



EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Weekly Update for Faculty & Staff | February 3, 2020



[Gov. Bill Lee to give "State of East Tennessee" address](#)

ETSU is honored to welcome Tennessee Governor Bill Lee to our campus on Thursday, Feb. 6, for his "State of East Tennessee" address. Gov. Lee will make his remarks at 6 p.m. in the ETSU Millennium Center ballroom. The event is open to the public, and you are invited to hear Gov. Lee share his vision for the future of Tennessee.

Beginning at 4:30 p.m. on Feb. 6, the Millennium Center parking garage will be open to guests for Gov. Lee's address only. Parking will also be available in lot 9, at the corner of State of Franklin Road and University Parkway. Johnson City Transit will provide shuttle service from lot 9 to the ETSU Millennium Center beginning at 5 p.m.

Doors will open at 5 p.m. Please allow extra time for security check at the event entrance. [Click here](#) to register for the event. [Click here](#) to view the

[Reminder: Weekly Update now features general announcements; submissions accepted for separate ETSU events listing](#)

The Office of University Relations is implementing a number of new internal communication strategies in response to continued feedback from across campus regarding the need to strengthen communication. The ETSU Weekly Update will continue to arrive in email inboxes on Mondays with all the announcements you need to know for the week ahead. Submissions for the Weekly Update are due by noon on Fridays.

The new ETSU Events listing will continue to arrive in email inboxes on Thursdays and will highlight events happening the next 7-10 days, contingent on space. Submissions for the ETSU Event listing are due by noon on Wednesdays.

If you have an event announcement for either the Weekly Update or ETSU Events list, visit www.etsu.edu/univrela/internal-comm.php for more information and instructions. Send any questions to emails@etsu.edu.

[Monthly CARE Tip for faculty](#)

Starting a new semester can be daunting for some students. Learning a new schedule, getting acclimated to new professors, and committing to academic success can bring anxiety, frustration, and, hopefully, determination. At this time of the year it is important for students to get organized for each new class so that they are best positioned for success. This may include the following tips and practices:

1. Purchasing new, uniquely colored binders for each course. Binders allow students to add paper as needed. Also, consider this article as it concerns taking notes by hand or on a laptop or tablet: www.npr.org/2016/04/17/474525392/attention-students-put-your-laptops-away.
2. Direct students to read all syllabi. Students should also chart out due dates for papers, projects, and exams on a calendar.
3. Encourage students to be present during each class. Unless they are contagious or dealing with a major personal or family crisis, a student should be in class.
4. Make your office hours known. Professors often assist when additional explanation is needed, and can be great with providing advice on campus resources and processes. The Dean of Students office welcomes contact

when establishing which resources and supports may work best for a particular situation (423-439-4311).

5. Advise students on work, life and school balance. Working more than 15 hours a week has the potential to negatively impact students.

www.forbes.com/sites/under30network/2017/03/09/the-perks-and-realities-of-working-in-college/#7b1c83c86c4e

The **BucsCARE** page lists numerous campus and community resources that students may wish to access, including additional academic support and our available counseling services. If you want someone to follow up with a student, you can complete a **CARE report**.

[Voter registration deadline Feb. 3 in Tennessee](#)

In Tennessee, Monday, Feb. 3, is the deadline to register to vote on Super Tuesday, March 3. On this day, registered voters across 14 U.S. states including North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia, will cast ballots in the presidential preference primary. Visit www.govotetn.com to register to vote or to confirm your voter registration status.

- Registration deadline for Tennessee - Feb. 3; early voting Feb. 12-25
- Registration deadline for North Carolina - Feb. 7; early voting Feb. 13-29
- Registration deadline for Virginia - Feb. 10; no early voting

[Nominations accepted for Harold Love Outstanding Community Service Awards](#)

Please consider nominating an ETSU student, faculty, and/or staff member for the Harold Love Outstanding Community Service Award. Nomination information can be found here and on our website at www.etsu.edu/loveaward. Administered by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, the Harold Love Outstanding Community Service Award Program recognizes current students, faculty, and staff members engaged in dedicated public service. Nominations will be evaluated on the documentation of their service contribution and evidence of the success of their service in terms of improvement of communities and leadership roles in the community.

