New print and online view books debut

By Deanna Woolf

Imagine you are a recruiter giving a presentation to a class of high school students about The University of Toledo — and you ask them to take out their laptops and cell phones instead of putting them away.

That scenario is now a reality with the new print and online view books, designed and produced in-house by the offices of Marketing and University Communications and the Center for Creative Instruction. The goal of the project was to take the view book to the next level in print and online, making it an interactive piece.

“The Division of External Affairs is committed to staying on the cutting edge of technology,” said Lawrence J. Burns, vice president for external affairs and interim vice president for equity and diversity. “This project is a perfect representation of how we are constantly evolving our marketing and communications materials to showcase the technological excellence that The University of Toledo has to offer.”

The printed view book — in addition to sporting new photography of the University, integration with UT’s “More” advertising campaign and custom die-cut tabbing — features quick response (QR) codes and augmented reality (AR). A QR code is a black-and-white, square barcode that is readable by a mobile phone with a camera. In the new UT view book, scanning a QR code with your phone could take you to a campus tour or add UT to your phone’s contact list. As for AR, holding the printed code on the back cover of the view book up to a Web camera will bring up a video of campus on your computer screen.

“The run-of-the-mill print piece can only accomplish so much by virtue of static nature,” said Tobin J. Klinger, associate vice president for university communications and marketing operations. “While there is clearly still a need for the printed view book, the virtual version provides significant flexibility and gives the piece a far greater shelf life. It can not only

UT administrator receives highest honor from national respiratory care association

By Meghan Cunningham

Margaret “Peg” Traband still refers to herself as a respiration therapist. It might have been years since she’s worked in a hospital and has gone on to enjoy a successful career in higher education, but she doesn’t forget the joy of helping someone breathe easier.

“To this day, if someone were to meet me somewhere, I work into the conversation that I am a respiration therapist. It’s part of my identity. It’s part of who I am,” Traband said.

Traband, now The University of Toledo’s vice provost and interim executive director for the UT Learning Collaborative, has received the highest honor in her respiration therapy field — the Jimmy A. Young Medal from the American Association for Respiratory Care.

She is featured on the cover of the October issue of the association’s Times magazine and will officially receive the award at the opening ceremony of the organization’s national conference Dec. 6 in Las Vegas.

“I’m really surprised and quite humbled,” Traband said. “Throughout my career and working with these organizations, I have got to know so many of the giants in the field that it’s hard to believe I’m being recognized among them. I used Jimmy Young’s textbook when I was first starting out.”

Traband is quick to recognize that she’s not the only one at the University who deserves credit for success in respiration therapy. A number of University alumni and professors and staff have been prominent in not only the American Association for Respiratory Care, but also the National Board for Respiratory Care. Traband has served as president of both organizations.
International Prostitution, Sex Trafficking Conference at UT Oct. 7-8

By Jon Strunk

For the first time, there’s an estimate for the number of victims of sex trafficking in Ohio: The University of Toledo’s Dr. Celia Williamson said nearly 2,000 women, boys and girls are being forced to sell their bodies.

She’ll present details of her research at the Seventh Annual International Conference on Human Trafficking, Prostitution and Sex Work at UT Thursday and Friday, Oct. 7 and 8, in the Student Union on Main Campus.

“Sex trafficking permeates our society, and in a way that would shock most people,” said Williamson, UT professor of social work and founder of Second Chance a social service program located in Toledo that provides comprehensive services to victims of domestic sex trafficking and prostitution.

“More than half the victims in Ohio are local residents forced into sexual slavery by pimps who threaten harm to the girl or to her family,” she said, pointing to recent coverage by CNN and other news organizations of prostitution services posted on the free classified ad website Craig’s List. “Those stories showed a bit more of the iceberg than people usually see, but the vast majority of the problem is still underwater.”

Of the more than two dozen presenters coming from across the world, Dr. Christine Milrod will present demographic information on “hobbyists,” those men who use Internet sites, such as Craig’s List, to find sexual service providers.

Williamson said one of the more effective tools she and her colleagues have implemented is a “John” school, a required education class for men arrested for soliciting sex. It includes HIV testing and detailed information on the effects of human trafficking, and has resulted in a substantial drop in recidivism.

“For many of these men, showing them the human side of the effects of prostitution alone will prevent a recurrence. Many just fundamentally misunderstand and believe women are selling sex because they want to,” Williamson said.

