

## Six pharmacists gain pharmacotherapy certification from national board

By Jim Winkler

**S**ix College of Pharmacy faculty and UT Medical Center Pharmacy Department pharmacists have earned certification as pharmacotherapy specialists from the Washington, D.C.-based Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties (BPS).

They are Drs. Megan Kaun, director of advanced experiential programs in the college; Jessica Shimman, director of introductory experiential programs in the college; Martin Ohlinger, assistant professor and director of the critical-care specialty residency program; Mariann Churchwell, assistant professor; Bryan Dotson, critical-care resident; and Russell Smith, UT Medical Center Pharmacy Department operations manager.

To achieve certification, the six candidates successfully passed a 200-item exam administered last fall that covered major

areas of clinical practice and demonstrated advanced postdoctoral training or work experience in pharmacotherapy.

Pharmacotherapy specialists — pharmacists with extensive clinical training and experience — work to ensure safe, appropriate and economical use of drugs in patient care. They are often members of a multidisciplinary health team, providing direct patient care and drug information to other health-care professionals. They assess patients' needs to determine appropriate drugs and advise patients how to use medications properly.

The certification is the pharmacy profession's highest credential in the area of pharmacotherapy, a field that was recognized as a pharmacy specialty in 1988.

The six, among 868 people nationwide

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## Sackler Foundation endows visiting lecture in neurosciences

By Matt Lockwood

Dr. Raymond Sackler and his wife, Beverly, international philanthropists with a long history of supporting scientific research and the medical sciences, have established a new endowment at The University of Toledo in collaboration with the College of Medicine.

The Raymond and Beverly Sackler Visiting Professor/Lecture Endowment in Neuroscience will bring a visiting expert in neuroscience to UT each year to deliver a lecture to students, faculty, staff and alumni,

as well as share knowledge in smaller groups.

In recent years, the Sackler Foundation also has endowed a visiting professorship in the medical sciences and funded a major cancer research laboratory at UT.

"Once again, Raymond and Beverly's generosity, coupled with their dedication to improving the human condition, will benefit The University of Toledo for decades to come," said Dr. Jeffrey P. Gold, executive vice president for health affairs, Health Science Campus provost and dean of the College of Medicine. "I'm extremely proud of this endowment because it will bring invaluable knowledge in the neurosciences to our students, staff and faculty."

In addition to their support of the medical sciences, the Sackler family has been a dedicated sponsor of multidisciplinary research in astronomy, physics and mathematics around the world.

The Sackler endowment was established at the UT Foundation

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Dr. Raymond and Beverly Sackler



Photo by Daniel Miller

**SNOW THROWER:** Rick Seward, UT grounds supervisor, recently shoveled snow from the steps to one of the entrances of University Hall on Main Campus.

## Administrators push for 'Red Alert' sign-up in wake of NIU tragedy

By Tobin J. Klinger

**T**he eyes of the nation are again focused on a college campus shooting, this time at Northern Illinois University, and UT administrators are asking that students, faculty and staff register with an emergency alert system in an effort to increase preparedness should such a tragedy occur closer to home.

"Unfortunately, this week has been an eye opener when it comes to uses of our

'Red Alert' system and its importance," said Bill Logie, vice president for safety and human resources. "The tragedy at Northern Illinois University shows us the dire need for a system like 'Red Alert' and full participation by students, faculty and staff."

Initiated last fall, "Red Alert" is a method to communicate critical information to students, faculty and staff as quickly as possible, through text or voice messaging to

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## Sackler Foundation

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with the income from the fund to be used exclusively to support the visiting professorship program. The endowment will be administered and maintained by the foundation under the leadership of Gold and the incoming chair of neurosciences.

Dr. Sackler, a physician and co-founder of Purdue Pharma, a multinational pharmaceutical company, received an honorary degree in 2006 from the former Medical University of Ohio.

## Pharmacists

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who earned certification by passing the test, join the ranks of more than 4,500 U.S. pharmacists who have earned pharmacotherapy certification since the BPS started its program some 20 years ago, according to Dr. Steven J. Martin, chair of the College of Pharmacy's Department of Pharmacy Practice.

