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UT Center for Industrial Services Awarded New Agreement as State’s Manufacturing Extension Partnership

The University of Tennessee Center for Industrial Services (CIS), an agency of the UT Institute for Public Service (IPS) has been designated by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to continue its highly successful Tennessee Manufacturing Extension Partnership (TMEP) program. The award increases the TMEP budget and expands CIS’ outreach and services to manufacturers across the state.

“We put together a proposal that addressed NIST Goals and demonstrated why CIS is the best place to house the TMEP program,” said CIS Executive Director Dr. Paul
Jennings. “Throughout this process, we had tremendous participation and support from CIS staff, UT Institute for Public Service, and our many partners throughout Tennessee. Ultimately, this award gives us even greater capacity to help Tennessee manufacturers grow, succeed and create high quality jobs.”

CIS serves over 400 manufacturers annually in all parts of Tennessee, helping companies adopt solutions in performance improvement, innovation, regulatory compliance, sustainability and other areas that are critical to growth and success. CIS efforts produce $600 million in economic impact for Tennessee companies each year.

NIST’s MEP program helps small- and mid-size manufacturers create and retain jobs, increase profits and save time and money. In an open competition, the existing MEP centers in Colorado, Connecticut, Indiana, Michigan, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia, were selected to receive a total of $26 million in federal funding, an increase of about $10 million or nearly 60 percent. The funding will allow the centers to reach new customers and offer new services.

“As Tennessee’s MEP center, CIS has made a measurable contribution to the growth in manufacturing in our state,” said Dr. Herb Byrd III, interim vice president of public service for UT.

As a public-private partnership, MEP delivers a high return on investment to taxpayers. For every dollar of federal investment, MEP clients generate nearly $19 in new sales, which translates into $2.5 billion annually. And for every $2,001 of federal investment, MEP creates or retains one U.S. manufacturing job. Since 1988, MEP has worked with nearly 80,000 U.S. manufacturers, leading to $88 billion in sales and $14 billion in cost savings, and it has helped create more than 729,000 jobs.

THE UT LAW ENFORCEMENT INNOVATION CENTER (LEIC) kicked off the 38th Session of its National Forensic Academy in March with a welcome from noted forensic scientist Dr. Bill Bass.

Twenty-eight participants will spend 10 weeks in Oak Ridge studying the latest techniques in crime scene investigating. Participants will be challenged in the various disciplines through classroom instruction, lab activities, and field practicums in the specialized courses. Academy participants will complete written and in-class competency exams to demonstrate mastery of the subject areas. The goal of the academy is to prepare the crime scene investigator to recognize
key elements and to improve the process of evidence recovery and submission.

This session’s participants represent: Seattle Police Department, Tennessee Bureau of Investigations, Kansas Bureau of Investigations, Brevard County (Fla.) Sheriff’s Office, Duluth (Ga.) Police Department, Georgia Bureau of Investigations, Gwinnett County (Ga.) Police Department, Army Criminal Investigation Division, Lancaster County (S.C.) Sheriff’s Office, North Dakota Bureau, South Dakota Bureau, Kingsport Police Department, Metro Nashville Police Department, Texas Rangers, Knox County Sheriff, North Carolina Special Bureau and the Prescott (Ariz.) Police Department.
**MTAS Looks at Traffic Problems in Signal Mountain**

IN AN EFFORT to assist the town of Signal Mountain with a traffic problem near two schools, the UT Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) and UT Center for Transportation Research partnered to recommend some options.

MTAS Technical Consulting Program Manager Sharon Rollins and Matt Cate, a research leader with the Center for Transportation Research, delivered a traffic calming presentation to the town council and interested residents at a recent workshop. Rollins and Cate suggested various options available to help with the problems of increased traffic and safety issues near Signal Mountain Middle/High School and Nolan Elementary School.

The options included educating the public to make drivers aware that they are going too fast; increasing police patrols and running radar checks near the schools; and making physical changes to the roads, which could only happen after an engineering study that could range anywhere from $5,000 to $30,000. The town opted to conduct further research and discuss with the town attorney before making any decisions.

