is “playing a crucial role” in bolstering STEM instruction in K-12 education.

“The program emphasizes inquiry-based approaches to instruction, so the VolsTeach students exploring teaching as a career get the opportunity to engage actively with children in classroom settings as they explore and grow in their understanding of mathematics and the sciences,” said Susan Benner, associate dean for professional licensure and director of the Graduate School of Education. “Students discover the power that such lessons can have as children demonstrate their eagerness to learn when instruction is designed to motivate and engage them. We are pleased to be partnering with both the College of Arts and Sciences and three metropolitan area school districts in this work.”

volsteach.utk.edu

Faculty, staff, and students in CEHHS are brimming with big ideas. Take a look at this idea that bridges learning with service to the community—with a retail spin.

During their junior year, retail and consumer sciences students create a two-day pop-up boutique. Students incorporate knowledge from their coursework to find a temporary location, secure clothing donations to sell, promote the event, and create an appealing store environment. This year’s pop-up generated $4,000 in support of Knoxville’s Habitat for Humanity.

Habitat for Humanity.

in support of Knoxville’s
Allan Benton ('69) is known around the world for his country hams and bacon, but the smokehouse isn’t where his story began.
I wasn’t sure we would’ve survived without 411 in Madisonville, Tennessee. His meats. After moving with his family to East Tennessee, Benton came to UT and received a Bachelor of Science degree in agricultural sciences which were later cured right on the farm. He worked as a guidance counselor before turning to his father, who gave him a sage piece of advice that proved to be the key to his success. I had an epiphany moment,” Benton says. “I came back and told my employees that we start selling to five-star restaurants.”

One day, Benton’s bacon refers to the original owner of the business, Albert Hicks, and has been with Benton since day one. Benton himself admits that Atkins knows more about the curing business than he ever will.
The Egyptian revolution became real for Professor Brian Barber (Child and Family Studies) when he first visited Cairo in February 2011. It became even more real when the sting of tear gas invaded his own eyes and when Aly—one of the young men he had been conversing with for nearly a year—lay in a hospital with gunshot to his head and body.

As founding director of UT’s Center for the Study of Youth and Political Conflict, Barber kept a close eye on the revolution when it began in January 2011 because of the involvement of youth and the impact he knew it would have on them. He traveled to Cairo in February 2011 and began blogging, not only his thoughts and observations of the day-to-day aftermath of the revolution and its impact on the youth of the country, but also about the young people he met like Aly and his friend Khould. Below are excerpts from the blog “How The Hell Did They Do It,” which can be found at conflictyouth.blogspot.com.

The center recently received a $450,000 grant from the Jacobs Foundation of Switzerland to conduct quarterly interviews with key youth and a national survey, as well as to begin work on a documentary, with his colleague Jim Youniss. Barber will return to Egypt in October 2012.

February 18, 2011

A Hearty Party in the Square

The drive in from the airport on Friday afternoon seemed remarkable and I wondered where the evidence was of a country emerging from revolution. Passing Mubarak’s former palace, one saw vestiges of the events, with a couple of tanks guarding the entry, but otherwise all seemed quite normal. Soon enough, though, the evidence mounted as the taxi approached Cairo city center. As if a portrait was being slowly revealed by the evidence mounted at the entry, but otherwise all seemed quite normal. Soon enough, though, the evidence mounted as the taxi approached Cairo city center. As if a portrait was being slowly revealed.

February 28, 2011

Kisses for the American

By noon crowds have gathered and the noise is deafening. The atmosphere is festive; whole families are milling about. I appear to be one of the few Anglos here. All of the journalists have gone to Libya. A captain asked me to stop filming his squadron as they marched to take up a new position on the perimeter of the square; then asked where I’m from. He smiled genuinely when I told him I was there to tell their story. An elderly man approached. His smile was deep, when he learned of my purpose … he kissed me thrice on alternating cheeks. This may have when he learned of my purpose … he kissed me thrice on alternating cheeks. This may have

March 18, 2011

Rally to Revolution—(and, Where Has All the Kitsch Gone???)

