



Learning and Leadership are indispensable to each another.
- John F. Kennedy

The challenge of leadership is to be strong, but not rude; be kind, but not weak; be bold, but not bully; be thoughtful, but not lazy; be humble but not timid; be proud, but not arrogant; have humor, but without folly.
- Jim Rohn



The multidisciplinary LEAD programs are designed to equip participants with an understanding of the relationship that learning and leadership play in the instructional process; develop reflective practitioners in a variety of organizations/institutions; and focus on the interwoven nature of leadership, decision-making, and learning; emphasizing the proficiency that individuals will need as they pursue the challenges of organizational change and/or ever-changing instructional processes and practices.

Faculty Update

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Andy Browne, Assistant Professor, to the LEAD Programs! Dr. Browne is a UTC alum with a background in law enforcement and leadership. He currently teaches in the BAS-AL and doctoral programs.



Welcome New Cohorts

We admitted two new multidisciplinary doctoral cohorts (EdD22 & PhD22) last Spring. Participants successfully completed the foundational course, LEAD 7000 Learning & Leadership Integration & Assimilation, on campus this Summer and are currently enrolled in their first semester of core coursework. Applications will be accepted to the Summer 2023 cohorts from December 2022 through February 2023. For details, please visit www.utc.edu/lead.

Hunter Hall Renovation

Who remembers the green lockers in Hunter Hall? In June, our Program Offices relocated to the 4th floor of the newly renovated Hunter Hall. To view before and after photos, please click [here](#). We are looking forward to hosting hybrid PhD classes in Hunter Hall in the near future!





Participant News

- Congratulations to **Caleb Whitted** on his promotion to Vice President of Principal Giving at University of Cincinnati Foundation.
- **Eva Lewis** currently serves as Vice Chair of the Alabama Articulation and General Studies Committee (AGSC) and Chair of the Academic Affairs Sub-Committee of the AGSC. They will be recommending revisions to the state's general education curricular requirements.
- This Spring, **Erin Melhorn**, Assistant Professor in the OT department, received the Outstanding Teaching Award for the UTC College of Health, Education and Professional Studies.
- **Jason Harville** received the UTC Division of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs Brilliance Award and the UTC Chancellor's Blue Ribbon Award. He is looking forward to presenting at the NASPA First-Generation Success Conference next Summer.
- **Belinda Martin** and her family welcomed a daughter, Auden Teague, in August. In October, **Crystal Mayer** and her family welcomed a son, Flynn; **Mariah Perry** and her family welcomed a daughter, Grace.
- **Liz Nix** was recognized as the Outstanding Doctoral Student for the UTC Learning and Leadership Programs in 2021-2022 and has embarked on a new career as a strategic healthcare communications consultant.
- **Pete O'Brien** published a book chapter on the topic of renal function in the *Clinical chemistry: Principles, techniques, and correlations* text by Bishop et al.
- **James Abbott** has been promoted to Lieutenant of the Murfreesboro Police Department and has started an adjunct teaching position in the criminal justice department at MTSU.

Keep in Touch!

If you have any professional updates or news to share, we'd love to hear from you! Please visit the following survey link:

[Learning and Leadership News Update](#)





Alumni News

- **In Spring 2022, Dr. Ashley Aldridge Wilson** was elected to the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) and will represent principals/educators from the southern U.S., Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, while continuing in her role of Principal of Nolan Elementary.
- After 12 years of service to UTC, **Dr. Tyler Forrest** became President of Tennessee Wesleyan University in July.
- **Dr. Kathy Thacker** retired from the State of TN and moved to the coast of NC to work with United Military Ministries to educate, equip, and encourage young Marines and Sailors as they begin adult life.
- **Dr. Chris Closson** recently joined SUNY Fredonia as Assistant Professor and has accepted the position of Program Coordinator of the Childhood Inclusive Education Program.
- **Dr. Jeff Elliott** was recently inducted into the Cleveland High School Alumni Hall of Fame.
- **Dr. Scott Reece** retired from Roper Corp/GE Appliances and has been teaching media studies courses at Chattanooga State Community College since 2020.
- **Dr. Erin Thornbury** and her family welcomed a second son, Tully, and relocated to New England to be closer to family. She currently works remotely for the online College of Graduate and Continuing Studies at Norwich University.
- **Dr. Susan McDonald** was recently appointed by the American Occupational Therapy Association to be the Chairperson of the Awards and Recognitions Committee.
- **Dr. Anita Scruggs** serves as founding School Counselor at IDEA Jacksonville Public Schools and recently completed the Youth Mental Health First Aid Instructor Training.
- **Dr. Linda Rivers** currently volunteers for the Juvenile Court Foster Care Review Board.