

Jacobs: UT, region to plan for relevance

By Jon Strunk

UT President Lloyd Jacobs called on the University to plan for relevance last week as he spoke to more than 400 at his fourth annual address to the community in Doermann Theater.

“To be relevant is to be related, connected and of value to an important matter at hand,” Jacobs said, emphasizing that relevance is not a static notion.

“The concept of relevance may be understood by thinking of the rate of change inside our institution and change around it. If outside change is more rapid than change inside, we are becoming less relevant. If change within keeps pace with secular trends, we remain relevant.

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UT finalizes budget for trustees’ consideration, announces layoffs

By Jon Strunk

The University of Toledo will present a recommended budget to the Board of Trustees Finance Committee for consideration at its meeting Monday, April 19.

In a letter sent to the UT community Friday afternoon, President Lloyd Jacobs said UT has much to be proud of, pointing to key strategic investments in its recommended budget for fiscal year 2011. However, he said, UT also has had to make some difficult choices.

“But these strategic investments do not come without hard choices,” Jacobs wrote. “I regret to inform you that this afternoon we once again began the process of workforce downsizing. The final number of employees affected will not be determined until after employees exercise all available options.

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Students win national award for television broadcasting

UT:10 News, The University of Toledo’s weekly student-produced television news broadcast, and the show’s student producers won Best Newscast in the 2010 College Television Awards from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

This national award is given each year by the same organization responsible for television’s Emmy Awards.

Student producers from the 2009 academic year, Philipp Levering and Ashley Roth, traveled to Los Angeles with 2009 student director Heather Schramm and UT:10 News faculty adviser Dr. Jackie Layng to attend the awards gala April 10. The event was hosted by “Dancing With the Stars” emcee Tom Bergeron, and award presenters included cast members from FOX’s “Glee” and ABC’s “Modern Family.”

Layng, UT professor of communication, said placing first in this national competition against schools such as the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, New York University and Syracuse University shows how talented UT students are.

“This speaks volumes about the quality of our program,” she said. “In just six years

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Photo by Daniel Miller

Ashley Roth and Philipp Levering posed for photos with UT:10’s awards in Los Angeles.

Nursing student wins national award

By Kim Harvey



Linda Andreoli and her StuNurse.com cover

Her husband gave it away.

As Linda Andreoli, a graduate student in the College of Nursing’s clinical nurse leader program, approached a meeting after a grueling exam last week, she did a double take at seeing her spouse, Mark, mingled with her classmates and teachers.

Minutes later, Dr. Timothy Gaspar, dean of the College of Nursing, confirmed her suspicions that something was indeed fishy.

“It gives me great pride and pleasure to announce that our own Linda Andreoli has been named Nursing Student of the Year by StuNurse.com,” Gaspar announced

to the Collier Building crowd, holding an advanced copy of the May edition with Andreoli on its cover.

“This is a fantastic honor for Linda and for the College of Nursing. As you can tell, we’re pretty excited.”

Andreoli was chosen over thousands of student nurses throughout the country. She will receive \$1,000 in scholarships and has been recognized in StuNurse.com, which is distributed to every teaching hospital in the United States.

None of Andreoli’s accomplishments surprise those who know her best.

The one-time radio broadcaster decided after 20 years on the airwaves of northwest

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Renowned neurosurgeon visits UT



Photos by Jack Meade

Dr. Benjamin Carson gave a talk, "Take the Risk: A Rational Approach to Taking Risks," last week in Savage Arena. In 1987, he led the first successful separation of twins conjoined at the head.



Dr. Benjamin Carson, director of pediatric neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Children's Center, signed a book for 9-year-old Melanie Monagan of Sylvania.

Nursing student

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Ohio to switch careers for a more service-oriented field.

She was a decidedly untraditional student, already possessing a bachelor's degree in communication and years of broadcasting experience, as well as a respected career as a journalist/communications officer with the U.S. Naval Reserves.

Still, her desire for change beckoned.

"I was really interested in health care even when I went into broadcasting," Andreoli said. "I call my nursing career my second career, which I went into after fulfilling some goals during my first career in broadcasting."

Andreoli has blossomed in UT's rigorous nursing program, maintaining a 4.0 cumulative grade-point average, securing numerous scholarships and awards, and earning the admiration of her instructors.

"Linda exemplifies the heart, hands and soul of nursing," wrote Karen Hoblet, assistant professor in the College of Nursing, for Andreoli's nomination to StuNurse.com. "Not only does she combine the art with the science of nursing to produce phenomenal outcomes, she continues to serve her country. Linda is technically adept and, at the same time, focuses on the person with her energy and caring touch."

A six-month deployment to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, from 2008-2009 didn't deter her education.

"I've had a lot of support from the College of Nursing," Andreoli said. "I figured I'd keep up with some of my lessons while I was gone and pick it back up once I got back. But it was like being in a different world. It was harder than I thought."

Andreoli will graduate in May and intends to become a nurse practitioner in the primary care specialty. She will continue as leading chief petty officer with the Navy Expeditionary Combat Command in Norfolk, Va., which, one day, may necessitate another interruption in her education if her unit deploys.

She'll greet such a circumstance with grace, much as she did when asked to speak to those who gathered for the surprise StuNurse.com announcement.

"If I'd known, I would have put on some makeup or something," Andreoli joked, then was quick to recognize others. "This is an incredible honor not only to me, but for my teachers, advisers, fellow students and my family."

"I feel like I represent all of the students in the College of Nursing. This is incredible!"

Jacobs

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Currently, it is my belief that the rate of change within The University of Toledo must accelerate," he said.

Jacobs said UT's current recalibration of its 2007 strategic plan, "Directions," was essential to ensuring the University's leadership in a world where institutions of higher education are increasingly called on to be centers for economic development, health-care delivery and the education of the next generation.

The president said the creation of a new 2010 strategic plan also was necessary as UT soon would likely be expected to accomplish more using fewer resources.

"Fiscal year 2012 in Ohio is likely to be extremely difficult. The state's 'rainy day' fund is exhausted. State governments across the country have supported their operating budgets for fiscal years 2010 and 2011 with federal stimulus dollars," Jacobs said, pointing to \$19.4 million in UT's current budget being supported with one-time dollars likely to disappear in 2012.

Jacobs said UT's habit of chipping at the edges of budgets was a tradition at odds with what he called "the new normal," economically. Acknowledging that the necessary fundamental shifts in the way UT thought about and delivered education

would be difficult for many, Jacobs pointed to a quote from U.S. Secretary for Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki.

"If you don't like change," Shinseki said, "you are going to like irrelevance even less."

Jacobs said UT would have to identify a limited number of areas of distinction and focus intensely on their success, even in the face of difficult budgetary challenges. He emphasized the importance of partnerships with the private sector, government and nonprofit organizations and other institutions of higher education.

The way knowledge is created and transmitted has changed fundamentally, Jacobs said, pointing to Jean-François Lyotard's book, *The Postmodern Condition: A Report on Knowledge*, which predicted in 1979 many of the changes, and corresponding resistance, to how knowledge is communicated to others.

"Our values have not changed," Jacobs said. "Our mission has not changed. It will still and always be to improve the human condition. The world has changed. To stay relevant, we need to change."

Visit www.utoledo.edu/offices/ president for the full text and video of Jacobs' speech.

Director named to national leadership development program

By Meghan Cunningham



Gilbert

Charlene Gilbert, director of the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women, is one of 46 faculty and administrators named to the American Council on Education's Fellows Program.

Gilbert, also a professor in the Women's and Gender Studies and Theatre and Film departments in The University of Toledo College of Arts and Sciences, said she is looking forward to the opportunities the fellowship provides.

