Enrollment up slightly as UT enters new phase to shape incoming class

By Jon Strunk

Fall enrollment rose slightly at UT as the University enters a new phase of its strategy. As requested by its Board of Trustees, UT increased its focus on admitting students prepared for the rigors of a college education.

As of the 15-day census Sept. 6, UT enrolled 23,085 students, as compared to 23,064 at this time last year. UT’s full-time equivalency (FTE) — the figure used to determine state subsidy — is 19,589. FTE is calculated by the total number of course credit hours taken by students divided by 15, and often conveys a more accurate representation of the way enrollment affects an institution’s finances.

Following an initial phase of eight semesters of enrollment growth as outlined in its strategic plan, UT’s Board of Trustees earlier this year asked President Lloyd Jacobs to place increased emphasis on the academic preparedness of incoming students.

In addition to one-semester deferrals, UT’s colleges of Business Administration, Nursing and the Judith Herb College of Education all raised academic admission standards. Additional colleges plan to raise standards in the coming year.

UT’s 15-day enrollment numbers show more than 23,000 students are taking classes this semester.

Faculty stakeholder meetings to be held on strategic plan organizational structure proposals

By Chris Ankney

The Strategic Planning Committee will hold faculty input and feedback sessions on the draft of the recalibrated strategic plan Thursday, Sept. 16, and Friday, Sept. 17.

The two four-hour sessions are designed to allow faculty members another opportunity to participate in the evaluation of the draft of “Directions 2010” and provide feedback to the committee.

The Sept. 16 meeting will be held in the Savage Arena Grogan Room and run from 8 a.m. until noon.

The second session on Sept. 17 will be held in the Dana Conference Center Williams and Defiance Rooms on Health Science Campus from 1 to 5 p.m.

Interested participants are asked to RSVP with the desired session(s) to Marcie Ferguson at marcie.ferguson@utoledo.edu.

Elements of the most recent draft of the document (which can be downloaded at utoleo.edu/strategicplan) will be discussed at each meeting; this will include the somewhat controversial discussion document from the Implementation Committee on Strategic Organization, which is one of 10 working groups of the Strategic Planning Committee.

At the latest meeting of the entire strategic planning group, Dr. Jamie Barlowe, co-convener of the Strategic Planning Committee and chair and professor of women’s and gender studies, and Dr. Beverly Schmolz, dean of the College of Health Science and Human Service and convener of the Committee on Strategic Organization, discussed the thought process behind the strategic organization work group’s proposal.

The proposal works from the dean level up and suggests creating a “college within a college” structure, in which three overarching colleges would house the current 11 colleges at the University. Each college would then be encouraged to look at its own structure individually.

Barlowe said the Committee on Strategic Organization group started the
Benefits fair slated for Sept. 27

How is a colonoscopy covered under my health plan? What is the maximum I can contribute to my 403(b)? Where can I find a dentist in my plan?

Have your questions ready during Human Resources’ Benefits Fair Monday, Sept. 27. The event will bring several carriers to Main Campus to offer information and answer employees’ questions. It will take place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Student Union Ingman Room.

HR personnel specializing in benefits will be available as well.

If you aren’t able to attend, questions can be e-mailed to Human Resources at benefits@utoledo.edu.

Representatives from the following organizations will be on hand:

- Medical coverage — Medical Mutual of Ohio, Ohio Benefit Administrators/FrontPath, Paramount Healthcare
- Health Savings Account — Wells Fargo
- Prescription drug coverage — InformedRx (SXC Health Solutions)
- Dental coverage — Delta Dental
- Optical coverage — Vision Service Plan
- Life/long-term disability coverage — Standard Insurance Co.; and

Strategic plan

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process of proposing a reorganization by looking at what The University of Toledo does.

“The purpose of this was to think about us,” she said. “What do we do? How do we educate? How do we provide care? How do we connect? What are we stewards of? What do we need to change? What are we really good at? How do we get better?”

“At UT we have liberal education, we have science and health-care education, and we have professional education,” Barlowe said. “So we thought if you have those three big prongs, what if you had a model with those three ‘uber’ colleges that represented that?”

In the proposed model, the deans of each current college would rotate into a position of executive dean in the appropriate umbrella college and work to provide greater opportunities for collaboration between faculty, cross-educational programs for students and other initiatives that improve interdisciplinary interactions.