Presentations throughout the conference will include representatives from the FBI and other law enforcement agencies. In fact, the research Williamson will present was announced in February and commissioned by Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray. Williamson said both Cordray and State Sen. Teresa Fedor will be honored at the conference for their efforts to combat sex trafficking.

With presenters coming from as far away as India and Nigeria and with topics ranging from calls for legalizing prostitution to legal efforts to shut down the trade, Williamson said the conference is designed to cover the spectrum of thinking and research into sex trafficking and prostitution.

“Prostitution is still the only crime where the victim goes to jail. The more information we can get into the public consciousness the better because sexual slavery isn’t just some third-world phenomenon. It’s happening right here in suburban Ohio,” Williamson said.

For more information on the conference, including how to register, visit http://prostitutionconference.com.

View books

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be updated and modified continually, it also creates a more interactive experience for prospective students.”

The project team also wanted to do something unique with an online view book, as most schools just put PDFs of the printed version online. The Center for Creative Instruction team took the art from the printed version and made a virtual view book, available at utoledo.edu/viewbook. This online version features student blogs, live chat about residence life, videos, additional photos and more.

“We really looked at what our target audience loves to do — live chat, Facebook, blog and video — and we incorporated it into the online view book,” said Kathleen Walsh, director of Web development. “Additionally, we made sure that the view book not only looked great when viewed on a computer, but programmed it to function on the iPad and other mobile technology.”

The printed view book and virtual view book are being used this recruitment season, with plans to test the concepts and expand the site in the future.

UTMC to show appreciation during Customer Service Week

By Sarah Ritenour

National Customer Service Week is held each October to raise awareness of patron satisfaction and the importance of embracing patient-centered care.

In celebration of the 2010 National Customer Service Week Oct. 4-8, notepads and pens will be handed out to all clinic patients and inpatients at UT Medical Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 6, in various locations, including the main lobby and floors three through six.

The notepads, which contain special sentiments on each page, and the pen with the UTMC logo also will be distributed at the Ruppert Health Center, the Orthopedic Center, the Heart and Vascular Center, and the Glendale Medical Center.
Apartment in Carter Hall expands Faculty in Residence Program

By Meghan Cunningham

It used to be four rooms housing at least twice that many students, but that area on the first floor of Carter Hall is now Dr. Willie McKether’s apartment.

The University of Toledo assistant professor of anthropology moved into the renovated residence hall at the same time as the undergraduates he shares a home with — only he had a U-Haul truck for his furniture and they had stuffed their belongings into their parents’ cars.

“The thought of me being able to be closer to students to help them focus on academics on their terms in their home and really help them have a positive college experience really drove this idea home for me,” McKether said.

The new apartment in Carter Hall doubles the University’s Faculty in Residence Program.

Dr. Vijay Devabhaktuni, an associate professor of electrical engineering and computer science, is living in the existing faculty apartment in MacKinnon Hall.

Devabhaktuni said he considers himself a student-focused professor and was interested in the idea of relating to students in a different way.

“I don’t think like a teacher in a class, I think like a student. Before I give homework, I stop and think about it, knowing that students don’t like too much,” he said. “I’m hoping this opportunity will let me grow by interacting with an even larger group of students outside of engineering, since they will be studying a variety of disciplines.”

UT Director of Residence Life Jo Campbell started the Faculty in Residence Program two years ago with Dr. Tavis Glassman, assistant professor of health education, as the first participant living in MacKinnon. The program aims to give both faculty and students a better understanding of the other through increased informal interactions.

Both faculty apartments include two bedrooms, a kitchenette and a living room.

Introducing themselves to students has been much of their work so far, McKether and Devabhaktuni said.

“They see me around and have realized I’m not a Res Life person, but are still wondering why I’m always around,” McKether said. “It’s a process to let them know I’m here and they can use me as a resource. Got a question about a paper? I can help. Having trouble preparing for a test? I’m here.”

Devabhaktuni said he sees his role as supporting the Residence Life staff in making the on-campus living experience a rewarding one for students.

“I really want to be part of a team with those in Residence Life, the students, the staff — everybody involved with living in the halls,” he said. “Whatever I can do to help that team as we come up with new approaches to keeping residence life active and safe and create opportunities to learn more and more.”

McKether and Devabhaktuni have signed up to participate in the Faculty in Residence Program for up to three years.

