

President of the Tennessee Academy of Science for 2018: Sandy Mehlhorn



I was born and raised in West Tennessee. As a kid and high school student, people encouraged me to be an engineer because I liked math and was fascinated with how things worked. I

attended Tennessee Technological University and majored in civil engineering where I met my future husband. I followed him to graduate school at Mississippi State University where I obtained my Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Civil Engineering. I worked for several years for multiple transportation agencies in Mississippi, Oregon and Texas before moving back to Tennessee. Once back in my home state I was introduced to and given the opportunity to discover my real passion, teaching college students. I consider it a joy and privilege to teach college students about two professions I love: engineering and land surveying. At UT Martin, I teach classes in GIS, land surveying, soil and water engineering, and various other courses in the agricultural engineering technology program. Confucius has been credited as saying "Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life." I am happy to say that I have found that job.

When not at work, my family keeps me busy. I am married with two children, two cats, and a pet bird. My daughter is a junior in high school and my son is a freshman at UT Martin. We love to travel and see and experience new things together. I am excited about representing the Tennessee Academy of Science as President in 2018. I hope to continue the mission of the Academy to "promote scientific research and the diffusion of knowledge concerning science" throughout Tennessee.