Physician wins national award for clerkship work

By Casey Cheap

The University of Toledo and one of its faculty members are being recognized nationally for research and advising in the Neurology Department.

Dr. Imran Ali, professor of neurology, director of student clerkship, and associate dean of clinical medical education, professionalism and diversity, recently received an award from the American Academy of Neurology for his outstanding performance in neurology clerkship.

“Imran is the consummate neurology clerkship director,” wrote Dr. Ralph Józefowicz, chair of the American Academy of Neurology Education Committee and professor of neurology at the University of Rochester Medical Center in New York, who recommended Ali for the honor.

“In his nomination letter, Józefowicz wrote, ‘63 percent of the graduating Toledo medical students rated the neurology clerkship as excellent, compared with the national average of 33 percent, and Toledo medical students have beat the national mean on the shelf exam for the past five years.’”

Józefowicz also pointed out that Ali has made numerous improvements to the clerkship program, from incorporating the American Academy of Neurology core curriculum to assigning students to

UTMC named one of nation’s 50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals

By Jon Strunk

The University of Toledo Medical Center was named one of the nation’s 50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals by Truven Health Analytics.

The only northwest Ohio hospital honored, UTMC joins institutions such as the Mayo Clinic and the University of California San Diego Medical Center for the 14th annual survey, which was first published by Modern Healthcare.

“This wonderful honor is a tribute to the physicians, nurses and clinicians who work every day to ensure UTMC remains on the leading edge of heart and cardiovascular treatment,” said Dr. Jeffrey P. Gold, chancellor and executive vice president for biosciences and health affairs, and dean of the College of Medicine and Life Sciences.

“If you review the list of the Top 50 Cardiovascular Hospitals, you quickly see there are entire states and regions of the country where patients don’t have access to one of the top 50 cardiovascular care hospitals,” Gold said. “Those living in northwest Ohio can be proud that at UTMC, our region’s patients get the most advanced heart and cardiovascular care available.”

In its study, Truven Health Analytics used data from 2010, 2011 and 2012 from a variety of Medicare and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid data sets and identified the 50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals as having:

- Fewer complications;
- Fewer patients readmitted to the hospital within 30 days;
- Shorter hospital stays; and
- Lower costs.

“Patients have for a number of years increasingly looked to the UT Medical

Medical student participates in health-care policy internship in D.C.

By Samantha Watson

Instead of using her summer to intern in a research laboratory or community health clinic like most of her colleagues, second-year medical student Carolyn Payne decided to intern in the heart of the nation’s capital.

The native of Green, Ohio, spent eight weeks in Washington, D.C., learning about health-care policies, including but not limited to the recently upheld Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. She also met with legislators to speak about policies that could affect her future career in medicine.

“I wanted to use this summer to better understand the process of how health policy, particularly women’s reproductive health policy, is made,” Payne said. “This is important to me because as an obstetrician/gynecologist, it won’t matter what I learned in medical school if a policy prohibits me from using that knowledge.”

During her time in Washington, D.C., Payne also gained some experience communicating with legislators and had many opportunities to do so with a number of elected officials, including Speaker of the House John Boehner and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi.

POLITICKING: UT medical student Carolyn Payne met House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi while interning at the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists over the summer.

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Voter ID, gerrymandering, Citizens United decision among Oct. 19 symposium topics

By Rachel Phipps

As absentee and early voting ballots are cast and Nov. 6 approaches, election law experts will gather at The University of Toledo College of Law Friday, Oct. 19, to consider how the country’s elections are conducted, financed and monitored.

The free, public symposium, “Votes and Voices in 2012 — Issues Surrounding the November Election and Beyond,” is sponsored by the UT Law Review and will be held from 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the newly renovated McGuade Law Center Auditorium.

Symposium panels are slated to address topics that will include political gerrymandering — the subject of an Ohio ballot measure — and the controversial voter identification laws being rolled out across the country. The U.S. Supreme Court’s 2010 decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission and campaign finance reform also will be discussed.

