Presidential candidate open forums

Dr. Christopher Howard, president of Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia
• Monday, Feb. 23, from 1:30 to 3:15 p.m. in University Hall’s Doermann Theater on Main Campus
• Tuesday, Feb. 24, from 8:30 to 10:15 a.m. in Collier Building Room 1000A on Health Science Campus

Dr. Sharon Gaber, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Arkansas
• Thursday, Feb. 26, from 1:30 to 3:15 p.m. in University Hall’s Doermann Theater on Main Campus
• Friday, Feb. 27, from 8:30 to 10:15 a.m. in Collier Building Room 1000B on Health Science Campus

All forums will be streamed live at video.utoledo.edu.

Studies validate treatment for stroke patients

By Meghan Cunningham

The results of three key studies have validated a stroke treatment that The University of Toledo Medical Center was the first to offer the region and is a leader in delivering the care.

The studies that compared mechanical thrombectomy — removing a blood clot with a stent-like device — versus conventional medicinal therapy to break up the clot were recently presented at the American Stroke Association International Stroke Conference in Nashville. The studies showed the treatment as a clear success; one found the death rate cut almost in half for patients who received the treatment.

The mechanical thrombectomy technique was first performed in the Toledo region by UTMC’s Dr. Mouhammad A. Jumaa and Dr. Syed F. Zaidi, vascular and interventional neurologists and assistant professors of neurology.

“We have been offering this endovascular stroke treatment at UTMC since 2012. It is indeed reassuring that our approach has been conclusively validated by these large studies,” Zaidi said. “We have impacted many lives in the greater northwest Ohio region and hope that through further media awareness, more patients will get a chance for a better outcome when faced with this devastating disease.”

“There is a limited time window to re-establish blood flow to the brain before a stroke is completed,” Jumaa said. “With this level of evidence, it is now critical to transport patients quickly to the nearest center where this treatment can be offered.”

Fantastic time

Rocksy received a hug from a young fan last week during the fourth annual Rocket Women’s Basketball Education Day. Toledo defeated Northern Illinois, 73-57, Wednesday morning in front of 3,945 fans in Savage Arena. Some 500 students in first through eighth grade and teachers and parents from schools in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan were in the stands to cheer on the Rockets. Before the game, Head Coach Tricia Cullop spoke to the students about the importance of education, and the children received age-appropriate workbooks.

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Treatment for stroke patients

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Strokes, affecting about 800,000 people in the United States each year, are caused by a blood clot lodged in the brain. The traditional treatment has been administering the clot-dissolving medication tPA. The mechanical thrombectomy technique instead uses a metal mesh cage called a stent retriever that essentially flattens the clot, traps it and removes it, opening the artery faster and with less damage.

“Mechanical thrombectomy will become the standard of care for acute stroke therapy in patients with moderate to severe stroke who do not qualify or do not benefit from the conventional clot-busting medication tPA,” said Dr. Gretchen Tietjen, the UT Clair Martig Endowed Chair in Neurology.

The three recent studies — SWIFT PRIME, EXTEND-IA and ESCAPE — confirmed the findings of the previous Multi-center Randomized Clinical trial of Endovascular treatment for Acute ischemic stroke in the Netherlands (MR CLEAN) study published in The New England Journal of Medicine in December.

ESCAPE, a Canadian study, assessed 316 patients and found that the addition of intervention — recommended with the often-used Solitaire stent — doubled patients’ rates of return to functional independence and cut the risk of death from stroke in half compared to traditional treatment with tPA alone. Functional independence also was significantly improved at 90 days.

Similarly, EXTEND-IA, which was conducted in Australia and included 70 patients, also found that the addition of Solitaire stents doubled patients’ rates of return to functional independence compared to treatment with tPA alone. Functional independence also was significantly improved from 29 percent to 53 percent.

