

Scholarship for women in information technology

By: Meghan Gilbert
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The University of Toledo today will announce a new scholarship program to support women pursuing careers in information technology.

A \$300,000 donation from the Charlotte R. Schmidlapp Fund, managed by Fifth Third Bank, will endow a \$15,000 scholarship awarded annually to a woman pursuing the new bachelor's degree in science and information technology, Tom Gutteridge, dean of UT's business college, said. The degree is offered through the business and engineering colleges, and the student awarded the scholarship would alternate yearly between the colleges, he said.

The Schmidlapp Scholarship for Women in Information Technology will be announced at 2 p.m. in the lobby of Stranahan Hall.

Women are historically underrepresented in technology degree programs and subsequent careers, Mr. Gutteridge said, adding that's where the new scholarship could help.

"We need to get women more interested in technologically-based industries," he said.

Introducing more women to information technology careers also is a statewide initiative.

Last month, 18 community colleges across the state hosted 2,500 girls in grades 7-10 to get them interested in IT careers.