



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE

Dean, College of Nursing
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Associate Senior Vice President for Nursing Academic-Practice Partnerships
University of Tennessee Medical Center
Knoxville, Tennessee

“One that beareth a torch shadoweth oneself to give light to others.” —*the University of Tennessee
Volunteer Creed*

THE SEARCH

[The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, College of Nursing](#) (College) seeks an inspiring nursing leader to serve as its next Dean. The [University of Tennessee, Knoxville](#) (UT or University) is a land-grant, Carnegie Research 1 “Very High Research Activity” and “Community Engaged” institution committed to excellence in teaching, research, and public service. Guided by the Volunteer spirit of leadership and service, UT combines rigorous academics with innovative research to enrich lives and transform communities. The University is home to more than 40,000 students, 2,300 faculty, 6,000 staff, and offers more than 900 programs of study across [14 degree-granting colleges and schools](#).

The College of Nursing is a vital part of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville’s mission—advancing nursing science, preparing practice-ready graduates, and addressing critical workforce needs across Tennessee and beyond. Today, 1,380 students are enrolled in the College’s undergraduate and graduate programs, and more than 8,000 alumni serve in 48 states and 14 countries, reflecting the College’s broad reach and impact. In the latest *U.S. News & World Report* rankings, the College’s undergraduate program is ranked #1 in Tennessee, #18 among public universities, and #28 nationally, underscoring its leadership in preparing the next generation of nurses. Additionally, the Doctor of Nursing Practice program is ranked #22 among public universities nationally. The College secured a record-breaking \$7.9 million in research funding in fiscal year 2025, fueling innovative studies that advance nursing science and improve health outcomes across communities.

This is an extraordinary moment to lead the College of Nursing. After nearly fifteen years of visionary leadership under Dean Victoria Niederhauser, the College is thriving with record student enrollment,

highly ranked academic programs, NCLEX pass rates consistently exceeding state and national averages, and thriving programs of research. This upward momentum is supported by the College's new home: the state-of-the-art 117,000-square-foot [UT Medical Nursing Building](#), which has expanded classroom, simulation, collaboration, and research space to better prepare future nurses and meet the increasing demand for highly skilled healthcare professionals. The College has strong partnerships with many clinical partners including the University of Tennessee Medical Center (UTMC), East Tennessee Children's Hospital (ETCH), and community health organizations that enhance clinical education, research, and service. With UT's prestigious Carnegie R1 status, record research growth, and bold ambitions to elevate the university's reputation for the student experience and research impact, the next dean will have unparalleled opportunities to expand nursing research, innovate in education, and shape healthcare delivery across Tennessee and beyond—all within a collaborative, well-resourced environment committed to leadership and service.

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville seeks a dynamic leader with a record of excellence to serve as Dean of the College of Nursing. The Dean will bring a clear vision for the future of healthcare and higher education and champion innovation and technology that drives growth and impact across all mission areas. The Dean will also demonstrate strong business acumen to strategically manage resources and position the College for sustainable growth. The Dean will be an exceptional communicator and relationship builder, able to engage effectively with a range of constituents. This individual will promote interdisciplinary collaboration, strengthen academic-practice partnerships, expand graduate programs, and advance nursing science. Key priorities include sustaining a collaborative culture and contributing to UT's promises to expand access to an unparalleled education, prepare tomorrow's leaders, and advance knowledge that improves lives.

To fulfill accreditation requirements, the Dean will be a registered nurse with a graduate degree in nursing and an earned doctorate. The Dean must also have current or eligible RN licensure to practice nursing in Tennessee and demonstrate scholarly distinction consistent with the expectations for a full professor at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Significant experience in nursing leadership, education, practice, and research is expected.

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, has retained Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to assist in this recruitment. Please direct all applications, nominations, and inquiries in confidence to Isaacson, Miller, as indicated later in this document.

ROLE OF THE DEAN

The Dean of a College of Nursing provides visionary leadership, strategic direction, and external representation to advance academic excellence, research, and the nursing profession. As part of UT's academic leadership team, the Dean ensures the College fulfills the University's land-grant mission and meets the growing demand for highly skilled nurses across Tennessee. The Dean collaborates with affiliate partners, promotes interprofessional initiatives, and builds partnerships within and beyond the University to advance strategic priorities in academic programs, research, and practice.