"I am hoping to learn more about the complexities of administration in higher education and the ways in which universities are playing increasingly important roles in economic revitalization and regional development," she said. "There are many challenges facing institutions of higher learning

as our nation embraces changing demographics, a restructured economy and a broader understanding of our role in a global community. I am eager to see how different institutions are grappling with the challenges and opportunities facing higher education in the 21st century."

The ACE Fellows Program, established in 1965, focuses on identifying and pre-paring senior leadership in the nation's colleges and universities. It is the longest-running leadership development program in the country.

"We're extremely pleased with the strength of the incoming class," said Sharon A. McDade, director of the

Fellows Program. "The Fellows Program will sharpen and enhance their leadership skills, expand their networks, and prepare them to address issues of concern to the higher education community."

The program combines retreats, campus visits and placement at other higher education institutions to expose the fellows to senior leadership and their decision-making processes. Leadership and management activities also enhance their knowledge of challenges and opportunities in higher education.

Gilbert, who has been in higher education since 1998, said the fellowship will provide meaningful professional development to help continue her career.

Fulbright Scholar information session slated

By Vicki L. Kroll

Learn more about the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program Wednesday, April 21, from 1 to 3 p.m. in Student Union Room 2591.

Research and Sponsored Programs will host the session to provide information on the grant awards that provide international travel for study, research or teaching in all disciplines.

UT faculty members who have received Fulbright awards will discuss their experiences.

Joel Lipman, professor of English, was a senior Fulbright Fellow in Belize during the 1992-93 academic year. He taught American literature to prospective teachers at the University College of Belize.

"Working in an underdeveloped country at its only four-year post-secondary institution was an experience that changed my family's sense of living on our planet. We all became global citizens during the Fulbright year," Lipman said. "My students were primarily from the remnant Maya communities, or Garifuna descended from slave rebellions, or the sons and daughters of immigrants who had made it to Belize from Caribbean islands and from what were at that time Central American oligarchies and dictatorships."

Bruce Kennedy, associate professor of law, traveled to Wuhan, China, where he taught courses on U.S. Property Law and U.S. Legal Research Methods at the Zhongnan University of Economics and Law during spring semester 2009.

"I left China loaded with 'souvenirs' — new friends, new colleagues, new insights on my teaching and research, and a much deeper understanding of modern China," Kennedy said. "I also left China loaded with 'seeds' — seeds of future lecture opportunities, research partnerships and other collaborative projects."

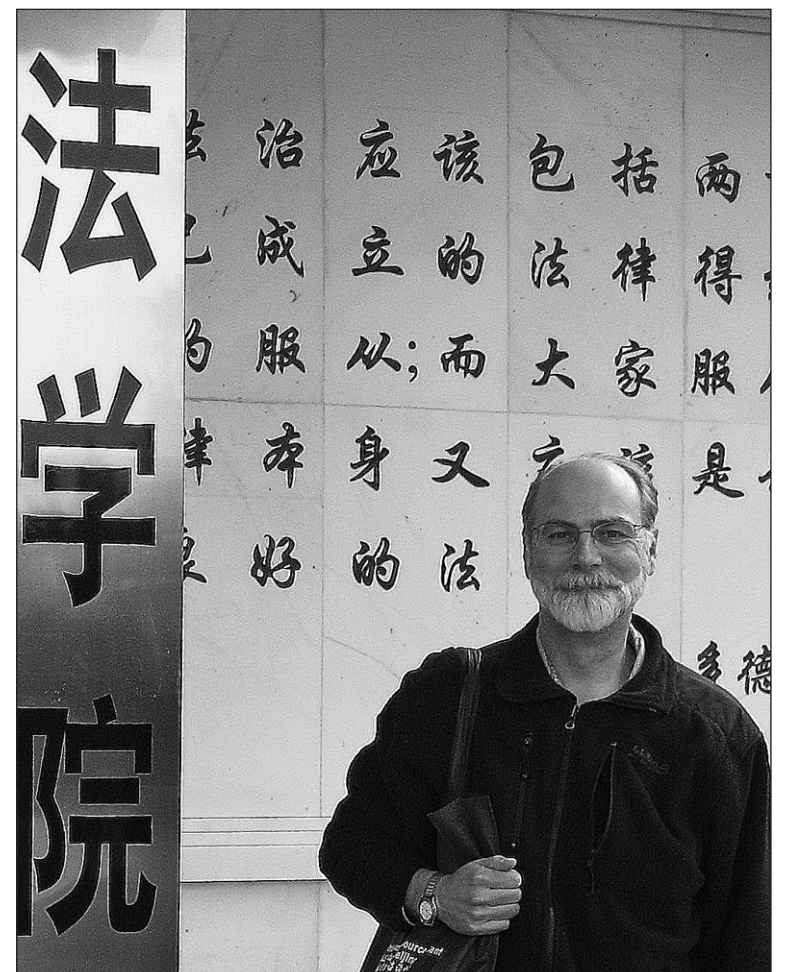
Dr. David H. Davis, professor of political science, was a Fulbright professor last spring at Nanjing University in China, where he taught two courses on environmental policy. His students were enrolled in the School of the Environment.

"I was surprised how many of my students were being recruited into the Communist Party. The party wants to bring in young experts to solve environmental problems," Davis said.

Lipman, Kennedy and Davis are scheduled to speak at the session.

Established in 1946, the Fulbright program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. About 1,000 faculty and professionals travel abroad annually through the U.S. Fulbright Scholar Program.

For more information, contact Herdia Hodges of Research and Sponsored Programs at herdia.hodges@utoledo.edu or 419.530.2844, or go to www.iie.org/cies.



Bruce Kennedy at the Zhongnan University of Economics and Law

University Women's Commission recognizes employees, students

By Vicki L. Kroll

Two UT employees were honored last week for their exceptional contributions to the campus community at the 24th annual Outstanding Women's Awards ceremony.

The University Women's Commission sponsored the program, which was held in the Savage Arena Joe Grogan Room Thursday. Dr. Rosemary Haggett, Main Campus provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, handed out awards.

Receiving Outstanding Women Awards were Sharon Periat, interim director of student services in the College of Health Science and Human Service, and Vandra Robinson, curriculum systems analyst in the Registrar's Office.

Periat started working at the University in the late 1980s at the former Community and Technical College as a placement-testing monitor. She then became a part-time adviser to those seeking associate degrees. Periat came to Main Campus when the College of Health Science and Human Service was formed.

"Sharon has a staff of advisers that she oversees; she completes the degree audits, jumps in to assist whenever there are questions and concerns, and much more," one nominator wrote. "In addition, Sharon is a 'one-woman' show as recruiter. With tight budgets, she has had to wear many hats, and she wears them well. Her dedication and commitment to her work is exceptional. Rarely does she ever complain. She is professional and will solve a problem no matter how big or how small."

"I enjoy working with students and helping them reach their academic goals," Periat said. "My job as interim director of student services in the College of Health Science and Human Service is never routine or boring."

