



Leadership Link

Center for Leadership Development
The University of Tennessee

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Special Points of Interest

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Leadership Conference!

By Ashley Ssebikindu

The Center for Leadership Development will be hosting the 4th annual Clifton M. Jones Student Leadership Conference this month. This is a campus-wide conference designed for students who wish to learn more about leadership and how to enhance their personal leadership skills. The conference will include sessions on motivation, life after college, teambuilding, multicultural leadership issues and other related topics. This event is a great opportunity for students to interact with faculty, staff, and other student leaders.

The keynote speaker for the conference this year will be Marlon Smith. Smith is the founder and president of Success By Choice, Inc., a company which specializes

in giving motivational presentations, including team-building, leadership, and organizational training. Marlon earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Virginia. Smith uses his engineering skills to develop innovative, multimedia presentations. Because of these unique presentations, he is known globally as the “High-Tech Motivator.”

The 2005 Student Leadership Conference will take place on Saturday March 12, 2005 in the University Center at the University of Tennessee. It is free to all registered students and includes breakfast, lunch, and a free t-shirt. The conference is open to the first 400 students who register. If you are interested in attending the conference or would like to find out more about it, you can visit the website at web.utk.edu/~leader.

Patriots: No “I” in Team

By Melodie Cromwell

The New England Patriots are not like any other football team in the National Football League today. While other teams are worried about draft picks and salaries, the Patriots are worried about the player that got injured last week. There are no big stars or standout players on this team; only a decent quarterback and a pretty good place kicker. The team that has “dynasty” written all over it has only four players going to the ProBowl this year; two of which are special teams players. So how can a team that doesn’t have any big name players win so much? It’s called teamwork, and lots of it. The guys on the team don’t worry about making names for themselves. In the 2002 Super Bowl, the players relinquished their right to individual introductions and ran onto the field as a team. There is no showboating, no mouthing off, and certainly no disrespect. All the players respect each other because they all put in 100 percent at every practice. Not one team member will take credit for a victory and many are reluctant to accept an

MVP award for a game. When you look at other teams you see team members blaming each other for losses and injuries but not the Patriots. They win as a team and lose as a team. The Patriots are not only champs on the field but they are also champs off the field. When they aren’t volunteering their time at the Salvation Army, team members are helping the Manhattan youth football leagues. They give back all they have been given by the community by giving the boys and girls good role models to look up to. I think President Bush said it all in his speech at the Rose Garden after the Patriots won their third Super Bowl in four years. He said, “I was impressed by a lot, but let me tell you, what impressed me most was when the team took the field prior to the Super Bowl. It wasn’t one of these things where the spotlight was on any individual, everybody went out at the same time. I thought that was a pretty god signal to America that team work is important; that the individual matters to the team, but the team is bigger than the individual.”

UT's Environmental Semester *By Julia Taylor*

It is official; spring 2005 is the environmental semester. Knoxville has the 9th worst air quality in the country and UT wants to take a semester to focus on it. "From January-May the University will celebrate the teaching, research and outreach activities of the University in which concern with the environment, conservation or sustainable development as a central or significant component," as stated on the official website. There are going to be numerous events, including discussions, lectures and other activities all semester long that relate to the environment.

One event going on all semester is the "Lost World: Discovering Environment" exhibit at the McClung Museum. It features research done exclusively by UT faculty that focuses on the reconstruction and understanding the dynamics of past environment. It is an excellent presentation of UT research achievements.

The biggest component to the environmental semester is the "Making Orange Green" project. The project focuses on trying to reduce energy consumption by UT, specifically in the residence halls. The goal is to reduce energy consumption by 5% in each hall. Residents are encouraged to turn off lights, recycle and get excited about helping UT and the environment. Each month the energy usage for each hall will be plotted against the average usage for that month over the past three years. There are winners for each month, with

prizes of course, and an over-all winner for the semester. If students reduce energy use by 5%, it will save the University almost \$58,000 annually. That is money that can be spent in other places.