The Dean holds the Lisa and Greg Reed Endowed Dean's Chair and reports to [Provost John Zomchick](#). The Dean leads a team of seven direct reports, in addition to oversight of tenured track faculty.

The College of Nursing and UTMC recently formalized their long-standing commitment to advancing nursing education and clinical practice with two new leadership appointments. The Dean of the College of Nursing also serves as Associate Senior Vice President for Nursing Academic-Practice Partnerships at UTMC. Additionally, the Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer at UTMC serves as Associate Dean for Academic-Practice Partnerships at the College. The partnership aims to create a seamless connection between academic nursing education and clinical practice, ensuring that future nurses are well prepared to meet the evolving demands of the healthcare industry. It leverages the expertise of both institutions to develop innovative solutions addressing critical challenges in nursing education, workforce development, and patient care. UTMC is a Magnet-recognized hospital, the highest honor a healthcare institution can receive for nursing quality and outcomes.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR THE DEAN

Substantial opportunities await the new Dean:

Leverage momentum and a state-of-the-art facility to further prominence and impact

The College of Nursing continues to gain national recognition for its excellent academic programs, growing research portfolio, robust clinical partnerships, and commitment to innovation in healthcare. By building on these strengths, the College can expand its influence in shaping nursing education, health policy, and evidence-based practice. The new 117,000 sq ft UT Medical Nursing Building positions the College to lead in simulation-based education and interdisciplinary research, supported by its proximity to prominent institutions like UTMC, ETCH, and Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Expanding visibility through high-impact research, leadership in national organizations, media presence, and strategic collaborations will attract top talent, secure competitive funding, and drive solutions to pressing healthcare challenges regionally, nationally, and globally.

Accelerate the growth of research

In line with the Chancellor's [Next Level initiative](#), the Dean will have ambitious goals and strong institutional support for continued research growth. The College's program of research has grown significantly over the past few years, and it stands at a pivotal moment in its research trajectory. The College has robust community partnerships, a new building featuring wet lab space, and recent strategic hires, including research-focused faculty and a statistician. Meaningful progress has also been made in supporting junior faculty and expanding the research office infrastructure.

While the momentum around research in the College is significant, important opportunities remain. Expanding access to clinical research participants and increasing internal funding for PhD students can further fuel the College's research output. Recruiting and retaining research-active faculty presents the

chance to build a thriving community of scholars. Similarly, while its hybrid PhD model has increased the accessibility of the program, there is an opportunity to enrich in-person scholarly engagement and mentorship while growing the size of the program.

Drive strategic enrollment and program expansion

The College of Nursing is experiencing strong growth and visibility, with robust enrollment in its BSN and DNP programs, innovative initiatives like the BSN Scholars Program, and partnerships with UTMC and community clinics. The College has thoughtfully grown while ensuring clinical placement capacity and excellence across its programs. The new UT Medical Nursing Building enhances capacity for education, research, and engagement, creating opportunities to expand programs such as the PhD, RN to BSN, and certificates. As enrollment rises, the next Dean will guide strategic expansion—considering things like workforce needs and additional program offerings, clinical placement pipelines, new preceptor models, and leveraging simulation and technology.

Shepherd strategic partnerships to drive innovation

The College of Nursing occupies a vital and visible role within the UT's broader ecosystem, actively contributing to major institutional initiatives such as innovation hubs and cluster hires. UT's strategic plan emphasizes interdisciplinary innovation. There is strong alignment between UT leadership and the College, creating a powerful platform for collaboration across campus. The Dean can foster additional collaborations with engineering, public health, law, and other colleges to develop joint programs, certificates, and research initiatives that address complex health challenges.

The College is uniquely positioned to help shape the healthcare landscape in Knoxville and across the state, elevating nursing's role in healthcare delivery, interprofessional education, and collaborative research. Existing collaborations with UTMC, ETCH, River Valley Health, and community clinics provide a foundation for deeper engagement. The Dean can expand these partnerships to support graduate clinical placements, workforce development, and innovative care models, aligning with the University's land-grant mission.

