

Former Evansville coach to lead women's basketball program

By Paul Helgren

The University of Toledo has hired former Evansville head coach Tricia Cullop as its head women's basketball coach. She replaces Mark Ehlen, who resigned after 13 years as the Rockets' leader.

Cullop built Evansville into one of the best programs in the Missouri Valley Conference in her eight years as head coach. She guided her teams to a 73-48 record over the past four seasons, including 45-27 in league action. This past season the Purple Aces were 21-8, 13-5 in the Missouri Valley, en route to a share of the school's first regular-season MVC title and a berth in the WNIT. For her achievements, Cullop was named the Missouri Valley Coach of the Year.

"Tricia is a proven winner at the Division I level. She has built the University of Evansville into a consistent title contender," UT Athletic Director Mike O'Brien said. "Her teams have excelled on the court, in the classroom and in the community. She is a great choice to lead our women's basketball team back among the elite programs in



Photo by Daniel Miller

MEETING THE PRESS: Tricia Cullop took a few questions from reporters and UT fans during a press conference Friday when she was announced as the new women's basketball coach.

the Mid-American Conference."

"I'm ecstatic about the opportunity to be the head coach at The University of Toledo," Cullop said. "I'm excited to have a chance to coach in what will be an unbelievable basketball arena.

"I would like to add that one of the most attractive things about the UT women's basketball program is its extremely loyal fan base. As we improve the program, I expect more fans will come out and support us and make the new Savage Hall a fantastic home-court advantage."

Cullop, who was a four-year letter winner as a player at Purdue, took over the head coaching position at Evansville in 2000 following stints as an assistant coach at Radford, Long Beach State and Xavier. After an initial rebuilding phase, Cullop steadily guided the program into a consistent winner. Since the 2004-05 season, the Purple Aces have had records of 17-11, 16-13, 19-12 and 21-12. Cullop's 123 wins

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UT successfully completes NCAA athletics recertification process, set for 10 years

By Paul Helgren

The University of Toledo has been formally certified without conditions following the successful review of an extensive, university-wide self-study, according to the NCAA Division I Committee on Athletics Certification.

The purpose of athletics certification is to ensure integrity in the institution's athletics program and to assist institutions in improving their athletics departments. NCAA legislation mandating athletics certification was adopted in 1993. The certification process, which involves a self-study led by an institution's president or chancellor, includes a review of these primary components: governance and commitment to rules compliance; academic integrity; equity; and student-athlete well-being.

"I'm delighted our Athletics Department has earned full certification from the NCAA," UT President Lloyd Jacobs said. "Intercollegiate athletics have been an enduring part of The University of Toledo,

and this certification is great news for the University community and our alumni. The certification, which was awarded without any conditions or qualifications, reaffirms that the Athletic Department has in place outstanding programs and policies that benefit and support our student-athletes both on the playing field and in the classroom as well. I want to thank the staff and faculty members who worked extremely hard during the campus-wide self-study process and last fall's site visit. It was truly a team effort."

"I am extremely pleased that our athletics program has been certified by the NCAA," said UT Athletic Director Mike O'Brien. "The result of our successful self-study verified that UT athletics meets or exceeds all applicable NCAA standards for Division I athletics. While the certification review process was certainly intensive and comprehensive, it provided a wonderful opportunity to review our principal operating

procedures and ensure the integrity of our mission within the broader framework of the University."

All 326 active Division I members participate in the certification process. The Division I Committee on Athletics Certification preliminarily reviews an institution's certification materials and provides a list of issues identified during the evaluation. The university then hosts a visit by peer reviewers who file a report regarding the institution's resolution of those issues before a final certification decision is rendered. An institution's failure to satisfactorily respond to the committee may negatively impact certification status. UT completed its first self-study and was fully certified in 1999. The University submitted a five-year interim status report in 2003, as well.

A four-member peer-review team selected by the NCAA Division I Committee on Athletics Certification visited UT Sept.

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CWA Local 4319 voting April 21

Communications Workers of America (CWA) Local 4319 members will vote on the tentative agreement for a new three-year contract Monday, April 21.

Voting will take place from 6 a.m. to noon in Student Union Room 2579 on Main Campus and from 1 to 5 p.m. in the Scott Park VIP Room.

For results on the CWA vote and the UT Police Patrolman's Association's vote on its proposed contract, go to myut.utoledo.edu.

NCAA recertification

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23-25 to evaluate the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics as part of a self-study report submitted by the University to the NCAA last May.

Peer-review team members included Dr. James F. Cofer, president of the University of Louisiana at Monroe, who was chair; Dr. Dennis Wilson, an Auburn University professor; Etienne Thomas, assistant athletic director for compliance at San Jose State University in California; and Charlene Kemper, a National Collegiate Athletic Association liaison.

Last May, UT submitted a 131-page self-study report that covered academic integrity, governance and commitment to rules compliance, and commitment to equity and student-athlete well-being. Each area was studied by a committee using standards, called operating principles, which were adopted by the NCAA as a way to measure all Division I members.

During their visit, team members interviewed the UT president, Athletics Department administrators and coaches, faculty members, student-athletes, and members of the Athletics Committee, Board of Trustees and NCAA Self-Study Steering Committee.

Lawrence J. Burns, vice president for enrollment services, marketing and communications, was appointed by Jacobs to chair the University's NCAA Self-Study Steering Committee in 2006.

