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Third Thursday

University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture  
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10-2013

## Third Thursday 10-2013

Institute of Agriculture

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# Third Thursday

## Message from the chancellor



A big THANK YOU goes out to everyone who made the Ag Day weekend such a huge success. It started on Friday with the Employee Appreciation Picnic, where we served almost 600 meals. Everyone had the opportunity to preview the Ag Day displays in the Brehm Animal Science Arena. Thanks to Mike Buschermohle and the entire planning committee for a great event. Thanks also to our alum, Donnie Smith, CEO and president of Tyson Foods Inc., for contributing the chicken fillets for the meal.

We had record attendance at Ag Day. During the day we presented the first UTIA Meritorious Service Award to Mr. Wayman Hickman for his long-standing support of institute programs. Mr. Hickman is a 1952 graduate of CASNR in agricultural education. Dr. Jennifer Hatcher was presented with the first Horizon Award for her outstanding leadership as a young professional in Tennessee. Jennifer is a graduate of both CASNR and CVM.

Thanks to Dr. Willie Hart and the Ag Day Planning Committee for organizing Ag Day. And thanks to all the UTIA units and student groups that organized displays and activities. They were outstanding.

We are making progress on salary issues within UTIA. You will recall our goal based upon the Sibson market data was to reach 100 percent of market median or above. Over the past two years, UTIA payroll for faculty and staff grew by 9.3 percent. Overall, we made 4.75 percent progress toward our pay gap after inflation. Staff are now at 84 percent of market and faculty at 90 percent. We will continue to make this a top priority.

Go Vols,



## Institute metrics website launched



A new website offers snapshots of how institute units are performing on a variety of measures.

Data at the site compare fiscal year 2013 outcomes to those of the previous two years.

**More ...**

## You only get one chance to make a first impression

In her **letter to the institute**, CASNR Dean Caula Beyl discusses the impressions our students made upon potential employers at the 29th annual Career Fair. More than 370 students took part, along with 38 companies and institutions.



## Third quarter grants and contracts total \$4,078,259

Sponsored projects for the third quarter of 2013 total \$4,078,259. **See the report.**

To the principal and co-principal investigators, congratulations. External funding is vital to our overall program, and we appreciate the support and efforts of everyone engaged in enhancing our external funding.

# Grants & Contracts

## Thirteen institute scientists honored for patented innovations

Thirteen researchers from the institute have been celebrated with awards for their discoveries that resulted in patents from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

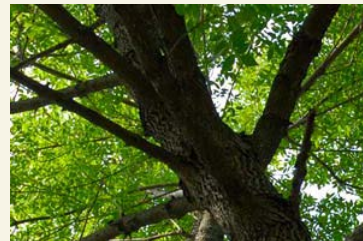
The researchers were presented 2013 University of Tennessee Research Foundation Innovation Awards at a recent ceremony. **More ...**



Tennessee 4-H members had four winning films at the 4-H FilmFest in Branson, Mo. Watch their films and see a list of winners **at this link**.



The Tennessee Geographic Information Council is presenting **GIS overview sessions** in Middle and West Tennessee that include free, hands-on workshops for 4-H and other youth, and 4-H agents and volunteers.



CASNR plant sciences alum Andrew Bell is curator of woody plants for the Chicago Botanic Garden. **In this video**, he previews trees that will do well for anticipated climate conditions in 2050.

## New business plan competition for research spinoffs

The UT Research Foundation has established a new business plan competition aimed at academic-affiliated startup companies.



The competition, named Tennessee Venture Challenge, is designed to encourage students, researchers and community members to create new, sustainable businesses in the state of Tennessee. Finalists will have a chance to win a share of \$25,000. The competition begins next April. **More ...**



## Wow! Look at Grow More, Give More's impacts on community!



**4,780 lbs.  
grown.  
14,340 servings  
given.**

As the UT Farmers Market in Knoxville nears its final day of the year on Oct. 23, the institute's **Grow More, Give More** produce drive is closing in on incredible totals of pounds of produce donated and servings given to Knoxville area hungry neighbors.

Congratulations, everyone! What marvelous and vital differences we've made in people's lives! **More ...**



A Wall Street Journal article features CVM veterinarian Cheryl Greenacre and the care dilemma for backyard chickens when the pets feel foul. Dolly Poulet, a white Silkie chicken, rubs elbows with the likes of Tori Spelling and the Ritz-Carlton. **More ...**



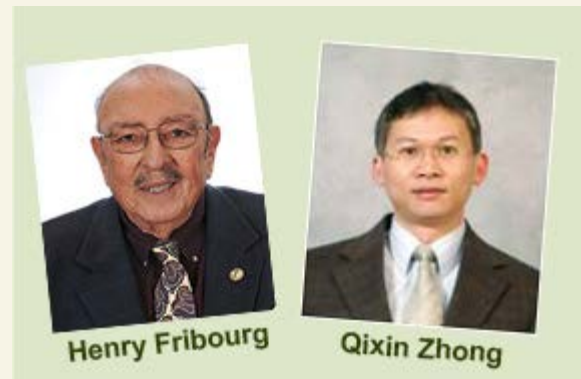
Before you can pick the perfect pumpkin, Tennessee producers have to grow them. The institute is helping pump up production with educational field days, workshops and online resources. **More ...**



The Tennessee Small Ruminant Conference, the first of its kind in the state, is scheduled for Jan. 3 and 4, 2014. Goat and sheep producers are encouraged to preregister. **More ...**

## Two institute scientists honored by land-grant colleges

The University of Wisconsin-Madison College of Agricultural and Life Sciences is honoring institute Plant Sciences professor emeritus **Henry Fribourg** in a ceremony today for his contributions to Wisconsin agriculture and agricultural science. One nominator explained that Fribourg "has improved those who know him by his example of scientific honesty, respect for human dignity and pursuit of excellence." **More ...**



Meanwhile the North Carolina State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences has chosen Food Science and Technology associate professor **Qixin Zhong** as one of its 2013 Outstanding Young Alumni. Zhong was recognized for his achievements in areas of physiochemical properties of foods. **More ...**

## Trick or Trees in the UT Gardens, Knoxville



Come scare yourself silly at the UT Gardens, Knoxville! Families are invited to come in costume and enjoy the third annual Trick or Trees from noon until 4 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 26.

Hike through the garden and enjoy trick-or-treating at five different activity stations. Learn about all the Halloween favorites. From pumpkins to mummies, it's frightening how much fun you'll have! Not to mention the creepy crawly crafts you get to take home.

**More ...**

**Check out the great turnout we had at Ag Day 2013!**



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