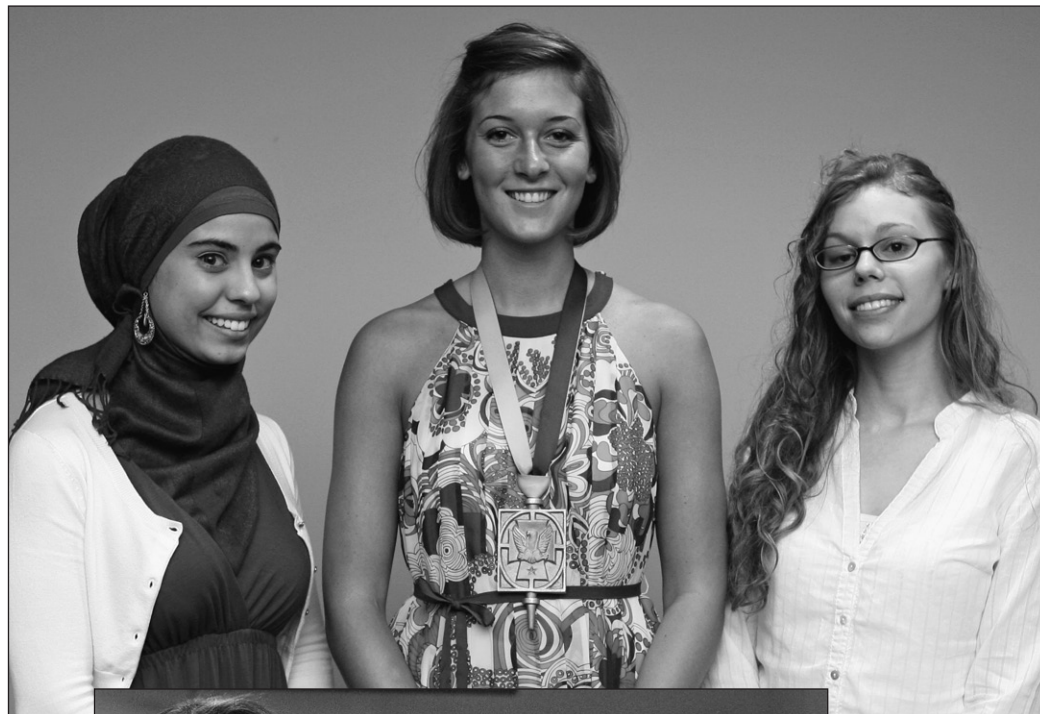
Robinson joined the UT staff in 2005 as an academic coordinator in the Department of Civil Engineering. She moved to the Registrar's Office in 2008. She is working on a doctorate in higher education at the University, from which she received a bachelor of arts degree in 1998.

"Vandra's duties include developing, evaluating and maintaining transfer courses and degree audits for students," a nominator noted. "Vandra knows that the speed and accuracy of her work can make or break a student's experience at The University of Toledo. She works hands-on with faculty, staff and students, as well as closely with the academic colleges and Provost offices to ensure academic programs and course modifications are reflected accurately. She does all of this with a genuine care and concern for the students."

"I love working at UT because I love being a part of molding and shaping the future," Robinson said. "I want to help students be successful, and I will do whatever I can to help."

The University Women's Commission also presented \$1,000 scholarships to four students. Receiving awards based on academic achievement, support of women's and gender issues, and campus and community involvement were:

- Linda Amrou, a junior majoring in law and social thought;
- Nicole Beck, a junior majoring in economics;
- Paulette Bongratz, a sophomore majoring in international business; and
- Angel Marie Ellison, a senior majoring in early childhood education.



Photos by Daniel Miller



Dr. Rosemary Haggett, above right, presented Outstanding Women Awards to Vandra Robinson, above, and Sharon Periat, at right.



Students who received scholarships were, from left, Linda Amrou, Nicole Beck and Angel Marie Ellison, and, not shown, Paulette Bongratz.

Outstanding Adviser Award reception April 22

The Outstanding Adviser Award will hold its 24th annual reception Thursday, April 22, from 3 to 5 p.m. in Libbey Hall.

The Outstanding Adviser Award was established to honor faculty and staff who exemplify excellence in academic advising.

Academic advising assists students in the development of meaningful educational plans that enrich their studies and promote the achievement of life goals.

RSVPs are requested by Tuesday, April 20; call 419.530.6162.

Cultural Odyssey's 'Medea Project' to entertain, enlighten

By Meghan Cunningham

The idea of art as social activism will take center stage when Cultural Odyssey presents a series of events at The University of Toledo this week.

The performance organization based in San Francisco produces "The Medea Project: Theater for Incarcerated Women," which is an arts-based program committed to reducing the number of women returning to jail. The organization has worked with incarcerated women around the globe since 1989.

Dr. Renee Heberle, UT associate professor of political science and co-director of the Program in Law and Social Thought, said "The Medea Project" shows how the arts and humanities are central to reducing recidivism and helps people understand issues specific to women caught up in the criminal justice system.

"It's a self-empowerment mode of expression for the inmates," Heberle said. "The creative process allows both the inmates and those watching and listening to bear witness to the ambiguities and imperfections of all people. It allows us together to create a different vision as to our potential for positive change."

Rhodessa Jones, creator of "The Medea Project," and Idris Ackamoor, master tap dancer and saxophonist, will host a workshop, lecture and performance Tuesday through Thursday, April 20-22. The free, public events will be:

- The "Creative Survival, Creative Performance" workshop is scheduled

for 5:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 20, in UT's Center for Performing Arts Studio Theatre. It will explore the creative process and methodology of "The Medea Project." Using movement, text, theater games, storytelling and more, Jones and Ackamoor will demonstrate how they work with incarcerated women and disenfranchised populations.

- The lecture titled "A Woman for the 21st Century — The Medea Project" will be at noon Wednesday, April 21, in the Law Center Auditorium. Jones and Ackamoor will discuss female relationships and how they impact the greater community and how theater can be used as a healing tool to create dialogue about social issues.
- The "Re-Imagining Medea: Songs From the Urban Jungle" performance is set for 7 p.m. Thursday, April 22, in Studio A of the Valentine Theatre, 410 Adams St. The show will feature Jones and Ackamoor performing excerpts from "Big-Butt Girls, Hard-Headed Women" and "The Love Project." They also will show videos about their work with "The Medea Project."

While Jones and Ackamoor are entertaining performers, their art has a message and the goal of helping to reduce the number of women returning to jail and also contributing to a better understanding of incarcerated women. They refer to their vision as "arts as social activism."

"Art as social activism engages us at a deeper level than art as entertainment.



Photo from Cultural Odyssey

ARTFUL MESSENGERS: Rhodessa Jones, left, and Idris Ackamoor will visit UT this week.

Theater that challenges us to think differently can be a powerful catalyst to working toward social justice," Heberle said. "Instead of being spectators, we are participants and it engages our conscience."

The residency of Cultural Odyssey at UT is related to ongoing efforts to build prison studies into the curriculum and into the community engagement portion of the

mission of the University. These events will benefit anyone who has experienced incarceration, as well as those who work with, are related to, or wish to better understand incarcerated women, Heberle said.

For more information, contact Heberle at 419.530.4061 or renee.heberle@utoledo.edu.

Disabilities depicted in art topic of April 19 talk

By Emily Hickey

How disability and people with disabilities are represented in museums will be discussed by scholar and author Dr. Rosemarie Garland-Thomson at 4 p.m. Monday, April 19, in The University of Toledo's Student Union Room 2582 on Main Campus.

Her talk, "Picturing People With Disabilities: Classical Portrait on Reconstructing Narrative," is drawn from the forthcoming book, *Representing Disability: Activism & Agency*, which explores issues surrounding the cultural representation of disabled people and the inclusion of disability-related narratives in museum and gallery displays.

"Disabled people are a vibrant and vocal constituency. Disability, we are learning, is a fundamental facet of human diversity," Garland-Thomson said.

She is a professor of women's studies at Emory University in Atlanta, where she dedicates her scholarly work to developing the field of disability studies in humanities and in women's studies.