The steering committee's three subcommittees and their chairs were: governance and commitment to rules compliance, Jane Roman, Toledo attorney, UT alumna, former student-athlete in women's basketball and member of the Varsity 'T' Hall of

Fame; academic integrity, Dr. Nagi Nagathan, dean and professor of the College of Engineering; and equity and student-athlete welfare, Dr. Kaye Patten Wallace, vice president for student affairs.

Jacobs, O'Brien, Burns and the subcommittee chairs were members of the steering committee. Other steering committee members were Kelly E. Andrews, associate athletic director and senior woman administrator; Alfred A. Baker, former member of the UT Board of Trustees, UT alumnus, former student-athlete in football and a member of the Varsity 'T' Hall of Fame; Dr. Kristopher Brickman, associate professor of surgery and medical director of the UT Medical Center Emergency Department; Tyler Hotchkiss, law student; James Klein, professor of law and former NCAA faculty athletics representative; Kevin Kucera, associate vice president for enrollment services; Dr. William E. McMillen, vice president for government relations and chief of staff; O'Brien; Dan Saevig, associate vice president for alumni relations; Dr. Alice Skeens, associate professor of psychology and current faculty athletics representative; and Kim Kester, a member of the women's golf team and president of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

"We had a diverse, committed committee consisting of student-athletes, senior administrators, faculty members and alumni," Burns said. "I would like to sincerely thank them for all of their efforts, in particular, Jim Winkler."

Winkler, UT communication manager, was chief report writer/editor of the self-study report.

First candidate for College of Graduate Studies dean position to visit Monday

By Kim Harvey

The first of four candidates for the position of dean of the College of Graduate Studies will visit UT Monday, April 21.

Dr. Deba Dutta, professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Michigan and scholar-in-residence at the National Academy of Engineering Center for the Scholarship of Engineering Education, will visit Main and Health Science campuses.

At 11:30 a.m., Dutta will host an open forum in Student Union Room 2591 on Main Campus. All faculty, staff and students are invited to attend.

Information about the candidates is available at www.eng.utoledo.edu/utcogs. Please note that the URL for the Web site is

case-sensitive.

Members of the graduate faculty also are invited to attend a 5 p.m. reception for Dutta in the Driscoll Alumni Center Schmadel Room on Main Campus.

Other candidates slated for interviews are:

- Dr. Daniel De Kee, Tulane University, Wednesday, April 23;
- Dr. Mariana Morris, Wright State University, Thursday, May 1; and
- Dr. Constantine Theodosiou, The University of Toledo, Friday, May 2.

Additional information regarding these visits will be forthcoming.



Photo by Jim Winkler

EXPANDING HORIZONS: Professor Wieslawa Lysiak-Szydłowska, right, chair of the Department of Clinical Nutrition at the Medical University of Gdansk, Poland, after the University signed a three-year cooperative educational and research agreement with the Polish university. The agreement calls for the two universities to exchange lecturers, researchers, and educational and scientific papers; work together to organize lectures, seminars and scientific meetings; promote student exchanges; and develop projects of common interest. Looking on is Dr. Jerzy Jankun, professor of urology, who is a native of Poland and who was host for Lysiak-Szydłowska during her visit to Toledo.

Women's basketball

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rank her second all-time at Evansville, just one win behind former coach Bill Barnett. In her eight seasons at the helm, her teams finished in the top half of the Missouri Valley six times, and defeated non-conference opponents Kentucky, Louisville, Cincinnati and Temple.

This past season, Cullop's team shook off a slow start to win 10 straight conference games and clinch a share of the MVC regular-season title. Evansville lost in the semifinals of the MVC Tournament but advanced to the WNIT by virtue of its regular-season title. In their first-round WNIT contest, the Purple Aces overcame a 19-point second half deficit to knock off Ohio Valley Conference champion Southeast Missouri State, 60-58, the first post-season victory in UE women's basketball history. Evansville's post-season ride ended in the second round of the WNIT, as Kansas shot down the Purple Aces, 82-60.

Cullop's teams caught the attention of local women's basketball fans as Evansville set season attendance marks in each of her final six seasons at the helm, culminating with an average of more than 1,500 fans per game in 2007-08, more than double the average when she first assumed the head coaching job in 2000-01. The NCAA recognized Evansville's attendance growth with a Pack the House Award this season.

Her teams shone in the classroom, as well. The women's basketball team was one

of Evansville's top academic squads over the last seven years. The team has achieved a cumulative team grade point average over 3.15 the last eight years and posted a 3.31 team GPA in 2006-07 school year.

The native of Bicknell, Ind., and her team also were very active in the Evansville community; they helped with such projects as Habitat for Humanity, the Race for the Cure and the American Heart Walk. She also started the Future Purple Aces Fast BREAK (Basketball Reinforcing Education to Area Kids) Program, which uses basketball to help grade school children apply the concepts of math to real-life situations.

She came to Evansville in April 2000 after four years as assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at Xavier University. While at Xavier, she helped the Musketeers to their best record in school history, 26-5 in 1999-2000, and the school's first-ever Atlantic 10 Tournament championship. Xavier captured two NCAA Tournament bids and one WNIT berth in her four years as an assistant coach.

All told, Cullop has been a part of seven NCAA Tournaments and two WNIT berths in her 18 years as a player and coach at the collegiate level.

As a player, Cullop was a four-year letter winner at Purdue, where she earned a bachelor of arts degree in communications in 1993.

Country music plus accounting equals rewarding class project

By Kim Harvey

When Kathleen Fitzpatrick proposed a special project to students in her accounting class, some were skeptical.