The EXTEND-IA study showed a strong trend toward reduction in death from stroke, reducing the mortality rate from 20 percent to 9 percent. Patients treated with Solitaire also spent significantly less time in the hospital or in rehabilitation before returning home or to work in 15 days compared to 73 days.

The Canadian and Australian studies were published recently in The New England Journal of Medicine.

SWIFT PRIME, which was conducted in 39 hospitals in North America and Europe and assessed the use of the Solitaire device in addition to tPA versus tPA treatment alone, also was presented at the conference, but has not yet been published.

The study enrolled 196 patients and showed a statistically significant improvement in 90-day functional outcome for patients receiving Solitaire stent thrombectomy rather than tPA alone.

For more information on UTMC’s Stroke Program, visit uthealth.utoledo.edu/clinics/neurology/programs/stroke.
UT Health changes emphasize clinic operations

By Jon Strunk

University of Toledo Health officials have announced several leadership changes designed to provide additional focus on the system’s outpatient clinics.

Calling the clinics an increasingly critical piece of UT Health’s health-care delivery system, Dave Morlock, CEO for UT Health, said he has asked Olivia Dacre to focus solely on ambulatory care.

“This change will provide a clearer institutional focus on the clinics and help us respond in a timely way to specific clinical needs,” said Morlock, who also serves as UT’s executive vice president for finance and administration. “Olivia will report to me and will work to standardize clinic operations, create clarity of expectations for staff and faculty, and identify best practices at individual clinics that we can implement across our growing geographical footprint.”

Morlock added that he will work with Dr. Christopher Cooper, senior vice president for clinical affairs and dean of the College of Medicine and Life Sciences, to identify a medical director for the clinics who will partner with Dacre.

“Robin Horani will assume oversight of the UT Medical Center revenue cycle role that Dacre will vacate. Horani also will continue leading revenue cycle operations for UT Physicians, the University’s physician group.

“These changes will be effective as of March 1,” Morlock said, “and Dr. Cooper and I are confident this will better coordinate patient access and customer service across our clinical platform.”

The University Women’s Commission is looking for:

Nominations for the Alice H. Skeens Outstanding Woman Award
Applications for the University Women’s Commission Scholarship
Deadline: Friday, March 6
Details at utoledo.edu/commissions/uwc

In memoriam

Constance Hayes, Waterville, a member of the Satellites Auxiliary who volunteered in the MCO gift shop, died Feb. 12 at age 92.

The family of Diane Hymore would like to thank everyone associated with UT/MUO for their prayers, thoughts, and many acts of kindness for Diane as she battled ALS.

She truly loved working at the University and for Dr. Lloyd Jacobs, and she enjoyed all the people she was able to interface with as his executive assistant.

‘The Relevant University’ to air Feb. 24

Tune in to “The Relevant University” Tuesday, Feb. 24, at 7 p.m. on AM 760 WJR.

This month, Lawrence J. Burns, UT vice president for external affairs, and co-host Michael O’Brien, UT vice president and director of athletics, discuss how college football and its television deals and merchandise sales affect university branding.

Guests on the show will be:
• Bob Bowlsby, commissioner of the Big 12 Conference;
• Matt Campbell, UT head football coach;
• Jeff Long, vice chancellor and director of athletics at the University of Arkansas; and
• Bill Hancock, executive director of the College Football Playoff.

The University of Toledo and Detroit’s WJR Radio produce “The Relevant University,” a monthly, hourlong program that explores the critical role higher education plays in our world.

Listen at WJR 760 AM, wjr.com or utoledo.edu/therelevantuniversity.

Discover family roots at brown-bag seminar this week

By Cassandra DeYoung

On Wednesday, Feb. 25, the Journey Genealogy Group, a local grassroots organization dedicated to researching African-American genealogy and history in northwest Ohio, will present “Just a Branch on a Tree: Finding Your Roots…”

The free, public seminar sponsored by the UT Africana Studies Program will feature a discussion on how to start a family search and find one’s genealogical roots. It will take place from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the Office of Excellence and Multicultural Success, located in Student Union Room 2500.

