Welcome from Our President

As we welcome a new year, I am proud that the University Women’s Club has continued to:

- Foster community among our members with “a place to gather and build friendships,”
- Provide faculty with an opportunity to share their knowledge thru the monthly luncheon meetings, and
- Award re-entry students with university scholarships.

In 2017, the UWC has produced an attractive recruitment brochure, participated in the UT Benefits Fair, attracted several new members, increased the scholarship from one to two, and expanded its interest group topics.

We continue to strive for improvement and for ways to have closer ties to the University. I am optimistic that we will succeed as we go forward into 2018.

Regards and warm wishes,

June Swaney
UWC President

Meet Sharon Smith, Our 2018-19 President

A lifelong resident of North Knoxville (currently Halls), I graduated from Powell High School and went on to the University of Tennessee. In 1983, I received my B.S. in Business Administration in, with a major in marketing.

After college, I had brief careers in retail management and banking. My husband, Larry, and I married in 1985. When our son and daughter, Tyler and Mallory, were young, I decided to stay home with them and held leadership roles in schools, church, and other community organizations. In 1995 I joined my husband’s life insurance agency and still serve as the office Administrative Assistant.

My husband, children, and my 18-month-old grandson, Parker, remain the center of my life. Larry and I are also very active in our church and have wonderful friends who we travel with. We enjoy attending University athletic events and stay active in community business associations. I currently serve on the Knox County Library Advisory board, Friends of the Library board, and have served on the Knoxville UT Alumni board chapter for the past seven years (president 2014-15). My other interests include cooking/grilling, reading, and traveling.

In 2014, when the UWC opened the membership to UT alumnae, an article in the Knoxville News-Sentinel, inspired me to join. I enjoy the monthly meetings and the wonderful speakers who entertain us and keep us informed and engaged with UTK academics. Through the UWC, I have developed new friendships and networks with women who also support the University.

I am especially proud that the UWC awards two scholarships to women re-entering their studies at UTK. I would like to see us expand on our efforts to support the University possibly by volunteering with a specific need or program. As President, I hope I can lead the UWC toward increased membership and volunteer initiatives such as Smokey's Pantry or the Career Center.

To learn more about UWC activities—past, current, and future—go to our website: universitywomensclub@utk.edu
Two Returning Students Complete Their Degrees with Help from UWC Scholarships

The two 2017-2018 UWC Scholarship recipients are young mothers, one in her 20s and one in her 30s, who have overcome multiple obstacles in pursuing their educational goals. Both completed their bachelor’s degrees in December 2017. And both are extremely grateful for the additional help they received from our scholarships.

A single mother of two young boys, ages 5 and 8, Kimberly Haliburda commuted from Crossville to attend classes at UTK every day of the week in order to complete her double major in philosophy and environmental sociology. Receiving this scholarship was especially meaningful to Kimberly because she was the first person in her family to attend college. Having experienced the loss of her mother and grandparents before she began college, she had no family support through her degree programs.

Kimberly started at Roane State Community College and graduated with honors, but worried about the cost of tuition for further studies. However, thanks to scholarship help, she was able to pursue her degree at UTK. She loved her time there because, she writes, “the quality of education provided is incredible and the knowledge of the professors is profound.”

Having grown up in a poor family inspires Kimberly to follow one of two possible careers: to “help impoverished children caught up in the foster care system so that they may, too, attend college and lead stable lives,” or to “help communities, or companies, become more environmentally conscious.” She plans to obtain a graduate degree and hopes that her “children will also wish to go to college.”

Tiffany Chaperon grew up in Detroit, one of six children of a mother who was often on welfare or struggling financially. She got her first job at age 13 because, she says, “if I was to be able to shower every day; I had to help pay the water bill.” Working two jobs through high school, she kept up high grades.