Most of the students had no experience in planning fundraisers. Many had never met a child whose life-threatening illness qualified her as a recipient of a “wish” from the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Northwest Ohio.

“My first thought was, ‘How does this relate to accounting?’” 22-year-old Stephanie Williamson recalled. “It was a big thing for our instructor to trust us with all of the responsibilities.”

Fitzpatrick, associate professor of business technology, needn’t have worried. When she introduced the idea of working with a charity, the concept was clear to her, even if the details were more fluid.

“It was a flash of inspiration on my part,” Fitzpatrick said, noting that the project

involved practical applications such as working in groups, managing people, delegating responsibility, budgeting and fundraising. “I wondered if there was a way I could incorporate service learning into my classroom, and I had many of these students in a previous class. I knew what they were capable of.”

She said several students had learned the concepts of accounting, but hadn’t applied them to real-life situations. “I remember them saying a few times during the planning, ‘Are we really going to do this?’”

From the onset of the class in January, Fitzpatrick made the students stakeholders in the project. Representatives of several charitable organizations were invited to speak with the students before one was selected. Groups were formed to organize several fundraisers to meet their goal, which was simple.

“All we knew was there was a girl named Jessica who wanted to go to the [Academy of] Country Music Awards,” said Miguel Flores, 20. “We wanted to help her get there any way we could.”

Fundraisers included ice cream, wristband and T-shirt sales, penny wars, loose change collections and recycling drives. One group persuaded a local business to devote a portion of a night’s profits to Jessica’s cause.



Photo by Daniel Miller

CHAPEAU MODEL: Jessica Newton showed off the UT hat she received when visiting the accounting class that raised funds to help send her to the Academy of Country Music Awards next year.

The last of the fundraisers wrap up within the next few weeks, but, on April 8, the students were gratified to meet the person whose wish inspired them. Seventeen-year-old Jessica Newton and her mother, Josephine, met the students, accepted gifts and thanked the class.

“This is a situation when I think we underestimate where our young adults’ hearts lie,” Josephine said. “It’s really nice that these students did all these things for someone they don’t even know.”

Jessica is a student at Clay High School in Oregon. Born with an underdeveloped heart muscle that has caused medical complications throughout her life, she didn’t speak much, but her wide smile relayed her gratitude.

Josephine told the class her daughter loves sports, especially Detroit-based teams, and country music. The funds raised by the class will help Make-A-Wish grant Jessica’s request to attend the Academy of Country Music Awards in May 2009.

According to its Web site, the Make-A-Wish Foundation is a national organization that grants the wishes of children with life-threatening conditions. Examples of fulfilled wishes include trips to Walt Disney World, meetings with golfer Annika Sorenstam and boxer Oscar de la Hoya, and shopping sprees at famous department stores.

UT to host heart walk at Glass Bowl, sets \$100,000 fundraising goal

By Kim Harvey

On Saturday, May 17, football cleats will not be allowed in The University of Toledo’s Glass Bowl. Walking shoes, however, are most welcome, as UT will host the American Heart Association’s annual Start! Heart Walk.

“The University has been the beneficiary of more than \$1.4 million in new research grants from the American Heart Association since 2006,” said Cynthia Reinsel, secretary, Division of General Pediatrics on the Health Science

Campus. “The Start! Heart Walk is one of the American Heart Association’s most important fundraisers. It’s our chance to support our patients and help fund the innovative treatment and diagnostic technologies we’re developing on campus.”

UT’s goal, she said, is to raise \$100,000 and have a large contingent of walkers at the Glass Bowl May 17. Not only is UT hosting the walk, but numerous health screenings during the event will be facilitated by faculty and staff members.

Walkers can track individual and team fundraising progress using the Start! Heart Walk Web page at www.heartwalk.kintera.org/toledooh. The page lists pledge amounts, number of pledges received, and names of those who have pledged for each team member.

Registration for the heart walk will

begin at 8:30 a.m., followed by a kids’ run at 9, opening ceremonies at 9:30 and the main event at 10. One-mile and three-mile routes will be offered.

“Aside from the fundraising aspect, this event also is about an emphasis on health and fun for families,” Reinsel said. “A kids’ zone with activities such as face painting,

obstacle courses and a football toss will start a half-hour after walkers step off. We’ll also have several health screens available, including blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol.”

In addition, participants may soothe striding muscles with free chair massages and regain energy with giveaways of sandwiches, muffins, fruit and water.

Other planned activities include a Super Star Breakfast for walkers who raise \$500 or more in pledges and a Survivor Brunch.

According to the American Heart Association, heart disease kills more people in the nation and in the Toledo area than any other disease — about 415,000 in Ohio each year. Stroke is listed as the third leading cause of death and significant disability. In fact, American Heart Association statistics indicate that someone suffers a stroke every 45 seconds.

Faculty, staff and family members interested in joining the UT team may contact Reinsel at 419.383.4403, or go to UT’s team page at the URL listed above.



American Heart Association
Learn and Live®



HEART WALK®



Photo by Jack Meade

VITAL LEARNING: John VanRylen, lab instructor for advanced patient simulation, showed local eighth-graders how a life-like patient simulator is used to train medical personnel. About 100 junior high school students recently visited the Health Science Campus to learn more about health-care and science careers during UT’s Eighth-Grade Enrichment Program.

University to recognize advisers, researchers, teachers



Funk



Pollauf



Geers



Longenecker



Stepien

By Vicki L. Kroll

UT outstanding advisers, researchers and teachers will be honored Friday, April 25, during the academic awards banquet.

