Academic calendar dates for 15-week semesters announced; Law, Medicine remain on same schedule

Important dates for the University’s 15-week semesters that will begin in the 2017-18 academic year have been released. While the colleges of Law and Medicine and Life Sciences will remain on 16-week semesters, UT’s other colleges are converting to the shorter term.

Fall semester will begin Monday, Aug. 28. Fall break will be Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 16 and 17. The last day of classes for fall semester will be Friday, Dec. 8. Exams will be held Monday through Friday, Dec. 11-15.

Fall commencement will take place Sunday, Dec. 17.

Approved in December by the UT Board of Trustees, the 15-week semesters will continue to provide the required 750 minutes of instruction per credit hour for lecture classes while allowing more flexibility for students.

“Student success is our main goal. The conversion from a 16-week semester to a 15-week semester will be a great benefit,” Provost Andrew Hsu said. “The shorter semesters will allow students to participate in more summer and winter intersessions, which can improve their time to degree, or add experiential learning opportunities, such as internships, research or study abroad.”

He added, “The 15-week semesters also will help our faculty members by giving them two weeks more time to do their research and scholarly activities.”

Spring semester will begin Tuesday, Jan. 16, after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, except for the College of Nursing, which will start Monday, Jan. 8. Spring break will take place Monday through Friday, March 5-9.

The last day of classes for spring semester will be Friday, April 27. Exams will be held Monday through Friday, April 30-May 4. The last day of the semester for the College of Nursing will be Friday, April 20, with exams taking place Monday through Friday, April 23-27.

Spring commencement will take place Saturday, May 5. The 2017-18 academic calendar is available at utoledo.edu/offices/provost/calendar. The change in the academic calendar brings UT in line with peers in Ohio, including Ohio State, Cincinnati, Miami, Kent State, Akron, Cleveland State, Wright State and Ohio University.
Mock trial team brings regional trophy back to UT

By Madison Vasko

The UT Mock Trial Team is continuing a tradition of excellence. Over the years, the team has earned national championship titles 10 times, and may be on its way to another.

“After their outstanding performance at the regional tournament, The University of Toledo’s Mock Trial Team has received a bid to represent our region at the Opening Round Championship,” said John Schlageter, coach of the team, program director and senior lecturer for the Paralegal Studies Program.

UT went head to head with 16 other schools, including Case Western, Ohio State University, Cornell University, and Michigan State, at the competition Feb. 25 and 26 at the Cleveland Justice Center.

The team is preparing for its next competition, practicing case materials in the McQuade Courtroom in the Health and Human Services Building. Both the regional and championship tournaments consist of four rounds of competition, in which teams are required to perform twice as plaintiff and twice as defense.

The American Mock Trial Association hosts the competitions from February through April, alternating between a civil case and a criminal case each year. This year, teams are representing both sides of a civil case for wrongful termination. Each round must consist of three witnesses and three student attorneys, as well as one direct and one cross-examination.

Schlageter noted the benefits of participation on the team: “The mock trial experience is a value-creating activity open to all students regardless of major. Team members must demonstrate abilities to communicate meaningfully, persuasively and creatively to a jury. Communication students may learn how to speak effectively in public. Theatre students may learn how to perfect their craft playing the role of attorney or witness. Business students may learn how to give a persuasive presentation. Any student that desires to master the ability to communicate meaningfully, persuasively and creatively with different audiences through written, oral, numeric, graphic and visual modes would benefit greatly through mock trial.”

The Opening Round Championship will be held Friday through Sunday, March 24-26, in Hamilton, Ohio.

“I am very proud of the dedication and hard work exhibited by our team. Our team is committed to getting even better in preparation for the upcoming championship tournament,” Schlageter said. “These students bring back an understanding of the high regard our judicial system merits and the protection it affords all of our citizens.”

Open forum dates for vice provost candidates announced

Four finalists have been selected from a national search for a new vice provost for academic affairs.

They are:

- Dr. R. William Ayres IV, associate dean of the Graduate School at Wright State University in Dayton;
- Dr. Carlos Alberto Cunha, associate professor of political science at Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Mo.;
- Holly Monsos, associate dean of the UT College of Arts and Letters; and
- Dr. Cheryl B. Torsney, professor of English at the University of Texas at El Paso.

The UT campus community is invited to meet the candidates at open forums.

Listed by date, the open forums will be:

- Monday, March 13 — Cunha from 3 to 4 p.m. in Thompson Student Union Room 3018.

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New Distinguished University Lecturer honor established

Monday, March 20, is the deadline to submit nominations for the new Distinguished University Lecturer title.

“To honor and celebrate the many contributions of our lecturers to the teaching mission of The University of Toledo, the week of April 17 has been designated as Lecturer Appreciation Week,” said Dr. Jamie Barlowe, interim vice provost for faculty affairs and dean of the College of Arts and Letters.

The week will include a recognition event in Doermann Theater Thursday, April 20, from 4 to 6 p.m. followed by a reception.

At that event, faculty members who receive the new title of Distinguished University Lecturer will be honored.

“Those named Distinguished University Lecturer have earned recognition and distinction as educators, advancing student learning, facilitating and supporting student success, and demonstrating a commitment to the University’s educational mission,” Barlowe said.

The duration of the appointment as a Distinguished University Lecturer is unlimited, and the title may be retained after a lecturer has retired from UT, she added.

Eligible faculty for the designation are assistant and associate professors, and senior lecturers.

