



# Points of Pride

College of Arts & Sciences • January 2007 •

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**Dr. Joseph Hara**, lecturer in Japanese language and culture, **Dr. Dan Johnson**, president emeritus, and **Dr. Bob Cryan**, director of Global Initiatives, traveled to Toyohashi, Japan on January 7 for the signing ceremony of a sister-institution agreement with Aichi University. This new educational initiative expands the six-year-old sister-city relationship between Toyohashi and Toledo, which enables the universities to exchange two students per year. This sister-school agreement is the result of UT's Study Abroad Program in Toyohashi.

## ART

More than 200 people attended the **Ohio Undergraduate Ceramics Exhibition**, the first statewide exhibition of its kind in Ohio, held throughout January at UT's Center for Visual Arts Gallery. The exhibition showcased undergraduate ceramics programs of quality at ten colleges and universities in Ohio. Eight UT students were represented in the exhibition. **Robert Piepenburg** – internationally renowned ceramic artist, author, and National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship recipient – juried the exhibition.

The limited edition collection of poems, *Ransom Notes*, collected by **Dr. Joel Lipman**, was published by Obscure Publications. *Ransom Notes* reflects the creative work completed during a fellowship at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center at the University of Texas. Dr. Lipman also served as master judge for the "Power of the Pen" district writing contest for more than 300 junior high school students.

## CHEMISTRY

Chemistry graduate **Brenda Steinbrunner-Vonderwell** was one of ten former student athletes inducted into the Varsity "T" Hall of Fame in 2007. The softball outfielder (1986-89) was a two-time All-MAC selection, a three-time Academic All-MAC selection, and a two-time Academic All-American selection. During her senior season, the Rockets softball team advanced to the College World Series for the only time in school history.

## COMMUNICATION

Professor **Paul Many** served as a judge in the "Power of the Pen" district writing contest for junior high school students on January 20.

Department chair **Dr. Jim Benjamin** presented "Flesch and Fog: An Analysis of Readability Measures" (co-authored by **Barb Benjamin**) at the Fifth International Conference on Arts and Humanities in Honolulu on January 13. On January 14 Barb Benjamin presented "The Humanist as Clinician – the Clinician as Humanist" co-authored by Jim Benjamin.

Associate professor **Jackie Layng** received a faculty fellowship to attend the National Association of Television Program Executives conference in Las Vegas on January 16-18.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Graduate **Bill Yosses**, who received a bachelor's degree in French, was named as the White House executive pastry chef by First Lady Laura Bush. Trained in classical French cooking, Mr. Yosses has been a chef for more than 30 years, and will be responsible for creating dessert menus for social events, state dinners, and official luncheons hosted by President and Mrs. Bush.

## GEOGRAPHY & PLANNING

**Dr. Patrick Lawrence** is a founding board member and project manager of Partners for Clean Streams Inc. (PSC), a community-based non-profit organization that addresses water quality concerns in rivers and streams in Northwest Ohio. PCS received a grant of \$588,000 from the Chicago-based Joyce River Basin for three restoration projects intended to improve aquatic ecosystems with the Maumee River Basin in Toledo and the surrounding area.

## LAKE ERIE CENTER

Drs. **Christine Mayer**, **Jon Bossenbroek**, and **Tom Bridgeman** were awarded \$146,640 in funding from the Great Lakes Fishery Commission for, "Experimental and spatial modeling of environmental factors affecting foraging success of age-0 yellow perch." Dr. Mayer and her Ph.D. student **Kristen Devanna** were also awarded funding from the Lake Erie Production Fund for, "Yellow perch foraging on *Hexagenia* spp: Effects of Hypoxia and *Dreissena*."

## MUSIC

Professor **Gunnar Mossblad** received a \$5,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts based on his record of artistic achievement.

## PHILOSOPHY

Distinguished professor **James Campbell** published a history of the American Philosophical Association entitled *A Thoughtful Profession: The Early Years of the American Philosophical Association* (Open Court, 2006). This volume was the subject of a session at the recent meeting of the APA in Washington, DC.

**Dr. Richard Gaillardetz** gave the annual Thomas Aquinas Lecture at the Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis on January 28.

## PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY

The **UT chapter of the Society of Physics Students** (SPS) was selected – for the fifth time – as an Outstanding SPS Chapter for the 2005/2006 academic year. This honor, which is given to fewer than 10% of chapters each year, is based on the depth and breadth of activities in public science outreach, physics and astronomy research, representation at meetings, and social interactions. Undergraduate senior **Paul Sell** is the current president of the chapter, and professor **Scott Lee** is the chapter's advisor.

A paper on solar cell windows presented by Ph.D. graduate **Ilvydas Matukionis** was selected as the #1 "Hot Talk/Cool Paper" at the recent meeting of the Materials Research Society. The paper is based on his work at MV Systems in Golden, CO.

**Dr. Ale Lukaszew** chaired a session and also presented a talk at the joint MMM/Intermag International conference in Baltimore.

### **PSYCHOLOGY**

Continuing their research into the learning capabilities of one-celled organisms, **Dr. Harvey Armus** and his associates **Amber Montgomery** and **Jenny Jellison** published their new paper, "Discrimination Learning in Paramecia (*P. caudatum*)" which appeared in *The Psychological Record*.

### **THEATRE & FILM**

At the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Region III Festival in Milwaukee, a scene from *The Jewelry Store*, a play written by senior Theatre major **Bill Lancz**, was the only student-written play selected to be performed during the Evening of Scenes. Theatre majors **Brad Arner**, **Ernest Green**, **Katie Rediger**, and Theatre/Film graduate **Seth Shaffer** were nominated to participate in the Irene Ryan Scholarship Competition at the event. Assistant professor **Cornel Gabara** presented a workshop on "Viewpoints," a system that enables actors and directors to decode relationships on stage, define theatrical space, and embody text. And lecturer **Irene Alby** presented a workshop on "The Linklater Approach to Embodying Language."