



Tennessee Extension Advisory Council
2018 Council Members



Ms. Caroline Brooks

County: Warren
Representing: Central
Term: 2018-2020
Area: 4-H

Caroline is from Warren County, Tennessee, where she attends Warren County High School as a junior. She has been an active member in 4-H for 8 years and competes in the Performing Arts and Recreation project. She is a member of the Tennessee 4-H Performing Arts Troupe, and she currently serves on the 2017-2018 Tennessee 4-H State Council as the Central Region Junior Representative. She also serves as the Healthy Living Ambassador for the Warren County.



Mr. Jordan Combs

County: Grainger
Representing: Eastern
Term: 2016-2018
Area: ANR/ CED

Jordan Combs was born and raised in Grainger County. His family has been farming the land for over 200 years in the same location. His operation includes tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, pumpkins, strawberries, beef cattle, hay production, greenhouse production and much more. He is married to Megan, and they have a sweet two-year-old boy named Sawyer. Jordan graduated in 2009 from The University of Tennessee with a focus in Plant and Soil Sciences. He also has a Master's from UT in Plant and Soil Sciences.



Mr. Jim Cortese

County: Knox

Representing: Eastern

Term: 2016-2018

Area: ANR/CED

Jim is originally from Memphis, where he graduated from White Station High School. In 1976, he graduated from the University of Tennessee in Forestry and started his businesses, TIPCO and Cortese Tree Specialists, in 1977 in Knoxville. He is a Consulting Arborist and writes reports for attorneys, insurance companies and others on tree related issues. He is a member of the International Society of Arboriculture and its Southern Chapter since 1977. He became a Certified Arborist in 1994 and a Board Certified Master Arborist in 2005. He has been a member of the Tree Care Industry Association since 1980 and American Society of Consulting Arborists since 2001. Jim was a founding member of the Knoxville Tree Board and served as the president for the first ten years (1991-2003). He is a founder, member, and past president of Tennessee Urban Forestry Council, founded in 1993. He is a founder and past vice-president of the Knoxville Botanical Garden and served on its Board of Directors from 2001-2010. Jim has numerous awards: Tennessee Urban Forestry Council's Arborist of the year (1996 & 2000) and the Knoxville News Sentinels Environmental Award-"Outstanding Achievement by a Business". His hobby is searching for champion, historic, and heritage trees. He has 35 Tennessee Champions. He has published articles as well as given hundreds of lectures and seminars.



Mr. Brian Corwin

County: Rutherford

Representing: Central

Term: 2018-2020

Area: ANR/CED

Brian graduated in 1992 with a BS in Agricultural Engineering. In 1996, he received a MS in Agricultural Engineering and a minor in Environmental Engineering. He received both degrees from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. While a student at UTK, he was member of the Tau Beta Pi National Engineering Honor Society, the Gamma Sigma Delta National Honor Society of Agriculture and was very active in the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity. After graduation, he began his career with Williamson County Government in Franklin, TN, where he continues to work as the Director of the Department of Sewage Disposal Management. He oversees the department that regulates all aspects of individual on-site subsurface sewage disposal systems (i.e., septic systems) within Williamson County to ensure the protection of public health and the environment. Brian is very active with the Tennessee Onsite Wastewater Association, serving on their Board of Directors since 1999 and holding numerous positions over the years including President, Treasurer, Secretary and miscellaneous other director positions. He is also a longstanding member of the National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA) and the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE). Brian currently lives in Smyrna, TN with his wife Cindy and their pets. He has a stepson and granddaughter and enjoys spending his free time in the outdoors fishing, hunting and attending UT football games.



Mr. Gary Daniel

County: Wayne

Representing: Western

Term: 2016-2018

Area: ANR/CED

Gary graduated from the University of Tennessee, Martin with a BS in Agricultural Education. After UTM, he worked at Southern Illinois University as an assistant instructor managing their bull testing station, teaching, and researching cow herds and the sheep unit. In 1987, he moved back to his home farm in southern middle Tennessee and worked to expand the farm as land became available. He now operates a 200 head cow/calf operation. He has been involved in 4-H for numerous years. Both of his daughters were very active members, and he will soon have granddaughters involved. He has also hosted many on-farm projects for Extension. His public service activities include: current President of TN Cattleman's Association, board member of TN Beef Industry Council, TN Farm Bureau Beef Advisory Committee, Chairman TN Beef Alliance Board, President Wayne Ag Committee, past President Wayne County Co-op Board and member of the Wayne County Farm Bureau board.



