



New partnership: UT would oversee clinical education, research across ProMedica Health System

At a time when communities nationwide are expecting health-care organizations to find better, more efficient ways to collaborate, The University of Toledo and ProMedica Health System are taking the lead by entering into an academic relationship pending approval at this afternoon's UT Board of Trustees meeting that will significantly strengthen ties between the two organizations.

As a result of this agreement, The University of Toledo will manage and oversee academic endeavors across the ProMedica system under the guidance of a new joint Academic Health Center Board comprised of equal representation from ProMedica and The University of Toledo.

"In signing this agreement, we engage with a strong academic partner that addresses an essential need for ProMedica

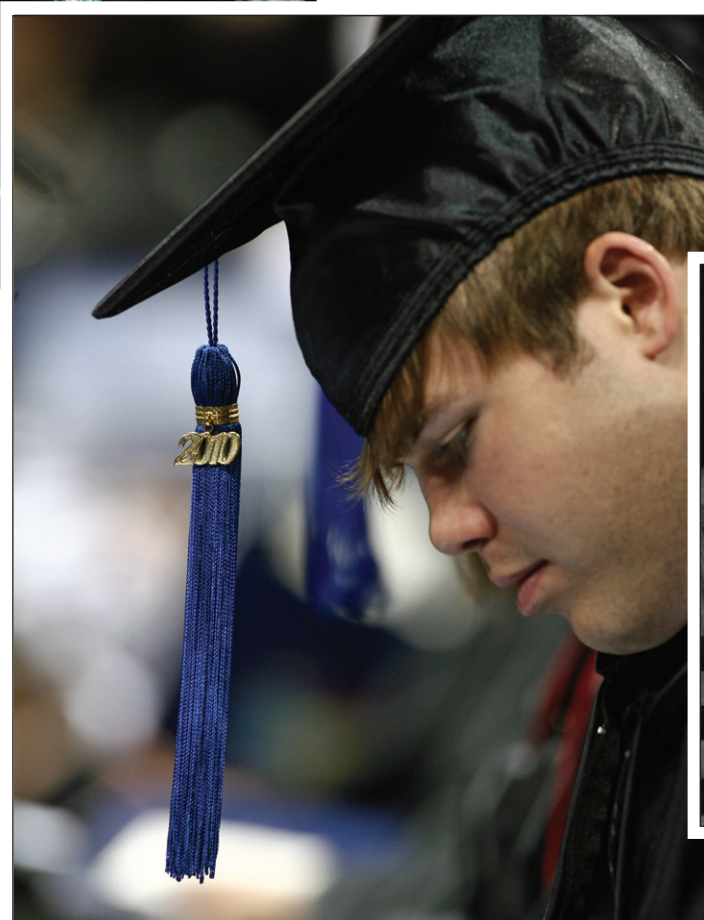
in achieving our vision to increase our role as an academic medical center and to expand our capabilities in clinical education excellence, research and grants," said Randy Oostra, president and chief executive officer for ProMedica.

"This partnership will further strengthen the education University of Toledo medical students and physicians-in-training will receive," said Dr. Jeffrey P. Gold, UT Health Science Campus provost, executive vice president for health affairs and dean of the College of Medicine. "By expanding the clinical experiences of UT students under the guidance of ProMedica physicians, we are creating the next generation of leaders within the medical community."

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Photos by Daniel Miller

GRADUATION DAY: A graduate of the College of Health Science and Human Service gave a smile and a big thumb's-up while a College of Business Administration graduate was reflective during one of UT's recent commencement ceremonies. Eugene "Gene" Kranz, retired NASA flight director best known for leading the Mission Control team to save the Apollo 13 crew, left, shown here shaking hands with President Lloyd Jacobs, returned to his hometown to deliver one of the commencement addresses.



