



Photo by Daniel Miller

PAGE-TURNER: Junior wide receiver Eric Page announced last week he will forego his senior season and enter the 2012 NFL draft. Page leaves the Rockets after finishing one of the most prolific careers in UT history. The exciting player set school records for both career receptions (306) and season receptions (125 in 2011). His 306 career receptions tied the Mid-American Conference record held by Marshall's Josh Davis and Western Michigan's Jordan White, and is 43 shy of the NCAA mark held by Robert Broyles of Oklahoma.

Innovative brain surgery techniques mean better outcomes, faster recoveries

By Jon Strunk

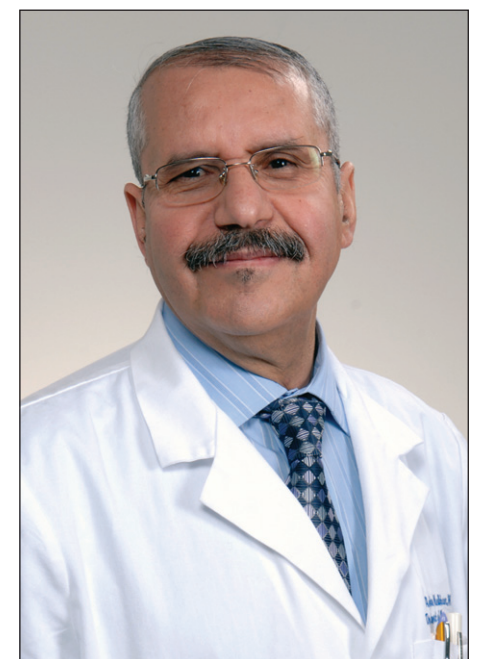
At The University of Toledo Medical Center, even brain surgery is minimally invasive.

Dr. Azedine Medhkour, UT associate professor of neurosurgery, is treating the most complex and vulnerable part of the human body — the brain — with techniques that minimize collateral damage and improve the longevity of patients with brain aneurysms.

An aneurysm is weakening of a blood vessel in the brain that causes the vessel to develop a bulge or bubble, leading to intense headaches, dizziness and balance problems, and should it rupture, a high probability of death.

Two patients recently treated at UTMC highlight the spectrum of UT brain aneurysm care and the innovative steps Medhkour and his team are taking to improve the procedures.

Last summer, Nadine Van Scoy was rushed to the hospital with what turned out to be a bleeding aneurysm. Working together, Medhkour and Dr. Hassan Semaan, UT assistant professor of radiology,



Medhkour

performed a procedure called embolization or coiling, where a catheter is inserted through a large vessel in the groin and directed through the circulatory system to

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U.S. News & World Report recognizes business, engineering online graduate programs

By Jon Strunk

Online graduate offerings in the colleges of Business and Innovation and Engineering are ranked among the best in the nation, according to U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges 2012 rankings.

The online offering of courses in The University of Toledo's Master of Business Administration Program was ranked second nationally in the area of Student Services and Technology, and No. 42 for Student Engagement and Accreditation.

The College of Engineering's online graduate programs were ranked seventh nationally in Admissions Selectivity, No. 12 in Student Services and Technology, and No. 24 in Student Engagement and Accreditation.

Dr. Thomas Gutteridge, dean of the College of Business and Innovation, said the rankings underline the excellence of UT's online MBA offerings.

"This is a success the entire college can take ownership of," Gutteridge said. "Our online MBA students are often



balancing school with a career that is increasingly likely to be global in scope. We've developed high-tech online programs



that don't sacrifice the personal interaction that will always remain a critical component of a top-tier MBA Program."

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Petros to discuss myths, misconceptions that lead to wrongful convictions in United States

By Rachel Phipps

Ohio Board of Regents Chancellor Jim Petro and Nancy Petro, co-authors of *False Justice – Eight Myths That Convict the Innocent*, will speak as the spring lecturers in The University of Toledo College of Law’s Distinguished Speaker Series.

The free, public event will be held Tuesday, Jan. 24, from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Law Center Auditorium.

The Petros will discuss *False Justice* and their work to outline a pattern of myths and misconceptions that they believe permeate most American beliefs about the legal system. *False Justice* tracks the development of DNA testing over the last decade and uses detailed case studies to examine both the legal and political intricacies that have made the science a controversial addition to traditional law enforcement procedures.