Nominations are requested from faculty, department chairs and program directors. Self-nominations will not be accepted.

Nominations must include a cover letter of no more than 500 words that summarizes why the candidate should be considered for the appointment; curriculum vitae; and a statement describing the person’s teaching philosophy.

Also required is evidence of teaching excellence — summaries of student teaching evaluations; listing of teaching, student service and student impact awards; examples of creativity and innovation in course development, teaching or assessment of student learning; and documentation of other exemplary teaching activities.

If applicable, nominations also may include evidence of participation in professional development activities, as well as committee membership or offices in professional organizations; information on community engagement through professional expertise as an educator with local, regional, state, national and/or global communities; and testimony of the collaborative exchange of ideas with colleagues in an effort to serve the needs of students and the University.

Nominations and accompanying materials should be sent to Camila Taormina, executive assistant, Office of the Provost, at camila.taormina@utoledo.edu.

Leading the way

President Sharon L. Gaber welcomed nearly 100 who attended the 2017 Toledo Women in Leadership Symposium March 8 in the Thompson Student Union Ingman Room. UT was one of 37 locations across the country that hosted a program presented by the National Diversity Council. The theme was “Be Fearless: Influence, Innovate and Inspire.” Dr. Michele Soliz, assistant vice president for student success and inclusion, represented the University and participated in a panel discussion on “The Difference ‘Difference’ Makes — Double Minority Leadership.” She talked about her experience as a Latina and as a successful leader, and touched on some barriers women of color face in power positions. Soliz also offered advice on how to be successful: participate in networking opportunities, learn from professional mentors, and support the next generation of women leaders.

In memoriam

Patricia A. (Eichenlaub) Kurek, Oak Harbor, Ohio, a former UT employee, died Feb. 21 at age 89.

Lloyd E. Rawlins, Tipton, Mich., who was an environmental engineer in Energy Management from 1985 until his retirement in 2010, died Feb. 21 at age 71.

Herbert Robinson Sr., Toledo, manager in Housekeeping at MCO from 1979 to 1996, died Feb. 25 at age 75.
Jennifer Perion, a doctoral student in the Health Education Program in the School of Population Health, received a student award from the Gerontological Society of America at its annual scientific meeting for her thesis topic on “The Effect of Friendship on Malignant Social Psychology in Persons With Dementia.”

Perion chose her topic after observing dementia firsthand as her grandmother passed away from it and her mother-in-law lives with the condition.

“I have observed social behaviors directed toward my mother-in-law that place her at a disadvantage and diminish her abilities,” Perion said. “I decided to research these negative behaviors and attempt to understand ways to overcome them. Friendship, which is voluntary in nature, offers opportunities for reciprocal exchanges that might help individuals feel more positive in their social interactions.”

For her research, Perion worked with the local Alzheimer’s Association, where she conducted face-to-face interviews with 10 individuals with dementia.

“I asked them about changes in their social relationships after memory loss. I then asked them about their friends and opportunities for reciprocal exchanges among their friendships,” Perion, a part-time instructor in the School of Population Health, said.

These interviews revealed five themes related to dementia and friendship, Perion said: recognizing the importance of longevity in friendship; helping one another is a normal part of friendship; feeling “alive” through the give and take in friendship; knowing somebody is there for them; and seeking security through friendship.

“A lot of focus is put on the medical and financial aspects of dementia care, but it is equally important to consider the quality of life experienced by these individuals,” Perion said. “These themes suggest that there are opportunities to improve the lives of persons with dementia by encouraging the continuation of existing friendships and providing fulfilling social experiences.”

Only five poster awards were given out by the Emerging Scholar and Professional Organization to Gerontological Society of America student members who had abstracts accepted for presentation at the conference.

“Receiving an award from an organization that is the driving force behind advancing innovation in aging — both domestically and internationally — is a great honor,” said Dr. Victoria Steiner, associate professor in the School of Population Health and assistant director of the Center for Successful Aging. “Jennifer’s research provides insight into ways to improve the well-being of the growing number of individuals with dementia in our country. It makes me proud as a faculty member to see one of my students excel in an area that she is passionate about.”

The Gerontological Society of America is the nation’s oldest and largest interdisciplinary organization devoted to research, education and practice in the field of aging.

**NATIONAL RECOGNITION:** Jennifer Perion, a doctoral student in the Health Education Program, received one of five poster awards given to Gerontological Society of America student members. She presented her research on “The Effect of Friendship on Malignant Social Psychology in Persons With Dementia” at the society’s annual scientific meeting.

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**Judges needed for Midwest Graduate Research Symposium**

Faculty and staff: Your expertise is requested at the Eighth Annual University of Toledo Graduate Student Association Midwest Graduate Research Symposium.

Judges are needed for presentations and a poster session at the event, which will take place Saturday, March 25, in the Memorial Field House and the Thompson Student Union.

Those knowledgeable in biology; biomedical sciences; chemistry; education; engineering; English; law; liberal arts and humanities; pharmacy; physics and astronomy; and social science are encouraged to sign up.

Faculty and staff may volunteer for one or more sessions with each lasting approximately two hours. A written judging sheet will be provided on the day of the event.

Anyone interested in judging may contact Alisa Nammovong at alisa.nammovong@rockets.utoledo.edu.

More than 60 universities have been invited to participate in the multidisciplinary symposium that provides graduate student researchers opportunities for collaboration, networking and professional development.