Cultivate philanthropic support and wisely steward resources

The College of Nursing benefits from a strong foundation of donor, alumni, and community support. An engaged board of advisors and dedicated community partners stand ready to collaborate with the next Dean in advancing the College's mission and impact. The next Dean will have the opportunity to strengthen relationships with existing supporters while cultivating prospective donors and partners through a compelling vision that connects giving to innovation, nursing research, student success, and community health outcomes. They will collaborate closely with University leadership, clinical and corporate partners, foundations, and community stakeholders to secure resources that advance student success, faculty excellence, research innovation, and infrastructure development. Operational acumen and responsible financial stewardship will be essential to translating these resources into sustainable, long-term growth.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

This position requires a collaborative leader with strategic vision, emotional intelligence, broad intellectual insights, and political savvy; who deeply understands nursing education, research, and practice; who thinks creatively and strategically; and who can connect to a wide array of constituents.

Minimum Requirements

- A registered nurse (RN) with a graduate degree in nursing and an earned doctorate;
- Scholarly distinction consistent with the expectations for a full professor at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville's College of Nursing;
- Current or eligible RN licensure to practice nursing in the state of Tennessee.

Preferred Qualifications and Characteristics

- Distinguished record of academic achievement, research, practice, teaching, and service;
- Significant administrative and leadership experience;
- A firm understanding of higher education and the dynamic and ever-evolving healthcare landscape;
- Demonstrated ability to build effective partnerships within a college and university, with clinical partners, and with external groups including donors and policy makers;
- A record of accomplishment in recruiting, developing, and retaining outstanding faculty, staff, and students;
- Demonstrated record of securing external research funding, including competitive research grants, contracts, or fellowships, with evidence of sustained scholarly productivity supported by such funding;
- Exceptional oral and written communication skills;
- Excellent interpersonal skills, including collegiality and collaboration;
- Strong business acumen and strategic thinking, including the ability to manage complex budgets, optimize resource allocation, manage a dynamic workforce, and align strategies with academic and clinical priorities to ensure sustainable growth and operational excellence;
- High standards of professional integrity and a strong sense of professional ethics;
- Demonstrated commitment to access, service, sustainability, and social responsibility in academic and operational practices;
- Visionary leadership in integrating emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, into curriculum, research, and service aligned with the institution's mission.

APPLICATIONS, INQUIRIES, AND NOMINATIONS

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, has engaged the executive search firm Isaacson, Miller to assist in the search. Screening of complete applications will begin immediately. To be assured of full consideration,

materials should be submitted by February 1, 2026, and include a cover letter and CV/Resume via the Isaacson, Miller website: <https://www.imsearch.com/open-searches/university-tennessee-knoxville-college-nursing/dean>

Amy Segal, Partner
Alice Holland, Senior Associate
Olivia McVicker, Managing Search Coordinator
Isaacson, Miller

All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment and admission without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, genetic information, veteran status, and parental status, or any other characteristic protected by federal or state law. In accordance with the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the University of Tennessee affirmatively states that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or disability in its education programs and activities, and this policy extends to employment by the university.

Requests for accommodation of a disability should be directed to the ADA Coordinator at [Equal Opportunity and Accessibility](#), 1840 Melrose Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37996-3560, by email to eoq@utk.edu, or by phone at 865-974-2498. Inquiries and charges of violation of Title VI (race, color, and national origin), Title IX (sex), Section 504 (disability), the ADA (disability), the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (age), sexual orientation, or veteran status should be directed to the Office of Investigation and Resolution, 216 Business Incubator Building, E J. Chapman Drive, Knoxville, TN 37996-3560, by email to investigations@utk.edu, or by phone at 865-974-0717.

This document has been prepared based on the information provided by the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. The material presented in this leadership profile should be relied on for informational purposes only. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the original source documents and information provided by the University of Tennessee, Knoxville would supersede any conflicting information in this document.