Participants acknowledged the proposal has been met with some confusion and controversy since it was first unveiled in early July. An ad hoc committee from the College of Arts and Sciences has submitted a secondary proposal (a downloadable version is available at utoledo.edu/strategicplan) that looks at that college’s specific structure.

According to the secondary proposal, “The Committee on Strategic Organization merely ‘rearranged departmental boxes.’ It failed to provide any structure to promote the desired ‘cross-pollination.’” The ad hoc committee’s suggestion would create three campus-wide associate deans designed to fill that perceived void.

At the latest Strategic Planning Committee meeting of the whole, the group decided to fold the Arts and Sciences ad hoc committee into the Committee on Strategic Organization working group so that both proposals could be evaluated together.

“We are, in fact, very grateful to the ad hoc committee,” Barlowe said. “It’s such an interesting proposal. It filled in some gaps in our proposal and that’s what that conversation creates.”

The organizational discussion is only one part of the overall strategic planning process, which has been ongoing for more than six months.

If you’d like to get involved and add your voice to The University of Toledo’s strategic plan, attend a stakeholder meeting or go to utoledo.edu/strategicplan.

University recognized as state forerunner in transportation, logistics

By Christian Stewart

The University of Toledo is leading the charge in Ohio to develop new innovations in transportation and logistics.

UT is working on many projects across a broad range of the transportation sectors, including highways, rail and intermodalism, maritime, and air transportation. Transportation systems provide unparalleled access to jobs, recreation, education, health care, and the many other activities that sustain the economy and enrich lives.

Some of the cutting-edge research being done at the University to improve transportation in state projects focuses on short sea shipping, which is transporting goods over the Great Lakes instead of by congested highways, intermodal development and using alternative fuels.

“Our hope is to make the community and the state say, ‘I have a transportation issue, where can I go? The University of Toledo,’” said Richard Martinko, director of the UT Intermodal Transportation Institute and UT Federal University Transportation Center. “We want to be a catalyst to the community and align directly with our UT relevant University strategic plan.”

The state recently recognized what is being done at UT when Ohio Board of Regents Chancellor Eric D. Fingerhut named The University of Toledo a Center of Excellence in Transportation and Aerospace.

“In competing for outside research funding, top faculty and high-tech jobs, it is critical for Ohio’s colleges and universities to focus their unique strengths to incite innovation and keep fast-growing companies and talent in our state,” Fingerhut said.

A total of six Centers of Excellence in Transportation and Aerospace were recognized at different universities throughout Ohio. Other centers are located at Case Western Reserve University, the University of Cincinnati, the University of Dayton, Ohio State University and Wright State University.

Ohio has 180 public airports, eight interstate highways, 36 freight railroads and 25 waterfront ports, giving it a competitive advantage for importing and exporting both within the community and nationwide.

This also gives UT ample opportunities to continue to create new developments for the future, Martinko said, adding that being recognized as a Center of Excellence in this area gives the University credibility and traction in the state.

As a Center of Excellence, UT will partner with the state and use its academic resources in transportation and logistics to create jobs and strengthen Ohio’s ability to create new developments in commercialization.

This is the University’s third Center of Excellence. UT was acknowledged as a Center of Excellence in Advanced Energy in October and a Center of Excellence in Biomedicine and Health Care in February.

Enrollment

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“While recruiting strong students has always been a priority, it’s fair to say we took a number of additional steps this year to focus on attracting and retaining students with a higher degree of academic preparedness,” said Lawrence J. Burns, vice president for external affairs and interim vice president for equity and diversity, who oversees UT’s enrollment effort.

“UT does students no favors by enrolling those not yet prepared for college and accepting their tuition payments only to see them be unsuccessful at the collegiate level,” Burns said.

All UT colleges saw an increase in ACT scores, with the largest increases in those three that raised academic standards. The College of Nursing ACT score rose nearly two points, while Education and Business Administration were both up nearly one point.

UT’s College of Medicine saw the biggest individual surge, increasing 17.8 percent. The College of Arts and Sciences was second, increasing 5.3 percent.

The number of UT’s Blue & Gold Scholarship recipients — which guarantees Pell Grant-eligible Ohio students with a cumulative 3.0 grade point average full tuition if they maintain a 3.0 through college — more than doubled in the program’s second year.