The most common response I’ve gotten from youths when asking for their most important memory of the revolution has been a sense of surprise and awe upon seeing so many of their peers—young and old—at the January 25th annual rally. That moment for so many was deeply moving and fundamentally motivating—indeed, transforming. At once, they learned that their words might have in it them after all to stand together against injustice and constraint, and they, as individuals, discovered a collective drive to contribute. This is what it was so marvelously—committing so firmly and with such unwavering insistence that the unexpected magic moment not be lost.

June 11, 2012

Shafig 4; Mourou 0; Abstention

The presidential run-off is less than a week away… The Christian grandmother that sat next to me on the flight from Amman found the choice impossible… Shafiq would signal a return to the Mubarak regime, and the thought of Morsi frightened her. The young man who was first in the tag team of greeters at the airport was clearly for Shafiq. He will bring strength and stability. He handed me off to the middle aged driver, who … by the end of the 30-minute drive had made clear that Shafiq is the only reasonable choice. Morsi is unknown, and dangerous. A young male receptionist at the hotel said that the choice is impossible and that he wouldn’t vote. Another proclaimed clearly for Shafiq.

November 24, 2011

In Your Face in Cairo

I had learned from Khould that Aly would be in Cairo this week. So, as soon as I arrived on Monday night I called while walking through the Tahrir Square. He said he was also in the Square … and would call later. I didn’t hear back from him. Several calls and SMSs went unanswered. Last night at about 10pm I thought to try one more time to reach him. A voice picked up and identified himself as Aly’s friend. I could hear Aly in the background overruling his friend’s decision to turn me away and he took the phone. He was excited to talk, as was I to hear his voice. It wasn’t a surprise, but no less difficult, to hear from him that he lay in the hospital with bullet wounds to his head and body. He said that he “would love so much” a visit and, getting directions from Ayman, I hastened to see him.

December 18, 2011

The Agony of Betrayal: An Ugly Face of Revolution

The remarkable tenacity of Egyptian protesters (surfacing repeatedly despite bruising setbacks) likely bodes well for the eventual success of the revolution. But there is no escaping the agony that accompanies this process. This has been no more clearly evident than in the last 3 days when vicious battles have taken place between protesters and the military … it is especially exhilarating to see that they are our military … that is now, not just occasionally, but fully leading these escalating assaults. The caustic, cruel, and sometimes savage beating of citizens that populates news broadcasts of revolutions around the world sears Egyptians particularly, because these military perpetrators not long ago walked hand in hand with those they now abuse.
BRINGING ROCKY TOP TO THE FANS

By Lola Alago / Photography by Josh Queener
“Rocky Top, you’ll always be, home sweet home to me…”

On any given game day in Neyland Stadium there could be 100,000 people belting out Rocky Top—pretty good for a song that took only ten minutes to compose in 1967.

Though it’s not the university’s official fight song, the true Volunteer has every word memorized and can sing it right along with the Pride of the Southland Marching Band.

Now, the entire Tennessee family will have the chance to not only sing, but also wear the lyrics of the song composed by Boudleaux and Felice Bryant.

UT students are taking the lead in building and growing the Rocky Top brand, thanks to the creation of the Rocky Top Institute, which opened in fall 2011 and is housed in the Department of Retail, Hospitality, and Tourism Management (RHTM).

The institute was established as a result of a contractual partnership between UT and Dane and Del Bryant, heirs of the Rocky Top composers.

Last year, students in a product development class designed the Rocky Top logo and rolled out the institute’s first merchandise—T-shirts and ball caps. Since then, they’ve been refining their work and promoting more items. This fall, they debuted new items—decals, car flags, mugs, shot glasses, koozies, buttons, fleece blankets, and mouse pads, to name a few—just in time for football season.

