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Office of Research & Engagement

2-21-2013

Office of Research, News & Opportunities, February 21, 2013

University of Tennessee Office of Research

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Recommended Citation

University of Tennessee Office of Research, "Office of Research, News & Opportunities, February 21, 2013" (2013). *News and Opportunities*.
https://trace.tennessee.edu/utk_researchnews/73

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Listening sessions lead to changes in research office

Restructured teams, new AVC post will refocus proposal work, compliance

The vice chancellor for research and engagement has initiated some preliminary changes that will make the Office of Research and Engagement more responsive to the university's need for an aggressive, effective research enterprise.

After a series of listening sessions that allowed research stakeholders to describe their needs and offer suggestions for improvements, Vice Chancellor Taylor Eighmy has divided various administrative responsibilities among himself, Associate Vice Chancellor Greg Reed, and a new assistant vice chancellor to be hired for administering compliance and research integrity activities.

Eighmy will directly oversee federal relations, centers and institutes, engagement and outreach, corporate and foundation relations, and undergraduate research, as well as the newly organized Research Development Team. Eighmy will also represent the office to the Top 25 Research Committee, the Academic Outreach and Engagement Council, and a new Strategic Partners Advisory Council.

Reed will continue to oversee the Office of Sponsored Programs, finance and administration, research informatics, and communication. He will also supervise the newly organized Faculty Professional Development Team and develop a new core facilities focus. Reed will continue office relationships with the Research Council, Associate Deans for Research, and Graduate Council.

A new assistant vice chancellor will be hired to provide leadership in developing a consistent and comprehensive culture of responsible conduct of research and institutional research integrity. The post will report to the vice chancellor and oversee all compliance-related activities. The hire will be internal.

Eighmy has also created two new teams that have their origins in the now dissolved Proposal Development Team. The new Research Development Team will engage aggressively in forming faculty teams that can win large, strategic research awards for the university. The new Faculty Professional Development Team will tailor its approach to more personalized assistance to faculty, focusing on individual proposal support, faculty mentoring, grant-writing training, connections to agency program officers, and similar related activities.

"These changes are highly responsive to input from recent listening sessions and to Top 25 goals for the research enterprise," Eighmy said. The changes are effective immediately.

Knoxville campus, Ag Institute seek Carnegie designation for community engagement

The University of Tennessee Knoxville and the Institute of Agriculture will seek a joint Community Engagement classification from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

The foundation's community engagement classification is "an evidence-based documentation of institutional practice to be used in a process of self-assessment and quality improvement." Unlike other Carnegie categories, it is elective and involves collection and documentation of important aspects of institutional mission, identity, and commitment.

The UT application process is scheduled to be completed in April 2014. The foundation will issue its community engagement decisions in 2015.

Eight UTK and UTIA administrators have been chosen to serve on the application writing team, which will craft the documents to be submitted to the foundation. The writing team will be aided by an advisory team of faculty, administrators, community representatives, and others who reflect the many dimensions of the university's engagement.

"It is our intention, for the 2013 calendar year, to focus our efforts on addressing the gaps identified by the Carnegie Foundation in our unsuccessful 2010 application and then complete our application," said Taylor Eighmy UTK vice chancellor for research and engagement. Eighmy and Provost Susan Martin are leading the Carnegie effort.

Elizabeth Burman, director of engagement for the Office of Research and Engagement, and Tim Cross, dean of extension, will cochair the initiative.

Engagement director named

Elizabeth Burman has been named director of community engagement and outreach for the UT Office of Research and Engagement.

"I am delighted that Elizabeth will be serving the office and the UTK community in this new capacity," said Taylor Eighmy, vice chancellor for research and engagement, who made the appointment.

Burman is charged with promoting a model for community engagement and outreach that aligns the university with the best practices articulated by such organizations as the Association for Public and Land-Grant Universities and the American Association for State Colleges and Universities.

Burman, a graduate of Whitman College, is currently enrolled in UT's master's program for public policy and administration. She was a presenter for UT's regional entry in the 2011 Magrath/Kellog Foundation Engagement competition, which was a finalist in the national competition.



Burman

Organized Research Unit proposals available on web

Proposals for new or continuing Organized Research Units have been posted to the Office of Research and Engagement web site in preparation for ORU budget hearings in early March. The hearings will be held in 403 Blount Hall. **Schedule:** March 4 (12:30-5 p.m.), March 5 (8 a.m.-12:20 p.m.), March 11 (1:00-4:50 p.m.), and March 12 (8 a.m.-12:20 p.m.)