Each 2008 award winner will receive a certificate and \$1,500.

Recipients of the Outstanding Adviser Awards are:

Dr. Jeanne Funk, Distinguished University Professor of Psychology. She began teaching as an adjunct faculty member in 1983, was named assistant professor in 1996, associate professor in 1998, professor in 2001, and became the first woman named a Distinguished University Professor in 2006. She has been advising students for 25 years.

“Dr. Funk is one of those advisers who takes a down-to-earth, common sense approach to life,” wrote one nominator. “She understands that there are some parts of life that may take priority over education — such as family — and she does not fault students for putting those parts first.” Another noted, “She has been a reliable and accurate source of information regarding my program. With her encouraging words, eagerness to listen and unconditional compassion, I have been able to reach the point I am at now in my program.”

“How do I establish trust in my advising relationships? I have found that caring and empathy are fundamental to the development of trust. Students know instinctively if faculty care about their well-being and success,” Funk said. “In addition to caring and empathy, advisers must be truly effective. Maintaining an effective trust-based advising relationship requires accessibility and accuracy.”

Kim Pollauf, interim director of student services in University College. She joined the staff of the former Community and Technical College as a project coordinator in 1991 and became an adviser in University College in 1992. Pollauf was named coordinator of the PASS Program in University College in 1999, transfer credit and graduation specialist in 2000, and interim director of student services last year.

“Kim Pollauf is the reason I stayed with UT to complete my degree,” wrote one nominator. “I believe that Kim actually cares about me and my future, and I know this feeling is spread among all her students.” Another wrote, “Ever since the first time I sat with her for advising, I felt as if she understood and knew where I was at in life.”

“Academic advisers enable students to understand their interests, talents and preferences and how they relate to academic programs of study and careers available in the wider world,” Pollauf said. “It is so satisfying to know that you have played a small part in helping someone on a journey of self-discovery, growth and possibly the achievement of a dream. How many people are ever lucky enough to get paid for that?”

Recipients of the Outstanding Researcher Awards are:

Dr. Andrew Geers, associate professor of psychology and director of the doctoral program in experimental psychology. He joined the UT faculty as an assistant professor in 2001 and was promoted to associate professor in 2006. Geers investigates how expectations, motives and emotions are used in the regulation of behavior. Most recently,

he has focused his research activities on the psychosocial causes of the placebo effect. This work has received national attention.

“Dr. Geers is a social psychologist who studies the interplay of feelings, cognition and motivation,” wrote a nominator. “There is a growing recognition of the power of placebos in the treatment of both physical and psychological disease. Researchers are attempting to delineate how to harness the power of the placebo effect in order to benefit patients. Dr. Geers’ work has demonstrated that motivation interacts with expectations to determine the strength of the placebo effect.”

He is the principal investigator on four grants, including a multi-year \$72,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health for a project titled “Goal Activation, Expectations and Placebo Analgesia.” Geers has published four book chapters and 25 peer-reviewed empirical articles. Since joining the University, he has given 48 conference presentations.

Dr. Clinton O. Longenecker, Stranahan Professor of Leadership and Organizational Excellence. He returned to his alma mater as an assistant professor in 1984, was named associate professor in 1989, professor in 1994 and received his honorary title in 2001. His applied research addresses business issues in human resources management, leadership and management development, and work force performance and rapid organizational change.

“Dr. Longenecker has been a colleague for 14 years in the Department of Management, and his productive research program has greatly enhanced and strengthened our

mission of engagement with fellow academicians, the business community and the students in the college,” wrote a nominator. “His laboratory is the workplace; he helps business leaders compete in the global marketplace. Clint has developed a national and international reputation as an expert in the areas of performance improvement and human resource management, and his research is being widely used in such companies as Harley-Davidson, Eaton Corp., ConAgra, Roadway Express, Dana, General Motors and The Andersons, among others.”

He is the author of more than 120 publications, and has co-authored two books, *Two-Minute Drill: Imperatives for Rapid Organizational Change From America’s Greatest Game* (2007) and *Getting Results: Five Absolutes for High Performance* (2001), which has been translated into eight languages.

Dr. Carol Stepien, director of the Lake Erie Center and professor of environmental sciences. Her research focuses on applying genetic DNA markers for native fishes of the Great Lakes and using genetic data to address the problem of invasive species in the Great Lakes. She also is the principal investigator on a project, “Graduate Teaching Fellows in High School STEM Education: An Environmental Science Learning Community at the Land-Lake Ecosystem Interface,” which received a \$2.4 million National Science Foundation grant.

“This program will build an environmental science learning community by linking graduate student watershed research projects with an existing high school watershed watch program,” a nominator wrote



Ashburner



Bjorkman



Fitzgerald



Slater

of the NSF-funded project. “By building science, technology, engineering and mathematics skills, graduate fellows, teachers and high school students gain hands-on experience in the role of urban and agricultural influences on watersheds in the history, social development and future vitality of the Great Lakes region.”

Since joining UT, Stepien has received some \$3.9 million for four research projects, one educational research program and one planning grant for the Lake Erie Center. She also worked to bring the 2009 annual meeting of the International Association for Great Lakes Research to the University.

Recipients of the Outstanding Teacher Awards are:

Dr. Brian Ashburner, associate professor of biological sciences. He came to UT in 2001 as an assistant professor and was named associate professor in 2006.

