UT receives Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award

By Jon Strunk

The University of Toledo has received the 2013 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award from INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education.

As a recipient of the annual award — a national honor recognizing U.S. colleges and universities that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion — UT will be featured along with 55 other recipients in the magazine’s November issue.

“Diversity is one of The University of Toledo’s core values and it is demonstrated through our actions,” UT President Lloyd Jacobs said. “This year has brought us new opportunities to make a difference and effectively enhance the academic and professional development of our students, faculty and staff. We are part of the communities we serve and those communities make us great.”

INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine selected UT based on the institution’s exemplary diversity and inclusion initiatives, as well as the University’s ability to embrace a broad definition of diversity on campus, including gender, race, ethnicity, veterans, people with disabilities and members of the LGBT community.

Most notably, UT is recognized for its unique culture building institute diversity certificate, the UT Minority and those communities make us great.”

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Most notably, UT is recognized for its unique culture building institute diversity certificate, the UT Minority

Doctoral student receives grant from National Institutes of Health for fertility research

By Samantha Watson

Latrice Faulkner, a fourth-year doctoral student at the University, is trying to uncover the mechanisms of Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS) by focusing on a particular set of neurons associated with the disorder.

In females, these neurons may facilitate the development of PCOS, which affects 5 to 10 percent of reproductive-aged women. Women with PCOS have an imbalance of hormones that can lead to irregular periods, unwanted hair growth, acne and fertility problems.

In her lab, Faulkner works with male mouse models that have altered neurons that, unaltered, regulate metabolism. When these neurons are damaged or changed, they not only have an effect on metabolism, but on fertility as well.

Faulkner conducts her studies on male rodent models because these males often show fertility and metabolic characteristics similar to human females with PCOS.

A year after writing her proposal, she can focus more on her research, having secured a $126,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health.

This grant isn’t her first experience with NIH. Last summer she did an internship there in the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. She enjoyed her experience so much that after finishing her doctoral program at UT, Faulkner hopes to work for NIH in the National Cancer Institute.

College of Law one of Princeton Review’s top law schools

By Rachel Phipps

The University of Toledo College of Law is one of the nation’s finest law schools, according to The Princeton Review’s list of The Best 169 Law Schools, which appears as a book and on The Princeton Review website.

“We are pleased but not surprised,” said Daniel J. Steinbock, dean of the College of Law. “We have been on this list for as long as it has existed. Students are consistently happy with the education they receive at our law school.”

In UT College of Law’s profile, Princeton Review editors wrote, “Students speak overwhelmingly of the school’s obvious care and concern for their future.”

The profile also quotes current UT law students who were surveyed by The Princeton Review. Among the student comments, “Every aspect of the school strikes the perfect balance between professionalism and personal attention.” Another student noted the faculty’s “willingness to sit and chat with students about class at any time, while connecting what we learn to real-life use.”

The profiles in The Best 169 Law Schools have rating scores in five categories based on institutional data collected during the 2012-13 academic year and student surveys.

In arguably the most important category — academic experience — the UT College of Law is third among Ohio’s public law schools.
College of Medicine receives continued accreditation

By Meghan Cunningham

The College of Medicine and Life Sciences has received continued accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education.

The LCME voted at its Oct. 1-3 meeting to continue the college’s accreditation for a full eight-year term. An accreditation team visited campus in late April for a thorough four-day review to examine compliance with its 134 accreditation standards.

“This award of continued accreditation for the next eight years and the positive remarks from the survey team affirm our belief that UT medical students are receiving a world-class education at our institution,” 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.

Gold, who held a town hall meeting Oct. 15 to share the news with campus, thanked all of the faculty and staff for their hard work to bring the college into compliance. The last accreditation visit eight years ago wasn’t as positive, with a number of areas that needed to be addressed, but the most recent report described a rejuvenated medical college, he said.

Out of five broad categories LCME evaluates on each visit, the site visitors noted no negative findings in the topics of institutional setting, faculty or educational resources. The accreditation team specifically praised the Interprofessional Immersive Simulation Center, saying, “the investment in a greatly expanded new center with a focus on interprofessional education is laudable.”

The Liaison Committee on Medical Education also praised the Center for Creative Instruction, noting the department has been “instrumental in developing new technologies to enhance the educational mission of the college” and called “educationally innovative” the development of the virtual interactive cadaver dissection experience, “Anatomy Revealed.”

