



Tietjen

Photo By Daniel Miller

UT research links childhood abuse to chronic pain

By Kim Harvey

A University of Toledo study has linked childhood abuse and neglect to chronic migraine headaches and a constellation of chronic pain conditions.

Dr. Gretchen Tietjen, professor and chair of neurology, director of the Headache Treatment and Research Program, and director of the Stroke Program, led a two-year study using 1,348 patients with migraine headaches, including some 200 participants from the greater Toledo area.

“It’s been known for quite some time in the fields of pediatrics and psychology that childhood mistreatment carries various psychological affects into adulthood,” Tietjen said. “Not much research had been conducted in patients with migraines diagnosed by internationally accepted criteria.”

The participants sought care at 11 headache centers throughout the United States and Canada. During the course of their treatments, they provided information through interviews, exams and electronic surveys. The data included inquiries about pain conditions associated with migraine headaches, as well as responses to the Childhood Trauma Questionnaire.

Abuse and neglect were common, with the following types of maltreatment reported at the noted percentages:

- Physical abuse, 21 percent;
- Sexual abuse, 25 percent;
- Emotional abuse, 38 percent;
- Physical neglect, 22 percent; and
- Emotional neglect, 38 percent.

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Furlough plan ready if needed

By Tobin J. Klinger

The University of Toledo is poised to rapidly implement a furlough program should the need arise, thanks to the work of a broadly representative committee that has been fleshing out details for the past several months.

“The Cost Savings Committee has provided its recommendations on a furlough program, and we now have an action plan should it become necessary to move to implementation,” Jacobs said. “Thanks to the continued success of our enrollment team and leadership in Columbus that continues to place the right value on higher education, the need for employees to take furlough days does not exist at the present time. However, it is not out of the realm of possibility that the need to implement could still arise in the current fiscal year.”

Jacobs pointed more specifically to the fact that state budget projections have been on target for the last six

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Photo By Daniel Miller

SPACE TALK: Col. Jack Lousma discussed his NASA days, including piloting Skylab 3 and being the commander on the third Space Shuttle mission, captivating the crowd in a packed Doermann Theater Thursday night. The retired astronaut was a member of the support crew for the Apollo 9, 10 and 13 missions. Though he didn't fly in the Apollo 13 mission, he was the capcom recipient of the famous "Houston, we've had a problem" message. Lousma tried to describe what it's like being in space by drawing parallels to living on Earth, which he said is essentially a spacecraft, and that residents need to be careful with its resources and keep the planet clean for the next crew.

UT research

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“Reports of childhood maltreatment, especially emotional abuse and neglect, are prevalent in outpatients with migraine,” according to the study’s conclusion.

Respondents with histories of abuse were more likely to report being treated for other chronic pain conditions such as irritable bowel syndrome, fibromyalgia, chronic fatigue syndrome, arthritis and interstitial cystitis.

“In general, the more types of abuse reported in childhood, the more pain conditions that were identified in adulthood,” Tietjen said. “This suggests that abuse is in some causal way related to other pain conditions.”

The study does not represent the general public, since respondents were identified as those with diagnosed migraine headaches. About 40 percent of study participants reported daily headaches.

“This is a population that is suffering enough to seek help from headache specialists,” Tietjen said, noting that migraine headaches also have been linked to depression and anxiety.

She cited previous studies showing that childhood maltreatment can alter the

structure, function and genetics of the brain, and hopes her research leads to further understanding of relationships between early abuse and pain conditions.

“What we’re seeing is that the first pain condition a person develops tends to be headache, then other conditions follow,” she said. “It leads me to wonder if we can prevent subsequent pain conditions if we can effectively treat the headache.”

The UT study, which was published in this month’s edition of *Headache: Journal of Head and Face Pain*, was released in September. It was funded partially with a \$15,000 grant from the American Headache Society.

Tietjen is planning further investigation into the mystery of chronic headaches.

“If we better understand what’s different about these patients, it may lead us to better treatment for refractory headache conditions,” she said. “We might be able to alter the body’s response to the stressors with cognitive therapies or use medications that target brain receptors that are key to headaches. But we have to understand it first.”



Photo By Daniel Miller

SPECIAL INVITE: Toledo Mayor Mike Bell, along with UT President Lloyd Jacobs, held a press conference last week on Main Campus to extend invitations to the community to attend the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Celebration, which was held Monday in Savage Arena. Go to myut.toledo.edu for a photo from the event.

