



# UTRA Fall 2012 Newsletter

UT RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

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## COMING EVENTS - page 5

- Sep. 27 Fall Luncheon with Sam Venable
- Oct. 12 AUTumn Festival on campus
- Late Oct. / early Nov. - TBA  
Cumberland County Playhouse Trip
- Dec. 7: Holiday Open House  
UT Visitors Center  
[Hold the Date]

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## The Summer Picnic was Fun !

By Michael Betz



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## President's Corner

*Bruce Wheeler*

*2012 President*



As the new president of UTRA, I have spent a fair amount of time recently thinking about our organization and especially about how UTRA can best serve its members. Most of these semi-organized musings compared our generation of retirees with the generation of our grandparents and the needs of each generation.

If our grandparents lived long enough to retire (a male born in the United States in 1900 had an average life expectancy of 48.3 years, a female of 51.1 years), their lives general were sedentary, often spending their last years living with one of their children. After the passage of the Social Security Act in 1935, most of those over 65 had modest pensions but probably no other income. Health care for the most part was a family affair, with adult women providing much of the "doctoring."

Today the picture is dramatically different. Retirees usually are in better health than their grandparents at the same age, have a considerably longer life expectancy, have Social Security and (for UT retirees) either a Tennessee state pension or TIAA-CREF, or occasionally both. They are far more mobile, are considerably more physically and intellectually active, and usually live in their own homes or in one of the many retirement communities that are springing up all over the USA.

So how can UTRA best serve our generation? For one thing, it seems to me that the most important service it can perform is as a *source of information*. For example, it is almost certain that health care for seniors is going to change very soon - and dramatically. UTRA, along with experts in the Office of Human Resources, can provide crucial information that will help new and long-time retirees make informed decisions. Also, UTRA can offer social services that many of us look forward to and enjoy: picnics, trips, luncheons, informative and entertaining speakers, etc.

How can UTRA best serve YOU? Let us know, either by e-mailing one of your board of directors or phoning our office at 974-4341.

And enjoy! This is what we worked so hard for.

*Bruce Wheeler, UTRA President*

## Renovations at the University Libraries

*Interviews with Dean Steve Smith and Executive Associate Dean Rita Smith By Pauline Bayne*



Dean of Libraries, Steve E. Smith, tells us that this summer's major reconstruction of the second floor of Hodges Library "is the most extensive renovation we have done to any single floor of Hodges since the building re-opened in 1987. The funding came from central administration—the provost and the chancellor. Their support is a great vote of confidence in the Libraries and a reflection of the great work our librarians and staff do every day to support and enhance the teaching and research missions of the university."

### The Commons in 2011-12

The Dean continued, "I think of this project as an exercise in building on strength. The Commons has really made Hodges the main street and the crossroads for the university. This project will update finishes and furnishings for most if not all of the second floor, strengthen our many partnerships, amp up our learning and research support services, open up more spaces, install more group study rooms, and in general make the library better and more accessible for everyone."

Executive Associate Dean, Rita Smith, identified the major changes the students will see upon completion of the renovation.

- Additional group study rooms – there will be 12 new rooms built all along the windows on both north and south commons.
- Spaces dedicated to academic support such as the Student Success Center and other tutoring services.
- Greater integration of the Studio into the commons, creating increased visibility for the services offered in this media production laboratory. Additions include sound editing and video editing rooms designed specifically for that purpose.
- Adding specialized collaborative furniture / equipment called **Media: scapes** (photo below).
- Centralization of service points to increase efficiency—for instance all equipment will be checked out at one desk from Studio equipment to laptops in South Commons. Research consultation will be next to the customer service point (Circulation) at the Melrose entrance. All OIT Help desk and computer support services will be together in the North Commons.



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## SPRING LUNCHEON SPEAKER, Dr. Michael Fitzgerald

On May 24, around 90 UTRA members and spouses attended a luncheon at the Baptist Center West on Westland Drive. Catered by Buddy's, the buffet offered plenty of chicken and barbeque for all. After plates were cleared Mike Betz introduced the guest speaker: Dr. Michael Fitzgerald, a first-rate and popular professor in the Political Science Department. In his remarks, Fitzgerald offered his opinion on the contemporary American political scene and on the coming fall elections. A good time was had by all.