Citizens United and the later ruling in SpeechNow.org v. Federal Election Commission paved the way for “super-PACs” and the record $3.98 billion spent by political parties and outside interest groups during the 2010 elections — a sum that is sure to be eclipsed by 2012 election spending.

“The issues addressed in this symposium could not be more important,” said Daniel J. Steinbock, dean of the UT College of Law. “They go to the heart of what it means to live in a democracy.”

Panelists will include Michael Boos, vice president and general counsel for Citizens United, and Cynthia Bauerly, commissioner of the Federal Election Commission. Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted will deliver the keynote address at 11:45 a.m.

For more information and to register, visit law.utoledo.edu/electionlaw or call 419.530.2962.

Internship

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Payne interned with the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists so that she could become more fluent in understanding the policies that affect physicians in this field. During her internship, she attended congressional briefings on Capitol Hill, lobbied congressmen and senators, and gained a broader understanding of the major policy issues of concern to the physician community.

When she met with Ohio’s representatives, she was able to discuss different policies that affect the practice of obstetrics and gynecology in the Buckeye State, as well as policies unique to medical students and resident physicians. She learned how important it is for medical students and physicians to speak up because their voices and expert opinions carry substantial weight when it comes to these policy negotiations.

“I feel as though a lot of us believe the world of politics is confusing to navigate; we don’t know where to start and we don’t know how to get involved, so we don’t,” Payne said. “This internship has demonstrated to me that our representatives want to hear from us. If you can’t visit them in Washington, it’s really easy to pick up the phone, call their office, and tell them what you think.”

Payne’s internship was a part of the Government Relations Internship Program sponsored by the American Medical Association. Application to the program is open to students who are members of the association, and this year there were six recipients who completed a health policy-related internship in Washington, D.C. This program encourages these students to do internships within their medical field of interest.

“It was really wonderful to see other students who were so passionate about health-care policy,” Payne said. “In medical school, it’s so easy to get totally consumed in studying the lectures and preparing to do the best you can on your next exam so that you can be an excellent physician. Sometimes you don’t even know what’s going on in the world outside of the classroom.”

She said that she found it reassuring to work with other medical students who appreciated the significance that policies have on their future as physicians. She said it suggests that the next generation of young physicians will continue to contribute to future health-care policy negotiations, in addition to being excellent clinicians.

Payne said this experience has inspired her to stay current in her understanding of new health-care policies. She understands that more policies are likely to follow the implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and they will affect her as a physician and as a patient. She wants to make sure that the clinical experts are the ones guiding and shaping smart health policy.

Physician wins

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outpatient clinics to using technologies for teaching and assessment.

“He also moved the clerkship from a four-week, third-year rotation two years ago, increasing the number of students interested in neurology from two to three per year to eight to 10 per year,” Józefowicz wrote.

“I am quite proud of [the award] and that The University of Toledo got recognition as well. It is quite an honor and a prestigious award. It is humbling and makes one feel good about their work,” Ali said.
Open enrollment continues through this month

By Kim Goodin

Open enrollment for 2013 health benefits continues through Wednesday, Oct. 31.

As with last year, enrollment is being conducted entirely online. The only hard copy being accepted is required documentation, such as spousal/domestic partner health-care eligibility affidavits (only if your spouse is employed outside of UT), birth certificates and marriage certificates.

As a reminder, spousal affidavit and adult child information must be completed at this time each year. This also is the time each year when medical and dependent care flexible spending account and health savings account information must be elected for the next calendar year.

“Many employees have already completed the process and returned their documentation,” said Denise Shordt, senior benefits adviser in Human Resources and Talent Development. “Feedback regarding the ease of the process and its convenience has been quite positive.”

Eligible employees should go to an open enrollment link on the myUT portal on UT’s internal website. A series of prompts will lead each employee through the process. Employees must have their user names and passwords activated before they can enter the portal.

Shordt encourages employees to review their current benefit information, whether changing selections or not.

Details regarding each health-care plan, as well as support information, is available on HR’s website at utoldeo.edu/depts/hr/benefits/index.html. An explanatory presentation is available on the HR open enrollment website.