To learn more about the environmental semester, visit the official website:

Environmentalsemester.utk.edu



Another Success for Dance Marathon

By Rachel Reed

For ten years now, Dance Marathon at the University of Tennessee has been raising thousands of dollars for East Tennessee Children's Hospital. Students from the University are asked to raise \$200.00 or more prior to the event and then stay awake for 24 hours in support of the cause. This year over \$100,000 was raised for the hospital.

The event, which was a huge success, had over 400 dancers in attendance and even more who made donations to the cause. Of course every year the Executive members and participants think that it is the best year ever for Dance Marathon, but this year it really was. Athena Palmer Exec members said, "Dance Marathon was absolutely amazing. The dancers were remarkable, full of excitement and had a genuine passion for the cause."

Of course it wasn't easy for the dancers to keep their spirits up the entire 24 hours. There were a few incentives to stay awake and remain optimistic. Throughout the night dancers got to enjoy bands such as, The Big Tease and Perfect Orange, a Belly-Dancing class, Yoga, Latin Aerobics, a visit from some of UT's top athletes, and showers if they raised enough money.

The biggest part of the night, which was the real reason they were there was a visit from the kids. Families from the children's hospital showed up at the end of the 24

hours to enjoy the activities and the line dance that had been set up throughout the event and also to thank the dancers personally for their hard work and dedication. Dancers enjoyed watching the kids perform their talents in a talent show and throw pie's in their favorite Doctor's face. It was an emotional ending when the families and dancers joined together in a circle to reflect on the reason they were there and to perform the tradition of singing "Angel's Among Us."

If you are interested in making next years Dance Marathon a huge success then sign up to be a dancer and partake in one of UT's most exciting charitable events. Check out the website for more details on how to sign up. [HTTP://WWW.DANCEMARATHONATUT.COM](http://WWW.DANCEMARATHONATUT.COM)



"Dancing today for a brighter tomorrow"

Student Alumni Associates

By Troy Weston

Begun in 1971 as the Undergraduate Alumni Council, the Student Alumni Associates has grown to one of the largest student organizations on campus. Its primary goal is stated in its mission statement, "students serving students past, present, and future." SAA members work hard every semester on various projects involving University alumni. Members are required to do a minimum of two alumni events per semester. These events involve a number of activities ranging from working with alumni at the Homecoming Picnic in Circle Park to attending Alumni Association Chapter Meetings across the state of Tennessee. The goal of these programs is to keep alumni connected with their alma mater, while at the same time getting students involved with the alumni network and on campus.

The Student Alumni Associates contribute to campus in additional ways throughout the year. SAA is responsible for the annual Shadow Day coordinated in conjunction with the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. Shadow Day is an event that brings High School students to the UT campus to "shadow" a member of SAA for the day. In addition, SAA stirs up the Volunteer Spirit each game day by wrapping the trees along the Vol Walk in orange ribbons.

The Student Alumni Associates does their membership drive early in the spring semester. If you have more questions, contact the Student Alumni Associates at <http://web.utk.edu/~saa> or via email at saa@utk.edu.



Student Government Association

By Kim Baxter

The Student Government Association has been very involved in improving the University of Tennessee campus. In the past year, the Student Senate has worked on many bills and resolutions to create a better campus. A few changes include bills to promote Historic Preservation at the University of Tennessee and to establish a committee on classroom beautification. Also, an act to place SGA suggestion boxes in advising offices was put into effect.

The Graduate Student Senate has increased representation on campus by adding nearly a dozen students from departments without previous representation. The Graduate Student Senate has been active in the implementation of an increased Webmail quota and in hosting the 13th Annual Love Your Library 5K Run and Fun Walk.

This past year, Freshmen Council hosted various polls and surveys to attain information directly from students. Using the information gathered, the council posted an online brochure for new students titled "Little Things to Know About a Big University." The Freshmen Council is also working on a Freshmen Event when freshmen can celebrate at the end of their first year.