“The Midwest Graduate Research Symposium is an excellent opportunity for students to network, work on professional developmental skills, and receive constructive feedback on their presentations,” said Jessica Sherman, Graduate Student Association vice president.

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**Complete survey for chance to win prizes**

Freshmen and seniors: Check your emails for the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) College Student Report, and you may have a chance to win a $100 gift card to Barnes & Noble.

Through its survey, the NSSE gauges two important elements of student engagement: First, the amount of time and effort students put into their studies and other educational activities, as well as how the institution uses its resources and organizes its curriculum to foster student learning.

The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete. Last year, 560 universities and colleges answered questions for the NSSE.

Student participation in the survey at UT can have a direct impact on the student experience.

“The survey is important in that it will provide the University with an opportunity to access and learn about the overall student experience. Our No. 1 priority is implementing initiatives that will aid in student success,” said Dr. Phillip “Flapp” Cockrell, associate vice president for student affairs and dean of students. “Their feedback will aid the University in developing programs and services to contribute to their academic and social endeavors.”

Initial invitations, as well as two reminders, have already been sent to qualifying students. Once a student completes and submits a survey, their email is automatically removed from the reminder distribution list. The next reminder email will be sent on Monday, March 13, and the final notice will be sent Tuesday, March 21.
Partners Against Trafficking in Humans assists victims on path to recovery

By Ashley Diel

A $75,000 grant from the Toledo Community Foundation made to The University of Toledo will support the work of the Partners Against Trafficking in Humans Project.

The project aims to help move victims of human trafficking to survivors and survivors to thrivers through a coordinated, transparent and data-driven response, and is coordinated and overseen by the UT Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute.

Fanell Williams, project coordinator of Partners Against Trafficking in Humans in the UT School of Justice, said the project is based on a modified replica of the Pathways Model, which addresses the issue of Ohio’s infant mortality rate and works to improve birth outcomes in low-income, high-risk African-American mothers. This is also the first project in the nation to implement the Pathways Model to study a local community’s response to human trafficking.

“The goal of Partners Against Trafficking in Humans is to become an evidence-based model that can be used nationally for providing the best care coordination to assist victims of human trafficking on their path to recovery and restoration,” Williams said. “Creating a system of services that has the potential to restore individuals to the level of mental, emotional and physical well-being and economic stability they would have reached had they not been trafficked is a huge part of the vision.”

The project focuses on five main objectives: train professionals to increase their ability to identify and engage with victims of human trafficking and trafficked clients; provide highly trained care coordinators to effectively assess and intervene; produce high-quality individualized service plans and services that address individual needs; determine barriers and strengths and service delivery using a data-driven process of evaluation and response; and identify the continuum of care of victims to survivors and survivors to thrivers through continued data analysis and feedback.

Partners Against Trafficking in Humans has worked with several Lucas County organizations, including the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio, the Lucas County Human Trafficking Coalition, as well as numerous social service agencies that provide support, social, legal and health-care services.

According to Williams, local agencies can become approved partners by receiving training on human trafficking and/or trauma-informed care, signing a memorandum of understanding, and by providing a point of contact that will join the coalition and guide care coordinators and clients through their system of services.

Over the span of nine months, 800 professionals from criminal justice, health care, mental health and substance abuse, and various social services, have been trained on human trafficking, trauma-informed care, and the Partners Against Trafficking in Humans Model. The project is based in Lucas County, but will be expanded to other counties and states in the following years, according to Williams.

Through Partners Against Trafficking in Humans, 10 services have been identified as extremely beneficial for victims of human trafficking: trafficking education; legal; basic needs; injury, impairment and supports; mental health; services for dependents of clients; substance abuse treatment; support systems and life skills; empowerment; and health care.

“Partners Against Trafficking in Humans, in just the name, lets us know this is not a one person or one organization effort. This coordinated and collaborative response to human trafficking puts a mandate on local organizations to partner together to move a victim to survivor to thriver on her or his individual path of healing and recovery,” Williams said. “We know the cliché, ‘It takes a village to raise a child.’ It takes a community to work together in an organized manner to combat an issue while creating and sustaining positive change.”

Providing support

Charles Noble, who helped establish My Brother’s Keeper in Columbus, Ohio, was the keynote speaker at the My Brother’s Keeper summit March 9 in the Thompson Student Union Auditorium. Hosted by UT, the event brought together local service providers, elected officials and faith leaders to discuss ways to support African-American and Latino males in Lucas County. The My Brother’s Keeper Community Challenge encourages cities, towns and counties to implement a coherent cradle-to-college-and-career strategy for improving the life outcomes of all young people to ensure that they can reach their full potential, regardless of who they are, where they come from, or the circumstances into which they are born.

Planning UT’s future

Dr. Laurie Dinnebeil, Distinguished University Professor and chair of early childhood, higher education and special education, spoke at one of the recent discussion sessions to share what the strategic planning committee has defined as the major areas of focus for UT over the next five years. Dinnebeil is co-chair of the strategic planning committee. Focus areas include student success and academic excellence; research, scholarship and creative activities; faculty, staff and alumni; fiscal positioning and infrastructure; and reputation and engagement. The team also identified themes that cut across all of the focus areas: athletics; communications; community engagement; diversity and inclusion; fundraising; innovation; technology; and UT’s Health System.
KeyBank Global Leaders Forum at UT to focus on ‘Real Leadership’

By Bob Mackowiak

“Real Leadership 2017” is the theme of the KeyBank Global Leaders Forum, which will be presented by The University of Toledo College of Business and Innovation Thursday, March 23, from 8 a.m. to noon in Savage Arena.