"Rosemarie Garland-Thomson plays a crucial role in helping scholars and nonscholars alike re-imagine how we think about bodies and the limitless variations in them," said Dr. Jim Ferris, Ability Center of Greater Toledo Endowed Chair in Disability Studies, associate professor

of communication and director of the Disability Studies Program. "Dr. Garland-Thomson has a remarkable gift: Not only is she a careful and penetrating thinker, but she is able to make complex ideas accessible to a wide audience."

Garland-Thomson was named one of the "50 visionaries who are changing your world" by Utne Reader. She also was selected for the 2010 Senior Scholar Award from the Society for Disability Studies.

For more information on the free, public event, contact the UT Disability Studies Program at 419.530.7244.



Garland-Thomson

University recognizes outstanding teaching, research, outreach work

By Meghan Cunningham

The University of Toledo's outstanding teachers and researchers and the recipients of the Edith Rathbun Outreach Award were recognized last week during an awards ceremony at the Hilton Toledo.

Recipients of the Outstanding Teacher Award are:

Dr. Sharon Barnes, an associate professor of interdisciplinary studies in University College. She joined the University in 2001 as an assistant professor and was promoted to associate professor in 2007.

Barnes' students noted how she takes extra time with nontraditional students and helps them adjust to college. A nominator thanked her for encouraging her to succeed when she felt too old to be here and was ready to quit.

"She inspired me because of her ability to read a person and also to give the right advice at the right time," the nominator wrote.

Barnes said she was "startled and humbled" by the honor.

"I am a feminist, so I really have a high regard for equity and empowerment in the classroom, and I work very hard to create a safe space for each person to learn," she said. "I like working with young people and I enjoy learning, so teaching is basically a really good time for me. I try to have a good sense of humor and share students' enthusiasm for the learning process."

Dr. Paula Dupuy, professor in the Department of Counselor Education and School Psychology in the College of Health Science and Human Service. Dupuy, who is a licensed clinical counselor and psychologist, joined the department in 1989 as an assistant professor. She was promoted to associate professor in 1994 and professor in 2001.

Students described Dupuy as a professor who goes above and beyond and cares about her students, both academically and personally.

"It is evident that she strives to make a difference, not only in her students, but also in furthering the field of counseling," one nominator wrote. "Educationally, out of all of my professors (although they are all great), I can honestly say that I have learned the most in her classes."

Dupuy said being recognized by students for her teaching is the ultimate honor.

"For me, teaching is really a passion and so is learning. A core piece of that is curiosity and wonder," she said. "Teaching is a reciprocal relationship between students and faculty, and it's about creating an environment where all of us are nurturing that curiosity and wonder."

Dr. David Meabon, associate professor of higher education in the Judith Herb College of Education and director of the John H. Russel Center for Educational Leadership. Meabon joined UT in 1991 as vice president for student affairs and associate professor of higher education, becoming a full-time tenured faculty member in 2001.

His nominators noted how inspiring Meabon is as he always talks about "our" graduation and encourages his students to reach their goals.

"Dr. Meabon is supportive without handing you what you need and he makes you think," a nominator wrote. "He has an amazing way of asking you just the right open-ended questions that assist in figuring your problems out or getting you to think not as a graduate student, but as a scholar."

Meabon described his teaching style as bringing theory and practice together in a way that challenges students to come up with creative solutions to problems.

"The University of Toledo has a number of outstanding teachers. It is very humbling to be considered by your students that you may be one of those," he said.

Dr. Brian Randolph, professor of civil engineering and associate dean of undergraduate studies in the College of Engineering. He began his career at UT as an instructor in civil engineering, and was promoted to assistant professor in 1989, associate professor in 1993 and professor in 1997. Randolph has received numerous teaching awards in the college.

"In addition to being successful academically, he sincerely wants to make sure that every student is getting the most out of their experiences at UT. No matter how busy he gets, his door is always open for students to come and talk," a nominator wrote.

Randolph said he was moved by his selection as an Outstanding Teacher as he greatly respects and admires the past recipients.

"My role as a teacher is part interpreter and part coach. I try to use my understanding of the material to present concepts in multiple ways that match students' learning styles," he said. "We have incredible students at UT, yet some topics still come hard. It's important to coach persistence until the light bulbs go on. Student success is the most gratifying part of my job."

Dr. Mark Sherry, assistant professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Sherry, who has been with the University since 2004, has previously been recognized as a master teacher in the College of Arts and Sciences.

One nominator said students learned so much from Sherry that they encouraged

other students to take his classes and friends to transfer to UT so they could learn from him.

"I have never in my academic career encountered another teacher with as much passion for teaching and commitment to his students as Dr. Sherry," the nominator wrote.

He is credited with encouraging critical thinking, engaging students in discussions, creating thought-provoking assignments, and finding different methods to help students learn.

"I was genuinely touched by the award," Sherry said. "To have such lovely feedback from students and alumni is truly humbling and a great honor."

Recipients of the Outstanding Researcher Award are:

Dr. Robert Blumenthal, professor of medical microbiology and immunology and director of the Program in Bioinformatics and Proteomics/Genomics. He came to the University in 1981 as an assistant professor and was promoted to associate professor in 1986 and professor in 1994.

The common theme of Blumenthal's research during the past 40 years has been the systems bacteria use to control their thousands of genes, so the right genes are turned on at the right time from the bacterium's point of view.

Bacteria play an important role in medicine because of the infections they can cause, but also in ecology and biotechnology. So what Blumenthal learns can help identify new targets for antibiotics as well as ways to use bacteria to make everything from pharmaceuticals to fuels.

His work has been cited more than 2,700 times, with one article alone cited more than 300 times, and he has brought in more than \$3.5 million in research funding.

Blumenthal is a "delightful colleague and collaborator," according to a nominator who wrote, "He is extremely easy to get along with and is always prepared to do more than his fair share of the routine work. He is imaginative and industrious with a keen sense of humor."



Blumenthal

Blumenthal said he almost dropped the phone when he was called and notified of the award. "But credit also goes to all the people who make it possible to do good research

at UT," he said. "It requires a supportive environment."



Hassoun

Dr. Ezdihar Hassoun, professor of pharmacology in the College of Pharmacy, who joined the University in 1995.

Much of Hassoun's research in the last 30 years has focused on the toxicity

of the environmental pollutant dioxin and related chemicals, which are considered environmentally dangerous because they are known to cause both cancer and birth defects. She specifically has investigated the affects of dioxin and related chemicals on embryos in the womb and on the central nervous system.

More recently, Hassoun became interested in the toxicity of some water pollutants formed during chlorination of drinking water.

Hassoun has been published in top journals in the field, and her work has been cited more than 1,000 times. She has received continuous funding from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences since 1994.

A nominator wrote, "She has become an expert in the field of investigating the deleterious effects induced by the chemicals in animals." And noting her published studies, "clearly her work has influenced the field of environmental toxicology."

Hassoun also was appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to serve on the federal Advisory Committee on Special Studies Relating to the Possible Long-Term Effects of Phenoxy Herbicides and Contaminants, also known as the Ranch Hands Advisory Committee.

"I am honored to receive this award and to be recognized for the research I have been involved in for so many years," Hassoun said.

Dr. Sonia Najjar, professor in the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology and director of the Center for Diabetes and Endocrine Research. She joined the Medical College of Ohio faculty in 1994 as an assistant professor and was promoted to professor in 2005.

The focus of her research has been understanding the mechanisms of obesity, Type 2 diabetes and fatty liver disease. Insulin clearance in liver is a critical determinant of overall energy metabolism and a protective



Najjar

mechanism against fat accumulation in the liver.

