

Robotic surgery machine provides UT Medical Center patients unmatched surgical treatment

By Jon Strunk

Leaders for years in performing minimally invasive urologic surgery with less tissue damage and faster healing times, the UT Medical Center now has the da Vinci® S HD™ Surgical System, the newest generation of robotic surgical technology, to augment the region's most experienced minimally invasive urologic surgeons.

UTMC is the only hospital in the area currently operating the latest generation of this equipment.

The da Vinci S HD consists of four, thin robotic arms inserted into strategically placed incisions, often no bigger than a centimeter. Physicians sit at a console unit off to the side of the operating table and, with hand and foot controls and a 3-D, high-definition view, conduct the surgery.

"The da Vinci S HD provides doctors with increased visibility, more precise control and a wider range of motion," said Dr. Matthew Rutter, UT assistant professor of urology, who performed the first da Vinci surgery at UTMC Sept. 25. "It minimizes scars, pain, recovery time, risk of infection, hospital stay — about the only thing increasing is UTMC patients' peace of mind."

Since 2002, when he was recruited to UTMC to start a laparoscopic urologic sur-

gery program, Rutter has performed nearly 1,000 of the minimally invasive urologic procedures. He was first in the region to remove a prostate via laparoscopic surgery and has performed more than 100 minimally invasive kidney procedures during his time at the University.

"To have the newest da Vinci technology is also important from an educational point of view," Rutter said. "It's essential that the next generation of surgeons learn on the most modern technology available."

According to Rutter, patients' expectations are driving the move toward robotic surgeries. He said da Vinci is rapidly becoming the standard of care patients demand, and with this machine, UT Medical Center is at the forefront.

For example, Rutter said that five years ago, 4 percent of all prostate removal surgeries (prostatectomies) were done with the robotic machine. Last year it was about 40 percent. In 2007, the estimate is that 70 percent of all prostatectomies will use da Vinci; in the next five years, the figure could be as high as 90 percent.

"And that's just one type of urologic surgery," he said, identifying kidney operations and more than 20 other minimally



Photo by Daniel Miller

PRECISION PAIR: Dr. Matthew Rutter demonstrated the da Vinci S HD at the UT Medical Center.

invasive procedures he can perform using da Vinci.

"The da Vinci S HD is just the latest example of UTMC's dedication to performing surgeries while minimizing the parts of the body affected by the procedure as well as the time needed to recover," said Mark

Chastang, vice president and executive director of UTMC.

Chastang added that while UTMC's da Vinci S HD is dedicated to inpatient procedures, its minimally invasive nature speaks to a larger health-care philosophy that UT has holistically embraced.

She shoots, she scores, she uses her camera for life

By Cynthia Nowak

They say the camera doesn't lie — Stephanie Matthews' camera doesn't lie still. The 1995 College of Arts and Sciences graduate has been pursuing a career in professional photography for only two years, but her visibility and energy play like a shooter with a much longer career. "I almost can't believe what's coming up!" exclaimed Matthews when asked about her calendar.

That includes the selection of her fine art photos up for one more week at UT's Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women. Admirers of color, light, passion, storytelling — in short, anyone interested in being human — should head for the free exhibit, which closes Friday, Nov. 16.

Columbus, where Matthews hangs her lens, is a frequent artistic venue. This



IN THE WINGS: "No Words" by Stephanie Matthews is from her "Urban Angels" series.

past spring, her collaboration with Isadora Duncan Dance Foundation Artistic Director Lori Belilove resulted in "The EveryWoman Series: The Red Thread," which premiered at Columbus' Southern Theatre. "The red thread is the bloodline that binds us all as humans, but also women as givers of life," Matthews explained.

Women also figure prominently in the Fresh A.I.R. Gallery's exhibit "The Sun Rises: Breaking Patterns, Breaking Free," a collaboration between Matthews and mixed-media sculptor Aubrey Victoria Touchman. According to the gallery, it's intended to "embody the process of being born anew: healing and resting, dispelling the cycle, destroying racism, learning to fly."