The program provides an environment for regional business leaders to talk about contemporary issues, discuss cutting-edge leadership practices, and explore trends.

The keynote speaker will be Gary Pinkel, former head football coach at UT and the University of Missouri. Pinkel is special consultant to the University of Missouri and its Athletic Department.

The event is free, but registration is required. To sign up, go to utoledo.edu/business/keybankforum.

More than 600 people attended the forum last year.

Also presenting at this year’s event will be Charles Packard, president of Pacific International Capital; Cynthia Thompson, chair of the Toledo Museum of Art Board of Directors and former co-owner of Midwest Stamping; Michael Anderson, chairman of the Andersons; and Dr. Clint Longenecker, UT Distinguished University Professor and director of the Center for Leadership and Organizational Excellence in the UT College of Business and Innovation.

“The KeyBank Global Leaders Forum provides a wonderful opportunity for area business professionals and leaders to hear from difference-making leaders such as Gary Pinkel, Cynthia Thompson, Michael Anderson and Charles Packard,” Jim Hoffman, president of KeyBank, said. “It is part of our vision at KeyBank to help our community and our businesses thrive.”

“The University of Toledo College of Business and Innovation is extremely pleased to again partner with KeyBank to present another Global Leaders Forum,” said Dr. Gary Insch, dean of the College of Business and Innovation. “Last year’s event was remarkable, and we are excited to stage another one this year so that hundreds of area professionals, as well as many UT students, will have an outstanding opportunity to learn, network and benefit from the presentations and discussions at this unique event.”

“As leaders are attempting to deal with the challenges of this turbulent economic environment, this event is a great way to discover new ideas for becoming a better leader and creating competitive advantage with people,” Longenecker said. “We invite them to come, be ready to learn, and be in a better position to make 2017 a great year.”

In 2008, KeyBank and the UT College of Business and Innovation presented the first Global Leaders Forum, which featured former Secretary of the U.S. Treasury

Bankruptcy for troubled cities, states topic of Stranahan National Issues Forum March 16

By Kirsten M. Winek

In the past several years, many of the largest U.S. cities and states have faced financial crises that have caused them to consider declaring bankruptcy. The city of Detroit declared bankruptcy in 2013, while Puerto Rico, a U.S. territory with a current debt of $70 billion, has no access to this remedy.

David A. Skeel, the S. Samuel Arsh Professor of Corporate Law at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, will address municipal and state bankruptcy as well as its causes and solutions, as part of the UT College of Law’s Stranahan National Issues Forum. His lecture titled “When is Bankruptcy the Answer for Troubled Cities and States?” will be held Thursday, March 16, at noon in the Law Center McQuade Law Auditorium.

Skeel will identify the extent of governmental indebtedness and its many causes. He then will explain current avenues — and obstacles — within the bankruptcy code for municipal and state bankruptcy, drawing upon his experience as one of five members of the federally appointed board overseeing Puerto Rico’s debt crisis.

“Professor Skeel is one of the nation’s leading experts on bankruptcy having written, among many other pieces of scholarship, the definitive history of bankruptcy law in the United States,” UT Law Professor Lee J. Strang said. “We’re delighted Professor Skeel is delivering this spring’s Stranahan Lecture because he will shed light on not just the Detroit bankruptcy, but also other potential municipal and state bankruptcies. Professor Skeel’s lecture is sure to spark debate and conversation.”


The free, public lecture is a part of the Stranahan National Issues Forum and is sponsored by the UT College of Law and its chapter of the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies.

Open forum dates

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- Wednesday, March 15 — Tornsey from 2:45 to 3:45 p.m. in Thompson Student Union Room 2584.
- Monday, March 20 — Monsos from 2:45 to 3:45 p.m. in Thompson Student Union Room 3018.
- Wednesday, March 22 — Ayres from 3 to 4 p.m. in Thompson Student Union Room 3018.

Vitae are available for candidates at utoledo.edu/offices/provost/search-vice-provost-academic-affair.

Responsibilities of the vice provost for academic affairs include assisting colleges in curriculum and degree design; working closely with deans and administrators as relates to educational policy and enrollments; partnering with enrollment management and college leadership to meet enrollment goals; overseeing the University accreditation and program review processes, as well as faculty assessment activities; and assisting with strategic planning efforts.
Rocket Wheels Mass Ride to pedal off March 21

By Madison Vasko

As spring weather makes its way back to campus, students are beginning to spend more time outside. Suddenly, that walk to Rocket Hall from Carlson Library doesn’t seem as miserable as it did in the winter.

For those who may not prefer to walk everywhere, however, another option exists. Rocket Wheels bike sharing program offers UT students and employees an alternative to trekking across campus and looking for parking spots. The program designed by Facilities and Construction will return for spring starting Monday, March 13.

“It is free and easy to use. Current students, faculty and staff can sign up online on the bike share website and check out a bike that day as long as the ID is valid,” said Diana Watts, UT transit and Rocket Wheels bike share coordinator. “It’s a healthy way to get around campus. Most campus buildings have bike racks very close to an entrance; it’s better than circling around for the nearest parking spot.”

The addition of the Ritter bike share station last fall provided improvement to Rocket Wheels, as now there is a station at every corner of campus, she said.

“Those who are in the parking garages, Rocket Hall Lot 25, and engineering lots 19 and 20 will find a station nearby where they can cross campus in less than five minutes,” Watts said.