Nominations will be accepted until Monday, Feb. 17, at 11:59 a.m. ETSU will submit to THEC up to two student nominations and two faculty/staff nominations. Five students and five faculty/staff members from across the state will be selected to receive a \$1,000 check in honor of their service. Recipients will be notified of their selection on March 19. Recipients and their families will be invited to attend a reception in their honor in Nashville.

Questions about the Love Outstanding Community Service Award can be directed to Joy Fulkerson at fulkersj@etsu.edu.

[RDC Major and Interdisciplinary grant applications accepted through Feb. 28](#)

RDC Major Grants now have a budget ceiling of \$12,000. Major grant applications for next year are now being accepted using [this online form](#). Use the guidelines, instructions, and templates available on the [RDC Major Grant home page](#).

RDC Interdisciplinary Grant applications for next year are now being accepted using [this online form](#). Use the guidelines, instructions, and templates available on the [RDC Interdisciplinary Grant home page](#).

The deadline for electronic submission for both RDC Major and Interdisciplinary grants and is 11:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 28. Signed printed applications are due by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 6. Send questions to RDC@etsu.edu.

[Applications open for Margaret Anne Byrd Huffman Archives of Appalachia Endowment Grant](#)

The ETSU Center of Excellence for Appalachian Studies and Services announces the second annual Margaret Anne Byrd Huffman Archives of Appalachia Endowment Grant. This year, \$2,500 in grant funding is available to support ETSU faculty or student projects that utilize materials from the Archives of Appalachia and contribute to a better understanding of the Appalachian region. Applications are due by March 1. [Click here](#) for more information and to apply.

[Undergraduate Research Opportunities](#)

ETSU's [Boland Undergraduate Research Symposium](#) will be held at the Millennium Center on Friday, March 27. The submission deadline is Tuesday, March 3, at 5 p.m. This event is inclusive of all disciplines, from art to zoology, and includes theses to works-in-progress.

[Undergraduate Travel Awards](#) up to \$500 are available throughout the year, funds permitting, for undergraduates to support travel for students to present.

Student-Faculty Collaborative Grants (SFCGs) up to \$1,200 are available for undergraduates to support research and creative activities. The submission deadline is Thursday, Feb. 13, at 5 p.m.

Summer Fellowship Awards of \$3,000, with up to \$500 for supplies, are available. These are open to ETSU undergraduates and are used to support research and creative activities. The deadline for submission is Friday, March 13, at 5 p.m.

For more information, contact Dr. Richard Ignace at ignace@etsu.edu or 439-6073.

Library 101: "How to Library" Beginner Research Series

Open to everyone, workshops in this series will be held in Sherrod Library, room 309, from noon to 1 p.m. on Wednesdays throughout Spring 2020. This overview of the essential steps of beginning research will take you through the process. Whether you're new to research or a seasoned information explorer, the "How-To" Library Academic Research Series has something for you! We'll cover it all, from assignment to poster! Check out our site at:

<https://libraries.etsu.edu/use/instruction/workshops>. You can come to one, a few, or all. Registration is not required for this series. Send questions to Ms. Evan Schmoll at schmoll@etsu.edu with any questions.

Registration open for Appalachian Student Research Forum

Call for Abstracts: The Appalachian Student Research Forum is a regional competition in which participants present their original research in a formal, juried setting. Undergraduate, graduate, medical and pharmacy students, as well as post-docs, medical residents and fellows, are invited to present their research at the Forum on Monday and Tuesday, April 20-21, at the Millennium Center. **Participation is free, but presenters must register and submit an abstract by Friday, March 13, at 4 p.m.**

Graduate student representatives needed for Campus IRB

During fall 2019 monthly meetings of the Campus IRB, the board members decided to invite two graduate student representatives to join the board. As

ETSU has many student researchers, members agreed that students could benefit from participation on the board. They would gain first-hand experience in the new protocol review process; they could serve as liaisons between the IRB and other student researchers; and they could assist the board in identifying issues that arise for students both as researchers and as participants in research in order to improve their experience.