"As part of the exhibit, I did a series of

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UT Medical Center physicians, nurses getting new pagers

By Jim Winkler

More than 1,200 University of Toledo Medical Center administrators, physicians, nurses and other health providers are getting new pagers starting the first week in December.

The hospital has signed an agreement with Texas-based American Messaging Paging Services to provide pagers, replacing Arch Wireless. American Messaging, the country's second largest wireless messag-

ing company with more than 1.2 million customers, scored the best on a request for proposals sent earlier this year to pager companies.

Steve Swartz, interim chief technology officer, said the firm has a solid track record.

"Their customer support infrastructure, combined with world-class technology and resources, is second to none," he said. "We

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She shoots

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photographs employing hands on a clock to evoke the fact that every two-and-a-half minutes, a woman in this country is sexually assaulted," Matthews said. The refined overlaid with the repellent is intentionally unsettling.

Matthews' distinctly non-cherubic "Urban Angels," exhibited at the Sean Christopher Gallery in Columbus, are unsettling in a different way.

"I photographed people wearing black angel wings at abandoned houses and urban locations, almost as if I was sneaking up on them, because you know, angels aren't something you see. And they're going about as a part of our existence," Matthews said.

Obviously, Stephanie Matthews intends her art for social engagement. Take the Red String Collective, which she founded this year. "It's artists committed to the healing aspects of their work," she said.

"I'm creating several programs specifically for nonprofit organizations in central Ohio. The first is called Flowers for the Future, which I did for Prevent Child Abuse Ohio. I've arranged for a number of floral photographers to create original flower portraits that will be sponsored. The proceeds will benefit other programs."

She's also proposed a community horticultural program for a Columbus hospital. "It will allow kids who are patients to grow a garden on the hospital grounds, then pay it forward with gardens in their own yards. With video games and instant gratification so popular, here are some new life skills for kids," she said. "Gardening forces you to be nurturing and patient."



BLOOMING: Stephanie Matthews took this photo, "Bella," for Flowers for the Future.

And she'll be back in New York — she interned with New York City fashion photographer Matthew Jordan Smith — for an exhibit at the National Museum of Dance in Saratoga Springs. "I'll be there for two months, giving talks and working with area dancers," she said.

Her pace isn't wearing her down, she added. "I've decided that my personal mission is to bring awareness to issues, using my photographs. That's the power I've been blessed with. People see my images and they stop to process them, think about them. So I say, let's take it a step further and use the arts toward healing."

Her Web site: www.stephaniematthews-photography.com.

Award for business complex shows confidence in college's vision

By Jon Strunk

UT officials are calling a large grant to the College of Business Administration by the Kresge Foundation a strong vote of confidence and a validation of the college's vision for its future.

The \$900,000 Kresge grant — a challenge grant, meaning UT must raise money to match the award amount — will go to pay for physical and technological infrastructure of the new Savage and Associates Complex for Business Learning and Engagement, which had its groundbreaking last month just north of Stranahan Hall on Main Campus.

tutional advancement, said the Kresge Foundation's dedication to a project even after they award the money is fairly unique.

"Not only does Kresge help guide you during the application process, they work with you after a grant is awarded to help you achieve what you set out to accomplish," Snyder said. "They're as interested in our success as we are."

Gutteridge said the nature of the Kresge grant requiring the award to be matched will enable the college to approach new donors and offer them the chance to see their gifts instantly multiplied.



MEET THE FUTURE: An artistic rendering by Munger Munger & Associates of Toledo shows what the Savage and Associates Complex for Business Learning and Engagement may look like.

"While we are obviously confident in our strategic plan looking forward, this is a tremendous external validation that the College of Business Administration is headed down a path that leads to enhanced national prominence," said Dr. Tom Gutteridge, dean of the college, who also pointed out UT was the only organization in Ohio to receive any of the \$45.5 million the Kresge Foundation awarded this funding cycle.

