



“Learning and Leadership are indispensable to each another.”  
- John F. Kennedy



- Learning
- Leadership
- Research
- Measurement
- Organizational Effectiveness
- Technology and Innovation
- Communication



# DOCTORATE in LEARNING and LEADERSHIP

*Learn. Collaborate. Lead.*

SPRING 2016

The multidisciplinary Learning and Leadership Doctoral Program equips participants with an understanding of the relationship that learning plays in the leadership process. The program philosophy supports the development of reflective practitioners in a variety of organizations and focuses on the interwoven nature of learning and leadership.

## Faculty News



In February 2016, Dr. Steve Banks presented a research paper at the Eastern Educational Research Association (EERA) annual conference in Hilton Head, SC. The research study, “Work Environment and Job Burnout in Higher Education Information Technology Employees,” was designed to measure relationships among work environment, demographic factors, work-related characteristics, and job burnout in 128 Higher Education IT employees. The Work Environment Scale, the Maslach Burnout Inventory, and a self-report questionnaire were used to survey these relationships. Several significant predictors of job burnout were noted, and work involvement and work pressure accounted for most of the variance in predicting job burnout.



During the Fall 2015 semester, Dr. Hinsdale Bernard conducted an exploratory pilot study, “The Effect of Using a Three-dimensional Periodic Table (3DPT) of the Elements on Science Achievement among Eighth Grade Students in Southeastern Tennessee.” The study was designed to introduce a 3DPT to a group of eighth-grade students and compare their science scores to a comparison group that was taught science in a traditional manner. Science achievement was measured using the TCAP Science test and results indicated that the treatment group scored significantly higher than the comparison group. No gender and ethnicity differences were evident, but there was a socioeconomic level difference.

## Admission News

The Admission Committee is reviewing applications for the Fall 2016 incoming cohort (C12) this Spring. Interviews will be conducted via video conference and admission notification will be made in early May. The new cohort will engage in a series of Induction learning activities in the Virtual Classroom (UTC Learn) and face-to-face on campus this Summer.



# Participant News



- **Laura Bass**, Academic Advisor at UTC, co-authored and presented at the Consortium for Student Retention Data Exchange in 2013 and presented at the National Academic Advising Association conference in 2015. She served as the inaugural Grants and Outcomes Chair for the Junior League of Chattanooga and currently serves as Treasurer.
- **Wahtawah (TJ) Battle**, Special Investigations Unit Investigator at Blue Cross Blue Shield Tennessee, taught criminal justice courses at Lincoln Memorial University last year.
- **Joel Baxley**, SCEA Director of Visual Art Education at UTC, was the lead author on the research study, “Arts Education in the South Phase II: Profiles of Quality,” funded by the National Endowment for the Arts in Spring 2014.
- **Mandie Beeler** was promoted to Associate Dean of Students at Tennessee Wesleyan College in July 2015.
- **Charley Deal**, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Alumni Relations and Annual Giving at UTM, was invited to speak on the topic of “Developing Neighborhood Leaders” at the Neighborhood Redevelopment Conference in Memphis in Spring 2015.
- **Julie Griggs**, Director of the Gibson County Center at Dyersburg State Community College, has enjoyed working at the Center for over 20 years and is currently teaching psychology and sociology courses. She has been married for 35 years and is very proud of her daughters, Brittany and Sarah, and grandchildren, John Allen and Scarlett.
- **Patricia Salazar**, Field Experience Coordinator and Adjunct Professor at Southern Adventist University’s School of Education, presented, “Performance-Based Supervision of Instruction,” at the North American Division Teachers’ Convention in Nashville in 2012.
- **Izetta Slade** has been named associate director in the UT Knoxville Office of Equity and Diversity, effective mid-March 2016.
- **Gerald Stark**, a Senior Upper Limb Clinical Specialist at Ottobock, received the Outstanding Educator Award from the American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists at the National Meeting in New Orleans in March 2015.
- **Caleb Whitted** was promoted to Senior Director of Constituent Development in the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs at UTC.

## Alumni News



The challenge of leadership is to be strong, but not rude; be kind, but not weak; be bold, but not bully; be thoughtful, but not lazy; be humble but not timid; be proud, but not arrogant; have humor, but without folly.

- Jim Rohn



- **Dr. Lindy Blazek** currently serves as Dean of Academic Affairs at Skyuka Hall, an independent K-8 school, and is committed to providing a nurturing environment for children of all ability levels.
- **Dr. Amy Bowers**, Asst. Director of Special Education Services for Dalton Public Schools, and her husband own their own business. Their son turned 2 and their daughter began kindergarten last Fall.
- **Dr. Scott Bruce**, Asst. Professor and Director of Research at Wright State University, has supervised 18 student research projects and is pursuing multiple publications. He spoke on concussions at the Ohio Athletic Trainers' Assoc. Meeting and presented a poster related to his dissertation at the NATA National Meeting.
- **Dr. Jody Hancock**, Program Director of Sonography at Chattanooga State Community College, has been promoted to full Professor.
- **Dr. Colleen Harris-Keith**, Information Literacy Coordinator & Asst. Librarian at California State University, completed her first year at Pacifica Graduate Institute in the Ph.D. in Mythological Studies program. Last year, she presented two papers through virtual participation in the 4th annual Asian Conference on Literature and Librarianship in Osaka, Japan.
- **Dr. Wayne Ingle**, English Dept. Head at Heritage High School, was honored to be invited to sit for an interview with an essayist who is interested in his dissertation research and is publishing her first book on the topic of religion and morality.
- **Dr. Leslie Jensen-Inman** serves as Co-Founder and Institutional Director of Center Centre, the user experience (UX) design school creating the next generation of industry-ready UX designers. She and her team integrate technical and soft skills into a one-of-a-kind curriculum.
- **Dr. Rebecca Pennington**, Assoc. Professor of Education at Covenant College, has been named Coordinator of Curriculum and Assessment and divides her time between teaching and assessment.
- **Dr. Michelle Rigler**, Director of the Disability Resource Center at UTC, has contracted to publish 4 books about Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in Higher Education. She also co-authored a book on safety for people with ASD and co-authored an article regarding federal government support for people with ASD.
- **Dr. Djuana Tomlin**, Instructional Designer/Trainer at Surya Carpet, recently launched an all-natural line of hair products that was inspired by a trip to South Africa. She is also writing an inspirational fictional series about the trials and triumphs of a single mother.
- **Dr. David Weitz**, Director of Safety and Workers' Compensation at Life Care, has been asked to testify in open court as a recognized expert in his field and was a guest speaker at an international health care conference and a national legal conference.

*SEND US YOUR NEWS! This Spring, the LEAD Program Office ([utclead@utc.edu](mailto:utclead@utc.edu)) will distribute a brief survey via email. Please complete the survey and send us your news updates.*