“Rocky Top has a very special place in the hearts of UT fans,” says Nancy Rutherford, the institute’s director. “This partnership with the Bryant family is an amazing opportunity for students to gain real-world experience in developing products and brand management for a brand that truly resonates with them.”

About ten years ago, Dane and Del Bryant approached UT about a partnership with their company, House of Bryant.

Dorothy Bryson, senior director of development, met with Dane and he brought up the idea of UT entering into a joint venture and expanding the Rocky Top copyright. Bryson approached Rutherford about it, and she began exploring the possibilities.

“She saw the potential benefit to UT,” Dane says of Rutherford. It took nearly six years to complete the deal, in which the Bryants pledged $75,000 to establish the institute.

“It’s a win-win situation for everybody,” Dane says. “It becomes part of UT and a point of additional income for the university.”

He adds that each time the band plays Rocky Top, “it’s a tribute to my parents.”

Royalties from the sale of Rocky Top products will be split between the Bryant family and UT. The portion of the money that comes to the university will support the retail and consumer sciences program and the Pride of the Southland Marching Band in the form of scholarships.

Students are working with Bacon and Co., a licensed vendor of UT products, on the merchandise, with final approvals coming from the Bryant family.

“UT students are taking the lead in building and growing the Rocky Top brand, thanks to the creation of the Rocky Top Institute, which opened in fall 2011 and is housed in the Department of Retail, Hospitality, and Tourism Management.”
Partnering with local schools is at the heart of the TPTE mission in preparing beginning secondary teachers for licensure. In the department’s Track II secondary education initial licensure program, fifth-year students must complete a yearlong, unpaid internship as interns at local partnership schools.

Central High School teacher Andrea Keck (‘11) says the program “perfectly blends expectations of a classroom teacher with the responsibilities of a UT student.”

During the year, teacher interns work closely with mentoring teachers at their schools observing and shadowing them before teaching independently. After the school day, students return to UT to take courses in content pedagogy—helping turn theory into practice.

“The partnership benefits teacher mentors, as they learn about new pedagogical strategies, gain a co-teacher in the classroom, and gain leadership/professional development experience,” says Susan Groenke, program coordinator of secondary English.

Another benefit for student interns is the possibility of being hired full-time after completion of the internship. School administrators in partnership schools have hired graduating interns as a result of the year spent in their schools and the fact that they have much more extensive experience than most beginning teachers.

Social studies teacher Paegan Turner (‘11) was hired after her internship at Powell High School and says the internship was the most useful experience she had during her time at UT.

“College instructors can talk about teaching in a classroom as long as they want, but until you are in the school you have no idea what it is really like,” Turner says. “The hands-on experience was the best teacher.”

Groenke says that the quality of the field experience is strongly correlated with new teacher performance in the classroom and even future teacher behavior. Moreover, most teachers rank the internship as the greatest lasting factor in shaping their teaching.

John Alexander (‘10), a science teacher at Central High School, credits the yearlong internship with making his transition into teaching a little easier.

“I’m a second-career teacher, so when I went into education I was relatively unfamiliar with the education system, and even more unfamiliar with actively being a part of a classroom filled with students,” he says. “The internship was crucial to my orientation into education and it allowed me to develop with steady guidance along the way.”

Groenke says the success of the internship has proven the necessity of partnerships with local schools.

“We are proud of the partnerships we have in place with local schools. They are paramount to the creation and development of excellent beginning teachers. As Helen Keller once said, ‘Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.’

For decades, classroom experience has been recognized as one of the most influential components of teacher preparation. The Department of Theory and Practice in Teacher Education (TPTE) is taking the rigorous academic rite of passage and making it intensive—yielding great results for the teacher interns and the schools in which they teach.
Since CEHHS Professor Bob Kronick combined efforts with local businessman Randy Boyd and Pond Gap, the school has become a center of activity for students—who benefit from fun programs like circus arts—as well as their families and other community members.