“His enthusiasm for biology has been contagious. He encourages students to get the most out of their education, both inside and outside the classroom,” one nominator wrote. “I am always amazed that he can remember as many names as he does, and he never hesitates to personally greet a student with a smile. Thirty years from now I know I will continue to think of the impact Dr. Ashburner had on my education and experience at UT.” Another wrote, “He is a very approachable faculty member, and that’s why so many students like him. He is very down-to-earth.”

“Although my research is important to me, my real passion is in teaching and working with undergraduates,” Ashburner

said. “I strive to involve the students in the learning process as much as possible by fostering an interactive classroom where I can discuss a topic with the students rather than giving them a straight lecture. This allows me to draw the answers out from the students rather than simply reciting memorized answers. I believe that when students are involved in the learning process in the classroom they learn the material better.”

Dr. Karen Bjorkman, professor and associate chair of physics and astronomy. She joined the faculty as an assistant professor in 1996, was promoted to associate professor in 2000, and professor in 2003.

“Karen is a brilliant astronomer. But what’s exciting is that she can share that with her students as an extraordinary teacher,” wrote one nominator. “She makes a difficult concept manageable, and manages to do it with intelligence, humor and class.” Another noted, “She takes her role of teacher as seriously as her role of researcher. Also, she has an uncanny knack for making the most difficult astrophysics problem seem completely understandable.”

“I consider teaching to be a very important part of my mission as a professor, and I believe that teaching and learning occur both inside and outside the classroom,” Bjorkman said. “I believe that part of the benefit of having active research faculty teaching courses is that we can bring the excitement of new discoveries and ongoing scientific inquiry into the classroom, at all levels, on a personal basis, and I make an effort to do this in my classes. I like to take advantage of the opportunity to introduce

my students to the fun of science and the wonder of learning amazing things about the universe in which we live.”

Dr. Christina Fitzgerald, assistant professor of English. She started teaching at the University in 2003.

“Dr. Fitzgerald’s knowledge of the material that she teaches is outstanding. She is informative, yet she provokes students to question her opinion and that of others,” one nominator wrote. Another wrote, “Her classes are dizzyingly full of information but presented in such a way that they are straightforward and clear. Her assignments are designed to get the most out of a critically thinking student. Aside from that, she is funny and entertaining, and manages to pull in Monty Python quotations apropos to the academic setting.”

“My favorite kind of positive student evaluation comment, one that I frequently receive, is the kind that begins ‘I didn’t think I’d like this course, but...’ Students quickly learn from my courses on medieval literature and language that pleasure, discovery, connection and understanding can take place in the most unexpected of subject matters,” Fitzgerald said. “The study of the past also helps to foster a flexible and enlarged worldview and a truly global perspective, for it takes students outside of themselves and their world, and requires them to encounter and grapple with lives and ideas unlike their own. That enlarging of vision and understanding is the core theme of all of my classes and my teaching philosophy.”

Joseph Slater, John Stoepler Professor of Law and Values. He joined the College of Law faculty in 1999 as an assistant professor, was promoted to associate professor in 2003, professor in 2005 and named to the honorary title in 2008.

“Not only is Professor Slater an incredible professor who continues to engage students in class, but he takes the time to assist in extracurricular activities,” wrote a nominator. “For the past two years, I have been blessed to have Professor Slater as an adviser for the Employment Moot Court team. He has taken countless hours out of his free time to attend practices and even accompanied the students to a competition in New York.” Another wrote, “Slater is always available for outside class consultation. He is highly respected by both his colleagues and the students.”

“For me, teaching works best when it is a conversation,” Slater said. “The teacher must balance two different roles: being a respectful participant in the conversation, and steering and directing the conversation in certain directions. This works best when the professor uses his or her expertise not only to answer questions, but also to stimulate students to think of new questions and possible answers. I’ve been lucky in that I have had a wonderful group of students at the law school.”

Faculty members to be lauded for community efforts

By Kim Harvey

When Toledo resident Edith Rathbun established a tribute fund in 2005 to recognize faculty for efforts beyond the classroom, she had people like Gabrielle Davis, Dr. Clinton Longenecker and Dr. Mojisola Tiamiyu in mind.

The three have been named recipients of Edith Rathbun Outreach and Engagement Excellence Awards for service to their communities. The awards recognize faculty members for excellence in community-engaged scholarship, based on the quality and community impact of their work in research, teaching or professional service.

Davis, professor of law, will be honored with a special recognition award for her work on behalf of domestic abuse victims.

Davis was instrumental in forming the Lucas County Domestic Violence Resource Center earlier this year. She also heads the Domestic Violence Clinic within UT's College of Law to assist victims. The clinic brings law students and victims together, allowing students to lend their legal skills to real victims in actual courtroom proceedings.

"Her fierce determination, deeply ingrained integrity and generous contributions to individuals and organizations across a



Davis



Longenecker



Tiamiyu

wide spectrum of domestic violence intervention have made her the 'go-to' person on this issue in our community," reads one of Davis' nominations.

Although Davis will receive no monetary award, numerous women and children in northwest Ohio face brighter futures because of her efforts.

Longenecker, Stranahan Professor of Leadership and Organizational Excellence, has made a career of academic nurturing and community involvement. Nominators laud his longtime willingness to develop workshops, award programs and alumni conferences that recognize community leaders and entrepreneurs. Multiple charitable organizations, such as the United Way, have

benefited from his talents as a fundraiser. Longenecker also has made a practice of volunteering his consulting expertise to local agencies and routinely delivers motivational speeches to service organizations and schools.