APPENDIX

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE SYSTEM

[The University of Tennessee, Knoxville](#) (UT) is the flagship campus of the University of Tennessee System. The University of Tennessee System is a statewide public university network that encompasses five campuses—Knoxville, Chattanooga, Southern (Pulaski), Martin, and the Health Science Center in Memphis—as well as two statewide institutes: the Institute of Agriculture and the Institute for Public Service. As a land-grant institution, it serves all 95 Tennessee counties, delivering comprehensive education, groundbreaking research, and public outreach that drive economic growth, workforce development, and community resilience. With an enrollment of approximately 65,000 students and a robust endowment, the UT System combines accessible, high-quality academic programs with a mission to improve the lives of Tennesseans and foster state and national impact. Enrollment across the system has grown by over 20% over the last five years and is expected to reach more than 71,000 students by 2030.

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE

History

Founded in Knoxville in 1794 as Blount College, named for Tennessee's first governor William Blount, the institution that would become the University of Tennessee, Knoxville began as a small, struggling college operating from a downtown building. It became a state institution in 1807 and was renamed East Tennessee College. In 1820, the college purchased 40 acres west of downtown to establish a campus on what is now "The Hill."

Under its fifth president, Joseph Estabrook, growth accelerated beginning in 1834 with added faculty, improved curricula, and new dormitories. In 1840, the legislature renamed it East Tennessee University (ETU). Though the campus suffered during the Civil War, fortunes changed when Congress made Tennessee eligible for the Morrill Act in 1867. ETU became the state's land-grant institution in 1869, receiving federal land and funds to teach agriculture, mechanics, and military science. Trustees soon approved medical departments through Nashville Medical College and added advanced degrees, leading to the name change to the University of Tennessee.

By 1887, UT expanded science and engineering curricula, admitted women, and received its first state appropriation. A law school and teacher training institute followed. Later, medical and dental colleges moved to Memphis, and the Knoxville campus became part of a statewide system.

Leadership

Chancellor

[Donde Plowman](#) has served as Chancellor of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, since 2019. In that time, she has overseen a 30 percent increase in enrollment, even as enrollment has dropped dramatically at many other universities. The University has also set new records in student retention, alumni giving, state support, and research expenditures.

Before becoming Chancellor, Plowman served as Dean of the College of Business and then Executive Vice Chancellor at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. She was previously a department head in the Haslam College of Business at UT.

A highly regarded organizational scientist, Plowman earned her PhD in Strategic Management from the University of Texas at Austin, an MEd in Higher Education Administration from the University of North Texas, and a BA in English from Southern Methodist University. Plowman is a globally recognized organizational scientist whose scholarship includes the topics of leadership, change management, and strategic decision-making.

Provost

[John Zomchick](#) has served as Provost of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, since 2020. He previously served as Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs and as Interim Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor. Before joining the Office of the Provost's staff, he served as Executive Associate Dean in the College of Arts and Sciences at UT.

As Provost, Zomchick advances UT's strategic plan toward becoming a top public research university, working closely with faculty, deans, and campus leadership. He champions academic excellence through shared governance, accreditation, and cross-college initiatives. He is celebrated for fostering a collaborative intellectual environment and supporting student and faculty success across the institution.

A scholar of eighteenth-century English literature, Zomchick came to UT in 1985. He earned a BA from Pennsylvania State University and both an MA and PhD in English Literature from Columbia University.

Strategic Plan

UT's strategic vision, [It Takes a Volunteer](#), centers on five priorities: cultivating an exceptional Volunteer experience through accessible, experiential learning; advancing research and creative work that improves lives and promotes a just, sustainable future; fostering an inclusive culture where belonging and collaboration thrive; building agility and adaptability to meet emerging challenges; and embodying the modern land-grant, R1 university by expanding engagement across Tennessee and beyond. These pillars guide UT's commitment to innovation, impact, and service at every level.