New partnership

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This academic partnership includes collaboration with respect to ProMedica research, grants and residency programs (including the Family Practice Residency Program at Toledo Hospital and Flower Hospital Family Practice Residency Program, Jobst Vascular Surgery Residency and the Toledo Hospital Primary Care Sports Medicine Residency), as well as fellowship, clerkship, nursing, pharmacy, allied health and continuing education.

Additionally, the University will provide administrative assistance in helping facilitate more clinical research conducted at ProMedica.

This academic partnership is built on a foundation of collaboration and cooperation, according to Larry Peterson, chair of the ProMedica Board of Trustees. "As a nonprofit, mission-based health-care organization, ProMedica's overarching goal is to improve health," Peterson said. "Combined with the University's mission to advance knowledge and enhance learning, the communities of northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan will benefit for generations to come as these shared and blended goals will continue to create a community that is the best place to live, learn and grow."

"A strong University of Toledo and ProMedica partnership represents one of this region's untapped resources," said Olivia Summons, chair of The University of Toledo Board of Trustees. "We are proud to work together to improve clinical education and ensure a new generation of professionals is ready to meet the demands of the communities we serve in the years and decades ahead."

Creating a stronger partnership between ProMedica and The University of Toledo will help lead to a more vibrant and robust health-care community that will result in an increase in clinical excellence throughout the region, leaders said.

This academic partnership helps both organizations get ahead of the health-care reform curve, according to Dr. Lee Hammerling, chief medical officer for ProMedica. "Nationwide, resources are shrinking while the need for top-quality health care has never been higher. The enhanced level of cooperation and collaboration between The University of Toledo and ProMedica is proactive and provides a strong, more efficient model as we anticipate the community's needs in this new era of health care."

"This relationship will help create an environment for The University of Toledo

and ProMedica to be recognized among the top tier medical organizations in the country," said UT President Lloyd Jacobs. "Working together will bring increased clinical research opportunities, lead to innovative new treatment options, and ultimately create a higher quality of health care for this region."



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TOLEDO
1872



PROMEDICA
HEALTH SYSTEM

Dear Colleagues,

At a time when the world expects and deserves the health-care community to lead and to find better, more efficient ways to collaborate, we are pleased to inform you that The University of Toledo and ProMedica Health System are in the final stages of formalizing an agreement that will significantly strengthen ties between the two organizations.

As a result of this agreement, many more UT medical students, physicians-in-training and other health professional students will have access to clinical experiences alongside members of the ProMedica team across the system's network of hospitals. In broad terms, UT will oversee health education across the ProMedica system with oversight from a joint UT-ProMedica committee. Additionally, UT will provide administrative assistance in helping facilitate more clinical research conducted at ProMedica.

Creating a stronger partnership between ProMedica and The University of Toledo will help lead to a more vibrant and robust health-care community that will result in an increase in clinical excellence throughout the region. In addition, this relationship will help create an environment for The University of Toledo and ProMedica to be recognized among the top tier medical organizations in the country, as well as increase recognition as a national authority in care, research and education.

Further, this relationship will strengthen our ability to recruit and retain students who become residents and fellows, who in turn become health professionals and researchers. Ultimately, and most importantly, this will only help enhance care to citizens in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan.

A strong University of Toledo and ProMedica Health System partnership represents one of this region's untapped resources. We are proud to work together on behalf of the citizens of this region to improve clinical education and ensure a new generation of professionals is ready to take our places in the years and decades ahead.

More details will follow as this agreement is finalized. You and your colleagues will be essential to the final framework of a partnership that will improve clinical education, increase the pipeline for health professionals in this region at a critical moment, and help support increased funding for the clinical research that will innovate tomorrow's medical treatments.

Thank you for your help as we create a future that will benefit this community for decades.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey P. Gold, MD
Provost and Executive Vice President
Dean, College of Medicine
The University of Toledo

Randall D. Oostra, DM, FACHE
President and Chief Executive Officer for Health Affairs
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This letter was mailed to UT physicians Monday, May 17.

Look for the next issue of UT News June 1.