“This particular topic, even though it’s going to deal with African-American genealogy, is really important to all of us if we want to find our family roots because they will be talking about the process of genealogy — how to go about starting research and available resources,” said Angela Siner, interim director of the Africana Studies Program.

This presentation is part of the Africana Studies and Sojourner’s Truth Brown-Bag Seminar Series.

“The brown-bag series has been a part of Africana Studies for almost 20 years,” Siner said. “We have the brown-bag luncheons to discuss major issues and challenges facing the Africana world, but in a much larger sense, it’s about all of us as individuals.”

The series features two upcoming seminars, one Wednesday, March 18, titled “Vital Issues: Urban Education in the 21st Century” and another Wednesday, April 15, titled “I Got That Feeling: Mental and Physical Health in Minority Communities.”

For more information on the seminar series, contact Siner by calling 419.530.4660 or emailing angela.siner@utoledo.edu.
New business book reflects expanding horizons in emerging global markets

By Bob Mackowski

Learning from successful businesses located in critical areas of the global economy not only provides useful information for other business owners, but also provides rich resources for students studying in business colleges.

That is why Dr. Paul Hong, professor of operations management in the UT College of Business and Innovation, wrote Building Network Capabilities in Turbulent Competitive Environments: Business Success Stories From the BRICs, published in December.

“Brazil, Russia, India and China (BRIC) are among the largest and fastest-growing economies in the world,” Hong said. “The enormous size of the customer base in these emerging markets is the strategic concern of global business firms. Successful market performance in these markets requires sound understanding of dynamic environmental factors and timely investment of appropriate resources. This book presents strategies for recognizing the challenges and optimizing the opportunities for building network capabilities and competitive advantage within the context of these emerging markets.”

Hong previously wrote a book about building networking capabilities in global companies in Korea and Japan, but noted that his new book expands on that, with a different research model that looks at what the companies do, recent plans and successes, and more.

“The seed idea was part of a UT discussion,” Hong explained. “We had 15 general papers and 15 field visits to companies in Russia, China, India and Brazil. We met senior executives at their sites. We tracked their revenue in sales and their market share. They did not just want to tell their stories; they wanted to be seen as credible, explain what they are about, what they are doing, and to have the value of their company recognized.”

“We did not just want a nice story,” he added. “We wanted to see their challenges and problems and how they address them. We see how they became leaders in their country and then became globally competitive. They also wanted to learn from us, learn about what we do, and share what other companies do.”

The initial reaction toward the book from professors around the world has been extremely positive.

“Brazil, Russia, India and China have increased their influences on the entire world economy since the beginning of this century, but there have been relatively few studies that focused on their critical industrial issues. The balance between their tenacious field works and logical thinking has made this seminal book’s arguments persuasive to both researchers and practitioners in the field of global management,” noted Dr. Takahiro Fujimoto, professor of faculty of economics at the University of Tokyo and senior research associate at Harvard Business School.

“It can be used for MBA students for case studies and PhD students as cases leading to problem identification, and/or hypotheses formulation. The cases can also be used as training materials for industrial people about how to develop network capacities within and beyond BRIC countries. I highly recommend this book to both academic and practical people,” said Dr. Hongyi Sun of the Department of Systems Engineering and Engineering Management at the City University of Hong Kong.

“This book is a must-read for executives, researchers and students who are serious about expanding their knowledge and understanding how to create competitive advantage in the global marketplace of the 21st century,” said Dr. Clinton O. Longenecker, Strahahan Professor of Leadership and Organizational Excellence in the UT College of Business and Innovation.

Hong stated, “This research is not just an individual effort. It is not about me, but about the College of Business and The University of Toledo. This book was possible because the College of Business and Innovation supported my research, gave me time to do it. I have great colleagues and really appreciated the support of the deans, our chairs and the provost. It is just like supply chain itself: It is not just one individual, but everybody contributes.