Now open to all students in public, private and parochial schools across the state, UT enrolled 985 Blue & Gold Scholars this year, as compared with 402 last year, said Kevin Kucera, associate vice president for enrollment services.

Additionally, the ACT composite score jumped 3 full points from last year’s recipients.

Kucera thanked his staff in Enrollment Services as well as faculty, students and staff across the University who helped with the recruitment and enrollment process.

“UT’s Board of Trustees instructed this University to focus on raising standards for unconditional admission, and we have taken an important step forward in pursuit of that goal,” Jacobs said. “That effort will only become more intense in the coming years as we work harder to ensure the students we enroll at UT are ready for the rigors of a college education and that we at UT have the personnel and resources available to help them succeed.”

SEPT. 13, 2010
It's their last free summer of college and they could spend it doing anything they want.

That summer between their first and second year in The University of Toledo College of Medicine is really the last time medical students can take off to travel or spend significant time with relatives before they begin year-round clinical rotations.

But some students choose to spend that time working in the area through the Community Health Project program that pairs them with organizations that include the Area Office on Aging, the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department and the Toledo Board of Community Relations.

"Of course doctors take care of the medicine, but through this summer program medical students are also learning about compassion and the working with people aspects of health care," said Jennifer Low, who served as student director of the program and was responsible for recruiting three to five students who are placed with his organization each summer as counselors.

"They bring a great energy to camp," he said. "Many of our counselors are in college or a little younger, so the medical students bring more life experience and really serve as mentors in addition to working so well with our campers."

The camp for children with special needs, founded in 1963, provides the traditional summer experience that includes art projects, nature hikes, sports and other activities. Kiessling said the approach medical students take to working with the children, some of whom need 24-hour and one-on-one care, is both professional and fun.

"They help us a great deal," he said. "We really rely on them."

The Community Health Project was established in 1993 by students in the College of Medicine of Ohio. The goal of the program is to offer firsthand experience in addressing health issues that impact socioeconomic, cultural and environmental factors that contribute to an individual's health.

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Dance of life and death on coffee plantation focus of UT researcher

By Cynthia Nowak

Life, even at the nearly microscopic level, is all about relationships.

Plants, insects and fungi in every sort of ecosystem have developed over time complex, mutually beneficial interactions that allow delicate coexistence.

Enter the human, bearing chemicals. The pesticide/herbicide/chemical fertilizer revolution of the last 60 years has in many cases overridden ecological relationships in the effort to blitz agricultural pests.

Which approach works best? The question is central to a study published in the July/August issue of the journal BioScience.

Dr. Stacy Philpott, UT assistant professor of environmental sciences, has been researching an organic coffee farm in Mexico for some 10 years, along with scientific colleagues from the University of Michigan, Dr. John Vandermeer and Dr. Ivette Perfecto. Their findings give a strong nod to natural relationships.

What their research uncovered is an intricate dance of interdependence between an unlikely set of partners: a feisty ant species (Azteca instabilis); the noisome green coffee scale insect; and the predatory lady beetle. All three — plus some potential players waiting for a cue — play critical roles in bringing the coffee crop successfully to market.

The Azteca ants live in trees that shade the human-size coffee shrubs, but regularly interact with the green coffee scale insects that are a major pest of coffee crops. On the organic farm under study, however, ants and scales form a relationship in which the ants protect the scales from predators and parasites. In return, the scales secrete a sweet liquid, honeydew, that’s eagerly taken by the ants.

The symbiotic interaction, though, is made more complex by a predatory lady beetle: Both adults and larvae feed on coffee scales. Azteca ants can protect scales by fending off adult beetles, but can’t get past the waxy substance covering the larvae. Thus falls many a coffee scale.

The ants’ success at repelling another scale enemy, a parasitic wasp, inadvertently chases away other wasps that attack beetle larvae, adding to the system’s complexity.

The ants have their own enemy: a parasitic fly that can limit their presence in the ecosystem. Likewise, the lady beetles can make an impact on ant numbers by preying on the scales and limiting the amount of available honeydew. Using simulation models, the research team discovered how the highly patterned dance might end: If ants are widespread over the entire farm, lady beetles disappear because the adults can’t secure sufficient food. Without ants, though, the beetles also are doomed because their larvae are killed by the parasitic wasps.

