

BECAUSE
OF YOU
WE
ARE
ON
THE
RISE

FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 | DONOR VIEWBOOK



THERE'S NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME TO BE A TENNESSEE VOLUNTEER.

Through your acts of generosity and true leadership the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, reached new heights this year. UT saw greater donor numbers than ever, and this incredible investment has sparked a host of new opportunities and exceptional achievements that you will discover in the following pages. Because of you, UT is a place where Volunteers thrive.

“

THE SHEER NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE GIVEN TO THE UNIVERSITY DEMONSTRATES THE SUPPORT WE HAVE ACROSS THE STATE AND BEYOND. IT SHOWS HOW EXCITED OUR ALUMNI AND SUPPORTERS ARE FOR THE HISTORIC SUCCESS WE'RE SEEING.”

—DONDE PLOWMAN, CHANCELLOR

67,320

donors came together this year to provide the resources students need to be successful and to enhance the campus community totaling \$264 million.



YOU ARE HELPING STUDENTS SUCCEED.

You have made the Volunteer experience more accessible and better-supported than ever. UT's record number of students have new scholarship opportunities and innovative student-focused resources because of your investment. As the flagship, land-grant university for Tennessee, UT is committed to providing an accessible, affordable education for the people of this state and beyond. We are inspired by your partnership to ensure all Vols can thrive on Rocky Top.

8,000+
privately funded scholarships
were awarded totaling more than
\$23
MILLION.



“

I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO EXPLORE SO MANY NEW ACADEMIC EXPERIENCES AT UT WITHOUT HAVING TO FEAR FOR MY FINANCIAL STABILITY. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SUPPORTING BOTH ME AND UT KNOXVILLE, AND MAKING MY EDUCATION POSSIBLE.”

—BARRETT WELCHONS, CLASS OF 2026



HELPING STUDENTS SUCCEED

A commitment to educational access.

189

Tri-Star Scholarship endowments have been created since the program's inception.

UT's Tri-Star Scholarship Program has continued to grow, expanding access to a UT degree specifically for Tennessee residents.

There are **42 active alumni chapters** and **68 Area Representatives** located across the globe, many of which have at least one scholarship available for current and future students from their geographic area.

“

IT IS INSPIRING TO KNOW I AM BEING SUPPORTED BY ALUMNI FROM MY HOMETOWN. I AM SO GRATEFUL TO UT'S MEMPHIS ALUMNI CHAPTER FOR ITS SUPPORT. THIS SCHOLARSHIP WILL HELP ME ACHIEVE MY GOALS TOWARD BECOMING A FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGIST.”

—CAROLINE HATHCOCK, CLASS OF 2026



HELPING STUDENTS SUCCEED

Creating an experience where students thrive.

- Student retention has **improved 3 points over the past five years**, hitting a record 89 percent in fall of 2022.
- **More than 8,000 incoming students** annually are assigned a Vol Success Team that includes an academic advisor, academic coach, and a financial aid counselor.
- The **new UT Success Academy** program provides specialized support to first-year Black and Latinex men to maximize their transition to the Volunteer community and develop their strengths and potential through experiential learning, community building, and transformative experiences.
- The **Veterans Impact Program is a first-of-its-kind effort** that provides incoming student veterans with academic and professional resources to help them successfully navigate the transition to student life.



UT is also fostering the Volunteer spirit, virtually. There are now **70+** fully online degrees and certificates available to students.

“

MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT DISTANCE LEARNING IS ENHANCING MY EDUCATION FROM HOME, BUT I FEEL I AM PART OF A MORE EXTENSIVE PROGRAM. I KNOW I HAVE THE ENTIRE UNIVERSITY'S SUPPORT AND RESOURCES.”

—KELSEY W., STUDENT, MS, COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION, STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION PROGRAM

“

UT HAS THE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY THROUGH OUR STRATEGIC VISION TO CULTIVATE A VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE IN WHICH EVERY VOLUNTEER FLOURISHES BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM.”

—AMBER WILLIAMS, VICE PROVOST FOR STUDENT SUCCESS





YOU ARE ENHANCING OUR ACADEMIC QUALITY.