SGA has also been involved in keeping the campus up to date with events and campus information. The SGA Webmaster helped put into effect a Campus Calendar that allows students to have a unified place where they can look for all campus events and opportunities. Also, two newsletters about SGA activities were produced and distributed to all university halls and other campus buildings.

Your Student Government Association continues to work for you each day. If you have questions or feedback, please contact your representative. Each student is represented by both representatives from your major and also from your residence.



The Job Market: Making YOUR Difference

By Patrick Ladd

You may have heard horror stories from graduates who have not been able to find work in their intended career field. Well, it's true. Unfortunately, for the last few years, the job market in the United States has been bleak. With the increasing popularity of outsourcing, together with more and more people graduating from college, finding a job is no longer just an afternoon affair.

The bottom line is, with more and more graduates holding the same degree you will be holding, and competing for the same jobs that you will be applying for, you have to set yourself apart from the competition. Students and graduates must set themselves apart. That's right, I'm talking about getting involved with something and taking leadership roles on campus!

Too often, you see job descriptions that look like they are describing you. "Seeking motivated recent grad to take on multiple tasks simultaneously while working with others in a relaxed work environment". Sounds like all of us right? I mean, that is what college is all about. The part that always trips people up however, is that these jobs "require 2-4 years of experience in a related field". Let me give you a little hint, this experience can, all too often, include campus leadership experience. Being involved on campus and taking leadership roles can substitute for experience if you can articulate your involvement to an employer.

The good news is, however that the job market is starting to improve. According to CNN Money (<http://money.cnn.com>), "the economy created nearly 2.2 million jobs last year, an improvement from the 2002-2003 period, when there was a net loss of jobs". However, this growth is still far below normal and has many recent and upcoming college graduates very nervous. So get out there and set yourself apart by getting involved and making your difference.

Upcoming Events

March

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| March 8 | Sex Signals - UC Auditorium - 7:30 p.m. |
| March 9 | Cleaning America's Air Program with Al Gore and Senator Howard Baker - UC Auditorium - 9 a.m.-6 p.m. |
| March 12 | Student Leadership Conference - UC |
| March 15 | Amy Henry from "The Apprentice" - Alumni Memorial Auditorium - 7 p.m. |
| March 21 | MAP Membership Drive - Through April 8th. |

Building a Better Future

By John Foster

There are many student organizations on campus that reach out to the community. But there is something special that separates Habitat for Humanity from the rest. And that is their ability to provide an essential need to people who are less fortunate than most. They build simple, affordable houses for those in need.

With the help of UT students, local corporations, and faith groups, the University of Tennessee chapter helps build non-profit housing for those who meet the minimum requirements. All over the world, Habitat for Humanity has built 175,000 houses. They expect to have sheltered one million people by the year 2005. This incredible accomplishment is only possible through the help of volunteers.

Right now, the UT chapter is currently looking for new members. If you don't think you are capable of painting, hammering, or sawing, don't worry. There are so many other ways to get involved. Fundraising and publicity are important tasks that you can help with as well. To learn more about Habitat for Humanity at UT, check out their website at <http://web.utk.edu/~habitat>. You can also e-mail Habitat for Humanity at habitat@utk.edu. This organization is an incredible way to give back to the community. Give it a try, and see what a difference it can make.

Team Vols

By: Lauren Young

It's almost time for Spring Break 2005! As they do every year, TeamVOLS will be taking two "Alternative Spring Break" trips in March. There are 50 students involved in this great volunteer program, 25 students will be traveling to Savannah, Georgia, and the other 25 are headed to Wilmington, North Carolina. Students will donate their time to service work to have a chance to "give back". Both teams will have fundraisers for their trips between now and spring break, so check the Daily Beacon and flyers around campus for more details of how you can support this great cause!

Volunteer Outreach for Leadership and Service...
Go TeamVOLS!!