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Scholarship Recipients, continued from page 2

Tiffany became self-sufficient at 18, moved to Tennessee and later married. She and her husband have an 11-year-old boy and a 10-year-old girl but she reports, but with no family nearby, they “have done ‘life’ all by ourselves, with little to no assistance from others.” Once her children were in school, Tiffany started college at Pellissippi State. Despite having to arrange her schedule around her children (her husband works 12-hour shifts), she graduated from Pellissippi Suma Cum Laude.

At UT, Tiffany completed a Bachelor’s in Educational Interpreting, with a high G.P.A. In her last semester she took one final class and held an internship, putting her well over the required 285 practicum hours in her field. Tiffany found her time at UT to be “an amazing learning experience…. Many service learning opportunities within the Deaf community [have] given me a unique advantage going into the interpreting field.” Tiffany plans to complete the certifications to become a nationally certified interpreter and eventually to obtain a graduate degree in medical interpreting.

If the stories of these two young women inspire you, please make a difference in the lives of future scholars with a gift to the UWC Scholarship Fund. To receive a tax receipt for your contribution, be sure to make your check out to the University of Tennessee. You may give your check to UWC Treasurer, Jean Hulsey at any club meeting or mail it to Jean at 104 Morgan Hall, 2621 Morgan Circle, Knoxville, TN 37996-4507.

Croquet Anyone? New Interest Group for 2018

A new interest group will start in March or April depending on the weather.

On the first Sunday afternoon of each month from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., the group will play croquet on the lawns at the home of Audrey Duncan.

After the games, players will enjoy a repast of cucumber sandwiches and hot tea or a glass of wine. Beginners are welcome!

If you are interested in this new activity, contact Audrey Duncan at 588-8371 or audreyaduncan@comcast.net

Dr. Julie Reed Will Discuss Cherokee Women, February 9th

Did you know that Cherokee people traced their kinship through their mothers and not their fathers? Learn more about how the economic, political, and spiritual authority of Cherokee women changed over time, especially during the removal era, at our first meeting of 2018 on Friday, February 9, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Professor Julie Reed will describe how Cherokee women adapted and responded to changes first during the removal era and then in the period after the United States Civil War.

Dr. Reed's most recent book, Serving the Nation: Cherokee Sovereignty and Social Welfare, 1800-1907 (2016), traces these changes. She is currently at work on a study of Cherokee educational history that “roots education in older forms of knowledge transmission and a general belief among Cherokee people that every member of Cherokee society regardless of age or gender could learn from or teach every other member of society.” Dr. Reed holds a B.A. in English literature from the University of South Florida, a Masters in Theological Studies from Southern Methodist University, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in American history from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Explore the UWC Interest Groups

If you are looking for a new way to banish the winter blues, consider expanding your opportunities for learning and fellowship in one of the UWC interest groups. Although some groups are full, others, like Water Aerobics, would welcome more participants. Please check with Membership Chair, Nancy Howell (661-0091 or nhowell@utk.edu) to find out which groups are seeking new members.
The Hill on UT Campus

By Audrey A. Duncan, UWC Historian

Having previously looked at people belonging to the UWC and UT in general, I thought that it might be fun to look at some of the University buildings and landmarks. I suppose “the Hill” is the university’s most famous landmark and its most recognizable symbol.

The Hill was originally called “Barbara Hill,” in honor of the daughter of Governor William Blount. The original school, renamed East Tennessee College in 1807, occupied a single building on State Street. Thomas Jefferson had recommended that the college to a more spacious site, but with the 1809 death of Samuel Carrick, the president and sole faculty member, East Tennessee College closed until 1820, when it reopened on the Hill.

The trustees chose the Hill because: “The shape of the Hill, the commanding view from it and to it in every direction, the excellence of the water, its distance from the town, being near and yet secluded, its position between the river and the main western road, … together with its unquestionable healthfulness, render the site as eligible, almost, as the imagination can conceive.”

In 1826 Old College, a two-story stone and brick building with an observatory and belfry was erected, and the college grounds were landscaped. East, West and South colleges were added over the decades. The oldest building on the Hill is now South College Hall, built in 1872, to house the administration.