Because of your support, our researchers have resources to answer bigger problems and attract industry partners to help make life and lives better in Tennessee and around the world. Your generosity launched new ways for students to engage in the Volunteer experience, from new colleges to nationally recognized academic programs. You have catalyzed UT's academic excellence and research enterprise, invigorating the standard and reputation of Tennessee's premier public university.

UT has

900+

programs of study

available: 370
undergraduate
and 547 graduate.



NEW ACADEMIC RESTRUCTURE

- **The Baker School of Public Policy and Public Affairs** will meet the critical need to prepare leaders for public service and address the state's most pressing challenges.
- **The College of Music** will provide career paths for students into the music economy and strengthen cultural and economic development.
- **The College of Emerging and Collaborative Studies** is designed from the ground up to provide innovative interdisciplinary programs to meet workforce needs.

“

EACH NEW ACADEMIC UNIT IS UNIQUELY SPECIAL AND WILL BRING ENHANCED OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR STUDENTS. OUR STUDENTS AND OUR STATE ARE SURE WINNERS WITH THE LAUNCH OF THESE THREE UNITS.”

—JOHN ZOMCHICK, PROVOST AND SENIOR VICE CHANCELLOR

ENHANCING ACADEMIC QUALITY

Inspiring a culture of excellence.

UT has been named a **top-producing school for Fulbright scholars** for three straight years.

#3

ranked **Supply Chain Undergraduate Program** among public universities.

#7

Nuclear Engineering Graduate Program

US News & World Report

#23

Theatre ranked globally

Hollywood Reporter



“

MY PROFESSORS ARE INCREDIBLY SUPPORTIVE OF MY ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL GOALS AND ALWAYS EAGER TO PROVIDE ADVICE WHEN I NEED HELP. THEIR GUIDANCE HAS FORMED THE BACKBONE OF MY EXPERIENCE AS A VOLUNTEER. MY BECOMING A GOLDWATER SCHOLAR REFLECTS THEIR TREMENDOUS MENTORSHIP. RESEARCH PROVIDES THE FOUNDATION FOR HOW WE THRIVE AND GROW, AND I HOPE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SCIENTIFIC WEALTH OF KNOWLEDGE AS A RESEARCHER AND EDUCATOR FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.”

—TYLER MYERS, CLASS OF 2025, GOLDWATER SCHOLAR

UT exceeded last year's **research award total** by nearly

50%,

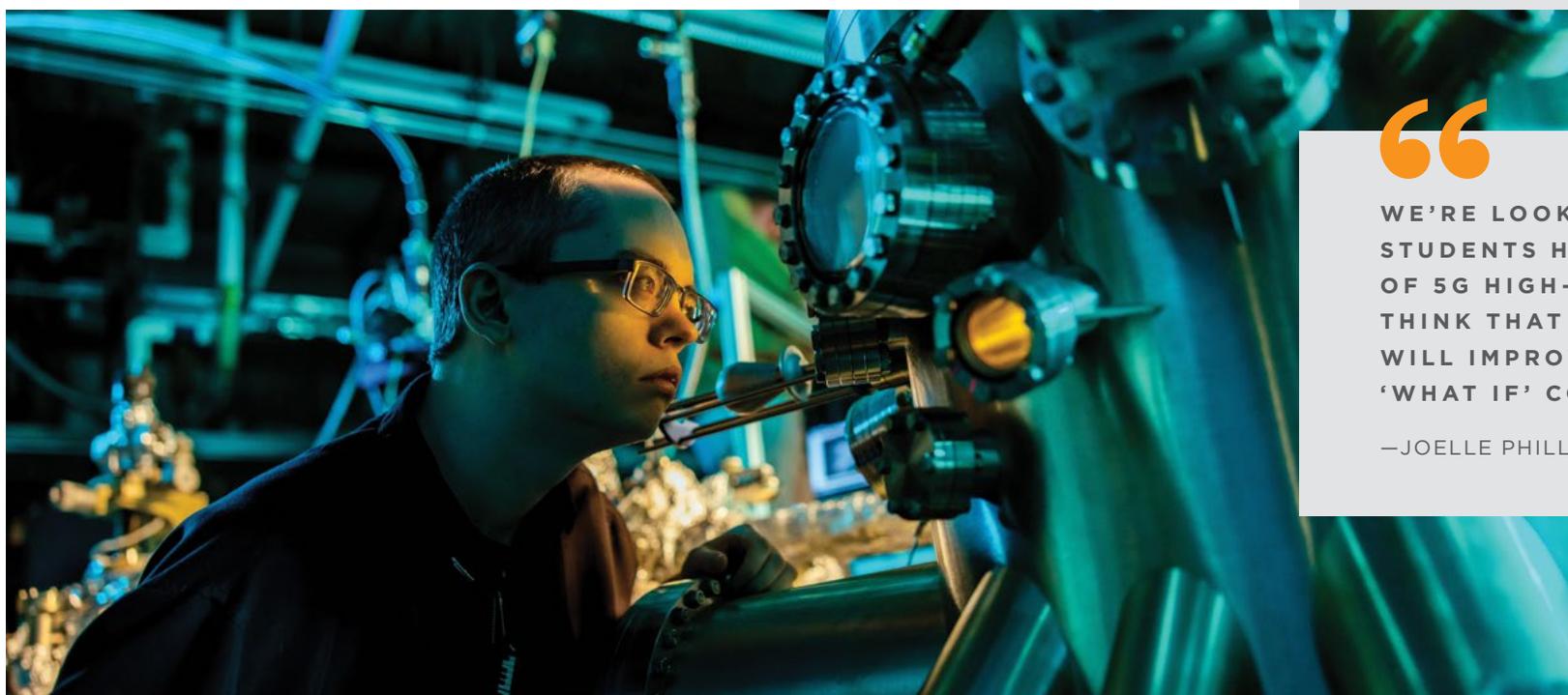
reaching a total of \$365 million.