There were several aspects that were in compliance but for which the LCME noted necessary ongoing monitoring to ensure continued compliance. Those areas include observation data of students in their clinical experiences, and providing students effective financial aid and debt management counseling, as well as personal and career counseling services.

“This is a time to celebrate. We can take a breath and recognize our accomplishments, but then quickly get back to work,” UT President Lloyd Jacobs said. “We should all take pride in the overwhelmingly positive review and continue our efforts to address these few areas of note because there is always room to improve. This continued accreditation speaks to the strength of our medical college and the positive path we are on into the future.”

Temporary parking area opens

A third temporary parking area opened last week on Main Campus.

It is an expansion of Parking Area 19 by Nitschke Hall between Douglas Road and Westwood Avenue, north of Oakwood Avenue.

This area provides 200 additional parking spaces. It is called Parking Area 19W and is designated for vehicles with A or C permits.

This temporary parking area — together with the two other temporary parking lots that opened Oct. 2 — has been constructed in response to the emergency repairs that closed the upper two levels of the East Parking Ramp on Main Campus.

The lower two levels of the East Ramp remain open, as do all levels of the West Ramp.

Anyone parking in the new temporary lot planning to cross Douglas Road is reminded to walk at the signalized intersection at Oakwood and Douglas at the south end of the lot.

UT designated as Innovation and Economic Prosperity University

By Meghan Cunningham

The University of Toledo is one of 16 public institutions in the nation recognized by the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU) for strong commitment to economic engagement.

The designation as an Innovation and Economic Prosperity University acknowledges schools working with public and private sector partners in their states and regions to support economic development through a variety of activities, including innovation and entrepreneurship, technology transfer, talent and workforce development, and community development.

“The health and viability of Toledo and the region are inextricably linked to The University of Toledo,” UT President Lloyd Jacobs said. “UT is proud to be a good community partner to support the growth and prosperity of Toledo and northwest Ohio.”

“The APLU Innovation and Economic Prosperity University designation and awards program has enabled universities to shine a spotlight on the work they’re doing, both internally on their campuses and externally with their communities, to promote economic engagement — and to demonstrate more clearly with government and the private sector the public benefit of universities,” said Douglas Banks, associate vice president for economic development at UMass and co-chair of the Innovation and Economic Prosperity Universities Designation and Awards Program.

“Unlike a more traditional competition, this process led the universities to work together and learn from one another — sharing tools, tips and techniques for promoting strengths and tackling areas of improvement. A learning community was created that has led to a stronger grasp of why university economic engagement matters.”

In addition to UT, the institutions in the inaugural class of Innovation and Economic Prosperity Universities are Boise State University, California State University at Fresno, Northern Illinois University, Ohio State University, State University of New York, University of Central Florida, University of Cincinnati, University of Georgia, University of Idaho, University of Memphis, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, University of Missouri, University of Oklahoma and Washington State University.

Applicants for the new Innovation and Economic Prosperity University designation conducted a self-study developed by the APLU’s Commission on Innovation, Competitiveness and Economic Prosperity and solicited input from external stakeholders. The applications were scored by a panel of reviewers representing other universities and also national partners. Scoring was based on a range of criteria emphasizing universities’ development of their economic engagement enterprise, their planning efforts around economic engagement, strategic communications around these efforts, and participation in encouraging economic engagement among peer institutions.

Among UT’s positive contributions noted were the commitment of the president to economic development in the region, local talent development, continued on p. 7

Health Care Open Enrollment

Tuesday, Oct. 1 - Thursday, Oct 31

For current plans, and to enroll for 2014, visit the Human Resources and Talent Development (HRTD) website at utoledo/HCenroll

All benefit-eligible employees must complete online Open Enrollment.
UT recognized for fundraising efforts

By Kevin Bucher

The University of Toledo Annual Fund Fundraising Team received the Reeher Peak Performance Award, which is given to the school with the highest increase of annual giving dollars and donors in the same year.

UT received the award last month from Reeher, a leading developer of cutting-edge software services to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of higher education fundraising efforts, at the Reeher Vista Executive Conference in Minnesota.