“Research is very crucial and very much related to teaching. It has great impact; it enhances the reputation of the college and the University. Through good research, teaching and our reputation, we train and prepare students who are then successful in the marketplace. Through my research, I am returning back to the college and the University so I can be better at preparing students.”

He added, “I always wanted to write books because I do a lot of research to actually be able to benefit society at large. A book like this enriches quality teaching because I can speak from my own experience, not just from what someone else says through a textbook.”

“The students all want to be successful,” Hong said. “Now they know global companies and understand global issues. We prepare our students very well, and that gives us satisfaction. It also emphasizes to students that we are on a tier with other national universities. It tells them you are in a very good college of business, and it builds their sense of confidence. We tell them ‘You are destined to succeed.’”

Disability studies faculty to present at next Humanities Happy Hour Feb. 27

By Lindsay Mahaney

If you’ve ever wondered about the history of disability studies, this semester’s second Humanities Happy Hour is where you’ll want to be this Friday.

Dr. Kim Nielsen, UT professor of disability studies, and Dr. Ally Day, UT assistant professor of disability studies, will present Friday, Feb. 27, from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Libbey Hall dining room.

The free, public event will begin at 5 p.m. with a beer and wine cash bar and free refreshments that will continue through the talks and end at 8 p.m.

Nielsen’s talk, “The Doctoress and the Bullwhip: Insanity and Diagnosis in 19th-Century America,” will focus on Dr. Anna Ott, a successful physician in the mid-1800s who was institutionalized and spent the last 20 years of her life in an insane asylum.

“I want to talk about what her diagnosis was like, her life, and what it was like to be treated by her former male colleagues,” she said. “She was clearly very ornery and unusual. She was institutionalized the same year that one of the leading physicians in the United States charged that women going to college would render them insane. I want to use her to talk about how diagnoses change over time.”

“She was a person who chased her husband’s mistress down the street with a bullwhip,” she added with a laugh.

Nielsen said she will use Ott’s story to discuss how diagnoses during different time periods reflect the history.

Day will focus on a new project — human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in poetry — with her talk, “Blood, Breast-Milk and Boundary-Making: Toward a Disability Bioethics in the Poetry of Tory Dent.”

Dent wrote three volumes of poetry focusing on her struggles with HIV. Day

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Celebrating Chinese New Year

Cheryl Thomas, executive assistant 2 in the Center for International Studies and Programs, served up a rice cake to Lei Li as part of the Confucius Institute’s celebration of the Chinese New Year. Festivities took place last week in the Student Union Auditorium.

Kelly Rowand, left, and Dan Shen painted traditional Chinese paper lanterns last week in honor of the year of the sheep/ram/goat.

Members of the Chinese Association of Greater Toledo Amy Chen, left, Liping Mo, back middle, and Jing Meyers, right, gave a “Taiji Show With Pearls.” The women held Taiji and Chinese meditation balls as the Chinese believe these bring good health.

Wenchao Lu created a Chinese wish card that read “san yang kai tai” (an auspicious beginning) last week in the Student Union Auditorium.
Register for Midwest Graduate Research Symposium by Feb. 28

By Cassandra DeYoung

The University of Toledo’s Graduate Student Association is accepting registrations for its sixth annual Midwest Graduate Research Symposium.

The symposium will be held Saturday, March 21, in the Memorial Field House and the Student Union on UT’s Main Campus.

“This is a great opportunity for graduate students to not only showcase their research, but to see research being done by other students across the nation,” said Jennifer Solanics, UT graduate assistant in the Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Engagement.

The event will feature research presentations, networking, and the chance to foster intercollegiate friendships and collaborations.

“This event gives students the chance to meet and network with individuals they may not have met,” Solanics said. “The relationships formed will have a positive impact on the participants for years to come.”

Post-baccalaureate students from every discipline are invited to register for the opportunity to present their research at the event. Undergraduate students are encouraged to register for a select number of available spots.

