



2012

End of Year Message

Office of the President

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End of Year Message

Dear Faculty and Staff,

As the end of December quickly approaches, my second year as president comes to a close. These past two years have been a whirlwind of meetings, travels, events and good times spent on each of our campuses and with employees across the state.

This [brief video](#) chronicles connections across the state with stops in Knoxville, Chattanooga, Nashville, Martin and Memphis.



In the past year, we have celebrated milestones by breaking ground for construction and cut ribbons on new facilities. In Chattanooga, we marked the retirement of Dr. Roger Brown and the appointment of Dr. Grady Bogue as interim chancellor as we launched a search for new leadership at UTC. With the 150th anniversary of the Morrill Act, we paused to recognize the contributions the University of Tennessee has made to our state as Tennessee's land-grant institution. We strengthened relationships with leaders in Nashville and made headway on issues impacting the University. UT Martin spruced up the campus with new lighting, and I was happy to be on hand to help flip the switch. In Memphis, we broke ground for a new research facility.

These are just a few of the events and accomplishments I was privileged enough to take part in or observe. There were many more special occasions and achievements within each campus, college, department or office, and I hope you will take some time to reflect on them.

I look forward to seeing friends and meeting new ones in my visits across the state in 2013.

All the best,
Joe

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