Mr. Andrew Dixon

County: Franklin

Representing: Central

Term: 2018-2020

Area: ANR/CED

Andrew Dixon's work is part farming, part entrepreneurship, and part research and development. Andrew grew up on his family farm in Franklin County, Tennessee as a 3rd generation row crop farmer and currently works alongside his grandfather, father and brother. In 2006, they diversified to include a corn maze and pumpkin patch operation, "Granddaddy's Farm", that Andrew co-owns and manages. The farm now includes food and retail sales in addition to fun times and farm produce. In 2017, he married a charming, level-headed young lady named Sara who works in her family funeral home business in Tullahoma. Together they attend First Baptist Church in Decherd where Andrew also serves as the audio and visual operator and technician. All in all, he's just a good ol' country boy who enjoys the simple things in life.



Ms. Savannah Dodson

County: White

Representing: Central

Term: 2016-20018

Area: 4-H

Savannah is a sophomore at the University of Tennessee majoring in Political Science/Pre Law. She is from White County, Tennessee, where she was a very active 4-H member for nine years. She competed in the Performing Arts/Recreation project at local, regional, and state levels. Her senior year of high school, she served on the 2015-2016 Tennessee 4-H State Council as the Representative at Large. She now continues her efforts to better the 4-H program by working as a student assistant in the state 4-H office.



Ms. Zuri Egbuji

County: Rutherford

Representing: Central

Term: 2017-2019

Area: FCS

Zuri Egbuji is an educator with over 15 years of experience working with students in a variety of educational settings, including hospitals and treatment centers. She currently works as a homebound teacher for Metro Nashville Public Schools. Zuri prefers to consider herself more of a Holistic Learning Coach, serving students who have mental health impairment and are in treatment at the Oasis Center. One of her favorite past times is streaming documentaries, technology, positive psychology, and metaphysics movies. She received a BS in Biology in 1998 and a M.Ed. in Special Education in 2002 from Tennessee State University.



Dr. ReGina Etter

County: Davidson

Representing: Central

Term: 2018-2020

Area: 4-H

Dr. ReGina A. Etter has served the students and teachers of Metro Nashville Public Schools for thirty plus years. As an advocate for teaching and learning, ReGina's passion is displayed through her innovative methods of presenting pedagogy to educators throughout the country. Working with numerous initiatives and varying roles for the district has afforded her opportunities to provide teachers with instructional practices that are practical, rigorous and content rich. ReGina's impact in the educational arena has been extended to NSF, NSTA, TSTA, TSIN, SEC-ME, NABSE, Vanderbilt, Tennessee State, Fisk, Trevecca, and Middle Tennessee State Universities. Dr. Etter's current assignment is as the instructional coach for the i3 G2ROW STEM federally funded grant.



Mr. Keith Fowler

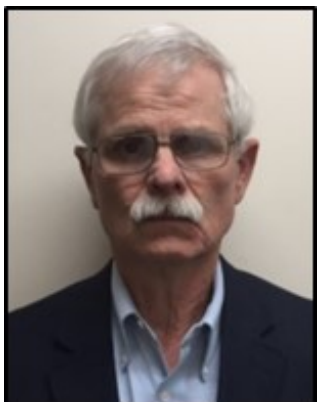
County: Weakley

Representing: Western

Term: 2017-2019

Area: ANR/CED

Keith is a life-long resident of Weakley County and a graduate of UT Martin with a degree in agriculture. He is married and has three children. The two older children are UT alumni, meanwhile, the youngest child is in high school. Keith has been involved with a large family farming operation his entire life in the production of grain crops, cattle, forages and swine. He has been a member of the Weakley county Farm Bureau Directors and has served as President of his board. In past years, Keith was selected as State and National Farm Bureau Young Farmer of the Year. Keith has served on multiple agriculture and educational related committees, and his advice is sought after on both local and regional basis.



Mr. Alton Freeman

County: Putnam

Representing: Central

Term: 2018-2020

Area: ANR/CED

Alton Freeman is a fourth generation family farmer and Angus stock producer. He graduated from Tennessee Technological University in 1972 with a BS in Agronomy. While in school at Tennessee Tech, he served as the Treasurer in Alpha Gamma Sigma, an agricultural fraternity. Freeman now serves as a church elder at Post Oak Presbyterian and as the Treasurer on the Phillips Cemetery Board. He has also worked for Wilmoth Insurance Agency since 1972. He has two daughters, Erica Clark and Natalie Freeman, both of whom also graduated from TTU. Erica now works in Animal Science Quality Control for Pardue Farms, and Natalie works for the USDA in Environment Science District Conservation. In his free time, Alton enjoys spending time around area lakes and wildlife.