So many improvements have been made at UT that it recently was named a Bicycle Friendly University by the League of American Bicyclists. The effort to obtain this designation was spearheaded by Neil Tabor, a former sustainability specialist for UT; Thomas Garey, facilities information systems manager; and Watts.

“From a sustainability perspective, bicycling reduces emissions, contributes to a healthy lifestyle, and saves on fuel costs. All of these things help to further the triple bottom line philosophy sustainability is defined by,” Tabor said. “I hope that this recognition will foster more attention for bicycling efforts at UT and highlight resources already available to students.”

Watts highlighted the new features that make borrowing bikes easier than ever: “Users will notice we no longer are using the large vending-type machines. The machines are now key boxes with a swipe access. The user can select a bike number on the screen, and the key area will light up, and the door will make a sound for the user to open. The keys can be returned to any location now. All you have to do is hold the key up to the scanner and the door will unlock. The user then returns the key back to the slot that is lit up. You don’t even have to swipe your card to return a bike.”

As far as bike safety is concerned, Watts added: “We would like everyone to follow the rules of the road and wear a helmet for protection. The Campus Safety Committee would like to remind everyone to lock bikes up at designated racks and corrals on campus. Please do not block walkways or doorway areas with locked bikes that may prevent accessibility to persons with disabilities.”

Signing up for the bike share program takes only seconds and can be done at bikeshare.utoledo.edu. Those with a valid UT ID need their username and password to enroll.

To celebrate the return of the program, students and employees are invited to attend the Rocket Wheels Mass Ride Tuesday, March 21, from noon to 1:30 p.m.

The ride will begin at the Rocket Hall bike share station. Thirty bicycles will be available to check out for those enrolled in Rocket Wheels, and participants may bring their own bikes to ride as well. The ride will end at the “Q” in the Flatlands around 12:45 p.m.

In addition to the ride, free food will be offered, and prizes will be raffled to those in attendance.

“We will have a refurbished bike to be raffled off from Rocket ReCycle, and we will also give away some free water bottles from the Sustainability, Energy Efficiency and Design initiative on campus. We hope to get some more donations from other bike vendors from around the Toledo area,” Watts said.

For more information on Rocket Wheels, visit utoledo.edu/rocket-wheels.
UT professor to discuss ‘Muslims in America: Where Do We Go From Here?’

By Christine Billau

“Muslims in America: Where Do We Go From Here?” is the topic of the annual Imam Khattab Lecture on Islamic Thought by Dr. Ovamir Anjum, UT Imam Khattab Endowed Chair of Islamic Studies.

The free, public lecture will take place Wednesday, March 15, at 7 p.m. in the Driscoll Alumni Center Auditorium.

“The talk will address the multiple challenges and threats Muslims in America face in the new political climate,” Anjum said. “Most American Muslims have no ‘back home’ to which they can go. The majority of Muslims in America are American citizens. Many are born here and have no substantial ties to another country. Nearly half are African-American, and a growing minority are Caucasian and Latin-American.”

The lecture is part of the UT Center for Religious Understanding’s annual lecture series, which has been active for more than a decade. The center promotes a deeper understanding of religion on campus and throughout greater Toledo.

“The new political climate has increased threats to Muslims in America significantly, but keep in mind that Islamophobia has been at an all-time high for several years now,” Anjum said. “What it also has done is brought these threats into the limelight — at least temporarily — and that is an opportunity to educate. These threats are significant, but the greatest threats come from within. The American Muslim community is a microcosm of the American society, and the rifts that threaten its thriving are those of racial tensions, economic inequality, inter-generational rupture, and breakdown of family and community. The lecture will invoke historical and contemporary examples to inspire hope for intellectual and social action.”

Tickets are required for the event. RSVP at cfru.eventbrite.com.

Last year’s Imam Khattab Lecture on Islamic Thought given by Anjum was titled “Is ISIS Islamic?”
Student recognized by UTPD for helping lost dog

By Ashley Diel

Miranda Dziobak, third-year biochemistry student, has received The University of Toledo Police Department challenge coin.

The UTPD challenge coin is given to citizens who go the extra mile to help someone in need.

On Dec. 24, Dziobak was driving home from her job at Helzberg Diamonds. She was taking Talmadge Road when she saw a strange dark lump in the street. After stopping her car to investigate, she found that it was a small, tan lap dog named Gizmo.

Dziobak attempted calling the number on the dog tag several times, but with no response. She took the dog home for a little while before deciding to take him to the UTPD.

“I honestly just didn’t know where else to take him besides the police station,” Dziobak said. “I really didn’t want to see him go to a shelter because he was seriously so sweet.”

With the help of UT Police Dispatcher Kendra Ries, Gizmo’s pet sitter, Dr. Paul Schaefer, associate professor and assistant dean for student affairs in the College of Medicine and Life Sciences, was contacted.

“I can say that after a lot of panicked searching, hearing from the UT Police that they in fact had Gizmo and he was safe and sound was a moment of true grace,” Schaefer said. “The relief was tremendous as it very much felt like there was going to be a bad ending to this story.”

DECKED OUT: It was a happy holiday for Gizmo, who was found by UT student Miranda Dziobak Dec. 24 and returned to the pet sitter.

“We are so grateful that [Dziobak] stopped and saved our silly little dog,” owner Stephanie Scigliano said. “He’s always up for an adventure.”