New trauma chief on duty at UT Medical Center

By Ashley Traynum

No one ever plans on being involved in an accident or needing surgery, but during a trauma Dr. Mallory Williams is the doctor to call.

Williams is the newest addition at The University of Toledo Medical Center. Williams, a respected academic surgeon and author, is UTMC’s Chief of the Division of Trauma, Critical Care and Acute Care Surgery in the Department of Surgery.

“I am very happy to be here in Toledo, and I look forward to strengthening education and prevention programs and establishing the trauma center as a model for patient-centered quality care. The trauma center at UTMC already has an excellent team of committed individuals,” Williams said. “This is a great opportunity because UTMC is the only academic trauma center in northwest Ohio. This presents many opportunities for growth. It is my expectation that UTMC will be the leader for trauma in this city and play a significant role in both regional and national leadership.”

Williams is no stranger to the region, having completed his general training at Wayne State University in Detroit as the chief of administrative surgery resident. Born in Chicago, Williams is a native of the South Side.

Dr. Jeffrey P. Gold, chancellor, executive vice president for biosciences and health affairs, and dean of the College of Medicine, said Williams will help further establish the excellence of the UTMC level one trauma center regionally and nationwide.

“We are honored to have Dr. Williams join our staff at The University of Toledo Medical Center. He is a respected physician and scholar whose knowledge will help the University continue to meet the quality of trauma and surgical care expected from our medical team,” Gold said. “Dr. Williams also will provide students with an outstanding clinical experience through the dissemination of his knowledge and personal experiences.”

Williams’ professional experience includes working as a combat trauma surgeon in the 345th Combat Support Hospital during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Teaching students might not be as stressful as working in a war zone, but Williams wants students to understand the principles are still the same.

“I want to instill in students the human quality of what it means to practice medicine. As doctors, we must be able to bond with our patients and be 100 percent committed to the clinical outcomes,” Williams said.

In addition to being a decorated war veteran, Williams received his medical degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine and a master of public health degree at Harvard University. He completed fellowships at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston.

Williams shared his expertise in the bayou when he assisted in the development of the design of the state of Louisiana trauma system. He helped in the recertification of the level one trauma center at Louisiana State University-Shreveport and educated more than 500 physicians in advanced trauma care. The new system is instrumental to building institutional capacity to care for trauma patients while fully integrating advanced cardiovascular and cerebrovascular care protocols to expedite the care of these patients.

He will lead the trauma program, continue to perform surgeries, and teach residents during his tenure with UTMC. He resides in the area with his wife, Patrice, and three daughters, Shelby, Maya and Zoe.
Role of free enterprise in promoting happiness topic of Stranahan Lecture

By Jon Strunk

Dr. Arthur C. Brooks will deliver the Stranahan Lecture at The University of Toledo College of Law Thursday, Oct. 6, at noon in the Law Center Auditorium.

His free, public lecture is titled “The Battle: How the Fight Between Free Enterprise and Big Government Will Shape America’s Future.”

Previously, Brooks was the Louis A. Bantle Professor of Business and Government Policy at Syracuse University, where his research focused on the intersections of economics, entrepreneurship and philanthropy.

“The key issue this election season is the role of government,” said Lee J. Strang, UT professor of law. “Dr. Brooks will tackle that issue head on in his Stranahan Lecture. He is going to argue that America is a ’70-30 nation,’ with 70 percent of Americans favoring limited government, while 30 percent advocate for a greater role for government.”

Strang said Brooks will describe how free enterprise is not only the most efficient economic system, more importantly, it provides Americans with the chance to earn success and with it happiness.

“Dr. Brooks’ lecture is sure to provoke debate and conversation,” Strang said.


The Stranahan National Issues Forum is a joint program of The University of Toledo College of Law and its chapter of the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies. It is made possible by an endowment from the Stranahan Foundation. Brooks will join a string of high-profile speakers who have delivered the Stranahan Lecture at the College of Law.

Reserved parking for lecture attendees is available in Lot 25, which is adjacent to Rocket Hall. Visitors may access Lot 25 from Secor Road using College Drive.