Correction

The President's Council on Diversity did not establish the Office of LGBT Initiatives as stated in the May 3 story about the town hall meeting that focused on diversity. The council advocated for the office, which was created by the dean of students.

Dr. Florian Feucht's title was incorrect in a May 3 story about faculty members receiving summer grants. Feucht is an assistant professor of educational psychology.

Professor involved in climate change research project reported in Science journal

By Meghan Cunningham

UT Professor of Environmental Sciences Dr. Timothy Fisher is part of a team of scientists who discovered that a flood of fresh water from Lake Superior into the Atlantic Ocean contributed to a cold event 9,300 years ago.

The discovery of what caused a widespread cold anomaly is detailed in the paper called "Freshwater Outburst From Lake Superior as a Trigger for the Cold Event 9,300 Years ago." The paper is posted on the Science Express website, which previews articles that will be published in a future print edition of Science journal.

The scientists propose that a drift dam in the southeastern corner of Lake Superior broke, causing fresh water to surge through the upper Great Lakes and into the ocean via the St. Lawrence Seaway at the end of the last ice age. That rush of fresh water caused the cold event by disrupting the Gulf Stream that pulls warm water north.

The Gulf Stream current brings warm salty water to the North Atlantic, where after cooling, its increased density causes it to sink to the bottom and flow south. The process drives much of the world's ocean circulation pattern.

But when fresh water covers the top of the salt water, that warm water doesn't get the chance to cool and the process is essentially stalled. Without warm water coming from the north, the area cooled and stayed that way for a couple hundred years. While the cold event 9,300 years ago has

been recognized, a mechanism that triggered it had not been put forward.

Fisher is a lead writer and one of eight researchers involved in the paper published in Science; Shi-Yong Yu, a postdoctoral fellow at Tulane University, led the group.

"As geologists, we study past events in Earth's history in association with modern processes to develop a historical context, equipping us to make better decisions for the future," Fisher said.

"While a flood of fresh water such as what happened with Lake Superior at the end of the ice age is a different mechanism than what we see now with global climate change, this information tells us that the North Atlantic Ocean was very sensitive to minor changes in freshwater input," Fisher explained. "Such information is useful as currently the increase in glacier melting on Greenland and mountain glaciers is not only driving seal level rise, it is also increasing the flux of fresh water to the oceans."

Fisher contributed to the research by collecting sediment core samples from small lakes around Lake Superior that showed they were once actually a part of a larger lake in the Lake Superior basin, before the dam broke and the lake fell 43 meters in about a year.

The flood also explains the previously unknown cause of the oxygen isotope changes in Lake Huron and Lake Michigan at that time, when water from Lake Superior rushed into the other lakes, Fisher said.