Dziobak said she wanted to help the dog since she is a huge animal lover and did not want someone to hit him.

“It’s hard to say what the award means to me. I wasn’t expecting anything out of this,” Dziobak said. “I guess it’s nice because it means someone else cares about something that’s really important to me. It’s a restoring-my-faith-in-humanity kind of feeling.”

Ries was impressed with the concern Dziobak expressed over the welfare of the dog and the lengths she went to help.

“She is a breath of fresh air that put Gizmo’s safety and happiness first,” Ries said. “The University should be honored to have students like Ms. Dziobak and should praise her for her actions.”

Easy as Pi: Math Department invites UT to celebrate Pi Day March 14

By Madison Vasko

Worldwide Pi Day celebrations have been bringing mathematicians and math appreciators alike together for decades.

“Not only is pi an important mathematical constant, but pie is also a great reason for people to get together for fun,” said Dr. Donald B. White, professor and chair in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

Pi Day, observed March 14 to recognize the first three digits of the pi constant, is marked by the eating of pie and discussing the significance of pi in mathematics. More than 13 trillion digits of pi have been calculated so far, though only 39 digits are needed to perform most cosmological calculations.

This year, the celebration at UT holds extra significance: “Pi, our centennial celebration year, and Women’s History Month, all in one,” White explained. “For all of 2017, we are celebrating 100 years as a Department of Mathematics, and recently Statistics, and for Pi Day, we hope to have 100 pies. Also, for the Women’s History Month of March, watch the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics’ TV screens for highlights of women who have been great mathematicians and statisticians.”

Attendees can join faculty, staff and students from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics for slices of pizza and dessert on Pi Day, Tuesday, March 14, from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in University Hall Room 2060. The event is free and open to all — while slices last.

After the Pi Day treats, Dr. Nate Iverson, lecturer in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, will present a lecture, “Circumference Over Diameter; the Different Universes of Pi.”

Iverson’s lecture will be at 4 p.m. in University Hall Room 4010. For more information on the lecture, visit the Math Department’s website at math.utoledo.edu/colloquia.html and check out facebook.com/utmath.
Drug Free Action Alliance awards UT grant for effort to raise smoking age

By Christine Billau

The University of Toledo received a $2,500 grant from the Drug Free Action Alliance with funding from the Ohio Department of Mental and Health Addiction Services as part of the PUSH4Prevention Community Stipend.

Dr. Tavis Glassman, associate professor in the School of Population Health, is one of nine recipients across the state out of several dozen applicants that will use the funds to implement or enhance prevention programs in their communities.

He was awarded the grant to advocate for the adoption of a citywide ordinance restricting the purchase of tobacco products to those ages 21 and older through a social norms campaign and summit.

“We are excited to be a part of a national movement to reduce tobacco use in our youth,” Dr. Amy Thompson, health education professor and co-director of the UT Center for Health and Successful Living, said. “The goal of Tobacco 21 policies is to keep today’s young people from being the next generation of smokers so they can live longer and healthier lives.”

Other recipients are the Wood County Prevention Coalition, Wright State University, the University of Cincinnati, Ohio Northern University, the Fayette County Prevention Coalition, Drug and Alcohol Prevention and Awareness of Morrow County, CIRCLE Coalition of Wayne County, and Community Action for Capable Youth in Richland County.

“We had many great applications, and I know that the recipients will do an excellent job of reducing substance misuse in their communities,” Marcie Seidel, executive director of the Drug Free Action Alliance, said.

Safe place training to be offered March 18

The Safe Place program in the Office of Multicultural Student Success is seeking individuals who are interested in providing Safe Place training to faculty, staff and students.

“A Safe Place is a confidential place where people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer or questioning can feel safe, welcome and included,” said Dr. Michele Soliz, assistant vice president for student success and inclusion. “These places are free from homophobia, transphobia and heterosexism.”

Those interested in learning how to provide Safe Place training can attend a session Saturday, March 18, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Register for the session by contacting the Office of Multicultural Student Success at omss@utoledo.edu.

“Our goal is to create an inclusive climate where every person can thrive and learn, and safe places are essential to that end,” Soliz said.

‘Partners for Healthy Women’ to focus on knowledge and empowerment

By Madison Vasko

For many women, life can sometimes get in the way of taking care of both physical and mental health. Whether it’s building a career or raising a family, it can seem like there’s always something in the way of taking time for themselves.

Women 30 and older are invited to attend the Partners for Healthy Women Conference, sponsored by St. Luke’s Hospital, Susan G. Komen Northwest Ohio, and the UT Center for Health and Successful Living, located on Main Campus.

“The purpose of this event is to equip women with knowledge that will empower them to live healthier lives. We want to improve the health, wellness and quality of life of all women living in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan,” said Dr. Tim Jordan, professor in the School of Population Health and executive co-director of the Center for Health and Successful Living.

“We want each woman in attendance to walk away with new knowledge, new inspiration and new motivation to put into practice those things that they learn at this conference.”

Jordan explained how the topics being addressed relate to women in this age group: “We have chosen topics that touch on some of the most prevalent and pressing health issues for women over 30, including heart disease, cancer, menopause, diabetes, physical activity and living with loss.”

The conference will take place Saturday, March 18, in St. Luke’s Hospital Auditorium. Sign in and breakfast will begin at 8:15 a.m. Sessions will run from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. A variety of health vendors also will be present to offer free health screenings. Special guest speakers from The University of Toledo will be Jordan; Dr. Amy Thompson, professor in the School of Population Health and co-director of the Center for Health and Successful Living; and Kerri Knippen, registered dietitian and nutrition instructor.