Reeher provides universities with information about potential donors that is then broken down by the fundraising team and turned into results. The University has been a client of Reeher for two years, and this is the first time UT has been recognized with this performance award.

“We all feel really good about winning the award, especially because Reeher has clients nationwide, and we did better than much bigger schools like Duke University, Fordham University and Johns Hopkins University,” said Heather Slough, director of annual giving programs.

Slough thanked Allie Berns and Michele Wilson, assistant directors of annual giving, who managed a number of programs, including a phonathon program, direct mail appeals and e-solicitations, which helped raise money and increase donor support.

“This award is a result of managing all those programs,” Slough said. “It’s definitely a team effort, and I think it speaks to not just the work we do, but our collaboration with the rest of our development team that led to us receiving this award.”

“Annual giving serves as the starting point for all donors to the University,” said Vern Snyder, vice president for institutional advancement. “Heather, Michele and Allie develop the donor materials that attract the major donors of tomorrow. The benefits of their work serve the University for years into the future.”

UT has one of the smaller fundraising teams in the Mid-American Conference, but the University was still able to outperform other schools, and there is a certain level of prestige that comes with that, said Barbara Tartaglia-Poure, associate vice president for development.

“Heather and her tiny but mighty team of people won this award, and we are just crazy proud that our team led the entire Reeher platform in annual fund accomplishment,” Tartaglia-Poure said.

“This is a testament to the loyalty and generosity of our alumni and friends,” Slough said. “The money that we raise helps every student on this campus, so we definitely appreciate their support.”

First-year law student earns highest professional fundraising credential

By Rachel Phipps

Benjamin J. Imdieke, a first-year College of Law student, who built a successful career in philanthropy before beginning his studies at The University of Toledo in August, has been awarded the Advanced Certified Fundraising Executive (ACFRE) credential, the highest certification offered by the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Imdieke was honored for his achievement at the association’s leadership academy Oct. 4 in Pittsburgh.

The senior philanthropic services officer at the Toledo Community Foundation has enjoyed his first few weeks at the College of Law.

“I really am quite impressed by the caliber of the College of Law’s faculty and the quality of intellectual engagement I’ve experienced thus far,” Imdieke said. “When I notice the considerable number of endowed faculty chairs here, I quickly infer that philanthropy has made an important contribution to the College of Law, and that with their support, donors are advancing the college and the legal profession. I feel grateful for the opportunity to be here and look forward to sharing with my colleagues in an exciting and enriching first year.”

Available only to senior-level fundraisers who have worked in the profession for 10 or more years, the ACFRE is an achievement earned by only 100 professionals since the inception of the program in 1992.

“We are very proud of Ben, who like many of our other nontraditional students, comes to law school after a successful career in other fields,” said Daniel J. Steinbock, dean of the College of Law. “In addition to bringing skills that will be useful after law school, their prior experience adds richness and diversity to our classroom interactions.”

Imdieke has a bachelor’s degree from Kalamazoo College and a master’s degree from the Indiana University Center on Philanthropy, where he was a Jane Addams-Andrew Carnegie Fellow. His former positions include vice president of development at Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center and senior consultant at the national fundraising consulting firm Campbell & Co.

The ACFRE Program is the most rigorous certification process available to professional fundraisers. Imdieke started the process, which includes a comprehensive application, a written examination, a portfolio representing the candidate’s body of professional work, and an oral peer review, two years ago.

“Ben joins a very small group of leaders within the Association of Fundraising Professionals, an international organization with more than 30,000 members in 22 countries,” said Vern Snyder, UT vice president for institutional advancement and ACFRE. “Ben is one of three ACFREs in Ohio, and all three reside in Toledo.”

For more information on the Association of Fundraising Professionals, visit afpnet.org.

In memoriam

Bonnie Jeanne (Haffelder) Billnitzer, Toledo, who was an office manager at MCO from 1973 to 1977, died Oct. 1 at age 78.

Barry R. Burk, Toledo, a longtime HIV/AIDS advocate who volunteered at MCO/UTMC, died Oct. 5 at age 67. Tributes are suggested to the UT Hope Chest Fund or the Ann Wayson Locher Fund through the UT Foundation.

Richard G. Habib, Toledo, a librarian and business services officer at UT from 1958 until his retirement in 1987, died Oct. 4 at age 90. He received a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from the University in 1949.