UT now has eight faculty members who are board-certified pharmacotherapy specialists. One faculty member, Dr. Mary Borovicka, has dual certification in pharmacotherapy and psychiatric pharmacy.

"Pharmacists must pass a licensure exam in order to practice, but pharmacists who provide direct patient care beyond dispensing may become certified for their pharmacotherapy expertise," Martin explained. "The college is very proud of their accomplishment. Earning board certification in pharmacotherapy is a rigorous process that deserves full recognition."

"This is a momentous achievement in pharmacy practice for northwest Ohio, pro-

viding a significant therapeutic advantage to patients in the care of these pharmacists," said Dr. Johnnie L. Early II, dean of the College of Pharmacy.

"Russell Smith adds to the number of certified individuals in the UT Medical Center Department of Pharmacy," said Joel Tavormina, UT Medical Center director of pharmaceutical services. "His certification is a value-added bonus for our patients' safety and acuity of care in the formulation of both professional staff education programs and policy and procedure upgrades."

To maintain certification, pharmacotherapy specialists must keep an active pharmacy license and recertify their qualifications every seven years through either an examination or completion of a BPS-approved professional development program.

In addition to pharmacotherapy, pharmacists can become board certified in nuclear, nutrition support, oncology or psychiatric pharmacy.



Photo by Daniel Miller

**REAL JEM:** Dr. Mae Jemison shared a laugh with students last week during a meet-and-greet event that was held before her public talk. The visit by the first African-American woman who orbited Earth as a member of the space shuttle Endeavour crew was one of many events at UT in honor of Black History Month.



Photo by Jack Meade

**CERTIFIABLE:** Five College of Pharmacy and UT Medical Center pharmacists who were joined by Dr. Johnnie Early, College of Pharmacy dean, third from left, smiled after earning certification as pharmacotherapy pharmacists. From left are Drs. Russ Smith, Jessica Shimman, Mariann Churchwell, Martin Ohlinger and Megan Kaun. Dr. Bryan Dotson, not pictured, also gained certification.

## UT pledges to help Lucas County's uninsured residents with donation

By Matt Lockwood

The University of Toledo Medical Center, which each year provides thousands of dollars of uncompensated health care, has donated \$10,000 to support CareNet, Lucas County's health insurance program for uninsured residents.

"In addition to the care our hospital and physicians offer through CareNet, we believe that supporting this initiative is the right thing to do," said Dr. Jeffrey P. Gold, executive vice president for health affairs, Health Science Campus provost and dean of the College of Medicine.

CareNet provides health care on a

sliding scale for eligible low-income Lucas County residents who do not have health insurance and do not qualify for governmental health-care programs. The goal is to have patients receive health care before serious or emergency medical conditions arise.

According to CareNet's last available annual report in 2006, services provided to members that year were estimated at \$12.6 million based on Medicaid reimbursement rates.

Mark Chastang, vice president and executive director of UT Medical Center, serves on the CareNet Board of Directors.

## Check out UToday

Don't forget to bookmark UToday at [myut.utoledo.edu](http://myut.utoledo.edu).

## Second case of mumps suspected in residence hall

University officials are working with the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department after a second suspected case of mumps was reported by a resident in Ottawa House East.

According to Norine Wasielewski, senior director of University Health Services and Family Medicine, the report comes on the heels of a case reported earlier this month in the residence hall on Main Campus.

University officials began notifying students in Ottawa East immediately, working to identify other individuals who may have been in close contact with the student and may be at some risk, Wasielewski said. Students in the residence hall have been asked to confirm that they have been previously immunized against the mumps virus and notify the student health service accordingly within five days.

"Most people are immunized as part of two mumps, measles and rubella (MMR) boosters given to children," Wasielewski said. "If you haven't been vaccinated, or if you received only one of the inoculations, we need you to visit the Student Medical Center on the Main Campus to be fully vaccinated."

MMR immunizations are available at the Student Medical Center. One dose of the MMR vaccine prevents about 80 percent of mumps cases. Having the second dose prevents approximately 90 percent of cases.

Symptoms, such as fever, headache, muscle aches, fatigue, loss of appetite and, later, swelling of the parotid salivary glands located near the ear are usually managed with the help of primary care physicians. Although unusual, complications include deafness, meningitis or sterility. There is no specific treatment for mumps.