The couple was recognized for their work on *False Justice* with a 2011 Constitutional Commentary Award at Georgetown University School of Law.

Having served previously as auditor of the state of Ohio and as its attorney general, Jim Petro was appointed chancellor of the University System of Ohio in 2011. An attorney for 38 years, he is a graduate of Denison University and Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

A graduate of Denison University, Nancy Petro’s career has focused on



Jim and Nancy Petro

communications and business management. She is vice chair of the Ohio State University Hospital Board, trustee of Ohio Right to Life, and a member of Trinity United Methodist Church.

More information, including full-length reviews, testimonials and links to articles about *False Justice*, is available at www.falsejustice.com.



Brain surgery

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the vessel with the aneurysm in the brain where it can be repaired.

“It is estimated that some two million people in the United States currently have an aneurysm or a bulging of a vessel in the brain,” Medhkour said. “The coiling procedure is the best option for older patients and ideally is used to prevent a rupture. Unfortunately, not every aneurysm manifests symptoms and it was lucky Van Scoy was able to get to UTMC quickly.”

Lucky because, according to Medhkour, UTMC is the only medical center in northwest Ohio to offer coiling and a procedure called retractorless surgical clipping. The surgery is performed with minimal or no brain retraction, which gently pulls tissue to access interior parts of the brain.

“A high school student recently came to see me due to intense headaches she was having,” Medhkour said. “During our search for the cause, it was discovered that she had a large aneurysm located at the base of the skull actually pushing on her left optic nerve.”

This posed a series of problems for Medhkour. Because the student was only 16, coiling was too risky. Because the aneurysm was at the base of the skull, he would need to navigate through brain tissue without damaging it to access the aneurysm.

“To minimize the potential for damage, we didn’t use any retraction,” Medhkour said. Instead, long, thin surgical tools were inserted between lobes of the brain. The aneurysm was clipped to eliminate its blood supply.

“This was a very complex procedure. Retractorless surgical clipping is only being done in a handful of medical centers around the world,” he said. “The end result was a successfully treated aneurysm with no damage to her eyesight and a CT scan that showed no signs of brain injury due to the surgery. Three months later, she was back to school and in excellent condition.

“Each patient’s treatment will be a little different, but at UTMC, we are at the leading edge of innovative new techniques that improve your health and speed your recovery,” Medhkour said.

In a letter Van Scoy wrote to UT President Lloyd Jacobs thanking UTMC and Medhkour for her care, she closed by noting that two area physicians not affiliated with UTMC that she saw recently were “very surprised that [coiling] was being done in our area. I am happy not only that you’re offering the highly complex procedure, but doing it so very well.”



Photo by Daniel Miller

COMING TOGETHER: President Lloyd Jacobs, left, shook hands with Toledo Mayor Mike Bell last week at a press conference where both spoke about the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Celebration. “Stand!” was the theme of the 11th annual event, which was hosted by the city of Toledo, the Board of Community Relations Inc. and the University.

University partners with community colleges to enhance early childhood education curriculum

By Roxanne Ring

The U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services has awarded a Partner Project grant to early childhood special education faculty at The University of Toledo.

UT faculty and colleagues at three Ohio community colleges will work together on the Partner Project to enhance the quality of early childhood education curriculum offered at the community colleges so early childhood teachers with associate degrees are better prepared to meet the needs of young (age birth to 6 years) children with disabilities and their families.

The grant is for \$600,000 over four years (January 2012 to December 2015) and is a competitive award based on peer review and ranking of a national pool of applications.

UT faculty Dr. Laurie Dinnebeil and Dr. William McInerney and project manager Dr. Lyn Hale will partner with early childhood education peers at Terra Community College in Fremont, Cuyahoga Community College (three campus locations) in Cleveland and Stark State Technical College in North Canton. The grant will support an early childhood education faculty liaison from each of the partner community colleges. Camille Catlett of the Frank Porter Graham Center at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill also will participate in a consultation role.

“There is a shortage of skilled and highly qualified early childhood teachers who can effectively support the

development and well-being of young children, particularly those between the ages of birth to 6 years,” Dinnebeil said. “All young children need well-trained early childhood teachers, but perhaps young children with disabilities need them most of all. It is our hope that the Partner Project will further support early care education teachers in working effectively with each and every young child in Ohio.”