Gutteridge explained that a Kresge grant is so special because of the process that goes into applying for the funds.

"Ellen Ingram [director of corporate and foundation relations] spent two years working to pull together all of the information Kresge used to evaluate us — not just our plan for the new building, but our vision for the college, UT diversity and enrollment numbers, current alumni support, current donor support, etc.," Gutteridge said. "When Kresge looks to invest, they're looking for winners and they've chosen UT."

Vern Snyder, vice president for insti-

Due to the efforts of principal gifts officer Barbara Tartaglia, the dean said the college is already on track to surpass the fund-raising goals put in place to help augment the building of the new complex, renovating Stranahan Hall and enhancing the college's technological infrastructure. They look forward to reaching out to new donors.

"Because the Kresge money must pay for bricks, mortar and technology, it allows the college some flexibility to use some of the undesignated gifts we've already received to enhance the new complex to create a better learning experience for students and be a better partner for the business community," Gutteridge said.

The Kresge Foundation has a \$3 billion endowment it uses to strengthen nonprofit organizations by awarding money and challenging organizations around the globe to leverage grants to build relationships and bring more people into the philanthropic world, according to its Web site.

UT named among best employers in academia in science publication survey

By Jon Strunk

The University of Toledo has been named to the 2007 list of the 40 Best Places to Work in Academia by The Scientist, a magazine that focuses on the life sciences.

UT is ranked 27th in the nation, and the magazine identifies the University's environment and research infrastructure and compensation levels as the two primary strengths highlighted by employees.

Dr. Brian Ashburner, UT associate professor of biological sciences, said rankings such as these generate exposure that helps recruit top faculty and students to the University.

"Once people realize that we have these active research programs on the Main Campus and the Health Science Campus, it really makes UT very attractive," Ashburner said. "Faculty positions are really competitive, and any time you're on the same list as institutions like Massachusetts General or Duke University, it's a definite advantage."

Dr. Doug Wilkerson, vice president

for research administration, said the listing was just one more example of the way the perception of UT was changing.

"The availability of research space is something we're always conscious of, something we're always working to increase and enhance," Wilkerson said. "I think that commitment is being recognized among our own faculty, and rankings like those in The Scientist serve to highlight that for potential faculty or students interested in research."

While agreeing with Wilkerson that there are always enhancements that can be made, Ashburner said that his research space was as good as he's experienced anywhere.

"One thing faculty candidates are always surprised about is the amount of high-quality research taking place at UT," he said. "It's important to get word out."

The data for the rankings were gathered from responses from tenured and tenure-track life scientists to a Web-based questionnaire issued by The Scientist.

Cell phone policy to provide stipend for business use, reduce UT contracts

By Tobin J. Klinger

Under a new policy slated to take effect Jan. 1, UT will no longer be the signatory on cell phone contracts. Instead, employees with work-related cell phone needs will carry their own contracts and receive a stipend based on anticipated business use of their personal devices.

"There are rigorous regulations by the Internal Revenue Service that require tracking, documentation and institutional reimbursement if employees are using a business-provided cell phone for personal purposes," said Bill Logie, interim senior vice president for finance and administration. "It is a labor-intensive process that often costs the University more to administer than the amount of the reimbursement."

As a result, Logie said it has been deemed more "fiscally responsible" to eliminate University cell phone contracts or transfer the contracts to employees and provide a monthly stipend.

"A supervisor will determine the level of the stipend, based on the amount of time an employee is anticipated to use voice and data service on his or her personal device," said Teri Lee, associate vice president for purchasing services. "There are three levels, each taking into account the type of use an employee might need."

The stipends are:

- Voice use only or data service cards — \$50 per month;
- Increased voice /minutes and data options

(mid-level) — \$100 per month; and

- Full data/voice functionality — \$150 per month.

"We are encouraging supervisors to think carefully not only about the level of stipend an employee might receive, but whether there may be alternatives to a cell phone altogether," Lee said, noting that pagers may be adequate in some cases. "Pagers are significantly cheaper and in some cases may be all that's needed to make an employee aware that he or she is needed at any given time."