For more information, contact Strang at 419.530.2877.
UCLA professor to speak on ‘Paths to Peace in Palestine/Israel’

Dr. Saree Makdisi, professor of English and comparative literature at the University of California in Los Angeles, will deliver the 10th annual Maryse and Ramzy Mikhail Memorial Lecture Saturday, Oct. 9. He will speak at 4 p.m. in Collier Building Auditorium B on UT’s Health Science Campus. His talk is titled “Paths to Peace in Palestine/Israel.”


Culture and the Civilization of Britain, 1798-1870. He is also the co-editor of the volume The Arabian Nights in Historical Context (Oxford University Press, 2008) and Marxism Beyond Marxism (Routledge, 1996).

Makdisi, who received a bachelor of arts degree from Wesleyan University and PhD from the Literature Program at Duke University, is editor of Nineteenth-Century Literature, a journal published by the University of California Press. He has published extensively in scholarly books as well as in academic journals such as Critical Inquiry.

He also has written a number of articles on contemporary events that have appeared in, among others, the Los Angeles Times, Washington Post, Chicago Tribune, The Nation, The Huffington Post, London Review of Books and the Beirut newspaper al-Akhbar. He has spoken or appeared on the BBC World Service, National Public Radio, al-Jazeera, PBS, South African Broadcasting Corp.’s SAFM, Radio National in Australia and other media outlets.

Makdisi is the author of the volume The Arabian Nights in Historical Context (Oxford University Press, 2008) and Marxism Beyond Marxism (Routledge, 1996).

The Maryse and Ramzy Mikhail Lecture series at The University of Toledo is an annual event made possible through the Maryse and Ramzy Mikhail Endowment Fund, which was established in 2000 by the Mikhail family.

“The purpose of the Mikhail Fund is to support an annual lecture dealing with Arab culture, literature, history, politics, economics or other broadly defined aspects of life in the Middle East,” said Dr. Samir Abu-Absi, UT professor emeritus of English and chair of the Mikhail Memorial Lecture Committee. “The committee is very excited about this year’s program as it addresses the timely issue of peace prospects in the Middle East as they relate to recent initiatives taken by the Obama administration.”

The free, public lecture is co-sponsored by the UT College of Arts and Sciences with WGTE as media sponsor.

Contact Abu-Absi at samir.abu-absi@utoledo.edu for more information on the free, public lecture.

First Read Program unites first-year students in shared learning experience

By Kate Wente

Each year, universities and high schools across the nation, including The University of Toledo, take part in First Read programs, allowing first-year students to share a common learning experience.

Designed to bring incoming students together, the UT First Read Program aims to provide a shared reading experience that will introduce students to a part of their academic life while developing a strong sense of community with their peers, faculty and staff, both inside and outside the classroom.

“These programs unite everyone in different colleges and at different points in their lives. First Read Programs allow the students to get more involved on campus,” said Jessica Merritt, program manager for the UT Office of Student Involvement.

This year, UT selected Dead Man Walking by Sister Helen Prejean. The book gives an unprecedented look at the human consequences of the death penalty and confronts both the plight of the condemned and the rage of the bereaved, as well as the needs of a crime-ridden society and the Christian imperative of love.

“There are so many intersections and hot topics that students don’t normally get to talk about in this book, and this allows them to connect learning inside and outside of the classroom,” Merritt said.

The activities that are generated through the First Read Program engage students in campus community projects, co-curricular activities and campus events related to the reading of the common text, all while strengthening reading, writing and critical thinking skills.

Students participated in coffee hours to discuss the book, an essay contest competition, and if students were spotted with their copy of Dead Man Walking on campus by a committee member, they received a voucher for a prize.

On Wednesday, Oct. 6, an Interfaith Panel on the Issues will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Student Union Ingman Room. One of the most controversial issues presented in Dead Man Walking is the complexity of religious beliefs around the subject of the death penalty, and this panel discussion will allow student organizations and religious representatives to communicate their perspectives.

That will be followed with a play Thursday, Oct. 7, that will explore the death penalty. “The Exonerated” by Jessica Blank and Eric Jensen will be performed at 7:30 p.m. in the Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall. The play is the true story of five American men and one American woman who were convicted and sentenced to death for crimes they did not commit. Combined, these six people spent more than 100 years on death row before the criminal justice system finally corrected its errors and freed them.

The First Read Program will conclude when the University hosts Prejean, the author of Dead Man Walking, as part of the Fourth Annual Gandhi Lecture for Peace and Nonviolence at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 14, in the Student Union Auditorium.