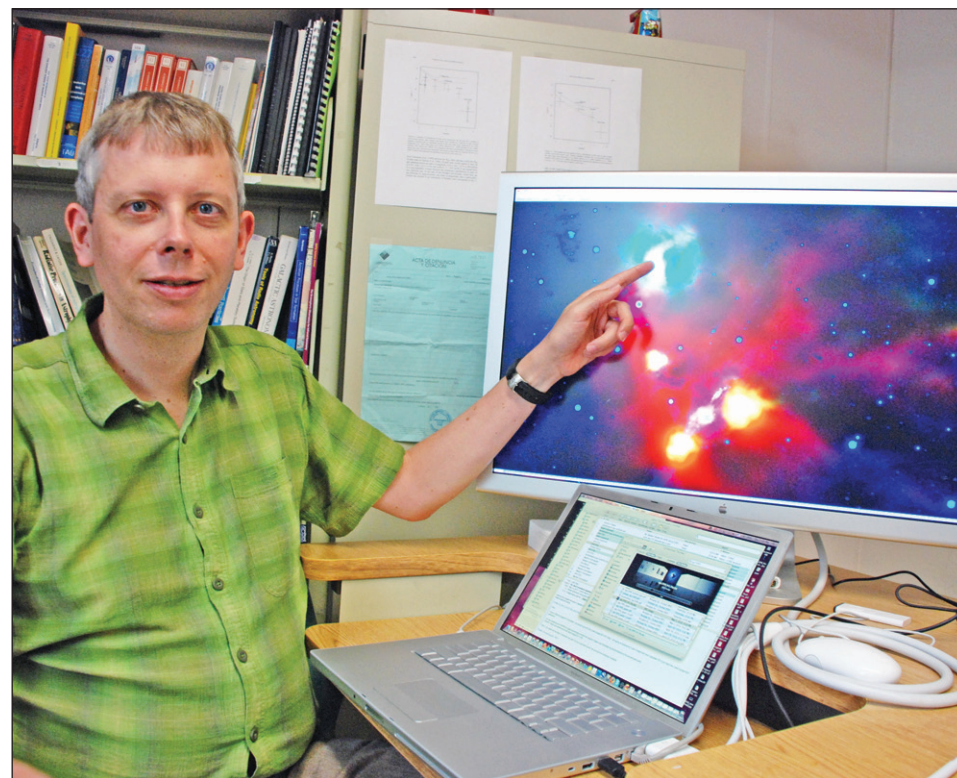


Photo by Curtis Brinkman

STARSTRUCK: Dr. Tom Megeath pointed to NGC 1999, the green cloud in this image taken by Herschel, the European Space Agency's far-infrared telescope. The dark spot to the right was thought to be a cloud of dust and gas, but Megeath discovered it is a hole blown in the side of NGC 1999 by the narrow jets of gas from young stars.

Researcher receives international attention for space discovery

By Meghan Cunningham

An unexpected discovery found with Herschel Space Observatory data has received international attention, and a UT researcher is behind the buzz-worthy research.

Data from Herschel, the European Space Agency's far-infrared telescope, located a surprising vast hole in a dense clouds of gas and dust where young stars form.

Astronomers had seen this black patch in a nursery of young stars before, but the Herschel data combined with that of telescopes confirmed there is really nothing there. This hole seems to be created when the narrow jets of gas from young stars nearby break through the dust and gas of the cloud.

"Part of the study of star formation is what stops star formation, and we just got a better glimpse of how that happens," said Dr. Tom Megeath, UT associate professor of astronomy, who is the principal investigator on the "Herschel Orion Protostar Survey" research project. "This is just a teaser. We're going to be up to our eyeballs in data from Herschel and there will be much more to come."

The European Space Agency and NASA, which is a partner in the Herschel project, released news of this unexpected discovery last week and it was quickly picked up by National Geographic, national CBS and Fox news organizations, and a number of international news and blog websites.

Megeath said he "never would have predicted this level of interest" and is glad to be a part of such a worthwhile research project.

This piece of datum on the unexpected hole is just one part of Megeath's research into star formation in the Orion constellation using the Herschel telescope to delve into the "cold universe" and get the best view yet of stars enshrouded in dust.

Information gained from Megeath's project and his 200 hours with the Herschel telescope will give insight to the origin of our own sun and why our solar system formed the way it did. And as one of the key projects for Herschel, his findings will create a foundation that is likely to impact the future of astronomy.



COLD CUT: Dr. Timothy Fisher, shown here three years ago with a thrust rod of a corer, which he used to recover 1-meter segments of sediment cores from lake ice on Goshorn Lake, an inland lake next to Lake Michigan south of Holland, Mich., conducted similar research on small lakes around Lake Superior.

New autism center poised to meet ‘coming tsunami’

By Cynthia Nowak

Autism is an overwhelming diagnosis for parents and families who receive it, noted Sherry Moyer, executive and research director of UT’s new Center for Excellence in Autism.

Many parents of a child with autism don’t immediately realize what they face, she added: “You’re talking cradle-to-grave care. At some point, one parent might have to quit a job to care for the adult child because there are no services and the child can’t be left alone. They have to choose between planning for retirement or planning for their child’s lifetime care.”

