

## SPECIAL RECOGNITION

### BILL JOHNSON



Dr. Johnson works as a professor of practice within the Herbert College of Agriculture at the University of Tennessee. His role is to provide classroom instruction and project-based courses using experiential learning techniques to deepen student understanding of business and leadership principles. His role is also designed to work closely with businesses to identify future work force needs and to enhance student engagement through internships and direct work experiences. Dr. Johnson is also serving as the interim head for the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics.

He most recently served as president and chief executive officer of Farm Credit Mid-America, a \$35 billion financial cooperative which serves nearly 100,000 members in Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Johnson has nearly 40 years of progressively responsible leadership experience in direct lending, risk management, business operations, information services, higher education and civic engagement.

Johnson received his doctorate in education from Vanderbilt University, a master's in business administration from Gonzaga University, and a bachelor's in business from the University of Evansville.



# TENNESSEE YOUNG LEADERS CONFERENCE

February 16-17, 2024

Drury Plaza Hotel  
Franklin, Tennessee

HOSTED BY:

Tennessee Council of Cooperatives and  
Tennessee Young Farmers & Ranchers

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2024

- 12:00 Registration Opens (Pre-function Lobby)
- 1:00-3:00 p.m. *Tour - Ellington Agricultural Center/Department of Ag*
- 4:30 p.m. *Welcome Session and Games for All*
- 5:00-6:00 p.m. Drury Plaza Kickback Buffet (Food Court)
- 6:00 p.m. *Opening General Session* (Franklin Ballroom)
- Welcome
  - Keynote Speaker - Dr. Hongwei Xin  
*"Set Goals and Pursue Them With Actions"*
- Casino Night Social*



### CHILDCARE SCHEDULE

Childcare will be provided as a courtesy in the Lotz Room on 11<sup>th</sup> floor

#### Friday, February 16

5:45 pm - 8:00 pm

#### Saturday, February 17

8:15 am - 11:15 am

5:45 pm - 7:00 pm

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2024

- 7:00-8:15 a.m. Breakfast - Drury Plaza Buffet (Food Court)
- 8:30 a.m. *General Session & Door Prizes* (Franklin Ballroom)
- *Tennessee Ag Crime Unit* - Agent Greg Whitehead
  - *Running Effective Meetings* - Michael Barry
  - *Hometown Issues* - Kristen Walker
  - *Cooperatives: Bet You Didn't Know That* - Dr. Justin Gardner
- 12:00 p.m. Jim & Nick's Catered Meal
- 1:15 p.m. *General Session* (Franklin Ballroom)
- Keynote Speaker - Vallie Collins  
*"Hudson River Plane Landing Survivor"*
  - Special Recognition by TCC
- 2:30 p.m. • *Financial Assistance Panel*  
Colton McClanahan, FCMA and Holly Harper, FSA
- TCC Annual Meeting & Board Meeting*
- 4:00 p.m. • *Hands-On Training*  
Katie Martin
- 5:00 p.m. Drury Plaza Kickback Buffet (Food Court)
- 6:00 p.m. *General Session* (Franklin Ballroom)
- Keynote Speaker - Rudy Kalis  
*"You Have to Learn to Follow Before You Can Lead"*
  - County Young Farmer & Rancher Activity Awards
- 7:00 p.m. *John Willis Memorial Scholarship and AITC Auction*

