

PRESS RELEASE
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**BUSINESS DEAN ATTENDS PRESTIGIOUS SUMMER
INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

Gardial Was One of 72 Participants Worldwide

KNOXVILLE, TN — Sarah Gardial, associate dean of academic programs in the University of Tennessee’s College of Business Administration, was honored as one of 72 participants worldwide to attend the prestigious 2006 Summer Institute for Women in Higher Education. With participants from 29 states, South Africa, Canada, and Singapore, Gardial was the only participant representing the University of Tennessee and one of only two participants from the state of Tennessee. Since 1989, there have been only five participants from the University of Tennessee.

“The program caused a paradigm shift in the way I view the global context of higher education and the challenges and societal impact of our university’s mission,” said Gardial. “It was an honor to attend the institute and learn how our university can help further globalize, diversify, and enhance the leadership capabilities of our faculty, staff, and students.”

“UT has a legacy of sending outstanding women to the Summer Institute,” said Pam Hindle, chairperson of UT’s Commission for Women. “Dr. Sarah Gardial is a stellar member of this honored assembly.”

The Summer Institute four-week residential program, jointly sponsored by Bryn Mawr College and Higher Education Resource Services (HERS), was established 31 years ago to expand opportunities for women in higher education; provide exposure to new and exciting ideas; foster enduring, mentoring relationships; and train women to lead in the areas of teaching, research, and service. Seminar participants are leaders in faculty or administrative development, diversity, and campus leadership. They must have a proven record of professional growth and responsibility and make a strong and informed contribution to their home institution.

“We were proud to recommend Dr. Gardial as our representative to the Summer Institute,” continued Hindle. “She embodies the qualities we sought. A key campus leader, Dr. Gardial is well-respected by upper administration, faculty colleagues, staff, and students. She is administratively positioned to play a significant role in increasing gender diversity and has a proven record of professional accomplishment, rising through college

administration to positions of increasing responsibility. Dr. Gardial also is committed to improving the status of women at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.”

Since 1976, over 2,000 women from throughout the United States, Canada, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Virgin Islands, Bermuda, Nigeria, Sweden, Wales, Iran, and the Netherlands have participated in the Summer Institute. Alumnae include presidents, chancellors, vice presidents and deans.

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About The University of Tennessee College of Business Administration

The mission of the University of Tennessee College of Business Administration in Knoxville, Tennessee, is to provide innovative leadership in management research, education, and practice. The college consistently breaks new ground with both its scholarship and award-winning, integrated curriculum that is taught within its undergraduate, graduate, and nationally recognized executive education programs. The college is accredited by *AACSB International - The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business*. For more information about the University of Tennessee College of Business Administration, visit <http://bus.utk.edu>.