The First Read Program is a partnership between the Division of Student Affairs and the UT Learning Collaborative.

For more information about First Read events, visit www.utoledo.edu/firstread or contact Merritt at 419.530.7221.
HR offers electronic application/bid training

Training in the new online system of applying for staff positions has been scheduled throughout this month on Main Campus. Additional training will be offered on Health Science Campus in November.

The PeopleAdmin system, which was implemented on Main Campus in July, will simplify the application procedure on both campuses, according to Bill Logie, interim chief transition officer and vice president for human resources and campus safety. “This system offers one place to find all staff job postings for Main Campus, Health Science Campus, intra-departmental, internal and external positions, as well as a single way to apply,” Applicants automatically will receive confirmation that their applications/bids have been received.

According to Meghan Rayfield, employment adviser, “We’ve made progress in the first phase of the rollout and have reached a logical point to finalize the implementation. We’ll continue to train personnel in remaining departments and get them on board as soon as possible.”

Training sessions on Main Campus will take place:

- **MONDAY, OCT. 11**, from 11 a.m. to noon and 1 to 2 p.m. in Rocket Hall Room 1550;
- **TUESDAY, OCT. 12**, from 10 to 11 a.m. and 3 to 4 p.m. in Rocket Hall Room 1550;
- **WEDNESDAY, OCT. 13**, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Rocket Hall Room 1550;
- **THURSDAY, OCT. 14**, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in Rocket Hall Room 1550 and 1 to 2 p.m. in University Computer Center Room 1600;
- **FRIDAY, OCT. 15**, from 9 to 10 a.m. and 3 to 4 p.m. in University Computer Center Room 1600;
- **MONDAY, OCT. 18**, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in Rocket Hall Room 1550;
- **TUESDAY, OCT. 19**, from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in Rocket Hall Room 1550;
- **WEDNESDAY, OCT. 20**, from 3 to 4 p.m. in University Computer Center Room 1600;
- **THURSDAY, OCT. 21**, from 1 to 2 p.m. in University Computer Center Room 1600; and
- **FRIDAY, OCT. 22**, from 10 to 11 a.m. in University Computer Center Room 1600.

Participants will learn the basics, including how to bid on staff positions, check the status of existing applications and bids, view open positions and more.

Send RSVPs for training sessions to lindsey.mick@utoledo.edu or call 419.530.4747. For additional information, visit www.hr.utoledo.edu.

In memoriam

Ashel G. Bryan, former chair of the Medical College of Ohio Board of Trustees and well-known local businessman and philanthropist, died Sept. 26 at age 89 in his Bowling Green home. From 1976 to 1985, he was a member of the MCO Board of Trustees, serving as chair for four years. Under his leadership, the Health Science Campus grew. The hospital, Dowling Hall, the Kobacker Center and the Dana Conference Center were built. Bryan also was a member of the MCO Foundation Board of Trustees from 1984 to 1995; he served as president from 1991 to 1994. He and his wife, Dorothy, were longtime benefactors of the Health Science Campus. Their generosity created an outdoor landscaped commons area for patients, students, faculty, staff and the public. Their donations also supported the infusion center; renovations to the UT Medical Center Outpatient Pharmacy; and a boardroom and student lounge named in their honor. In addition, they established a number of scholarship funds in their names, endowed professorships, and an emergency hardship fund for UTMC nurses. Earlier this year, Bryan donated his wife’s artwork; “The Chemo Painting Series,” to the University. She created the paintings to chronicle her battle against cancer; she died in 2001. The series is on display on the second floor of the Health Science and Human Service Building. Dorothy’s artwork also hangs in the UT Cancer Center and other locations on Health Science Campus. In 1987, Bryan was named an MCO Distinguished Citizen; he received an honorary degree from MUO in 1996. The retired bank executive was a member of the Presidents Club and Heritage Oak Society. The family suggests tributes to the Ashel and Dorothy Bryan Nurses Emergency Fund at the UT Foundation.

Mary C. (Erdman) Drew, Maumee, who worked for more than 20 years as a secretary at MCO, died Sept. 21 at age 87. After her retirement, she volunteered in the Department of Anesthesiology and was a member of the Satellites Auxiliary. As a Satellite, Drew coordinated the monthly patient tray favors project, and she served on the group’s advisory board and was a special events hostess.

