ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS
VIRTUAL SUMMIT
OCTOBER 26-30, 2020

BECOMING ONE UT

STUDENT SUCCESS AND LEADERSHIP DURING TURBULENT TIMES
Welcome!

The Office of Academic Affairs and Student Success is committed to providing a professional, friendly, safe and welcoming experience for all participants at the 2020 Academic and Student Affairs Summit. To help us ensure that our time together is positive and productive, we ask that participants abide by the following expectations:

• All participants are expected to maintain professional and civil discourse throughout the summit. Participants are likely to hear some views with which they do not agree, which is common in an academic space. We encourage participants to consider views that differ from their own with an open mind and respond to differences in a respectful way.
• Participants are encouraged to limit distractions by closing or minimizing running apps, silencing smartphones, limiting multi-tasking and joining sessions from a quiet workspace. This will allow for maximum engagement throughout the week.
• We ask that participants turn on video during each session and ensure that their name is properly displayed on their screen. This will facilitate engagement and collaboration throughout the week.
• To help keep background noise to a minimum, we ask that participants remain on mute when they are not speaking. Should there be opportunities to unmute, such as for Q&A, we will be sure to let you know.
• Participants can use the chat feature in Zoom to leave comments and questions throughout the event. A member of our staff will be monitoring the chat during each session.

Thank you!
Speakers:

Kayce Matthews (left)
Director, Coalition for Healthy and Safe Campus Communities (CHASCo)

Jordan Owens (right)
Statewide Training Specialist, Sexual Assault Center (SAC)

Session:

Compassion Fatigue: Assessing the Wellbeing of our Faculty and Staff During COVID

These are unprecedented times and many of us are being asked to constantly accommodate the needs of others. However, we are not able to assess the toll that this constant state of caregiving is taking on our own personal wellness. In this session, we will explore the concept of compassion fatigue and how it relates to our current environment. We will also assess the messaging that higher education professionals have received in regard to self-care. Have institutions adequately responded to the needs of staff and faculty during this time? We will wrap up our time with a discussion focused on how our institutions can empower both faculty/staff to care for their own wellbeing. Please come prepared to participate in an interactive discussion.
Kayce’s Bio

Director, Coalition for Healthy and Safe Campus Communities (CHASCo)

Kayce Matthews joined TICUA/CHASCo in January 2017 with over 10 years of experience in prevention and advocacy work. Before joining CHASCo, Kayce served as both a program specialist for the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence and the associate director of the Margaret Cuninggim Women’s Center at Vanderbilt University. She holds a master’s of arts in counseling from Trevecca University and a bachelor’s of fine arts from Stephens College. Most importantly, Kayce is the proud mother to two feisty little boys who inspire her to do better every day.

Jordan’s Bio

Statewide Training Specialist, Sexual Assault Center (SAC)

Jordan Owens is a statewide training specialist at the Sexual Assault Center in Nashville, TN. As a trainer, Owens provides professional development and capacity-building opportunities for programs serving survivors of sexual trauma, with a special interest in addressing survivor-focused needs, the impact of trauma on direct service providers and issues of sexual violence on college campuses. Owens spent time providing trauma-informed care to survivors as a victim advocate before transitioning to a training role. During her time as a victim advocate, she assisted survivors in navigating the criminal justice system, provided crisis intervention to those seeking medical legal exams, and led a bi-weekly psychoeducation and support group for human trafficking survivors. Owens loves downloading apps to do simple tasks and practices self-care by traveling to new and exciting places. On any given day, you can catch her bursting into song or quoting a movie.
Campuses and Viewpoint Diversity: Why It Matters and How to Foster It

Why does viewpoint diversity matter on campus in general and in the classroom in particular? While various answers have been offered for this question, one may be the most salient: Currently, campuses are not educating students in a way that prepares them to interact with the wide range of viewpoints they’ll encounter in society. For example, on the most sensitive issues that touch identity, students regularly go through their education believing that certain perspectives are above criticism or questioning, except by those of questionable morals. However, this narrow approach works directly against the goal of strong, cohesive communities. Participants will come away with a better understanding of why change is needed and suggestions for how to make it happen.
Ilana’s Bio

Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Diverse Perspectives Consulting LLC

Ilana Redstone is the founder of Diverse Perspectives Consulting and a professor of sociology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is the co-author of the forthcoming book titled, “Unassailable Ideas: How Unwritten Rules and Social Media Shape Discourse in American Higher Education” and the creator of the “Beyond Bigots and Snowflakes” video series. She leads workshops and consults inside and outside of academia, helping organizations build a climate where open communication and innovation thrive. More information about her work is available at diverseperspectivesconsulting.com.
Speaker:

Ken Paulson

Director, Free Speech Center,
Middle Tennessee State University;
Professor, Recording Industry Department

Zoom Link: https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/97928188470
Meeting ID: 979-2818-8470
Passcode: 2020summit

Session:

Talk Is Cheap, But Also Priceless: The Role the First Amendment Plays on America’s Campuses

Join us for an engaging exploration of the First Amendment’s five freedoms and how they apply at colleges and universities. From assembly and protests to controversial speakers and academic freedom, the First Amendment provides the foundation for the marketplace of ideas on campus. This session will detail what our free expression rights do – and do not - protect, and how these constitutional guarantees can enrich higher education. Participants will be invited to consider the application of these five freedoms to campuses in the UT System.
Ken’s Bio

Director, MTSU Free Speech Center
Professor in the Recording Industry Department

Ken Paulson is the director of the Free Speech Center and a professor in the Recording Industry Department at Middle Tennessee State University. He is the former dean of MTSU’s College of Media and Entertainment. He is also the former editor-in-chief of USA TODAY and remains a columnist on USA TODAY’s board of contributors, writing about media and First Amendment issues. The Free Speech Center houses 1 for All, a national First Amendment educational initiative Paulson founded in 2007. The current edition of the campaign features prominent artists sharing their support for First Amendment freedoms. Participants include Brad Paisley, Darius Rucker, Loretta Lynn, Jason Isbell, Olympian Scott Hamilton and author Ann Padgett. Throughout his career, Paulson has drawn on his background as both a journalist and lawyer, serving as the editor or managing editor of newspapers in five different states.

In 1997, Paulson was named the executive director of the First Amendment Center based at Vanderbilt University, and in 2004 was appointed editor in chief of USA TODAY. Paulson remained in that role until rejoining the Freedom Forum in 2009, serving as president of the Newseum in Washington DC and then president and CEO of the First Amendment Center over a 9-year span. For 12 years, Paulson was a regular guest lecturer at the American Press Institute, speaking to more than 5,000 journalists about First Amendment issues. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois College of Law and the University of Missouri School of Journalism. He also has served as an adjunct professor at Vanderbilt University Law School.
Who’s Afraid of Office Hours? (Who Knows What They Even Are?)

This session investigates what influences students’ engagement with college officials. Participants will discuss the potential outcomes of students adopting different engagement strategies in a system that typically rewards just a select few. As student success depends on accessing resources inside and outside the classroom, we will think collaboratively about how to help both students and the counselors, mentors and professors who work with them through the college transition process. Lastly, participants will consider the distinct needs of students of color and other vulnerable groups at UT and discuss how to best serve these students in 2020.
Anthony’s Bio

Assistant Professor, Harvard University Graduate School of Education

Anthony Abraham Jack is a junior fellow at the Harvard Society of Fellows and an assistant professor of education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. He holds the Shutzer Assistant Professorship at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study. He is the author of The “Privileged Poor: How Elite Colleges Are Failing Disadvantaged Students”, which was awarded the Mirra Komarovsky Book Award and named a finalist for the C. Wright Mills Award. His scholarship appears in the Du Bois Review, Sociological Forum and Sociology of Education and has earned awards from the American Sociological Association, American Educational Studies Association, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Eastern Sociological Society and the Society for the Study of Social Problems.

Jack held fellowships from the Ford Foundation and the National Science Foundation and was a 2015 National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellow. In May 2020, Muhlenberg College awarded him an honorary doctorate for his work in transforming higher education. The New York Times, The Atlantic, The New Yorker, American Conservative Magazine and NPR have featured his research and writing as well as biographical profiles of his experiences as a first-generation college student.
Becoming One UT: Leadership During Crisis and Unpredictability

This year has been filled with unprecedented circumstances that have greatly impacted day-to-day functions within the UT System and the lives of faculty, staff and students. Navigating the ongoing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with racial, social and political tensions that impact our nation and local communities, has required university employees to lead in new and unfamiliar ways. In this panel discussion, participants will share their reflections about leadership during a period of crisis and unpredictability, highlight lessons learned and discuss how each university employee can provide leadership in their current role as we look to the future.
Donde’s Bio

*Chancellor, University of Tennessee, Knoxville*

Donde Plowman became the ninth chancellor of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, on July 1, 2019. She returned to Rocky Top after nine years at the University of Nebraska—Lincoln, where she served most recently as executive vice chancellor and chief academic officer. In that role, she oversaw academic affairs, student affairs, the Office of Research Economic Development, and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. She earlier served for more than six years as the James Jr. and Susan Stuart Dean of the College of Business Administration at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Before going to Nebraska, Plowman was on the management faculty at UT, where she served for two years as head of the Department of Management in the Haslam College of Business.