Prior to Najjar's work, it was widely believed that insulin resistance, the key precursor of Type 2 diabetes, was due to abnormalities

of insulin action. But she demonstrated instead that the disease is explained by a defect of insulin clearance by the liver, which was previously an unknown mechanism.

Her work has garnered 1,000 citations, with some papers receiving close to 150 citations from scientists worldwide.

"Dr. Najjar has distinguished herself in the research, teaching and administration areas," a nominator wrote. "Not only has she maintained an active program of collaborations with intramural investigators, including myself, but she also established numerous collaborations worldwide, an effort that placed UT on the map of the insulin action/diabetes community."

"I am humbled and overwhelmed," Najjar said. "I feel honored to be recognized by my peers. This award should be shared with my research team, including collaborators and trainees, for research is a team effort."

Dr. T.S. Ragu-Nathan, professor of information management and chair of the Information, Operations and Technology Management Department. Ragu-Nathan, who has been at the University since 1985, previously has been honored with College of Business Administration research awards for his work for investigating new ideas and the development of new concepts in manufacturing management and information systems management. He develops instruments to measure the constructs and researches the relationships that exist among them.

Specifically, Ragu-Nathan has studied how to address stress created by introducing technology into an organization and the role and successful integrations of information systems in an organization.

He has published more than 150 research articles, and his research findings have been presented at more than 30 conferences.

A nominator wrote, "He has inspired all of us to aspire to publish in top-rated journals. His publications are very well-known in the information systems area,



Photo by Daniel Miller

AWARD WINNERS: Posing for a photo after last week's ceremony were front row, from left, Dr. David Meabon, Dr. Neil Reid, Dr. Brian Randolph and Dr. Mark Vonderembse, and back row, from left, Dr. Sharon Barnes, Dr. Paula Dupuy, Dr. Mark Sherry and Dr. T.S. Ragu-Nathan.

particularly in the areas of planning and stress due to technology. His efforts in research are outstanding, interdisciplinary and multidimensional."

Another said, "Dr. Ragu is one of the few faculty members at UT who has an outstanding research record but also cares deeply about his students. He has made a lasting positive impact on my academic career, and I'm grateful from the bottom of my heart."

"I am honored that my research has been recognized by my peers, and I'm thankful to all those who have supported me all these years," Ragu-Nathan said.

Recipients of the Edith Rathbun Award for Excellence in Outreach and Engagement are:

Dr. Neil Reid, associate professor of geography and planning and director of the Urban Affairs Center. Reid, who joined the University in 1991, is known for his community-based research, particularly with the northwest Ohio greenhouse industry.

The Maumee Valley Growers Association was created through organizing the growers and non-grower stakeholders, and identifying challenges and solutions in the industry. The association has helped growers enhance their market presence, as well as helping with other goals of energy savings, enhanced interaction and increased optimism about the industry's future.

"Dr. Reid's work with the northwest Ohio greenhouse industry has strengthened the industry's economic competitiveness,"

one nominator wrote. Another noted, "In addition to the Maumee Valley Growers, the greenhouse project has also resulted in the creation of statewide energy purchasing cooperative that has reduced grower expenditures and improved the overall competitiveness of the industry. Dr. Reid's efforts with the greenhouse growers demonstrate his sustained commitment to community-based research and ability to create high-functioning and mutually beneficial relationships with community partners."

Last year, Reid received an Outstanding Researcher Award for scholarship aspects of the same work.

"This is a nice example of cross-pollination of scholarship and academic research while making it practical in the community," he said. "Academic research can have practical applications."

Dr. Mark Vonderembse, chair of the Finance Department and director of the PhD Program in the College of Business Administration. Vonderembse, who was an instructor at UT from 1973 to 1975 and returned after receiving his doctorate in 1977, has developed successful programs and projects related to transportation, logistics and supply chain management and in the process worked with area businesses and the community.

He was the first director of the Intermodal Transportation Institute when it was created by former UT President Dan Johnson and was instrumental in bringing together public and private organizations.

Vonderembse expertly shared the role the University could play to support economic development through research, training, education, and planning and technical assistance.

Vonderembse also took leadership roles in securing a U.S. Department of Transportation University Transportation Centers grant and starting a supply chain management institute.

An example of his ability to conduct research and solve problems is his work to create the National Forging Tooling Database, which links the needs of the U.S. Department of Defense for spare parts to the tooling and capabilities of forging companies who make more than 280,000 critical parts. This project identified more than \$5 billion to make these parts, thereby avoiding recreating this tooling.

One nominator wrote, "He has always worked tirelessly to reach out and engage our community. More importantly, he has consistently developed successful solutions to important community issues through his research, grant work and overall leadership in the community."

"I was certainly pleasantly surprised that I had been nominated and selected," Vonderembse said. "There are a lot of people who participated in these projects who deserve credit."

First outpatient clinic converts to electronic records

By Meghan Cunningham

The University of Toledo Medical Center's first outpatient center has begun using electronic medical records.

The South Toledo Internists at the Glendale Medical Center went live Tuesday with the electronic system, Horizon Ambulatory Care by McKesson, that aims to provide more efficient and timely care for patients.

"I think it went remarkably well, and the clinical staff worked their tails off to make it work," said Dr. Bryan Hinch, ambulatory medical information officer. "They all stepped up to the plate and knocked it out of the park."

It is the first conversion of the hospital's more than 30 ambulatory, or outpatient, clinics that will go electronic as part of the University's overall digital campus project.

An emergency medical record is much more than taking a piece of paper

and scanning it to create an electronic record, explained Hinch, who also is an assistant professor of internal medicine and pediatrics, and associate director of the internal medicine residency program.

The electronic system uses templates to quickly and accurately input and update patient information, and it keeps all of a patient's records in one place, no matter how many different specialists treat him or her, for a comprehensive record of treatments and prescriptions, Hinch said.

The system includes several helpful components when it comes to prescriptions because the system not only automatically updates the medication list when prescriptions are ordered, but checks for allergies and interactions as well as insurance and Medicaid or Medicare coverage for the medication. There are similar checks for labs and other procedures, Hinch said.

"An emergency medical record gives patients higher quality, more efficient and more timely care," Hinch said. "And it allows for more timely and more accurate information to be available at the point of decision making for the physicians."

The Horizon Ambulatory Care system also communicates with the existing Picture Archiving and Communications System that gives physicians access to patient records and images, such as X-rays and CT or MRI scans.

Electronic medical records also allow for faster lab results than the current system that requires faxing results, sorting the mounds of paperwork, and then getting them in the hands of physicians, Hinch said.

More clinics are scheduled to convert from paper to electronic systems soon.

Look for more updates on the Digital Campus project on myUT and UT Update.

Layoffs

continued from p. 1

"These layoffs are due to budgetary constraints and are in no way a reflection on the work ethic of these men and women who deserve our heartfelt thanks for their commitment to The University of Toledo. All will receive job search and placement assistance from the University to help make this difficult transition as painless as possible," he wrote.

Though layoffs are always hard, Jacobs wrote the new budget must provide funding for key areas the University intends to focus on as areas of excellence.

"UT intends to invest more than \$12 million in strategic hiring and faculty research startup commitments. Additional dollars will go toward funding UT Centers of Excellence, toward research faculty across all campuses, and toward ensuring continued enrollment growth," he wrote.

In addition to honoring all contractual obligations, UT's recommended budget includes modest salary increases for non-union clinical staff and non-union academic staff making less than \$80,000 a year. Jacobs pointed out that many of these higher paid employees received no increase last year.

"In fiscal year 2012, nearly \$20 million may disappear from UT's budget as federal stimulus dollars and state 'rainy day' funds expire," he wrote. "By beginning preparation more than a year in advance and by committing resources now to academic, research and clinical priorities, The University of Toledo will have additional power to shape its future rather than seeing its future dictated by external events."