Mrs. Lynda Jacobs

County: Hardeman

Representing: Western

Term: 2018-2020

Area: at large

Lynda Jacobs lives in Hickory Valley, Tennessee, where she owns and operates a cattle farm and rents part of the farm for row crops. She sells their beef from home and at the local farmers markets in Bolivar, Tennessee. She attends Hickory Valley Baptist Church and is an active member of the Hickory Valley Women's Club. Lynda's son and daughter-in-law live with their two daughters (ages 6 and 8) and their son (age 2) on the family farm. Lynda loves spending time with her grandchildren. Her daughter-in-law works as dental hygienist, while her son operates 2,500 acres of row crops and also has a dirt moving business. Lynda served on the Tennessee State Committee of the Farm Services Agency with the USDA for 2 terms. Her hobbies include spending time with her family, traveling and enjoying the many activities of the Hickory Valley Women's Club.



Mr. Undrae Johnson

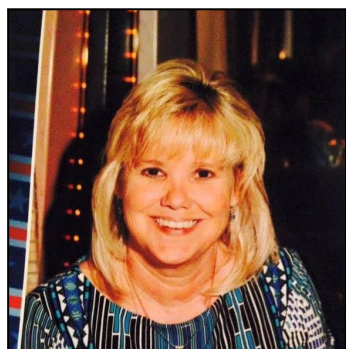
County: Haywood

Representing: Western

Term: 2018- 2020

Area: FCS

Undrae Johnson was born and raised in rural West Tennessee with a passion to serve and help others in need. Johnson graduated in 1988 from Haywood High School. In 1994, he married his love, Carletha Rena Wilson. Johnson and his wife have 3 children, Martavious, Unjanae and Kylah. In 2005, Family Life Fellowship was founded from a deep passion for their community. His desire is to provide a holistic approach to ministering the gospel of Christ: Mind, Body, and Soul. The highlight of Johnson's life in Ministry is watching the changes in peoples' lives for the better. He believes in inspiring people for greatness, and that tapping into their God given potential is his purpose.



Ms. Renea Jones

County: Unicoi

Representing: Eastern

Term: 2016 - 2018

Area: ANR/CED

Renea Jones has worked with her father and his partner on a 600 acre fresh market tomato farm since 1992. She is currently the Chief Financial Officer and is also in charge of labor operations and food safety. Renea graduated from North Carolina State University with a BS in Horticultural Science and a MS in Crop Science/Integrated Pest Management. She now has two children: Nick who is working on his MS in Environmental Science at Clemson, and Laura who is attending Maryville College.

Renea is a founding member of USA Farmers and remains on the Board of Directors. She currently serves as chairman of the Unicoi County Farm Bureau, Unicoi County Soil Conservation and Unicoi County Relay for Life. She has served on the American Farm Bureau Labor Advisory Board, the Tennessee Farm Bureau Commodity and Legislative Committees, the Tennessee School Board of Directors, Governor Haslam's Rural Challenge Committee, the Unicoi County Board of Directors and the Alternative Education Council. She also served as the 2013 TSBA President.



Mr. Harold Moses Love, Jr.

County: Davidson

Representing: Central

Term: 2016 -2018

Area: 4-H

Harold Love Jr. is a long-term resident of Davidson County. As a pastor of the St. Paul AME Church in Nashville, he understands the daily issues and educational needs of individuals, youth, families, communities and businesses. He has worked at Tennessee State University for youth development programs. He has also organized the Health and Nutrition Fair for low income residents.



Ms. Elaine Lovelace

County: Fayette

Representing: Western

Term: 2018 -2020

Area: 4-H

Elaine Lovelace is from Fayette County in West Tennessee. She and her husband of 55 years, Robert, live on a farm where they raise Shorthorn cattle. They have two children and four grandchildren. Elaine and Robert's grandsons showed their Shorthorn cattle as 4-H projects. They both help to promote agriculture while working with the Fayette County 5th Grade Farm Fest and the Shelby County 5th Grade Farm Day at the Agri-Center in Memphis by talking to the students about beef cattle. Elaine serves on the Fayette County beef Advisory Committee, the 4-H Advisory Committee, Fayette County Ag Committee, Farm Bureau Women's Board and has served on the State UT Extension Advisory Council and the State 4-H Volunteer Leader Committee.



