WEEK ONE of TGMI is in the Books

A TOTAL OF 36 managerial-level state employees recently wrapped up the first week of the Tennessee Government Management Institute (TGMI) administered by the Naifeh Center for Effective Leadership in partnership with the Tennessee Department of Human Resources.

Participants started their week with a team challenge day at Ijams Nature Center in South Knoxville. Throughout the week they had sessions on the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, recognition and directing their own contributions, employee engagement and effective presentation.

(continued on Page 2)
Instructor Michele Goldsberry shows some examples of potential problems in the Crime Prevention through Environmental Design course.

The second and final week of TGMI will be held June 7-12 in Knoxville.

The Future of Public Service

FOURTEEN STUDENTS received a master’s of public policy and administration at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville hooding ceremony in May. Of the 14, eight have served in the Institute for Public Service internship program. The Public Service Internship program places future public servants with cities and counties across the state, as well as with the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) and the County Technical Assistance Service (CTAS).

Pictured (left to right): Brian Moran (worked with the city of Cleveland), John David Clark (worked with CTAS’s Mike Meyers), Urisa Rêvé Smith (worked with MTAS’s Margaret Norris), Madeline Shelly (worked with MTAS’s Warren Nevad), Helena Stocking (worked with Norris), and Troy Williamson (worked with Nevad).
MTAS to Offer EOA Level II Class at Municipal League Conference

The University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) is holding an Elected Officials Academy Level II before the annual Tennessee Municipal League Conference. The EOA, which will be held June 5-6, provides training on municipal services and leadership, and is targeted to new (and often not-so-new) mayors, council members, aldermen, and others, including interested staff. Past graduates attribute their early success with the city, the community and with each other to the information, relationships and insights that they gained through the academy.

This academy will be held at the Tennessee Municipal League Board Room. This location is on the ground floor of the building at 226 Capitol Blvd. in Nashville. Meals include dinner on Friday evening and breakfast on Saturday. Dress is casual. For more information visit the MTAS website at www.mtas.tennessee.edu.

The course trains participants to look for potential danger areas in and around existing buildings. It also covers construction, landscape design, open spaces (i.e. parks, recreational areas, etc.) and design of communities. As an example, instructor Michele Goldsberry, an officer with the Knoxville Police Department, used a parking garage on campus. She noted limited entrances or exits on certain floors, locations of emergency phones and hidden areas in the garage’s stairwells.

“This course is beneficial for law enforcement, and is useful for city codes officers, planning departments and architects,” said LEIC Program Manager Donna Kelley. “Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is not a new concept. However, there has been a renewed interest in the program.”

In addition to officers from the UTPD, law enforcement personnel from Maryville, Blount County, Morristown and codes enforcement officers from the city of Chattanooga were among the participants.
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 are available for download on the IPS website (www.ips.tennessee.edu) and on the IPS intranet for employees.

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. Applications are available for download on the IPS website (www.ips.tennessee.edu) and on the IPS intranet for employees.

Please return all scholarship applications to: Scholarships, IPS, 105 Student Services Building, Knoxville, TN 37996

Scholarship Application Deadline: June 5, 2014.

IT’S TIME FOR IPS EMPLOYEES to nominate a deserving co-worker for an IPS Annual Award. Each year, the Institute for Public Service recognizes its staff for extraordinary achievements in public service and outreach. Staff members are honored through a variety of awards for customer service, teamwork, professionalism, special projects and excellence in public service. Awards recognize achievements of new as well as seasoned staff. Some of the awards have monetary stipends, which have been made possible by a series of endowments created and funded by current and former employees of IPS.

To nominate a co-worker for an IPS Annual Award, you can find a link on the home page of the IPS intranet or click on the Staff tab and click on Employee Recognition.

Here is a look at all of the awards and their descriptions:

NON-EXEMPT EMPLOYEES ONLY

Tom and Diane Ballard Award of Excellence is presented to a non-exempt employee who has demonstrated sustained high quality job performance, initiative and good communication skills, flexibility and commitment to the Institute.

EXEMPT EMPLOYEES ONLY

Robert S. Hutchison Outstanding Public Service Professional Award is presented to an exempt staff member who has consistently shown extraordinary commitment to the public service mission, the institute and the university.

EXEMPT OR NON-EXEMPT EMPLOYEES

The Horizon Recognition Award is presented to a regular non-exempt or exempt employee with less than three years of service with an IPS agency. The recipient must demonstrate a positive attitude, show initiative, be a team player, and exemplify excellence in performance based on their job duties and responsibilities.
Institute for Public Service
Annual Awards

Beacon Award recognizes an individual, either non-exempt or exempt, who has demonstrated a continued capacity for providing top-notch services behind the scenes usually by having first-hand knowledge of projects and by helping support agency outcomes. In other words, as an employee who comes to work day after day supporting the outcomes of the agency, but in a manner that is largely unknown to many customers or even other members of the agency. This award is for work that is done within the agency.