Kronick approached Boyd about the concept of establishing a community school with programs after school, during the summer, and on weekends that could help fulfill basic physical, emotional, and health needs of students, their families, and community members—with the ultimate goal of decreasing crime rates, decreasing illness and poverty, along with improving mental health.

Boyd, CEO of Radio System, Inc. of Knoxville, has made numerous gifts and pledges totaling more than $900,000 to enable Kronick’s dream to become a reality.

“It leverages the physical infrastructure already in place in the school buildings themselves,” says Boyd. “It leverages the talents of hundreds of students from UT and local high schools, and leverages many other community organizations.”

As a result, Pond Gap UACS students stay after school to take part in activities including music, academic classes, circus arts, and physical education. Families can come in to have dinner with their children, use the washer and dryer available, and then stay for adult class options like English as a Second Language, GED, and cooking.

The circus arts program taught by Jake Weinstein and Lissa McLeod is one of the cornerstones of the Pond Gap community school model. Children are given a chance to learn new skills in an atmosphere that encourages teamwork, self-worth, character development and independence.

Students learn to walk on stilts, ride a unicycle, juggle, work together to build a tower, and walk a balance beam all while learning math, properties of science, and how to work cooperatively as a group.

Instructors at Pond Gap are exploring the use of circus arts to facilitate sensory integration, as a way to help children unlock their fullest learning potential, physically and academically. “We already know that learning circus arts can increase self-esteem, promote experiences of mastery, and increase gross and fine motor skill control,” says Kronick. “In addition, we are exploring simple techniques to help the children regulate their own ‘engines.’”

“It’s a good program,” says 11-year-old Katie. “I have fun but it’s not all fun and games, you learn stuff. The teachers try their best to work you harder and want you to have fun. More people should volunteer.”

The UACS program has meant improved academic scores, decreased disciplinary issues, and improved attendance rates for those students involved. More importantly, the program at Pond Gap has instilled a sense of self-worth, confidence and the value of giving back to others in the community. “It feels really good to help young people,” says Grant, a program volunteer. “They are the next wave of people going into college and into the workforce, and it’s good to help them.”
AMY SKINNER HONORED AT YWCA ANNUAL TRIBUTE TO WOMEN

AMY L. Skinner, associate professor of rehabilitation counseling, was one of the women honored at the 2011 YWCA Tribute to Women Event for her contributions to equality.

The event honored women in the categories of equality, empowerment, and transformation. Six finalists were nominated in each category, and two winners were picked from each.

“This award acknowledges Amy Skinner’s excellent contributions to the YWCA’s goals of eliminating racism, empowering women, and creating peace, justice, dignity and freedom,” said Steve McCallum, head of the Department of Educational Psychology and Counseling.

“In particular, this award recognizes her strong efforts to promote equality, which are very consistent with the overarching goal of the department, college, and university—to model and encourage civic engagement and responsibility,” McCallum said.

Skinner has been involved in numerous community activities and given her time in service to Goodwill Industries; Volunteer State Rehabilitation Association; Ability Works! Coalition; Disability Resource Center; Southeast Region National Rehabilitation Association; Korn Learning, Assessment, and Social Skills Center; Walk Rock and Roll Anniversary Celebration of the Americans with Disabilities Act; Knoxville Mayor’s Council on Disability Issues; Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic; and the Ronald McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program.

In addition to her scholarly service and outreach achievements, Skinner’s accomplishments at UT have been remarkable. Her first faculty position at UT was as director of the Rehabilitation Counseling master’s degree program.

By quickly building collaborative relationships with local professionals and volunteers, she was able to develop and implement an effective training program that incorporated local community stakeholders into the process of training graduate students to provide services to those with disabilities.

In 2004, Skinner led her program through a national accreditation process that resulted in her training program receiving accreditation for eight years from the Council on Rehabilitation Education, Inc.

THIS AWARD RECOGNIZES HER STRONG EFFORTS TO PROMOTE EQUALITY....
How does diabetes affect body tissue? Why do genes sometimes fail to switch off when the body is diseased? Assistant Professor Jason Collier and his students research these questions and many more in UT’s Nutrition Lab.