UT is one of just two universities to have three faculty members awarded the prestigious **National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) fellowships** this year.



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ENHANCING ACADEMIC QUALITY

Driving Innovation, Expanding UT's Impact.

A new **Information Integrity Institute** has been established in the College of Communication and Information, allowing researchers to better understand how individuals consume, respond to, and share information, and how information might be shaping societal ideas and actions.

A new AT&T 5G Lab was dedicated this year as another step forward for the two institutions' commitment and capacity to bring high-speed technologies with meaningful uses to Tennesseans. UT is **one of only six universities in the United States** to advance research initiatives in collaboration with AT&T.

“

WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO WHAT FACULTY AND STUDENTS HERE WILL LEARN ABOUT THE CAPABILITIES OF 5G HIGH-SPEED BROADBAND. IT IS EXCITING TO THINK THAT INNOVATIONS AND APPLICATIONS WHICH WILL IMPROVE LIVES TOMORROW MAY BEGIN AS A 'WHAT IF' CONVERSATION IN THIS NEW LAB.”

—JOELLE PHILLIPS, PRESIDENT OF AT&T TENNESSEE

YOUR GENEROSITY REACHES BEYOND CAMPUS.

Your support emboldens the leaders of tomorrow to step forward with courage today as a catalyst for positive change in the world. On the field or beyond the classroom, wherever Vols are found they serve their communities, contribute to a better future for all, and set higher standards of excellence in their athletic, academic, and professional endeavors. Thank you for empowering our students to be the Volunteer difference in our stadiums, our state, and beyond.



UT's College of Nursing and the UT Medical Center have partnered to create a **new Nursing Scholars Program**, that provides UT Medical Center a steady pipeline of nursing graduates to employ and help meet workforce needs.

