

**University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Update
Faculty Senate Meeting
September 17, 2018**

- Following a transformational gift from Jim and Judi Herbert, we have renamed our college to be the Herbert College of Agriculture. Jim is a 1962 graduate of animal science, and Judi graduated in 1963 with an English degree. The proceeds of the gift are to be used to support and benefit our students, faculty and staff in the college. The college is only the second Land Grant University College of Agriculture to be named as the result of a philanthropic gift.
- The Institute has received \$6 million in state appropriations for a new Energy and Environmental Science Education and Research Center building, to replace Ellington Plant Science Building. In addition, we have established an \$8 million fund to provide a 10% match for the construction budget of approximately \$90 million. We are in the process of identifying a designer for the new building and have established a 5-year timeline for completion of this new building.
- Two new faculty-lead initiatives are being pursued: development of a new Genomics Center for the Advancement of Agriculture, and a Center for Agricultural Synthetic Biology. Each includes a significant research focus, but also ties to undergraduate and graduate instruction as well as Extension programming.
- Undergraduate enrollment remains high at 1,500 students for the fall, 2018 semester. Our veterinary program admits 85 students annually, this year from a pool of 1,000 applicants. CVM also has about 40 graduate students.
- Agricultural agents from UT Extension hosted the National Association of County Agricultural Agents in Chattanooga July 29-August 2. There were about 1,500 participants including 800 agricultural Extension agents from 48 states. Dr. Clark Garland was recognized with the NACAA Service to American/World Agriculture Award, the top award of the association.
- Work is expected to start soon for the new Teaching and Learning Center facility in the College of Veterinary Medicine. This facility will feature simulators and other hands-on learning opportunities for students, and will expand the skills of our students prior to treating live animals.
- FY18 was a record year for fund-raising, with \$66 million in gifts, pledges and bequests. We'll kick off our capital campaign on Friday evening with a dinner for 300 guests at the East Tennessee Research and Education Center.
- Ag Day is Saturday, September 22 starting around 3 pm. Exhibits from all our departments along with faculty, staff and students will fill Brehm Animal Science Arena, along with alumni, donors and stakeholders from across the country. We typically host about 1,000 guests for this event. Children are welcome, as there will be hands-on opportunities with insects and livestock, as well as games and other youth-friendly activities.