"Dr. Longenecker is an inspiration, role model and mentor for students of this lifestyle of engagement and service," reads a nomination. "His leadership development initiatives have had an empowering impact on the education, training and development of area talent and serve the cause of business excellence in our community."

Tiamiyu, associate professor of psychology and special assistant to the dean in the College of Arts and Sciences, stretched

the idea of peer support to include students of different ages, cultures and backgrounds when she initiated the STAR Mentee Program in 2002. Each semester, she enlists about 20 UT students from various majors to interact with local elementary students from minority and economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Pinpointing the areas of math and language skills, UT's "older siblings" act as tutors, mentors and friends for children whose mere life circumstances could dampen their chances for educational success.

"Dr. Tiamiyu meets not just one, but all four of the Rathbun criteria," writes a nominator. "She has implemented community-based research, provided professional consultation to community groups, participated in community-engaged projects, and designed and implemented a service-learning course that impacts some of Toledo's most needy residents."

In recent years, the STAR Mentee Program has been recognized by northwest Ohio's Partners in Education as a BEST Partner Award nominee.

The recipients will be honored with plaques during the academic awards banquet Friday. Longenecker and Tiamiyu each will receive \$750 awards, as well.

University plans extensive renovations of MacKinnon Hall

By Jim Winkler

Freshly painted rooms, new carpeting, new air conditioning and wireless high-speed Internet access in student lounges are among the upgrades students will find in MacKinnon Hall this August.

Major renovation work will begin shortly on the residence hall after UT trustees at their March meeting approved spending \$3.25 million to give the venerable facility a facelift.

The residence hall also will receive upgrades in plumbing, heating, fire detection, accessibility, and common areas for meetings and study, according to Richard Sheets, UT facilities and construction project manager. The common areas will increase interaction between students while studying and socializing.

The 41,200-square-foot facility, which was built in 1938 with an addition in 1962, is needed because of increasing enrollment. UT has 19,706 students enrolled for spring semester.

The building will house 140 students in the 2008-09 academic year.

A new elevator will be installed between the first and second floors, making it fully compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

In addition, a new apartment that includes a kitchenette and office for visiting professors, two two-bed apartments for residence assistants, and three new classrooms that accommodate up to 30 students each will be constructed.

Built-in wardrobes in older student rooms will be refurbished, and all of the beds, desks and chairs will be replaced. A new roof will be installed over the addition of the building, which also will receive new wardrobes.

Sheets pointed out that planners have worked to balance historic preservation and modern renovation standards.

"In the old portion of MacKinnon, the rooms are very unique, they all have their

own architectural individuality," Sheets said. "There will be a few singles, a couple of three-person rooms and the rest will be doubles. In the new portion of the building, all the rooms will be doubles."

With the opening of MacKinnon, the University will operate nine residence halls. UT now has about 4,000 students living in residence halls, which are currently 100 percent filled.

"We've been growing enrollment thanks to our recruiting efforts and that's a very positive sign for the University," said Lawrence J. Burns, vice president for enrollment services, marketing and communications. "Residence hall upgrades like the one under way at MacKinnon aid student recruitment very significantly. We need to have enough on-campus housing for those students who want to live on campus and have a total university experience."

Jo Campbell, director of residence life, also is delighted that the residence hall is

getting a facelift, noting that living on campus is a good way for students to become fully engaged in university life and become more independent.

"It's a beautiful building and I'm just thrilled that it will be available this fall," she said.

Because of the renovations, the north lane of Campus Drive in front of the residence hall will be barricaded as a staging area for building materials and dumpsters. When the school year ends, portions of Parking Lot 13 located north of the west parking ramp and the parking lot behind Nash Hall will be blocked for renovation-related activities.

The Toledo architectural firm of SSOE Inc. is overseeing the project.

The residence hall is named after Lee W. MacKinnon, who served as the University chief academic officer on two separate occasions between 1926 and 1928.

UT students to share \$22.7 million in first round of Choose Ohio First scholarship program funds

By Jim Winkler

University of Toledo students will receive scholarships from two programs funded by the Ohio Board of Regents' Choose Ohio First Program, an initiative aimed at increasing economic growth in the state by attracting and graduating Ohio students majoring in STEM — science, technology, engineering and math — and medical fields.

UT, some 20 other public and private Ohio universities and colleges, three major teaching hospitals, the Ohio Supercomputer Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, and several other scientific organizations in the Ohio Consortium for Bioinformatics will receive \$4.475 million for student scholarships to attract and graduate an estimated 345 students in the STEM fields over a five-year period. Of that amount, UT will receive approximately \$300,000 for scholarships. Ohio University spearheads the consortium.

Bioinformatics, a key research tool, involves use of computers to analyze biological information.

In addition, the UT College of Pharmacy will work with the lead institution, Ursuline College, a small, private, Catholic liberal-arts college in Pepper Pike, Ohio, near Cleveland; the Cleveland Clinic Foundation and Cleveland Veteran Affairs Medical Center to attract and graduate some 50 new students to the much-needed STEM area of pharmacy. Some \$364,000 in scholarship funds will be available.

The state's higher education institutions last January submitted 28 proposals seeking funding in the highly competitive first round of Choose Ohio First Scholarship funds, and seven shared \$22.7 million in awards. A seven-member panel of nationally recognized STEM educational experts appointed by Ohio Board of Regents Chancellor Eric D. Fingerhut reviewed the proposals.

The regents announced first-round state grant winners in March.

The Ohio General Assembly established the \$50 million scholarship program last June to attract, retain and graduate more than 2,000 new students to the fields of science, technology, engineering, math and medical fields and STEM education.