Perfect balance is achieved when the ants are limited by beetles and parasitic flies. Both ants and beetles thrive, the latter keeping the crop-damaging scale insects under control.

But wait — scale insects also can be attacked and killed by white halo fungus, naturally limiting the ant population in isolated patches of the coffee farm. That same fungus, though, is an enemy of coffee rust, a disease that in the past wiped out entire coffee-growing regions. The rust exists in Central and South America; white halo fungus is a powerful rust eradicator only in places where it’s already mounting a major attack on scales — places most likely to be where the indefatigable Azteca ants are protecting their honeydew-producing scales.

The complexity of the relationships on the successful coffee farm in southern Mexico wouldn’t have become clear without close research, Philpott said. “Studying these interactions is important for understanding how ecosystems work, especially how agricultural systems work,” she added. “Industrial agriculture is largely aimed at the target pests — controlling an insect or fungal disease by applying something. It wreaks havoc on biodiversity, and causes loss of habitat, contamination and related health problems. “One solution to these problems is looking at this extremely complicated agricultural system that has so many interlinking components and asking how we can achieve natural disease- and pest-control.”

The research paper represents 10 to 12 years of work, she said, for the scientific team, their students and interns who’ve been making yearly visits to the farm in Chiapas. It’s also been a shared educational experience for local farm workers who have years of experience in handling the coffee seedlings. “They began to interact with us and learn more about the biology of the ecosystem, and we’ve been doing educational activities with the children of the 30 families who live on the farm,” Philpott said. “Although there are very few educational opportunities in Chiapas, the families see these organisms daily and have an intuitive understanding of the relationships between them.

“We describe those relationships from a scientific standpoint. It’s interesting to see how the knowledge from their standpoint and ours often reaches the same conclusions.”
Memorial Field House wall provides glimpse of UT history

By Kate Wente

If you are new to The University of Toledo or maybe just to the renovated Memorial Field House, then you might have noticed something different in that building this year.

A new historic mural depicting the history of UT and the Memorial Field House stretches the length of the hallway on the second floor across from the auditorium entrance.

“This is the cherry on the sundae as far as completing the Field House goes,” said Michael Green, manager of mechanical engineering and energy for UT Facilities and Construction. “There is so much history here it’s unreal. It was a big decision to pick and choose what would make it onto the mural.”

The colorful wall is an artistic timeline of the history of the University and specifically the Memorial Field House. It includes large photos of historic campus events and quotes from famous visitors to the building.

Renovated in 2008, the building houses state-of-the-art classrooms.

When it was completed in 1931, the Memorial Field House was the largest multipurpose facility on campus and was home to countless sporting events, concerts, political rallies and demonstrations, commencement activities and more.

“Believe it or not, the Field House actually had dirt floors when it was first built,” said Barbara Floyd, director of the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections and university archivist. “When basketball games were held, they would replace the dirt with wooden slabs for the players to play on.”

In the 1950s, a permanent floor was installed.

“Under Coach Bob Nichols, the UT basketball team was the team of the city; they had fans packing the Field House every night,” Floyd said. “According to Coach Nichols, the fans were so close to the floor that you could almost feel the contact.”

Events like the first international wrestling meet made history at the Field House when athletes from the Soviet Union finally were allowed to come to the United States and compete.

Sporting events were not the only happenings that packed the Field House. Music legends Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, The Temptations, Simon & Garfunkel, Roy Orbison, Kenny Rogers and many more rocked the building.

“Back then, the Field House was a key place that really brought in the entertainment,” Floyd said. “These artists were just performers at the time, but now they are today’s icons.”

In addition to sporting events and concerts, the Field House served as a political venue for former Vice President Richard Nixon’s visit Oct. 26, 1960, and the demonstration held by UT students in protest of the Kent State shootings in 1970.

“Memories are what the Field House is all about,” Floyd said. “The wall is a great way to honor the history we have here. Even though the original structure of the Field House still stands, the building can start to take on new meanings.”

Support right to read: Buy and donate banned books for UT vigil

“Reading empowers us to dispel ignorance, challenge false assumptions, and live in hope,” Kilmer said. “Books provide a magic carpet to places only admissible through the imagination. Banning books imprisons people in a cell of conformity devoid of new ideas, innovation and knowledge.”