UT faculty will provide intensive professional development opportunities for faculty members at the three participating community colleges related to their effective mentoring of cooperating teachers who will work with early childhood students in inclusive practicum settings. Additionally, Partner Project personnel will work to increase the number of and quality of inclusive early childhood practicum settings and to complement the quality of the practicum experiences of the associate degree early childhood students.

UT faculty will visit early childhood education community college faculty on their campuses as well as offer monthly webinars. The faculty members also will present a one-day workshop at the annual Ohio Early Care and Education Conference, which is held every spring in Columbus.

An advisory board comprised of statewide experts, parents of children with disabilities, graduates of two-year community college early childhood programs, representatives from state agencies and early childhood education teachers will support and counsel project personnel.



Photo by Daniel Miller

HOMEWARD BOUND: UT Photographer Daniel Miller took this shot of Kevin West, senior human resources officer, and his son, Evan, age 6, after they left University Hall.

In memoriam

Dr. Richard H. Koop, Holland, a longtime area ophthalmologist and a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Surgery, died Jan. 9 at age 73. He served as a volunteer faculty physician since 1981. Koop received a bachelor's degree in biology from UT in 1960.

Anna M. Whitzel, Toledo, a longtime nurse who retired from MCO, died Jan. 6 at age 89.

Cheer on Toledo Walleye at UT Night

By Paul Webb

Rocket fans have the opportunity to get together to cheer on the Toledo Walleye hockey team with discounted tickets to the Friday, Jan. 27, game versus the Chicago Express.

All UT students, faculty, staff, alumni and their families are invited to attend UT Night. Gates will open at 6 p.m. at the Huntington Center, and the game will begin at 7 p.m.

Tickets will be pre-sale only and are available for \$13 at Rocket Copy in the Student Union and online at <https://www.ticketreturn.com/prod2/Buy.asp?eventid=69456> with the promotional code ROCKETS.

Bus transportation also will be provided to the game. Departure time will be 5:15 p.m. from the Transportation Center loop, and the bus will return to campus after the game.

Strategic planning improvements key to Higher Learning Commission progress

By Kim Goodin

Astute strategic planning is a key component to success.

In the early 2000s, administrators at The University of Toledo and the Medical University of Ohio were acutely aware of the fact. A few years before the 2006 merger, each institution had received word from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools that strategic planning processes needed improvement.

UT and MUO promptly created initiatives to strengthen strategic planning. When the institutions merged to form a new University of Toledo, the momentum gained from each entity's progress toward more comprehensive strategic planning was evident.

Bryan Pyles, associate vice president for finance, led a team evaluating UT's progress toward continuing accreditation from the HLC. His subject, Criterion 2: Preparing for the Future, dealt heavily with UT's progress in strategic planning, among other guidelines.

"Shortly after the merger, the president led a strategic planning initiative, and a few years later it was followed up with another strategic planning initiative that resulted in a document called Directions 2011," Pyles said. "It was very easy for my team

to say that strategic planning had once been a weakness, and now it's become a real strength."

Strategic planning is one of several facets the HLC targets in assessing an institution's preparation for the future. Others include:

- The organization realistically prepares for a future shaped by multiple societal and economic trends.
- The organization's resource base supports its educational programs and its plans for maintaining and strengthening their quality in the future.
- The organization's ongoing evaluation and assessment processes provide reliable evidence of institutional effectiveness that clearly informs strategies for continuous improvement.
- All levels of planning align with the organization's mission, thereby enhancing its capacity to fulfill that mission.

As Pyles and his team gathered information for the 57-page section addressing Criterion 2 in UT's self-study report (found at bit.ly/UTHLC), the

University's action during the economic downturn already had made a case for readiness during challenging times.

"Our conclusion is that UT is well-positioned to be successful," Pyles said. "We had a bit of a debate; how can we say this when we're constantly talking about challenges of the budget? But when you look at our financial performance over the last couple of years, we've done very well. The changes we've made in the budget process to evaluate our resources allocations are in line with our strategic plan, and we're making investments to ensure we're successful in our strategic initiatives."

Significant progresses in the areas of global expansion, campus infrastructure, technological readiness and student-centeredness also are documented throughout the self-study report. The expansion of programs into the Middle East and Far East represent UT's commitment to being a global leader. Enhanced technologies have allowed UT to offer an array of online programming as well.

"We do a lot more online than almost any other public school in the state of Ohio," Pyles said.