Robert A. Papenfuss, Maumee, a member of the Satellites Auxiliary who served as a patient advocate and later a greeter at the hospital, died Oct. 12 at age 88. He received a bachelor’s degree in business administration in marketing from UT in 1950. Surviving is his wife, Jane, who worked in personnel at MCO.

By Rachel Phipps

Education experts will convene at The University of Toledo College of Law Friday, Oct. 25, to address the legal and practical challenges facing the nation’s schools.

The free, public event titled “From Kindergarten to College: Brainstorming Solutions to Modern Issues in Education Law,” is sponsored by The University of Toledo Law Review and will be held from 8 a.m. to 4:20 p.m. in the Law Center McQuade Law Auditorium.

Four panels will discuss salient legal issues in education, including the development of modern disability law and the legal requirements of the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans With Disabilities Act; affirmative action and desegregation; legal issues surrounding school safety; and the successes and failures of the conventional education model and its alternatives.

Justice Judith French of the Supreme Court of Ohio, who argued Zelman v. Simmons-Harris, the landmark school voucher case, in the United States Supreme Court while in practice, will deliver the keynote address.

“The annual Law Review Symposium always strives to address a current legal and social topic,” said Daniel J. Steinbock, dean of the College of Law, “and this year’s symposium, with its sterling lineup of speakers, promises to contribute to progress in a vital field of public concern.”

The symposium is expected to draw attorneys who practice education, disability and administrative law; state and federal education agency employees; and educators and school administrators.

For more information and to register, visit utole.do/lawsymposium or call 419.530.2962.

Doctoral student

continued from p. 1

“The skills and methods that I’m learning can be translated to any type of research,” Faulkner said. “The expertise that I picked up here at UT and the NIH will benefit me greatly in pursuing my goal of working in a cancer biology lab.”

The $126,000 grant fully funds her training, tuition and fees, health insurance and travel for conferences for up to five years, taking some of the demand off of her principal investigator Dr. Jennifer Hill, assistant professor of physiology and pharmacology, who also played a role in creating the mouse model used in Faulkner’s research.

“The most important thing was to take the burden off of Dr. Hill,” she said. “The principal investigator has to maintain funding in order to provide for graduate students’ training and research. This allows more funds for other important aspects of the lab.”

Faulkner, who was born in Chicago and raised in Detroit, wanted to ease the financial burden of Hill, but of her family as well.

“I think that the reason I work so hard and am so determined is because my goal is to retire my parents,” she said. “They’ve worked so hard my entire life to support me and my siblings. It’s up to us to ensure that they are comfortable and happy for the rest of their lives.”

UT to host Americans With Disabilities Act summit Nov. 18-19

The University of Toledo will host an Americans With Disabilities Act Summit and Seminar Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 18 and 19, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Scott Park Auditorium.

The event is free to all UT employees.

Ken Petri, director of the Web Accessibility Center at Ohio State University and a nationally recognized expert on technology issues as they pertain to the Americans With Disabilities Act, will speak and lead a series of workshops on topics that will include:

- The basics of video accessibility;
- Accessibility evaluation;
- Word/PowerPoint/PDF accessibility;
- Accessibility for print designers;
- Best practices for video content accessibility; and
- Mobile accessibility basics.

In addition, Scott Lissner, president of the Association on Higher Education and Disability, will deliver an executive summary intended to communicate the breadth of the Americans With Disabilities Act and strategies that other universities and medical centers are employing to stay compliant.

Also to be discussed will be an outline of UT commendation processes and a discussion of the multiple on- and off-campus resources available.

UT Director of Internal Audit and Chief Compliance Officer David Cutri said Petri will address issues such as facilities and infrastructure, employee services, planning and strategy, and risk assessment.

“This is a unique opportunity for all staff and faculty members that provide educational products and services to our student customers to learn how to deliver these services with full consideration of our diverse population,” Cutri said.

GASTROENTEROLOGY/HEPATOLOGY UPDATE for the PRIMARY CARE PRACTITIONERS

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 16, 2013
7:00AM - 12:30PM
LOCATION:
The Hotel at UTMC
5100 Glenwood Avenue
Toledo, OH 43614

Organized by
the Division of Gastroenterology
at the University of Toledo
and the
Center for Continuing Medical Education

As of August 2013, approved for AABP MOC credit.
Reception this week for woodworking artist

By Leisha Lininger

Join the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women Thursday, Oct. 24, for the fall artist reception featuring Tami Duvall.

