<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 - 9:00 AM</td>
<td>CHECK-IN &amp; CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 - 9:30 AM</td>
<td>WELCOME</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Brian Dickens, UTSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 - 10:15 AM</td>
<td>OPENING KEYNOTE</td>
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<td></td>
<td>WE WIN! YOU CAN WIN A NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOGETHER: EMPOWERING A TEAM</td>
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<td>Joan Cronan</td>
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<td>Women's Athletic Director, Emerita</td>
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<td>University of Tennessee, Knoxville</td>
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<td>10:15 - 10:30 AM</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<td>10:35 - 11:35 AM</td>
<td>CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS - EMPOWER</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 - 1:00 PM</td>
<td>LUNCH KEYNOTE</td>
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<td>FROM THE PINK PURSE TO THE BRIEFCASE: WHAT WILL YOU CARRY ON YOUR LEADERSHIP JOURNEY?</td>
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<td>Shirley Raines</td>
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<td>President Emerita, University of Memphis</td>
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<td>1:10 - 2:10 PM</td>
<td>CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS - ENCOURAGE</td>
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<td>2:10 - 2:40 PM</td>
<td>BREAK &amp; NETWORKING INTRODUCTION</td>
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<td>2:40 - 3:40 PM</td>
<td>NETWORKING WORKSHOP</td>
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<td>ENGAGEMENT: MAKING LEADERSHIP CONNECTIONS</td>
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<td>Tomi Rogers, IPS &amp; Johanna Owenby, IPS</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:40 - 3:45 PM</td>
<td>CLOSING, REVIEW, AND PREVIEW</td>
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<td>Jeannie Tennant, UTSA</td>
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<td>3:45 - 5:00 PM</td>
<td>E4 POWER HOUR WITH VENDORS</td>
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Friday, May 27
Begins at 8AM - UT Conference Center 4th floor Atrium

8:00 - 9:00 AM  CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST & NETWORKING

9:05 - 10:05 AM  CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS - ENRICH

10:05 - 10:20 AM  BREAK

10:25 - 11:25 AM  CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS - ENLIGHTEN

11:35 - 12:20 PM  KEYNOTE - CHARCUTERIE LUNCH
MY 360 STORY: A MISSION TO LIGHT THE WAY FOR OTHERS
Kelly Drummond
Director of Human Resources, City of Knoxville

12:20 - 12:45 PM  CLOSING
Izetta Slade, UTSA
2022 CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP
OPENING KEYNOTE SPEAKER

JOAN CRONAN
WOMEN’S ATHLETIC DIRECTOR EMERITA
UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE

WE WIN! YOU CAN WIN A NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOGETHER:
EMPOWERING A TEAM
ABOUT JOAN

Joan Cronan is an author, nationally known speaker, business consultant, and Women’s Athletic Director Emerita for the University of Tennessee. For nearly thirty years, she served as Director of Women’s Athletics. Cronan holds the distinction of becoming the first female athletics director when she served as Interim Vice Chancellor and Athletics Director for UT. Under Joan’s vision and direction, the University of Tennessee Lady Vols garnered a reputation as one of the most visible and respected programs throughout the nation. Once a nationally ranked doubles tennis player, Cronan is a two-time graduate of LSU; she earned her B.S. and M.S. both in physical education. Joan is a member of several halls of fame and was inducted into her alma mater LSU’s Alumni Hall of Distinction. Early in her career she was the athletics director at the College of Charleston for 10 years. Under Cronan, the school was selected as the No. 1 women’s athletics program in the country by the American Women’s Sports Foundation.

Cronan took the helm as the women’s athletics director at Tennessee in 1983; she gradually expanded the program from seven to eleven sports, and helped the department increase annual giving from $75,000 to more than $2 million per year. Cronan introduced events such as the recurring Salute to Excellence fundraising dinner, and dozens of women’s scholarships were endowed during her tenure. She also transformed UT’s women’s athletic facilities, overseeing the construction of several state-of-the-art venues, and advocating for student-athletes. She was influential in Tennessee’s operating budget for women’s athletics growing to nearly $30 million by the time the university merged the programs. When Cronan was initially handed the reins on Rocky Top, she was the only female AD at annual SEC meetings and shaped the collegiate landscape for nearly three decades.

