Chemistry research could be key to better treatments for TB

By Meghan Cunningham

Tuberculosis is one of the deadliest diseases caused by an infectious agent. A staggering one-third of the world’s population could be infected with the bacterium Mycobacterium tuberculosis that causes the disease.

For the person suffering from tuberculosis, commonly known as TB, the cumbersome treatment includes a mix of medications over a lengthy period of time — a regimen becoming less effective as the bacteria is increasingly resistant to those drugs.

The world needs a better repertoire of medications to eradicate the TB bacteria, and such efforts start in the chemistry lab.

Dr. Donald Ronning and Dr. Steve Sucheck, associate professors of chemistry at The University of Toledo, recently received a $1.5 million, four-year grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to do just that.

“We started seeing drug resistance to TB in the 1980s, and since then physicians have prescribed a complex cocktail of drugs to effectively treat the illness,” Ronning said. “But with nearly 500,000 new cases of drug-resistant TB every year throughout the world, new drugs are desperately needed.”

TB usually attacks the lungs, but can harm any part of the body. It spreads through the air from one person to another. Symptoms include a severe cough, pain in the chest, coughing up blood, fatigue, chills, fever and weight loss, the last of which led to the old name for TB, “consumption.”

An estimated nine million people had an active TB

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Medical students to learn residency placements March 21

By Aimee Portala

On Friday, March 21, 175 fourth-year medical students at The University of Toledo will join their peers across the country as they learn where they will serve their residencies.

The Residency Match Reception for the UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences will take place in Stranahan Theater’s Great Hall with match envelopes opened simultaneously at noon.

Students spend months interviewing at residency programs across the country to find institutions that will best help them perfect their specialties. The students then rank their top choices, and academic and community-based medical centers nationwide rank their top student choices. A computer algorithm administered by the National Resident Matching Program then puts the students and residency programs together.

Residencies last three to seven years, depending on the specialty, and have a great impact on the training of medical students. Residents are licensed physicians who care for patients under the supervision of attending physicians and represent the medical work force of the future.

Arizona State president talks about future of higher education

By Meghan Cunningham

Universities are centuries-old institutions that need to learn how to adapt with forces of change in order to survive in the future, according to Dr. Michael M. Crow, the 16th president of Arizona State University. During the final talk in the inaugural Jesup Scott Honors College Lecture Series last week, Crow spoke about universities needing to serve not only their students, but also the communities at large in order to survive.

“Dynamic forces of the future are somewhat bleak unless they are able to reinvigorate, reattach to the people,” he said. “The future of higher education is one of unbelievable stress around who can innovate or who can’t.”

The forces of change universities are contending with, Crow said, include a growing and more diverse population that is interested in upward mobility through education, competition among other countries increasing the number of students pursuing higher education, and rapidly advancing technology.

Crow shared examples of how Arizona State University (ASU) was completely transformed under the model he designed known as the “New American University.”

About six years ago, the university investigated why too large of a percentage of incoming freshmen didn’t succeed in math courses. Professors there had taught math in a fashion similar to many schools, starting with chapter one and moving chapter by chapter through all of the concepts.

An experiment with an adaptive learning program showed

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New associate vice president for finance named

By Jon Strunk

The University of Toledo’s executive vice president for finance and administration is continuing to finalize his leadership team.

David Morlock, who also serves as CEO of UT Medical Center, announced last week that Bryan Dadey will serve as the new associate vice president for finance beginning Monday, March 24.

“I’m very excited to have Bryan in this new role. He knows this institution well, and his accounting and finance experience will be a great asset to UT,” Morlock said.

Dadey will join the University from the UT Foundation, where he served as vice president of finance and operations since 2009. There, he oversaw the investments and accounting of UT’s endowment, provided financial guidance relating to the Gateway project and other real estate investments, as well as ensuring smooth day-to-day operations.

Prior to his time at the UT Foundation, Dadey worked in the finance area for the University. From 2004 through 2009, Dadey served as assistant controller and then interim controller. From 1999 through 2004, he worked at Ernst & Young, where he specialized in university and nonprofit organization audits, including UT, the former Medical College of Ohio and Bowling Green State University.

“While I never felt like I left the UT community, I’m excited about this new role. I look forward to implementing the strategy Dave has put in place to make the institution stronger financially and to use that strength to ensure we can accomplish our teaching, research and health-care missions,” Dadey said.

The search for the new finance leader was done within the broader University family in large part thanks to the wealth of talent available across campuses, the UT Foundation and UT Physicians, Morlock said.