Employees that carry a UT-contracted wireless device may purchase it at a prorated cost if the device was purchased prior to Jan. 1, 2007. Cell phones, BlackBerry devices, PDAs and the like purchased after Jan. 1 will be made available at full price.

"This approach is designed to empower employees to make their own choices relative to their wireless communication needs, while increasing efficiency and reducing costs," Logie said. "Many, if not all, Ohio public universities are moving in this direction."

Complete policy details, associated forms and a list of frequently asked questions are available at <http://controller.utoledo.edu/UTCellPhone.asp>. Questions not answered on the Web can be sent to cellphonepolicy@utoledo.edu.

Stipend forms must be submitted by Dec. 1.

New pagers

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can count on an experience in delivering high-quality paging and wireless messaging services as well as customized solutions from a committed support team."

As common as stethoscopes in hospitals, pagers are key tools for keeping staff members in touch with each other. Pagers operate on a lower radio frequency than cell phones, particularly digital phones, penetrate buildings more easily, and do not interfere with certain medical equipment.

Members of information technology and telephone services departments have been working with the firm for several months on a schedule to replace the communication devices.

The four-digit numbers for the new pagers will be preceded by "419.218."

New pager numbers will be issued shortly to physicians, nurses and others so they can change their business cards, set up voice messages and update other communication sources, according to Swartz.

Pam Imbery, telephone services manager on the Health Science Campus, and Holly Pina, an American Messaging representative, will deliver pagers to depart-

ments starting the week of Dec. 2. Hospital department administrators will be asked to collect old devices.

Swartz said the company has improved coverage and eliminated dead service zones on the Health Science Campus by upgrading the type of antennas and increasing the number of antennas. The additional antennas, which have been installed, will allow UT physicians, residents and students to receive messages at St. Luke's and St. Charles hospitals and St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center.

With the change, UT Medical Center health-care workers will be able to upgrade from numeric to text messaging at no additional cost.

To handle the growth in paging traffic, the company has secured 1,500 numbers that it will hold in reserve.

During the next month, UT Medical Center staff should look for updates on the project on MyUT and via e-mail.

People with questions can contact Imbery at 419.383.4012 or by e-mail to pam.imbery@utoledo.edu.

Check out UToday

Don't forget to bookmark UToday at myut.utoledo.edu.

UTNEWS

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Students First Award winners recognized

By Alissa Hammond

Two UT employees recently were honored with the Students First Award.

Martino Harmon, former director of the African-American Student Enrichment Initiatives Office, and Dr. Linda Rouillard, associate professor of French, were the first winners this semester chosen by a committee from the President's Commission on Student Centeredness.

This award was launched in November 2006; employees are nominated for exemplifying student centeredness.

Harmon was nominated for his hard work and long hours he puts into his position. In late 2004, Harmon recognized the need for enriched services for UT's African-American students and co-wrote a proposal for an office to provide such services. Two months later, he was named director and his dedication to students emerged every day in the time he worked to improve the experience of UT students.

A student who nominated him wrote, "Martino has made an impact on my life personally ... The African-American Student Enrichment Initiatives Office was the best thing that has happened to me." A colleague described him this way: "Martino ... consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty for the students. He works so hard for them day in and day out, weekends, nights, whenever he is needed ... Martino is a shining example of student centeredness and has displayed that since the day he began working here at UT."

"I think there is no greater honor at The University of Toledo than to win an award that recognizes service to students," Harmon

said. "For someone to nominate me, and to see that I am doing my job, makes it extra special, especially as I'm leaving. I'm sad to leave, I'm excited for what lies ahead, and getting the award makes it extra special."

Harmon, who earned bachelor's and master's degrees from UT, began working at the University in 1996 and spent a number of years in the Office of Undergraduate Admission before moving to his current position in 2005. He recently accepted a position as dean of admissions, retention and student life at Washtenaw Community College in Ann Arbor, Mich. He will continue his doctoral studies at UT in the Judith Herb College of Education.