"The coming year will not be easy. But by preparing for those challenges today, I believe in the years to come we'll be amazed at what we've been able to accomplish together."

Students win

continued from p. 1

we've been able to build a program that allows students to write, shoot, produce and direct a newscast that can compete with institutions that have had broadcast journalism programs for decades."

Levering said he was shocked when UT:10 News was called as first place at the gala.

"Ashley and I both just jumped out of our chairs. It was all really, really surreal," he said. "There were hundreds and hundreds of people and celebrities, and because we're a brand new program, we didn't expect to win. It was a shock."

Roth said the award will do wonders for the reputation of broadcast journalism at UT.

"We're the best college newscast in the country," she said. "This is a huge deal."

She attributes a lot of the success to the early and often hands-on experience the UT program offers.

"We start getting experience from day one," she said. "We can hold the camera and create stories starting our freshman year. At some of these bigger, older programs, you can't even touch a camera until you're junior."

The production won for its Oct. 13, 2009, episode. Watch this and all UT:10 News broadcasts at youtube.com/ut10news.

UT:10 News also placed first in the Society of Professional Journalists' Region Four Mark of Excellence Awards for Best All-Around Television Newscast. The UT entry now will compete for a national Mark of Excellence Award in Las Vegas later this year.

Layng said she's glad the students are getting such great recognition.

"I'm incredibly proud of them," she said. "Putting on a TV newscast is a lot of work, and they do an excellent job at it. They deserve it."

In memoriam

Dr. Rao V. Dukkipati, Mechanicsburg, Pa., who was a visiting associate professor of mechanical, industrial and manufacturing engineering in 1997, died Feb. 11 at age 65.

Phyllis A. Mothershed, Toledo, who worked at MCO 30 years, died April 10 at age 66. She was a clerical specialist in the Intensive Cardiac Care Unit from 1967 until her retirement in 1997.

UT employees: Schedule graduate photos

UT faculty and staff or members of their families who will graduate from the University in May can contact the University Communications Office if they wish to have a photo taken and published in UT News.

Call Laurie Flowers at 419.530.2002 to schedule an appointment by Friday, May 7. Photos will appear in an upcoming issue of the paper.

UT partners in landmark cardiac study, seeks patients

By Kim Harvey

The University of Toledo is taking part in a National Institutes of Health-sponsored study to determine the most effective treatment for a debilitating heart condition called atrial fibrillation, more commonly referred to as a-fib.

The international study, called the Catheter Ablation Versus Anti-Arrhythmic Drug Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation (CABANA) trial, will determine whether medication or a minimally invasive procedure called catheter ablation is more effective in treating a-fib. It is the first large-scale study of its kind, encompassing more than 3,000 patients.

"Atrial fibrillation is the most common cause of fast heart rate with devastating complications, such as stroke," said

Dr. Yousuf Kanjwal, director of Cardiac Electrophysiology Laboratories and director of the Center for Atrial Fibrillation at UT's Heart and Vascular Center. Kanjwal also is the principal investigator of the trial.

More than two million people in the United States suffer from atrial fibrillation, an irregular rhythm that causes the heart to beat rapidly. Because the heart doesn't function properly, the condition can result in shortness of breath, heart palpitations, fatigue, heart failure and can lead to stroke.

A-fib is most prevalent in the elderly, which has a stroke rate five times higher than younger populations. High blood pressure is one of the most important causes of atrial fibrillation.

"The irregular heart rhythm starts with focal beats coming from the left upper chambers," Kanjwal said. "The procedure involves placing small wires in that chamber and destroying those abnormal foci or beats that cause atrial fibrillation. This is usually a painless procedure and is done under conscious sedation."

According to Kanjwal, about 200 ablations for atrial fibrillation have been performed at UT since 2005, with good results. The success rate is 70 percent to 80 percent for first ablations; occasionally, patients may need second ablations to cure the problem.

UT is one of 140 medical centers worldwide and one of 60 in the United States to participate in the CABANA study, which is funded by \$48 million in grants

from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, St. Jude Medical Center and Biosense Webster.

Over a three-year period, half of the study participants will receive medication therapy, with the other half undergoing ablation procedures. Results will be released in 2016.

Patients with diagnosed atrial fibrillation who meet certain criteria are eligible for the study. For more information, contact UT's Heart and Vascular Center at 419.383.3853 or e-mail the CABANA study coordinator at christina.eisenhauer@utoledo.edu.

Fair to highlight simulation opportunities for health-care education

By Meghan Cunningham

The future of health-care education will be on display Thursday when The University of Toledo hosts a Simulation Fair.

The event, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. April 22 in Collier Building Room 0202 on Health Science Campus, will celebrate the University's new Interprofessional Immersive Simulation Center and the latest in simulation technology to train tomorrow's health-care professionals.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. for the center's newly dedicated 12,000-square-foot space in the Collier Building, and demonstrations of state-of-the-art simulation models will be at 12:15 p.m. and 4:15 p.m.

"The Interprofessional Immersive Simulation Center is going to be an innovative place where we think differently about teaching and learning with the ultimate goal to better patient care," said Dr. Jeffrey P. Gold, Health Science Campus provost, executive vice president for health affairs and dean of the College of Medicine. "We are creating a safe place for students to learn and practice without the fear of harming patients. This technology allows for more hands-on and detailed training that can only lead to better health care."

While using simulation is not uncommon in health-care education, it is mostly used in specific areas such as surgery or internal medicine. UT's interdisciplinary efforts with students studying all aspects of patient care working together with this technology is what

sets it apart, said Dr. Pamela Boyers, senior adviser to the provost for the advancement of interprofessional education and executive director of the Center for Clinical Simulation.

"We want them working and learning together, the nurse, doctor, pharmacist and others, so they don't come together for the first time at the bed of a real patient," she said. "The interprofessional experiences in this center will make them more comfortable working as a team to treat patients the best way possible, which will be valuable when they move on and do so in hospitals and other settings."

Practicing health-care professionals also will be able to use the center to hone their skills, Boyers said.

The new space for the Interprofessional Immersive Simulation Center will expand the collaborative and interdisciplinary education and research already under way, Boyers said. Ultimately, the goal is to have a dedicated space twice this size that will include the more extensive immersion simulation options available and also allow additional opportunities for UT to partner with industry.

The University already has begun growing its simulation technology, and three new patient simulators will be welcomed to campus at the Simulation Fair. These patient simulators breathe, cry, speak, react to drugs and more so students can learn and practice both procedures and communication skills.

Informational forum to help area businesses work on UT projects

By Meghan Cunningham

Local businesses interested in working on projects with The University of Toledo are invited to an informational forum to help navigate the process.

The "Building Connections: Facilities, Construction and Purchasing Informational Forum" will be held Thursday, April 22, from 1:30 to 4 p.m. in the Scott Park Campus of Energy and Innovation Auditorium.

The program will include information on the procedures for the UT bid process, upcoming state bid opportunities, new small business loan programs and more.

"The University of Toledo is committed to working with local firms and particularly reaching out to minority-owned firms," said Lawrence J. Burns, UT vice president for external affairs and interim vice president for equity and diversity. "This event will hopefully increase that participation and our relationship with community businesses."

Participants can meet UT purchasing and construction officials and will have the opportunity to be added to the Ohio Department of Administrative Services and the UT outreach database systems.

"Since the merger, the University has invested more than \$250 million in construction and renovation projects in which local firms have played a key role,"

said Chuck Lehnert, UT vice president for facilities and construction. "As we continue to grow and expand, we want area businesses to have the opportunity to help us do so and expand with us."