Registrations must be submitted by Saturday, Feb. 28. Participants will be notified of acceptance by Saturday, March 14.

All participants will receive a certificate and an invitation to the awards dinner following the symposium.

The top three poster presentations and oral presentations will be announced at the dinner, and the winners will each receive a plaque and a certificate. Additionally, the Association for Women in Science award will be given to the top woman with a STEM field presentation along with a $100 prize.

Go to graduatestudentassociationblog.wordpress.com to register.

For more information, contact the Graduate Student Association Office at graduatestudentassociation@gmail.com or 419.482.8383.

Executive action

Rodney O’Neal, president and CEO of Delphi Automotive PLC, spoke to a packed room of students and community members last Wednesday. The Detroit-based exec spent a short time sharing his professional trajectory in the auto industry before turning over the evening to student questions. The event, part of the Brothers on the Rise, Alpha Phi Boule and the Association of Black Faculty and Staff Lecture Series, also featured remarks by Interim President Nagi Nagarian and Dr. Gary Insch, dean of the College of Business and Innovation. O’Neal’s talk was part of the University’s celebration of Black History Month.

Author/activist to give talk Feb. 25

By Cassandra DeYoung

The Black Student Union will host “Kevin Powell: Barack Obama, Dr. King and The Future of Civil Rights” Wednesday, Feb. 25, at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Union Auditorium.

“Powell will be talking about the progression of civil rights through President Obama and Dr. Martin Luther King, how civil rights has changed and why it is important in the future,” said Tiffany Fulford, vice president of the Black Student Union.

“We chose him to speak because he is a legend in the black community and an award-winning author,” Fulford said. “His background of political activism and hip-hop culture will be relatable to many students.”

Despite childhood circumstances of poverty and neighborhood violence, Powell went on to study at Rutgers University and has become one of the most respected writers and voices of his generation. Powell is the author or editor of 11 books, including The Education of Kevin Powell: A Boy’s Journey Into Manhood and Barack Obama, Ronald Reagan and The Ghost of Dr. King: Blogs and Essays.

An acclaimed community activist and motivational speaker, he has worked on a range of public concerns, including voter registration, Hurricane Katrina relief, education, the environment, eradicating poverty, and supply and resource support for post-earthquake Haiti.

“Everyone should come and hear Powell speak,” said David Young, director of the UT Office of Excellence. “While he is of African-American descent, he really is an activist for everyone.”

The free, public event is part of UT’s celebration of Black History Month.

Jazzman

Jazz pianist Alan Broadbent gave a master class last week in the Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall, where he also played to a standing-room-only crowd for the Art Tatum Memorial Jazz Scholarship Concert. The Grammy Award-winning musician, composer and arranger has worked with a lengthy list of notables, including Paul McCartney, Natalie Cole, Glenn Frey, Diana Krall, Nelson Riddle and Johnny Mandel.
Nomination deadline extended to Feb. 25 for Outstanding Adviser Award

By Cathy Zimmer

The deadline to nominate someone for the 2015 Outstanding Adviser Award has been extended to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25.

“The award is for those advisers who have gone above and beyond to help empower their students,” said Dr. Kristen Keith, UT associate professor and undergraduate adviser in the Department of Economics, who is chair of the Outstanding Adviser Award Selection Committee. “We are looking for nominations from students because they are the ones who work with advisers most and whose academic lives are affected the most by outstanding advisers. Alumni, faculty and staff are also encouraged to submit a nomination.”

The online nomination form is at utoledo.edu/offices/provost/adviser_award.

Past recipients of the award are not eligible; a list of winners is online with the nomination form.

The Outstanding Adviser Award winners will be selected by the committee after those nominated submit their philosophy statements to show how they advise their students.

“There will be two recipients of the Outstanding Adviser Award, each receiving $1,500,” Keith, who won the award in 2013, said. “The philosophy statements are important; they demonstrate the objectives an adviser has when working with students and what academic advising means to them.”

