

# UT SCIENCE FORUM

Spring 2017

## Schedule of Speakers

Location: Thompson-Boling Arena: Café in the Arena, Private Room C-D  
Time: 12 noon to 1 p.m. on Fridays  
Format: Eat and hear Guest Speaker. Bring your own lunch or purchase it at the Café.  
40-minute presentation followed by Q&A discussion period

### January 27

Dr. Karen M. Vail  
Professor & Extension Urban Entomologist,  
Entomology & Plant Pathology  
"Bed Bugs: You Can Get Rid of Them"

### February 3

Dr. Colin Sumrall  
Assistant Professor of Earth & Planetary  
Sciences  
"Hitching Rides in Paleozoic Seas – Ancient  
Creatures and Their Shellfish Taxis"

### February 10

Dr. Henri Grissino-Mayer  
Professor of Geography  
"The Gatlinburg Fires – What Mother Nature  
Is Telling Us"

### February 17

Dr. Elena Shpak  
Associate Professor of Biochemistry and  
Cellular & Molecular Biology  
"The Truth About Genetically Modified  
Organisms (GMOs)"

### February 24

Dr. Jeffrey Moersch  
Professor of Earth & Planetary Sciences  
"Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Studies of  
Mars-like Landscapes on Earth"

### March 3

Dr. Jennifer DeBruyn  
Associate Professor of Bioengineering  
Systems & Soil Sciences  
"Life After Death: Microbial Ecology of  
Human Decomposition"

### March 10

**NO MEETING – SPRING BREAK**

### March 17

**NO MEETING – SPRING BREAK**

### March 24

Dr. Todd Freeberg  
Professor and Associate Head of Psychology  
"Do Even the Birds and the Bees Benefit from  
Diversity?"

### March 31

Dr. Adam J. Rondinone  
Senior Staff Scientist, Center for Nanophase  
Materials Sciences  
Oak Ridge National Laboratory  
"Carbon Dioxide into Ethanol: Waste-to-Fuel  
Technology"

### April 7

Dr. Mark Littmann  
Professor, Hill Chair of Excellence in Science  
Writing, Journalism & Electronic Media  
"Totality: The Great American Solar Eclipse  
of 2017"

### April 14

**NO MEETING – SPRING RECESS**

### April 21

Bill Malkes  
CEO & Co-Founder, Gridsmart Technologies  
"Your Future in Self-Driving Vehicles –  
Utopia or Hell?"

### April 28

Dr. Colleen Jonsson  
Beaman Professor & Head of Microbiology;  
Director of NIMBioS  
"Making Sense of Virus Evolution –  
The Unsolved Puzzle of Deadly Hantaviruses"