Mr. James McKissic

County: Hamilton

Representing: Eastern

Term: 2017-2019

Area: FCS

James McKissic is the Director of the City of Chattanooga Office of Multicultural Affairs. His role for the city includes linking diverse businesses to City Government contracting opportunities, improving the city's supplier diversity efforts and working to promote inclusion and diversity among the employees and citizenry of Chattanooga. Since being appointed two years ago, James has established the city's internship program; set up a project to provide Citizenship Assistance, free ESOL and GED classes to Chattanooga's immigrant population; and managed a local hiring initiative for the demolition of the Harriet Tubman Housing Development. He is a native of Cleveland, TN and has worked in the nonprofit and public sectors for more than 20 years. James holds a BS in Secondary Education from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, a MS in Public Administration from the Robert F. Wagner School at NYU and an executive certificate from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He recently participated in the Harvard Business School's Young American Leaders Program.

James is passionate about empowering communities and changing lives. He is also a committed arts advocate, community volunteer and artist. He has served on the boards of the SPLASH Youth Arts Program, the Hunter Museum's Acquisitions Committee, La Paz and the Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga. James is also one of the founders of Jazzanooga, a nonprofit organization which promotes youth music education, provides year-round performance opportunities for local musicians and hosts an annual music festival in April.



Ms. Jackie Morgan

County: Davidson

Representing: Central

Term: 2017-2019

Area: FCS

Jackie Morgan is a Senior Economic & Financial Education Specialist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Nashville Branch. She is recognized as a state and national leader in personal financial education. Jackie trains educators, develops curriculum, writes articles and conducts outreach related to personal finance and economics. She has been appointed to the Nashville Mayor's Council on Economic Inclusion (Financial Literacy Subcommittee), Tennessee Financial Literacy Commission and the National Business Education Association: Economics and Personal Finance Education Committee. She has collaborated with UT Extension to facilitate personal finance educator trainings and plan an annual educator conference. Jackie has BS in both Agricultural Business and Public Relations and a MS in Business Education. She was a 4-H member in Colorado for eight years and has served as a volunteer for UT Extension's On My Own personal finance simulation.



Mr. Ken Myers

County: Hamilton

Representing: Eastern

Term: 2016 - 2018

Area: 4-H

Ken has worked for McKee Foods Corporation in Collegedale, Tennessee, since 1987. During his employment, he has work in several departments, with his current position as a planner/scheduler in the process maintenance department. In his spare time, Ken and his wife, Jennifer, volunteer in their local 4 -H club and enjoy trail riding on their horses. Ken has been a member of a volunteer fire department for the past 30 years. He has three children, one step -daughter, five horses and two dogs. Ken and Jennifer live in the Harrison, Tennessee area.



Ms. Shannon Nehus

County: Williamson

Representing: Central

Term: 2016 - 2018

Area: FCS

Shannon Nehus has over 25 years of experience working with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). She is the IDD Program Director for the Division of TennCare in Long Term Services and Supports. Prior to that, she was the Executive Director of Waves, Inc. in Franklin, Tennessee providing support to children and adults with IDD through a vision of an inclusive community where everyone works, learns and plays together. Her involvement in collaborating with the UT Extension Family Consumer Sciences Program led to the development of the Wilson County Parents as Teachers Program, Wilson County Enabling Garden, Wilson County UT Extension Health and Nutrition classes for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and a NEAFCS National Community Partnership Award. She has served on the State of Tennessee Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Legislative Task force; Leadership Wilson; Children, Youth and Families at Risk Coalition; Wilson County Schools Pre-K Council; Lebanon Special School District Pre-K Council; and Wilson County Parents as Teachers Board, United Way of Williamson County Board of Directors; Williamson County Community Housing Partnership Board of Directors; Tennessee Community Organization ACTS Board of Directors; and Leadership Franklin, and the Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities. She has a MS in Educational Psychology from Tennessee Tech University and lives in Lebanon with her husband of 30 years. She and Tim have three children, twin 14-year-olds, a 23-year-old son and daughter-in-law.



Mr. Billy Rochelle

County: Hickman

Representing: Western

Term: 2018 -2020

Area: 4-H

Billy Rochelle has been involved with UT Extension and 4-H for the greatest part of his life. A Hickman County 4-H alum, Billy has been involved in various 4-H leadership roles on the county, regional, state, and national levels in both high school and college. He holds a B.S. in Food and Ag Business from UT Knoxville and currently farms full time on his family's fifth generation farm raising corn, soybeans, wheat, and beef cattle. Outside of work, he is involved with the Tennessee Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers program and is a Hickman County 4-H volunteer.



