Aerial artistry

University Photographer Daniel Miller took this shot of two robins last week in one of University Hall’s courtyards.

Toledo Smiles project promotes dental health in Lucas County children

By Aimee Portala

Dental care is among the greatest unmet needs among American children. The Surgeon General identified cavities as the most preventable chronic disease of childhood. In fact, based on a 2007 report released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 28 percent of children 2 to 5 years of age nationwide experience decay in their baby teeth.

The 2011 Lucas County Health Assessment indicated that 32 percent of children had not seen a dentist. In response to this issue, The University of Toledo Department of Pediatrics is teaming up with local pediatricians and dentists to raise awareness of the importance of early childhood dental care and to help actively combat dental issues in children.

The UT Department of Pediatrics was awarded a $3,000 American Academy of Pediatrics Community Access to Child Health Grant in November for its Toledo Smiles project. The six-month project will help increase access to dental care for underserved children in Lucas County through the end of August.

Dr. Jen Noble, a pediatric resident at UT Medical Center, initiated Toledo Smiles. Noble serves as the resident liaison to the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Oral Health and in addition to district chair for the academy’s Section on Medical Students, Residents and Fellowship Trainees.

Supreme Court of Ohio to hold session at UT College of Law

April 9

By Rachel Phipps

The Supreme Court of Ohio will hold court in the Law Center McQuade Law Auditorium at the University of Toledo College of Law Wednesday, April 9.

As part of the court’s Off-Site Court Program, the Supreme Court of Ohio will hear and consider oral arguments in three cases.

More than 350 juniors and seniors from 11 area high schools will attend. Volunteers from the Toledo Bar Association, with the assistance of several law students, will explain Ohio’s judicial system and review case materials with the high school students before the session. Students will then meet after the court’s session with the case attorneys to debrief and discuss the legal issues. Law students also will attend the oral arguments.

“We are honored to host the Supreme Court of Ohio in its session here, its first since 1987, and the first ever at the University of Toledo College of Law,” said Daniel J. Steinbock, dean of the College of Law. “This will be a wonderful opportunity for our students and hundreds of students from area high schools to observe our state’s highest court in action.”

The event will give Justice Judith Ann Lanzinger, who received a law degree from UT in 1977, the opportunity to hear cases at her alma mater. A member of the court since 2005, Justice Lanzinger is a Toledo resident.

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Sales school director named Fulbright Scholar, will teach, conduct research in Finland

By Bob Mackowiak

Dr. Ellen Pullins, Schmidt Research Professor of Professional Sales at The University of Toledo, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture and research at Hagaa Helia University in Finland during the 2014-15 academic year.

The United States Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board made the announcement. Pullins is one of approximately 1,100 U.S. faculty and professionals who will travel abroad through the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program in 2014-15.

She will teach professional sales and conduct research on professional business-to-business sales in international markets, specifically on customer-affective response to professional sales.

“Obviously, I was thrilled on being notified that I had received the grant. I believe that business can’t be separated from international business in today’s world, and that international experiences for faculty are critically important,” said Pullins, who is director of the Edward H. Schmidt School of Professional Sales in the UT College of Business and Innovation.

“I am excited about the ability to immerse myself in a culture outside the United States for an extended period of time, while at the same time building productive new relationships in another part of the world. In the past, the Schmidt School of Professional Sales has done international videoconferenced sales role-plays between students in Finland and UT. I can’t even begin to imagine what other types of collaborative projects might be possible,” she said.

“Buyer-seller relationships are critical in creating value through social interaction,” she said. “My research work will look at business customer emotions, needs and motives, and how they impact sales results across multi-person [business-to-business] service seller interactions. The research will be part of a team project, supported by a grant from the Finnish Tekes’ “Fiiliksetä fyrkkää” program, in conjunction with colleagues from Hagaa Helia, the University of Helsinki and Aalto University in Finland, as well as a number of Finnish firms.”

The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and those of other countries. The primary source of funding for the Fulbright Program is an annual appropriation made by Congress to the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Participating governments and host institutions, corporations and foundations in foreign countries and in the United States also provide direct and indirect support.

Since its establishment in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late Sen. J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the program has given approximately 300,000 students, scholars, teachers, artists, scientists and other professionals the opportunity to study, teach and conduct research, exchange ideas, and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns.

“I am confident that this will have a real impact on the effectiveness of my own teaching in the future, as I will be able to speak firsthand about many of the international aspects of business, and also incorporate a more global set of real-world examples,” Pullins said.