Furlough plan

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months, and that enrollment is up for the current semester. In addition, enrollment projections for fall 2010 are once again favorable.

“The flexibility that this tool will give us as we look at the next fiscal year and beyond will be critical to our decision making,” Jacobs said. “It provides an alternative method for reducing operating costs. The hard work of this committee will serve us well should we find ourselves in need of this kind of cost savings measure.”

Work will continue to ensure that the University would be able to implement a furlough program with a 30-day notice should the need arise. The number of furlough days would depend on the amount of cost savings the University needed to generate.

The Cost Savings Committee was made up of representatives from Faculty Senate, the Professional Staff Association, Human Resources, Finance, University Communications and other areas of campus that intimately would be involved

with a successful implementation, according to Jacobs.

“There is still some work to be done to get us to the point where we have the flexibility to implement on a rapid timetable, including negotiations with bargaining units and payroll-related processes,” Jacobs said. “However, I want to express my gratitude to those that have done the heavy lifting to get us to this stage.”

“We expect the next two years will be extremely difficult when it comes to the state of Ohio budget. But it is important to recognize that thanks to the good work of all our faculty and staff, from those on the frontlines in Enrollment Services to the faculty members in the classroom, that The University of Toledo remains a destination of choice for those seeking higher education during this difficult economic time,” Jacobs said. “Without this continued success, we would find ourselves in a much more difficult circumstance. Thank you to everyone that has helped us achieve this position in the minds of our students.”

Workshop to give faculty leg up in tenure, promotion proceedings

On Friday, Jan. 22, Faculty Senate will hold a Tenure and Promotion Workshop for interested tenure-track faculty on both campuses.

The workshop, which will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. in Student Union Room 2584, will focus on giving faculty members interested in pursuing tenure or promotion the information they need to complete the process.

At the event, Dr. Rosemary Haggett, Main Campus provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, and Dr. Jeffrey Gold, Health Science Campus provost, executive vice president for health affairs and dean of the College of Medicine, will review the tenure and promotion processes.

Dr. Harvey Wolff, president of the UT chapter of the American Association of University Professors and professor of mathematics, will be on hand to discuss the union’s role in the process and the assistance it

can provide. Dr. Dorothea Sawicki, professor of medical microbiology and immunology, will talk about the tenure and promotion process on Health Science Campus as a member of the Faculty Rules and Regulations Committee.

Barbara Floyd, director of the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections, will lead a panel discussion with recently tenured or promoted faculty who will share their personal impressions on the process and advice on how to complete it in as stress-free a process as possible.

Personnel from the library also will discuss how to search citations to help faculty identify how many times their work has been cited in other publications or documents.

There is no need to RSVP for the free event.

For more information, contact Floyd at 419.530.2170.



Photo By Daniel Miller

IN CLASS: Seth Powless, lecturer in information operations technology management, taught the Intro to Microcomputer Applications in Business class last week in the Taylor Automotive Family Lecture Hall in the Savage & Associates Complex for Business Learning and Engagement. The College of Business Administration's 54,000-square-foot expansion to Stranahan Hall opened for the start of the semester.

UT Medical Center to celebrate completion of in-patient orthopedic wing

By Jon Strunk

The University of Toledo Medical Center will dedicate a newly refurbished wing as UT continues to enhance its growing in-patient orthopedic and rehabilitative services.

On Thursday, Jan. 21, at 1:15 p.m. on the sixth floor of UTMC, senior University leaders and clinicians will celebrate the completion of improvements that include a family room to increase comfort as family members wait, a conference room for private consultations between doctors and families, and 30 new patient rooms, each with a computer and other state-of-the-art accommodations.

"Patients' expectations are changing and as an institution dedicated to remarkable university-quality care, we need to stay at the leading edge of that curve," said Dr. Jeffrey P. Gold, Health Science Campus provost, executive vice president for health affairs and dean of the College of Medicine.

Dr. Nabil Ebraheim, professor and chair of the Department of Orthopedics, said that with the addition of the new Orthopedic Center

in 2007, UTMC is increasingly the hospital of choice for bone, ligament and other joint injuries.

"With these new facilities, The University of Toledo is setting the standard of care for in-patient and out-patient orthopedic services in this region," Ebraheim said. "There is a great deal of elegance that will be evident to patients, both as they view the space and as they experience the compassionate, professional and efficient care from all members of the team, from valet parking to the orthopedic surgeons."