Mass Notification System enhances UT’s commitment to safety

By Ameer Portula

The University of Toledo has updated its mass notification system to provide additional information to its existing emergency notification efforts.

In addition to a traditional siren, the system now utilizes a speaker that will sound a pre-recorded or live voice message from campus police informing those in the building of a campus emergency and providing them with appropriate instructions.

“Knowing what to do in an emergency increases the likelihood of you and those around you staying safe and also helps emergency responders perform their duties,” UT Police Chief Jeff Newton said. “The mass notification system provides a tremendous enhancement to the University’s long-standing emergency communication abilities.”

Mass notices sent through the notification system may include weather alerts, such as tornadoes, or other campus emergencies. Messages can be sent campus-wide or targeted to a specific building or buildings.

“The system is currently installed in all residence halls and in about 70 percent of all buildings on campus,” said Jim Graff, director of facilities operations. “We are working on updating other buildings, including Bowman-Oddy Laboratories, Wolfe Hall, Carlson Library and Sullivan Hall. Those should be up and running by fall 2014.”

Trustees hear arguments for, against smoking ban; faculty promotions recommended

By Meghan Cunningham

Members of The University of Toledo Board of Trustees heard input from faculty, staff and students both for and against a proposed smoking ban on Main Campus.

Volunteers spoke during the board’s Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting March 11, and the full Board of Trustees is expected to discuss the ban further at its April 14 meeting.

Speaking for the ban were student Mike Peachcock, faculty member Dr. Tavis Glassman and staff member Marcus Dawson. Against the ban were student Matt Purdue and faculty member Dr. Mark Templin, with no staff member volunteering to speak against the proposed ban.

“This is something that is very important to the board, but before we make a decision on this, we want to hear from the various constituencies,” said Trustee Susan Palmer, who chairs the committee.

Proponents for a smoking ban cited concerns about second-hand smoke and a desire for an environment free of carcinogens. There also was discussion about the “smoking huts,” where tobacco use may be attracting unruly behavior.

Those against the smoking ban expressed concerns about how it would be enforced and the burden it would put on smokers who live in on-campus residence halls and perhaps putting their safety at risk to go off campus to smoke.

The committee also approved recommendations for 22 faculty members to receive tenure and promotion and another 10 for promotion, which will be sent on to the full board for approval.

Faculty members recommended for tenure and promotion from assistant to associate professor are:

**College of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences**
- Dr. Jason Rose, Psychology
- Dr. Jari Taylor, Political Science and Public Administration

**College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics**
- Dr. Alessandro Arsi, Mathematics and Statistics
- Dr. Richard Becker, Environmental Sciences
- Dr. Guoju Liu, Biological Sciences
- Dr. Drgan Isaislovich, Chemistry
- Dr. Sonmez Sahutoglu, Mathematics and Statistics
- Dr. Jianglong Zhu, Chemistry

**College of Social Justice and Human Service**
- Dr. Janet Hoy, Criminal Justice, Social Work and Legal Specialties
- Dr. Christopher Rosenman, School Psychology, Higher Education and Counselor Education

**Jesp Scott Honors College**
- Dr. Barbara Mann

**University Libraries**
- Laura Kinzer
- Julia Martin
- Christine Rigda

Faculty recommended for promotion to professor are:

**College of Business and Innovation**
- Dr. Hassan HassabElnayy, Accounting

**College of Communication and the Arts**
- Barbara Miner, Art
- Judith Herb College of Education
  - Dr. Lynne Hamer, Educational Foundations and Leadership

**College of Engineering**
- Dr. A.H. Jayatissa, Mechanical, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering
- Dr. Patricia Relue, Bioengineering

**College of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences**
- Dr. Christina Fitzgerald, English
- Dr. Patricia Relue, Bioengineering
- Dr. Andrew Mattison, English Language and Literature

**College of Law**
- Jelani Exum

**College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics**
- Dr. Cora Lind-Kovacs, Chemistry
- Dr. Christine Mayer, Environmental Sciences
Help celebrate MCO’s 50th anniversary in Blade special section

A special insert slated to be published in The Blade May 25 will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Medical College of Ohio. Just as supporters are asked to purchase an engraved brick or stone to be part of a physical space on campus, The Blade is offering alumni, employees, patients and supporters of MCO and UT Medical Center the opportunity to purchase a small advertisement celebrating a past caregiver, professor or a favorite memory.

