

ADVISORY BOARD

May 2023



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE

HOWARD H. BAKER JR.
CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY

OUR STATE'S BIGGEST CHALLENGES

- **Political Polarization**
- **Low Civic Participation/High Voter Apathy**
- **Retreat from Civil Discourse and Constructive Civic Engagement**
- **Low Levels of Civic Knowledge**

OUR STATE'S BIGGEST CHALLENGES

- Political Polarization
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- Low Levels of Civic Knowledge
- **The Appeal of Public Service as a Career**
- **Declining Confidence in Public Institutions as Tools to Make a Difference**



**“The
Republic
will
survive.”**

Howard H. Baker Jr.

GOALS OF A NEW BAKER SCHOOL

In 10 years, be a nationally known school graduating skilled public problem solvers, grounded in the legacy of Howard H. Baker Jr. and prepared to take leadership roles as public administrators, policymakers, policy entrepreneurs, or candidates for public office.

While also . . . addressing the state's civic health.

FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVERS

"BE OPTIMISTIC, KEEP THINGS SIMPLE, AND
HAVE A PASSION FOR WHAT YOU ARE DOING."

For the past three years, the number one Clifton
Strength of incoming students is Restorative.

People exceptionally talented in the Restorative theme
are adept at dealing with problems. They are good at
figuring out what is wrong and resolving it.

UTK HAS THE ASSETS TO GRADUATE EFFECTIVE PUBLIC SERVANTS

- 20-year history of the Baker Center
 - Legacy of Howard H. Baker Jr.
 - Statewide credibility
 - Active advisor and donor base
 - Physical assets and human capital
 - Campus presence and activity
- \$4M per year investment from the state legislature
- No other school of public policy in the State of Tennessee



Spring 2022

A university-wide task force is commissioned regarding the conversion of the Baker Center into a school of public policy and public affairs

The task force shares its recommendations with the Provost, recommendations are accepted

IAC appoints Board of Fellows

Fall 2022

February 2023

UT Board of Trustees approves the school conversion, effective July 1

THEC approves the conversion

March 2023

May 2023

IAC names inaugural Executive Director

Master's in Public Policy and Administration students begin at Baker School

Fall 2023

Fall 2024

Bachelor's in Public Administration degree program moves to Baker School

Early Institute of American Civics Priorities

Enhancing Civic Knowledge

Building signature UTK courses, co-curricular activities, and public education products covering:

- The principles and philosophies of the founding institutions of the American government
- Fundamental democratic principles
- Civic leadership

Building Civic Skills

Hosting continuing education opportunities for public school teachers of history and civics.

Producing campus debates and public lectures emphasizing civil discourse, viewpoint diversity, and public problem solving.

Promoting Civic Engagement

Leading UTK campus voter registration and participation programming.

Supporting UTK students in local, state, and federal government internships.

Establishing local government fellows program.

Joshua Dunn will become the first executive director of the Institute of American Civics at the Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy.

Dunn most recently served as chair of the Department of Political Science at the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs and led the Center for the Study of Government and the Individual.



Thank you



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