The award was developed in 1986 for advisers who effectively demonstrate interpersonal skills, educate and empower students to make informed academic decisions, prioritize their commitments to maximize academic success, and who are knowledgeable of UT policies and resources.

The UT Outstanding Awards Reception will take place Monday, April 27, at 5:30 p.m. in the Student Union Ingman Room.

Rathbun Outreach and Engagement Excellence Award nominations sought

Nominations are being accepted for the Edith Rathbun Outreach and Engagement Excellence Award through Friday, March 20.

Take a few minutes to recognize a deserving colleague who has distinguished himself or herself through exceptional community outreach and excellence in community-engaged scholarship, whether in research, teaching or professional service.

Each recipient of the Rathbun Outreach and Engagement Excellence Award will receive a $750 prize. Two awardees will be chosen.

The Rathbun Excellence Award was endowed through a generous and growing gift from Edith Rathbun and further gifts from campus and community donors. It recognizes outstanding outreach and engagement scholarship in any field, discipline or area at The University of Toledo. Full-time faculty members in all colleges are eligible to receive the award.

The one-page nomination form is available online at utoledo.edu/offices/provost/rathbunaward/index.html.

The selection committee is composed of faculty members who served on the scholarship of engagement subcommittee of UT’s former Council on Outreach and Engagement.

Honorees will be recognized at the UT Outstanding Awards Reception Monday, April 27, at 5:30 p.m. in the Student Union Ingman Room.

For more information, contact Penny Thiessen in the Office of Research and Innovation at penny.thiessen@utoledo.edu or 419.530.6171.

Humanities Happy Hour continued from p. 4

said she will explore two poems that Dent wrote: “HIV Mon Amour” and “Black Milk.” The second title is actually dedicated to the first one, a peculiar concept Day said she wants to explore.

“One of the things that’s really cool about her poetry is that she really centers her female-embodied experience,” Day said. “She uses images of pregnancy and miscarriage to think about the HIV virus. At one point she talks about the virus being almost like small children in her womb. And another time she talks about the virus killing the children in her womb. It’s like there’s this conflict.”

At the time Dent was writing her poetry, there wasn’t a lot of knowledge about HIV in women, Day said.

“She’s one of the first women in the United States to be so up front and out about that status and what that means to her as a female,” she said.

Day said she will be using Dent’s work to discuss how HIV influences disability poetry. Sometimes disability poetry is difficult to understand because the author refuses to follow strict genre guidelines, she said.

Both women said they want their talks to impart the importance of disability studies.

“Disability history matters,” Nielsen said. “It really is very widely applicable and of interest.”

“I think Kim and I both want folks to understand disability studies really broadly,” Day agreed. “It uses tools from a lot of different disciplines, but the humanities remain centrally important. Disability studies offers a lot of tools for someone working with literature, especially as sort of an analytic tool to look at how we represent ourselves as a world.”

Humanities Happy Hour is an initiative through the Humanities Institute in the College of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences. The institute serves as an advocate and support for the study of human cultures at UT.

“Disability studies is an exciting interdisciplinary area of study that incorporates the humanities, social sciences and sciences,” said Dr. Christina Fitzgerald, director of the institute and professor of English. “On the humanities side, disability studies explores key issues of the history, representation, identity and selfhood of people with physical and mental disabilities. The humanities in general seek to understand the entire range of human culture and experience, and disability is part of what it means to be human.”

For more information, contact the Humanities Institute at 419.530.4407 or HumanitiesInstitute@utoledo.edu.
Cancer? Of course you should get a second opinion.

A cancer diagnosis is usually accompanied by a swirl of emotions, questions and anxiety. That's why we encourage everyone to get as much information as they need. When it comes to cancer, be smart. Get second opinion sure.

Call 419.383.6644 or visit us online for more information at utmc.utoledo.edu/secondopinion.

Be second opinion sure.