A list of the banned books that may be purchased for the event is available in the UT Bookstore in the Student Union and the Department of Communication Office, University Hall Room 4600.

Patrons’ names will be inscribed in plates in the books, acknowledging their gifts and listing them as a “Champion of Freedom of Expression.”

Those interested in purchasing a book should contact Colleen Strayer, general manager at the UT Bookstore, at 419.530.2516 or at bkstoledo@bncollege.com. Specific books from the list may be purchased; cash donations also will be accepted and works purchased accordingly.

Monday, Sept. 20, is the deadline to buy books.
New director of UT Counseling Center aims to make students aware of services

By Christian Stewart

The University of Toledo is welcoming a new leader to the Counseling Center. Dr. Stanley Edwards joins the University from the Children’s Resource Center in Bowling Green, Ohio, Edwards grew up in New Haven, Conn., but has spent the last 20 years in Ohio. He has worked in private practice, with a team on a suicide hotline, and at children and adult mental health centers. The new director said he is excited to partner with the University and is looking forward to “being in an environment that values and provides opportunities for growth and development.”

“The main thing I want to accomplish is making the Counseling Center more a part of the University community and increasing the partnership with students,” he said. “One problem I’m hearing is that students aren’t very aware of all that the center has to offer.”

The UT Counseling Center, which is a part of the Division of Student Affairs, provides initial mental health screenings and individual, couples and group counseling at no cost for full-time students.

The Counseling Center also offers a 24-hour crisis intervention service for students experiencing severe emotional distress and serves as a psychological consultant to faculty, staff and University organizations.

Communication between a student and staff member of the Counseling Center is confidential.

“I am excited to attract a person with Dr. Edwards’ education and professional experiences,” said Dr. Kaye Patten Wallace, vice president for student affairs. “I look forward to him providing the leadership for the University Counseling Center.”

He received his undergraduate degree from Yale University and master’s and doctoral degrees in clinical psychology from Bowling Green State University. In 2004, he was licensed as a clinical psychologist.

Edwards and his wife, Melanie, have been married 12 years. They are the parents of three boys, ages 7, 5 and 10 months.

“I’m thrilled to be at The University of Toledo, and thrilled to work with the student population in any way that I can,” Edwards said.

The Counseling Center is open weekdays from 8:15 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more on the center, go to www.utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/counseling.

Contact the Counseling Center at 419.530.2426 or stop by Rocket Hall Room 1810.

Surveys start first-year students on track for success

By Sarah Ritenour

The first year of college will often predict a student’s success, which is why The University of Toledo has all first-year students take the MAP-Works (Making Achievement Possible) survey.

This is the second year the University has distributed the MAP-Works online survey, which assesses both a student’s academic progress and his or her lifestyle. A few skills evaluated include leadership, reading, writing and speaking, time management, stress indicators, and commitment to education.

“It is deployed within the first three weeks of school because if you are going to do well, you should be doing so in the beginning,” said Jennifer Rockwood, director of the First-Year Experience Office.

Students recently received the survey in an e-mail and will be reminded to complete it before the Monday, Sept. 20, deadline.

Based on the information the University acquired last year, changes have been made to the orientation courses.

“We now know that students enjoy more interactive and hands-on learning,” Rockwood said.

For breaking news, go to utnews.utoledo.edu

Asian Studies Institute to host luncheons promoting awareness of culture

By Samantha Pielar

The Asian Studies Institute will host luncheons to bring the Toledo community together to learn more about the ever-growing Asian culture on campus and around the world.

UT students, faculty and staff, as well as the community, will have the opportunity to hear about Asian culture with discussions on Asian lifestyle and society this fall through the Asian Forum Luncheon Series.

The series will begin with “Kung Fu Panda” vs. “Mulan” — Three Perspectives on Property in China” from noon to 1:15 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15, in Law Center Room 1011.

“More and more Asian students are emerging on campus, thus all students should have a better understanding of their music, language, religion and science,” said Dr. Shanhe Jiang, UT professor of criminal justice, who will moderate the event.

“The students need to be aware of what is going on in Asia due to its emerging power and emphasis here in the United States.”

