

ONE HEALTH

STUDENT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

12:30pm	Boxed Lunch + Check-in (Room 123, Agriculture & Natural Resources Building)
1:00pm	A Story of Environmental Law: The Vacuum of Exploitation <i>Jared Shelton, UT College of Law</i>
1:45pm	Exploring the Benefits of Green Infrastructure <i>Michael McKinney, UT Department of Earth, Environmental, and Planetary Sciences</i>
2:30pm	Break + Zen Garden Activity
3:00pm	Community Impacts of Sustainable Landscape Engineering <i>Clint Wayman, UT Department of Plant Sciences</i>
3:35pm	Fighting Food Insecurity, Creating Community <i>Chris Battle, Battlefield Farms</i>
4:15pm	Urban Food Forestry and Community Resilience <i>Jaq Payne, National Champion Tree Program</i>
5:00pm	Adjourn

Thursday, April 17, 2025

8:30am	Check-in + Coffee and Breakfast (Room 123, Agriculture & Natural Resources Building)
9:00am	Recovery Ecosystems <i>Jeremy Kourvelas, Substance Misuse and Addiction Resources for Tennessee</i>
9:45am	Human Health Pandemics and Applying One Health Strategies at a Local Level (HPAI H5N1) <i>Jane Yackley, Tennessee Department of Health</i>
10:30am	Outbreak Activity
11:00am	Horticulture for Health: More than Veggies <i>Derek Stowell, UT Gardens</i>
11:45am	Circular Bioeconomy: Mastering Recycling Logistics <i>Wyatt Miner, UT Office of Sustainability</i>
12:30pm	Lunch
1:15pm	The Hidden Cost of Waste: Understanding Food Waste and its Impact <i>Charlotte Tolley, Nourish Knoxville</i>
2:00pm	Compost Activity
2:30pm	Education, Rescue, and Restoration with Native Plant Rescue Squad <i>Joy Grissom, Native Plant Rescue Squad</i>
3:15pm	Native Seed Planting Activity
3:45pm	Cruze Farm: Creating Community + Ice Cream Break <i>Manjit Bhatti, Cruze Farm</i>
4:45pm	The Value of One Health Approaches <i>Paul Plummer, UT College of Veterinary Medicine</i>
5:00pm	Adjourn

SUMMIT GUEST SPEAKERS



Chris Battle is a pastor and founder of BattleField Farm. He is an alumnus of Morehouse College and holds Master's degrees in Divinity from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and in Hebrew Bible from Cincinnati Bible College. Chris launched a community garden in Knoxville in 2018, which led him to tackle food disparity and connect more deeply with his community. This initiative expanded into Battlefield Farm and the establishment of the Eastside Sunday Market at Dr. Walter Hardy Park. He is recognized for his commitment to justice and community engagement, advocating for involvement in societal issues both locally and beyond.



Manjit Bhatti is a dairy farmer living in East Knox County. Along with his wife, he owns and operates Cruze Farm, which sells its dairy products in Knoxville and surrounding counties. He studied history and German language literature at UT. In addition to the farm, the family owns and operates five shops in three counties where you can sample their products, including milk, ice cream, and pizza.



Joy Grissom is a founding Co-Director of Native Plant Rescue Squad, a nonprofit organization that relocates native plants in the direct path of development, an extensive effort that relies on collaboration with land owners and developers, as well as many hours of volunteer labor. She holds a Master of Public Health from UT and has a background in public health advocacy and community education.



Jeremy Kourvelas is the SMART Substance Use Program Coordinator for the Substance Misuse and Addiction Resource for Tennessee (SMART) Initiative, hosted by UT's Institute of Public Service. He received a Master's in Public Health and certificate in health policy from UT, and he became SMART's first employee in 2022. He also works for the Prevention Alliance of Tennessee, which seeks to advance prevention efforts pertaining to substance, alcohol and tobacco use disorders.



Michael McKinney has been with UT for 40 years after receiving his PhD from Yale. He serves as the Director of the Environmental Studies program and a Professor in the Department of Earth, Environmental, and Planetary Studies. Having started out in paleobiology, his focus has shifted in recent years to modern biodiversity problems and solutions, such as the effects of urbanization on biodiversity and ways to maximize ecosystem services through green infrastructure. His field work focuses on land snails and mussels, with a special interest in their conservation.



Wyatt Miner is the Coordinator of the Zero Waste Program in the UT Office of Sustainability, whose goal is to divert 50% of the university's waste from landfills by 2030. He received a Bachelor's in Geography and Sustainability from the university, focusing on GIS and waste diversion.



Jaq Payne is the Director of the National Champion Tree Program, hosted by UT's School of Natural Resources. Prior to this appointment, he served as the state director of the Tennessee Champion Tree Program. Jaq holds a Master's in Urban Forestry from UT. He has a diverse background—spanning theater, project management, and business leadership—which he credits as the foundation to his creative, community-centered approach to conservation work.



Paul Plummer is the Dean of the UT College of Veterinary Medicine. He also serves as the Executive Director of the National Institute of Antimicrobial Resistance Research and Education and sits on the advisory board of the UT One Health Initiative. A third-generation UT alumnus, he holds a bachelor's degree in microbiology and a DVM from the university. He and his family maintain active farms today.



Jared Shelton is a UT graduate with a Bachelor's in Environmental and Soil Science. He is currently attending UT's College of Law with a focus on environmental law. Jared is also an intern with Fairshake Environmental Legal Services, a nonprofit law firm representing traditionally underserved clients who are directly affected by environmental harms.



Derek Stowell is the Education and Horticultural Therapy Program Administrator for the UT Gardens. He holds a Master's in Therapeutic Recreation and a PhD in Plant, Soil, and Environmental Sciences from UT. Additionally, he is a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist. He has developed numerous programs for the UT Gardens, including their Horticultural Therapy Certificate program, one of eight programs in the nation to be accredited by the American Horticultural Therapy Association. Derrick is sought out internationally for consulting on horticultural therapy program development and implementation.



Charlotte Tolley is a founding member of Knoxville's Market Square Farmers' Market (MSFM) and the founding Executive Director of Nourish Knoxville, a nonprofit created to house MSFM and expand to broader local food work, connecting local farmers and producers with the public. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from UT and has served on the Knox County Food Policy Council and the board of the Tennessee Association of Farmers Markets.



Clint Wayman is an Associate Professor in UT's Department of Plant Sciences. After receiving a Master's in Landscape Architecture from the university in 2015, he spent the next decade working as a designer and landscape architect, most recently for the City of Chattanooga. He joined UT faculty in 2024, where he focuses on sustainable landscape design.



Jane Yackley is a Senior Epidemiologist at the Tennessee Department of Health and a Program Director of both the COVID-19 and Waterborne and Zoonotic disease surveillance programs. She coordinates the Tennessee One Health Committee and sits on the advisory board of the UT One Health Initiative. She holds a Master of Public Health in Epidemiology from Emory University and is an alumna of the Council for State and Territorial Epidemiologists Applied Epidemiology Fellowship, where she specialized in food safety. She has experience in infectious and non-infectious disease, data management and visualization, outbreak response and emergency preparedness.