Stop by between 5 and 7 p.m. in Tucker Hall Room 0168 to meet Duvall, peruse the art gallery and buy pieces. Light refreshments will be provided.

“When the opportunity to display my work at the Eberly Center for Women became apparent, I had no hesitation,” the UT graduate said. “To be able to present my work in a facility that empowers women adds so much value to the display. I believe it has added a whole new element to my work. I am beyond grateful to have this opportunity to show my work at the Eberly Center for Women.”

Coming from a family of woodworkers spanning multiple generations, most of Duvall’s pieces showcased at the Eberly Center utilize wood as a medium. Her family owns Duvall Woodworking Inc. of Waterville, Ohio.

“Tami is a driven artist and really strives to make every piece she creates her best yet,” said Kevin Landis, UT graduate and craftsman at Duvall Woodworking. “Each piece, whether it be her prints or mixed media, seems to drive home the idea that every foundation, whether it be physical or metaphysical in nature, is comprised of a seemingly infinite number of simple yet essential intricacies.”

Duvall graduated from the University in May with a bachelor of education degree with a concentration in visual arts. She has spent her time in a variety of ongoing roles: studio art instructor for Art Supply Depo of Toledo, Art in Public Places intern for the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo, intern for the United Way of Greater Toledo, and children’s art program coordinator and instructor for Shared Lives Studio, a nonprofit visual arts center in Toledo for individuals with developmental disabilities to make, display and sell their art.

She now is the studio coordinator and volunteer coordinator at Visionaries + Voices in Cincinnati. Visit visionariesandvoices.com.

“Tami is a recent UT graduate whose art is a unique blend of wooden structure, paint, pen and paper,” said Jeff Wilt, program manager in the Eberly Center for Women and the Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Engagement. “Tami is a compassionate educator and a passionate artist, and we at the Eberly Center are proud to display her art this semester.”

The free, public exhibition will be on display through fall semester. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, call the Eberly Center for Women at 419.530.8570.

University Bookstore features student performers

By Kevin Bucher

Students have the opportunity to perform at the café in the Barnes & Noble University Bookstore.

Ben Vasko, a freshman studying music business, already has kicked things off, performing on most Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. He is the first student featured this year at the café.

Vasko plays alternative indie pop-rock, comparing the music he performs to bands such as Switchfoot, House of Heroes, Thirty Seconds to Mars and Anberlin, which is his favorite.

He has been writing music for five years, but he started playing percussion when he was in middle school. Learning to play a variety of instruments, including drums, guitar, bass and piano, he performs live acoustic sets at local bars and coffee shops.

Vasko said he enjoys playing at the University Bookstore because he feels more connected with the audience.

“It’s fun. It’s a nice, mellow, low-key coffee shop gig. I like that,” Vasko said. “It’s a little more personal. I am able to talk to the people I’m performing for and the tips I get there actually pay for my gas money.”

He is currently a one-man show, but is looking for members to add to his band, The Stairwell. Vasko has received some recent recognition for his music; he won best alternative rock EP in July from the Akademia Music Awards.

He has recorded and released two discs, and his music is available on Spotify, iTunes, Facebook and Twitter. He also has T-shirts and CDs for sale at his shows.

The Barnes & Noble University Bookstore is looking to add more live music performances from UT students throughout the week and also during the weekend.

All student performers are entered for a chance to win free textbooks for spring semester and receive a coupon to be used on a purchase of UT clothing. All performers also are featured on the bookstore’s Facebook page.

Current UT student musicians can contact Colleen Strayer, general manager of the University Bookstore, to discuss performing in the café at utoledo@bkstore.com.

For more information on Vasko, visit reverbnation.com/thestairwell.
The University of Toledo College of Nursing will present the seventh annual Dottie Hussain Distinguished Lectureship Tuesday, Oct. 22.

Dr. Dan A. Laheru, associate professor of oncology at the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, will be the keynote speaker at the event that will take place from 12:30 to 3 p.m. in Collier Building Room 1000 A/B. Laheru will give a talk titled “Interdisciplinary Model for the Management of Individuals With Pancreatic Cancer.”

