From: Tennessee Today
To: Van Zandbergen, Scott W
Subject: Campus Update for June 18
Date: Thursday, June 18, 2020 12:55:03 PM

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Message from the Chancellor

Chancellor Donde Plowman celebrates news that the new Oak Ridge Institute has received a $20 million grant and talks about what that means for the university and its partnership with Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Chancellor's Updates - Oak Ridge Institute

Classroom Health and Safety Training Launched for Fall Instructors

All instructors are being asked to to complete a training course focused on implementing health and safety measures in classrooms for the fall semester. The training outlines practices based on input from the Re-Imagining Fall Task Force, faculty, and health

professionals. It includes details such as expectations for students, how classrooms will be arranged to achieve social distancing, use of face coverings, best practices in laboratory classroom settings, and how to integrate safety measures into teaching practices. The training is accessible through Canvas and needs to be completed by August 1.

UTSI Undergoes Leadership Change

Chancellor Plowman has appointed James Simonton interim executive director of the UT Space Institute. The current executive director, Mark Whorton, is leaving the university to pursue another opportunity. A search for the next permanent director will launch this fall.

VolCard Office Outlines New Procedures

To request a new or replacement VolCard, email volcard@utk.edu. In-person activity in the office is being minimized and masks are required. Because of these considerations, the VolCard office will not be taking pictures for ID cards. Instead, those who need a new card can upload an image if one is needed. They will be notified when the card is ready and can pick it up at the UT Police Department. You can learn more about the new procedures on the VolCard website.

In Case You Missed It

Here is some good news you may have missed in the past week: Construction projects are continuing over the summer, including progress on the new engineering complex, the pedestrian walkway expansion, and the west campus dining facility. UT has been designated a Bee Campus USA as part of a national effort among colleges and universities to raise awareness about the importance of pollinators and provide new and improved pollinator habitats. The Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy and the College of Social Work's Office of Research and Public Service have been tapped to support the state's Economic Recovery Group by collecting and

analyzing survey data over the summer to track citizens' sense of safety and economic well-being as the state reopens.

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