

UT NEWS

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SNOWY WEATHER: Freshman Katie Bradley tried to cover her face as she walked on Main Campus with freshman Justin Clark before the storm hit last Tuesday. More than 23,500 calls were made to the 419.530.SNOW line during a three-day period last week.

New online announcement and event submission and delivery system outlined

By Jon Strunk

University Communications Office officials cited the flexibility and immediacy of information delivery as they outlined a new event and message announcement system, which will centralize communications tools on a single Web site and take advantage of RSS feeds — Web-viewed dynamic and constantly updating information streams.

This follows the Jan. 16 UT News announcement of plans to phase out UT's e-mail announcement systems, in favor of the centralized University Calendar, myUT portal-based UT Daily messages and RSS feeds.

From the UToday news page at <http://myUT.utoledo.edu>, users will be able to link to a UT Communications Center, a new Web site that will centralize links to the University Calendar, UT Daily Message center, and Swap and Shop — an announcement system designed for information and messages unrelated to University activities.

Users also will be able to submit for consideration events, messages and news

story ideas, according to Tobin J. Klinger, senior director of University communications.

"The rapid delivery of information is one of this new system's greatest attributes," Klinger said. "Whether you're looking at the University Calendar, UT Daily messages in the portal or RSS feeds in a Web browser, you'll see new additions much quicker than is currently the case."

Klinger acknowledged there would be concern from some following the phaseout of UT Daily e-mails, but stressed that UT Daily messages will still be available within the myUT portal, as well as via the RSS feeds.

"You'll be able to tailor the information you receive to only those areas you're interested in," he said, adding that links to various RSS feeds will be available on the UToday page once the new system launches.

According to Klinger, March 16 has been identified as the date for the final phaseout of the e-mail messages systems.

Open forums for Main Campus provost candidates scheduled starting today

By Vicki L. Kroll

Four finalists for the position of provost on the Main Campus will be interviewing at UT from Monday, Feb. 19, through Thursday, March 1.

"Your participation in the interview process is critical for your feedback about the candidates," wrote search committee co-chairs Dr. Penny Poplin Gosetti, executive assistant to the president, and Dr. Carter Wilson, professor of political science and chair of the Main Campus Faculty Senate, in an e-mail sent to UT community members. "Please make your best efforts to participate. Not only are we selecting final candidates, we are selling the institution to those candidates. For that, we need your help."

All open forums will take place from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Student Union on Main

Campus. Dates, candidates and rooms are:

- **Monday, Feb. 19 — Dr. Rathindra N. Bose**, vice president for research and dean of the graduate school, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, Northern Illinois University, Student Union Room 2582;
- **Wednesday, Feb. 21 — Dr. Robert Sheehan**, interim provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, The University of Toledo, Student Union Room 2592;
- **Monday, Feb. 26 — Dr. Rosemary Romanowski Haggett**, acting director of the Division of Graduate Education and senior adviser of the education and human resources directorate, National Science Foundation, Student Union Room 2592; and

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Photo by Daniel Miller

RAISING AWARENESS: Montez Mason, a first-year law student, right, spoke on a panel with Eyaad Odeh, a first-year law student, and Sarah Alfaham, a junior majoring in history and communication, during a discussion on "Today's Muslim Youth" last Tuesday. The Muslim Students Association held events Feb. 12-17 in honor of Islam Awareness Week.

Students: File FAFSA early

By Stacy Moeller

Have you filed your Free Application for Federal Student Aid yet? UT students are encouraged to file their FAFSA as soon as possible to receive financial aid, especially if they are taking summer classes.

The Office of Student Financial Aid recently has adopted Banner, a new system with requirements that will not allow the use of remaining financial aid. As a result, UT students who planned to use leftover 2006-07 financial aid this summer will no longer be able to.

"The Banner project has been going on for two years," said Carol Baumgartner, director of student financial aid. "The University made the decision to purchase the integrated software package, Banner, and with that comes a great deal of functionality and enhancement in the student's ability to do self-service on the Web. The full implementation of the financial aid Banner module will be complete in summer 2008."

According to Baumgartner, the new

system offers many benefits available to students online, but office hours will remain the same and assistance will be ready for those who need it.

"The new system will allow students to do business online at their own convenience," Baumgartner said. "With this new ability comes compromise; one is summer financial aid switching to the start of the academic year with the start of summer 2007."

Students will be able to spread their 2007-08 financial aid over three semesters — summer and fall '07 and spring '08.

"We urge all students to file their FAFSA as soon as possible, as some federal and institutional aid is limited and on a first-come, first-service basis," Baumgartner said.

The FAFSA completion worksheet is available online at fafsa.ed.gov. Students should log on to complete the filing process.

If you have questions or need assistance with the FAFSA, contact the Office of Student Financial Aid at 419.530.8700.