According to Dr. Robert Blumenthal, professor of medical microbiology and immunology, and director of UT's Bioinformatics, Genomics and Proteomics Program, UT will annually recruit eight students into the two-year program for five years and also help develop a statewide bioinformatics curriculum that will be offered at participating

institutions. UT will host the third Annual Ohio Collaborative Conference on Bioinformatics in June.

Blumenthal said graduates with degrees combining bioinformatics with fields such as molecular biology, chemistry, microbiology and computer science will continue to be in demand. Scientists increasingly rely on bioinformatics for the computer modeling and analysis of huge piles of data to understand and develop treatments for human diseases.

Dr. Christine N. Hinko, professor of pharmacology and associate dean for student affairs, said the pharmacy proposal is aimed at addressing the current expected shortage of pharmacy professionals in the state by attracting potential pharmacy students to the bachelor of science in pharmaceutical sciences (BSPS) and doctor of pharmacy (PharmD) programs offered in a collaborative effort between Ursuline and the College of Pharmacy.

UT and Ursuline two years ago entered into an accord that allows students interested in a BSPS or PharmD professional degree to take the first two years of the pre-professional curriculum at Ursuline taught by Ursuline faculty with pharmacy-specific classes taught by UT pharmacy faculty. Students then apply to complete their professional training at UT. In the last year of the PharmD program, they can return to Cleveland for advanced pharmacy practice experiences at institutional and community settings.

The proposal includes recruitment initiatives to get high school students interested in pharmacy careers, including a summer "pharmacy camp" for students on the Ursuline campus and a mentoring program. The camp introduces pharmacy-related career and educational opportunities and hands-on training in research and pharmacy-practice skills.

The Cleveland Clinic Foundation and the Cleveland VA Medical Center in Brecksville are supporting the program that targets first-generation college students and students from under-represented groups in the sciences, who will receive mentoring.

In some parts of Ohio, the demand for pharmacists far outstrips the supply, Hinko said. And with baby boomers aging, even more pharmacists will be required in the state and nationwide.

The College of Pharmacy was the only pharmacy program in the state to receive money in the first round of scholarship funding.

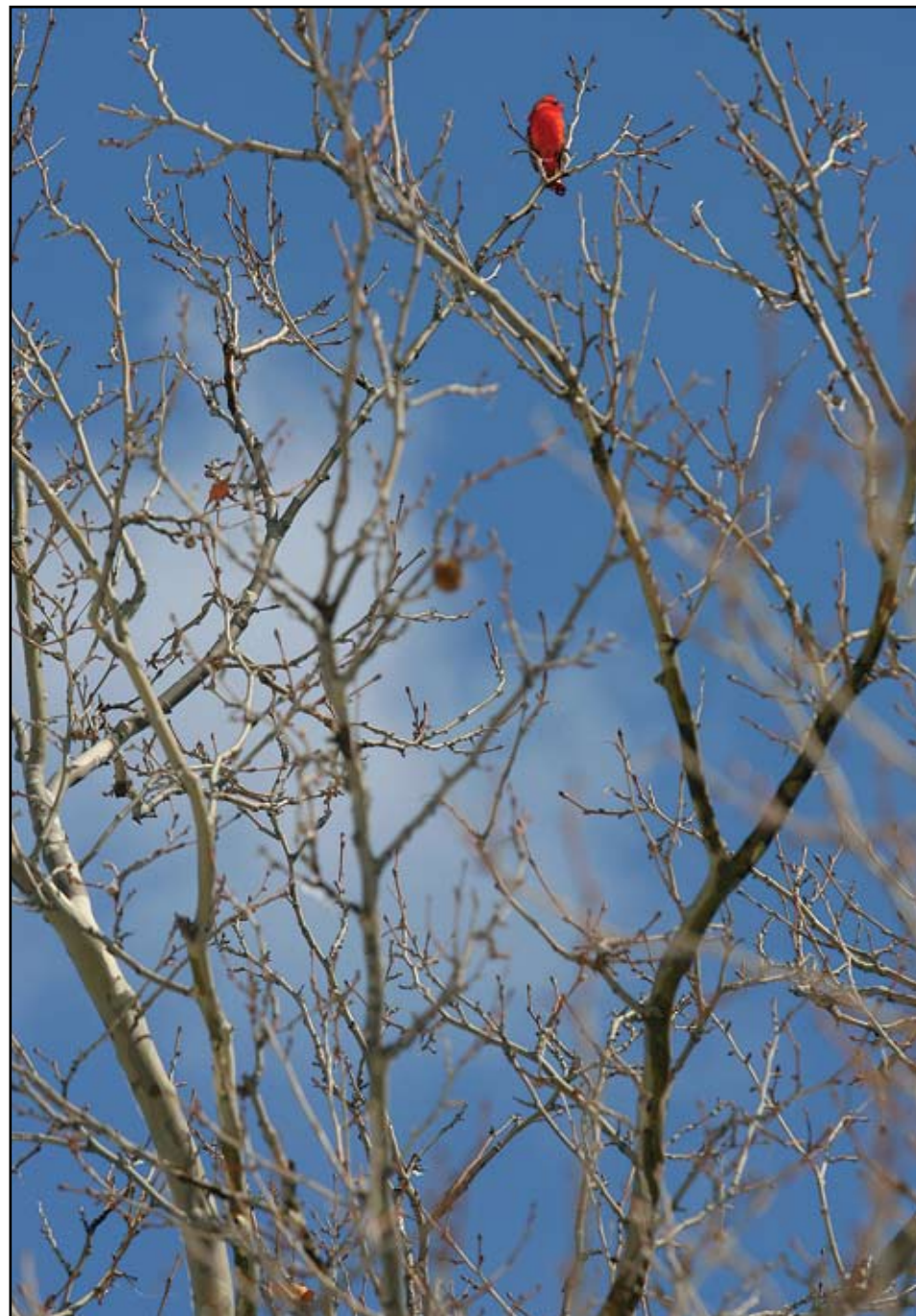


Photo by Daniel Miller

SEEING RED: University Photographer Daniel Miller spotted this male cardinal perched in a tree on the west side of the Student Union on Main Campus.

