

Office of the Dean of Students Initiatives and Support Services

DOS Mission: The mission of the Office of the Dean of Students is to engage and support students throughout their learning experience by providing co-curricular programs and services.

Departments/Organizations* reporting to or supported by* the DOS office include:

- Center for Leadership and Service
- Center for Student Engagement
- Multicultural Student Life
- Off-Campus and Commuter Services
- Pride Center*
- Sorority and Fraternity Life
- Student Government Association*
- Student Media

Student Support Services include:

- General consultation
- Bias Incident reporting - bias.utk.edu
- Vol on-call emergency on-call system
- Big Orange Tix - student football/basketball tix
- Student absence notification
 - Students can provide formal notification of absence (i.e. doctor's note) to our office and we will notify the appropriate professor(s). It is still up to the individual professor to approve any missed assignments or exams and allow make-up work.

DOS Initiatives:



#SmokeysSofa

Nominate yourself or another student for this honor, which puts you courtside at a men's or women's basketball game.



#SpiritRow

Grab a friend and enjoy a Vols football game from the 1st row in Neyland Stadium.



#LunchHours

Invite a favorite faculty or staff member to lunch on us.



#RockyTopRoundtable

This advisory board meets monthly with the dean of students and associate deans to provide feedback on the student experience at UT.



OFFICE OF THE
DEAN OF STUDENTS



Big Orange Meal Share

Donate any of your five guest meals to a Vol in need.



#StudentHonoraryCoach

Every home game, one student is honored with a chance to experience Vol football from the inside.



#OrangeKicks

Come talk and walk with the deans between 1:30 and 3 p.m. on select Wednesdays to share what's on your mind. Follow us @UTKDOS.



#OrangePlateSpecial

Enjoy a meal with the deans and the chancellor. Follow us @UTKDOS.

BIAS INCIDENT REPORTING & THE BIAS EDUCATION AND RESPONSE TEAM (BERT)

The University of Tennessee is committed to maintaining a safe environment grounded in civility and respect for all members within the campus community. The Office of the Dean of Students, in conjunction with other offices on campus, assists students and student groups to resolve incidents of bias according to the procedures described below.

Bias/Hate Crime—Any criminal offense or attempted criminal offense that one could reasonably and prudently conclude is motivated, in whole or in part, by the alleged offender's bias against an individual's actual or perceived age, ancestry or ethnicity, color, creed, disability, gender, gender identity or expression, height, immigration or citizenship status, marital status, national origin, race, religion, religious practice, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or weight. Some examples of bias-related incidents include, but are not limited to:

- Racially themed parties
- Coercion or Intimidation
- Bigotry
- Defacement and vandalism
- Racial epithets written on someone's dry-erase board
- Using a racial, ethnic, or other slur in a joke to refer to or identify someone
- Threats, destruction of personal property, harassment, or threatening telephone calls or electronic mail
- Hate messages and symbols
- Ridiculing a person's language or accent
- Stalking
- Language and imagery objectifying women
- Insulting a person's traditional; manner of dress
- Verbal, physical, or online harassment (e.g. text, social media)
- Damage to property via written slur, graffiti, or hate symbol

A student who has experienced or witnessed a bias incident or hate crime should:

- Call 911 if s/he feels threatened or in immediate danger.
- If the threat is not immediate, please help us respond and help those who are targeted by reporting incidents to **865-974-3179** and/or submitting a Bias Incident Reporting Form online at bias.utk.edu.
- Complaints involving allegations of discrimination and/or harassment that occur within the classroom or in the student-faculty context should be directed to the Office of Equity and Diversity (865-974-2498), or contact the academic dean in the appropriate college.

The Bias Education & Response Team (BERT)

The Bias Education and Response Team (BERT) includes members of the university community who are available to support and guide students seeking assistance in determining how to handle a bias incident. The team members review incident reports and meet with affected students to facilitate services and provide assistance to those impacted. Members of BERT also initiate communication with the broader community and make referrals to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards, Office of Equity and Diversity, or the University of Tennessee Police Department if the incident appears to violate a university policy or state/federal law. Members of BERT include:

- Office of the Dean of Students
- Office of the Vice Chancellor for Communications
- Office of Human Resources
- Undergraduate student
- University Housing
- Office of Equity and Diversity
- University of Tennessee Police Department
- Graduate student

****SB0723 prohibits colleges from disinviting speakers based on their controversial viewpoints or from charging student groups higher security fees to host speakers expected to trigger unrest.**

BERT Process