The Campus IRB is seeking nominations of graduate students from departments with graduate programs, with strong preference given to graduate students who could devote multiple years to serving as IRB representatives. For reason of preferred length of time of service, ideal candidates likely would come from ETSU's doctoral programs. Please send a letter of nomination that describes your nominee's qualifications and positionality in your graduate program (to address the anticipated length of their service availability), and the student's CV, to IRB@etsu.edu by Feb. 24.

[Students encouraged to enter iBucs Competition](#)

The iBUCS Entrepreneur/Innovation Pitch Competition is open to all ETSU students/teams. This startup event has been held for the last three years with fascinating business ideas ranging from health care to marketplace portals, battlefield technology and services. Over \$7,000 in prizes will be awarded at the competition scheduled for Friday, April 3, at the ETSU Millennium Center. Mentors will walk students through the process of creating a business plan and a pitch deck. [Watch a spotlight](#) from the 2019 iBUCS competition or [click here](#) to learn more and to register.

[Financial Aid Awareness Month](#)

February is Financial Aid Awareness Month, and the Office of Financial Aid is sponsoring "Turn It In Tuesday," an initiative that encourages students to complete verification for the 2020-21 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students may stop by the Financial Aid office on any of the first three Tuesdays of February and submit verification-related documentation. Refreshments will be served. Financial Aid will also host a Mardi Gras-themed event to close out Financial Aid Awareness month at the ETSU dining hall from 11 a.m.–2 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 25.

Conversation Partner Program for

International Students

The Language and Culture Resource Center is now offering conversation practice for international students at the Campus Center Building, room 219. International students can practice their English in casual, fun conversations with ETSU students Monday–Thursday from 10 a.m.–3 p.m. No appointment is necessary. This program is in conjunction with the interpretation and translation services offered by the LCRC to people in the community. For more information, call the LCRC at 423-439-8342 or email kappel@etsu.edu.

New Understanding Self and Others Group for helping professionals

This group is designed for students in helping profession fields of study. This group will provide a safe space for personal growth opportunities for students to engage in giving and receiving support, empathy, and feedback to help make desired changes, gain insight, explore meaning in their life and gain a better sense of self. Concerns such as anxiety, stress, depression, self-esteem, body image, feeling distant from others, trauma history or grief will be explored in this process group. Discover you are not alone in the difficulties you experience.

Contact Dr. Dan Jones at danjones@etsu.edu or Natalie Wigle at wiglen@etsu.edu for more information.

Milestone Motivation Group for graduate students

Do you find it's difficult to motivate yourself, or do you feel you could benefit from a supportive group experience? The ETSU Behavioral Health and Wellness Clinic is proud offer a Support & Motivation Group for Graduate Students. This experience is intentionally tailored to address some of the common issues associated with graduate student academic difficulties. Groups will be offered on an ongoing rotation and will have 5 sessions per rotation. Groups will be limited to 6-9 people to facilitate a supportive environment to process, problem-solve, and learn strategies together.

The first group experience began Jan. 24. For more information or to sign up, call 423-439-7777. Sessions are \$5 per session, or \$25 for the whole group.

ActiveHealth to send member survey

Beginning today, Feb. 3, ActiveHealth will start sending surveys to all members who have engaged in any activity associated with the wellness program. This includes accessing the ActiveHealth website, the Quest biometric screening site or any coaching program, such as disease management and weight management. Enrolled retirees who have participated in disease management will also receive the survey.

Upcoming employee training opportunities

Leadership tip of the week: "[20 leadership experts share their best leadership tips](#)"

Office Professionals Round Table Discussion - These are monthly gatherings of similar roles within an office (Executive Aides, Office Managers, Office Coordinators, etc.) to collaborate and share ideas for best practices for effectiveness and efficiency within a professional office environment. Our first meeting will be in Burgin Dossett Hall, room 304, on **Thursday, Feb. 6** (only 12 spaces available). We will typically meet the first Thursday of each month.