“We congratulate Dr. Pullins on her outstanding personal and professional achievement of being selected a Fulbright Scholar,” said Dr. Thomas Sharkey, interim dean of the UT College of Business and Innovation. “In addition to her outstanding work as director of our nationally recognized Edward H. Schmidt School of Professional Sales, this is a testimony to her commitment to the teaching/research profession and her dedication to personal lifelong learning, which benefits both her students and her academic colleagues.”

Institutional launch of I SEE Southern Africa April 10

By Aimee Portala

The Institute for the Study and Economic Engagement of Southern Africa (I SEE SA) at The University of Toledo was founded in 2013 to help strengthen UT’s leadership in international engagement.

I SEE SA’s official launch will take place Thursday, April 10, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in University Hall Room 2370.

“Our goal is to strategically position UT to accomplish three objectives: generate multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary cutting-edge and relevant applied knowledge in a coordinated manner for American and Southern African institutions, facilitate knowledge brokering for institutions between the two regions, and prepare American and Southern African students enrolled in UT courses for leadership positions in institutions concerning the region,” said Dr. Rubin Patterson, professor and chair of the Sociology and Anthropology Department, director of the Africana Studies Program and I SEE SA director.

Featured speakers will include Patterson; Dr. Jamie Barlowe, dean of the College of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences; State Sen. Edna Brown, Ohio Senate District 11; Dr. Richard Weisfelder, professor emeritus of political science and public administration; Aarohi Vijn, vice president of product development at Xunlight; and professionals from the UT community, local entrepreneurs and politicians.

Toledo Smiles

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“My goal was for the community to receive better service in regard to this issue. I wanted it to be a call to action to get pediatricians involved in the conversation,” Noble said.

Participating pediatricians will offer an oral health risk assessment questionnaire at well-child visits beginning at 6 months of age. Well-child visits provide an opportunity for parents and pediatricians to discuss the importance of oral health and developing good brushing and flossing habits early. Parents are then offered the option to select one of the participating dentists to schedule an oral screening and exam.

“All children are required to visit a pediatrician for immunizations, which is why it’s such a pivotal opportunity for doctors to have the dental health conversation with parents,” Noble said.

One week in to the project, 90 risk assessment forms had been completed, 37 dental appointments had been scheduled, and three children had dental visits.

“The collaborative effort between the pediatric residents and the pediatric dental residents has been awesome,” Noble said.

There are four medical clinics and three dental clinics participating: Mercy St. Vincent’s Family Care Center Pediatric Clinic, UT Pediatric and UT Pediatric Dental Clinics, the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department Pediatric and Dental Clinics in downtown Toledo, the Western-Lucas County Health Department Pediatric Clinic and the Dental Center of Northwest Ohio.

Project updates can be found by following #ToledoSmiles.

For more information, visit aap.org/catch or contact Noble at jennifer.noble@utoledo.edu.
**Symposium to honor endowed chairs, professorships**

The Dean’s Club Symposium of the UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences to recognize endowed chairs and endowed professorships will be held Tuesday, April 8, at 6 p.m. in Collier Building Room 1050 on Health Science Campus.

“These honorees are among UT’s most distinguished educators, researchers and health-care providers,” said Dr. Ron McGinnis, interim dean of the College of Medicine and Life Sciences.

“This is also an opportunity to once again express our thanks to the individuals and organizations who, through their generous gifts, are contributing to the advancement of science and the health of the community,” McGinnis said.

The endowed chairs and professors to be honored are:

- Dr. Christopher Cooper: Mercy Health System Chair of Excellence in Education;
- Dr. Deepak K. Malhotra: UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences Endowed Professorship in Nephrology;
- Dr. William Maltese: Helen and Harold McMaster Endowed Chair in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology;
- Dr. Kelly J. Manahan: Rita T. Sheely Endowed Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology;
- Dr. Sonia Najjar: Frederick W. Hiss Endowed Professor in Diabetes;
- Dr. Thomas Schwann: S. Amjad Hussain Professor of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery;
- Dr. Steven Selman: Frank D. Stranahan Endowed Chair for Oncological Research;
- Dr. Akira Takashima: Robert A. Stranahan Chair in Microbiology and Immunology;
- Dr. Gretchen Tietjen: Clair Martig Endowed Chair in Neurology; and
- Dr. James Willey: George Isaac Endowed Chair in Cancer Research.