**CTAS Provides Training on Local Economic Development**

AT THE RECENT County Government Day hosted jointly by the Tennessee County Services Association (TCSA) and County Technical Assistance Service (CTAS), Mark Mamantov of Bass, Berry & Sims law firm provided an overview of certain economic development incentives. This overview covered how counties can take advantage of two specific programs: Payment in Lieu of Tax (PILOTs) and Tax Increment Financing (TIFs). Mamantov introduced these programs and discussed the benefits and costs of each for a class of approximately 85 participants from across the state. Mamantov’s presentation is available on the CTAS website at http://bit.ly/19eyx6W.
Scholarship Applications are Now Available

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED for two scholarships benefitting IPS employees and members of the County Officials Association of Tennessee (COAT).

MARY AND JACK JINKS INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP

Named for former Vice President of Public Service Mary Jinks and her husband Jack, endowment earnings fund an academic scholarship for a child or grandchild of an IPS employee or retiree. Eligible participants must be enrolled full-time for the fall 2015 semester and attend any UT campus including Chattanooga, Knoxville, Martin, Memphis and Tullahoma.

Applications may be downloaded from the IPS website at www.ips.tennessee.edu.

JIM AND MARIE MURPHY GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

The Jim and Marie Murphy Endowed Scholarship will provide scholarships for children and grandchildren of County Officials Association of Tennessee (COAT) members or County Technical Assistance Service (CTAS) employees. Eligible participants may attend any UT campus including Chattanooga, Knoxville, Martin, Memphis, Tullahoma and online. The scholarship recipient for the Murphy scholarship may be attending part-time. For this scholarship, preference is given to graduate students.

To: John Chlarson, MTAS

The Division of Water Resources would like to thank you for your hard work related to the Tennessee Qualifying Local Program (QLP). Your experience with municipalities, regulations, and stormwater management was invaluable and led to the successful development and implementation of the program. There are currently five jurisdictions participating, with several others pursuing application.

The Municipal Technical Advisory Service, through your service, has been a great resource to local stormwater programs. In addition to the QLP program, other resources of note include the development of model stormwater ordinances, facilitation of numerous training workshops, and service on the board of directors for the Tennessee Stormwater Association. We encourage your continued support of local stormwater programs and appreciate your commitment toward protecting water quality in Tennessee.

Robert Karesh, Statewide Stormwater Coordinator
Division of Water Resources, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

To: Al Major, MTAS

I can’t thank you enough for the terrific job that you have performed in the 560 Public Financial Administration seminar over the last six weeks! I think the students really benefited by having you for the two sessions each of budgeting, accounting, and financial reporting. The consistent teaching style and voice of experience enabled them, I think, to grasp the relevant concepts and connections in those topics much more readily. This semester, their respective light bulbs appeared to have lit earlier than ever. That is a testament to your teaching prowess and your ability to connect with the students. Thanks so much for your invaluable contribution to this course and to the UT MPPA program!

David H. Folz, Professor & MPPA Director
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Upper East Tennessee Officials Complete Elected Officials Academy

By Pat Hardy, MTAS municipal management consultant

NEWMILY ELECTED CITY OFFICIALs met in Unicoi recently to participate in an Elected Officials Academy (EOA) Level II session presented by the UT Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS).

Participants received 10 hours of instruction on the subjects of police services, water and wastewater, human resources, risk management, and public works. Officials from the cities of Unicoi, Erwin, East Ridge, Newport, Elizabethton, and Mount Carmel attended the session. Each participant previously graduated from an EOA Level I, and are among the specialized group of elected officials who have completed both levels of the academy. Each will put the lessons learned in the academy to work as they seek to improve their ability to govern in each of their cities.

Officials from cities in Upper East Tennessee gathered for an Elected Officials Academy Level II session.

THE DRIVE! FOR THE FUTURE Website is live and operational for the initiative’s partners and other manufacturers to use as a resource connecting them with funding opportunities and other helpful information.

The website can be found at: www.driveforthefuture.org. It provides information for manufacturers seeking funding opportunities with 11 of the federal agencies participating in the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP). To be recommended by DRIVE!, proposals must meet federal agencies’ funding requirements and be aligned with the DRIVE! regional strategy. This process helps assure that recommended projects support both the DRIVE! work plan and funding agencies’ desires to make targeted investments in strong public-private partnerships to strengthen regional manufacturing.
CITY OF LEBANON GETS GREENER

TENNESSEE RENEWABLE ENERGY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (TREEDC) members PHG Energy and Mayor Philip Craighead have signed a deal to install a gasification plant at the Lebanon wastewater treatment plant. The project will employ a downdraft gasification technology to daily convert up to 64 tons of blended waste wood, sewage sludge and scrap tires into power, up to 300 kilowatts that will be used for the power needs of both the plant and the wastewater treatment facility.