Next Level

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville's "Next Level" initiative, announced by Chancellor Donde Plowman in February 2025, builds on the institution's record-breaking achievements in student retention, graduation rates, fundraising, research funding, and athletics to elevate UT to new heights. The initiative focuses on three core pillars: delivering an unparalleled student experience, expanding high-impact research efforts, and establishing the nation's top athletics program. Through targeted investments and strategic vision, UT aims to strengthen innovation (including new student success facilities and workforce development initiatives like [Vol Edge](#)), deepen statewide engagement via its land-grant mission, and enhance its national profile through recruitment of distinguished faculty and development of innovation districts in AI, technology, and other research domains.

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE, COLLEGE OF NURSING

UT Medical Nursing Building

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville's College of Nursing has deepened its partnership with the University of Tennessee Medical Center (UTMC) through the sponsorship of the College's new nursing building, the UT Medical Nursing Building. The College's new \$85 million building is a key component of the University's commitment to providing a top-tier educational experience for its growing student population. At 117,000 square feet, the building nearly triples the size of the College's former space. Among its features:

- Seven modern classrooms equipped with advanced teaching technology
- A 250-seat auditorium for large lectures, guest speakers, and community events
- Seventeen high-fidelity simulation and skills labs that mirror real-world clinical environments, offering students immersive hands-on training
- A wet laboratory to accommodate the College's microbiome scientists as well as collaborators from other disciplines
- Collaborative learning spaces for team-based education and interprofessional practice
- An outdoor teaching and event plaza that creates opportunities for wellness activities, community gatherings, and student engagement
- A healthy dining option with grab-and-go meals and fresh selections to support student wellness

The UT Medical Nursing Building is a critical part of the College's long-term strategy to address the national nursing shortage. With its cutting-edge facilities, the College aims to produce even more highly skilled nurses who are prepared to meet the evolving demands of the healthcare industry. Its state-of-the-art design will prepare future generations of nurses for clinical practice and leadership roles.

Faculty, Staff, and Students

The College's 125 talented faculty members include 22 tenure and tenure-track, 84 non-tenure track, and 19 adjunct faculty. The College is supported by a talented group of 56 full-time, 46 part-time/temporary staff members, and 31 part-time student employees. In 2024, nearly 1,400 students enrolled across the College: 1,178 in the undergraduate Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program, 170 in the DNP program, three in the graduate certificate program, and 28 in the PhD program. The College plans to expand its enrollment to 1,500 students by next year.

Academic Programs

The College offers three pathways for students to earn a baccalaureate degree in nursing: the [Bachelor of Science in Nursing](#), the [Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing](#), and the [RN to BSN Online](#).

The BSN Scholars Program is a partnership between the College and UPMC that offers an accelerated 15-month Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) curriculum. Participants receive a minimum of \$17,000 in tuition assistance from UPMC, gain hands-on experience through clinical rotations at the hospital, and must commit to a three-year work commitment at UPMC after graduation. The program includes access to an onsite learning lab and simulation center at UPMC.

The College offers three routes to the [Doctor of Philosophy](#) (PhD) in Nursing for BSN, MSN, and DNP-prepared nurses. The program features full-time or part-time blended curriculum delivery through distance technology, with two on-campus sessions per semester.

The [Doctor of Nursing Practice](#) has six concentrations:

- BSN-DNP Family Nurse Practitioner
- Primary Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner
- Pediatric Primary/Acute Care Dual Nurse Practitioner
- Post-master's DNP
- BSN-DNP Nurse Anesthesia
- BSN-DNP Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

The DNP curriculum is focused on evidence-based practice, leadership, population health policy, and quality improvement project planning. The program offers blended curriculum delivery, combining face-to-face instruction and online learning.

The College offers clinical and non-clinical options within its Graduate Certificate Programs.

Clinical:

- Family
- Psychiatric Mental Health
- Pediatric Acute
- Pediatric Primary

Non-Clinical:

- Health Informatics
- Health Policy
- Nursing Education

Graduates from the College of Nursing achieved a 96.7 percent first-time pass rate on the 2024 National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX-RN). This pass rate is higher than both the national average of 91.2 percent and the Tennessee average of 94.9 percent.

Accreditation

The baccalaureate degree program in nursing, Doctor of Nursing Practice program, and post-graduate APRN certificate program are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). In fall 2025, the College of Nursing was granted full accreditation by CCNE for a 10-year term, extending through December 31, 2035.