Rouillard was nominated by several people for helping her students to succeed in meeting the high standards to which she holds them. She understands the different reasons why students with a wide variety of majors study French, and tailors her classes to meet those different needs.

A UT graduate nominated Rouillard because of her passion for her students extending beyond graduation, specifically in helping to identify research positions and internships abroad. "Dr. Rouillard is a dedicated professor who expects the best from her students," the UT graduate wrote. A student wrote, "She has a genuine interest in the success and the life of every student she teaches ... She also sets very high standards, which encourages her students to set high standards for themselves in all aspects of life."

"It is gratifying to know that our students appreciate our work with them.

Just as students need feedback from their instructors, we also need feedback from them," Rouillard said. "It is important that the students know I'm engaged in their academic and intellectual progress, and that I recognize their potential is not determined or limited by a grade. The Students First Award tells us that we are doing some helpful things, but of course it doesn't mean we can stop thinking about new and better ways of helping students achieve their goals."

Dr. Carol Bresnahan, vice provost for academic programs and policies, presented Harmon with his award, and surprised Rouillard before one of her classes with the award, presenting it to her in French.

Each winner receives a \$75 gift card from Barnes & Noble and a \$25 gift card

from Starbucks. At the end of the academic year, one winner will be chosen to receive a prize of \$1,500.



Dr. Carol Bresnahan presented the award to Martino Harmon.



Photos by Daniel Miller

Dr. Carol Bresnahan, right, congratulated Dr. Linda Rouillard.

UT electricians to hold fund-raiser bowling tournament Dec. 1

By Alissa Hammond

The UT electricians will hold a bowling tournament Saturday, Dec. 1, at 1 p.m. at Imperial Lanes, with all proceeds going to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

The Doug Peatee Bobblehead Make-A-Wish Bowling Tournament was named after Peatee, supervisor of the electricians, to honor his 25-plus years in the Air National Guard.

The teams will be Main Campus versus Health Science Campus. The winning team will receive the Doug Peatee Bobblehead Trophy, which will remain with the winners until next year's tournament.

The Main Campus electricians that are planning the event are Peatee, Ron Condon, John Janowski, Rick Kaliniak, Glenn Mathiesen and George W. Hayes Jr.

The entry fee for each team is \$45, with the winning team receiving \$300 and the second-place team receiving \$150. There also will be a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction, with one of the items up for bid a one-night stay at Belamere Suites in Perrysburg.

The electricians are hoping to have around 30 teams and raise \$1,000 to be put toward granting a wish. It generally costs up to \$5,500 to grant a wish for an individual.

"This will be a way to have people from the Main Campus and the Health Science Campus get to know each other. We're determined to get a lot of bowlers," Hayes said.

To get more information or to download a sign-up sheet, visit <http://www.auxfacilities.utoledo.edu/bowling.asp>.

In memoriam

Mary Kanavel, Toledo, who worked at the former Medical College of Ohio from 1970 until her retirement in 2000 as a clerical specialist in the Intensive Care Unit, died Nov. 2 at age 73.

Sandra (Rate) Miekis, Curtice, Ohio, a nurse at the former MCO Hospital from 2000 to 2005, died Nov. 5 at age 45.

Jonathan V. Rowe, a first-year student in the College of Medicine, died Nov. 2 at age 21 from a brain hemorrhage related to a childhood illness. A graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University where he was awarded the Chemistry Faculty Prize and the Charles H. and Magdalen Schafer Chemistry Scholarship, he was a participant in MEDStart, UT's early admission program that accepts students during their junior undergraduate year, allowing them to enroll into UT's College of Medicine program for the next academic year following completion of the four-year baccalaureate education. Acceptance is based on motivation and enthusiasm for medicine as indicated from their volunteer and community service, medical-related activities, leadership skills and research experiences. He was a member of Chi Gamma Nu and Phi Beta Kappa.