Office of the Dean of Students

Associate Vice Chancellor & Dean of Students
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Introduction

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• Dean of Students Initiatives
  • Invite Your Faculty/Staff to Lunch
• Bias Protocol
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Dean of Students Office Overview

- Advocate
- Support
- Challenge
- Connect
Dean of Students Office Overview

• Promote a vibrant, safe and engaged student experience;
• Empower students to promote positive change in their communities;
• Promote initiatives that build relationships among students, faculty, staff, and the community; and
• Provide support to students, faculty, staff, and families.
Who Makes Us Work..

Career Services
Center for Leadership and Service
Center for Student Engagement
New Student and Family Programs
Sorority and Fraternity Life
Student Government
Student Media
Dean of Students Spotlight Initiatives

AROUND ROCKY TOP WITH THE DEAN OF STUDENTS

Talk, eat, serve, or get your game on with opportunities from the Office of the Dean of Students. Whether you're looking to connect with professors and administrators, help influence decisions affecting students on campus, simply have your voice heard, or cheer on the Volunteers, there's an opportunity for you.

Vol Talks & Walks with Dean Melissa Shivers
#OrangeKicks
Dean Shivers is on hand every Wednesday afternoon at the UC from 1:30 until 3:00 p.m. No appointment is needed—just look for the orange tennis shoes and take a few minutes with the dean to share your concerns, complaints, or accomplishments.

Smokey's Sofa
Get a front row seat at UT's men's and women's basketball games by applying to sit court side on Smokey's Sofa. Applications may be submitted by students, or UT faculty and staff can nominate a student for the honor. Apply at dos.utk.edu.

Lunch Hours & Orange Plate Special
Treat one of your favorite professors or university mentors to a free lunch on the UT campus, courtesy of the Office of the Dean of Students and UT Dining. You can also dine with Dean Shivers and Chancellor Jimmy G. Cheek by signing up on Twitter. Follow @RockyTopDean for more information.

Rocky Top Roundtable
Take a moment to apply for a position at the dean's table. This student advisory group will play a pivotal role in providing feedback about the UT student experience and will influence change for future students. Learn more at dos.utk.edu.
Dean of Students Spotlight

Initiatives: Lunch Hours

• Lunch Hours

• **Initiative:**
  The Dean of Students office has partnered with Aramark to provide both the student and UT faculty or staff member this free lunch on several Tuesdays and Fridays throughout the spring semester at either Presidential Court Café or the University Center.

• It’s important for you to know that this initiative is a response to the 2014 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), in which UT seniors’ ranked opportunities for interaction with administrative staff and offices significantly lower than their peers at similar institutions.

• **Elements:**
  Free lunch passes for a student and faculty/staff member to be redeemed at dining locations on campus. Students pick up the passes then invite a faculty/staff member to lunch. UT Dining validates & keeps the passes at checkout.
Dean of Students Spotlight
Initiatives: Bias Protocol

• The purpose of the Bias Response Protocol is to:
  • Manage the timely and appropriate response to bias incidents,
  • Implement a plan of action to address the bias incident, and
  • Conduct appropriate follow-up to bias incidents.

Bias.utk.edu
Dean of Students Spotlight Initiatives: Bias Protocol

Step 1
• Collect verifiable information

Step 2
• If identified, provide support services to student victim

Step 3
• Engage UTPD and/or Office of Student Conduct & Community Standards and/or OED and/or Human Resources in the investigation of the incident

Step 4
• Initiate bias incident communication with the campus community (if applicable)

Step 5
• Document and conduct follow-up to bias incident
Bias Incidents

Fall 2014

• 10 Bias Incidents
  • 8 Student to Student
  • 2 Student to Non-Student

Spring 2015

• 1 Student to *Unidentified
• 1 Student to Student
Dean of Students Spotlight
Initiatives: Student Absence Notification Procedure & Policies

• The student absence notification process is designed to serve as a resource for students who need to notify instructors of their absence due to extenuating circumstances and/or emergency situations.
Instructor Authorization

- Approval of absences and missed work are determined by the instructor. Notification of absence by the Dean of Students Office does not excuse students from classes and/or course requirements. It is the responsibility of the student to contact their instructor/s to determine a mutually agreed upon arrangement for all missed work.
- The Dean of Students Office reserves the right to grant or reject notification requests at any time.

Short Term Absences

- Short term absences are absences lasting 1-2 class days.

Long Term Absences

- Long term absences are absences lasting longer than 3 class days.
Dean of Students Spotlight Initiatives: Student Absence Notification Procedure & Policies

- Fall 2014
  - 115 Student Absence notifications requests processed
- Spring 2015
  - 36 Student Absence notifications requests processed

![Pie chart showing the distribution of reasons for student absence notifications in 2014-2015. Reasons include Medical (58%), Surgeries (15%), Other (6%), Family Death (14%), Family Emergency (6%), and Military (1%).]