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Nursing Education Graduate Certificate, Doctor of Nursing Practice, and Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing programs are granted full approval by the Tennessee Board of Nursing.

Research and Scholarship

Research in the College of Nursing centers around three thematic areas: bio behavioral science, advancing healthcare delivery, and health services and policy research. The College is building research expertise in heart disease prevention, caring for caregivers, end-of-life support, chronic disease management, and the link between the microbiome and health outcomes.

The College's federal funding for research has grown exponentially. Almost 87 percent of the \$7.9 million in external funding the College received in fiscal year 2025 came from the US Centers for Disease Control, National Institutes of Health (NIH), and other agencies.

Several nursing faculty members are involved in interdisciplinary research at the new [Center for Precision Health](#), a 15,000 square-foot facility in UTMC's Orthopaedic Institute at the UT Research Park at Cherokee Farm. This state-of-the-art center fosters collaboration among experts in nursing, engineering, biomedical sciences, and data analytics to advance personalized medicine and improve patient outcomes. Faculty contribute to projects that integrate clinical research with innovative technologies such as genomics, health informatics, and predictive analytics, addressing complex health challenges across Tennessee and beyond.

Center for Nursing Practice

Established in 2015 through a generous private donation, the Center for Nursing Practice promotes healthy communities in Tennessee by supporting activities that improve access to nursing care. Nurse-managed clinics and nurse-led care are key to health in this state as they address a critical challenge seen across Tennessee every day including lack of access to quality, affordable care. The Center works to advance nursing education, practice, and research across the state, including expanding knowledge of

community partnerships, continuing education, telehealth, and nurse-managed clinics. The Center seeks to increase and sustain funding to expand nursing outreach to improve health in Tennessee.

Programs within the Center include the [Vine School Health Center](#)— a collaboration between the College of Nursing and Knox County Schools which just celebrated 30 years of providing accessible high-quality healthcare to Knox County students and families--and the [Precious Prints Project](#)—which comforts grieving families with a sterling silver pendant bearing the fingerprint of their child.

Finances

The Dean oversees an operating budget that exceeds \$35 million, and the College has a \$14 million endowment. The College derives revenues from these principal sources: sponsored research contracts and grants, degree and certificate program tuition and fees, gifts and endowment payouts, and other miscellaneous income. UT uses a Responsibility Center Management (RCM) budget model.

Alumni and Development

The College of Nursing has approximately 8,000 alumni across 14 countries and 48 states, and benefits from extremely loyal and supportive alumni and donors. Some recent support includes the following:

The College received a one million award from the Bedford Falls Foundation to support its undergraduate nursing programs. This private foundation award will establish the Joanne and William Conway Nursing Scholarship and the Joanne Barkett Conway Angel's Wings Emergency Fund. The Joanne and William Conway Nursing Scholarship will provide scholarships to 60 BSN students over the course of three years. The Joanne Barkett Conway Angel's Wings Emergency Fund will provide emergency assistance to nursing students facing financial hardship. The gift will also support a new full-time student success coach.

The Boyd Foundation, headed by UT System president Randy Boyd, donated one million, with half of this gift supporting the new UT Medical Nursing Building.

The Dr. Mary Gunther Scholarship for PhD Students, given for the first time this past year, provides \$10,000 one-year awards for four PhD students annually.

Lisa Reed (BSN '86) and Greg Reed made a transformational commitment to establish an endowed dean's chair that provides financial resources to support top college priorities.

The University is in the quiet phase of the It Takes a Volunteer campaign, a 10-year campaign that will publicly launch in September 2026 and conclude in 2031. The College has established ambitious fundraising goals to support campaign pillars.

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

Located in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Knoxville, Tennessee, is known for its excellent quality of life with a relatively low cost of living, abundant restaurants, access to nature, and

more. It is easily accessible via several interstates and an international airport. A popular destination for people and families of all ages, Knoxville is experiencing steady growth as word spreads about its abundant opportunities and warm, welcoming community. Additional details about Knoxville can be [found here](#).