# Slide 1

UTLSI:
Expanding Access, Enhancing Success
Maintaining Academic Momentum for Disadvantaged Students

Presented by Christie Banks and Eric Stokes

UT LEAD Summer Institute

**The University of Tennessee**

Knoxville, TN

# Slide 2

**Outline**

* Historical Perspective
* Access Challenges & Our Response
* Program Design
* What We Learned
* Recommendations & Implications
* Discussion

# Slide 3

**History & Background**

* Dual System of Education in TN
* Long battle over segregation
* Geier Consent Decree
* Post Geier Era

Photo of Rita Geier, with her quote “I simply felt a great sense of urgency.”

# Slide 4

**Freshman Enrollment by Race**

A chart showing enrollment numbers by race (including American Indian, Asian, Black, Hispanic and Multi) from 2010 to 2014.

# Slide 5

**Access Challenges & Success Obstacles**

* First generation
* Low Income
* Cultural Barriers
* Geographic impediments
* Transitional Experience

A map of Tennessee counties, with an orange arrow beginning at Shelby county, ending at Knox county.

# Slide 6

**Commitment to Diversity & Access**

Expanded our definition of diversity

# Slide 7

# **Our Spirit. Our Vision. Our Plan.**

# UT Pledge Scholarship

# Ensures mandatory costs for students < $40,000 Family Income

# UT Promise Scholarship

# Combined with Hope to assists with tuition & fees

# UT LEAD Program

# Far reaching support system

# UT LEAD Summer Institute

# Methodical, intrusive, living/learning community

# Slide 8

LEAD Institute logo above The University of Tennessee, Knoxville wordmark.

LEAD stands for: Leadership, Excellence, Achievement, Diversity.

# Slide 9

**Goals of Institute**

~Increase potential for success~

**Academic Integration**

* Familiarity with college classrooms
* Create a support network of faculty and staff
* Experience the demands of college coursework
* Enhance Self-Efficacy in the classroom

**Social Integration**

* Familiarity with campus
* Build a network of students
* Enhance Self-Efficacy in personal life
* Develop a sense of community and school pride
* Connection to campus orgs.
* Sense of belonging

# Slide 10

**Commitment to Access & Success**

* 5 week summer program
* June 30 – August 6, 2015
* Diverse group of 40 students
	+ Memphis
	+ Nashville
	+ Chattanooga
	+ Knoxville

# Slide 11

**Commitment to Access & Success 2014 Cohort**

Pie chart showing Race/Ethnicity: Asian = 5%; Black = 60%; Hispanic = 10%; Multicultural = 17%; White = 8%.

A bar chart showing gender for 2014 with 21 females and 19 males.

Average GPA = 3/43 and Average ACT = 20.4

# Slide 12

**Commitment to Access & Success**

Holistic Criteria for Selection

* Academics
* Demographic Information
* Self Reported Challenges to College Transition (based on personal statement)

# Slide 13

**Benefits of UTLSI**

* Begin the college transition during the relaxed summer atmosphere
* Take 7 hours of college credit early
	+ English 101 Composition I & 103 Writing Center
	+ Math 119 College Algebra
	+ Math 115 Statistical Reasoning
	+ Living – Learning Community
	+ Adjust to residential life
	+ Meet fellow freshmen just like you

# Slide 14

**Benefits of UTLSI**

* All tuition, fees, housing, meal plan, and books are covered for UTLSI Scholars (*for summer only*)
* Scholars receive a $1,750.00 grant
* Participate in activities covering these areas:
	+ Academic Success
	+ International & Intercultural Awareness
	+ Social
	+ Personal Development

# Slide 15

**UTLSI Performance Data**

A chart showing Retention Statistics: UTSLI max = 82.1%; University max = 87%. Chart spans 2008 to 2015.

# Slide 16

**What We Learned**

1. Added Math Preparation Course
2. Math/Science advising restriction for the 1st year fall/spring semester
3. Assessed stipend deductions for class absences and tardies
4. First Year Experience Contract
5. Conduct preliminary student interviews prior to admission

# Slide 17

**What We Learned**

1. Added a mandatory orientation visit in April
2. Coordinated math tutoring and supplemental instruction
3. Restricted Fall term registration to 15 credit hours
4. No penalty for below 2.0 GPA in Summer terms prior to first time Fall semester enrollment

# Slide 18

**What We Learned**

1. Involvement and staying connected makes the difference
2. Established Fall FYS & Spring Counselor Ed courses
3. Expanded use of stipend to end of semester awards
4. You’ve got to keep it real with them
5. Even after all we do, we still don’t know the universal secret to success

# Slide 19

**Program Enhancements**

1. Added Math Preparation Course
2. Math/Science advising restriction for the 1st year fall/spring semester
3. Assessed stipend deductions for class absences and tardies
4. First Year Experience Contract
5. Strategic planning for summer course enrollment
6. Early & Frequent Connection with Academic Advisors & Coaches
7. Added Interviews & mandatory campus visit
8. Major and Career planning component
9. Peer Mentor and Counseling
10. Service Learning
11. Restricted Fall term registration to 15 credit hours
12. No penalty for below 2.0 GPA in Summer terms prior to first time Fall semester enrollment
13. Enhanced tutoring program
14. Expanded use of stipend payments
15. Added FYS & Counselor Education courses to fall/spring semesters

# Slide 20

**Recommendations & Discussion**

1. Thought and care in student selection
2. Attention to the high school curriculum
3. Clear communication with program leaders and academic advisors
4. Educate students on the academic policies, procedures, and resources
5. Network support system comprised of peers, faculty, and staff
6. Students’ career goals to align with their skills and realistic expectations
7. Evaluate own institution or program and determine if you are meeting the needs of your most “at-risk” students

# Slide 21

**Questions?**

# Slide 22

**Contact Us**

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Photo in front of UT, Knoxville’s Rock, painted to read “UT LEAD.”