With progress also came opportunities for improvement. Pyles cited examples in the area of student-centeredness, where

documented problems with student services were met with the reorganization of Rocket Solution Central, enhanced online capabilities and diversity initiatives that have furthered UT's stated goal of creating "an organizational culture that is welcoming to all individuals regardless of their age, color, ethnicity, gender, religion, disabilities, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, gender identity and national origin."

Pyles said the accreditation process isn't finished even after representatives from the commission complete their on-site survey Feb. 27-29.

"I think the self-study report is exceptional," Pyles said. "It's a great document for someone who wants to discover what our institution is about. But it's also a reminder that we have to go back and identify the areas we found to be opportunities for improvement so we can continue to work on them."

Pyles' Criterion 2 team members were Marcia Culling, William Fall, Dr. Shanda Gore, Dr. Johan Gottgens, Brenda Grant, Dr. Thomas Gutteridge, Dan Klett, Brenda Lee, Dr. Susan Pocotte and Dr. Ellen Pullins.

Just the Facts

what: Higher Learning Commission continued accreditation visit

when: Feb. 27-29, 2012

why: Maintaining accreditation affects every member of the UT community. Be ready to discuss the five criteria if you encounter a site team visitor during the visit!

find out more: utoledo.edu/accreditation

Focus on Criterion 2

Preparing for the Future:

The organization's allocation of resources and its processes for evaluation and planning demonstrate its capacity to fulfill its mission, improve the quality of its education, and respond to future challenges and opportunities.

For more information about the Higher Learning Commission continuing accreditation process, go to utoledo.edu/accreditation/index.html.



UT is Accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association.
The Higher Learning Commission
280 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500, Chicago, IL 60604-1411
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www.ncahlc.org

Multiple art forms on display in Center for the Visual Arts

By Angela Riddel

The University of Toledo Department of Art is hosting a unique event in its Center for the Visual Arts Gallery in January and February.

“CVA Project Space 2012” features a photography exhibit, a play that will be performed on two of the weekends during the run, and the work of UT drawing students to be showcased the last week of the exhibition.

The photography exhibit is titled “Millennials: A Portrait of Generation Next” and features works by students of Seder Burns, lecturer of new media, who teaches digital art and photography. The free, public exhibition is on display through Sunday, Feb. 5.

The works in “Millennials” endeavor to identify and explore the characteristics of Generation Y: people ranging from age 18 to 29. These millennial artists used photography to explore and illustrate facets of personal and generational identity, including the sexuality, technology, morality and mentality of the Millennial Generation. Collectively, these images construct a body of humanity, visualizing more than the face of one, but the many faces of an entire generation.

“CVA Project Space 2012” will go beyond the visual arts to include the performing arts. “Exhibition,” a play written by Dr. William McMillen, UT provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, for the Glacity Theatre Collective and directed by Cornel Gabara, UT assistant professor of theatre, will be performed in the gallery Friday through Sunday, Jan. 27-29 and Feb. 3-5. Show times are 8 p.m. for Friday and Saturday, and 2 p.m. for Sunday.

The play follows a couple who, each year on their anniversary, visit the painting they were viewing when he proposed. What

might their former and future selves have to say about the life they’ve forged together?

Tickets for the play are \$20 and are available at glacity.tix.com or by calling the UT Center for Performing Arts Box Office at 419.530.2375. Seating is very limited. For the “pay what you can” matinee Sunday, Jan. 29, tickets will be available at the door only and payable by cash or check.

On the final week, Monday through Sunday, Feb. 6-12, “CVA Project Space 2012” will exhibit “Measure Project, Explorations in Drawing: Large-Scale Drawings Inspired by Minimalism.”

As minimalism is an art form concerned with a highly calculated formal exploration, these drawings are an exercise in restraint. Completed by students from the fall semester Explorations in Drawing course, these artworks challenge the definition of drawing and explore the vocabulary of related form and content.

The free, public exhibitions can be seen Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to

9 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

For more information about the exhibitions, contact Ben Pond, lecturer in art and director of the Center for the Visual Arts, at benjamin.pond@utoledo.edu. For more information about the play, contact Holly Monsos, UT associate dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts and executive director of the Glacity Theatre Collective, at holly.monsos@utoledo.edu.



“Phones” by Emily Pohlman is featured in “Millennials: A Portrait of Generation Next,” which can be seen in the Center for the Visual Arts Gallery through Sunday, Feb. 5.