MARK YOUR



CALENDAR and join us:

September 27, Fall Luncheon with Sam Venable

11:30 am – 1:30 pm; Cost \$12 per person

Baptist Center West, 7709 Westland Dr, Knoxville 37919

Catered by Buddy's Barbeque

**Payment due by Sep 24.** Send your check, made payable to UT Retirees' Association, to:  
Chuck Bryant, 115 Conference Center Building, Knoxville, TN 37996-4115

October 12      AUTumn Festival on campus

11:30 am – 3 pm at RecSports Center

Late October / early November – Fall Trip, date to be announced

Come join us for lunch at Cumberland Mountain State Park

And a matinee play at Cumberland Playhouse

December 7, 3 – 5 pm

UT Retirees Holiday Open House

At UT Visitors Center (formerly Faculty Club)

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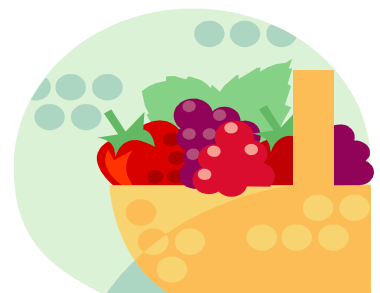
*Summer Picnic, continued*



Our third annual "pot-luck picnic" in the Victor Ashe Park was held on July 17th for the enjoyment of fine food, fellowship and music. Over 30 of us gathered to greet and eat in the cool breezes under the high canopy of the park shelter. After lunch, our own Jim Ward (banjo) and his friend Dot Kirby (guitar) treated us with their talents, and Dot led us in two "sing-alongs".

**REMEMBER:**  
**Farmers' Market**  
**at UT Gardens**

The farmers market is open from 4:00 - 7:00 pm every Wednesday night through October.



## UTRA Membership Dues

Please renew your UTRA membership! The fiscal year for the association runs from May 1 through April 30. It is the policy for UTRA not to send individual invoices for annual dues renewal. Instead, a reminder and a membership application are published here in the *UTRA Newsletter*, and it is up to YOU to remit dues. Most members are life members! However, if you currently pay annual dues, please consider becoming a lifetime member. It is so easy! Just complete the application form on this page.

Help us to encourage all new retirees to join and participate in UTRA. Every member needs to promote our organization to friends and former colleagues now retired from UT.

**PLEASE remember to let us know if your address, email address, and/or telephone number changes.**

New retirees receive the Newsletter and invitations to all social events for their first year of retirement.

### Email or Snail Mail?



Please call 974-6506 or email [UTRA@utk.edu](mailto:UTRA@utk.edu) to change the way you receive the *UTRA Newsletter*.

**VOLUNTEER AS A STAFFER!** We need volunteers for our office at 232 UT Conference Center Bldg. Duties are varied, so your talents will help. Call 974-6506 to sign up!

UT Retirees' Association

[utra@utk.edu](mailto:utra@utk.edu)

### Application for Membership

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Send my newsletter via email: yes / no

Telephone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Retirement date: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Talents you are willing to share:  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Payment included:

\_\_\_\_\_ Annual Membership (\$5.00)

\_\_\_\_\_ Life Membership (40.00) includes spouse

Please complete the form and submit it with your check, made payable to:

*UT Retirees' Association*

Send to:

**115 Conference Center Building**

**Knoxville, TN 37996-4115**

## Congratulation New UT Retirees!

April – July, 2012

Dorian Eli Abernathy	1 July 2012	Transp Services Foreman
Jo Ann Thornberry Alexander	1 July 2012	Upsf-Student Health Servi
David Allen Anderson	16 April 2012	Athletic Plaint Maint.-Knox
Brenda Layman Andy	1 June 2012	Grundy County
Richard E. Aquila	1 July 2012	Arts & Sciences Admin
Rebecca Marie Roller Barton	1 July 2012	Library
Janie E. Bean	2 June 2012	Athletics-Compiance
Virginia Lee Rust Bleazey	1 July 2012	Biomedical Research & Edu
DeAnna C. Bonner	1 July 2012	Career Services
Judith Boser	1 July 2012	Inst for Assessmt & Eval
Ernest S. Browning	16 April 2012	Athletics-Men-Plant Maint
Rita Marie Bozung Brymer	31 July 2012	Col of Ag Sci & Nat Res
William Harrison Burnette	2 June 2012	Steam Plant
Lisa Gail Carey Byrd	1 June 2012	Registrar
Terry Len Caldwell	1 July 2012	Transportation Services
Anna Frances Quirk Carroll	1 June 2012	Arts & Sciences Admin
Karen Diane Catlett	1 June 2012	Small Animal Clinical Sci
Thomas A. Cervone	1 July 2012	Theatre
David Wesley Conner	7 June 2012	University Mail Services
Frances Rose Wamack Cox	25 July 2012	
Barbara Joe Davis Cross	1 June 2012	College of Nursing
Thomas Young Davies	1 July 2012	Law
Mary Kay Foucher Davis	1 June 2012	Cumberland County
Bethany Kay Dumas	1 July 2012	Arts & Sciences Admin
Kelly Melora Finley	1 July 2012	Clement Hall
Thomas Dale Fisher	1 July 2012	Plumbing & Heating Svcs
Cherry S. Seay Foster	28 July 2012	Col of Ed, Hlth & Hum Sci
Andrew Leslie Fox	1 July 2012	SWORPS
Kay Meadows Gardner	1 July 2012	School of Genome Science
Jacqueline L. Garrett	1 June 2012	Financial Aid
Thomas W. George	1 July 2012	Col of Ed, Hlth & Hum Sci
June D. Gorsk	1 July 2012	Public Health
Donald W. Graham, Jr.	30 June 2012	Facilities Planning
Neil Greenberg	1 July 2012	Arts & Sciences Admin
David Michael Griffin	1 June 2012	Forestry, Wildlife & Fish
Roy Henry Grimes, Jr.	1 July 2012	Assembly Ctr & Arena-P/P
Kimberly A. Lester Halbert	1 July 2012	SWORPS
Marcus Allen Halcomb	1 July 2012	Warren County
Helen Elizabeth Hall Harmon-Cargile	1 July 2012	Executive MBA Program
Shirley W. Hastings	1 July 2012	Extension Service-Adminis
Mary Ernesting Anderson Haun	1 June 2012	Hamblen County
Carolyn Ruth Sharp Hicks	5 May 2012	HR-East Reg Svc Ctr-Talen
Donald E. Holbert	1 July 2012	Preventive Maintenance
Dana Eugene Howard	1 July 2012	Preventive Maintenance