Registration is required in advance. Sign in for the event will be at 8:15 a.m., with the session running from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Cost to attend is $10 and includes a continental breakfast as well as a catered lunch.

To register, call 419.897.8484 or send an email to contactus@stlukeshospital.com.

“Women’s health issues should be a priority for all of us,” Jordan said. “Considering the prominent roles that women play in society and in our families, it is very important that women are equipped with accurate health knowledge that will help them to improve their own health and also the health of their friends and family members.”
‘Women in Politics’ discussion to focus on local leaders March 14

By Madison Vasko

In honor of Women’s History Month, Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson and Lucas County Auditor Anita Lopez will share their stories — and roadblocks — to becoming female politicians. “Women in Politics” will be held Tuesday, March 14, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Libbey Hall Dining Room.

“Both of the speakers are excellent examples of local women who have persevered to become leaders in the community. They are making history as we speak,” said Jennifer Pizio, associate director for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

Hicks-Hudson, the first African-American woman to be mayor of Toledo, and Lopez will be speakers at this month’s Dialogues on Diversity and Inclusion event, hosted by the Office of Diversity and Inclusion in collaboration with the Office of Multicultural Student Success.

Pizio explained the purpose of the Dialogues on Diversity and Inclusion: “In an effort to create a more inclusive University, staff of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion host a series of free events focused on exploring, analyzing and fostering a diverse environment throughout the UT community.”

In addition to talking about their personal experiences, the speakers will lead a discussion on how to respect differing perspectives, appreciate individuality, and develop a more welcoming community on and off campus.

“I would encourage anyone who is interested in politics, leadership and/or women’s issues to attend,” Pizio said. “It will be a great opportunity to hear firsthand from local female political leaders in an intimate setting, one that includes the opportunity to ask questions.”

For more information on upcoming Dialogues on Diversity and Inclusion, visit utoledo.edu/diversity/dialogues. Join the discussion on social media at #INCLUSIVEU.
Real Leadership 2017

GARY PINKEL
Former head football coach, University of Toledo and University of Missouri, special consultant to the University of Missouri and its Athletic Department

The KeyBank Global Leaders Forum presented by The University of Toledo College of Business and Innovation

Thursday, March 23, 2017
Savage Arena, The University of Toledo

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2017
8 a.m.  Registration and networking continental breakfast
8:30 a.m.  Welcome, Jim Hoffman President, KeyBank and Dr. Gary Insch, Dean, UT COBI
8:40 a.m.  Power Networking
9 a.m.  Leadership Career Success, Dr. Longenecker
9:30 a.m.  Senior Leader Panel Discussion: with Mr. Packard, Mr. Anderson, and Ms. Thompson
10:30  Networking Break
10:45 a.m.  Keynote Address: Gary Pinkel
12 p.m.  Adjournment

Experience this unique and exhilarating free event and emerge from the best morning of 2017 enhancing, empowering, engaging and executing your leadership skills!

Registration is required. Register online at utoledo.edu/business/keybankforum

 Convenient event parking will be available.
Art by UT students in spotlight at juried exhibition

More than 30 works of art by UT students are on display in the 2017 Juried Student Exhibition in the Center for the Visual Arts Gallery on the University’s Toledo Museum of Art Campus.

An opening reception and award ceremony will take place Thursday, March 16, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the gallery.

This year’s juror is Clara DeGalan, who was born and raised in Detroit. She attended the Detroit High School for the Fine and Performing Arts, earned a bachelor of fine arts degree at the University of Michigan, and a master of fine arts degree in painting at Wayne State University. She teaches drawing and painting at Wayne State University and Madonna University, and writes art criticism for Detroit Art Review and InfiniteMile Detroit.

The awards ceremony will coincide with the Arts Commission 3rd Thursday Loop as the Center for the Visual Arts is one of the galleries on the route.

The free, public exhibit will be on display through Friday, March 24. Gallery hours are Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

For more information, email brian.carpenter@utoledo.edu.

Flutist to present master class March 15

By Angela Riddel

Internationally renowned flutist William Bennett will visit the UT Music Department Wednesday, March 15 to present a master class.

The free, public event will be held at 7 p.m. in the Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall.

Students performing in the master class have been selected.

Joel Tse, an instructor in flute at the University and principal flute for the Toledo Symphony Orchestra, studied under Bennett.

“He is truly amazing, and I am glad our students and the public will have the chance to meet him and learn from him.”

In addition to recording the standard flute repertoire of Bach, Handel, Vivaldi and Mozart, Bennett has made pioneer recordings of many neglected 19th century works, such as music by Ries, Romberg and Taffanel. He also has recorded with artists such as Jimi Hendrix and Wynton Marsalis. He has made more than 100 discs as a soloist.

He premiered the Concerto by William Mathias, the Concerto by Diana Burrell, and the Concerto for Flute and Orchestra by Venezuelan composer Raymund Pineda. Each of these was specially written for him.

Bennett has been principal flute in many orchestras, including the London Symphony, the Academy of St Martin in the Fields and the English Chamber Orchestra.

He has been professor of flute in the Freiburg Hochschule of Music in Germany, and he teaches at the Royal Academy of Music in London.