Ms. Rena Peeler-House

County: Cannon

Representing: Central

Term: 2016 - 2018

Area: 4-H

Rena grew up on a century farm in Canon County. She is a graduate from Middle Tennessee State University and lives in Cannon County with her husband, John, and her children, John Lenzy, Elizabeth, Emily and Elana. Working with individuals with disabilities for 17 years, Rena has a heart to serve and better those around her. The past 13 years have been spent working with teens and young adults in high school teaching them the life skills they need to better their future. Rena was a very active 4-H member and participated in numerous local, district and state events. She stayed active while in college assisting in the Cannon County Extension office by leading project groups and judging teams. Rena and her son have both been members of the Honor Club, All-Stars and Vol-State. Her oldest daughter is also a member of the Honor Club. Rena has helped with various events, activities, clubs and organizations in the community. In 2013 Rena received the Friend of 4-H award for her outstanding service and commitment to the youth in Cannon County.



Ms. Margaret Stalans

County: Grainger

Representing: Eastern

Term: 2017-2019

Area: 4-H

Margaret Stalans has been a homemaker and worked on the family farm for the past 27 years. Currently from South Dakota, she and her family now reside in Grainger County. She has two sons, Thomas and Timothy, who are both extremely active in the 4-H program. Margaret has served as a 4-H volunteer in Grainger County for the past ten years. She has participated in programs such as On My Own and Volunteer Leaders for the Chick Chain project and has attended many regional and state 4-H events. Margaret has presented at regional training events for agents regarding volunteer management and is also a classroom volunteer leader. She retains excitement for the 4-H program as she continues her efforts to better the 4-H program in Grainger County.



Ms. Patricia Taylor

County: Gibson

Representing: Western

Term: 2017-2019

Area: FCS

Patricia has been a Gibson County resident for over 20 years. She is a native of Brownsville, Tennessee, where many fond childhood memories occurred as a member of the local 4-H club. For several years, she served on the TNCEP coalition, and has been active with the local Family and Community Education Clubs. Patricia is the former Director of the Humboldt Family Resource Center. Currently, she is the Executive Director of the Humboldt Housing Authority, where she hosts UT/TSU Extension Programs, including 4-H, and is an active supporter and volunteer. She is the Board President of the Boys and Girls Club of Humboldt, past Humboldt Chamber of Commerce Advisory Board Member and Gibson County Carl Perkins Board, and is a member of the Humboldt Exchange Club. Patricia earned a BS from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.



Mr. Randall Webster

County: Maury

Representing: Central

Term: 2018 - 2020

Area: ANR/ CED

Randall L. Webster is a native of Mt. Pleasant, Tennessee. He has a B.S. in Management Studies, a M.S. in Human Resource Management, and a Master of Divinity degree. He retired from the United Air Force in 2007 after 26 years of honorable service as Chief Master Sergeant. Randall returned to Mt. Pleasant in 2010 and served as Chairman, Planning Commission and member of the Community Advisory Board. He presently resides in Columbia, Tennessee and operates a small, 9-acre farm where he raises Boer goats, New Zealand rabbits and Black Angus steers. He is a component of rotational grazing.

Randall is presently employed with General Services Administration (GSA) in Nashville, Tennessee at the Estes Kefauver Federal Courthouse building. He is also a Senior Pastor in the African Methodist Episcopal Church.



Ms. Heather Whaley

County: Knox

Representing: Eastern

Term: 2017 -2019

Area: ANR/ CED

Heather M. Whaley is an assistant professor in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences at Carson-Newman University and serves as program leader for the Family and Consumer Sciences Education major. With over 20 years of teaching experience, she taught middle and high school Family and Consumer Sciences in Virginia and Tennessee for 9 years before joining the faculty at Carson-Newman. Dr. Whaley has served in leadership roles with the Tennessee Association of Family and Consumer Sciences and is a member of FCS and Human Services Advisory Boards for Anderson, Hamblen, and Knox County School Systems. Dr. Whaley earned her B.S. and M.S. degrees in Family Studies and in Human Resource Development with a concentration in FCS teacher licensure from The University of Tennessee and earned her Ph.D. in Business Administration, also from The University of Tennessee and holds the Certified in Family and Consumer Sciences credential.