Computers will be available for employee access in HR’s offices on Health Science Campus (Facilities Support Building) and Main Campus (Transportation Center) Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

In addition, benefits specialists will be available with computers from 1 to 3 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 18, in the Human Resources and Talent Development receptionist office located in the Transportation Center on Main Campus and from 1 to 3 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 24, in the Four Seasons Bistro on Health Science Campus.

Employees who require personal assistance with online enrollment are encouraged to email benefits@utoldeo.edu.

Open enrollment ends at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 31. New benefits selections will be effective Jan. 1, 2013.

Flu shots available for UT community members

The seasonal flu shot program is under way as UT Medical Center employees involved with patient care are receiving inoculation. Vaccine will be provided on Main Campus starting at Wellowene Friday, Oct. 26.

Walk-in clinics will start Monday, Oct. 22, and run through Thursday, Nov. 15.

Annual vaccination against seasonal influenza is recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for adults to reduce risks of becoming ill with influenza or transmitting the virus to others.

“Inoculation is very important for students because of virus exposure in confined spaces such as classrooms and residence halls,” said Dr. Susan Batten, associate professor of nursing.

The flu shots are free for UT employees and students with their IDs. Clinics will take place:

- Monday, Oct. 22 — Collier Building Lobby from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 23 — Health Education Building Lobby from 8 a.m. to noon.
- Thursday, Oct. 25 — Health Science Building Lobby from 8 a.m. to noon.
- Friday, Oct. 26 — Student Recreation Center during Wellowene from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 30 — UT Medical Center Gift Shop Hall from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 5 to 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 31 — Health Education Building Lobby from 8 a.m. to noon.
- Thursday, Nov. 1 — UT Medical Center Gift Shop Hall from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 5 to 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 6 — Stranahan Hall Lobby from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 7 — Law Center Room 1039 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 8 — Rocket Hall Lobby from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 13 — Health and Human Services Building Lobby from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 15 — Memorial Field House Center Court from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

“We have had a good response so far with more than 9,000 doses given,” Batten said. “I hope interest continues. It certainly beats the $30 out-of-pocket expense.”

In memoriam

Amelia M. (Jurasek) Brady, Toledo, former secretary at MCO, died Oct. 7 at age 82.

Lucille Griffin, Toledo, who worked at UT nearly 30 years, died Oct. 6 at age 89. She was hired as a domestic worker in 1972, named a custodian in 1973, and retired in 1990.

Dr. Kathleen E. “Kay” Korthuis, Lambertville, Mich., died Oct. 6 at age 78. She joined the MCO faculty as an instructor of medical-surgical nursing and as a health clinician in 1973. She left in 1986 and returned six years later. When Korthuis retired in 1996, she was a professor and associate dean in the College of Nursing Graduate Program. She received a doctorate in guidance and counselor education from UT in 1982.

Mary Joy McCoy, Toledo, former medical billing specialist at MCO, died Oct. 6 at age 72.
Laugh tracks: Assistant professor’s research uses laughter to predict speech problems

By Cynthia Nowak

Laughter is often identified as good medicine. Dr. Caroline Menezes, though, sees it as a promising diagnostic tool for predicting the development of speech problems in children.

The assistant professor of speech-language pathology in the Judith Herb College of Education, Health Science and Human Service is researching speech disorders: “It’s an umbrella term that covers many problems in childhood speech. All, though, are based in the sounds that make up language.”

Those language sounds are missing in many of the children receiving assistance in the college’s Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic. “We don’t really know the cause, though some of the disorders may be cognitive in origin,” Menezes said. “Perhaps we can better call this kind of disorder a phonological language delay, as the problem lies in a person’s inability to form appropriate linguistic concepts.”

Apraxia of speech is another disorder, in which a person has trouble saying what’s intended. In adults, Menezes explained, apraxia is often seen following a stroke: “It’s a breakdown in the brain’s programming of the sounds according to the linguistic rules. A person knows what a cat is, but they can’t string the sounds together to say the word, so they may say cap or fat.”