The Dean’s Club was established to help the UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences and the UT Medical Center meet a three-part mission of excellence in medical education, research and clinical care.

Members’ gifts provide essential funds for scholarships, faculty research support and other innovative programs.

**Great Motivator:** Head Men’s Basketball Coach Tod Kowalczyk has signed an agreement that extends his UT contract through the 2020-21 season. “Tod and his staff have steadily improved our program throughout his tenure culminated by a share of the [Mid-American Conference] regular-season title and a school-record 27 victories in 2013-14,” UT Vice President and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Mike O’Brien said. “Even more impressive is the team’s performance in the classroom, as displayed by its 3.0 team GPA last fall. We’re pleased to extend Tod’s contract through the 2020-21 season.” Kowalczyk, 47, was named the Rockets’ head coach in March 2010, assuming the reins of a program that had endured three straight losing seasons and was coming off a 4-28 win-loss mark. Since his first season at the Rocket helm, Kowalczyk has guided UT to a 61-37 win-loss mark, including a 27-7 ledger in 2013-14 that ranks fourth for most wins ever by a MAC men’s program. During the 2013-14 campaign, Toledo captured a share of its eighth MAC regular-season title, appeared in its eighth National Invitation Tournament in program history, and posted its first unbeaten home record (fourth in school history) since the 1966-67 season.

**Supreme Court of Ohio**

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and a former trial and appellate judge in Lucas County.

The Off-Site Court Program was founded in 1987 by the late Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer and is designed to teach Ohioans about the state’s judicial system. Twice each year, once in the spring and once in the fall, the Supreme Court relocates from Columbus to hold session in another city, selecting a different county each time.

The Supreme Court last sat in Lucas County in 1987, the first year of the program.

The College of Law is hosting the court in conjunction with the Toledo Bar Association and the Ohio Sixth District Court of Appeals.

Wednesday’s oral arguments will begin at 9 a.m., will be carried live online at sc.ohio.gov, and broadcast live on the Ohio Channel.

**In memoriam**

William “Red” Mitchell, Toledo, who coached the UT Hockey Club during the 1966-67 season, died April 1 at age 84.

John A. Toepfer, Waterville, died March 29 at age 80. The owner of Four Wheel Drive Diversified Inc. in Maumee was a member of the UT Center for Family Business and Privately Held Business and had served on its board.
Business, engineering students work together in National Science Foundation-funded project to advance entrepreneurship

By Bob Mackowski

UT College of Business and Innovation and College of Engineering students are participating in an innovative merging of classes this semester to learn how to take creative product ideas and develop them into profitable businesses.

Students in three classes — Entrepreneurship taught by Dr. Sonny Ariss, Business Law taught by Dr. Brandon Cohen and the Bioengineering Senior Design class taught by Dr. Ronald Fournier — are working together in 12 teams, with mentors available to each.

The University of Toledo is one of only four locations in the United States participating in this program, which is funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and developed in conjunction with the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance.

According to the National Science Foundation, Innovation Corps (I-Corps) is a set of activities and programs that prepares scientists and engineers to extend their focus beyond the laboratory.

Combining experience and guidance from established entrepreneurs with a targeted curriculum, I-Corps is a public-private partnership program that teaches grantees to identify valuable product opportunities that can emerge from academic research, and offers entrepreneurship training to student participants.

“This is an inaugural and very special program at the University,” Cohen, associate lecturer of management, said. “It’s a three-year grant at $100,000 annually to develop, train and coach 30 eTeams per year who will learn the Lean Launch curriculum and integrate the training into customer discovery during the yearlong Senior Design Course. Students bring and share different perspectives from their interdisciplinary classes, and each has to understand the value of what the other brings. They’re here to be critical thinkers.”

With a product idea in place, teams develop business models utilizing the Lean Launch Pad system, which focuses on nine basic building blocks: customer segments, value propositions, channels, customer relationships, revenue streams, key resources, key activities, key partnerships and cost structure.

“Entrepreneurship is launching a new venture, whether it occurs by starting your own company or by starting a new venture within the corporate business structure, known as intrapreneurship,” explained Ariss, professor and chair of management.

“This trend is becoming very important today because corporate America is looking for innovative thinking from their employees. Many large corporations such as Google, Intel and 3M have created funds for their employees to support an innovative idea within their corporate structures to help the growth of the company in the long run.”

Ariss added, “Learning the business model canvas of the Lean Launch NSF program will help train our students to make a decision whether to launch their own venture or scrap it with minimal cost.”