Cronan teamed with legendary basketball coach Pat Head Summit to transform the Lady Vols and pioneered team travel for women’s basketball - via charter flights, and cultivated the growth of Summit’s salary to more than $2 million. During the Cronan era the Lady Vol athletic excellence was matched by an expectation for high achievement in the classroom (exhibited by a 98 percent graduation rate) and a philosophy of giving back to the community. Cronan was one of the first women to serve on the NCAA’s Executive Committee and Management Council. She became just the fourth woman to be named President of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA). Cronan has been active on the boards of First Tennessee Bank, Carson-Newman College, The Pat Summit Foundation, UT Business School’s Department of Management, the U.S. Sports Academy, the YMCA, Vice Chair of the Leadership Knoxville board, the fellowship of Christian Athletes, and Athletes in Action.

She and her husband, Tom, raised two daughters—Kristi and Stacey—and have five grandchildren.
2022 CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

SHIRLEY RAINES
PRESIDENT EMERITA, UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS

FROM THE PINK PURSE TO THE BRIEFCASE: WHAT WILL YOU CARRY ON YOUR LEADERSHIP JOURNEY?
ABOUT SHIRLEY

Dr. Shirley Raines, the first woman president of the University of Memphis, served for 12 years in the role. Now, as president emerita, she is a speaker, consultant, and author. Shirley attended UT, Martin for her bachelor’s degree and UT Knoxville for her Master’s in Child Development and her Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction and Administration and Supervision. Her career journey went from preschool teacher to the first woman president of the University of Memphis. Her book, An Uncommon Journey: Leadership Lessons, chronicles her journey and was published in 2018.

Prior to her years as president, Shirley served on the Faculties of Universities in six states in administrative posts as department chair, dean, and vice chancellor. She wrote 18 books and has the distinction of being awarded the UT Alumni Professional Achievement Award. She was invited to speak at the White House Conference on University Entrepreneurship. In addition, she has been a representative for an education association at the U.N. She has also served as a faculty member for the Harvard Institute for New Presidents and Chancellors.

She encourages women to accept leadership challenges, encourages young people to stretch beyond their present circumstances, and encourages citizens to grapple with the great issues of society. Shirley has served as the first woman-chair of Conference-USA, the first woman-chair of Memphis Regional Chamber of Commerce, and was inducted into the Tennessee Women’s Hall of Fame.

Shirley is married to Dr. Robert Canady, a former professor, artist, and pilot. They live in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, near her son and two grandchildren.
2022 CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

KELLY DRUMMOND
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES, CITY OF KNOXVILLE

MY 360 STORY: A MISSION TO LIGHT THE WAY FOR OTHERS
ABOUT KELLY

Dr. Kelly Drummond is a certified professional in Human Resources through the HR Certification Institute and the Society for Human Resource Management. As the current Director of Human Resources with the City of Knoxville, Kelly administers the compensation/classification system, talent acquisition, pre-employment processes, employee training, employee relations, and assists directors in employee discipline. Prior to this role, she worked as the Vice President of Human Resource and Leadership Development with the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley, and the Executive Director of Human Resources for Knox County Schools. She also served as a national trainer for Boys & Girls Clubs of America and facilitated national trainings on leadership, human resources development, employee motivation, and personal effectiveness.

Dr. Drummond currently serves as an instructor at the UT Center for Professional Education. She also facilitates the SHRM Certification course at Roane State Community College. Kelly holds a doctorate degree in Education with a concentration in Human Resource Development from Lincoln Memorial University. Dr. Drummond is also a certified professional leadership coach.

Kelly is a commission member for the Tennessee Commission on Children, board member of the YWCA Knoxville, and a member of the Community Health Council. Dr. Drummond has her own HR consulting company, Positive Energy HR Consultancy and Coaching. Kelly is a graduate of the 2011 Class of Leadership Knoxville.