In that type of case, the person does have the appropriate linguistic concepts; the problem is articulating them. Similar symptoms may be observed in children, but a cause is often elusive. Thus the importance of understanding the factors that predispose children to develop speech disorders.

Menezes begins with the fact that humans possess an innate capacity to speak and communicate in language. “Language develops chronologically, ” she noted. “Some sounds are learned first, others later, with the most difficult ones coming last. If this system is delayed or disordered, it may manifest itself in what is generally known as phonological disorders.

“My idea is that because we use our vocal tract [that cavity in the head where sound is produced] for both laughter and speaking, maybe we can look at the way laughter develops in a child to predict whether the child is likely to develop a phonological and/or speech disorder.”

Laughter tends to develop at 4 months of age, speech at 20 months, with both affected by physical changes in the vocal tract as a child grows. In infants and young children, the tongue tends to lie forward in the mouth to facilitate suckling, and the vocal tract is relatively flat, creating a predisposition to certain sounds and patterns.

Some of the earliest and easiest speech patterns an infant makes are the consonant-vowel construct, Menezes said: “For example, baba. Papa. We see this pattern in the early babble stages, not only in English, but also in most spoken languages. This consonant-vowel linguistic structure is evident even at 4 months in the way we laugh: ha ha, hee hee.”

Chuckles, short laughs and giggles don’t count; for her research, Menezes analyzes only spontaneous laughter blown out through the vocal tract: “You don’t have to know how to articulate with your tongue to laugh like that. It’s just dropping the jaw, which has the natural tendency to move the H consonant sound that occurs in laughter.”

Comparing jaw and tongue movement in children’s laughter and that of adults, Menezes’ team looks for a regular pattern that might be superimposed on patterns of children thought to be predisposed to speech disorders, also helping to differentiate between phonological and articulation disorders. It may, she hopes, eventually allow speech-language professionals to identify such children for early intervention.

The research — heavy on data mining and analysis — is in its early stages and represents a very new field, she added. “Only a few scientists in the world are looking at laughter in this way.”

Author to discuss prequel to ‘Godfather’ screenplay

It’s an offer you can’t refuse: Meet Ed Falco, the author of The Family Corleone, a new novel based on “The Godfather” screenplay by Mario Puzo.

He will talk about and read from his work Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 12:30 p.m. in Libbey Hall.

Falco’s book is set in the Great Depression and follows Don Vito Corleone as he becomes the most powerful man in New York’s criminal underworld.

The writer also will discuss his story collection, Burning Man.

The free public event is sponsored by the Department of English.
Celebrate freedom to read at UT’s Banned Books Week Vigil, ‘Mark Twain Night’

By Samantha Watson

When Mark Twain wrote *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, he concentrated on the carefree lives of two young boys growing up — yet these classics have been banned by schools across the country.

“Huckleberry Finn particularly offended people who did not understand Twain’s sharp sense of humor, ear for local dialogue, or clever satire of society,” said Dr. Paulette D. Kilmer, UT professor of communication and coordinator of the University’s Banned Books Week event.

Shortly after *Huckleberry Finn* was published, the Concord Free Public Library banned it, saying the novel was “inlegent” and “trash of the veriest sort,” according to The New York Herald from March 18, 1885.

Although more than a century has passed since newspaper and magazine editors sparred about the literary value of *Huckleberry Finn*, many school boards and other administrators have felt that these books were bad for children to read because of the coarse language.

“Ironically, Twain did not write these books for children,” Kilmer said. “But over time, educators have taught young people lessons about human nature as well as literature by requiring their students to read these gems. For example, Huck Finn learns that ignorance and greed, not race, often make folks unworthy of respect.”

This sort of censorship happens all the time. Besides Twain’s works, books like *Harry Potter*, *The Hunger Games* and *Twilight* are among a list of many titles that are banned or have been removed from circulation.

To bring awareness to this censorship and to celebrate the right to read, the American Library Association created Banned Books Week 30 years ago. For the last 15 years, UT has been a part of that event — and it’s that time of year again.