“This is a great opportunity to be featured in what will prove to be a highly read special section with keepsake value about the only academic medical center in the region,” wrote Dr. Ronald McGinnis, interim dean of the College of Medicine and Life Sciences, in a letter distributed to employees on Health Science Campus.

“The University of Toledo is proud to celebrate the impact of the former Medical College of Ohio and all that it has contributed to the community as The University of Toledo continues to carry on the tradition of educating the future health-care providers serving northwest Ohio,” McGinnis wrote.

For those interested in sharing a brief message, The Blade has created a flyer with additional information and an order form, which is available as a link from McGinnis’ letter distributed March 17 as well as at http://atole.edu/1onroad. Those with additional questions can contact Ron Shnider at The Blade at 419.654.1823.

GOING UP: The Medical College of Ohio’s hospital, shown here during construction, opened in 1979.

Criminal justice master’s program now online

Kevin Bucher

The University of Toledo is offering its Master of Arts in Criminal Justice Program online.

The Regents Advisory Committee on Graduate Study of the Ohio Board of Regents approved the University of Toledo’s request for online delivery of its master of arts degree in criminal justice.

The program started this spring semester and allows a part-time student to complete the Master of Arts in Criminal Justice Program completely online in two years.

It also will be possible for a full-time student to complete the degree in one year if he or she takes a combination of on-campus and online courses.

“People, especially professionals in the criminal justice field, who need a flexible schedule in northwestern Ohio, as well as any other places in the world, will benefit from this program,” said Dr. Shanhe Jiang, professor and chair of the Department of Criminal Justice, Social Work and Legal Specialties.

In memoriam

Carol Brandt Brug, Toledo, who was a part-time instructor in the Department of Mathematics for 22 years; died March 9 at age 60. She received a bachelor of science degree from UT in 1987.

Rosemarie Kehres, Toledo, who was a member of the Satellites Auxiliary, died March 3 at age 84.

Sharon Kay Periat, Sylvania, died March 5 at age 66. She started working at the University in the late 1980s at the former Community and Technical College as a placement-testing monitor. Periat then became a part-time adviser to those seeking associate degrees. In 1999, she was named an adviser in the College of Health and Human Services, where she later became director of student services. In 2010, Periat received one of the Outstanding Women Awards from the University Women’s Commission. She retired in 2011.

‘Old Whiskey and Young Women: Tales of Once Famous Cases’ topic of March 20 lecture at College of Law

By Rachel Phipps

Marc Kantrowitz, associate justice on the Massachusetts Appeals Court, author and 1978 alumnus of the UT College of Law, will explore some of the most notorious criminal cases in American history Thursday, March 20, at noon in the Law Center McQuade Law Auditorium.

The free, public lecture, “Old Whiskey and Young Women: Tales of Once Famous Cases Now Nearly Forgotten,” is part of the College of Law’s Distinguished Alumni Speaker Series.

In the lecture, Kantrowitz, who handled two dozen first-degree murder cases before joining the bench, brings to life infamous cases from the past. What these cases have in common is that they fascinated, if not repulsed, the entire nation when they occurred. Today, all are nearly forgotten.

“Many of the cases Justice Kantrowitz will discuss, such as the Sam Shepard murder trial, were once part of popular culture,” said Daniel J. Steinbock, dean of the College of Law. “Hearing about them should be of interest both to those who remember them and those looking to enter the legal profession today.”

Kantrowitz is one of the most highly published judges in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, having written books on Massachusetts criminal law, motor vehicle tort law, juvenile law, evidence and mental health, as well as numerous law-related articles. He teaches criminal trial advocacy at the Northeastern University School of Law. He also writes a monthly newspaper column titled “Law ‘n History.”

From 1972 to 1985, Kantrowitz served in the United States Army Reserves, leaving as a captain in the Quartermaster Corps. From 1979 to 1985, he prosecuted cases as an assistant district attorney in Suffolk County, Massachusetts. From 1985 to 1995, he maintained his own practice in Boston, concentrating in civil and criminal litigation. In 1995, he was appointed an associate justice of the Juvenile Court, where he sat for six years. Gov. Paul Cellucci named Kantrowitz to the Appeals Court in 2001.
Treatments for TB

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infection in 2011, resulting in 1.4 million deaths. While the incidence of TB is low in the United States at a rate of 3.2 cases per 100,000 persons, there were still 9,945 TB cases reported in the country in 2012, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Fortunately, not everyone infected with Mycobacterium tuberculosis develops an active TB infection. Most individuals have what is referred to as a latent-TB infection. Those individuals show no symptoms and do not transmit the disease. However, they may develop active TB if their immune system becomes suppressed.