*Retirees, continued*

Jonathan M. Hunt	23 April 2012	University Center
Linda Ann Jackson	3 May 2012	Family & Consumer Science
Deborah Karen Jennings	16 May 2012	Athletics-Men-Publicity
Jacqueline Jones	31 May 2012	Dining Services Personnel
Floye Darlene Justice	1 July 2012	Child & Family Studies
Linda Carol Norwood Kallstrom	1 May 2012	Professional & Personal Dev
Ronald Edward Kidd	1 June 2012	Steam Plant
Joseph H. King	1 July 2012	Law
Beverly Ann Bell Kitts	1 June 2012	Dining Services Misc
Kenneth Allen Lee	1 July 2012	University Mail Services
Rose Mary Mack	1 July 2012	Building Services
Julianna Magda	1 July 2012	SWORPS
Alan E. Major	1 June 2012	Municipal Tec Adv Servic
Mary Jeanelle McCroy Mantooth	2 June 2012	Robertson County
Debra Denise Maxey	2 June 2012	Business Office
James Raymond McClellan	1 July 2012	Prev Maint-Residnce Halls
Chancey Jeffries Mellor	1 July 2012	Modern Foreign Languages
Hayden Eugene "Gene" Miles	1 July 2012	Dyer County
Julie Alice Green Miller	1 July 2012	Library
Dwight Edward Morgan	9 June 2012	Preventive Maintenance
Patrick Keith Morton	1 June 2012	Info Tec-Univ Wide Admin
Nancy Carol McElyea Moutoux	1 July 2012	University Housing Admin
Sara W. Wright Neblett	2 June 2012	Univ Ctr book & Supply St
Joe William Newman	1 May 2012	Electrical Services
Michael Leevon Newman	1 July 2012	Office of Info Tech-Gener
Sandra Gail Norris	1 July 2012	Morrill Hall
Charles Earl Ownby	1 May 2012	Athletic Plant Maint-Knox
Eursal Deward Payne	1 July 2012	Plumbing & Heating Svcs
Carol Faust Carmack Phillips	25 May 2012	Arts & Sciences Admin
Willard Daniel Pippin	1 July 2012	Electrical Services
Constance Ann White Ridley	1 July 2012	Davidson County
Sandra Faye Rucker	2 June 2012	Athletics-Men-Bus Office
Richard Arther Saudargas	1 July 2012	Psychology
Larry Dean Scalf	1 July 2012	Office of Info Tech-Gener
Margaret Anne Schneider	1 July 2012	Library
Mary Jo Shermer	9 June 2012	Building Services
Paul Michael Simmons	1 July 2012	Center for Industrial Ser
Janet Shaw Smith	1 July 2012	IRIS Admin Support
John Robert Smith, Jr.	1 July 2012	Preventive Maintenance
Clifford David Stansberry	1 June 2012	Elec Engr & Comp Science
Otis H. Stephens	1 July 2012	Col of Law
Patricia Head Summitt	1 May 2012	IAW – Basketball
Teddy Tackett	1 July 2012	Assembly Ctr & Arena-P/P
Susie D. Treis	2 June 2012	Athletics-Men-Publicity
Jackie Sanders Wolf	1 June 2012	Gibbs Hall
Cathy Louis Worthen	14 April 2012	Humes Hall
Dana Strong Wyman	1 July 2012	Library
Michael B. Zemel	1 July 2012	Nutrition

*Renovations at the University Libraries, continued*

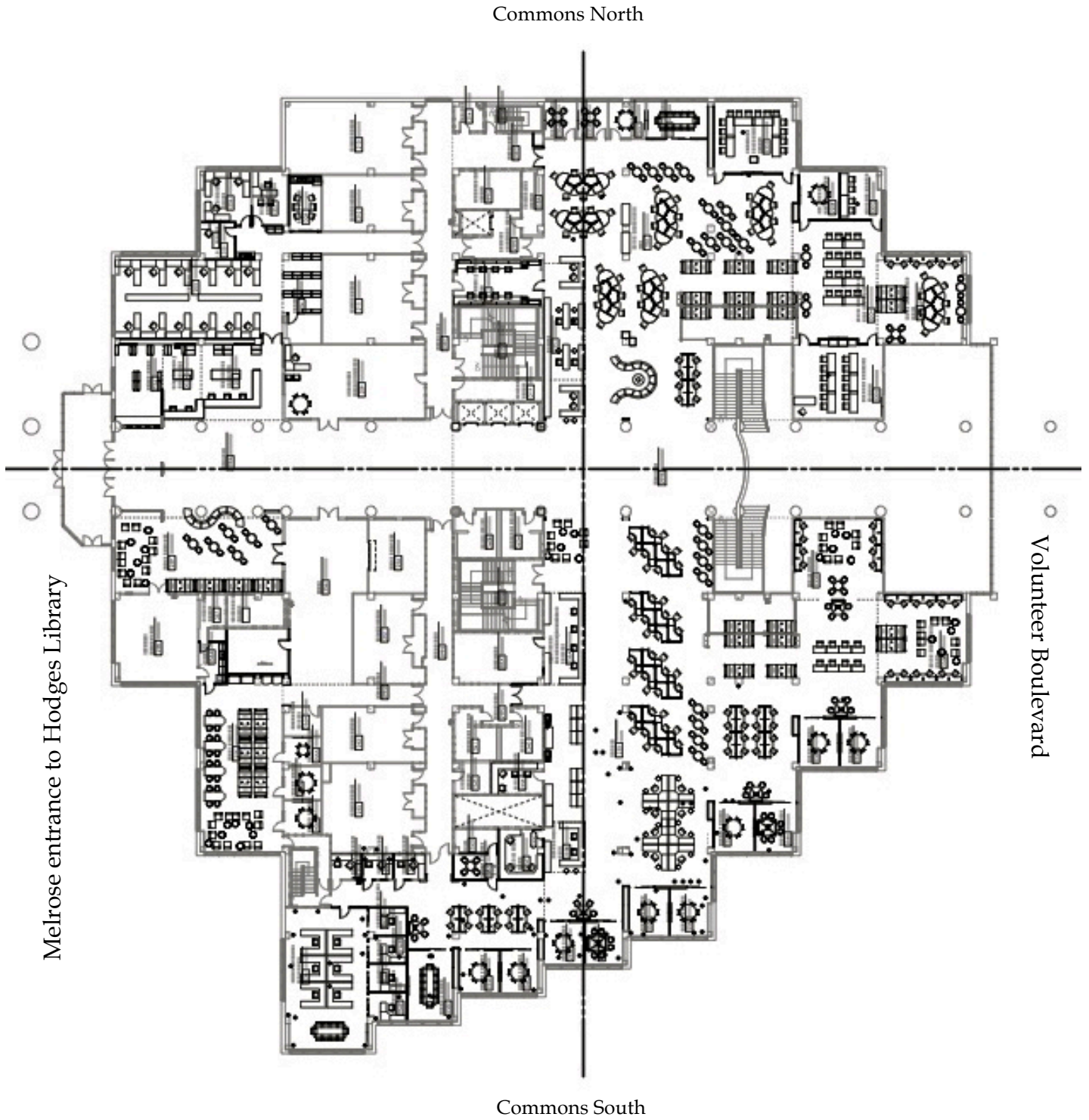
- More open vibrant spaces...Starbucks will now open into the Melrose area to enhance a café-like atmosphere at our entrance. The wall between 245 and Commons South has come down to view windows to windows from south to north
- Use of commons as a real world test environment for new learning concepts, services, and technologies – we have become a space where educators can test new furniture and equipment as technology impacts pedagogy.