Kelly has two adult sons, Eric and Jeffrey, but her baby is her 10 year old Pekachi – Leo Mufasa.
NETWORKING WORKSHOP ENGAGEMENT: MAKING LEADERSHIP CONNECTIONS

Tomi Rogers, IPS

Tomi currently serves as the Human Resources & Operations Manager for the Institute for Public Service (IPS). Before joining IPS, she served as an Extension Specialist in Extension within the University of Tennessee’s Institute of Agriculture. Tomi received her BS in Human Resource Development and her MS in Human Resource Management, both from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She is currently pursuing a doctorate in Learning and Leadership from the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. In addition to her career with the University of Tennessee, she has worked in human resources for companies such as TEAMHealth, Amazon.com, and the University of South Carolina. One of her passions is helping other individuals grow through professional and personal development from topics such as leadership and supervisory skills, communication, customer service, mediation, mentoring, and strategic planning. She considers herself fortunate to have been afforded countless opportunities to share her passion of personal and professional development with others.

Johanna Owenby, IPS

Johanna joined UT Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) as training consultant in June 2018. Before joining MTAS, Johanna held several roles during her time in UT Employee and Organizational Development from 2007-2018. Her entire professional career has been with UT! She credits strong and encouraging mentors with guiding her to a career that brings her purpose, meaning, and engagement every day. She holds an MS in Adult Education and a BA in Psychology, both earned at UT, Knoxville. She is certified in several instruments and programs including Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and Everything DiSC.
Jennifer Western is an Academic Personnel Specialist in the Office of Faculty Affairs where she handles faculty HR, such as promotion & tenure, appointment letters, and leave requests. She has been with UT for over 7 years, getting her start in student affairs. After working with incoming students and seeing their love for UT, she decided to finish her degree and graduated Spring 2021 with a Bachelor’s in Communication Studies as an adult, first generation student. Jennifer’s motto is: “Be the kind of leader people would follow voluntarily, even if you had no title.” – Brian Tracy. She believes that leadership is not defined by a title or position, but rather the attitude you have and the willingness to make a difference.

**EMPOWER MAY 26 10:35 - 11:35 AM**
**BE YOUR OWN SHERO: LEARNING SELF-EMPOWERMENT**
Heather Ervin, UT Athletics

Heather is in her seventh season as a member of the UT women’s basketball staff, & in her fourth season as the Director of Player Relations and Administration. She made a return to college athletics after serving as the program administrator at the UT Center for Information and Communication Studies in the College of Communication from March 2015 to July 2016. Prior to that, Ervin worked with the University of Tennessee football program for 13 years, from 2001-14. She was promoted in 2009 to Assistant Director of Football Operations, as the only female in the Southeastern Conference to hold that position. Ervin has a wealth of knowledge in the sports industry not only as a former student-athlete, but as a coach and administrator as well. The Sweetwater, Tenn. native holds both a bachelor’s degree in Health and Human Services (1999) and a Master’s Degree in Foundations of Education with an emphasis in Sports Management (2001) from Troy University, where she played basketball and later served as a graduate assistant basketball coach for two years. Ervin and her husband, Harry, reside in Maryville and have two daughters: Jasmine (19) and Jada (15).

**ENCOURAGE MAY 26 1:10 - 2:10 PM**
**PUT YOUR MASK ON FIRST: PRIORITIZING SELF-CARE**
Phuong Nguyen, UTHSC

H. Phuong Nguyen is a Montrealer turned Memphian who is passionate about workplace wellness, authentic empowerment, and community uplift. As a Higher Education professional currently in the role of Human Resources Employee Relations Administrator and Deputy Title IX/EEO investigator at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, she strives to build healthy and equitable workplace environments through education, accountability, and policy change. Her primary professional focus is to individually and collectively foster a thriving and inclusive workforce. Her primary—and most critical—personal focus is to exemplify leadership every day for her rambunctious 8-year-old daughter.

**ENRICH MAY 27 9:05 - 10:05 AM**
**WHEN YOU ARE LEARNING, YOU ARE GROWING: THE VALUE OF LIFELONG LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT**
Jalonda Thompson, UTK

Jalonda Thompson is the inaugural Director of the Women in Engineering Program and a lifelong learner with a passion for developing leaders to achieve their fullest potential. Trained as a higher education professional, Jalonda has a diverse background in STEM research, business administration, leadership development, and experiential learning. Jalonda has experience providing career coaching for diverse learners and is a recognized facilitator and programmatic leader for diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives. She joined the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, in December 2015 and served as the Assistant Director of the Office of Diversity Programs within the Tickle College of Engineering. She is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Leadership and Decision-Making at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga.