Procedures of the purchasing and construction bid processes will be explained at the event in an effort to increase bids from local and minority firms.

"It is a complicated process, but we will show businesses how to navigate it and apply to work on University projects," said Jennifer Pastorek, UT director of purchasing services.

Other forum participants will include Lorie Sarnes, UT compliance officer; Patrice Davis, outreach coordinator with the Ohio Department of Administrative Services' Equal Opportunity Division; and Jessica Ford, the northwest Ohio regional community affairs director for the Ohio Treasurer of State.

"The University is committed to this community, and we understand that when area businesses succeed and the community thrives, so does UT," Burns said. "We are all in this together and need to work together."

The forum, sponsored by the UT Office of Equity and Diversity, will be followed by a tour of the UT Minority Business Incubator.

Planting seeds of change: Outdoor Classroom Garden grows interdisciplinary collaborations

By Dr. Ashley Pryor

In early spring of last year, a coalition of students, faculty, staff and administrators worked together to create a space for the ultimate hands-on education by planning, planting and maintaining the UT Outdoor Classroom Garden.

The garden began as an outgrowth of interdisciplinary programming sponsored by the Department of Women's and Gender Studies and the Department of Environmental Sciences on "Women and Sustainable Agriculture." The community discussion groups, presentations and films in this series focused on initiating conversations about what local, sustainable, organic farming methods might contribute to solving some of the complex challenges inherent in our modern industrial food system and the overall "disconnect" of many of the world's people from the source of their sustenance.

In spring 2009, the garden found financial backing with a generous grant from the Women & Philanthropy group at The University of Toledo. While an interest in women and local food systems and food security remains a focal point of the garden, the project blossomed and grew to include faculty from the departments of Art and English, the Department of Public Health and Homeland Security, the College of Nursing, the College of Engineering, the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women, and the student group, the Society for Environmental Education. Throughout the process, dedicated staff from the Grounds Department have lent their expertise, time and labor to the garden, as have a core of graduate and undergraduate students from the Department of Environmental Sciences and the Department of Women's and Gender Studies. That such a diverse group of people with such varying interests and skills would volunteer their time and energy to this garden demonstrates the growing recognition of how gardens and the simple acts of planting seeds, nurturing the growth of plants, and enjoying the fruits of their harvest can have a profound impact on human health and well-being.

Here are a few of the ways the garden has already been used to enhance our classes and foster a sense of community, while contributing to the mission of improving the human condition:

- Improving students' access to locally grown, nutritious and organic food on campus. Dr. Debra Boardley of the Department of Public Health and Homeland Security linked her graduate seminar on nutrition with the Outdoor Classroom

Garden. Her students are working on creating a student chapter of Slow Foods, a group dedicated to promoting knowledge of "good, clean and fair food" on the UT campus. In the future, we hope the chapter will use the garden to demonstrate varieties of nutritionally rich foods that students can grow in small, confined spaces like apartment balconies and containers, and that involve minimal startup costs.

- Beautifying campus with public art that engages the natural world. Along with the beauty that flowers like salvia, nasturtium and cosmos lend to the site, Associate Professor Barbara Miner used her course, *Installation: The Art of Place*, as an opportunity to create public art in the form of ephemeral, sculptural installations that use natural materials to further enhance awareness of the beauty and complexity of environmental processes. Students spent several classes in the garden studying the movement of insects, the structure of seed pods and flower blossoms, and the play of wind in the surrounding trees, using these observations to draw designs for a sculptural installation using materials that can be recycled or that biodegrade quickly. One of these designs was selected for construction and was on display last fall.

- Engineering sustainable solutions for the future. Assistant Professor Defne Apul of the Civil Engineering Department engaged her graduate seminar to help solve a critical issue for the garden: How do we design a sustainable watering system? Dr. Apul's class is working on a design that will help us minimize our reliance on city water drawn from a hydrant. If successful, this design could be used in other gardens — particularly urban gardens — facing similar watering challenges.

- Enhancing students' writing and Web design and project management skills. Senior Lecturer Mike Piotrowski from the Department of English used the garden as a focal point in his *Technical Writing* course. Students conducted a series of interviews with faculty and staff who have been involved in the garden project to write a vision statement and a press kit to further promote the garden among faculty, staff and students. In addition to their work, one of our students, in fulfillment of her praxis



Photo by Daniel Miller

FLOWER POWER: Patty Armenio, a graduate student in environmental sciences, planted marigolds in the UT Outdoor Classroom Garden last year.

requirement for the Department of Women's and Gender Studies, used her artistic talents and knowledge of gardening to create a Web site, www.utoledo.edu/as/garden, to help promote our contributions toward creating a more sustainable future at UT.

- Fostering new opportunities for multicultural dialogue through a recovery and celebration of traditional foodways. As blockbuster films like "Babette's Feast" and "Like Water for Chocolate" remind us, food is connected to our sense of family, ancestral land, and with our national, ethnic and cultural identities. For some of us, it is intimately tied to our experiences of poverty, of not having access to enough food, and for others to having access to too much of it. By creating spaces where different groups can highlight herbs, vegetables and flowers that are important to their cultures, the UT Outdoor Classroom Garden creates a space for sharing stories, memories and recipes. The new Adopt A Plot Program will enable student groups to grow, harvest and distribute vegetables, herbs and flowers that are important to traditional foodways but may be unavailable in a neighborhood grocery. Likewise, student groups have access to heirloom

seeds — ancient Cherokee black bean and tomato from North America, Tula Tomato from Russia, Armenian cucumber and Czech garlic.

The garden has renewed a sense of community and opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration. I have discussed a few of the ways that the UT Outdoor Classroom Garden is transforming the way we teach. There are many other opportunities for innovative teaching in a garden classroom, such as showing how gardens might promote stress reduction and mindfulness or demonstrate the importance of plants in pharmaceuticals, creating havens for honey bees and opportunities for researchers to discover why their colonies are under collapse, to name just a few. The UT Outdoor Classroom Garden is literally planting the seeds of change toward a more sustainable future.

The UT Outdoor Classroom Garden is open to all. If you are interested in volunteering, join our Facebook page or visit www.utoledo.edu/as/garden.

Pryor is an associate professor in the Department of Women's and Gender Studies.

UT's EarthFest set for April 21

By Vicki L. Kroll

There'll be a sculpture contest featuring recycled materials, music and more at the 11th annual EarthFest Wednesday, April 21, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on The University of Toledo's Centennial Mall.

"Earth Day is when everyone in the world can get together and celebrate Mother Earth and all that she has given us," said Becca Brent, a UT junior and officer of the Society for Environmental Education. "We host EarthFest in hopes that it will get people to appreciate things Mother Nature has given us. It's just a day to relax, be with friends, and show your love of the great outdoors."

"Celebrating EarthFest is a unique opportunity to come together and give thanks to our planet," said Lance Olsen, a UT junior and co-president of the Society for Environmental Education. "It also allows us a chance to educate the community on sustainable and eco-conscience solutions that improve our way of life."

Representatives from local organizations that focus on environmental issues will be on hand all day to speak about movements going on in the Toledo area, Olsen added. These organizations will include the UT River Commission, Toledo Grows, Environmental Justice Quilt and UT Anti-War.

Other ongoing events will be seedling transplanting for the UT Outdoor Classroom Garden, viewing of entries in the recycle/reuse materials sculpture contest, and music.

Phoenix Earth Food Co-op will provide free food at noon.