The presenters of the first forum this week include Llew Gibbons, UT associate professor of law, who will discuss “Intellectual Property Rights and Wrongs” in China, and Bruce Kennedy, UT associate professor of law, who will present “Property of Earth: China and its Tangible Cultural Heritage.”

And Xiaoli Wang, a visiting research scholar in the College of Law, will talk about “Property of Heaven: China and its Intangible Cultural Heritage.”

The luncheon series will continue with “Global Interest in Japanese Pop Culture” Wednesday, Sept. 29, and “Feng Shui: Science or Religion” Wednesday, Oct. 13. Future luncheons are being planned for Nov. 3 with a focus on Korea and another on India Nov. 17. The last program of the series is scheduled for Dec. 8.

“We need to prepare for the challenge of Asia becoming more and more important in American daily life,” said Dr. Gene Chang, director of the Asian Studies Institute and UT professor of economics. “Now there are more job opportunities related to Asia, from business, government and overseas opportunities. I have often received requests from different companies for candidates with knowledge of Asian languages and Asia.”

Pizza and refreshments will be provided at the free, public forum.

For more information, contact Jiang at shanhe.jiang@utoledo.edu.
English professor to be remembered Sept. 19

A memorial service for Dr. Wallace D. Martin, UT professor emeritus of English, will be held Sunday, Sept. 19, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Toledo Museum of Art Glass Pavilion.

Martin died July 26 at age 77.

He joined the University in 1961 as an instructor, was promoted to assistant professor in 1962, to associate professor in 1965, and to professor in 1969. He taught courses in Modernism and Literary Theory.

A member of several University committees, he was given an Outstanding Faculty Research Award in 1986. He retired that year as professor of English, but continued to teach and publish as a professor emeritus through spring 2010. Martin was one of the English Department’s most productive scholars, steadily publishing in premier literary journals, including PMLA and Comparative Literature.

College of Education sponsors ‘Lifting Up Lake’ benefit event

By Rosanne King

L eague Local Schools and the Northwest Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) are organizing a 5K run-walk-crawl to benefit the school district.

Lake High School was destroyed during a tornado in June and this event, called “Lifting Up Lake,” will raise funds to help rebuild the facility.

“Lifting Up Lake” will be held Saturday, Sept. 18, at Lake High School, 28080 Lemoyne Road in Millbury. Registration will open at 7:30 a.m.; the race-walk-crawl will begin at 9:30 a.m. Jerry Anderson, WTOL news anchor, will host the event.

The University of Toledo’s Judith Herb College of Education is a sponsor of “Lifting Up Lake.”

“My wife, Marlene, was a former special education teacher in Lake Local Schools. I know how important these funds are to them,” said Dr. Louis Caputo, professor of educational leadership in the College of Education.

“We’re pleased to work with Ansgela Zimmann, president of the Governing Board of Lucas County Educational Service Center, and Dr. Judy Jackson May, Northwest Region Ohio School Boards Association manager, to sponsor and promote this worthy cause,” said Dr. Tom Brady, interim dean of the Judith Herb College of Education. “Community engagement and partnerships with local school districts are a priority for the college.”

Further information and registration forms can be found online at www.liftinguplake.com.

Questions should be directed to Jackson May at 419.575.0063 or jjacksonmay@ohioschoolboards.org.

In memoriam

Dr. Bernard J. Cullen. Maumee, professor emeritus of pediatrics and noted expert on child abuse, died Aug. 19 at age 91. While in private practice in Toledo, he founded the Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center in 1973. He joined the faculty at MCO in 1977 and became director of the Regional Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Program. For more than 30 years, Cullen served as chair of the Ohio chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect. He also served on the Governor’s Task Force on Family Violence.

His work as a founding member of the Lucas County Sexual Abuse Task Force resulted in the establishment of the Children’s Advocacy Center. An adjunct professor of psychology at UT, Cullen served on numerous city and regional task forces and committees dealing with child abuse prevention.

The recipient of numerous awards for his work, Cullen was named professor emeritus when he retired in 1990. A member of the UT Alumni Association, he was honored in 2002 when a treatment facility for traumatized children, adolescents and families established by Toledo Children’s Hospital and the Children’s Advocacy Center was named the Cullen Center.
The University of Toledo will celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, by holding several events designed to highlight the culture.