Details: <http://research.utk.edu/orus/>



Posters at the Capitol

Seven UT Knoxville undergraduates spent Valentine's Day eve displaying their scholarship for Tennessee legislators at the Capitol in Nashville. Students from left (faculty mentors in parentheses), **Victor Lollar** (Belle Upadhyaya), **Clayton Greer** (Andy Sarles), **Kate Benson** (Hollie Raynor), **Grace Levin** (Micheline Van Riemsdijk), **Akshitha Yarrabothula** (Cong Trinh), **Greg Reed**, associate vice chancellor for research, **Chad Effler** (Steve Wilhelm), **Connor Gorman** (Neal Stewart)

Grant boot camp members selected

Twelve faculty members have been selected for the ORE Grant Writing Institute to take place at the end of the spring semester. Robert Porter, director of research development, said that 25 faculty from five colleges applied for the program, which includes concentrated training in proposal-writing and wraps up with a trip to meet funding-agency program managers.

Beth Avery, advertising & public relations

Marisa Ensor, anthropology

Shandra Forrest-Bank, social work

Nick Geidner, journalism

Ezra Holston, nursing

Hyun Kim, geography

Laurie Meschke, public health

Jim Ostrowski, industrial & systems engineering

Jonathan Pettigrew, communications studies

Madhuri Sharma, geography

Steven Skutnik, nuclear engineering

Jinyuan Sun, electrical engineering & computer sciences

The participants still must select senior faculty mentors and graduate fellows to participate with them.

Internal Funding Support

Research Development & Grantwriting Newsletter

The Office of Research and Engagement makes available to UT faculty monthly issues of *Research Development & Grant-Writing Newsletter*, a publication of Academic Research Funding Strategies, LLC. The newsletter is written by Mike Cronan and Lucy Deckard, two experienced proposal developers with long careers at Texas A&M University.

The most recent issue of RD&GW News is posted on the UT Office of Research and Engagement website, and selected topics are mentioned in the ORE newsletter. The letter is proprietary, so faculty who wish to read recent issues must log into the site using net ID and password.

See topics from current issue below.

Details: <http://research.utk.edu/news/rdgw.shtml>

February issue of funding newsletter posted

The February 2013 issue of *Research Development & Grant-Writing Newsletter* (Vol. 3, No. 6) is available on the Office of Research & Engagement website, showcasing the following features and columns:

The Too-Kind Program Officer

NSF INSPIRE Webinar Report

Transagency Research: NSFUSDA/NIFA

The Dictionary of Common NSF Usage

The Background Researcher on Proposals

DOJ Forthcoming Funding Opportunities

NOTE: The newsletter is proprietary to Academic Research Funding Strategies LLC. The Office of Research subscription requires faculty and staff to use their net ID and password. The login process does not support all browsers.

Details: <http://research.utk.edu/news/rdgw.shtml>

Compliance Corner

Export Control

The federal government has promulgated a series of regulations that govern the export of sensitive technologies to designated countries that might use them against the interests of the United States, its people, or its economy.

Through the Office of Research and Engagement, the University of Tennessee complies with federal export control regulations through policies and training that govern what research technologies can be taken from the country and which projects designated foreign nationals can work on in university facilities.

ORE provides a summary of basic export control information, resources for researchers, online training, and other important information on its website. The university's export control officer is available to answer questions and advise on compliance with the complex requirements of federal regulations.

Contact: Dairin Malkemus (dmalkemu@utk.edu)

Details: <http://research.utk.edu/exportcontrol/>

Love award nominations sought

The University of Tennessee is seeking nominations for the Harold Love Outstanding Community Service Award, a recognition administered by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

Nominees can be faculty or staff who demonstrate exceptional and effective public service above and beyond the requirements of their jobs. The final nomination from the university is made by the chancellor. The award will be made based on the effectiveness of an individual's service in terms of improvement to communities, volunteer work programs, charitable service, and leadership roles. Students with exceptional records of community service are also eligible for the Harold Love student award.

Five faculty/staff and five student recipients are chosen by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. Those chosen will receive a cash prize of \$1,000, to be awarded at an annual banquet.

Nomination forms and requirements may be found here

Details: <http://research.utk.edu/pd/love.shtml>

Key date: Friday, March 1, 2013 — submission of nominations to Elizabeth Burman (eburman@utk.edu) and Bill Dockery (dockeryb@utk.edu)

Faculty authors to be honored

Faculty members who have published scholarly monographs in 2012 or 2013 will be recognized in an annual reception honoring faculty book authors on April 1, 2013, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Reese Galleria of the Hodges Library.

Department heads are invited to submit a list of faculty who have had scholarly monographs published. Individual faculty members are also welcome to notify the library about their books.

UT Libraries will acquire the books and display them at the reception. UT Libraries and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement sponsor the event.

Key dates: February 28, 2013 — submission of names and book titles to Dean of Libraries Office (Patty Boling, boling00@utk.edu)

April 1, 2013, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. — reception

Follow ORE updates on Twitter

The Office of Research and Engagement has opened a Twitter account to provide another channel for informing the research community about developments in research and sponsored programs. Follow [@researchUTK](https://twitter.com/researchUTK).