Wasielewski encourages students, faculty and staff to call their primary care physicians or the Student Medical Center at 419.530.3451 immediately if they experience these symptoms. Let medical personnel know about possible symptoms so transmission to others can be minimized.

Other measures that help prevent the transmission of the mumps virus include:

- Wash your hands with soap for 20 seconds or longer, or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze.
- Do not share food, drinks or utensils.
- Stay home if you develop symptoms consistent with mumps.

Symptoms typically appear about 18 days after exposure, but the incubation period can last for 12 to 25 days. The virus can be transmitted by those infected with it three days before they experience symptoms through about nine days after their glands have become swollen.

## Nominations sought for Outstanding Adviser Awards; deadline is Feb. 22

By Shannon Wermer

Do you know an academic adviser who is committed to students' academic success or has a reputation for helping students resolve conflicts in academic planning?

Nominate that individual for the 2008 UT Outstanding Adviser Awards.

Awards will be presented at the annual Academic Honors Banquet Friday, April 25, at 6 p.m. Recipients will receive \$1,500.

Nomination forms are available at the college student services offices, Carlson

Library, Student Union, Rocket Hall and Student Recreation Center. Forms also can be accessed at [www.utoledo.edu/offices/provost/advisor\\_award](http://www.utoledo.edu/offices/provost/advisor_award).

Completed nomination forms must be electronically submitted online or received in the Office of the Provost, University Hall Room 3190, by no later than 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 22, to be considered.

For more information, contact Robin Smith-Calhoun, executive coordinator for the Office of the Provost, at 419.530.2840.

## UT Faculty Club to offer winetasting

By Shannon Wermer

The UT Faculty Club will host a wine-tasting event Friday, Feb. 29, starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Toledo Hilton on the Health Science Campus.

The event will be presented by Rachel Wesley of Hall Wines and the theme will focus around the leap year.

The Faculty Club is a not-for-profit organization for the faculty and administration of The University of Toledo. The group meets at the Toledo Hilton on the

Health Science Campus, and its mission is to preserve and promote social interaction between the faculty and administration at UT.

The event costs \$20 per person for Faculty Club members and \$25 per person for non-members.

To RSVP or pay for your membership, contact the Alumni Office at 419.530.2586 no later than Friday, Feb. 22. For more information, contact Brian Hickam at 419.530.4493.

## 'Red Alert'

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mobile phones.

"It allows us to get the word out about crucial situations to the masses," Logie said. "But it works only if you have registered your emergency contact numbers within our system."

Additionally, University leaders have decided to expand the use of the "Red Alert" system to include situations where classes are canceled due to inclement weather conditions, following such a situation Feb. 12.

"When we initially conceived of 'Red Alert,' our intention was to limit its use to extreme safety situations," Logie said. "However, the need to cancel classes rapidly earlier

this week brought to light another excellent use for 'Red Alert.' We need to thank our students, particularly our student newspaper, for helping us recognize the natural fit between 'Red Alert' and inclement weather closures."

To register your information, go to the UT Portal (<http://myut.utoledo.edu>) and click on the "Red Alert" button on the left side. You will be asked to provide a cell phone number and an e-mail address.

According to Logie, a system-wide test has been scheduled for noon Thursday, Feb. 28, and students, faculty and staff are encouraged to sign up prior to the test to help ensure complete functionality.

**Memorial service for  
Northern Illinois University shooting victims  
Thursday, Feb. 21, noon  
Student Union Ingman Room on Main Campus**

### Read about it this week on UToday:

Chemistry deans, chairs of Chinese universities visit UT

University slates events for National Engineers Week

Jazz programs to be held Feb. 21, March 11

See art show on Health Science Campus

Shapiro Writing Contest to take place Feb. 25-28

## 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](mailto: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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## Advisers honored with Students First Award

By Liene Dekere

Two UT employees who were honored with the Students First Awards for the month of January put their hearts into making the experience of students as full and enriching as possible.

Dr. Linda Smith, senior lecturer and adviser in the University Honors Program, and Beth Gerasimiak, adviser in University College, were chosen from among many strong nominees.