She began her academic career at the University of Texas at San Antonio as an assistant professor of management and advanced to the position of professor and associate dean for graduate studies and research, where she was responsible for the creation of the university’s doctoral degree in business. Plowman has a doctorate in strategic management from the University of Texas at Austin, an undergraduate degree with a major in English from Southern Methodist University, and an M.Ed. in higher education administration from the University of North Texas. Authoring over 60 publications, Plowman’s research has focused on leadership, emergent change and decision making. Plowman is married to Dennis Duchon, professor emeritus from University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where he previously served as professor of management and department chair. They have two grown sons who live in Austin, Texas.
Gina’s Bio

*Assistant Vice Chancellor for Communications and Marketing, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga*

**Gina Stafford** is assistant vice chancellor for communications and marketing at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. She joined UTC in 2018 after serving the University of Tennessee System since 2005, most recently as its assistant vice president and director of communications. At UTC, Stafford is a member of the 2020-2025 Strategic Planning Committee, Commission on the Status of Women, Advisory Board of the Southeast Center for Education in the Arts, Advisory Board for the UTC Police Department, and she has served in numerous capacities in planning and implementation of the University’s response to COVID-19. She is a member of the inaugural (2018-2019) class of Leadership Hamilton County Schools, serves on the Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce communications committee and is a mentor to first-generation college students at UTC. Stafford has a master’s degree in communication from UT Knoxville and is a member of the Advisory Board for the UT School of Advertising and Public Relations. She has a bachelor’s degree in English-journalism from Tennessee Tech University. She transitioned to corporate communications after several years as an award-winning reporter and columnist for the Knoxville News-Sentinel. Recently, Chattanooga’s City Scope magazine named Stafford among its 2020 “Gold Club” of 30 Influential Business Leaders in Chattanooga.
Keith’s Bio

Chancellor, University of Tennessee at Martin

Keith Carver began his duties as the 11th chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Martin on Jan. 3, 2017. During his time in office, UT Martin has developed a five-year strategic plan for university growth and development; increased overall headcount by almost four percent and first-year freshman enrollment by almost nine percent (from fall 2017 to fall 2018); and developed dual-enrollment partnerships with both Jackson State Community College and Southwest Tennessee Community College. Carver’s tenure also includes the addition of several new programs to the academic catalog, and the bequest of $22 million for student scholarships from UT Martin alum Bill Nunnelly (’70) and his wife, Rosann, which is the largest single gift in UT Martin history. During Carver’s time in office, the UT Martin athletics program has grown to include 450 student-athletes on campus, added beach volleyball as a women’s sport and installed a new playing surface at Hardy Graham Stadium. Carver has worked with the UT System for 22 years and served as an executive assistant to the UT president from January 2011-December 2016 before taking the post at UT Martin. Prior to his position with the UT System, Carver held various positions on the UT campuses in Knoxville, Martin and Memphis, including serving as interim vice chancellor for development and alumni affairs at the UT Health Science Center in Memphis and as assistant vice chancellor for development at UT Martin. He holds a bachelor’s degree in sociology from the University of Memphis, and a master’s degree in college student personnel and educational leadership as well as a doctoral degree from UT Knoxville. Carver and his wife, Hollianne, are the parents of a daughter, Carson, and two sons, Jack Thomas (“J.T.”) and Britton. The Carver family lives in Martin and has West Tennessee roots in Henderson and Crockett counties.
Lori’s Bio

Vice Chancellor for Academic, Faculty, and Student Affairs, University of Tennessee Health Science Center

Lori Gonzalez received her bachelor’s of arts degree from the University of Kentucky in speech pathology and audiology, a master’s of arts degree in communication disorders from Eastern Kentucky University and a Ph.D. in communication disorders from the University of Florida. She has held a number of academic leadership positions over her career including the dean of the College of Health Sciences at the University of Kentucky, provost at Appalachian State University and special advisor to the senior vice president for academic affairs at the University of North Carolina General Administration, the North Carolina public higher education authority. Her first 11 years in academia included varied teaching, research and clinical roles that laid the foundation for her successful forays into her expanded teaching and administration positions. She has extensive experience as a public speaker, has given more than 25 invited presentations and has produced or contributed to some 140 refereed presentations, abstracts, book chapters and peer-reviewed articles. In 2015, she became the vice chancellor for academic, faculty and student affairs at UTHSC.