“We engage the students in the laboratory by showing them how to apply the textbook knowledge they’ve learned in the classroom to address important questions in biomedical research. All of these research-based questions have broad applicability to science and medicine. For example, how are the cells that make and secrete insulin killed by the body’s immune system? How might a therapy be designed to stop the process and importantly, what are the limitations of such a therapy?”

“Using scientific techniques that build on biochemistry, organic chemistry, molecular biology, and physiology, these students learn to incorporate interdisciplinary approaches to understand how nutrition impacts multiple research areas.”

Off to the Races

Team UT students gain valuable experience working behind the scenes at the Kentucky Derby and the Super Bowl.

Not many students can boast of the fact that they’ve been to the Super Bowl and the Kentucky Derby and earned class credit for being there. Then again, other college students aren’t part of TEAM UT.

For six years, recreation and sport management students have been getting a lot of firsthand experience in their chosen field as they’ve worked behind the scenes at the Super Bowl—and this year at the Derby. TEAM UT is part of senior-level classes in the Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies (KRSS) led by Fritz Polite, clinical assistant professor of sport management. The experiences are made possible through a partnership with M Group Scenic Studios, an event management company in Phoenix, Arizona.

“The first TEAM UT invited to the Super Bowl started out in the parking lot scanning tickets,” said KRSS student Kristen Petway, who was the team’s co-director for the Derby. “Now we have reached a level where we are not only invited back, but have been given additional responsibilities.”

At this year’s Super Bowl the team worked with volunteers and helped out with crisis management. Outside of working the events, the team had to learn time management skills as well as other job-related skills.

“Leaders are not born, but developed,” Polite said. “For our students to be a part of this reflects positively on our university, college, and respective students.”

TEAM UT co-director Danielle Polk said some of the most valuable skills she learned were “how to organize, plan, and take control of a team.”

Petway said she learned “how to deal with pressure, react to problems, work as a team member, and how to network.”

In the future, Polite hopes the team can get even more experience on the front end of the events. “We are having discussions on how we can be more entrenched with the planning stages of these events and possibly letting TEAM UT take on more of a leadership and management role,” said Polite.

Team members say their experience has been invaluable in providing them with connections and an insight into the sport management field that not a lot of students have access to.

“The Super Bowl experience provides a real-world opportunity for UT students preparing for careers in the sports industry,” said Bob Rider, dean of the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences. “The University of Tennessee is the only institution of higher education that receives credentials from the NFL to participate in what’s known as the largest event of its type in the world. This recognition distinguishes our students, our college, and our university.”

Polite agrees that this one-of-a-kind program not only gives UT students an advantage, it shines a bright light on the university itself.

“Leaders are not born, but developed,” Polite said. “For our students to be a part of this reflects positively on our university, college, and respective students.”

Polk says the TEAM UT experience is an opportunity not to be missed. “You learn so much on one trip that you will never forget,” she said. “Being able to tell a future employer that you not only learned skills in a classroom, but demonstrated and performed everything you learned in a mega event, such as the Super Bowl or Kentucky Derby, is priceless! No other classroom, college, or program could do everything TEAM UT has done for me.”
the bi-annual symposium series hosted by Umb) to scholars and students as part of childhood teacher education. in October, and cross-cultural research on early and students. Travel was supported, in of data analysis with italian researchers nancy carow, traveled to milan for a week research on italian and U. s. early Chil-learning from each other: Cross-cultural research presentation. The presentation, during the week, brookshire and carow berge2011, mary jane Moran and two CFs of service to the university. bogue will be year collaboration with the university of international research project related to writing endeavors. Johnson plans to use encourage excellence in research and administration program.