In 1926 the Hill celebrated its 100th birthday, with the festivities tied into the Homecoming Weekend. Changes had occurred during the century, Old College was gone, as were East and West colleges. In their place stood Ayres Hall, the new liberal arts building along with 16 other buildings scattered over the Hill.

Ayres Hall is perhaps UT’s most famous symbol. When my first husband, Roland Duncan, and I arrived in 1960, the History Department was on the second floor. The building had no air conditioning, and Roland used to say that the blue jays in the giant magnolias mimicked his lectures much to the students delight.

Ayres Hall Today

Over the years both Ayres Hall and South College have been modernized and remodeled, but their original facades have been preserved to protect their origins.

Today, the Hill is largely devoted to the sciences and to engineering. We hope that the goals of those earlier trustees were realized when they said of the site, “at once beautiful, elevated and picturesque, this place will gratify the taste, elevate the mind, and invigorate the health of the students.”

UWC Membership:
In Memoriam

Myra Brooks-Turner
Mary Fair
Doris Hall
Joyce King
Virginia Patterson

South College West Facade
UWC Membership: Updates

New Members

Helen Hennon, 7919 Bell Rd., Knoxville, TN 37938; 607-1325; hhennon@utk.edu; Facility Services

Kathy Farr, 2032 Rivergate Dr., Knoxville, TN 37920; 573-4501; klbfarr@comcast.net; UTMC

Robin Nichol, 5425 Yosemite Trail, Knoxville, TN 37909; 865-297-2572; bravelayrobin@gmail.com; English

Whitney Overbay, 9401 Ravenwood Cir., Knoxville, TN 37922; 300-8386; whitneyoverbay@gmail.com; alumna

Joy Panigabutra-Roberts, 209 Hodges Library, 1015 Volunteer Blvd., Knoxville, TN 37996-0000; apanigb@utk.edu; UT Library

Karen Rose, 445 W. Blount Ave.#325, Knoxville, TN 37920; 540-271-3517; krose20@utk.edu; Nursing

Natalie Smith, 1115 Whitower Dr., Knoxville, TN 37919; 694-7665; nataliesmith64@hotmail.com; UT Library

Rosa Thomas, 716 Loop Rd., Knoxville, TN 37934; 675-1098; rthomas1@utk.edu; retired

Connie White, 153 Pine Grove Rd., Loudon, TN 37774; 719-6161; cwhite@utk.edu; Center for Literacy Education and Employment

Dr. Laurie Williams, 1515 Kenesaw Ave., 37919; 300-6434; lauriekwilliams@gmail.com; alumna

New Addresses

Helen Knight; #307 Sherrill Hills; 271 Moss Grove Blvd.; Knoxville, TN 37922

Claudia Fribourg; 801 Vanosdale Rd.; Apt. 137; Knoxville, TN 37909

Jaana Mannik; 301 Chamberlain Blvd.; Knoxville, TN 37920

Members and Guests Enjoy the Holiday Reception

The Office of the Provost hosted another delightful Holiday Reception for the UWC on December 6 in McClung Museum. Members appreciated the words of welcome from the Museum Director, Jeff Chapman, and the update on the university by Acting Provost, John Zomchick, as well as the excellent singers and the refreshments.
Mark Your Calendar for UWC Spring Events

After our February 9 meeting with Dr. Julie Reed speaking on Cherokee women, we have two more meetings this spring semester:

**March 9 Lunch Meeting:** As usual, we will meet 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the UT Visitors’ Center. Our speaker will be Dr. Catherine Shteynberg, Assistant Director, Curator and Head of Web & Media, McClung Museum. She will speak on “Consuming Identity: Women’s Changing Role during the Gilded Age.”

**Spring Luncheon:** Our spring luncheon and business meeting will be held at Cherokee Country Club on Friday, April 13, from 11:30 a.m. till 1:00 p.m. This meeting will introduce the new 2018-19 Board and always includes an excellent program of music or other entertainment.