**ENLIGHTEN MAY 27 10:25 - 11:25 AM**
**LEVERAGE THE POWER OF SELF-AWARENESS: KNOW YOU, GROW YOU, SHOW YOU**
Maria Martinez, UTK

Maria is currently the Digital Asset Administrator in Facilities Services on the Knoxville campus and has been in her role for 5 years. She is currently a PhD student in the Higher Education Administrator program at UT. Her research is focused on looking at barriers and experiences women are facing when advancing in administrative roles at Higher Education institutions. In her free time, Maria enjoys cooking, reading, and most outdoor activities. Her five top Clifton Strengths are: Input, harmony consistency, learner and discipline.
EARLY LEADERSHIP
Room Host: Virginia Fowler, UTK

Virginia Fowler is the Academic Affairs Manager for the College of Nursing at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She has been with UTK College of Nursing for 7 years and in her current role for 3 months. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends, running, and planning Scouting events. Virginia is excited to serve as a room host for the E4 CWL 2022 event.

EMPOWER  MAY 26  10:35 - 11:35 AM
HOW TO MAXIMIZE YOUR STRENGTHS: SELF-CONFIDENCE AS A SKILL
Abeer Mustafa, UTC
Abeer Mustafa is Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga. In her short time, she has worked on enhancing the student experience and repurposing space for the students to enjoy. Abeer is a graduate of the University of Houston where she received her BA in Business Administration, Sam Houston State University with an MBA, and doctorate from Oakland City University. Abeer launched her career in higher education at Rice University, where her construction experience led her to 3 LEED new construction housing communities. It was in this capacity that Abeer was recruited to the University of Houston, to help with expanding the residential program. Abeer has also worked at Winston-Salem State University, North Carolina State University, and the University of California, Chico before coming to the University of Tennessee Chattanooga.

ENCOURAGE  MAY 26  1:10 - 2:10 PM
SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO ENCOURAGE YOURSELF: THE POWER OF POSITIVE SELF-TALK
Laura Sloan, UTSA
Laura Sloan joined the University of Tennessee System in 2019 and currently serves as the Director of Compensation. Bringing more than fifteen years of HR experience in diverse industries including social services, telecommunications and manufacturing, Laura brings expertise in several HR functional areas including talent management, employee & organization development, employee relations and compensation. Laura provides guidance in compensation strategy to the university while leading the system-wide compensation team to continually develop and implement compensation initiatives. Laura holds a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Psychology & Development and completed a Master of Business & Human Resources from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (2022).

ENRICH  MAY 27  9:05 - 10:05 AM
“JUST DO IT!” IS TAKEN: PERFECTING YOUR PERSONAL BRAND
Rebecca Alcorn, UTK
Rebecca is the Training Coordinator for Facilities Services, where she has worked for 5 years. Prior to working in Facilities Services, she worked for a year as a Curriculum Developer for CAFSP on the Ag Campus. She was the Corporate Trainer at UT Federal Credit Union for 7 years before moving to work at UTK. She spends her free time training jiu-jitsu, fishing or hunting, or working in the garden. Mom to one, bonus mom to two, she lives in Knoxville on her quarter acre farm consisting of one pit bull, one rabbit, one duck, two quail, and 19 chickens.

ENLIGHTEN  MAY 27  10:25 - 11:25 AM
SISTERHOOD AND COMMUNITY: MUTUAL BENEFITS OF MENTORING
Petra McPhearson, UTM
Petra Rencher McPhearson has been with the University of Tennessee for over twenty-three years. Originally from Clarksdale, Mississippi, Petra began her career with the university in the UT Health Science Center Bursar’s Office, and has served in various roles within the finance and administration area at both the Health Science Center and Martin campuses. She was instrumental in creating the position control model and the ‘Sour in Four’ tuition model at UT Health Science Center and UT Martin, respectively. A portion of her accounting career was dedicated to Bethel College, now Bethel University, where she served as the principal financial officer. Currently, Petra is the Senior Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration at UT, Martin. The vice chancellor role is responsible for the business, safety, and physical plant operations of the campus. She received her Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Alcorn State University and a Master of Science from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Petra is a lifelong learner of leadership and professional development. She believes every day is an opportunity to learn.
MID-LEVEL LEADERSHIP