UTNEWS

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Poetry provides life support for lecturer

By Vicki L. Kroll

An e-mail. A rope swing on a tree branch. A message on an old answering machine tape. A brook. Dr. Michael R. Catanzaro found poetry everywhere during a time when he needed it the most.

His mother passed away in 2007, and his brother in 2006. In 1994, his father died, and two years later his brother-in-law passed away on his wedding anniversary.

The losses weighed heavily on the lecturer in the English Department — and his six sisters and four brothers. Catanzaro turned to poetry.

“I’m an unconscious writer; it’s just an outpouring when I do it,” he said. “I dump all my thoughts on the computer in a short time. Revising was my saving grace — taking away a word here or there. That’s what kept my mind occupied was the revision process of trying to make it say as succinctly as possible what I was feeling. It was good for me to occupy my time with that because I don’t know what I would have done.”

His book, *Beating Hearts*, was published in February. The poems cover an array of subjects — from holiday memories and a childhood trip to the seaside to mourning and the support of family and friends.

“For the most part, *Beating Hearts* represents a lot of closure for me, for my family,” Catanzaro said.

He shared the poems with his siblings as he wrote them. His sisters encouraged him to publish his words.

“They felt that other people would



Photo by Daniel Miller

FAMILY CIRCLE: Dr. Michael R. Catanzaro shows off family photos and his new book, *Beating Hearts*, which was inspired by loved ones.

benefit from having read the poems. I didn’t believe it; people are not interested in your problems,” Catanzaro said. “And they said, ‘You don’t understand: Your problems are other people’s problems. You’re not burdening them, you’re unburdening them.’”

He wrote about 70 of the 86 poems in the book during a three-month period.

“My point with the poems, I think, has been sometimes we need to redirect the anger and the hurt and the misplaced love and do something constructive with it,” Catanzaro

said. “I wish everyone could find the opportunity to heal — whether it’s a poem, whether it’s a painting — but I think you need to find a healthy outlet for those emotions.”

The native of Ambler, Pa., said he considers many of his works to be narrative poetry, as he combines stories with metaphorical language. He also dabbled with concrete poetry, where the words themselves resemble shapes.

Catanzaro has been at UT 15 years and teaches mostly freshman composition

classes, as well as introductions to poetry, fiction and drama.

“My purpose has always been a reader’s response to poetry,” he explained. “I don’t really care what the critics say we’re supposed to understand; what do you feel about this poem? That’s always my point with students: What do you think it means?”

The 2001 UT alumnus who received a doctorate in English hopes his words connect with readers.

“It’s not until you lose something that you’ve taken for granted that you realize how important it really was,” Catanzaro said. “Life is going to take you unexpected places where you don’t want to be and if you didn’t prepare yourself to be there and if you didn’t say all those things when you had the opportunities to say them, those are lost moments.

“People should go home and tell their husbands and wives and boyfriends and girlfriends, friends and partners ‘I love you’ or ‘I’m angry at you.’ You don’t have to be lovey-dovey all the time. The key is to express those thoughts.”

The 162-page book is \$19.95 and can be ordered at Barnes & Noble, Amazon, Borders and from Publish America.

Will there be a sequel to *Beating Hearts*?

“I started a file called ‘second book.’ Many subjects still deal with dark images, but I want to get to the point where we focus on the good things — laughter, love, life. Maybe it’ll be called *The Heart Beats On*.”

Artist applications for Art on the Mall due April 30

By Ansley Abrams

Artist applications are still available for the 16th annual Art on the Mall juried art show to be held on The University of Toledo Main Campus Sunday, July 27.

Applications must be postmarked by Wednesday, April 30.

This annual art show is supported and produced by The University of Toledo Alumni Association to engage alumni, faculty, staff, students and residents in this free,

outdoor celebration of the arts.

The UT Alumni Association is always looking for new artists to participate and strongly encourages artists who have a tie to The University of Toledo to apply, but all applications are welcomed.

Contact the Alumni Relations Office at 419.530.2586 to request an application or for more information.



Photo by Daniel Miller

AUTHOR TO AUTHOR: Dr. Paul Erhardt, director of the UT Center for Drug Design and Development and professor of medicinal and biological chemistry, left, and Dr. Alan Pinkerton, professor and chair of chemistry, chatted at the opening of the 2007-08 University of Toledo Authors and Artists Exhibit. Books, articles, published conference papers and original artwork from the past academic year by faculty on the Main, Health Science and Toledo Museum of Art campuses are featured in the exhibit, which is on display in the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections on the fifth floor of Carlson Library on Main Campus through Friday, May 2. Hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

In memoriam

Patricia “Pat” L. Fleming-Clement, Toledo, a guest lecturer in history classes during the 1990s, died April 9 at age 78.