This untitled work by Kyle Timmons will be part of “Measure Project, Explorations in Drawing: Large-Scale Drawings Inspired by Minimalism,” which will be on display Monday through Sunday, Feb. 6-12.

Film Fridays to continue ‘Love Gone Wrong’ season

By Angela Riddel

The University of Toledo Department of Theatre and Film’s 2011-12 season, “Love Gone Wrong,” will continue Friday, Jan. 20, with Film Fridays.

The films chosen for the series have themes related to “Love Gone Wrong” and, in particular, love or perhaps obsession for one’s art.

Friday film screenings during spring semester will be held at 10 p.m. in the Center

for Performing Arts Room 1039. Admission is \$3 and includes popcorn and soft drink.

Tickets will be available at the Center for Performing Arts Box Office beginning at 8:30 p.m. the evening of the show.

Listed by date, the movies will be:

- Jan. 20 — “The Jazz Singer” (1927, no rating). The son of a Jewish cantor must defy his father in order

to pursue his dream of becoming a jazz singer.

- Jan. 27 — “Truth or Dare” (1991, R). Documentary following singer Madonna on her controversial Blonde Ambition tour in 1990.
- Feb. 3 — “Dave Chappelle’s Block Party” (2005, R). A mix of the comic’s sketches and musical inter-

ludes, inspired in part by the 1973 documentary “Wattstax.”

- Feb. 10 — “Pink Floyd’s The Wall” (1982, R). A troubled rock star descends into madness in the midst of his physical and social isolation.

For more information, go to utoledo.edu/cvpa/theatrefilm/index.html.

Researchers receive \$308,000 American Heart Association grant

By Josh Martin

In the United States each year, half of the 2,000 patients on average who receive heart transplants eventually suffer from acute or chronic rejection of the donated organs. Researchers at The University of Toledo are working to decrease this and related organ rejection statistics, and are receiving financial support from the American Heart Association to do so.

Dr. Wenhao Chen, clinical assistant professor of medical microbiology and immunology, and Dr. Stanislaw Stepkowski, professor of medical microbiology and immunology, are principal and co-investigators, respectively, of a research program that received a \$308,000 grant from the American Heart Association.

Titled "Identification of the Intracellular Regulators Involved Establishing T-Cell Tolerance to Cardiac Allografts," the project investigates the molecular mechanisms that control how T-cells respond to transplants and other foreign bodies introduced to the body. The ultimate goal is to determine how

these mechanisms can be manipulated to get T-cells to tolerate heart and other organ transplants.

T-cells — or T lymphocytes — are a major defense component of the human immune system that protects us from pathogen infections. However, upon transplantation, they also play a central role in rejecting transplanted organs.

"Heart transplantation is the only available therapeutic option for end-stage cardiac failures," Chen said. "Since this is a life-supporting organ and the supply of transplantable hearts is extremely limited, it is critical to avoid heart graft loss due to immune rejection."

He added, "Currently, heart-transplanted patients must take many immunosuppressive drugs daily. These drugs are associated with significant toxicities and increased risks for opportunistic infections and malignancy."

Chen hopes that the body receiving the transplant can be prepared for it more

successfully and without an extensive use of immunosuppressant drugs through a "selective and permanent inactivation/deletion of alloreactive T-cells" — the T-cells that can create problems for transplanted organs.

"In other words, we aim to terminate the T-cell responses to transplanted organs, while T-cell responses to pathogens should not be impaired," Chen said.

Studying the intracellular regulators — the molecular mechanisms or proteins that negatively regulate the T-cells by selectively terminating their functioning — could lead to the eventual ability to control T-cell tolerance in this way.

"Immunologists have put great efforts to induce T-cell tolerance to transplanted organs during the last 50 years. I have been a researcher in this field during the last 12 years. We cannot achieve our research goal because we do not know the molecular mechanisms of T-cell tolerance," Chen said. "Hopefully, our research will change this."

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Dr. Nagi Naganathan, dean of the College of Engineering, said the rankings were further evidence the college had developed relevant online educational experiences consistent with the needs of professionals seeking to advance their careers.

"We are a college committed to invention and innovation at the very core of our being, and I'm proud of the way we've been able to translate that spirit and attitude into the way we deliver our curriculum," Naganathan said.