Onboarding Portal Training for Hiring Managers - Angela Wright and Timothy Cheney will teach hiring managers how to navigate the new Onboarding portal, basic terminology for the new software, how to assign a checklist (required tasks for a new hire), how to properly complete the various types of tasks within the system, and more. Sessions will be held in the Sherrod Library, room 118, ATS Computer Lab, on **Tuesday, Feb. 11, from 2-3 p.m.; Tuesday, Feb. 18, from 10-11 a.m. and Wednesday, March 4, from 10-11 a.m.**

Banner Goldlink for Advisors: Teresa Williams will present a workshop on **Tuesday, Feb. 11**, from 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. in the Sherrod Library ATS Computer Lab, room 118, to provide information on using Goldlink Portal and Banner as related to student records.

Advising 101: Teresa Williams will present a workshop that is a MUST for new advisors to introduce them to the ETSU Advising System on **Wednesday, Feb. 12**, from 9-11:30 a.m. in the Sherrod Library ATS Computer Lab, room 118.

Leadership Lunch-Break is back for 2020 - This is a bring-your-own-lunch meeting designed for those who are interested in learning more about leadership (even if you do not currently manage/supervise others). The discussion will begin at noon in Burgin Dossett Hall, room 304, and will last 30-60 minutes depending upon the topic and participation. The first session is **Thursday, Feb. 13**.

Supervisor Round Table Discussion: Our very first Supervisor Round Table will be held on **Thursday, Feb. 27**, from 10 a.m.-noon in Burgin Dossett Hall, room 304. If you are a supervisor/manager, please attend these monthly, informal discussions about how to best manage/supervise others, help each

other explore ideas about how to deal with common issues you face, and learn from one another and HR leaders and guests.

Please check out all we have to offer employees on our newly designed [Employee Learning and Development](#) website.

[UPCOMING EMPLOYEE TRAININGS & WORKSHOPS](#)

[ETSU CALENDAR](#)

[ETSU NEWS](#)



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EAST TENNESSEE STATE
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EVENTS



FEBRUARY 6-14, 2020

[Introducing ETSU Events list](#)

The Office of University Relations is implementing a number of new internal communication strategies this spring in response to campus feedback regarding the need to strengthen communication. This new events listing will continue to arrive in email inboxes on Thursdays and will highlight events happening the next 7-10 days, contingent on space. If you have an event announcement for the ETSU Events list, visit www.etsu.edu/univrela/internal-comm.php for more information and instructions. Submissions for the ETSU Event listing are due by noon on Wednesdays.

The ETSU Weekly Update will continue to arrive in email inboxes on Mondays with all the announcements you need to know for the week ahead. Don't forget to follow the ETSU story daily on the new ETSU News website - www.etsu.edu/etsu-news.

Send any questions about the Weekly Update or ETSU Events listing to emails@etsu.edu.

February 6

THURSDAY

Gov. Bill Lee's "State of East Tennessee" Address

ETSU has the distinct honor to welcome Tennessee Governor Bill Lee to campus for his "State of East Tennessee" address. Gov. Lee will give his remarks at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 6 in the ETSU Millennium Center ballroom. The event is open to the public and doors will open at 5 p.m. Please allow extra time for security check at the event entrance. [Click here](#) for more information, including parking and registration information.

Sex Education Discussion

A discussion designed to educate and raise awareness about sexual health will be held Thursday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m. in Wilson-Wallis Hall, room 205.



February 7

National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

Red ribbons will be distributed to symbolize the fight against HIV/AIDS and free testing will be offered on Friday, Feb. 7, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. outside Nell Dossett Hall.

Free Movie Friday: “Joker”

Buctainment presents this screening of “Joker” at 7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 7, in the Ball Hall auditorium. The event includes giveaways, information on joining the programming board, and the free movie.

Guest Artist Kristen Zelenak

Saxophone artist Kristen Zelenak will give a free public recital on Friday, Feb. 7, in Mathes Hall, room 112, at 7:30 p.m.



February 8

Darwin Day

Visitors to the ETSU Museum of Natural History at the Gray Fossil Site can enjoy free educational activities for all ages during Darwin Day on Saturday, Feb. 8, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. This international celebration of science and the natural world commemorates the 211th birthday of Charles Darwin, the 19th century naturalist whose research laid the foundation for modern understanding of life on Earth.

