Tennessee Extension Advisory Council
2019 Council Members
Ms. Shekia Allen

County: Madison
Representing: Western
Term: 2018-2020
Area: 4-H

Ms. Shekia Allen is an educator at Jackson Central Merry - Early College High School where she has served youth for over 15 years. Ms. Allen is a native of Henry County, but resides in Jackson, Tennessee. She is a graduate of the University of Memphis where she received her B.S. in Education, a M.S. in Curriculum and Instruction from Phoenix, and an Ed.S. in Leadership Administration from Freed Hardeman University. She participated in collegiate sports and now serves as head coach for cross country, basketball, and softball. Ms. Allen’s connection with UT-TSU Extension is her involvement in the 4-H bread-baking contest in Henry County. She also works with the Extension agents to implement 4-H programming in her classes.

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. 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. 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, “Grandaddy’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.
Mr. Blan Dougherty

County: Monroe
Representing: Eastern
Term: 2019-2021
Area: ANR/CED

Mr. Dougherty owns and operates a farm in the Mount Harmony community in McMinn County with his wife, Kathy. He was one of the top dairy herds in the state on the Dairy Herd Improvement program for many years. He was in the dairy business for over 28 years until a devastating tornado destroyed the dairy facilities two years ago. He made the decision to sell the cows and not rebuild, instead opting to get in the commercial hay production business. He produces hay on 110 acres of the farm and leases the remaining acreage for crops. He attended the University of Tennessee, Knoxville where completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Sciences.

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 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

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 wild-life.

Mr. John Harrison
County: Loudon
Representing: Eastern
Term: 2019-2021
Area: ANR/CED

John Harrison, along with his wife Celia, operates a diversified farming operation in Loudon, Monroe and McMinn counties. Their business involves dairy, beef, cheese production and tourism and includes 2,500 acres for corn, hay and pasture production. Sweetwater Valley Farm was recognized in 2012 as IDFA’s innovative farm of the year and continues to be an innovator with the startup of an 8-robot Lely XL operation in 2018 which is home to 450 lactating cows and can be expanded to 16 robots. By the end of 2018, the operation included 1,800 mature cows, 2,000 replacement heifers, 600 beef cows, 400,000 lbs. of cheese produced annually and 100,000 visits to the store and farm. Celia, a physician, is the Medical Director of the Emergency Department at Sweetwater Hospital Association. John and Celia have five children. Mary Lyndal, their oldest daughter, is director of marketing at the farm. Charles Allen, their youngest son, will graduate this spring at UTK with a degree in Ag Business and continue with the family business operations. Sally Anna is in medical school at the University of Alabama and John William is a software engineer in Huntsville, Alabama. Their youngest, Amy Elizabeth, will become a Volunteer this fall in Knoxville, becoming the latest in the third generation of Harrisons to attend UTK. John’s parents were the first generation of Harrison’s to attend.
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, Martarious, 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. 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. Denton Clay Parkins

County: Gibson
Representing: Western
Term: 2019-2021
Area: ANR/CED

Mr. Parkins is owner and operator of Green acres Farm in Gibson County. He currently supports and has been an avid user of UT Extension education programs through the years as the family agriculture enterprises shifted through the decades. A traditional row crop farm, Green Acres Farm, also incorporates a successful agritourism venture with a seasonal Berry Farm, Corn Maze, and Pumpkin Patch. The location of the farm affords easy access for much of West Tennessee and has become iconic with welcoming of new seasons (Spring – Berry Farm, Fall – Pumpkin Patch). He hosts County Standardized Test variety trials for UT Extension as well as partners with specialists in Fruit & Vegetable production, Center for Profitable Ag, and Area MANAGE specialist. He would bring a wealth of understanding and knowledge of UT Extension to Advisory Council.
Chloé Ragland is from Van Buren County, Tennessee, where she attends Van Buren County High School as a sophomore. She is a member of the Van Buren County 4-H Honor Club, serves as a secretary for her FFA chapter, and serves on the 2018-2019 Tennessee 4-H State Council as the Congress Speaker of the House.

Carla is a native of Jonesborough, Tennessee, and previous 4-Her of Washington County. Her college degrees, both from the University of Tennessee, include a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science and a Master of Science in Extension Education. She was also a UTK Research Assistant and recipient of the Arch McClanahan Scholarship. Her Extension employment includes Extension Assistant of District V and State Administration. Carla currently resides in Moss, Tennessee, where she and her husband are the owner/operators of Ginny Ridge Farms. Carla has been a homeschooling instructor for Ginny Ridge Academy and Upper Cumberland Christian Co-op. Carla is also an active community and 4-H volunteer.
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.