He specializes in gastrointestinal oncology with a specific focus in pancreatic cancer. His clinical research interests are in developing and testing new therapies for the treatment of pancreatic cancer.

In addition to Laheru’s lecture, there will be a panel discussion moderated by Dr. S. Amjad Hussain, UT trustee, professor emeritus of thoracic and cardiovascular surgery, and widower of Dottie Hussain. On the panel will be Nancy Amato, a retired critical care nurse and survivor of pancreatic and liver cancer; Dr. Catherine L. Hornbeck, a physical therapist at UT Medical Center; and Dr. Timothy R. Jordan, UT professor of public health.

Dottie Hussain graduated from the Maumee Valley Hospital School of Nursing in 1964 and went on to a 32-year career as a staff nurse and a critical care nurse at the former Medical College of Ohio Hospital. She was widely known and recognized as a conscientious nurse who taught and mentored a generation of young nurses, medical students and residents.

She was honored twice by the hospital with the Nursing Excellence Award for her passion for the profession and her willingness to deliver beyond the call of duty.

Hussain passed away in 2006 at age 62 of ovarian cancer. The lectureship was created in her honor through the Hussain Family Fund and the Toledo Community Foundation.

The event is hosted by the College of Nursing and supported by the colleges of Health Sciences, Medicine and Life Sciences, and Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

The 2013 Wound and Hyperbaric Symposium will take place Friday, Nov. 8, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Perrysburg.

The event, which offers continuing medical education credit, will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The symposium will focus on the evaluation and management of the main wound types, nursing care with regard to wound care and hyperbaric oxygen therapy, nutritional assessment, management of infectious processes in wound care and hyperbaric oxygen therapy, surgical intervention in wound care, and offloading techniques.

It is designed to provide updates concerning wound care and hyperbaric oxygen therapy for physicians, nurses, allied health professionals, and residents and students.

The cost of the program is $75 and $25 for UT residents and students.

Register online at cme.utoledo.edu by Friday, Nov. 1. Registration will be available at the door at 7:30 a.m. the day of the program.

For more information, call the UT Center for Continuing Medical Education at 419.383.4237.

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Wound and Hyperbaric Symposium slated for Nov. 8

The Relevant University’ to air Oct. 22

Tune in to “The Relevant University” Tuesday, Oct. 22, at 7 p.m. on AM 760 WJR.

This month, Lawrence J. Burns, UT vice president for external affairs, examines how organizations are adapting to get their messages out through integrated marketing and branding in response to technology changing communication.

In this month’s episode:
• Rob Mattina, vice president of marketing for the Detroit Red Wings, talks about how the team connects with fans in Hockeytown.
• Patrick Duggan, co-founder of the website Down with Detroit, discusses a true grassroots marketing approach for its Motor City apparel.
• Patrick Mendoza, senior manager of external communications for Capital One, shares the fun branding opportunities of the Capital One Mascot Challenge.
• And Lindsay Stein, a senior reporter with PRWeek, explains the latest trends in the public relations industry.

The University and Detroit’s WJR Radio produce the monthly, hourlong program that explores the critical role higher education plays in the world. Listen at utoledo.edu/therelevantuniversity.
Join Center for Religious Understanding for multifaith dialogues

By Samantha Watson

People of all faiths are invited to participate in upcoming discussions and events to promote understanding and tolerance, as well as make a difference in the community.

The Center for Religious Understanding at The University of Toledo is hosting Multifaith Cafés in October and November to encourage discussion among individuals of different religious beliefs. The center also is inviting people with different beliefs to work together in a UT service-learning after-school program for disadvantaged children.

“It’s a really effective way to get to understand a person’s religion firsthand,” said Dr. Jeanine Diller, assistant professor of philosophy and fellow of the center. “Instead of doing it by studying, you do it by getting to know somebody with a different perspective of religion than your own.”

The cafés will be held Tuesdays, Oct. 29 and Nov. 19, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. and Friday, Nov. 15, from 10 to 11 a.m. in Phoenicia in the Student Union. Free snacks and drinks will be offered to attendees.

David Yonke, former religion editor at The Blade who now covers religion for the Toledo Free Press, will lead the Friday session.