Gutteridge and Naganathan praised the faculty and staff in their respective colleges as being key to the online programs' success. In addition, Gutteridge thanked Dr. Anand S. Kunnathur, professor and senior associate dean, Dr. Robert Detwiler, graduate program adviser, and Cory Marshall, senior computer instructional technology administrator.

Naganathan called special attention to the efforts of Dr. W. Ted Evans, professor of engineering technology and graduate director of the engineering practice-oriented master's program; Christine Smallman, director of engineering professional education programs; and Dr. Mohamed Samir Hefzy, professor of mechanical engineering and associate dean for engineering graduate studies and research administration.

"We dedicate this recognition to the loving memory of the late Dr. Ella Fridman, former professor of engineering technology, whose untiring efforts as the graduate program director helped to build the program to its current level of excellence," Naganathan said.



Photo by Daniel Miller

MINDING THE GAP: Dr. Willie McKether, assistant professor of sociology, talked about "Improving African-American Male Graduation Rates: Eliminating the Black-White Graduation Gap" last week at a research colloquium. He and Dr. Rubin Patterson, professor and chair of sociology and anthropology, and director of the Africana Studies Program, conducted interviews with 30 first-year African-American male undergraduates during spring semester last year. They learned that while a good number of first-year African-American students feel they are prepared for college from high school, many lack the necessary skill sets to get and sustain good grades in a new environment that requires students to adjust quickly to rigorous college expectations.

Clarification

The Jan. 9 story about Dr. Jiquan Chen, Distinguished University Professor of Environmental Sciences, stated he was the first UT faculty member to be named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). However, Dr. Krishna Shenai, professor of electrical engineering, was named an AAAS Fellow in 2006 and joined the UT faculty in 2007.

New Office for the Student Experience promotes students-centered culture

By Josh Martin

The University is reinforcing its mission of student centeredness with a new office to address student concerns more promptly and reduce the “hassle factor” to lead to student success.

The new Office for the Student Experience is a comprehensive approach to putting students first and also a physical space in the heart of the Student Union to conveniently provide services.

The office, located in Student Union Room 2521 near the Tom Trimble Student Lounge, “can do most anything for students,” said Tony Urbina, senior service excellence specialist.

“The Student Union office is a place where we will receive comments and complaints from students, advance professional training initiatives such as co-op programs, and implement initiatives and revised policies that affect academic and student life issues, such as improving UT’s residence and dining halls,” Urbina said.

Service excellence officers throughout the University also will be available to assist with student concerns with a commitment to respond with a solution within 72 hours. The Office of the Student Experience will monitor requests for assistance for trends and respond by solving the underlying issues.

The Office for the Student Experience is working to enhance the culture of the institution for every person at the University to always put students first, whether that is to do

what one can to address a concern immediately or making a suggestion to streamline a process.

“We are concerned with changing a culture — not just doing one particular thing and walking away,” said Dr. Kaye Patten Wallace, UT vice president for the student experience. “We want to promote top-down change as well as bottom-up change, and the Office for the Student Experience will manage all of this. We believe all of these efforts will chiefly improve retention and graduation rates, since the multiple ways students can interact with the University contribute to their overall success here.”

The Office for the Student Experience recently completed a strategic plan, “Changing the Student Experience,” that will guide efforts to improve the student experience in the key areas of support services, academic support and learning environment.

In addition to the advancements under way, the office will work to enhance student retention with the identification of and assistance for students at risk and enhancing the important faculty-student relationship. The plan also calls to continue the University’s efforts to make all campus buildings and grounds the best they can be.

“It is important to note the strides in the direction of these goals UT has already made, and the Office for the Student Experience will continue to focus on moving this university from ‘good’ to ‘great,’” Patten Wallace said.

Look for online W2 statements through myUT portal

UT employees soon will be able to download W2 statements online through the myUT portal.

Employees will be able to view and print copies of their W2s and corrected W2s online quickly and easily without waiting for the forms to be processed through Payroll, Information Technology and Mail Services.

To avoid delays, make sure you can view your 2010 W2 now; simply log into the myUT portal, myut.utoledo.edu, and click on tax forms in the employee tab.

“We have a goal to complete W2s within the next two weeks,” said Stephanie Tinsley, assistant controller. “We will send out an email notification as soon as the W2s are available online.”

Printing, folding, sealing and mailing the approximately 13,000 paper W2s will take place by the required Jan. 31 date. “The more people opt for the online W2s, the more time and trees will be saved,” she added.