Room Host: Charlotte Gregory-Brothers, UTFI
Room: 413C

Charlotte Gregory-Brothers is a native of Greenville, MS, located in the alluvial plains of the Mississippi Delta. She is an alum of Jackson State University, obtaining a BA in Political Science, and is currently completing an MBA at Delta State University. Charlotte has had an accomplished career in the tourism and hospitality industry. She has served as a Welcome Center Supervisor, Director of Communications and Marketing and Convention Sales Professional at four Visitor and Convention Bureaus, in Greenville, MS, Starkville, MS, Athens, GA, and Knoxville, TN. Upon arriving in Tennessee, Charlotte changed her career trajectory and transitioned to the UT Foundation, in the field of Prospect Development, where she currently serves as an Assistant Director. Charlotte has embraced that serving others can only be accomplished when you have prepared yourself to do so academically, spiritually, and culturally.

EMPOWER MAY 26 10:35 - 11:35 AM
OVERCOMING IMPOSTER SYNDROME: WILL THE REAL YOU PLEASE STAND UP!
Taren Moore, UT Athletics

Taren joined the Tennessee Athletics leadership team as Assistant Athletics Director for #Culture in 2021. She manages all facets of athletics human resources, including payroll, recruiting, retention, benefits & more. Prior to Tennessee, Moore spent five years at Duke—the final three as executive Director of Athletics Human Resources. In addition to overseeing human resources for Duke Athletics—managing policies and procedures related to Title IX, employee relations, harassment and misconduct and other areas—Moore also provided leadership in Duke’s expansion of diversity and inclusion initiatives. Moore graduated from North Carolina in 2012 with a bachelor’s degree in Exercise & Sport Science. She went on to receive a Juris Doctor degree from North Carolina Central’s School of Law in May 2016.

ENCOURAGE MAY 26 1:10 - 2:10 PM
FINDING YOUR VOICE?: IT REALLY IS NOT LOST!
Jean Hulsey, UTIA

Jean has more than 15 years of experience in marketing, communications, & brand management. In her current role as Director of Creative Services for the UT Institute of Agriculture, she leads the creative team in strategic communication & branding efforts. She uses her areas of expertise in brand management, creative strategy, organizational culture, communications, design, & project management to provide guidance & direction to her talented team. She is a board member for Career Rebound, a non-profit organization helping unemployed & under-employed individuals, & serves on several key committees for the university, including the annual UT Gardens Gala. Recently, she started a PhD program in Leadership & Decision Making at UTC. She also holds a MBA, a MS in Communication Studies, & a BFA in Graphic Design, all from UTK. Although not a native of Tennessee, she has lived in Knoxville long enough to happily “embrace the orange”. In her spare time, she enjoys hanging out with her son Drew & dog Buster, watching a football game, or working through a list of never-ending home improvement projects.

ENRICH MAY 27 9:05 - 10:05 AM
CREATING POWERFUL WORK RELATIONSHIPS: THE TRANSFORMATION VERSUS THE TRANSACTIONAL
Patricia Burks-Jelks, UTSI

Patricia has been employed with the University of Tennessee Space Institute in Tullahoma, TN for over 30 years where she serves as Director for Human Resources, Equity & Diversity Officer, & Compliance Officer. She is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University where she earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Social Work & a Master’s Degree in Professional Studies, emphasis in Strategic Leadership. She is also a graduate of the UT Leadership Institute. For a second term, Patricia currently serves as President of Women in Higher Education in Tennessee (WHET). In both 2012 & 2020, WHET awarded her the “June Anderson Award” recognizing her “outstanding contributions in promoting equality for women in higher education”. She is also a Past President of the Tennessee Chapter of the College and University Professional Association for HR (CUPA-HR). During her CUPA-HR leadership, she was awarded the “Meritorious Service Award” from Southern Region CUPA-HR recognizing her leadership & recognizing her as a pioneer for being the Tennessee chapter’s first African-American President. In her community, Patricia serves as Executive Director for the Franklin County Faith Based Recovery Coalition, a non-profit that supports individuals and families that are in recovery.