On Thursday, Oct. 18, UT’s 15th Annual Banned Books Week Vigil will kick off the event. UT also will host “Mark Twain Night” Friday, Oct. 19, featuring Twain impersonator Alan Kitty.

Students, faculty and staff as well as community members are invited to the third floor of Sullivan Hall for the free, public program Thursday. New presentations will begin every half hour from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., and door prizes, including banned books, will be given away after each talk. Light refreshments will be offered all day.

On Friday, Kitty’s performance will take place in Libbey Hall from 7 to 9 p.m. The actor will present his original monologue, “Mark Twain’s Last Stand,” which contrasts his life as an author, speaker and social critic with his life as a husband and father.

Light refreshments will be served; there also will be a cash bar.

Tickets — $7.50 for students, $15 for one, $25 for two, and $100 for a table of eight — are available at utoledo.edu/boxoffice or by calling 419.530.2375.

Those who cannot afford to pay admission may contact Dr. Linda Smith at lsmith2@utnet.utoledo.edu to receive limited free tickets.

Kitty’s performance is made possible in part by a grant from the Ohio Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Kilmer was head of the Banned Books Week Vigil Committee that consisted of Smith, Dr. Cynthia Ingham, Elaine Reeves, Arjun Sabharwal, Dr. Glenn Sheldon and Dr. Sumitra Srinivasan.

Many sponsors have provided food and door prizes; these include Career Services, the Department of English, the Department of Theatre and Film, General Libraries, Friends of the Library Foundation, the Honors College, Marketing and Communications, Office of the Dean of Students, the Communication Department, the UT Federal Credit Union, Rocket Copy, Lambda Pi Eta, UT Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, The Independent Collegian, UT Writer’s Guild, WXUT, Massage Therapist Ann Lumberzre, Barry’s Bagels, Dunkin’ Donuts, Kroger, Dr. Mary Humphrys, New Sins Press, Phoenixia Cuisine, Yogurt U and Toledo Free Press.

UT Banned Books Week Vigil talks

Topics and speakers for the event, which will take place Thursday, Oct. 18, on the third floor Sullivan Hall, will be:

- 9 a.m. — “Celebrating Reading: Selections From The Princess Bride” by Joshua Manley, Pearl Gannbell and Jasmine Townsend, members of the UT Writer’s Guild;
- 9:30 a.m. — “In the Name of Democracy: Resurgence of Censorship in Post-Soviet Eastern Europe” by Arjun Sabharwal, assistant professor and digital initiatives librarian;
- 10 a.m. — “From ‘Lucy’ to ‘2 Broke Girls’: TV and Its Cultural Impact” by Dr. David Tucker, associate professor of communication;
- 10:30 a.m. — “Google Bombs, SEO and Censorship” by Dr. Paul Many, professor of communication;
- 11 a.m. — “The War on Women … as Old as History” by Warren Woodbury, Toledo author;
- 11:30 a.m. — “Prison Education: What Is the Point?” by Dr. Renee Heberle, associate professor of political science;
- Noon — “My Favorite Book” by Dr. William McMillen, assistant to the president;
- 1 p.m. — “Inequality and Democracy” by Dr. Carter Wilson, professor of political science;
- 1:30 p.m. — “Book Burning in Nazi Germany” by Dr. Larry Wilcox, professor of history, and Justin Pfeifer, student;
- 2 p.m. — “Grey Matter” by Dr. Ben Pryor, vice provost for academic program development;
- 2:30 p.m. — “Jeopardy!” by Vincent Scebbi, editor of The Independent Collegian;
- 3 p.m. — “ Avoiding the Echo Chamber: The Benefit of Dissenting Opinion” by Sarah Ottney, managing editor of Toledo Free Press;
- 3:30 p.m. — “Thomas Jefferson’s Bible: The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth” by Dr. Tom Barden, dean of the Honors College;
- 4 p.m. — “Babes in Pornland: The New Pornography Industry” by Dr. Sharon Barnes, associate professor of women’s and gender studies; and
- 4:30 p.m. — “Debased Ditties and Songs That Suffered Censorship” by Dr. Ed Lingen, assistant professor of theatre.
Religious traditions to be discussed Oct. 23

By Casey Cheap

The President’s Lecture Series on Diversity will turn its attention to religious diversity with a luncheon and panel discussion titled “Our Holy Days” Tuesday, Oct. 23.