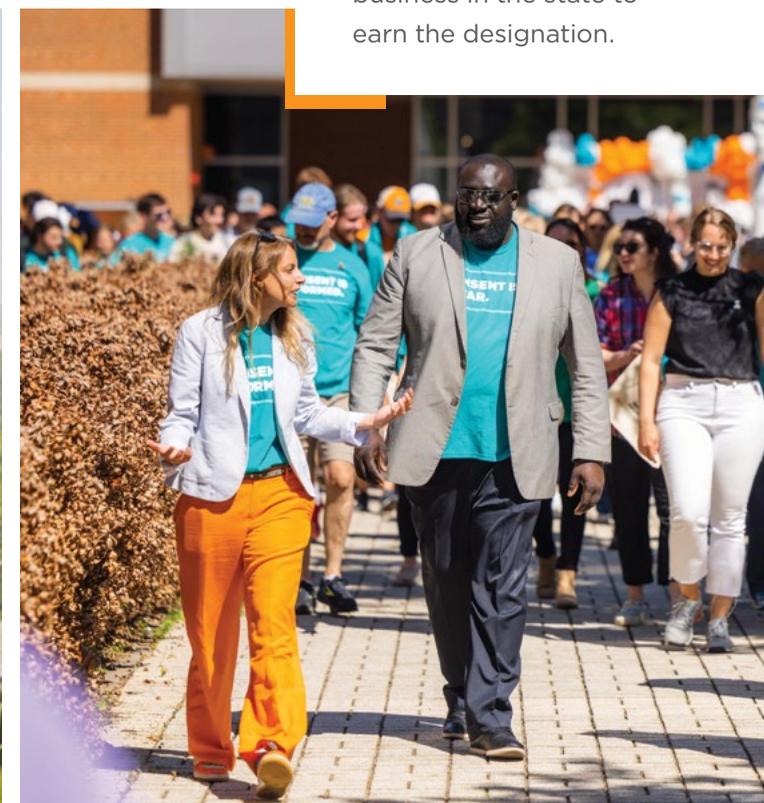
UT was named a
2023
Best Place for Working Parents—the first business in the state to earn the designation.

Vol Dan Ricketts ('85, '92) and his husband Steve Frankel created a new program to give students from all backgrounds the **opportunity to study abroad** and immerse themselves in Israel's rich and diverse culture.

“

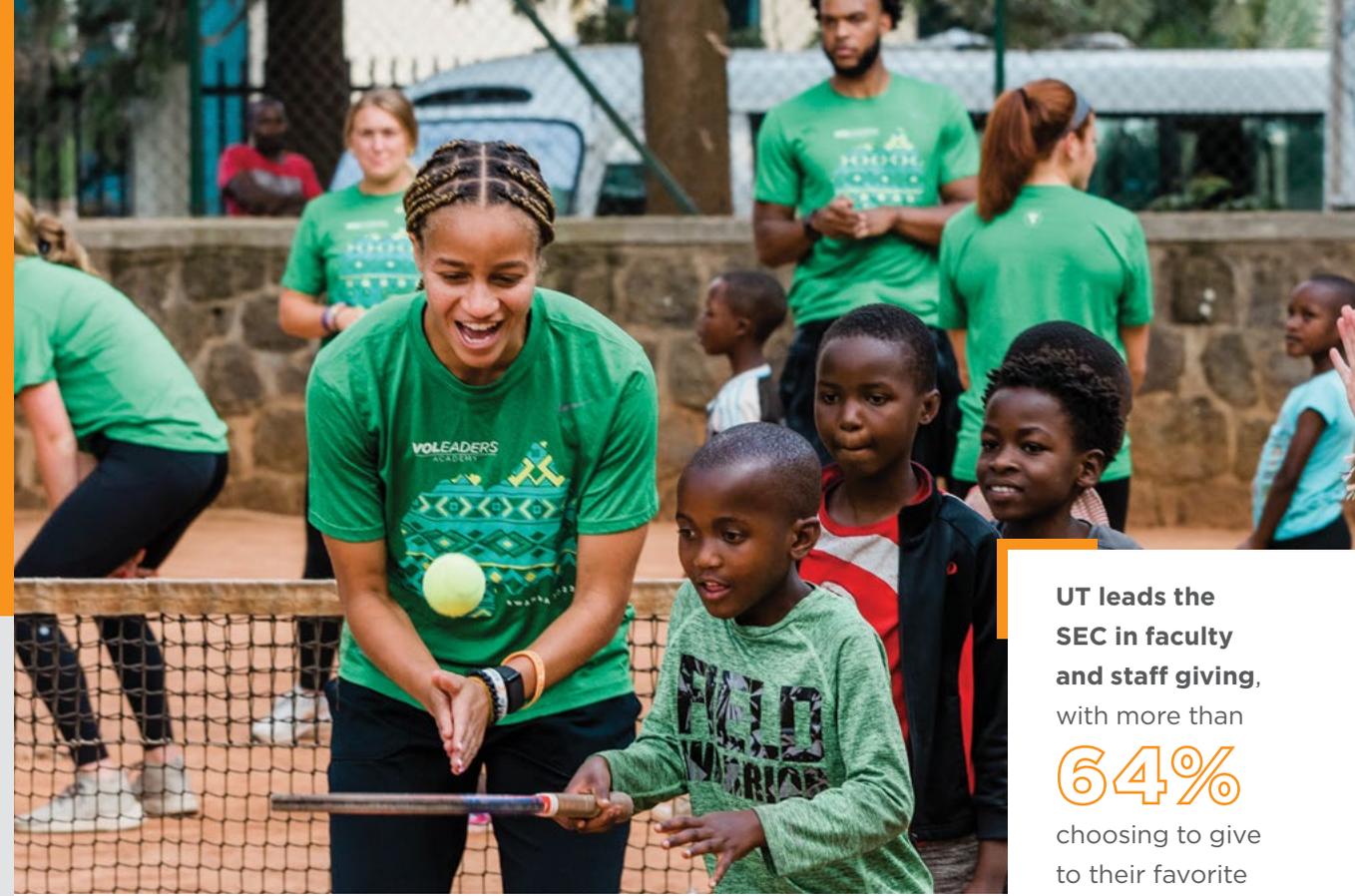
IT'S REALLY IMPORTANT FOR PEOPLE TO TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF TENNESSEE, OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES. EVERYONE WE MEET HAS A STORY TO TELL AND THE MORE DIVERSE THOSE STORIES ARE, THE MORE ENRICHED WE ARE.”