Also taking place will be:

- Noon — Dr. Stacy Philpott, UT assistant professor of environmental sciences, will talk about the UT Outdoor Garden Classroom.
- 12:30 p.m. — Nachy Kanfer, associate regional representative of the Sierra Club, will discuss the Beyond Coal Campaign in Ohio.
- 1 p.m. — Dr. Patrick Lawrence, UT associate professor of geography and planning and chair of the President's Commission on the River, will talk about the commission's beautification efforts along the Ottawa River on Main Campus.
- 1:30 p.m. — Tom Trimble, associate director of the Student Union, will address recycling efforts in the Student Union as well as UT's recent participation in the Recyclemania Tournament.
- 2 p.m. — The winner of the recycle/reuse materials sculpture contest will be announced.

In the event of rain, the program will be moved to the Student Union South Lounge.

EarthFest is sponsored by the UT Society for Environmental Education, Student Government and the UT Environmental Sciences Department. In addition, partial funding comes from student fees.

For more information on the free, public event, contact Olsen at lance.olsen@rockets.utoledo.edu.

UT chapter of Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi to initiate new members

The University of Toledo chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi will hold its initiation ceremony for new members Sunday, April 25, at 1 p.m. in Student Union Rooms 2582 and 2584.

More than 140 undergraduate and graduate students and two UT faculty members will be inducted into the honor society this year.

Dr. Bernard Bopp, UT professor of physics and astronomy, will give the keynote address.

In addition to inducting new members, the society will honor three scholarship winners and the chapter's nominee for the national Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship Award.

The chapter is awarding three \$1,200 undergraduate scholarships this year. The winners were selected based upon academic performance, an essay and letters of recommendation from faculty members. The winners of the scholarships are Emily Fray, Steven Lombardo and Joshua Mooney.

Fray is a junior majoring in art with a concentration in pre-veterinary medicine. A successful artist, her work has been displayed in several juried shows, and she operates her own business to sell her creations. Her career goal is to enter the field of biomedical visualization. In addition to her artwork, Fray trains and shows horses. Recently, she received the Raphael Award for Excellence in Drawing at the UT Department of Art's student exhibition for her life-sized drawings of horses.

Lombardo is a junior majoring in pharmacology-toxicology in the College of Pharmacy. He has been involved in many

research projects as an undergraduate, and received several research grants to support his work. The past two summers, he has worked as a research assistant for Dr. Katherine Wall in the UT College of Pharmacy, studying the development of antibodies against human cancer cells.

Mooney is a junior majoring in English. Last summer he was an undergraduate researcher under the direction of Dr. Thomas Barden, director of UT's Honors Program, and conducted research on author John Steinbeck's lifelong fascination with King Arthur. His research won the Louis Owens Award for the best Steinbeck research by a student from the John Steinbeck Center. The award, usually given to a PhD graduate student, will be published in an upcoming issue of the Steinbeck Review.

The UT chapter of Phi Kappa Phi also will honor its nominee for the national Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship Award, Anthony J. Bradfield.

In addition to the undergraduate and graduate students who will be inducted into the honor society, two faculty members will be inducted: Charlene Gilbert, director of the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women and professor of women's and gender studies and theatre and film, and Dr. Dorothea Sawicki, professor of medical microbiology and immunology in the College of Medicine.

Phi Kappa Phi also will honor Mary Bellg, professor emeritus at UT's former Community and Technical College and a past president of the UT honor society, who passed away in September 2009.

For more information, contact Dr. Mary Powers at 419.530.1954.

UTNEWS

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Trustees discuss transdisciplinary schools after Arizona State visit

By Meghan Cunningham

Dr. Rosemary Haggett, Main Campus provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, last week shared her impressions of Arizona State's "A New American University" with members of the Board of Trustees Academic and Student Affairs Committee, saying the institution could provide a constructive model for transformative change at The University of Toledo.

Haggett and a group of UT faculty and staff recently visited the campus to learn how Arizona State moved from the traditional department structure to transdisciplinary schools and faculties.

"Their reasons for making these changes are similar to what we are looking for to effect positive change here at The University of Toledo," Haggett said. "It's worked for them very well."

Arizona State has seen enrollment and diversity of students grow, quality faculty

members have flocked to the institution, rankings have improved, and research funding has increased.

Arizona State's format produces "creative disorder," Haggett said, and might not be exactly what UT is looking for, but the message of organization based on outcomes and bold change is something the University could embrace.

Arizona State has exchanged traditional departments for schools and created collaborative faculties that identify a challenge and bring people together to work on solutions both for the community and the globe.

President Lloyd Jacobs said the Arizona State experiment is designed to break down barriers between disciplines and that is what should be the focus when UT looks to it as an example. Haggett and the UT representatives were directed by the board to visit other universities engaged with similar

cross-disciplinary activity and report back to help UT identify an approach consistent with University goals, priorities and values.

Also at the committee meeting, trustees forwarded to the full board for consideration:

- An honorary degree for Dr. Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, chief executive officer of the Abu Dhabi Future Energy Co., in recognition of his achievements in the support and promotion of renewable energy in the United Arab Emirates and globally.
- Promotions and tenure for a total of 24 faculty members on Main Campus, 13 of whom were approved for tenure. There are still several pending. Jacobs commented that his interviews of the faculty members up for tenure were a pleasure, and the process was good for the institution. "These are astonishingly accomplished, committed, intelligent people," Jacobs said.
- The provosts' recommendations for five new Distinguished University Professors.

- A new College of Adult and Lifelong Learning that would begin in the fall to better address the needs of adult learners, which is a growing segment of college students.

The committee also heard an update from Dr. Jeffrey P. Gold, Health Science Campus provost, executive vice president for health affairs and dean of the College of Medicine, on graduate medical education.

And trustees and administrators discussed, but took no action on, the idea of a smoke-free campus, which has been an ongoing dialogue on campus with a student debate, petition drive and campus-wide vote on the issue. The current policy on Main Campus prohibits tobacco use indoors and restricts it outdoors to 30 feet from buildings. Several trustees expressed skepticism that a policy change on Main Campus was needed. The Health Science Campus is tobacco-free.

Census return rate for students exceeds 98 percent

On-campus residents recently were asked to complete a U.S. census form, and more than 98 percent of them returned the form to census workers earlier this month.

According to Elaine Turner, associate director for administrative operations for the Office of Residence Life, 3,587 of the 3,646 students living on campus returned their completed census forms by April 1, the national deadline for returning the document.

"We had a 98.38 percent return rate," Turner said. "This is phenomenal. We're really pleased with the results. We worked hard at getting the word out, and only 59 students living on campus didn't complete and return their form."

Dr. Shanda Gore, assistant vice president for equity and diversity and U.S. census liaison for UT, said the fantastic return rate was due to the hard work by residence hall staff.

"We owe much of the success of our census efforts to Elaine Turner and her staff in the Office of Residence Life," Gore said. "They were out on the front lines, interacting with students every day, telling them of the immense importance

the census will have on their life and the University's life for years to come."

Gore added that because this year's census will not include a margin of error in its results, a high return rate was more important than ever.

"We needed to make sure every student was counted and every voice was heard," she said. "We've come closer to doing that than we ever have before."

The U.S. census is conducted every 10 years and is designed to produce an accurate count and location breakdown of the U.S. population. The data collected by census enumerators is used to apportion seats in the U.S. House of Representatives; determine how many Electoral College votes a state receives; and help federal and state governments and other organizations award research and grant funds.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the data is used to determine where to send upwards of \$400 billion in federal funding for schools, roads, hospitals and job training centers.

STELLAR SIGHTINGS 2010

Friday April 23 at Dusk.

Join us as we celebrate our student's accomplishments of 2009-2010!

*Bring a t-shirt or a tote bag or anything to screenprint on.