Cohen told the students, “90 percent of all businesses fail. The Lean Launch concept, which emphasizes the ‘sell, then build’ philosophy, helps you figure out if your idea has a place in the marketplace. If people are not willing to pay for it, it probably does not solve a large enough problem.”

Each team receives up to $1,000 to develop a prototype of their product.

“If any design/product idea has market viability after going through the business canvassing process in class, that eTeam has a much higher success rate in getting NSF Small Business Innovation Research program funding,” he said. “The overarching theme here is that technology startups are not like big companies. Entrepreneurs find a market need and then find a solution that the market is willing to pay for. Sometimes you fail during the discovery phase; sometimes you pivot and move in a new direction.

“As long as you follow the process to its conclusion and continue to learn during the process, any result in this class is good because knowledge is a key driver of success and the ultimate reward.”

Fournier, professor of bioengineering, said, “Bringing engineering and business students together on design project teams is unique in academia. It brings a synergistic perspective to the design process, gives the students the opportunity to learn from one another, and see what the real world of business is actually like.”

UT graduate students can take College of Law courses

By Rachel Phipps

Graduate students at The University of Toledo now can take College of Law courses for credit toward their graduate degrees.

Virtually every discipline is touched by the law, and many graduate students may find it valuable to learn more about the subject. For example, master of business administration students may want to take Business Associations, master of public administration students may want to take Administrative Law, engineering students may want to take Environmental Law or Patent Law, and criminal justice students may want to take Criminal Procedure.

Once graduate students complete Law and the Legal System, an introductory three-credit course taught by a full-time College of Law faculty member, they will be eligible to take other law courses in subsequent semesters.

Law and the Legal System will meet during the fall 2014 semester from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays, starting Aug. 23. The course introduces students to the U.S. legal system, including cases, statutes and other sources of law; federal, state, trial and appellate courts; legal reasoning; and principles of contracts, torts, property, criminal and constitutional law. It also serves as a required course in the Master of Studies in Law Program.

“Fall 2013 marked the first time UT graduate students could take College of Law courses,” said Ken Kilbert, associate dean for academic affairs at the College of Law. “The introductory course earned rave reviews last fall, and many of the students from that inaugural class took additional College of Law courses this spring.”

Credits earned in College of Law courses, including Law and the Legal System, can count toward a UT graduate degree. College of Law courses taken by students not enrolled in the JD program cannot count as credit toward the JD degree.

Registration for Law and the Legal System is available online now.

For more information on College of Law course offerings, contact Kilbert at kenneth.kilbert@utoledo.edu or 419.530.4107.
Music legend receives award for dedication to jazz

By Khyara Harris

Jon Hendricks, Distinguished Professor of Jazz at The University of Toledo, has been honored with the Satchmo Award for his lifetime commitment to jazz.

He accepted the honor for making jazz more enjoyable and educating others about the American art form last fall in New York City.

Hendricks, who started teaching at UT in 2000, began his musical career in Toledo by learning every song in the jukebox at Stanley Cowell’s hamburger joint on Indiana Avenue and singing to the customers.

He went on to become known as the father of vocalese — the art of setting lyrics to established jazz standards. In 1957, he made a splash in the music world as part of Lambert, Hendricks & Ross; the influential trio used their voices to sing the parts of instruments.

To date, Hendricks has won Emmy, Peabody and Grammy awards. His name was added to the Jazz Wall of Fame of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. And he earned a National Endowment for the Arts’ Jazz Masters Fellowship and France’s highest civilian commendation: the Legion of Honor in the class of knight or chevalier.

In 2012, the Louis Armstrong Center for Music and Medicine presented him its What a Wonderful World Award.

RockeTHON 2014: Students ready to dance to help area kids

By Aimee Portala

RockeTHON, formerly known as Dance Marathon, is The University of Toledo’s largest student-run philanthropy event. The yearlong fundraiser culminates in a 13-hour event where participants stay on their feet by dancing, playing games, participating in themed contests, and getting to know the families they are supporting.

RockeTHON will be held Saturday, April 12, from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. throughout the Student Union, with the stage and main action taking place in the auditorium.

This year’s goal is to have more than 1,000 students participate and to raise $113,000. The “Zero Zeros” goal aims to make sure each individual participant raises anything above zero dollars.

The theme for this year’s event is “Hollywood: Dancing With Our Stars.” Events and attractions will include an inflatable joust, a photo booth, radar speed test, sunglass spin art, a mechanical shark, a snow cone machine, miniature golf, scavenger hunts, dance competitions, and the crowning of Mr. and Mrs. RockeTHON, among others.