—DAN RICKETTS ('85, '92)



BEYOND CAMPUS

Lighting the Way Forward Together, at Home Sweet Home and Abroad.



VOLeaders Academy is a first-of-its-kind program and dynamic partnership between the College of Education, Health and Human Sciences and Tennessee Athletics since 2015.

“

VOLEADERS ACADEMY PROVIDES OUR STUDENT-ATHLETES WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP AS SERVANT LEADERS. THE LESSONS THEY LEARN FURTHER ENHANCE THEIR LEADERSHIP SKILL SET AND THE POSITIVE IMPACT THEY HAVE ON EVERYONE AROUND THEM.”

—KAREN WEEKLY, SOFTBALL HEAD COACH

UT leads the SEC in faculty and staff giving, with more than **64%** choosing to give to their favorite area of campus.

For the second year in a row, UT was recognized as one of America's best large employers. —Forbes Magazine



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During Big Orange Give—UT's day of giving, more than 10,500 gifts were made to areas all across campus. Donors from across the country and the world joined in on this historic day of philanthropic support of our university.

THE PASSION OF AN EXPANSIVE NETWORK OF SUPPORTERS FOR UT DIRECTLY IMPACTS FUTURE GENERATIONS OF VOLUNTEERS. THE GROWTH OF BIG ORANGE GIVE SHOWS WHAT IS POSSIBLE WHEN COMMITTED INDIVIDUALS COME TOGETHER FOR A CAUSE.”

—LAUREN HERBSTTRITT, DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT FOR ANNUAL GIVING

BEYOND CAMPUS

Living the Championship Mindset on and off the Field.

The University of Tennessee became the first school since 1998 to win a NY6 bowl in football, advance both basketball teams to the Sweet 16; and send both baseball and softball teams to their respective World Series.

UT placed a record

114

student-athletes on the 2022-23 First-Year Southeastern Conference Academic Honor Roll.



The 2022-23 Vols and Lady Vols captured a **second consecutive USA Today All-Sports title**, highlighted by softball's SEC regular season and tournament titles.



“

I'M SO PROUD OF OUR STUDENT-ATHLETES, COACHES, STAFF AND ALL THE FANS AND DONORS WHO SUPPORT US. THIS IS A TEAM ACCOMPLISHMENT, AND EVERYONE PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE.

WE ARE JUST GETTING STARTED ON ROCKY TOP, BUT THIS EARLY SUCCESS GIVES US THE CONFIDENCE TO KEEP BUILDING!”

—DANNY WHITE, VICE CHANCELLOR AND DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS



THANK YOU

FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND
CHANGING THE LIVES OF
CURRENT AND FUTURE VOLS.



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
UT FOUNDATION

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gratitude.