Employees are asked to have up-to-date addresses on file by Wednesday, Jan. 18. Changes may be made online through the myUT portal under the employee tab.

For more information, contact Joanne Houser, interim payroll supervisor, at joanne.houser@utoledo.edu.



Photo by Daniel Miller

PERSONAL ASSISTANCE: Roberta Edgecombe, program coordinator in the Office of Multicultural Student Success, pointed student Mario Ortiz Jr. in the right direction last week in Rocket Hall. She was one of many volunteers for the Student Ambassador Program, which was started last August to help students adjust to campus life during the first weeks of the semester. Volunteers answer questions or direct students to the best place to receive assistance.

UTNEWS

UT News is published for faculty, staff and students by the University Communications Office weekly during the academic year and periodically during the summer. Copies are mailed to employees and placed in newsstands on the Main, Health Science, Scott Park and Toledo Museum of Art campuses. UT News strives to present accurate, fair and timely communication of interest to employees. Story ideas and comments from the UT community are welcome. Send information by campus mail to #949, University Communications Office, Vicki Kroll. E-mail: vicki.kroll@utoledo.edu. Fax: 419.530.4618. Phone: 419.530.2248. Mailing address: University Communications Office, The University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606-3390.

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UT alumna having fun as new Face of FOX Toledo

By Nicolette Jett

If you had a once in a lifetime chance to fulfill your dream, would you seize the opportunity?

UT graduate Jocelyn Cruz did just that when she auditioned and was selected the new Face of FOX Toledo.

"This is an opportunity of a lifetime," said Cruz, 22, originally from Amherst, Ohio. "I have to remind myself every day how lucky I am to have a job right out of college, and especially lucky to have a job doing what I love."

Cruz is the sixth person chosen as the Face of FOX Toledo and is serving as an on-air personality and station representative.

"We had such incredible talent in our top five, so choosing our winner was extremely difficult," FOX Toledo General Manager Gary Yoder said. "We think

Jocelyn Cruz has all the qualities and abilities that we were looking for to take the Face of FOX Toledo to the next level and make this a fantastic year."

While attending UT, Cruz was involved heavily in the Latino Student Union and its peer-mentorship program, Primos. In 2009, she was named UT's first Latino Homecoming queen.

Cruz, who received her bachelor's degree in communication in May 2011, also was an anchor for UT:10 News and worked on UT TV.

She competed with many hopefuls who submitted online entries and auditioned for the opportunity to represent FOX Toledo. The contest trickled from 20 finalists to the top five, and Cruz was selected by votes of judges and viewers.

"Thank you to everyone who has given me endless amounts of encouragement and support throughout my journey to become the new FOX Face," Cruz said.

One piece of advice Cruz gives to all college students and recent graduates: The more real-life experience out in the work force, the better. Cruz, who looks forward to a career in broadcast news, also had an internship during college at Black Entertainment Television.

"Everyone can earn a college degree. Stand out from the crowd. Put yourself out there for as many internships and volunteer opportunities as possible," Cruz said. "The more experience earned early, the better chance to land a job after graduation."



Cruz

Planetarium shows to look at mapping solar system, Big Bird's adventure

Two programs at Ritter Planetarium this month will showcase the new Spitz SciDome XD projector that covers the entire hemisphere of the 40-foot dome with more than 6.5 million pixels.

"IBEX: Search for the Edge of the Solar System" will be shown Fridays through Jan. 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Produced by the Adler Planetarium in Chicago, this program follows the creation of NASA's Interstellar Boundary Explorer, which scientists are using to investigate the boundary between our solar system and interstellar space.

"One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure" will be shown Saturdays through Jan. 28 at 1 p.m.

Tag along with Big Bird and Elmo and their friend from China, Hu Hu Zhu, as they learn about the Big Dipper, the North Star, the sun and the moon.

If weather permits, you also can catch a glimpse of the planet Jupiter at the Brooks Observatory after the Friday evening programs. The planetarium's smaller telescope will be used to look at the sun following the Saturday afternoon shows.

Admission is \$6 for adults and \$5 for children 4 through 12, seniors, and UT students and employees.

See promos for the shows at utoledo.edu/nsm/rpbo.

For more information, call Ritter Planetarium at 419.530.2650 or its 24-hour information hotline at 419.530.4037.