Mr. Eston Williams

County: Davidson

Representing: Central

Term: 2018—2020

Area: ANR/CED

Eston Williams is a native of Somerville, Tennessee. He is a graduate of Tennessee State University with a B.S. in Plant Science. His career with the United States Department of Agriculture began by doing an internship with Natural Resources Conservation Services in 1984. Upon graduation he was hired on full time with 4 years granted toward his employment due to interning for 3 semesters. Eston has 32 years of service with USDA and has served in the area of a Soil Conservationist, District Conservationist, Resource Conservation and Development Coordinator, and State Outreach Coordinator prior to coming to TSU as the USDA/1890 Liaison. He is now employed with the United States Department of Agriculture and works for Office of Advocacy and Outreach. His main duties are to serve as the Liaison between USDA, Tennessee State University, and the students in the College of Agriculture Human and Natural Sciences. He also recruits students to attend TSU to entering into the field of Agriculture. Once the students arrive to TSU, he works with them to obtain an internship with one of the 17 USDA agencies. He also works with the graduated students to secure employment. Eston is a proud Alumni of Tennessee State University. He is a member of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, member of 100 Black Men, and a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Incorporated where he serves as the Southeastern Regional Director. He is married and has 3 daughters.



Ms. Patricia Woods

County: Montgomery

Representing: Wester

Term: 2018—2020

Area: ANR/CED

Patricia Woods has been a resident of Clarksville, Tennessee since 1992, settling there first after her spouse's retirement from the military. As a military spouse living in different parts of the world and country, she enjoyed the benefits of travel, experiencing different countries and cultures, and the many opportunities to serve as a volunteer. Woods retired in 2011 from the City of Clarksville Gas & Water Department after fifteen years of service as the Payroll Administrator. Her goal after retirement was to continue volunteer work in her community and to spend more time with her family and friends. She was also determined to open her own business, fulfilling her dream of teaching etiquette and leadership to children and adults. Her business "Eyes Up, Forks Down" started three years ago. She is also a member of both the National and the Tennessee Association for Family and Community Education. She is grateful for the many opportunities her new business and memberships have provided her.

Current Ex-Officio Members



Dr. Thomas W. Broyles

4-H State Program Leader
TSU 4-H Youth Development
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615-963-7885
tbroyle@tnstate.edu Area: 4-H

Dr. Broyles currently serves as the 4-H Youth Development State Program Leader with Tennessee State University (TSU) College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Sciences. Dr. Broyles provides statewide leadership working with 4-H county agents and state faculty as a program leader of an 1890 land-grant institution. Prior to taking this position in 2013, Dr. Broyles was a faculty member in the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education at Virginia Tech. Also, at Virginia Tech, Dr. Broyles served as the Director of the Virginia Governor's School for Agriculture. Dr. Broyles earned a B.S. in Animal Science from Virginia Tech, an M.S. in Vocational Education from Virginia Tech, and a Ph.D. in Career and Technical Education from Virginia Tech.



Dr. Roy Bullock

Ag State Program Leader
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In 2000, as a result of a Memorandum of Understanding between Tennessee State University and The University of Tennessee, Bullock was assigned to lead and coordinate the development of a proactive state small farms educational program. This assignment provided a 60/40 percent split between TSU and UT respectively. Dr. Bullock holds the rank of Extension Professor. In addition to his small farm responsibilities he serves in many other capacities to include: Agriculture program leader for county operations; Co-Chair of the 5th & 6th National Small Farms Conference; Leader for TSU Specialty Crops located at the Agricultural Research and Education Center in Cheatham County; member of the TSU Extension Leadership Team; 1890 Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Committee; TSU Extension Program Council; Joint TSU/UT Program Leaders Planning Committee; Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SSARE) State Coordinator; Southern Region IPM Advisory Board/Steering Committee; Chair, Tennessee Small Farms Committee composed of members from various state and USDA federal agencies. Prior to his work with the small farms program, Bullock served The University of Tennessee as an Associate Professor and Extension Weed Scientist.



Dr. Robert Burns

Dean
UT Extension
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rburns@utk.edu

Dr. Burns serves as Associate Dean for Agriculture, Natural Resources & Community Economic Development Extension programs at the University of Tennessee. In this position Robert works with a team of Extension faculty in the seven academic departments, the Soil Plant and Pest Center and the Center for Profitable Agriculture as well as agricultural Extension agents in 95 county Extension offices to deliver educational programs across the state of Tennessee. Prior to serving in this position, Robert served as a Professor of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering at Iowa State University, and led the Iowa State University Agricultural Waste Management Team. Under Robert's leadership, this team conducted applied research and Extension programming focused on air emissions monitoring and mitigation, manure and nutrient management and anaerobic digestion. Dr. Burns holds a BS in Agricultural Engineering, MS in Environmental Engineering, and PhD in Civil Engineering from The University of Tennessee and is a registered professional engineer.