Ronning and Sucheck are focusing their studies on the best ways to treat the bacteria in that population of people with latent-TB infection.

“Current drugs target the actively dividing bacteria, while powerful drugs targeting an enzyme called GlgE could work on both actively dividing and latent bacteria,” Sucheck said.

By studying GlgE, a sugar-transferring enzyme, the researchers are seeking ways to develop new drugs that inhibit the enzyme, thereby causing the accumulation of toxic sugars and leading to a lethal stress response in the bacteria.

The researchers also are studying other possible drug targets that have roles in building the protective outer layer of the bacteria. They have identified new compounds to inhibit these enzymes and are studying their effectiveness using X-ray crystallography, computational screening and chemical synthesis.

By studying and understanding the ways in which the large enzyme molecules interact with the small synthetic compounds, they can identify potential compounds for drug development.

Isoniazid, the first-line medication for TB, was developed in the early 1950s. It is now used with other drugs, commonly rifampin and rifapentine, but 10 drugs have been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for treating TB.

The current treatment process takes at least six months, and it is important for people with active TB disease to finish the medicine exactly as prescribed. Otherwise, they can become sick again and cause the bacteria to become resistant to those drugs. Treatment of TB caused by drug-resistant strains can take up to three years.

“It is scientific research supported by organizations like the NIH that will lead to the breakthroughs we need to stop the progression of drug resistance and eliminate the threat of death from diseases like TB,” Ronning said.
‘The Vagina Monologues’ to be performed March 21-22

By Aimee Portala

“The Vagina Monologues,” an episodic play written by Eve Ensler and performed by women, is coming to The University of Toledo to raise money and awareness to help prevent violence against women.

This year’s show is sponsored by the UT Sexual Assault and Education Prevention Program, and proceeds will benefit the YWCA Battered Women’s Shelter.

Performances will take place Friday, March 21, and Saturday, March 22, at 7 p.m. in UT’s Scott Park Auditorium.

Tickets are $5 for students and $10 for general admission and can be purchased at the door or at People Called Women, a Toledo bookstore located at 6060 Renaissance Place.

V-Day is an initiative started by Ensler. It is described as “a global movement to end violence against women and girls,” according to vday.org. Thousands of V-Day benefits take place in the United States and around the world each year. The play features several monologues that touch on various topics of the female experience.

“There are a number of returning cast members, and many new people joining us, too. This year it also looks like we’ll have [American Sign Language] interpreters to enhance the experience in a new and accessible way,” said Alcy Barakat, a graduate student in the Department of Public Health and Preventative Medicine, who is directing the performance for the second year.

New orchestra conductor announced

By Angela Riddel

John Pearse has been named the new director of the UT Symphony Orchestra. Pearse also will teach an instrumental conducting course.

He brings a variety of professional experiences to the University. Pearse is an adjunct faculty member at Bowling Green State University, where he directs the New Music Ensemble. He also is the music director for St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Maumee, and he is a mentor with the Detroit Civic Youth Ensembles.

While pursuing his master’s degree at BGSU, Pearse was the conducting graduate assistant. In that position, he conducted the University’s Opera Theatre, the New Music Ensemble and the Philharmonia Orchestra.

He received his bachelor of music degree in percussion performance with a minor in conducting from Indiana University in 2011. In 2013, he received the master of music degree in orchestral conducting from Bowling Green State University.

Pearse has performed with the La Cross Symphony Orchestra, Opera in the Ozarks, and with the Camerata Orchestra of Bloomington, Ind.

In addition, Pearse has performed in the Pierre Monteux School for Conductors and Orchestral Musicians 2012 music festival, and he is a member of the Percussive Arts Society.
YWCA of Northwest Ohio honors several women with UT connections

Five of the seven women who received Milestone Awards from the YWCA of Northwest Ohio this year are associated with The University of Toledo.

“The members of the YWCA and I are honored to recognize these outstanding women with this prestigious award,” said Lisa McDuffie, YWCA president and CEO.

The YWCA’s Milestone Awards honor women in the community who have demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities and contributed to the empowerment of women.