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND POLICY STUDIES

Grady Bogue retired after twenty years of service to the university. Bogue will be on a partial contract to advise doctoral students in the Higher Education Administra-

NUTRITION

Every ten academic years departments undergo extensive review to examine an academic program’s strengths and weaknesses, past standing, and contribu-

to the university. The department’s 2011 review included an extensive visit by a panel that examined faculty, rigorous undergraduate cur-

riculum, thriving graduate program with growth in student enrollment and excellent placement rates for alumni. The program also was found to have outstanding faculty mentors and a stellar commitment to research—offering ample opportunity to both graduate and undergraduate students.

There is perhaps no better benchmark of the quality of an academic program than the accomplishments of the students. At this year’s spring commencement, nutrition boasted the top-graduating seniors in the college, Hannah Schmidt Carlton and Renee Taylor-Sapp jointly shared the honor.

At the university-wide Exhibition of Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement (EuRACa) competition the department had a number of winners, including Nancy Childers and Anna Labavern. The overall top research prize was won by Nutrition student Barrett Updgraff, who is now in the doctoral program at the University of Texas-Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas—a Top 25 research university.

PUBLIC HEALTH

In fall 2011, the Department of Public Chil-the department brought the American Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics’ board of directors to campus to present the first forum in their “Dietary Guidelines for the Dietitians’ Game Plan” series for the Academy’s Dietitians’ Rationale conference. The forum brought together experts in nutrition, public health, and health care for a day-long discussion on the latest research and evidence-based practice in the field.

In the fall, this forum, with the support of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, was held at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. The forum featured presentations by leaders in the field of nutrition and public health, as well as interactive workshops and panel discussions. The event was attended by hundreds of professionals and students interested in the latest developments in nutrition and public health.

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Tamika Catchings ’05

If you watched the 2012 Olympics this summer you may have seen CEHHS alumnae and former Lady Vols star Tamika Catchings pulling down rebounds and helping lead the US women’s basketball team to a gold medal victory in the 2012 games. The three-time Olympic gold medalist earned a bachelor’s degree in sport management, finishing half a semester ahead of her class. She completed her master’s degree in sports management in 2005.

Catchings was a freshman the year that Pat Summit’s Lady Vols went undefeated and brought home the 1998 national championship. She played 237 games for the Lady Vols, was UT’s second-fourth-time All-American player, scored a total of 2,113 points, and had a rebound record of 1,004. Catchings finished her time at UT with a career second-all-time high in steals (111) and 140 blocked shots. A 2001 SEC Academic All-SEC honoree, Catchings also was honored the same year with an ESPY award as the College Women’s Basketball Player of the Year.

Catchings was drafted by the Women’s National Basketball Association’s (WNBA) Indiana Fever in 2001 but had to sit out her first season due to injury. She was named Rookie of the Year in 2002 and in 2011 she was named the league’s MVP and one of the top fifteen players in WNBA history. Off the court, Catchings is practicing the principles she learned at CEHHS with the creation of her Catch the Stars Foundation, which works to empower youth to achieve their dreams by providing goal-setting programs that promote literacy, fitness, and mentoring.

“Tamika is one of the most decorated Vols in our rich sports tradition and his - on the court. she is the ultimate servant player, a leader in the locker room. she was the captain of the team,” says Fritz Polite, CEHHS director of Outreach and Global Engagement. “What separates her from so many others is how she has utilized the platform of sport to impact social change. She is just as accomplished off the court with her Catch the Stars Foundation and various other youth programs as she has been on the court. She is the ultimate servant mentor leader.”

catchin24.com/catchthestars.org

Class Notes

Looking for a Job? UTAA Helping alumni network and find opportunities

The University of Tennessee Alumni Association (UTAA) is making it easier for alumni to use their alma mater as a launch pad toward a new job. UTAA has new tools to make it easier for alumni to find new jobs and network with other alumni.

“We surveyed our alumni and the number one request they had was for more networking opportunities and career services,” said Mike McCoy, senior director of marketing and career services at UTAA. One of the services includes a job search tool called www.careerinft.com where alumni can look for job postings that include alumni as contacts.