PHG Energy completed a similar, but smaller-sized, project in Covington in 2013. While a standard gasifier, such as the one installed in Covington, can convert up to 12 tons of feedstock per day to fuel gas, the Lebanon model will process up to 64 tons per day without substantially increasing the footprint of the plant. The project is scheduled to be complete in early 2016. TREEDC urges other cities across the state to look into the benefits of diverting landfill waste and converting it to energy.

The site also includes a blog, with informative posts from all of the partners that make up the DRIVE! initiative. Partners are located in a 69-county region in Tennessee, North Georgia, Northern Alabama and part of Kentucky.

DRIVE! for the Future was one of 12 nationwide selected as manufacturing communities, which elevates their consideration for $1.3 billion in future federal funding and technical assistance. IMCP is a federal initiative to accelerate resurgence of manufacturing in targeted regions.
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Requests for accommodation of a disability should be directed to the ADA Coordinator at the UTK Office of Human Resources, 600 Henley Street, Knoxville, TN 37996-4125.

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WWW.IPS.TENNESSEE.EDU

April 8 OSHA 503 Update for General Industry Outreach Trainers, Nashville
April 13 OSHA 200 Trainer Course in Standards for Construction, Nashville
April 14 40-Hour HAZWOPER, Hazardous Waste Site Worker, Knoxville
April 21 OSHA 501 Trainer Course in Standards for General Industry, Nashville
April 22 8-Hour DOT Refresher, Knoxville
April 23 16-Hour DOT, Knoxville
April 28 OSHA 10-Hour General Industry, Jackson

CTAS
April 7 Tennessee County Highway Officials Association, Region III, Franklin
April 7 Drug Fund Workshop, Collegedale
April 8 Drug Fund Workshop, Cookeville
April 9 Tennessee County Highway Officials Association, Region II, Crossville
April 9 Drug Fund Workshop, Murfreesboro
April 23 Drug Fund Workshop, Paris
April 28 Drug Fund Workshop, Johnson City
April 29 Drug Fund Workshop, Clinton
March 19 Operating Budget, Athens
March 24 Operating Budget, Manchester

LEIC
April 13-17 Crime Scene Management Field Techniques, Murfreesboro
April 28-29 First Line Leadership-Supervision, Cleveland

MTAS
April 1 Internal Control and Auditing, Nashville
April 7 Employee Engagement, Knoxville
April 7 Drug Fund Workshop, Collegedale
April 8 Employee Engagement, Collegedale
April 8 Drug Fund Workshop, Cookeville
April 9 Drug Fund Workshop, Murfreesboro
April 9 Layman’s Approach to Regulations of Potable Water Systems Part 1, Jackson
April 14 Employee Engagement, Kingsport
April 14 Drug Fund Workshop, Murfreesboro
April 16 Layman’s Approach to Regulations of Potable Water Systems Part 1, Oak Ridge
April 17-18 Elected Officials Academy, Level I, Centerville
April 17-18 Elected Officials Academy, Level 1, Etowah
April 20 Government Accounting I, Collegedale
April 20 Government Accounting I, Memphis
April 21 Employee Engagement, Jackson
April 21 Purchasing Updates, Bartlett
April 22 Employee Engagement, Franklin
April 22 Purchasing Updates, Jackson
April 23 Drug Fund Workshop, Paris
April 23 Layman’s Approach to Regulations of Potable Water Systems Part 1, Franklin
April 28 Drug Fund Workshop, Johnson City
April 29 Drug Fund Workshop, Clinton
April 29 Government Accounting I, Nashville

LEIC
April 13-17 Crime Scene Management Field Techniques, Murfreesboro
April 28-29 First Line Leadership-Supervision, Cleveland

NAIFEH CENTER
April 21 Tennessee Government Management Institute Orientation, Nashville

RECRUITMENTS
CIS Economic Development Specialist
Admin. Office Administrative Support Assistant III

NEW HIRES
CIS Mike Taylor, Consultant III
CIS George Aslinger, Consultant III

RETIEMENTS
CIS John Erdmann

MTAS
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APRIL SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES*
Rex Barton, MTAS
Karen Blake, MTAS
Misty DePriest, CIS
Brad Harris, MTAS
Terry Hazard, CTAS
Jill Marling, IPS Administration
Warren Nevad, MTAS
Lynn Reed, CIS

*Reflects the month of current hire date.