This year’s winners were selected by a committee from some 100 nominations. Recipients associated with the University recognized at a March 13 luncheon were:

- Leslie Adams, an Ohio artist and UT alumna, who took home the art award. She received a bachelor of fine arts from the University in 1989 and has become a nationally recognized portrait painter. She has been commissioned to paint more than a dozen official portraits for the state of Ohio. Her work has been featured in the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, and her exhibit, “Drawn From Life,” can be seen at the Toledo Museum of Art.

- Marianne Ballas, chair of Women & Philanthropy at The University of Toledo, who was recognized for business. She is the dealer and owner-operator of Ballas Buick GMC. Women & Philanthropy was chartered in 2006 and made its first award to UT in 2008. Ballas has served as chair since the group formed. Through this giving circle, members of diverse backgrounds and interests work collaboratively to pool their charitable gift dollars to make positive, meaningful and immediate impacts at the University. In six years, the group has gifted $214,931 in 10 grants to the campus community.

- Vallie Bowman-English, clerk of the Toledo Municipal Court and UT alumna, was honored for government work. She received a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University in 1992. Bowman-English was elected clerk of the Toledo Municipal Court in 2003. She is the first African American and first attorney elected to the position. In 2012, Bowman-English developed a mobile application to access the court schedule and case information.

- Susan Martyn, Stoeppler Professor of Law and Values and Distinguished University Professor, who received the education award. A national authority on legal ethics, Martyn has authored five books intended to illuminate the subject for a variety of audiences: clients, practicing lawyers and law students. She regularly contributes amicus curiae briefs to the United States Supreme Court on bioethics and legal ethics issues, and has served on several national bodies that shape the laws that govern lawyer conduct, including the American Bar Association’s Ethics 2000 Commission. Martyn is a life member of the American Law Institute and a fellow in the American Bar Foundation.

- Dr. Sonia M. Najjar, professor of physiology and pharmacology, and director of the Center for Diabetes and Endocrine Research, who was honored for sciences. An authority in diabetes research, Najjar has published several seminal papers that introduced novel paradigms into the field. In 2006, she founded the Center for Diabetes and Endocrine Research, the only comprehensive diabetes and obesity research center in Ohio. Najjar also played an integral role in facilitating the 2013 establishment of the Middle East Diabetes Research Center, thanks to collaboration between UT and the American University of Beirut (AUB). Her plan is to develop a PhD program in cardiovascular and metabolic diseases at AUB modeled after the successful UT program which she headed from 2001 to 2006. Long-term goals are to attract more medical schools from the Middle East to join this venture so the Center for Diabetes and Endocrine Research can play a leadership role in fighting diabetes in that region where diabetes is prevalent.

Law student places second in national securities law writing competition

By Rachel Phipps

UT law student Anthony Sallah has won second place in a national writing competition sponsored by the Association of Securities and Exchange Commission Alumni (ASECA).

His second-place finish came with a $3,000 prize and an invitation to the ASECA annual dinner in Washington, D.C., last month.

The title of his winning paper is “Scheme Liability: Conduct Beyond the Misrepresentations, Deceptive Acts, and a Possible Janus Intervention.” The paper appeared as a student article in The University of Toledo Law Review in fall 2013.

“I’ve had the privilege of teaching Anthony in three classes during his time at UT and advising his student article for the Law Review,” said Professor Geoffrey Rapp. “He is, like so many of our students, bright, engaged, and headed for a wonderful legal career.”

Rapp added, “He selected one of the most challenging topics on which I’ve ever had a Law Review member write. He had to navigate a complex set of cases, unpacking several different doctrines in securities law. He did a wonderful job, as this award verifies, and I expect his paper to be influential on courts and the bar over the coming years.”

Sallah’s Law Review article already has been cited in a reply brief before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit in SEC v. Big Apple Consulting USA.

Sallah said he enjoyed attending the ASECA dinner in Washington at the end of February. “The annual dinner features some of the most prominent persons in the U.S. securities arena, including past and current SEC Commissioners,” he said. “I felt privileged to have the opportunity to attend, and received constructive feedback on my paper from some of the brightest securities minds in the nation.”

During his time at the UT College of Law, Sallah served as note and comment editor for the Law Review and as a teaching assistant for Professor Katherine O’Connell’s legal research and writing course. He also interned with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in Denver during the summer following his first year.

Sallah is a graduate of the University of Michigan, where he majored in economics and minored in political science.

After graduation this spring, he will join the Cleveland office of Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP.

Submissions to the ASECA’s annual writing competition may be on any topic in the field of securities law. Papers are screened by a panel of judges consisting of securities practitioners and law professors. The best papers are then submitted to the ASECA’s Board of Directors, which chooses the award winners.