Dr. Mike Buschermohle

Interim Assistant Dean
UT Extension
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A native of Louisville, Kentucky, Buschermohle earned a B.S. degree in agricultural engineering from the University of Kentucky and he earned his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in agricultural engineering from Clemson University. Buschermohle began his career with UT Extension in 1990 as an Electrical Power and Processing Specialist delivering educational programs in the areas of farmstead electrical systems, alternative energy systems, fencing systems and environmental control in livestock and greenhouse facilities. In 2004, Buschermohle assumed his current position as UT Extension Precision Agriculture Specialist. Over the last 13 years, Buschermohle has worked with extension agents, producers and agribusinesses in developing and disseminating educational programs that promote the adoption of precision agriculture technologies that enable row crop producers to increase production, reduce input costs and manage farmland more efficiently.

Buschermohle will serve as interim assistant dean until UT Extension completes a national search for a permanent member of its leadership team.



Dr. Richard Clark

Director, 4-H Youth Development
UT Extension
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Dr. Richard Clark is the Assistant Dean and Department Head for 4-H/ Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications at the University of Tennessee. His academic, administrative, and extension career has spanned a variety of institutions including Virginia Tech, The Pennsylvania State University, The Ohio State University, Rutgers University, and the University of Illinois. His most previous position was the Associate Director for the Agriculture Education Program and the Interim Assistant Dean and Director of 4-H Youth Development at the University of Illinois Extension. While in that position, he assisted with designing a strategy to expand the international component of the programs by both introducing a global perspective in local 4-H programs and increasing the involvement by faculty and staff in international experiences. Clark became involved in professional collaborations in Canada, Cuba, Palau, and China. Clark also taught many undergraduate and graduate level courses, among other achievements. Clark looks forward to improving the University of Tennessee Extension 4-H programs as he takes on his new role with the Department.



Dr. Shirley W. Hastings

Interim Director EESD/Director of Strategic Planning
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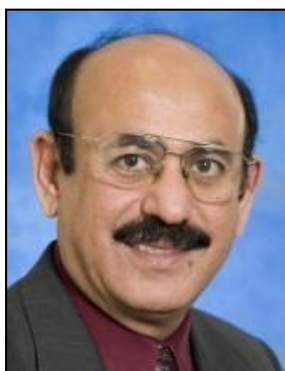
Dr. Hastings serves as Director of Strategic Planning for UT Extension and Interim Director of Extension Evaluation and Staff Development. In her role as Director of Strategic Planning, Dr. Hastings provides leadership to 13 initiative teams and committees working toward the implementation of UT Extension's 2010-2020 Strategic Plan. Since early 2016, Dr. Hastings has served as Interim Director of Extension Evaluation and Staff Development and Human Resources Officer for UT Extension, providing leadership to the department of Extension Evaluation and Staff Development. Prior to serving in these roles, Dr. Hastings served as Associate Dean for UT Extension Family and Consumer Sciences for 12 years. Dr. Hastings has been on the faculties of Oklahoma State University and Mississippi State University and was the Director of the School of Human Sciences at Mississippi State University before joining the faculty of The University of Tennessee. She has worked at the county, district, and state level as an Extension Home Economist, a 4-H Youth Agent, a 4-H District Agent, and State 4-H Specialist.



Dr. Sharon Jean-Philippe

Associate Professor
UT Extension
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Dr. Sharon Jean-Philippe is an Associate Professor of Urban Forestry in the Department of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries. Dr. Jean-Philippe received a B.S. in Biology from Tennessee State University in 2002. She earned her M.S. in Botany and PhD. in Natural Resources from the University of Tennessee in 2005 and 2010, respectively. She teaches courses in the field of urban forestry, tree law, urban soils and arboriculture. Additionally she is actively engaged in undergraduate recruitment throughout CASNR. Lastly she advises or co-advises several student chapters, Gamma Beta Phi Honor Society, International Association for Students in Agriculture and Related Sciences (IAAS) and Minorities in Agriculture Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS).