Mr. Jeff Sellers

County: Knox
Representing: Eastern
Term: 2019-2021
Area: 4-H

Mr. Sellers currently lives in Northeast Knox County on a 42-acre ranch with his wife, Junelle, and his daughter, Kendra. They are currently raising registered and commercial black Angus cattle. Mr. Sellers is serving as the President of the Tennessee Valley Cattlemen's Association and also Vice-President of the Tennessee Cattlemens's Association 8th District. He is extremely involved with 4-H, as his daughter is in her 7th year of showing livestock for Knox County, as well as leasing cattle to other kids to show. Last year, Mr. Sellers took over the coaching duties of the livestock judging team for Knox County. Mr. Sellers is also the beef superintendent for the Tennessee Valley Fair.

Mr. Sellers was raised in Knox County and attended Halls High School. He raised chickens and showed in 4-H when he was in elementary schools. He loves sharing 4-H opportunities with his daughter.
Ms. Pam Sites

County: Rutherford
Representing: Central
Term: 2019-2021
Area: FCS

Pam Sites has been married for 47 years to her husband, Dale. They have two beautiful daughters and two wonderful grandsons. They have lived in 13 different residences.

Mrs. Sites graduated from West Virginia University with a degree in Home Economics. She worked in banking where she was a teller and worked up to position of senior customer service, also known as assistant branch manager.

After moving to Tennessee in 2003, Mrs. Sites worked for H&R Block and HA Beasley providing tax preparation services to clients. She is now officially retired.

One of her hobbies is learning new things. She also enjoys reading and has joined two book clubs.

In 2004 Mrs. Sites joined the Northridge FCE club in Rutherford County. She has served in various positions of leadership at the local club level, the Rutherford County Council level, Central Region level, and TAFCE State level. She is one of the Tennessee State Master Food Volunteers where she teaches food preparation and canning classes.

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.

Ms. Angela Warden
County: Davidson
Representing: Central
Term: 2019-2021
Area: ANR/CED

Ms. Angela Warden is a native Tennessean, from Franklin (Williamson County). A graduate of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville with a degree in Agriculture: Plant and Soil Sciences and a concentration in Environmental Sciences and Natural Resources, she is also a licensed Soil Scientist in Tennessee and Alabama.

In addition, Ms. Warden has been trained under the Tennessee Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Program Fundamentals of Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control (EPSC) Level 1 and Level 2.

Currently, Ms. Warden is a Technical Service Provider (TSP) with the United States Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA/ NRCS) and is certified to write CNMPs and NMPs to assist farmers in Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee.
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

Mr. Doug Bohner

Director of Extension Evaluation and Staff Development
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Mr. Bohner holds a BS in Criminal Justice as well as a MS in Human Resources and has over 17 years of Human Resources experience in a variety of roles. Most recently Mr. Bohner has served as the Director of Human Resources for HomeServe USA. He also has previous Human Resources experience with both Express Scripts and The Walt Disney Company. Mr. Bohner has experience in various HR functions including recruiting, compensation, succession planning, on-boarding, and professional development. He also has led internal investigations involving EEO, harassment, FMLA, and ADA claims. He has collaborated with stakeholders at all levels to align HR and business objectives in key positions for two Fortune 100 companies. Mr. Bohner also has several certifications including certification as a Senior Professional in Human Resources.

Dr. Thomas W. Broyles

4-H State Program Leader
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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.
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 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
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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. Sharon Jean-Philippe
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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 Herbert College of Agriculture. 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. H. Dwight Loveday

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Dr. H. Dwight Loveday is the Interim Assistant Dean and Department Head for 4-H youth Development & Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication. Previously, Dwight held a split appointment in 4-H Youth Development and Food Science. He provided leadership to 4-HLivestock Skillathon activity and 4-H Food Science projects and activities. Dwight taught three meat science classes in Food Science and participated in UT Extension Master Beef and Small Ruminant programs.
Dr. Chandra Reddy
Dean & Director of Research
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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.
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 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 as grandparents raising grandchildren, community engagement throughout the lifespan and a recycling effort to reduce waste in landfills.
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.