*See page 11 for the new Commons layout*

Even more renovations are planned for Hodges Library. Let's celebrate these wonderful improvements! And watch for a grand re-opening of the new Commons.

<b>ONGOING FACILITY PROJECTS</b>	<b>ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE</b>
<b>Commons Renovation</b>	<b>Late September/early October 2012</b>
Renovation to elevator lobbies and core areas of floors 3-6 to provide security enhancements in the stacks	To be determined- sometime in 2013
Refurbishing staff room	mid-August 2012
Transformation of room 120 (Quiet Study Room) to Special Collections processing room	By the end of 2012
Installation of 4 electrical outlets in the floor outside Administration office	To be determined
Repairs to water damage on wall and acoustical panels in the Galleria	Should begin soon and finish by late 2012.
One Stop renovations to ground floor lobby area	Service is scheduled to open June 2013

### New Layout of The Commons, Fall 2012



## WORKING FOR YOU

### UTRA BOARD MEMBERS

Bruce Wheeler, President ([wwheele1@utk.edu](mailto:wwheele1@utk.edu))

Aubrey Mitchell, Past President  
([amitchel6706@charter.net](mailto:amitchel6706@charter.net))

Diana Lopez, Secretary ([dlopez@utk.edu](mailto:dlopez@utk.edu))

Caroline Buckner, Treasurer  
([cbbuckner@bellsouth.net](mailto:cbbuckner@bellsouth.net))

Michael Betz, Board Member ([mbetz@utk.edu](mailto:mbetz@utk.edu))

Jami Cox, Board Member ([jamicox@utk.edu](mailto:jamicox@utk.edu))

Bobbie Julian, Board Member  
(<mailto:bjulian08@comcast.net>)

Chuck Bryant, HR liaison ([jbryan26@utk.edu](mailto:jbryan26@utk.edu))

Jon Gushen, HR liaison ([jgushen@utk.edu](mailto:jgushen@utk.edu))

### UTRA COMMITTEES

Debbie Schriver, Program Committee ([dschriver@utk.edu](mailto:dschriver@utk.edu))

Pauline Bayne, Newsletter editor ([paulinebayne@comcast.net](mailto:paulinebayne@comcast.net))

Tom Hood, UTRA photographer (<mailto:tomhood5@comcast.net>)

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[Recipient]