"It was very gratifying to receive the award because it shows that my efforts on behalf of the students are noticed and appreciated," Smith said. "I don't do it at all for the recognition or awards, but it is important to me that the University really shows that it cares about the students as people. I really care myself and that's why I do whatever I can when students need help."

Smith approaches student centeredness from both sides of the desk: She received her master's, law and doctoral degrees from UT and is pursuing a master's degree in community counseling in the College of Health Science and Human Service while advising and teaching in the Honors Program.

She serves as co-adviser for UT's Student Honors Council and organizes events for students and parents. She has reviewed and assessed the Honors Program's first-year readings courses, and helped establish UT Alumni Association honors affiliates in Toledo and Columbus.

In addition, Smith is the UT liaison for the Washington Center Internship Program and is the adviser for UT's Society for Environmental Education.

This year she said she will lead 24 students as they "walk in the footsteps of Socrates, Plato and Sophocles" in a course that will take place in Greece.

"She is a great adviser, friend and confidante to our honors students. She does it for no reward but the love of her students and the desire to see them succeed," said Smith's nominator, Dr. Tom Barden, director of the Honors Program.

Gerasimiak has worked in University College in several capacities for a number of years, and now serves as an adviser.

She believes that there is no such thing as a dumb question, and does her best to give students the answers and information they need to pursue their programs success-



Photo by Jack Meade



Photo by Terry Fell

**SPECIAL DELIVERIES:** President Lloyd Jacobs recently surprised Dr. Linda Smith, top, and Beth Gerasimiak with gift cards for winning Student First Awards in January.

fully. She puts students first, treats them with sensitivity, and makes herself available to them above and beyond the call of duty.

Among the students that Gerasimiak helps are older students seeking financial assistance in UT's Program 60.

"I was very happy and humbled to receive the Students First Award. It is so nice that the University and students recognize us," Gerasimiak said.

Her nominator, Sean Robertson, a student seeking to complete a degree from out of state through a UT distance-learning program, praised her dedication and patience.

"Beth ensured that I got enrolled, scheduled classes and developed a plan to graduate," Robertson said. "She has made me feel that this is something I can do and put a plan together to make it happen. She is always there to answer questions, no matter how many times I ask the same one."

Smith and Gerasimiak both received a \$75 gift card from Barnes and Noble and a \$25 gift card from Starbucks. At the end of the academic year, one winner will be chosen to receive a \$1,500 prize.

## Local tax withholdings available to some employees

By Kim Harvey

Employees in five nearby cities now may have local incomes taxes withheld from their paychecks.

"The University is pleased to offer this convenient option to many of our employees," said Bryan Dadey, interim controller. "All employees have income taxes withheld based on where they work, which for most of us is the city of Toledo. Some employees are responsible for secondary income taxes that are based on where they live. If your home city does not offer a full, reciprocal tax credit for city of Toledo taxes, you're responsible for paying your local taxes. And when it isn't coming out of our paychecks, many of us don't think about putting money away for that purpose."

Employees who live in the following cities can choose to have local taxes withheld from their checks:

- Bowling Green;
- Ottawa Hills;
- Perrysburg;
- Swanton; and
- Waterville.

"We chose these cities based on the number of employees who live in them," Dadey said. "The Payroll Department will withhold the full local income tax rate for the employee's city of residence once the employee elects the voluntary offer. But remember that the withholdings will not amount to the difference between the local tax rate and the reciprocal tax credit for the city of Toledo's local taxes."

To select local income tax withholdings for the cities mentioned above, each employee must complete a Voluntary Local Income Tax Withholdings Election Form located on the Payroll Department's Web site at <http://payroll.utoledo.edu/Forms.asp>.



Photo by Daniel Miller

**POETRY MAN:** Quincy Troupe recently read poetry from his book, *The Architecture of Language*, to kick off UT's celebration of Black History Month. The best-selling author of *The Pursuit of Happiness* also gave a talk and signed books on Main Campus.

## In memoriam

**Frank E. Nowicki Jr.**, Swanton, who worked at UT 14 years, died Feb. 8 at age 78. In 1975, he joined the UT staff as a carpenter in the Physical Plant. He was named a building maintenance supervisor in Maintenance Services in 1986 and retired from that position in 1989.