About 10 families are planning on sharing their personal stories with RockeTHON participants.

Dance Marathon is a national event, taking place at more than 100 college campuses across the country. Since 2001, RockeTHON has raised more than $500,000 for Mercy Children’s Hospital, bringing a brighter future to area children.

“RockeTHON is a can’t-miss event. The energy of hundreds of individuals supporting one cause is electrifying,” said Aaron Birney, a senior in the Individualized Degree Program and director of RockeTHON 2014.

Registration is $20 per person and includes a RockeTHON 2014 T-shirt. You can register at http://utoledo.rocketthon. Dancers can register as part of their respective student organizations until 10 a.m. the day of the event.

For more information, contact Tyler Clark, RockeTHON 2014 public relations chair, at tyler.clark@rockets.utoledo.edu or 419.205.6410.
Get colorful: Celebrate diversity at UT’s Holi Toledo event

By Samantha Watson

Things are about to get messy at The University of Toledo — but in the best way possible.

From 3 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 9, students will have the chance to throw color on one another while learning about the different cultures and religions on campus. It’s a part of Holi Toledo, an all-campus celebration of the Indian holiday Holi, which began as a Hindu celebration of the victory of a good man, Prahlad, over the demon Holika, a battle symbolizing triumph of good over evil.

The event will take place in the field next to the Memorial Field House, with booths surrounding a color zone. At each booth, students will learn from a different cultural or religious student organization and receive powdered color, which will be used throughout the day to cover attendees.

“It’s a way of welcoming spring; the colors are symbolic of all the colors nature throws at us in spring,” said Dr. Jeanine Diller, director of the UT Center for Religious Understanding. “The colors also are symbolic of the different cultural and religious orientations on campus and the joy there is in living them out. Holi reminds us of our shared humanity behind social differences because everybody ends up looking the same at the end of the day, covered with all the colors.”

Individuals working the booths will wear T-shirts that say “Ask me about a meaningful… belief, quote, experience.” Students who come to the booth pick one of these choices and hear a one-sentence response so that they can learn about that culture or religion even in the frenzy of the color throwing.

“We thought it would be great to have both religious and cultural student organizations to celebrate the diversity that the holiday of Holi represents,” Diller said. Students will be entered in a drawing for $100 if they visit enough booths and learn about the different organizations. There also will be prizes for the individual with the most colors at the end of the event, and free white Holi Toledo T-shirts will be given to the first 200 people to arrive.

Color throwing will begin at 3:15 p.m.; every 15 minutes attendees will simultaneously toss their colors on one another. It is recommended that attendees wear clothes that can be stained; while the color is water soluble, it is not guaranteed to wash out.

Along with powdered color, the event will feature Indian music, some of which is specific to the holiday.

“This past summer, my board and I discussed the idea of having an interfaith celebration at the end of the year,” Diller said. “My interns told me they wanted something with wider appeal than a lecture. A couple of us had just done the color run, which is a version of Holi, and this idea was born.”

This event is sponsored by the UT Indian Students Cultural Association, the UT Center for Religious Understanding, the UT Center for International Studies and Programs, the UT Office of Student Involvement, the UT Office of Equity and Diversity, the Toledo Community Foundation, and the President’s Lecture Series on Diversity.

Counseling center staff to be honored for sexual assault advocacy

By Samantha Watson

This Tuesday, members of the Sexual Assault Education and Prevention Program of The University of Toledo Counseling Center will be recognized for their work.

The first Women’s Appreciation Dinner on Tuesday, April 8, will honor extraordinary women supporters within the UT community and Toledo area. Of those being honored, four are from the Counseling Center’s program.

Angela Spoerl, a clinical social worker in the center, Ashley Leonard, a graduate assistant in the center, Tamika Mitchell, dean of students, and Cecilia Rivera, Greek life coordinator, are the team of women behind the Sexual Assault Education and Prevention Program.

The program, for which the Counseling Center assumed leadership during spring 2013, strives to educate on the issue of violence against women and advocates for survivors of sexual assault. Members of the program offer emotional support, help finding resources, and offer accompaniment to medical exams after sexual assault.

“When a student suffers a sexual assault, our advocates help them deal with it emotionally,” said Dr. Stanley Edwards, director of the Counseling Center.

For more information on the program and the Counseling Center, visit utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/saep.