This year’s theme is “Honoring Our History, Our Heritage, Our Heroes.”

“Hispanic Heritage Month is a time for all to recognize the priceless contributions of our Hispanic heroes of the past and the present, celebrate the rich culture and heritage, and reflect on our history,” said Sabina Elizondo-Serratos, associate director of the UT Office of Multicultural Student Services, who oversees Latino Initiatives.

“I am excited and proud to be a part of the planning of Hispanic Heritage Month every year. The recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month gives us the opportunity to share our traditions, our culture, our food, our language, our music and, of course, our history with the entire University community as well as the Toledo community,” she said. “Our Latino-based student organizations play a vital role in planning events for the month. This gives the students the opportunity to showcase who they are and for them to feel culturally connected to one another and others.”

Listed by date, the events facilitated through the UT Office of Multicultural Student Services will include:

**MONDAY, SEPT. 13** — Latino Student Union Open House, 6 to 9 p.m., Student Union Room 3515. Stop by and see what this organization has to offer.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15** — Hispanic Heritage Month Kickoff Celebration, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Student Union South Lounge. Stop by for some Latino food and to hear some Latino music.

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 16** — Diversi-TEA, 2 to 3 p.m., Multicultural Student Services Office, Student Union Room 2500. Sample some Latino-flavored teas with pan dulce, a sweetened Mexican bread.

**MONDAY, SEPT. 20** — Piñata-Making Demonstration, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Multicultural Student Services Office, Student Union Room 2500. Learn about the history of the brightly colored containers filled with sweets and treats.

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 21** — Latino Meet-and-Greet, 6 to 8 p.m., Mulford Library Café on Health Science Campus. This annual event brings together Latino students, faculty and staff for an evening of authentic Latino food.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 22** — “The DREAM Act: Research and Practice,” 3 to 5 p.m., Health Science and Human Service Building Room 1700. This webinar by the American College Personnel Association will focus on the Development, Relief and Education of the Alien Minors Act, a bill introduced in 2009 that would give those who meet certain requirements the chance to enlist in the military or go to college and have a path to citizenship.

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 24** — Latino Youth Summit 2011 Kickoff Meeting, 8:30 a.m., Rocket Hall Room 1319. Help the planning committee get ready for the big annual event.

— Fall Fiesta and Corn Hole Tournament, 5 to 9 p.m., outside the Crossings. There’ll be food, music and games.

**MONDAY, SEPT. 27** — Latinos Got Talent, 8 p.m., Student Union Ingman Room. Can you sing in Spanish? Bust a move on the dance floor? If so, come compete for the chance to perform at the Latino Student Union Scholarship Dance in spring semester.

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 28** — Tres Leche Cake, noon to 1 p.m., the Crossings. Sample a slice of this popular Latino dessert.

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 30** — “Leadership in a Diverse World,” 10 a.m. to noon, Student Union; room to be announced. Margarita De Leon, diversity consultant and local Latina advocate, will be the guest speaker.

**SATURDAY, OCT. 2** — Latino Alumni Affiliate Homecoming Parade Viewing Party, 1 p.m., front lawn of University Hall. Latino alums and students are invited to meet in a tent to watch bands, floats and more come down Bancroft Street.

**MONDAY, OCT. 4** — “Show and Tell Us Who You Are,” 8 p.m., Student Union Ingman Room. Some Latino students will talk about their culture, history, traditions and apparel.

**TUESDAY, OCT. 5** — Sabor Latino & Loteria! 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Student Union South Lounge. Try Latino cuisine and play Mexican bingo.

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 13** — Latino Health Presentation and Screening, noon to 3 p.m., Health Education Building Room 103 on Health Science Campus. Health screenings will be offered, as well as advice on how to live a healthy lifestyle.

**THURSDAY, OCT. 14** — Si Se Puede Luncheon, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., location to be announced. Julia Torres Barden, executive director of Adelante, the Latino Resource Center in Toledo, will speak during the event, and Latino Youth Summit scholarship recipients will be recognized. RSVP and details: 419.530.2992.

**FRIDAY, OCT. 15** — Super Fiesta, 8 p.m. to midnight, location to be announced. There’ll be food, music and dance to close UT’s monthlong celebration.

For more information on these free events, call the UT Office of Multicultural Student Services at 419.530.2261.