That’s the underserved need behind UT’s first coordinated autism program, part of the Department of Pediatrics. As Moyer explained, “Our primary focus will be on building a network of services in the region, focusing on the entire life span of services — because everybody grows up; kids become adults. When they do, the number of available services is much smaller.”

Professionals in the field, she noted, talk of “a coming tsunami, a million and a half children with autism who will become adults in the next seven years or so. We need to be prepared.”

Preparation was central in laying the groundwork for the center, noted Dr. Joan Griffith, chief and interim chair of the Division of General Pediatrics. Working solo initially, then adding input from local autism service organizations, a consortium representing an internal advisory working group produced a mission statement and objectives. “It is still a fluid document,” Griffith noted.

Griffith pointed to funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and recognition from state service organization OCALI, the Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence. “The support has helped spur a sense of momentum within the University that will be critical to creating a quality, affordable service to the community,” she said.

Following a national search, Moyer assumed the directorship in February. “We’re in the middle of strategic planning, determining our place within the autistic community in northwest Ohio but also in the national arena,” she said, adding that UT would be taking a leadership role: “We will do everything we can to help support the growth of services, research and advocacy because just as important as service delivery is the regulatory and legislative support for those services.”



Moyer

Building on existing services will be vital, she said. “There are folks who do pieces of the necessary services beautifully here in the community. In particular the Autism Society of Northwest Ohio does a great job of sharing resources. We can take that further with educational resources to complement the existing services.”

She’s especially excited about the potential for research synergies: “Education, occupational therapy, medicine, psychiatry, biology, pharmacology, social work, physical therapy — there won’t be too many departments that won’t be playing an active role in collaborations.”

As the mother of an adult son with Asperger syndrome, Moyer understands the lifetime of challenges facing parents of a child with autism — and the question of what happens when the child is grown. “Everything we do today for the youngest child sets the stage for how well that person will be adjusted as a teenager and adult,” she said. “We have to assume that down the road, the family will not be there to shelter them, so we have to help them develop the skills for life.”

The goal is to create an environment for success, she said, with every person living with autism having access to whatever support is needed. “I don’t want anyone left helpless. Making them as successful as they can be — that’s the very best we can hope for.”

Ten years down the line, she sees the UT Center for Excellence in Autism as being a medical destination: “When people around the country think of the life span of autism and the need for successful navigation of resources, I want them to think, ‘Oh yeah — we’ve got to talk to UT.’”

UT receives \$750,000 federal grant to study wind turbines

By Meghan Cunningham

The University of Toledo is one of two institutions in the country selected by the U.S. Department of Energy for funding to advance wind power education and research.

The University was awarded a \$750,000 grant to study the design and development of two-blade wind turbines to generate wind energy from the Great Lakes.

“The two-blade turbine design is much more cost-effective because it weighs less and is less costly to transport and install,” said Dr. Abdollah Afjeh, the principal investigator of the project and professor and chair of the UT Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering. “The rotational speed is also higher, so it can run faster and reduce the torque and mechanical strain on the drive system, resulting in a longer life.”

The University will conduct a study on designing and installing these two-blade wind turbine generators in shallow water, such as lakes, with a less expensive mounting system, Afjeh explained.

Rather than driving a column to install the wind turbine tower in the seabed, UT

researchers suggest an innovative system that mounts it on a floatable gravity foundation. This system would entail simply towing the partial or complete system to the site and sinking the turbine-tower assembly in place and securing it to the sea floor with cables, Afjeh said.

The researchers will conduct their design studies for a 1-megawatt wind turbine, but will consider how it could be scaled up to larger wind turbine models and how it could work for a wind farm.

“Our goal is to optimize this design that would reveal a cost-effective and efficient wind turbine that could be more economically installed for offshore use,” Afjeh said.