Chamber Music Showcase

William Shaub, concertmaster of the Knoxville Symphony, joins ETSU faculty members Drs. David Kovac and Sean Hawthorne for a program of string duos and trios on Saturday, Feb. 8, at 7:30 p.m. in the Brown Hall Auditorium.

February 9

Chinese Spring Festival



SUNDAY

This celebration of the traditional Chinese New Year includes paper cut-outs, interactive games and ethnic foods. It will be held Sunday, Feb. 9, at 4 p.m. at the Baptist Collegiate Ministry.

February 10



MONDAY

Free Haircuts

Taylor-Made Barber Shop and the ETSU Multicultural Center present a day of free haircuts on Monday, Feb. 10, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Multicultural Center.

Festival of Ideas: Melissa Fitzgerald

“An Evening with Melissa Fitzgerald” will be held Monday, Feb. 10, at 7 p.m. in the ETSU Millennium Center. Fitzgerald is widely known for her role in the TV show “The West Wing” and as an advocate for persons in need. After leaving a career in Hollywood, she became the Advocating Justice Director for Justice for Vets, which is part of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) initiative broad justice system reform.

February 11



TUESDAY

Festival of Ideas: Mandy Harvey

On Tuesday, Feb. 11, at 7 p.m., ETSU’s College of Public Health and the Mary B. Martin School of the Arts will welcome Mandy Harvey for a lecture, “Hidden Challenges: Understanding Invisible Disabilities.”

Harvey is an American jazz and pop singer/songwriter who overcame her deafness to appear as a contestant on “America’s Got Talent.”

Her lecture, which will be held at the Millennium Center, is both a Festival of Ideas event and ETSU's annual Evening of Health, Wellness and the Arts.

Trap N’ Paint

Participants can vibe and tap into their creativity using a canvas and paint while listening to music in this event planned for Tuesday, Feb. 11, at 7 p.m. in Warf-Pickel Hall, room 315.

February 12

Festival of Ideas: Panel discussion



WEDNESDAY

Josh Smith, news anchor at WJHL-TV, will lead a panel discussion, “By the People, for the People: Campus and Community Perspectives on Voting,” at noon on Wednesday, Feb. 12, at the Reece Museum. Members of the panel include Nathan Farnor, Joy Fulkerson, Stephen Hendrix and Dr. Jodi Polaha-Jones.

"Bringing Sabertooths to Life: A Case Study in Paleontological Reconstruction"

This is the first of three free public lectures to be given this spring by paleoartist Mauricio Antón, chairholder of the ETSU Basler Chair of Excellence for the Integration of the Arts, Rhetoric and Science. Antón’s painstaking approach to anatomical accuracy, thorough field observations and dynamic constructions are unparalleled, making him one of the most sought-after paleoartists by researchers, museums and publishers. His talk will be held Feb. 12 in the Ball Hall auditorium at 7 p.m.



THURSDAY

February 13

Festival of Ideas: Jon Meacham

Pulitzer prize-winning presidential biographer and historian Jon Meacham will speak at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 13, at the Millennium Center. Meacham is the author of the #1 New York Times bestseller “The Soul of America: The Battle for Our Better Angels” which examines the present moment in American politics and life by looking back at critical times in U.S. history when hope overcame division and fear. “An Evening with Jon Meacham” is a ticketed event. A limited number of tickets remain and can be purchased at <https://www.etsu.edu/festival/>. ETSU students, faculty and staff can receive one free ticket by visiting the Student Activities and Organizations office on the second floor of the Center for Physical Activity (CPA). ETSU students and employees may purchase up to four additional tickets at \$20 each.



FRIDAY

February 14

Festival of Ideas: Mike Wiley

Playwright, director and actor Mike Wiley will close the Festival of Ideas with his play “Breach of Peace” on Friday, Feb. 14, at 7 p.m. at the Millennium Center. The play is based on true accounts of surviving participants of the Freedom Riders and others involved in the early struggle for African-American equality.