Positives dominate rehab services accreditation visit

By Jon Strunk

The UT Medical Center Department of Rehabilitation Services anticipates another three years of accreditation following a site visit from Commission on Accreditation of Rehab Facilities (CARF) interviewers.

Also anticipated is accreditation of the department's stroke rehabilitation program, which Dave Kujawa, director of rehabilitation services, said was just one of many positives stemming from the exit interview with accreditors.

"They were very complimentary of our facilities and our use of the space we have," Kujawa said. "Around the country, it's unusual for a department to have all its positions in its accredited programs filled; we do, and they praised us for that as well."

The process also included interviews with current and past patients; many were impressed not only by the breadth of their services, but by the strong communication

and coordination across different service areas.

Interviewers also said they would recommend that the CARF board accept as a model a program developed by The University of Toledo Medical Center Nursing Department and designed to anticipate toiletting needs for those with limited mobility before the situations become emergencies. Cathy Benninghoff, rehab nursing director, and Sarah Myers, acute rehab supervisor, provided the training necessary to implement the program.

"The whole visit was a testament to the quality of services we provide and to the dedication of our staff," Kujawa said.

"The voluntary accreditation lets the public know you've met a high standard set by an outside agency," he said, adding that he expects CARF's official report in about 60 days.

Biomedical engineering to become PhD program

By Cynthia Nowak

It may not be a marriage made in heaven, but it certainly qualifies as a partnership with sky-high potential — that is, the Biomedical Engineering Ph.D. Program, which, if approved, will be available as a joint degree between the colleges of Engineering and Medicine.

The program was being discussed by the two colleges prior to the announcement of the 2006 merger, said Christine Smallman, director of college relations and facilities management in the College of Engineering. "The colleges have always worked collaboratively, so when the merger became public, everyone thought that the program made even more sense," she said.

The interdisciplinary program will promote collaborative research between the faculties of both colleges, according to

Dr. Nagi Naganathan, dean of the College of Engineering. "One of the unique features of this program is an entrepreneurial option designed to encourage students to commercialize their research upon graduation. Innovations at the interface of engineering and medical sciences are well-poised to transform the landscape of health care, including drug-delivery systems, in the 21st century. It is important that our students' doctoral experiences be expanded to include an exposure to entrepreneurship."

The required 90 semester hours (following an earned bachelor's degree) of the curriculum will be split evenly between course hours and dissertation research hours, with the course work made up of classes from two or more colleges. Students' research tracks will determine the specific courses.

Naganathan noted that the Ph.D. program also is likely to attract College of Medicine students who are interested in biomedical engineering research. "It is expected that a number of them will enroll in the program while completing their M.D. degree," he said.

Dr. Jeffrey Gold, provost and executive vice president of health affairs and College of Medicine dean, said, "This program brings together the sophisticated resources of the College of Engineering with the clinical needs of day-to-day medical challenges. This unique intercollegiate program sets the stage for continued scientific discovery and is shaped by true interdisciplinary excellence."

Equally excited about the program, UT President Lloyd Jacobs said, "Providing this doctoral degree is another leap forward, both as a collaboration between colleges and

as an academic option in a highly attractive field that's creating so many innovations in our lives."

Administered jointly by the colleges of Engineering and Medicine, the program will have a director appointed by the two deans with faculty input.

The Board of Trustees will begin considering the program for approval during the Academic Affairs Committee this afternoon, with approval necessary from the Ohio Board of Regents after.

Questions about the program, which the deans hope to implement by September 2007, can be directed to Dr. Arun Nadarajah in the Department of Bioengineering at 419.530.8030 or Dr. Michael Dennis in the Department of Radiology at 419.383.4303.

Open forums

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• **Wednesday, Feb. 28 — Dr. C. Jack Maynard**, provost and vice president for academic affairs and professor of educational leadership, Indiana State University, Student Union Room 2592.

The candidates' curriculum vitae are available at <http://utoledo.edu/offices/president/provost.html>.

The committee reviewed credentials of 48 initial candidates, with the assistance of Baker-Parker, an executive search firm based in Atlanta.

For more information, e-mail penny.poplins.gosetti@utoledo.edu or carter.wilson3@utoledo.edu.

Campus Town Hall With President Lloyd Jacobs

Thursday, March 1

6 p.m.

Student Union Ingman Room

Main Campus

Molière's 'Misanthrope' meets Warhol's world on UT stage

By Kristi Rank

Mind your manners — or don't — but be sure to see the UT Department of Theatre and Film's production of "The Misanthrope," which opens Friday, Feb. 23, in the Center for Performing Arts Center Theatre on Main Campus.

Cornel Gabara, assistant professor of theatre, directs this modernized classic, which is part of the department's 2006-07 season "Facades and Masquerades."