The U.S. Department of Energy invested nearly \$3 million to advance the work of 16 institutions regarding wind power. UT and the University of Delaware received the largest awards with \$750,000 each. There were 14 additional colleges and universities that received educational and training grants ranging from \$65,000 to \$200,000.



Photo from Ohio Division of Wildlife

BIG EYES, EVERYONE: The three newest peregrine falcon nestlings high atop the UT Tower played the cuteness card in their public debut last week when two employees of the Ohio Division of Wildlife checked the nest and took this photo. The status of the unhatched egg as well as the babies’ genders will have to wait until the birds are banded, an event tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 21. This is the fourth successful brood for the adult peregrines, Allen and Belle, since the division installed a nesting platform on the tower in 2007.

Researcher receives national honor for hypertension work

By Meghan Cunningham

Dr. Bina Joe, UT associate professor of physiology and pharmacology, thanks her mentors for fostering an interest in science and exploration leading to a successful research career that recently was recognized with a national honor.

Joe received the Young Scholar Award from the American Society of Hypertension Inc., the country's largest organization dedicated to hypertension and related cardiovascular disease, for her work identifying specific genes that contribute to the disorder. She received the award earlier this month at the society's annual scientific meeting and exposition in New York.

"We know hypertension runs in families and something is being inherited, but what that something is we don't know," Joe said.

There are both genetic and environmental factors, such as salt, exercise and weight, which lead to hypertension issues. Joe's laboratory works with segregated rats that have hypertension and those that are resistant to it. By controlling the environmental factors, the researchers can pinpoint genes that contribute to the disorder.

Joe's predecessor and mentor at UT, Dr. John Rapp, identified a gene and her team has found another. There could be several more that contribute to hypertension. After mapping the genes, the focus will switch to

changing the variations in them that lead to problems.

"Usually when a person receives an award for their research, they may not be really doing the work anymore. It's their team. But for me, it's both; I've done the work, and I've led postdoctoral students in doing the work," Joe said. "It's been very gratifying for me to both be part of it and leading a group. I owe it both to my mentors, who I owe my start and earlier career to, and the youngsters who are the future."

The Young Scholar Award recognizes the achievements of outstanding young investigators in the field of hypertension. Candidates for the award must have received an advanced professional degree within the last 15 years and be active in research.



Photo by Ben Asen

HONORED: Dr. Bina Joe received the Young Scholar Award from the American Society of Hypertension from the organization's president, Dr. Henry R. Black. Dr. Nader Abraham, UT professor and chair of the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, was in New York for the presentation at the society's annual meeting.

Sneaker alert! UT to host heart walk May 22

By Kim Goodin Harvey

You don't have to have a heart of gold to earn some green for a good cause this weekend.

Members of UT's Toledo Start! Heart Walk team are lacing up their sneakers for Saturday's annual heart walk. The event, which features a new 10-kilometer race, as well as one- and three-mile walks, will take place at the Glass Bowl and support the American Heart Association.

Cindy Reinsel, secretary in the Department of Pediatrics and UT's company leader for the event, said about 350 faculty and staff members, as well as family and friends, are slated to participate.

"Our goal is to raise \$30,000 or more toward this cause," Reinsel said, noting that UT's 400-member team was the event's largest last year. "We're about halfway there already, but need a great turnout this weekend to reach our goal."

UT's team is still open to faculty, staff, students and friends. To join, e-mail cynthia.reinsel@utoledo.com or anna.chlebowski@utoledo.com, or go to the team website at <http://heartwalk.kintera.org/faf/home/default.asp?ievent=321781>.

There is a \$20 fee for the 10K race, which will start at 10 a.m. and be followed by the free walks. Registration begins at 8 a.m.

Other attractions will include assorted health assessments, food giveaways and a children's play area.

"Last year, UT received more than \$700,000 from the American Heart Association for cardiac research," Reinsel said. "We all know someone who has suffered from heart disease or stroke. This is a disease that affects us all."

