



University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Update August 28, 2015

- ❖ The Institute of Agriculture completed a rebranding effort over the past year. Working in collaboration with the UT System, new logos have been developed along with a single value statement. Real.Life.Solutions.
- ❖ The Institute of Agriculture has begun a process of setting future directions for programs and faculty hires. The goal is to involve all faculty in discussions about future priorities. Faculty and clientele have been surveyed and a kick-off forum was held on August 17 in Knoxville. This strategic planning effort is consistent with the Governor's Rural Challenge that was issued last year.
- ❖ UTIA officially opened an International Programs office on July 1, 2015. Dr. Tom Gill has joined UTIA from Penn State University and will serve as director. He will also hold the Smith Chair in International Sustainable Agriculture.
- ❖ The College of Veterinary Medicine completed the site visit for AVMA COE accreditation this year. The preparation and site visit was a major effort for the college involving a large team of individuals. CVM recently created a curriculum envisioning task force to consider our DVM program and envisioning new and better approaches to teach our students. The task force has completed their work and the results are being examined by all faculty and staff.
- ❖ The College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources received approval for a new PhD degree option in Entomology and Plant Pathology and Nematology (EPPN).
- ❖ The College of Veterinary Medicine has launched the CEM MS Degree program in Forensic Odontology. This is the first forensic dental program of its kind offered anywhere in the world.
- ❖ Demand for graduates in agriculture and natural resources remains very high. The annual demand for college graduates in agriculture is 57,900. There will be 35,400 graduates this year, 22,500 short of the jobs available.
- ❖ UT Extension received funding from the state to purchase a facility in West Tennessee to serve as a 4-H Camp and Conference Center. Located in Hardeman County, the site will have state-of-the-art conference and meeting facilities. To learn more about Lone Oaks Farm visit <https://extension.tennessee.edu/Lauderdale/Pages/4-H-Lone-Oaks-Farm-.aspx>
- ❖ UT AgResearch is conducting a major analysis of operations at the 10 research and education centers across the state. The focus is on efficiency and effectiveness of each location.
- ❖ We invite you to visit our UTIA Metrics website <https://ag.tennessee.edu/metrics/Pages/default.aspx> for a snapshot of programs and progress.