In addition to making a balalaika and a guitar while in school, he has made and improved flutes from an early age and has done a lot of work on refining the tuning of the flute; several makers in the world now manufacture flutes on the “William Bennett Scale.”
Pharmacy camps to prepare high school students for future careers

By Madison Vasko

Do you know a high school student with a strong academic background in science, who is considering a career in pharmacy? If so, the UT College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is offering the Pharmacy Summer Camp, sponsored by Walgreens, or the Shimazu Pharmaceutical Science Camp, sponsored by Shimadzu and supported by Amway.

The camps are targeted at juniors, but both sophomores and seniors may apply. The focus of the camps is to teach high school students more about their potential occupations through interactive and hands-on activities.

“We hope students learn about careers in pharmacy, and we encourage them to follow through on their goals,” said José Treviño, director of transfer services and recruitment for the College of Pharmacy. “The College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences currently employs three faculty members who started their careers by attending our pharmacy camps.”

Programming for the four-day camps includes professional job shadowing, pharmaceutical science and formulation labs, faculty presentations, and student and career panels. When they are not learning about pharmacy, campers can spend their free time at the Student Recreation Center and touring the UT campus with camp counselors, who are pharmacy students.

The summer camp $400 fee covers all room and meal expenses, a T-shirt and backpack, as well as the camp programming. Those who demonstrate financial need may apply for assistance, the details of which are provided on the camp’s webpage.

The Pharmacy Summer camp sponsored by Walgreens will hold two sessions:

• Sunday, June 11, through Wednesday June 14, and
• Sunday, June 18, through Wednesday June 21.

The Shimazu Pharmaceutical Science Camp will take place:

• Sunday, June 18, through Wednesday June 21.

For more information about the camps and for the application, visit utoledo.edu/pharmacy/prospective/summercamp/index.html.
Artist to speak on portraiture and disability March 13

The Disability Studies Program and the School of Visual and Performing Arts will present acclaimed artist and writer Riva Lehrer Monday, March 13, at 6 p.m. in University Hall Room 4410.

Lehrer, whose work has been exhibited at the National Portrait Gallery and the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C., will speak on “Presence and Absence: The Paradox of Disability and Portraiture.”

Her interest in this subject comes from living with a visible disability, “Being stared at, and looking back, has colored my work for 20 years,” she said in a 2016 interview. “Most of my collaborators have been people with impairments, visible or not. Some have no impairments but qualify for other reasons. We start with long interviews, in order to get a strong narrative sense of the relationship between their body and their life.”

“Riva Lehrer’s award-winning work focuses on issues of physical identity and the socially challenged body,” Dr. Jim Ferris, professor and Ability Center Chair in Disability Studies, said. “She is best known for representations of people with impairments, and those whose sexuality and/or gender identity have long been a subject of stigma.”

Lehrer’s work has been exhibited at the United Nations, the Armot Museum, the DeCordova Museum, the Frye Museum, the Chicago Cultural Center, and the State of Illinois Museum. She has received awards from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Illinois Arts Council.

Lehrer’s free, public talk is co-sponsored by the Department of Art. Individuals needing access accommodations may call 419.530.7244.

Match Day

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years training in their chosen specialty, from anesthesiology to general surgery to pediatrics. The 2017 Residency Match Reception will begin at 11 a.m. with the envelope-opening ceremony precisely at noon. The event is invitation-only because space is limited.

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

Residents are licensed physicians who care for patients under the supervision of attending physicians and represent the medical workforce of tomorrow.

Winners announced for 2017 Shapiro Essay Revision Contest

On its 28th anniversary, the participants of the 2017 Shapiro Essay Revision Contest went head to head for one of the 15 cash prizes.

“Over the past 10 years, the participation in this contest has grown from 100 students to 200 participants with an increase in contestants every year,” said Dr. Deborah Coulter-Harris, senior lecturer in the UT Department of English Language and Literature, and director of the contest for the 10th year.

This year, the winners are:

- Celine Schreidah, sophomore biochemistry major, $500;
- Judy Daboul, senior biology major, $400;
- Isabel Abu-Asbi, sophomore global studies major, $300;
- Dustin Johnson, senior chemical engineering major, $200;
- Colleen Anderson, junior paralegal studies major, $100;
- Logan Brooker, freshman pharmacy major, $75;
- Amy Beerbower, freshman nursing major, $75;
- Patrick Dillon, freshman finance major, $75;
- Allison Fair, sophomore adolescent and young education major, $75;
- Matthew Goldman, junior film/video major, $75;
- Riley Goodell, freshman mechanical engineering major, $75;
- Jenna Lykins, senior bioengineering major, $75;
- David Morris, freshman exercise science major, $75;
- Jacob Watson, freshman civil engineering major, $75; and
- Philip Zaborowski, junior English major, $75.

Winners of the competition will be invited to attend the Shapiro Festival gala in April.

“Dr. Sara Lundquist, Dr. Anthony Edgington, and I are so heartened and pleased that so many students entered the contest represented a great variety of academic disciplines and departments across campus,” Coulter-Harris said. “Accurate, strong, creative and analytic writing is at the forefront of all academic research and expression.”

Lundquist is associate professor and chair of English, and Edgington is associate professor of English and director of the Composition Program.

Named after Dr. Edward Shapiro, professor emeritus of economics, the Shapiro Essay Revision contest seeks to recognize students for the craft of good writing. Prize money from the contest helps to defer the cost of tuition, fees and books for UT students.
Women's History Month
March 2017

For a list of events go to utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/omss

For more information, contact the Office of Multicultural Student Success at 419.530.2261