American Heart Association partners with College of Pharmacy to identify medication errors

By Charisse Montgomery

The Start! Heart Walk and 10K Run will take place Saturday, May 22, beginning and ending at the Glass Bowl on The University of Toledo's Main Campus.

Free medication review vouchers, valued at \$100 each, will be available at the Heart Walk and at participating local pharmacies, which have committed more than 1,000 total hours, a value of more than \$100,000, for the reviews.

Start! Toledo Heart Walk and the American Heart Association, in conjunction with The University of Toledo College of Pharmacy, are helping to improve the human condition by organizing medication reviews through

Toledo-area pharmacies. Medication reviews allow pharmacists to identify problems that might result from being cared for by multiple physicians or using multiple pharmacies.

Dr. Johnnie Early, dean of the College of Pharmacy, has enlisted the participation of local pharmacies, including community pharmacies Aring Compound Corner, Ryan Pharmacy and Erie Drugs; the UT Medical Center Pharmacy; and some area Costco, Rite Aid, Target and Walgreens pharmacies.

This is the Start! Heart Walk and the American Heart Association's second year offering this health initiative.

Employees celebrate spring commencement



Katrina Schudel, daughter of Jim Schudel, delivery worker 2 in Receiving, received a bachelor of science degree in computer science and engineering technology with a minor in history. She plans to be a network engineer, developer or server administrator for a university or small business.



Allison Schnapp, daughter of Barbara Schnapp, admitting registration specialist in the George Isaac Surgery Center, graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor of arts degree in economics. Allison plans to pursue a master of arts degree in economics at UT this fall.



Philip Burg, son of Eileen Burg, a records management officer in Undergraduate Admission for 13 years, graduated cum laude with a juris doctor. He plans to move to Arizona to start a law career.



Deanna Woolf, senior marketing specialist in the University Marketing Office, shown here with her husband, Jon Woolf, clerical specialist in the UT Police Department, received a master of liberal studies degree. Deanna, who won the \$1,500 onlinecollege.org's 2009 Education Blogger Scholarship, plans to continue working at UT.



Heather Marie Dietsch, daughter of Jennifer J. Dietsch, lead lab technician I in Pathology, received a bachelor of science degree in biology with a minor in chemistry. Heather plans to continue working as a hospital aide in Transport Services at UT Medical Center while looking for a research position and considering graduate school.



NaFisha Gibson, daughter of Tony Gibson, custodial worker in Building Services, received a bachelor of education degree in early childhood education. She plans to teach preschool and eventually hopes to run her own day-care center.



Corinne Sobczak, daughter of Deborah J. Sobczak, coordinator of advising in the College of Pharmacy, graduated cum laude with a bachelor of science degree in pharmaceutical sciences with a minor in chemistry. Corinne begins doctor of pharmacy classes at UT this week.



Mark Whitman, son of Sandy Whitman, administrative assistant in the Office of the Dean in the College of Business Administration, received a master of business administration degree. He plans to continue working at HCR ManorCare in Toledo and develop his professional career.

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Andrew C. Black, son of Dr. Curtis D. Black, UT Merck Professor of Clinical Pharmacy, received a bachelor of arts degree in communication. He plans to work in the broadcasting industry and one day teach at the collegiate level.

UTNEWS

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Center for Creative Instruction staff celebrate family graduations

By Kim Goodin Harvey

There must have been a lot of leftover graduation cake in the Center for Creative Instruction (CCI) last week.

Three CCI employees — Tonya Floyd-Bradstock, Ted Ronau and Roy Schneider — celebrated milestones May 8 when family members graduated from UT.

Mike Bradstock, Tonya's husband, earned an associate of applied science in nursing degree. He said it seems especially sweet, considering he spent 10 years away from college before entering UT's nursing program in 2008.

"It was weird going back to college, especially in a program that's so female-oriented," Mike noted. "But I met other students, both men and women, who were older than me. There were a few times during clinicals when patients thought it was a little strange to have me treating them, but I never felt out of place in school."