Speakers have been invited to represent the six religions that have a registered student organization at UT: Buddhism, Catholicism, Islam, Judaism, Paganism and Protestantism.

The Main Campus luncheon will run from 11:30 a.m. to noon, and the panelists will speak from noon to 1 p.m. in Student Union Rooms 2582 and 2584. The registration deadline is Wednesday, Oct. 17; attendees looking to RSVP may email plsd@utoledo.edu.

The dialogue will be the signature event for the committee that has been sponsoring diversity-related happenings on campus since 2008.

“The goal of this event is to build awareness about various traditions,” said Emily Hardcastle, community outreach manager for the Office of Diversity, Community Engagement and co-chair of the President’s Lecture Series on Diversity. “We will be focusing specifically on those religions that have student organizations here at UT as a way to help build bridges between students, faculty and staff.”

The President’s Lecture Series on Diversity will stream the event for viewing at a luncheon on Health Science Campus; live streaming will begin at noon in Health Education Building Room 105.

Dr. Patricia Hogue, associate professor and chair of the Department of Physician Assistant Studies, assistant dean of diversity, student recruitment and retention in the College of Medicine and Life Sciences, and President’s Lecture Series on Diversity committee member, is helping to organize the viewing luncheon on Health Science Campus.

“Health and social care services should meet the needs of people from all backgrounds,” Hogue said. “You should not be treated less favorably than anyone else because of your religion or belief, or because you have no religion or belief. As future and current healthcare providers, the religious panel is extremely relevant for the current climate.”

Space for the lunch is limited to the first 50 people who RSVP. However, after noon, the panel will be open to anyone looking to attend, and no RSVP will be required.

Local entrepreneur excited to partner with UT to promote minority-owned businesses

By Brian Purdue

The University of Toledo continues to embrace diversity, partnering with a number of area businesses via Supply UT, an ongoing effort encouraging local minority-owned businesses to offer their services to the institution and promote themselves locally.

Milton McIntyre, owner of Peak Electric Inc., one of the University’s partnered businesses, believes the effort expressed through Supply UT is encouraging and shows the institution’s commitment to doing more business with its approved vendors.

The program is led by the Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Engagement in the External Affairs Division and is part of The University of Toledo’s Minority Business Development Center’s effort to offer assistance to early-stage, minority-owned companies by providing office space, training, mentoring and networking opportunities.

“The University of Toledo is proud to partner with this successful minority business,” said Dr. Shanda Gore, associate vice president for equity, diversity and community engagement. “Our continued relationship with Peak Electric has been extremely promising and continues to contribute to our mission.”

The four-employee Peak Electric has operated for 10 years — nine years as an electrical contractor and within large institutions.

“The advancements made through the center with Peak Electric have a positive effect on all levels of business,” said Lawrence J. Burns, vice president for external affairs. “Mr. McIntyre is building the economic strength in our local community by way of his company, and his participation is encouraging others in the community to be involved.”

McIntyre is no stranger when it comes to giving back to the community; he offers much of his time and effort to mentor minority business leaders, coach elementary dodgeball, and support Yell & Tell: Stop Child Abuse Now Inc.

“We look forward to teaming up and working with UT for our future growth,” said McIntyre while talking about his optimism for the future despite witnessing many fluctuations and challenges in the industry during his 26-year career.

Further information and a list of all the businesses involved with the Minority Business Development Center can be found at utoledo.edu/incubator/mbdc.