Pinnacle Award recognizes an employee, either exempt or non-exempt, who has demonstrated an ability to provide services that goes above the normal high-quality services we all seek to provide. The person may have extended an extraordinary effort on one significant project, may have performed at an extraordinary level over a period of time, or may have successfully utilized a new method or technology for providing services to our customers. In either case, the employee has modeled “top-of-the-line” performance for his or her agency, at any level in the organization. This award is for an employee who works with external customers to IPS.

OTHER AWARDS

Project of the Year - A team of employees must be working on an ongoing project or have completed a project that supports the IPS strategic plan. A team may be in one agency, be in a cross-agency group, or be in a group made up of IPS staff and outside partners. Project selection is based on contributions promoting advancements in service quality, relationship development, entrepreneurial use of technology, approaches that advance the efficiency of customer operations or IPS internal operations, leadership development, exemplary use of face-to-face contacts or development of new methodologies for advancing delivery of services, or advancement in the use of environmentally friendly technologies.

Faculty Excellence Award recognizes a faculty member who has demonstrated commitment to public service, the mission of IPS and its agencies, and excellence in teaching or consulting. Additionally, the faculty member should be currently working with or have worked with IPS or its agencies within the last year.

Collaboration of the Year recognizes a project resulting in or from the purposeful collaboration of a cross-agency team, association and agency team, or a group of varying customers and an agency. The project must have benefited multiple customer groups that are represented by the agencies within IPS or used the expertise within an agency (or agencies) to benefit the customers of another agency.

If you have problems accessing the IPS intranet site or the awards site, contact your IT staff for assistance. If you have questions about the eligibility of an employee or determining the correct award, contact Judie Martin at judie.martin@tennessee.edu.
LEIC Recognizes Graduating Class of National Forensic Academy

THE UT LAW ENFORCEMENT INNOVATION CENTER (LEIC) recently honored the participants of the 38th session of the National Forensic Academy with a graduation ceremony.

Twenty-eight law enforcement professionals from across the country participated in the 10-week, hands-on crime scene investigation course. While in Oak Ridge for the academy, participants study everything from digital photography to bloodstain investigation to shooting reconstruction.

Jessica Veltri, with the United States Army Criminal Investigation Command, was presented with the Dr. Bass Award for high achievement during the NFA session. Van Williams, with the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, was selected as the NFA Session 38 class leader.
Plans Continuing for Relocation to University Avenue

BIDS WERE OPENED in late May for renovations on the future home of the Institute for Public Service Administration Office, as well as the Municipal Technical Advisory Service and regional offices for the County Technical Assistance Service and the Center for Industrial Services. A tentative completion date is late 2015.

The University of Tennessee bought the former state office buildings at 1610 and 1525 University Avenue in the re-developed Mechanicsville area of Knoxville. IPS agencies, as well as several UT Foundation employees, will occupy the building at 1610 University Ave. and the majority of UT Foundation employees will be located in the 1525 building.

IPS has assembled move teams, made up of employees, in the areas of business, IT, logistics and planning. These teams are working on everything from furnishing the building to outfitting the training rooms with smart technology to coordinating the actual packing and moving.

IPS and the Foundation have also developed a community engagement plan and plan to have introductory meetings with neighborhood groups shortly after construction begins on the buildings.

kudos

To: Dennis Wolf, MTAS
Thank you very much for your assistance and guidance. The answers have been very helpful. Honestly, you have been a source of stress reduction as we progress in this change. We are proud of our water system, and we really enjoy the security we have when we hook up at the fire scene. This really makes a large reduction in points a huge disappointment. Our firefighters put hundreds of hours in to flowing and maintaining these hydrants. We can and would except deductions where they are warranted or where our effort was not appropriate, but the hydrants fit neither of those.

Jason Powell, Johnson City

To: PJ Snodgrass, MTAS
Thank you for your time and effort in the presentation of the “Employee Engagement” seminar in Jackson. You made the course enjoyable and informative. The time flew by!

Ronnie Price, McNairy County Clerk

anniversaries

These dates reflect what is referred to in IRIS as the Current Hire Date.

Donna Bridges, CIS, 12 years
Adam Foote, CIS, 1 year
Norma Wilcox, CIS, 24 years
Dan Anselment, LEIC, 1 year
Jeff Broughton, MTAS, 2 years
John Chlarson, MTAS, 17 years
Honna Rogers, MTAS, 2 years
Libby McCroskey, CTAS, 24 years
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The university does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or disability in its education programs and activities, in violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

Inquiries and charges of violation concerning Title VI, Title IX, Section 504, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, or the Age Discrimination in Employment Act should be directed to the Office of Equity and Diversity (EOA). 1444 White Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37996-3560, telephone (865) 974-2498 (TTY available) or 974-2440.

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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