In 1666, Molière's play "The Misanthrope" criticized the social conventions of

1960s. A place of extreme and outrageous behavior, the Factory housed promiscuity and decadent parties populated with ego-centric social climbers racing ferociously to achieve celebrity status. This hungry race for material satisfaction and social standing remains as vicious as ever in the 21st century.

"No matter what time period 'The Misanthrope' inhabits, this story encourages us to acknowledge our own hypocrisies while laughing at the faults and foibles



Photo by Mitchell Lengerich

THE DISILLUSIONED AND HIS BELOVED: Alceste, played by Brett Bowling, a freshman majoring in theatre, and Celimene, played by Nikki Soldner, a senior majoring in theatre and communication, rehearsed a scene from "The Misanthrope."

politeness and flattery to comment on the hypocrisy and cynicism of French society of his time. The conflict centers on the self-righteous protagonist Alceste fumbling with his own moral standards and absolute sincerity while insults and lawsuits are passed around like candy.

"Molière is considered one of the masters of comedy in Western literature, and 'The Misanthrope' is viewed as his most refined work, pointing out human flaws common to us all," Gabara said.

For the UT production, Gabara keeps the spirit of immediacy Molière intended with a comparable contemporary analogy. The story's action takes place in Celimene's house, the fictional hot spot of 17th century Parisian society. Gabara substitutes Andy Warhol's silver-laden Factory walls as the hot spot of Manhattan during the

of Molière's splendid comic creations," Gabara said.

"The Misanthrope" will be performed Friday, Feb. 23, through Sunday, Feb. 25, and from Wednesday, Feb. 28, through Sunday, March 4. Curtain time is 7:30 p.m., with Sunday performances at 2 p.m. A signed performance for hearing-impaired patrons is scheduled for Thursday, March 1.

Tickets — \$13 for general admission; \$11 for seniors and UT faculty, staff and alumni; and \$9 for UT students — are available at the Center for Performing Arts Theatre Box Office or online at www.theatrefilm.utoledo.edu. Box office hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and one hour prior to all events. Tickets can be ordered by phone by calling 419.530.2375.

UT schedules events for National Engineers Week

By Stacy Moeller

The University of Toledo's College of Engineering will host a week full of activities to celebrate National Engineers Week, Feb. 19-23.

"The events of National Engineers Week are meant to be not just celebrations of the past successes from the practice of engineering," said Dr. Nagi Naganathan, dean of the College of Engineering. "These events remind ourselves and others how engineering is not merely about designing products but about impacting the human condition and the quality of life in our society."

The schedule of events is:

Monday, Feb. 19

• **Pop Bottle Rocket Challenge** — This competition will test students in teams of one to two members to create an air pressure rocket using a two-liter or 20-ounce pop bottle to travel the farthest distance in a straight line. The Triangle Fraternity will sponsor the event outside the main doors of Nitschke Hall on Main Campus from 2:30 to 4 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

• **Egg Drop Contest** — Students will compete to design and build a light container that will protect a raw egg when dropped from successive heights. The event will take place on the first floor of Nitschke Hall from 2:30 to 4 p.m. and is sponsored by the Triangle Fraternity and Phi Sigma Rho Sorority.

Wednesday, Feb. 21

• **Engineer for a Day** — Area high school students will meet in Nitschke Hall for lunch with faculty, staff and area business

leaders. After touring the UT College of Engineering Complex, they will spend half a day shadowing a community engineer.

Thursday, Feb. 22

• **Toothpick Bridge Competition** — Students will test bridges they have designed and built using only white glue and toothpicks by adding weight until the structure fails. Bridges must have a minimum span of 10 inches and a mass less than 1.4 ounces. The contest is sponsored by the Society of Women Engineers and will be held at 3 p.m. in Nitschke Hall.

• **Egg Launcher** — Students will design an apparatus that will protect an egg launched from a trebuchet. The launching will take place from 3 to 5 p.m. in Nitschke Hall.

Friday, Feb. 23

• **JETS Competition** — All high schools are invited for a math competition that starts at 8:30 a.m. and goes until 2:30 p.m. on the first floor of Nitschke Hall.

• **Girl Scout Overnight** — Some 120 Maumee Valley Girl Scouts will participate in engineering activities from 8 p.m. until midnight. They will then stay overnight in the building and go home at 8 a.m. Saturday.

• **Rube Goldberg Competition** — Students will compete to see who can construct the most creative and complex contraption to take a whole orange, juice it, and pour the juice from a pitcher into a cup in 20 steps or more. The contest will be held at 7 p.m. on the first floor of Nitschke Hall.

For more information, contact Christine Smallman, director of college relations and facilities management for the College of Engineering, at 419.530.8212.

