Supporting Students & Colleagues
August 9, 2023
Three Things

1. Be honest with yourself.
2. Think about your experience.
3. Be a leader in the room.

It takes a Volunteer.
Office of Title IX

The best predictor of sexual harassment in an organization is "the degree to which those in the organization perceive that sexual harassment is or is not tolerated."

"No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance" - Title IX Act of 1972
Support Offered by the Office of Title IX

- **Academic Supports**
  - Scholarship Appeals
  - Absence Notifications
- **No Contact Directives**
- **Connection to Medical Care**
- **Assistance with Safety Planning and Orders of Protection**
- **Connection to Confidential Support/Counseling**
- **Connection to Advocacy and Support Groups**
- **Reporting Options**
  - University Options
  - Police/Criminal Process Options
What You Need to Know

• UT has a Policy on Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking

• You are a Mandatory Reporter

• You Are Not Alone

• You Have an Important Role to Play as a Member of the UT Community
Offices of the Dean of Students
“We are here to walk to beside you, follow behind you, lead the way, and sometimes get in your way.”
Offices of the Dean of Students
Departments and Units

• Basic Needs
• Inclusive Excellence
• Multicultural Student Life
• Pride Center
• Student Advocacy and Community Outreach
• Student Conduct and Community Standards
• Student Disability Services
Our Mission

We will do whatever it takes to support the individual success and well-being of each student so they can thrive personally, socially, and academically.
A Place to Start

If a student doesn’t know where to start or where to go...they can start with us! We can point them in the right direction, be a sounding board, and help them deal with any issues that might arise – academic, financial, or even social or personal. We want to help! And, we are here for all students – undergraduate, graduate, and professional.
Office of Investigation & Resolution (OIR)

Campus Role

The Office of Investigation & Resolution (OIR) serves as the central campus investigation unit for resolving reports of university policy violations (as of August 1, 2023).

OIR serves:

- UTK
  - UT Institute of Agriculture
  - UT Space Institute
- UT System Administration
- UT Institute for Public Service
Office Mission

- Receiving, assessing, and investigating and/or otherwise resolving reports of violations of university policy in a prompt, thorough, and impartial manner;
- Advancing the university’s commitment to providing a safe and welcoming living, learning, and working environment;
- Supporting university expectations for workplace behavior; and
- Facilitating compliance with:
  - applicable federal law;
  - applicable state law; and
  - university policy, including campus equal opportunity and non-discrimination policies (e.g., HR0220, HR0280).

Contact OIR

- Website: oir.utk.edu
- Email: investigations@utk.edu
The Graduate School

• Things we can help with:
  ― Questions on policy
  ― Process questions
  ― Issues affecting students
  ― Questions related to assistantships and fellowships
  ― Difficult issues: dismissals, terminations, etc.
  ― Professional development
  ― Mentoring support
  ― Recruitment

Location

• Main office – 111 SSB
• Graduate Admissions – 201 SSB

Contacts

• General questions: 
gradschool@utk.edu
• Questions for the Dean: 
dixielee@utk.edu or 
GradSchoolDean@utk.edu
• Graduate Admissions questions: 
gradadmissions@utk.edu
Student Success

We help each student scholar maximize their individual strengths and understand how their strengths contribute to their academic dreams, career paths, and personal well-being.
Division of Student Success

Academic Success Center (ASC)
Campus-Wide Advising Initiatives
Center for Career Development & Academic Exploration (CCDAE)
First-Generation Initiatives (FGI)
First-Year Programs (FYP)
New Student Orientation (NSO)
Undergraduate Research & Fellowships (OURF)
University Honors
UT Success Academy (UTSA)
Veterans Success Center (VSC)
VOL SUCCESS TEAMS

- Enhances Strengths
- Increases Flexibility
- Inspires Discovery
What IS an Ombuds?

Ombuds serve graduate students, staff, and faculty, empowering them to constructively navigate challenges related to their experiences at the University of Tennessee Knoxville.

No matter how big or small the challenge, we’re here to help!
Our Staff

Brooke Wichmann
Associate Ombudsperson

Lisa Yamagata-Lynch
University Ombudsperson
and Director

Duren Thompson
Educational Program
Coordinator

Independent ✦ Impartial ✦ Informal ✦ Confidential