ENLIGHTEN MAY 27 10:25 - 11:25 AM
FORGING ALLIANCES: LET’S STOP COMPETING AND START COLLABORATING
Erin Darby, UTK

Dr. Darby is the inaugural Faculty Director for the Office of Undergraduate Research & Fellowships in the UTK Division of Student Success. In this capacity, Darby is charged with growing UT’s undergraduate research enterprise & more profoundly embedding research in the UT undergraduate experience. As an Associate Professor of Early Judaism in the Department of Religious Studies & an active archaeological project director, her research has taken her & her students all over the Middle East & Mediterranean. Darby has also spearheaded a number of campus & community enrichment projects including a range of cultural programs, religious diversity initiatives, & public educational events. She has served as the chair of the Chancellor’s Council for Diversity & Inclusion, & coordinates the UTK Council and Commission Diversity Matters Lunch & Learn Professional Development Series. She is this year’s recipient of UT’s LR Hesler Award, which recognizes exceptional teaching & service.
Ashlie Czyz has been at the University of Tennessee for 22 years, including 18 years spent working in Human Resources, both for the UT System and for her alma mater, UT Knoxville. She currently serves as Executive Director of Talent Management for System Human Resources overseeing executive recruitment, employee relations, and other areas of practice that allow her to spend time working with and serving alongside faculty, staff, and students across the UT System. Czyz is passionate about sharing her love of UT and the state of Tennessee with prospective employees and is proud to serve as an ambassador for the University by championing and promoting our shared Be One UT values.

Angela Gibson serves as the Chief Information Officer (CIO) at the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture (UTIA). With more than 20 years of IT leadership, she provides strategic direction & vision for IT across UTIA. She leads a diverse IT community to deliver effective technology solutions & implement modern business processes for enterprise standardization. Ms. Gibson says working at UTIA aligns with several of her personal values of growth, integrity, service, & teamwork. She believes UTIA provides a great service to citizens of Tennessee & beyond by playing an impactful role through research, education, & outreach. She is a change advocate & passionate mentor. She has served in this role for more than 3 years. She earned her Bachelor’s & Master’s degrees in Business Administration from the Haslam College of Business at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. As a life-long learner, she earned her Project Management Professional certification in 2019 & completed UT’s Executive Leadership Institute in 2020. She has lived in the Knoxville area for over 30 years & enjoys traveling, hiking, camping, and boating.

A Tennessee girl, Dr. Judy Cheatham is the Provost and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs at the University of Tennessee Southern, since fall 2015. She has been in higher education almost her entire career, always teaching English in some way, shape, or form - but also outside the classroom by working in teacher education; workforce, adult, & family literacy; publishing; economic development an&d workforce training; & the curriculum & instruction of global English, all at local, state, & federal levels. Before assuming the position of Provost at then Martin Methodist College, she was also National Vice President of Reading Is Fundamental, headquartered in Washington, DC, & was author & director of a seminal $9.4 mil study on stemming summer learning loss in elementary-aged students in 173 of the poorest schools across the country. A wife & working mother of two, her paternal grandmother attended through the second grade in rural west Tennessee & her maternal grandmother & great grandmother “graduated” from what is now Appalachian State University. Women’s “Work” & education have interested her since her junior year in college.

Stacey Patterson is the Vice President for Research, Outreach and Economic Development at the University of Tennessee. In this role, Patterson serves as the primary liaison to UT’s partner, Battelle Memorial Institute, and to the UT-Battelle Senior Management Team. Patterson joined the University in 2006 in a joint role as a Licensing Associate for the UT Research Foundation (UTRF) and a Research Scientist in the Center for Environmental Biotechnology (CEB). In 2009, Patterson joined UT System Administration as Director of Research Partnerships for the Executive Vice President Office. In 2012, she was named Assistant Vice President and Director of Research Partnerships, and in 2015 she was promoted to the dual roles of UT Associate Vice President for Research and Vice President of the UT Research Foundation. Patterson has bachelor’s and doctoral degrees in Microbiology from UT Knoxville and a master’s degree in Environmental Health Sciences from East Tennessee State University. She completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of South Florida. Patterson promotes technology commercialization and entrepreneurship systemwide as President of the University of Tennessee Research Foundation and serves as the interim Co-Director of the recently formed Oak Ridge Institute at UT.