UTNEWS

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Make-A-Wish Foundation to make dream come true for UT employee's granddaughter with trip to Disney World

By Stacy Moeller

Mickey Mouse, here they come! Make-A-Wish Foundation is granting a wish to Adult Psychiatry Secretary 2 Bonnie Ferguson's granddaughter, Amber Heiss, with a trip to Disney World in Orlando, Fla.

"I am overwhelmed at the generosity and outpouring of love received from Make-A-Wish," Ferguson said.

"Amber is very excited," Ferguson added. "Even though she cannot speak, she understands far more than we realize and always surprises us with her gestures and beautiful eyes."

Amber is 5 years old and has Rett Syndrome, a neurological disorder seen primarily in females. It is usually caused by mutation of the MECP2 gene on the X chromosome. Early developmental milestones appear normal, but between 6 and 18 months of age, there is a delay or regression in development, particularly affecting speech, hand skills and coordination.

A hallmark of Rett Syndrome is re-



FAMILY PHOTO: Bonnie Ferguson, center, holds her granddaughter, Mariah, and is flanked by granddaughters Hayley and Torie, with top row, from left, Jay, Amber, Karl and Tami Heiss.

petitive hand movements that may become almost constant while awake. Other symptoms include seizures, irregular breathing and curvature of the spine.

Amber's face can be seen on billboards throughout the Toledo area as she was selected as one of five Star Wish Kids for the upcoming 13th Annual Make-A-Wish All-Star Celebrity Sports Auction to be held Thursday, Feb. 22, at the SeaGate Convention Centre in Toledo. Former Pittsburgh Steelers running back Rocky Bleier will be the featured speaker at the event, and more than 300 items will be auctioned.

Ferguson said, "Working in the Department of Psychiatry, I have the opportunity to observe faculty providing compassionate care and humanitarian services, which are much needed in our community."

More information on Rett Syndrome can be found at www.rsrf.org or go to Amber's Web site at www.caringbridge.org/oh/amberheiss.

Students First Award winners for February announced

By Matt Lockwood

An hour before UT was forced to close early due to heavy snowfall last Tuesday, two employees armed with legal pads, pens and business cards ready to tackle whatever issue for which they were summoned entered the Levis House to meet with President Lloyd Jacobs.



President Lloyd Jacobs, center, posed for a photo with, from left, Amber Aziza, Sammy Spann, Julie Quinonez and Janine Losek.

Although they work in very different areas, Sammy Spann, director of Camp Adventure in the Judith Herb College of Education, and Julie Quinonez, assistant registrar on the Main Campus, were called to the Levis House for the same reason.

Spann and Quinonez were named

February's Students First Award winners and presented with gift certificates by Jacobs.

Although the winners were caught off-guard by the awards, it came as no surprise to those who nominated them.

UT junior Amber Aziza nominated Spann, who has worked with Camp Adventure for five years, because she said, "When I hear student-centeredness, I think of Sammy. Working in the office with him I see how dedicated he is to students even after they graduate. He continues to call them and treat them as part of the family after they leave."

Camp Adventure's purpose is to bring magical moments to children at U.S. Department of Defense Child Development Centers for eight to 12 weeks during the summer. U.S. college students run the camps and are trained in specifics that include activities, songs and games.

During the three years of the program at UT, more than 450 students have participated in Camp Adventure, serving in places that

include Guam, Germany, Iceland, Russia, China and Japan.

A doctoral student himself, Spann said he loves to see College of Education students develop as leaders through Camp Adventure.

"I think the little bit extra attention we give our students is the reason our program is the youngest yet the largest Camp Adventure training site in the nation," Spann said.

Quinonez has been with the Registrar's Office for almost 10 years and currently supervises the student records area.

She said what she likes about the job is "being able to get things done."

That includes reviewing and responding to student requests for administrative adjustments related to class registration due to extraordinary circumstances such as illness or a death in the family.

Janine Losek, administrative secretary in the Registrar's Office who nominated Quinonez, said, "Many of the students want to talk with someone, not just fill out forms, and although she is extremely busy, Julie has a box of tissues in her office and is always available to meet with students."

Quinonez said making time to help others comes naturally to her because that's how she was raised.

"I don't view it as student-centeredness, I like to think of it as acting people-centered," Quinonez said.

Dr. Carol Bresnahan, vice provost and chair of the Students First Award selection committee, said the winners were chosen out of dozens of impressive nominations.

To submit nominations, visit utoledo.edu/commissions/studentcenteredness.

In memoriam

Dr. Robert H. Garrett, Lake Wales, Fla., died Feb. 7 at age 83. The longtime Toledo physician served as a trustee and president of the UT Alumni Foundation and as an original trustee of the UT Corporation, which later became the UT Foundation. Garrett received a bachelor of science degree in biology from the University in 1948. A lifetime member of the UT Alumni Association, he was a Phi Kappa Psi member and student body president while attending the University.