PITCHING IN: Samantha Pixler, a UT alumna featured on a University billboard at Comerica Park, and her friend, Nick Wente, far left, accepted a check for the Strikeouts for Scholarships Program last month from Doug Fister of the Detroit Tigers and Bob Turner from 97.1 FM. Detroit pitchers struck out 1,260 batters during the regular season to earn $120,600 for the program.
**OPINION**

**UT Federal Credit Union offers specials, products, services**

By Kara Mominee

The University of Toledo Federal Credit Union was established in 1964. Since then, we have expanded our membership to include faculty, staff, students, physicians, alumni and families of the University and the UT Medical Center.

To serve members, we have three convenient locations:

- Student Union Room 3019 on Main Campus;
- Mulford Library Room 13E on Health Science Campus; and
- Main Office, 5248 Hill Ave., Toledo.

Over the years, our membership has grown from 13 to more than 7,000 members nationwide. We are a full-service financial institution offering products and services from savings, checking and loans to online account access and e-statements, as well as discounts for members to area attractions, including the Toledo Zoo, Cedar Point and Rave Cinemas.

Once you are a member of the UT Federal Credit Union, you are always a member. We also offer more than 4,000 shared branching locations nationwide where members can access their accounts to deposit, transfer or withdraw money, cash checks and more. To find out additional information and to locate a shared branch near you, visit uofcu.com/pages/shared-branching.html.

For international travelers, we now offer an international prepaid card. The new Prepaid Travel “Chip Card,” also known as EMV, is available at the UT Federal Credit Union. This card has the new chip technology that will allow our members to travel worry-free, knowing that they will have access to cash.

In honor of Credit Union Week, the UT Federal Credit Union will offer 1 percent off your new loan Wednesday, Oct. 17, so make sure to stop in and see us! Exclusions: mortgages, home equity and Visa cards. Risk-based lending rates apply.

Visit us online at uofcu.com, call 419.534.3770, or stop in and see us at one of our locations for more information.

Mominee is the marketing manager for the UT Federal Credit Union.

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**Ritter Planetarium explores Mayan civilization**

The newest Ritter Planetarium Program starts in October and runs through the end of the year.

Each Friday night at 7:30 p.m. through Dec. 21, UT’s Ritter Planetarium and Brooks Observatory will air “Tales of the Maya Skies” on its digital 6.5 million-pixel SciDomeXD. The presentation will immerse the audience in a full-dome show studying Mayan astronomy, art and culture.

As many know, Dec. 21, 2012, marks the day some believe the Maya predicted the world would end, and the film will touch on this phenomenon.

Given the importance of the Maya in Latin American culture, it is fitting that each Saturday through Oct. 27 a Spanish-narrated version of the same program will be offered.

Each evening program will be followed by observing, weather permitting, at the Brooks Observatory.

Produced by Chabot Space & Science Center, “Tales of the Maya Skies” inspires and educates through its description of the Maya’s accurate astronomical achievements and how astronomy connected them to the universe. Both versions are narrated by Latin Grammy Award winner Lila Downs and supported by grants from the National Science Foundation and the Instituto Politécnico Nacional, Mexico City.

In an effort to reach the next generation of astronomers, Ritter Planetarium will screen “One World, One Sky: Big Bird’s Adventure” each Saturday at 1 p.m. through Nov. 9.

The full-dome planetarium show follows Sesame Street’s Big Bird and Elmo as they explore the night sky with Hu Hu Zhu, a Muppet from China. Together, they take an imaginary trip from Sesame Street to the moon, where they discover how different it is from Earth.

Afternoon programs will feature solar observing, weather permitting.

Admission is $7 for adults and $5 for children 4 through 12, seniors, and UT students and employees. Children 3 and younger are free.

For more information, call Ritter Planetarium at 419.530.2650 or its 24-hour information hotline at 419.530.4037.
The UTMC Pink Glove Dance Video to raise breast cancer awareness is in the running for a $10,000 donation in our name to Susan G. Komen NW Ohio!

- We need your vote! Just log onto facebook or go to PinkGloveDance.com
  - Vote between October 12, 1 p.m. and October 26 at midnight.
  - You must be logged onto facebook to vote.

Tell your friends, family and co-workers to vote for us!