Ebraheim also pointed to renovations in the past decade to the space occupied by UT's in-patient rehabilitation services, also on the sixth floor.

"Everything patients need for treatment and recovery is right here," he said. "The convenience is wonderful."

In all, there will be more than 50 beds for the unit, which will be one of the largest mobility disorders/orthopedic/rehabilitation units in Toledo.

The new in-patient unit will help provide 24-hour coverage for patients and families who want to be transferred or are coming from out of state with injuries or emergency situations.

"We believe this unit will help us do a better job communicating and delivering information and care among different disciplines to improve care and reduce the stress of hospitalization," said Mark Chastang, vice president and executive director for UT Medical Center. "These patients may need

help from specialties, including cardiology, neurology, trauma, pulmonary, nutrition and psychology services."

"As always," Gold said, "our goal is to improve the human condition and the patient experience. With the completion of the mobility disorders, orthopedics and rehabilitation sixth floor unit, we will have unmatched potential to ensure outstanding university-quality patient care."

UTNEWS

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Correction

A photo credit for the picture of UT art students with the story about the "Paris: City of Art" exhibition in last week's issue was incorrect. Dr. Richard H. Putney, associate professor and director of art history, took the photograph.

Student artwork in spotlight at juried exhibition

By Angela Riddel

The University of Toledo Department of Art is showcasing the work of its students in an annual juried exhibit that will be on display through Sunday, March 21, in the Center for the Visual Arts Gallery on the Toledo Museum of Art Campus.

Eric Troffkin, sculptor and art faculty member at Wayne State University, is serving as juror.

An opening reception will be held Friday, Jan. 22, from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Center for the Visual Arts Haigh Auditorium. UT President Lloyd Jacobs is scheduled to speak. Troffkin will give a lecture about the exhibit and his own work, and then present awards.

Troffkin joined the Department of Art and Art History at Wayne State in fall 2009. Prior to that, he was a lecturer in sculpture at the University of Wisconsin-Madison from 2000 to 2002 and a visiting assistant professor at Washington University in St. Louis from 2002 to 2009. At Washington University, Troffkin served terms as sculpture area coordinator and director of graduate studies; he oversaw a transition in the master of fine arts curriculum to a multidisciplinary format to encourage artistic dialogue and collaboration across media and fields of inquiry.

He received the master of fine arts degree in sculpture from Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, Mich., and a bachelor of arts degree in fine art and English literature from Amherst College in Massachusetts.

About his artwork, Troffkin wrote, "My interests lie at a crossroads where expectations of future progress encounter these uncertainties: Can the consequences of progress be foreseen? Is the notion of progress itself a matter of faith? And if so, upon what foundation is such faith built? My artworks mark and investigate these crossroads. They are pieces of fiction, fabricated from the familiar visual language

of the commercial products and industrial objects that inhabit our architecture and dot our urban and rural landscapes. Through the reproduction and alteration of such technological objects into sculptural form, I aim to provide a focal point for considering their psychic impact."

The annual student exhibition can be seen Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

For more information on the free, public exhibit, opening reception and lecture, call the Art Department at 419.530.8300.



Photos By Deborah Orloff

Student works are on display through March 21 in the Center for the Visual Arts Gallery.



"Shed," plaster, wood and metal, by Julia LeBay

Submissions sought for University Authors and Artists Exhibit

The deadline for submitting materials for the 2010 University of Toledo Authors and Artists Exhibit is Friday, Feb. 12.

Faculty members who have published books, articles and conference papers since February 2008 are encouraged to submit these materials for inclusion in the exhibit.

The exhibit will be on display in

the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections on the fifth floor of Carlson Library from March 29 through April 30.

Faculty with works in the exhibit will be honored at a reception Monday, March 29, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Dr. John Murray, UT professor of economics, will present opening remarks.

Faculty authors on Main Campus

should send or e-mail their publications to Suhasini Kumar, Government Documents Department, Carlson Library, mail stop 509. Faculty members on Health Science Campus should send or e-mail their publications to Jolene Miller, Mulford Library, mail stop 1061. Faculty in the Department of Art with works for the exhibit will receive notification in late

January of procedures for displaying their artwork.

Those submitting works are asked to provide a complete bibliographic citation for each publication to assist with the preparation of the exhibit catalog.

For more information, contact Barbara Floyd, director of the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections, at 419.530.2170.