“Coming to college can be a great and positive experience, but it also can bring lots of stress and struggles,” Edwards said. “There are times when students need emotional support to get through their college career.”
American Red Cross to host pint-for-pint blood drive

By Kevin Bucher

The American Red Cross will host its annual spring blood drive on The University of Toledo Main Campus Monday through Thursday, April 14-17, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The blood drive will be held in the Student Union Ingman Room Monday through Wednesday, April 14-16. On Thursday, April 17, the blood drive will be held in the Student Recreation Center Oak Room.

“This is our pint-for-a-pint blood drive. After donating, donors will receive a pint of free ice cream,” said William Byers, UT nursing student and intern with the American Red Cross.

“It’s extremely important for people to participate because about 42,000 units of blood are needed to sustain U.S. hospitals for one single day,” Byers said.

An appointment is not necessary, but highly encouraged. Students and employees can schedule an appointment by visiting redcross.org.

English Department to welcome writer April 10

By Aimee Portala

The University of Toledo Department of English is hosting writer Chris Bachelder, author of Bear v. Shark, U.S.A! and Ablitf Awaits. He will speak Thursday, April 10, at 6 p.m. in Libbey Hall.

Foreign editions of Bachelder’s novels have been published in the U.K., Italy, France, Spain, Russia and Germany. He has had short fiction and essays featured in various publications, including McSweeney’s, The Believer, Harper’s, Oxford American, American Short Fiction, The Massachusetts Review, Black Warrior Review and Subtropics.

Bachelder is an associate professor at the University of Cincinnati. He previously held teaching positions at the University of Massachusetts, Colorado College and New Mexico State University.

For more information on the free, public event, contact Dr. Ben Stroud, UT assistant professor of English, at benjamin.stroud@utoledo.edu.
Gender equity supporter to speak April 10 in Savage Arena

By Leisha Lininger

The final installment of the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women’s Lecture and Film Series will feature Dr. Michael Kimmel, author, researcher, editor and supporter of gender equality.

His lecture, “Mars, Venus or Planet Earth? Women and Men on Campus in a New Millennium,” will take place in Savage Arena Thursday, April 10, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

“We chose Dr. Kimmel because he brings a unique spin,” said Jeff Witt, program manager for the Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Engagement. “He talks about why gender inequality is bad for everyone, and how gender equality is good not just for women, but also for men.”

Some books or theories may claim that men are from Mars and women from Venus, but Kimmel’s lecture disproves the disparity and suggests that women and men are more alike than not. Through humor, he reveals the increasing gender equality present on campus, and how it inherently does benefit men.

“I do believe that gender inequality still exists,” said Drake Fletcher, a senior in communications with a focus in public relations and outside linebacker for the UT football team. “America has grown over the last couple decades, but I do think it exists in corporate America and in athletics.”

Audience members can engage with Kimmel during the presentation and following the lecture with a question-and-answer session.

Kimmel will spend the day on campus and visit a Women’s and Gender Studies Department class to discuss gender inequality.

“In the wake of Title IX, we want to be sensitive to issues like gender inequality and bring up a healthy discussion as it relates to sports with our student-athletes,” Witt said. “Title IX is a federal law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any federally funded education program, which goes a long way to protect and ensure gender equality, yet disparities still can exist today.

All student-athletes are required to attend the lecture and will discuss it Friday morning.

“I think that the fact they are making student-athletes come to the event is important,” Fletcher said. “Some of the biggest sexist stereotypes are held within athletics, especially in collegiate athletics.”

Kimmel serves as Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Gender Studies at Stony Brook University in New York, as well as executive director at the Center for the Study of Men and Masculinities.

He has been involved in writing or editing more than 20 volumes, and has received critical acclaim for Manhood in America: A Cultural History (1996). Known as a leading researcher on masculinity, his works feature a rewriting of the cultural understanding of masculinity to encompass a wide range of characteristics.

“I believe that this lecture will be very interesting and beneficial,” Fletcher said. “In today’s society, gender roles have changed dramatically, and hopefully he can bring some understanding to where males and females fit in today’s society.”

This event is hosted by the Eberly Center in conjunction with UT Athletics and the UT Student Government Diversity Week (April 7-11) Committee, with support from the Women’s and Gender Studies Department, the Sexual Assault Prevention Month Planning Committee and the President’s Lecture Series on Diversity.

Free parking will be available in Lots 3 and 5.

For more information on the free, public lecture, call the Eberly Center 419.530.8570.