The ASECA was founded in 1990 by U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission alumni. ASECA is a nonprofit organization whose membership is nearly 1,000 in the United States and abroad.
Electronics recycling drive to be held at UT March 22

The University of Toledo will help you get rid of those old electronics piled up in the basement or spare bedroom.

A community electronics recycling drive will take place Saturday, March 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in parking area 28, located off East Rocket Drive by the Transportation Center near the Dorr Street entrance to Main Campus.

Most anything with a power cord will be accepted to be disposed of in an environmentally responsible manner.

For those looking to recycle older televisions, there will be a disposal charge. Any older television less than 24 inches will cost $10, and sets 24 inches and larger will cost $20 to recycle.

The University is working with Affinity Information Management to recycle the items from the drive.

Company nominations sought for Human Resources Management Excellence Awards

The Human Resources Management Excellence Awards were established in 1998 by The University of Toledo College of Business and Innovation’s Department of Management to encourage and recognize exceptional progress and achievement in the field of human resource management among area organizations.

“These awards are given annually to an individual or HR department having a profound impact on their organization’s performance through demonstrated commitment, innovation and leadership in the human resource function,” said Dr. Clinton Longenecker, UT professor of management and chair of the Awards Selection Committee.

Nominations are being accepted through Sunday, March 30. Anyone can nominate any organization, including his or her own.

To nominate an organization, email clinton.longenecker@utoledo.edu the following information:

- Nominator’s name, title, name of nominator’s organization and contact information;
- A paragraph describing why this HR department along with contact information for someone within that HR department; and
- A paragraph describing why this HR department is deserving of this recognition.

Nominated organizations will be contacted and asked to provide additional information.

Winners must have at least one designated HR practitioner; be actively involved in the continued development and improvement of their organization’s HR function; make significant contributions to improve organizational performance through their collective HR efforts; and provide vision, guidance and leadership in developing or improving the major HR practices in their organization.

The awards will be presented Tuesday, May 13, at the Toledo Area Human Resource Association meeting in Perrysburg.

Previous Human Resource Management Award for Excellence winners include Spangler Candy Co., SSOE, Mercy Health Partners, Owens Corning and Sauder Woodworking.

Arizona State president

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that each student took a different path through the material in his or her learning process. So the university revamped its entire math curriculum, using technology to allow students to go through the material in the ways that worked best for them. The failure rate, Crow said, went down to less than 10 percent.

Ten years ago, ASU went through a systematic, institution-wide re-engineering. The school reorganized the curriculum to find “intellectual fusion” by eliminating and combining academic units, changed its research focus to be measured by the impact on the public good, and changed its vision to focus on not whom it excludes, but the students who are included and how they succeed.

Part of the reason people are questioning the value of college, Crow said, is because of the large difference between what he called the access-only and excellence-only models of operation.

Access-focused institutions accept all students, which could include those not prepared for college; without the proper support, such students’ performance rates and graduation rates can be quite low. When compared to excellence-focused institutions that only accept the top students from high school and therefore have very high retention and graduation rates, such universities simply cannot compete.

Universities need to find a balance between access and exclusion models of operation in order to succeed in the future, Crow said.

He said ASU, like the University of Toledo, is moving in that direction, and he praised UT as also being another front-line school concerned about not the failure rate, Crow said, went down to less than 10 percent.

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Universities need to find a balance between access and exclusion models of operation in order to succeed in the future, Crow said.

He said The University of Toledo, like ASU, is moving in that direction, and he praised UT as also being another front-line school concerned about the economic success and social mobility of its community.

Despite the many challenges, Crow said he is hopeful about the future of higher education.

“I’m optimistic about the fact that some of the smartest people our society has produced are housed in universities, and these people can do anything,” he said.

In addition to Crow, the inaugural Jesup Scott Honors Distinguished Lecture Series included education innovator and Khan Academy founder Salman Khan, political consultant James Carville and business strategy expert Richard Rumelt.

Next year’s lecture series speakers will be Karl Rove, who served as senior adviser to President George W. Bush from 2000 to 2007 and deputy chief of staff from 2004 to 2007, on Sept. 15; musician Crystal Bowersox, the Toledo native and 2010 “American Idol” runner-up, on Nov. 12; Paul Begala, a Democratic strategist and political commentator for CNN who served in President Bill Clinton’s administration, on Jan. 21; and Toledo Museum of Art Executive Director Brian Kennedy on a date to be determined.