The center also is hosting a weekly after-school program for at-risk youth grades K-8 at Chase Academy. The group will meet Wednesdays through Nov. 6 and provide mentoring, activities and snacks for the children.

“Many of these children go home and never get dinner,” Diller said. “We give them a good snack to help them through their week, and we also raise college awareness in a community where it often isn’t mentioned.”

On program days, volunteers can meet at 2:30 p.m. at the fountain by Student Union to catch a ride, or meet at Chase Academy, 600 Bassett St., Toledo, at 3 p.m. Those who are unable to make it to volunteer can provide for the program through donations of money, food or craft supplies or by helping prepare the snacks the evening before.

After the program concludes, volunteers will engage in a discussion on their different faiths and views.

“Three years ago, President Obama put out a call to universities nationwide to encourage students with different religious perspectives to work together for their community,” Diller said. “Great things happen in our community, and the volunteers become aware that there are people of good will across all religions.”

For more information on how to help the after-school program, contact Sabina Serratos at 419.530.2992 or sabina.serratos@utoledo.edu.

RSVPs for the cafés are appreciated, but not mandatory, and can be sent to michael.smolinski@rockets.utoledo.edu.

Scare up good health, fun at Welloween

It’s that time of year when the Student Recreation Center beckons UT community members to drop by for the Welloween Health Fair.

There’ll be flu shots, health screenings, educational booths and more. Students, faculty and staff are invited Friday, Oct. 25, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Don’t forget to bring your Rocket ID for a free flu shot.

“We are hoping this event increases the awareness of how important it is to make your health a priority,” said Angie Green, assistant director of programming at the Student Recreation Center. “Through our free health screenings and education, participants can detect any possible risks and take early measures to prevent any potential disease or illness.”

The free event also will feature anonymous HIV testing, chair massages, group exercise demonstrations and blood pressure screenings.

Come as you are or in costume. Judging for the costume contest will take place at 1 p.m.

Door prizes and other goodies will be handed out during the event.

For more information, contact the Student Recreation Center at 419.530.3700.

UT continued from p. 2

and its technology transfer and commercialization program.

The designation reflects the University’s broad contributions to the regional economy and particularly the leadership shown by UT in working with community partners in developing a shared vision to move the region forward as a vibrant innovation-based community. The merger of UT with the former Medical University of Ohio, the growth of research programs, the technology transfer contributions of its research centers, the faculty work on community challenges, and its arts and humanities contributions have made the institution a stronger force to contribute to positive economic change in the region.

Dr. Frank Calzonetti, UT vice president for government relations, noted the participation of community leaders in the preparation of the documentation for APLU that led to this designation.

“In preparing our submission, we are very grateful to the many local government and community leaders who gave us their time to provide candid comments on how UT contributes to regional innovation and prosperity and ways we can work together for a more prosperous community,” Calzonetti said.

“We’re helping to provide tools to universities to help them become even more economically engaged with their communities, which is a core value of public institutions,” APLU President Peter McPherson said. “Universities are economic engines that not only directly employ people, but also generate research-based innovation and technical expertise that allow businesses to start up, grow and thrive. This designation recognizes universities that are really stepping up to strengthen their local economy.”
Nominations sought for 2014 Varsity ‘T’ Hall of Fame

Nominations for the 2014 class of the Varsity ‘T’ Hall of Fame are being accepted through Friday, Nov. 8.

The Hall of Fame Banquet will be held Saturday, Feb. 22, in Savage Arena, with the 2014 class being presented at the men’s and women’s basketball games Sunday, Feb. 23.

Nominations may come from any source. Nominations from previous years automatically carry over to the next year.

Nomination criteria are:

• Any athlete who has performed with distinction at The University of Toledo. The athlete need not necessarily be a graduate.

• Any athlete who has been out of UT for at least five years and who has demonstrated good citizenship since leaving the University. For the 2014 class, nominees must not have been active on or after July 1, 2008.

• Any coach, administrator, trainer, etc. who has served the University with distinction for a period of at least five years and who has been retired or resigned or otherwise disenfranchised from his/her position for a period of at least five years. For the 2014 class, nominees must not have been active on or after July 1, 2008.

Send nomination form, which is available at http://utole.do/varsityt, along with all other supporting data — newspaper clippings, statistics, etc. — to:

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