HONORED DOCS: Dr. Kristi Williams, associate professor of psychiatry and director of the Adult Outpatient Services and Adult Residency Training Program, was one of more than 50 UT Medical Center doctors who were honored last month for being among the nation’s finest physicians. Dr. Jeffrey P. Gold, chancellor, executive vice president for biosciences and health affairs, and dean of the UT College of Medicine, presented certificates that recognized the doctors for being “one of northwest Ohio’s physicians nationally recognized by their peers for exceptional specialty care.” The accolades were based on results of a recent survey of physicians. Doctors were honored at a private reception held with support of Key Private Bank.
Virtual lab for students with disabilities being created

By Cathy Zimmer

The Office of Accessibility has completed the investigative phase of a $127,000 technology grant from the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission, a supplement to the commission and Ohio Board of Regents Cooperative Agreement, to create an Assistive/Adaptive Technology Virtual Lab for students with disabilities.

UT provides assistive technology for students with disabilities although it is limited to specific locations and access hours.

“Students who need off-campus and 24/7 access to adaptive software often must purchase this expensive software independently,” said Angela Paprocki, director of the Office of Accessibility.

“Purchasing personal assistive software also results in limited information technology support with loading and maintaining the software.”

Given the cost of the software, students often cannot afford the most current versions needed and have to switch between the version they have and the versions available on campus, she added. Working in two different versions can make it difficult to complete assignments and limits students’ abilities to master any one program.

If the pilot program is successful, an Assistive/Adaptive Technology Virtual Lab will increase student access and decrease the amount of money spent each year on individual adaptive software purchases. The virtual lab will house all adaptive software on a computer that will be accessible to students 24 hours a day, seven days a week, from anywhere where they can access the Internet.

Software available in the virtual lab will include:

- ZoomText, a powerful set of reading tools that magnifies and reads documents, Web pages and e-mail through a computer’s speakers.
- JAWS (Job Access Windows With Speech), a screen reader that enables students who are blind or visually impaired to navigate the Internet and most Windows-based applications by using keystrokes to input data and commands.
- Read and Write Gold gives an added boost to people who need support with reading, writing and learning by making support tools available at their fingertips.
- Magic, a screen-magnification software that helps students with low vision view information on the computer screen. Students can customize backgrounds and font colors, the appearance of the cursor, and the level of text magnification. Magic also has speech output that announces events as they display.
- Kurzweil Reading and Comprehension Software, reading technology for people who are blind or have difficulty reading. This package helps people with reading or learning difficulties increase their reading speed and comprehension. It allows the student to view scanned documents while the software reads what is being typed. It speaks and highlights the text simultaneously and enables the student to insert typed or spoken notes anywhere in the document. It also contains study skills and reference tools.

“The University of Toledo’s Office of Accessibility is a leading institution in creating virtual labs for college students; we are branching out from that success and trying to reach more students,” Paprocki said.

Phase two of the project will begin in October, and we anticipate receiving additional funding.”

During phase two, a collaboration will be formed that includes members from the UT Office of Accessibility, Ohio University professionals who coordinate disabilities services, information technology professionals from UT and Ohio University, and users of adaptive software.

The University of Toledo will work in conjunction with Ohio University to assess the challenges and feasibility of accessing the virtual lab from both campuses. Phase two will be completed in October 2011. The next goal, after the virtual lab is fully implemented on both campuses, will be to evaluate the program to determine the feasibility of implementation at the statewide level.

“In the end, an Assistive/Adaptive Technology Virtual Lab will make the software available to students from anywhere they have an Internet connection. It will require less IT support, as the software is loaded onto virtual computers and managed through a central location, making troubleshooting and loading additional or new versions of software much easier and cost-effective,” Paprocki said.

“If implemented at a state university level, it would ensure that students have access to the same software they are familiar with when they transfer to another state university. If primary and secondary schools also had access, familiarity with the software and use of the virtual lab would ease the transition from high school to college for students with disabilities who use adaptive software.”

“There is also the potential that a virtual lab could be made available to state governmental agencies, making the school-to-work transition easier, for students and more cost-effective for governmental entities hiring persons with disabilities,” she continued. “As you can see, there is a great opportunity with developing this virtual lab.”

The Office of Accessibility supports persons with disabilities as they develop their academic and personal potential within the University community. As the bridge to integration within the University, the Office of Accessibility advocates for students’ rights; promotes awareness of disability issues; and ensures equal access to UT programs, activities and facilities. The Office of Accessibility is also part of the UT Learning Collaborative that works to support and enhance the academic journey.