Free Movie Friday: “Jumanji: Next Level”

Buctainment presents this screening of “Jumanji: Next Level” at 7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 14, in the Martha Street Culp Auditorium in the D.P. Culp Student Center. The event includes giveaways, information on joining the programming board, and the free movie.

Guest Artist Dr. Whitney Myers

Dr. Whitney Myers presents a recital on Friday, Feb. 14 showcasing beloved Russian art songs by Glinka, Tchaikovsky and Rimsky-Korsakov. She will be joined by ETSU’s Dr. Esther Park on piano. The recital will take place in Mathes Recital Hall at 7:30 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE

ETSU Connects

ETSU Connects is an opportunity for employees to come together to connect, share and learn information, and get up to date on new initiatives happening at ETSU. The next ETSU Connects event is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 27, from 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the ETSU Millennium Center, room 137B. A number of topics will be covered during this session – new internal communication strategies, an update on strategic realignment and tips and tools for recruiting students to ETSU. Representatives from University Relations and the Office of Student Life and Enrollment are among those scheduled to present. More information to follow. [Click here](#) to register.

Student Success Symposium

The Division of Student Life and Enrollment will host this symposium March 27 with a focus on “The Healthy Campus: Well-Being and Your Campus Community.” Keynote speaker Dr. Nance Lucas of George Mason University will address “Uplifting Well-Being in Higher Education.” Registration is underway.

ETSU CALENDAR

ETSU NEWS



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ACCENT

This Month at ETSU



EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

JANUARY 2020

New decade, new look for *Accent*

As we begin the 2020 spring term, the Office of University Relations is implementing a number of new internal communication strategies. These new initiatives are in response to the continued feedback received last year from across campus regarding the need to strengthen communication. This new monthly email newsletter is an expansion of the *Accent* newsletter for faculty and staff that has been in existence, in various forms, for over 30 years. *Accent: This Month at ETSU* will arrive in email inboxes the last working day of the month providing links to top ETSU stories as well as faculty/staff news. In between issues of *Accent*, you can follow the ETSU story daily on the new ETSU News website - www.etsu.edu/etsu-news.

Top stories



Elevating our region

Three teams won over the audience with

ETSU welcomes U.S. Surgeon General

U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Jerome Adams and U.S. Rep. Dr. Phil Roe hosted a roundtable discussion at ETSU Jan. 30 on the topic of opioids.

Congratulations!

Four ETSU faculty and staff were honored during the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Interfaith Prayer Breakfast on Jan. 18.



Thumbs-up from U.S. News

ETSU's College of Nursing is among the top 100 best online master's in nursing programs in the nation, according to *U.S. News & World Report*.

their service project ideas at the ETSU Elevates Pitch Competition on Jan. 30. Each team will receive \$5,000 to elevate its project and our region. Another round of competition will take place in February.



Launch of ETSU Promise Plus

President Noland began the new academic year by announcing a new program that provides last-dollar assistance covering tuition and program service fees as well as extensive support for incoming freshmen starting this fall.



A cappella champs

Four ETSU a cappella ensembles competed in – and nearly swept – the



Help us name our new therapy dog!

We have a new member of the ETSU Public Safety team arriving in February. She is a therapy dog, and all she needs is a name.

Roan Scholars Class of 2024 announced

The region learned this week the names of the eight students who have been selected for the incoming Roan Class of 2024.



ICCA South Region quarterfinals last weekend, with first-, third- and fourth-place finishes and three individual awards! Greyscale brought home first place honors and will move on to regional semifinals in March.



A new treatment?

Dr. William Stone, a professor at the Quillen College of Medicine, is studying a new precision medicine approach to treating bladder cancer.

“Thank you for all you do”

More than 340 ETSU employees were honored at the Celebration of Service event.

Innovative interprofessional education

ETSU's code blue simulation brings together students from all five health sciences colleges for a Code Blue simulation experience in Building 60.

College of Nursing makes national news

The College of Nursing has received a grant totaling nearly \$5 million to fund evidence-based BSN-RN home visiting services for first-time mothers who live in poverty in nine Northeast Tennessee counties.



Clemmer College ranked among nation's top teacher prep programs

Future teachers at ETSU are not the only ones who are earning As. So are their professors!

