

The Bernard Blasingame Chair of Excellence

In 1989, Bernard and Margaret Blasingame made an endowment to the Agricultural and Resource Economics Department for the purpose of creating the Bernard Blasingame Chair of Excellence. The mission of the

Blasingame Chair is to provide research, education, leadership, and outreach in the areas of agricultural, food, resource, and or international trade policy. The Blasingame endowment now exceeds \$2.4 million.



The University, Institute, & Department

As a land-grant institution, the University of Tennessee (UT) pursues teaching, research, and extension missions across campuses in Knoxville, Chattanooga, and Martin, the Health Science Center in Memphis, the Space Institute in Tullahoma and two statewide institutes, the Institute for Public Service and the Institute of Agriculture (UTIA). UT had \$436 million in research and sponsored program expenditures in FY15.

UTIA conducts instructional programs, delivers outreach, and conducts research through the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, College of Veterinary Medicine, UT Extension, and Ag Research. UTIA also operates ten research and education centers across the state, three 4-H centers, and 95 county extension offices.

The Department of Agricultural & Resource Economics consists of 16 faculty, 83 undergraduate majors, and 23 graduate students. The Department's areas of research and outreach include:

- Agricultural Systems and Risk Management,
- Agribusiness Development in a Changing Industry Structure,
- Agricultural and Resource Policy,
- Natural Resource and Environmental Management, and

- Economic and Human Capital Development in Rural Areas.

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville has over 28,000 students, 1,700 faculty spread over 11 colleges, 300 degree programs, and 170 majors, concentrations, and specializations. UTK has 18 Chairs of Excellence.

The Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy is a nonpartisan public policy center that provides policy makers, citizens, scholars, and students with the information and skills necessary to work effectively in the political system and serve local, state, national, and global communities.

The Newton HPC Program is a joint effort between the Office of Research, the Office of Information Technology (OIT) to establish a campus research computing environment in support of high performance computing and data-intensive computing applications. OIT operates a variety of computing systems and also offers data analysis assistance and statistical consulting.

UT has a longstanding partnership with Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), the nation's largest Department of Energy science lab with an annual budget of more than \$1.4 billion and access to supercomputing.

Living in Knoxville



The Knoxville metropolitan area has a population of just over 850,000. The city has a vibrant downtown, with the crown jewel, the Tennessee Theatre, located in the center of activity.



The city is nestled in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, and has its own Urban Wilderness of over 1,000 acres. Despite the wide range of amenities the city has to offer, the cost of living is quite reasonable at 11 percent lower than the U.S. average. For more information about the city and nearby activities, see the following links:

- <http://www.knoxvillechamber.com/quality-life>
- <http://www.outdoorknoxville.com/urban-wilderness>
- <https://www.visitknoxville.com/>
- <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/index.htm>