Early Learning Center open house Oct. 14

By Kim Goodin

An open house for the UT Early Learning Center will take place Thursday, Oct. 14, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at its south Toledo location.

Located a few blocks from Health Science Campus at 1932 Birchwood Ave., the center offers quality care, education and activities for children 18 months to 5 years of age.

“We’ve been a bit of a secret to some because we’re a few blocks away from Health Science Campus,” said Caryn Salts, director.

“We’ve actually been serving the early needs of children and their parents for more than 50 years!”

The center is accredited by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs, which has rigorous standards regarding curriculum and environment. According to Salts, some of the UT Early Learning Center’s biggest advantages include large classrooms, a full-size gym, lower adult-child ratios and staff longevity.

Salts, who has been director for nine years, said the experienced staff has been with the center from eight to 20 years. “During my time here, I’ve had to hire only one teacher.”

Most of the children enrolled are of UT faculty, staff and students, but the center is open to the greater Toledo community.

“We’re a little off the beaten path, but worth a few blocks in terms of quality and convenience for the UT community,” Salts said. “We’re fortunate to benefit from our relationship with UT to achieve a unique balance of quality and affordability.”

During the open house, Salts and staff will be on hand to conduct tours and answer questions. Children are welcome to attend with their parents.

For more information, call Salts at 419.530.6710.
Rocket volleyball to hold ‘Dig Pink’ match Oct. 16

By Steve Easton

The University of Toledo volleyball program will hold its “Dig Pink: Volley for the Cure” event for a second straight year when it hosts the Ohio Bobcats Saturday, Oct. 16, at 3 p.m. in Savage Arena.

The Rockets have teamed up with Dig Pink, a Side-Out Foundation, in order to raise breast cancer awareness on campus and in the Toledo community. The goal is to raise $1,000 in donations. Twenty-five percent of the proceeds will be given back to the University to award to a research facility of choice; the remainder of the proceeds will be donated by the Rockets to Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

“This is a great opportunity for people to come out and be a part of a great cause, as well as support our program,” Head Volleyball Coach Greg Smith said. “We’re very honored to be a part of the Dig Pink event, and we want to do our part in the battle to fight breast cancer.”

An information table will be set up Monday through Friday, Oct. 11-15, in the Student Union. Individuals interested in making a donation can go to www.side-out.org/application/team/team_page/1785.

The Side-Out Foundation, a nonprofit organization located in the Washington, D.C., area, has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for breast cancer research nationally through volleyball tournaments, clinics and rallies. Funds are devoted to targeted therapies and molecular profiling, representing a hotbed of research activity.

For more information, contact Sarah Wilson of the Athletic Department at sarah.wilson@rockets.utoledo.edu.

Colleges Against Cancer to ‘Paint Campus Purple’

By Sarah Ritenour

The University of Toledo will go purple Monday through Friday, Oct. 4-8, as the student organization Colleges Against Cancer prepares for its Relay for Life season.

“We are hoping that Paint the Campus Purple will not only raise cancer awareness at the University, but also will raise awareness for Relay for Life. Relay for Life at UT is our largest event of the year and will take place Friday and Saturday, Dec. 3 and 4, in the UT Student Recreation Center,” said Becky Fitts, public relations coordinator for the event.

Relay for Life is an American Cancer Society event where teams take turns walking a track relay-style for 18 hours in honor of those lost to cancer and those still fighting.

“During Paint the Campus Purple, we will be selling T-shirts, food and luminaries, which are used in remembrance or in honor of those that have dealt with cancer. We also will answer any questions you may have about the event,” she said.

Representatives from the organization, along with a staff partner from the American Cancer Society, will be at tables set up on the Student Union steps.

“This year we are hoping to raise more than $30,000 and to have 50 teams. Last year a majority of our teams were student organizations and Greek life. This year we hope to have teams made of friends and family and especially more faculty and staff,” Fitts said.

Teams and individuals can sign up online at www.relayforlife.org/ut to participate in this year’s event. Donations on behalf of Colleges Against Cancer also can be made at the site. All proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society and stay in the Toledo area.

For more information, e-mail relayforlifeofut@gmail.com or contact Tiffany Miller, American Cancer Society staff partner, at 800.227.6446.