Studying health and wealth in Tennessee

Dr. Kate Beatty, interim director of research for the College of Public Health's Center for Rural Health Research, has authored an article examining the effects of poverty and health among the 95 counties of Tennessee.



ETSU welcomes employees who recently joined the university.



ETSU congratulates recent retirees and thanks them for their service to the university and the state.

[ETSU News](#)

[ETSU Calendar](#)



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EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY



February 5, 2020

Update on Governor Lee's Proposed 2020-21 Budget

On Monday evening, Governor Bill Lee presented his proposed 2020-21 budget to the 111th General Assembly. Governor Lee continues to provide significant funding increases for higher education across the state, and this includes strong support for ETSU. If the budget is approved, this fall ETSU will have its largest state appropriation in the institution's history, potentially receiving just over \$122 million.

In his budget, Governor Lee has additional investments in personnel through the recommendation of a salary enhancement for eligible employees. He also provided funding to support deferred maintenance projects on campus.

Governor Lee's proposed budget includes a major accent on the health of children and teens in the Appalachian Highlands through a \$1.1 million improvement for ETSU to recruit additional pediatric surgeons and subspecialists. The addition of these specialists will support the operations of the Quillen College of Medicine and Niswonger Children's Hospital.

I am very grateful for Governor Lee's continued support of higher education and for the many ways he is empowering ETSU to continue achieving its mission to improve the quality of life for the people of this region. As the legislative session continues, I look forward to working closely with Governor Lee, his staff, and our elected officials.

Governor to Speak at ETSU on Thursday

ETSU has the distinct honor to welcome Governor Lee to our campus this week for his "State of East Tennessee" address. The governor will join us on Thursday, Feb. 6, and will make his remarks at 6 p.m. in the ETSU Millennium Center ballroom. The event is open to the public. More information, including parking information, is available at <https://www.etsu.edu/etsu-news/2020/02-february/state-of-east-tennessee-address.php>.

Doors will open at 5 p.m. Please allow extra time for security check at the event entrance. I hope to see you there. [Click here](#) to register for the event.

Dr. Block assumes expanded role with ETSU Health

As the work of ETSU Health continues to expand and as we deepen our partnerships with Ballad Health, I have asked Dr. Bill Block to represent the university in a leadership capacity and provide oversight of these initiatives. Effective February 1, Dr. Block assumed these duties to become Vice President for Clinical Affairs and Dean of the Quillen College of Medicine. In this role, he will serve as lead liaison to Ballad Health, handle all contracts between ETSU and Ballad, and hold clinical oversight of ETSU Health in association with the ETSU Health Advisory Board, which consists of all five deans of the colleges within the Academic Health Sciences Center at ETSU. These responsibilities are in addition to his ongoing duties as Dean of Quillen College of Medicine.

This new title is part of the operational realignment that brings all of the academic enterprises of the Academic Health Sciences Center under the Provost so that all of the colleges, including Dr. Block in his role as Dean of Quillen College of Medicine, will

report to the Provost. In his role as Vice President for Clinical Affairs, Dr. Block will report to my office.

Dr. Block is a 1992 graduate of Quillen College of Medicine and from 1998-2004 he held various faculty positions at the medical school. After working as the medical director for the Minnesota Perinatal Physicians in Minnesota, he returned to Quillen in 2016 as chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology before becoming interim dean in 2018. He became permanent dean in February 2019.

Festival of Ideas 2020

The ETSU campus is excited about the panel of speakers and performers who will be part of our Second Annual Festival of Ideas that starts next Monday and continues throughout the week. This video provides an overview of the activities planned for Feb. 10-14. Additional information is also available at <https://www.etsu.edu/etsu-news/2020/01-january/festival-ideas-2020.php>.



Starting this spring, I will use the first monthly installment of “Notepads” to include our Blue and Gold Digest report which provides an overview of recent activities from our major governing bodies on campus. The February 2020 report is available at <https://www.etsu.edu/etsu-news/2020/02-february/blue-gold-digest-february2020.php>.

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ETSU Office of the President | president@etsu.edu | 423-439-4211