“We provide a wide range of results based on your preferences, including positions I haven’t seen elsewhere, and I think it’s great that UT is providing this service for alumni,” said Barbara Grobicki, UT alumni. UTAA also is building an alumni career directory that goes beyond contact information. Called VolConnect for the Knoxville campus, the alumni office offers services such as mentoring, webcast hosting, and guest speaking to fellow alumni. More than 325,000 UT alumni to network with oversight of the UT system, and each university within the UT system has its own directory.

UTAA is also bolstering job opportunities. It is developing an online job board to provide a dedicated platform for alumni to search and post jobs. Staff members also connect alumni in UTAA’s LinkedIn group. Additionally, the association is busy assembling regional career fairs and industry-specific networking events. For more information about UTAA, visit volconnect.com. UTAA has partnered with the career services offices from UT Chattanooga, Knoxville, and Martin in offering these services.
INSPIRATION AND IMPACT
SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN CREATES

To: COLLEGE OF EDUCATION HEALTH &
HUMAN SCIENCES
Gift: $26,587,836
From: ALUMNI, FRIENDS, FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATIONS

F or those who enjoy looking to the past for inspiration, look no further than the recently completed Campaign for Tennessee. This ambitious undertaking spanned six years and culminated in more than $1.3 billion in gifts for the entire system—this places UT in an elite group of less than thirty universities to achieve a goal at this level.

More than $860 million of the total is dedicated to support students, faculty, and programs on the Knoxville campus alone. The success of this effort demonstrates a true “Volunteer Spirit” from more than 87,000 alumni and friends and is truly inspiring in light of the challenging economic climate felt by donors throughout the campaign.

Though these figures can be staggering in size and scope, they represent passion, generosity, and a desire to make a positive impact upon education. Each gift received during the campaign to establish the following programs: a University-Assisted Community School initiative to meet the most basic needs of children and their families in the Pond Gap community (see page 24); the Center for Educational Leadership, with the purpose of improving Tennessee schools by producing and supporting a pipeline of highly effective school leaders; the KLASS Center which assists students who struggle in their development of basic academic skills as well as the social skills needed to succeed in school; and many more.

Additional beneficiaries can be found by looking no further than the students within CEHHS, who are reaching their full potential with the support of generous donors.

“During my times as an undergraduate student at the University of Tennessee, I have had the wonderful opportunity to learn and grow as a future teacher. The superior program and talented professors have supported me with quality academic courses, hands-on practicum experiences, and endless encouragement. I understand my scholarship is a gift to inspire generations of future teachers to choose the University of Tennessee as a foundation for an exceptional career in serving students,” said CEHHS student Meghan R.

Someone was once quoted as saying, “It’s alright to look to the past, just don’t stare.” After such a successful campaign, it’s easy to review the history and feel satisfied about the effort. However, there are many additional initiatives, student assistance opportunities, and faculty research and achievements worthy of a renewed declaration to securing financial support.

In order for the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences to maintain its excellence, dedicated leaders must emerge who will demonstrate a commitment towards this goal. Are you the next donor willing to make a lasting impact? It’s now time to look to the future and be inspired by the promise it brings.

By Randy Atkins
The University of Tennessee Foundation

Pat Summit, the iconic Lady Vols basketball coach, transcends the game of basketball and has come to represent all that is positive in sports and in life. The all-time winningest basketball coach in NCAA history (both men and women), she has brought notoriety and acclaim to the University of Tennessee for the past 38 years. Among her many professional accomplishments are: eight NCAA Women’s Basketball Championships, 16 SEC Women’s Regular Season Basketball Championships, 16 SEC Women’s Tournament Championships, and 1,098 wins, along with honors such as Naismith Basketball Coach of the Century, Sporting News list of Greatest Coaches of all time in all sports, a member of the inaugural class of the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame, and recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom

Through it all, she has still found time to be active with United Way, Race for the Cure for Juvenile Diabetes, and has now started the Pat Summit Foundation to benefit Alzheimer’s research.
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