Dr. Latif Lighari

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Dr. Lighari serves as the Associate Dean for Extension for the College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Sciences at Tennessee State University. In this capacity, he assists the Dean of the College and Administrator for Extension in the day to day operation of the TSU Extension Program. He works with the UT/TSU Extension Program Leaders, UT Extension administration, UT Extension Regional Directors and UT Regional Program leaders to plan, implement, evaluate and report on the TSU Extension Plans Of work as well as annual impacts reports. He is also responsible for the programs, personnel and the budget management of the TSU Cooperative Extension Program. Prior to this job, he served as the Director of South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service and the Associate Dean of the College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences at South Dakota State University. He has also served as the Associate Administrator of TSU Extension program (2000-2008), the District Extension administrator, the County Extension Coordinator and the County Extension Agriculture/4-H Agent (1984-2000) with the University of Connecticut Extension system. Before joining the Cooperative Extension Service, he taught vocational agriculture in Missouri.



Dr. Chandra Reddy

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Dr. Reddy currently serves as the Dean and Director of Research/Administrator of Extension for the College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Sciences (CAHNS) at Tennessee State University (TSU), a position he has held since 2008. In this position, he provides vision and leadership toward the pursuit of the land-grant mission of TSU, and has spearheaded extraordinary growth in the CAHNS. During his tenure, the college's research outlays have expanded from \$18 million to \$55 million, Extension's presence has expanded from 11 counties to 40, and several new academic and research facilities have been added or are in the process of being constructed. An agronomist by training, Dr. Reddy completed his Ph.D. and post-doctoral work at the University of Florida, and has since held positions with both Purdue and Alabama A&M. Recognized both nationally and internationally for his scholarship and administrative efforts, Dr. Reddy is the recipient of a number of honors and awards, including the 2008 George Washington Carver Agricultural Excellence Award, an honorary degree from the Tennessee FFA, a 2012 House Joint Resolution from the Tennessee State Legislature recognizing his contributions to TSU, an appointment to the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education and Economics (NAREEE) Advisory Board by Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, and being named a Fellow of both the Soil Science Society of America and the American Society of Agronomy.



Dr. Robert Shumake

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Bob currently serves as the 4-H Extension agent for Weakley County. He holds the rank of Level III agent with 28 years of experience. He served six years as a 4-H agent in Henry County before transferring to Weakley County. During his tenure in Weakley County Bob has worked in both 4-H and Adult Agriculture program areas. He attended MTSU and received a degree in Ag Education and later earned his MS in Education from UT Martin. Some county programs of focus for Bob include shooting sports, communication skill building and livestock projects. Highlights of his Extension experiences have included serving as the interim Western Region Program Leader for 4-H Agriculture programs, attending National 4-H Congress, and serving on the State 4-H Shooting Sports Training team. Bob is a member of the Extension Healthy Lifestyles Committee and has served as the chair of the "Be Active Cog" for that group.



Ms. Leslie Speller-Henderson

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Leslie Speller-Henderson serves as Family & Consumer Sciences Program Leader and Extension Specialist with the Tennessee State University (TSU) College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Sciences in the area of Nutrition Education and Food Safety. Mrs. Speller-Henderson provides statewide leadership working with Family and Consumer Sciences county agents and state faculty as a program leader of an 1890 Land-grant institution. She coordinates two federally funded programs: the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - Nutrition Education (SNAP-Ed). In addition, she facilitates educational outreach workshops to help individuals, families, agencies, organizations and communities identify and solve healthy food choice challenges. She teaches undergraduate food and nutrition courses at TSU and has taught at Nashville State Community College. Mrs. Speller-Henderson has a BS degree in foods and nutrition from Tennessee State University and MS degree in nutrition and hospitality management from Alabama A&M University.



Dr. Laura Stephenson

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Dr. Laura Stephenson joined UT Extension after 25 years with University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension. The veteran academic administrator is the Assistant Dean for UT Extension heading the Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) department. She received her B.S. and M.S. degrees in Home Economics Education and Vocational Education from Eastern Kentucky University and earned her Ph.D. in gerontology from the University of Kentucky.

The UT Extension's Family and Consumer Sciences department includes faculty specialists and agents working in such areas as health, housing, parenting, money management and nutrition throughout the 95 counties of Tennessee. She previously served as Assistant Director for FCS Extension Programs at the University of Kentucky where she also was an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Family Sciences. She has been involved in a number of educational outreach projects such grandparents raising grandchildren, community engagement throughout the lifespan and a recycling effort to reduce waste in landfills.



Mr. Justin Thomas

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Justin Thomas is the Family & Consumer Sciences Extension Agent in Bradley County, Tennessee. He completed his undergraduate degree at Berea College and holds a Master's of Science from the University of Tennessee. Justin has been with Extension for eight years--serving six in Tennessee and two in Kentucky. When not working, he enjoys time with his wife and children.