Once Bradstock passes his Ohio Board of Nursing examination next month, he has a job waiting in the emergency department of Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center, where he has worked since July as a student nurse extern.

The Bradstocks were grateful Mike was able to attend the College of Nursing at little cost to their family.

"We've been very lucky that he could go to school with full tuition reimbursement," Tonya, medical illustrator in CCI, said. "We essentially went down from two incomes to one

when Mike had clinical rotations, so the tuition program was a lifesaver."

UT extended its tuition reimbursement program to employees on Health Science Campus in 2008.

Sarah Ronau was still flying the week after graduation as she completed her student teaching program at Marshall Elementary School.

She and her father, Ted, good-naturedly talked of dad going back to school to finish a master's degree in progress now that Sarah has earned a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in special education.

She is slated to begin a job with Toledo Public Schools in a few months, depending on the district's fluctuating budget situation.

"I get up in the morning and am excited about what's coming," Sarah said with a grin to match her father's. "It feels like I'm doing something for the greater good, and I've always wanted to do that."

Attending a school close to home was an asset appreciated by both Ronaus.

"We're used to having family nearby," Ted, manager of CCI's Technology Department, said, "and knowing she could come over if she was stressed by classes or just needed to do some laundry was helpful to her."

Schneider had two reasons to celebrate last week, as his son, Mike, earned bachelor's degrees in marketing and professional sales.

Mike, too, has a permanent job secured at Dave White Acura, where he's been employed for three years. Now a sales consultant, Mike began as a porter and put his persuasive skills to use when he pitched his own promotion. Though he earned the promotion, Mike said the White family was adamant that he complete his education.

"They made sure my managers knew school came first and that my schedule had to be flexible for my classes," Mike said. "It was a really productive situation because I could literally apply everything I was learning in school to work the next day."

Roy, manager of medical illustration at CCI, thinks his son flourished, in part, due to UT's closeness to home.

"You're just more relaxed and at peace knowing he's nearby," Roy said. "It was nice to know he wasn't far in case we needed to get

to him because of illness or if he just wanted mom's home-cooked meals."

With a daughter, Candiss, set to graduate from UT's Hospital Administration Program in December, Schneider will have another reason to celebrate this year.



Photo by Chris Mercadante

STILL SMILING: Center for Creative Instruction staffers, back row, from left, Ted Ronau, Roy Schneider and Tonya Floyd-Bradstock, posed for a photo with family graduates, front row, from left, Sarah Ronau, Mike Schneider and Mike Bradstock, who is holding son, Hadyn.



Hannah Fritch, daughter of Kristin and Danial Fritch, test monitor in Testing Services, graduated magna cum laude and with Department of Theatre and Film honors with a bachelor of arts degree in film and video. She plans to produce independent and studio films and videos; she also is interested in screenwriting and making music videos.

In memoriam

Dr. Rane Ramón Arroyo, Toledo, professor of English, died May 7 at age 55. He joined UT in 1997, teaching creative writing and literature. The author of 10 poetry books, seven published plays, a book of short stories and 10 performed plays, Arroyo also won an array of writing awards, including the John Ciardi Poetry Prize, the Carl Sandburg Poetry Prize and a Pushcart Prize. Arroyo recently was named a UT Distinguished University Professor, and he served on the board of the Association of Writers and Writing Programs.

Agnes (Neumann) Metzger, Toledo, who worked at UT 21 years, died May 7 at age 93. She was hired in 1957 as an addressograph operator in the Alumni and Placement Office. She became a supervisor in 1968, and later office machine operator 2 and 3. She retired from the University in 1978.

Ruth E. (Schaiberger) Kurtz, Toledo, an assistant clerk in the Registrar's Office in 1994, died May 9 at age 85.

Helen L. (Growsky) Perkins, a food service worker at MCO from 1989 to 1999, died April 9 at age 71 in Buffalo, W.Va.