President discusses accomplishments, challenges in address

By Christine Wasserman

More than 600 faculty, staff, students and community members attended Dr. Sharon L. Gaber’s first state of the university address April 5 in the Thompson Student Union Auditorium, 22 months after she joined The University of Toledo as its 17th president.

In her address, Gaber outlined the significant progress the University has made, while also detailing major challenges and offering her vision of where UT will be in the next five to 10 years.

Chief among the accomplishments she mentioned were building on UT’s fundamentals through the establishment of five overarching goals, which are being addressed through four plans — a diversity plan, enrollment plan, multiple-campus master plan and the strategic plan.

Gaber praised $50 million in savings — 13 percent of the general fund budget — achieved through spending reductions, new revenue and cost avoidance. She also applauded the University’s fundraising efforts, already up by 69 percent this year — a nine-year high that totals more than $17.2 million year to date.

Further, the president lauded UT’s researchers. Last month, Gaber formally recognized researchers who have received external funding greater than $1 million. This year, new competitive research awards already are 45 percent higher than the previous year, and research opportunities for undergraduate students are expanding.

In addition to noting myriad accomplishments, Gaber addressed the significant fiscal challenges the University faces, in part due to an additional two-year tuition freeze proposed by the state, along with Gov. Kasich’s suggestion that Ohio’s public universities also may be required with Gov. Kasich’s suggestion that Ohio’s public universities also may be required.

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Brennan’s appearance in the Glass Bowl during UT’s first outdoor commencement ceremony in years is poignant because she attended football games in the historic stadium with her father.

Brennan earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism. A staunch advocate for female journalists in a male-oriented profession, she was the first female sports reporter for the Miami Herald. Later hired by The Washington Post, she was the first woman to cover the Washington Redskins as a staff writer for the newspaper.

She went on to cover some of the most controversial subjects in sports. Her USA Today column regarding the male-only member policy at Augusta National Golf Club in 2002 triggered a vigorous national debate. Ten years later, Brennan broke the news that Augusta had revised its policy to include women members.

Iconic journalist comes home to deliver commencement address May 7

By Kim Goodin

Toledo native Christine Brennan, award-winning national columnist, commentator and best-selling author, will present the keynote address during UT’s spring commencement ceremony Sunday, May 7, at 10 a.m. in the Glass Bowl on Main Campus.

Brennan will address 2,906 candidates for degrees: 236 doctoral, 681 master’s, 1,932 bachelor’s and 57 associate’s.

The ceremony is open to the public and can be viewed live at video.utoledo.edu.

Brennan, 58, grew up in Toledo’s Old Orchard area and Ottawa Hills during the 1960s, when few athletic opportunities existed for girls. As a child, she often asked for sports equipment and tickets to local athletic events, including UT Rockets and Toledo Mud Hens games, pored over box scores, and listened to sports on the radio.

“We’re proud to welcome a true trailblazer for women back as our commencement speaker,” UT President Sharon L. Gaber said. “When Christine entered the world of sports reporting, female journalists weren’t even allowed in men’s locker rooms. Now, 35 years later, she is one of the most respected journalists in sports reporting.”

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UT president creates task force on sexual assault awareness and prevention

By Christine Billau

University of Toledo President Sharon L. Gaber has created an ad hoc task force on sexual assault awareness and prevention to compare UT’s practices and policies to best practices at other universities.

Dr. Amy Thompson, health education professor and co-director of the UT Center for Health and Successful Living, and Valerie Walston, associate vice president for student affairs and director of residence life, will co-chair the committee.

“Student safety is a top priority, and we will continue enforcing zero tolerance of any type of abuse,” Gaber said. “We have an outstanding university, and I want to make sure that we are doing all we can to educate, inform, prevent and adjudicate.”
to cover textbook costs totaling more than $300, which would cost UT an estimated $14 million annually.

Several cost-saving measures already have been implemented to help address fiscal challenges, based on faculty, staff and student input. “However, further action should be expected, and these won’t be easy decisions,” she stated.

The president also made several announcements, including that UT soon will finish an economic impact study that will demonstrate its key role in generating income, developing human capital, and supporting the region’s economy.

Gaber also announced that mandatory Title IX and ethics training for staff and faculty will begin in July, and the University is creating an ad hoc task force on sexual assault awareness and prevention. “Student safety is a top priority,” she said.

Answering the question of where UT should be in the next decade or less, the president said she envisions UT becoming a much more formidable, comprehensive public research university, not only ranking higher nationally, but also becoming the postsecondary anchor institution in the northern part of the state.

Referring to UT as an “institution of opportunity,” she stated, “What a UT education promises the daughters and sons of plant workers and store clerks is that they can one day manage the plant. They can own the store if they want to. They can build the career of their choice. And they can lead.”

Said Mary Humphrys, president of Faculty Senate and associate professor of applied organizational technology, “In her brief time here, Dr. Gaber has created a culture of collaboration and shared governance that has set the foundation for a successful future.

“She understands the importance of providing the best possible educational experience for our students. I’m sure UT will continue gaining momentum under her strong leadership.”

Throughout the address, Gaber acknowledged several students, faculty and staff members by name for their excellence in research, commitment to improving student services, and community service.

“I think this shows how approachable she is,” said Joey Leech, a senior majoring in civil engineering, who was acknowledged by Gaber for his role as director of the Big Event. “I’m impressed that she’s so visible around campus and that she recognizes all the great work that students and others are doing.”

Immediately following the state of the university address, participants were invited to a complimentary ice cream social, while posting their ideas for continued transformation on large posters located throughout the auditorium.

The state of the university address may be viewed at https://youtu.be/G9Grw3yIeak.
Vice provost named

Dr. R. William Ayres IV, associate dean of the Graduate School at Wright State University in Dayton, has been named UT’s new vice provost for academic affairs.

“We are happy to have Dr. Ayres come on board,” Dr. Andrew Hsu, provost and executive president for academic affairs, said. “With his experience as an academic leader, he will help us reach new levels of success.”

“I am very excited to join The University of Toledo,” Ayres said. “I look forward to working with Provost Hsu and supporting faculty in their academic life and getting to know their programs.”

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 academic programs; partnering with enrollment management and college leadership to meet enrollment goals; and assisting with strategic planning efforts.

Ayres has served as associate dean of the Graduate School at Wright State since 2013 and as interim dean for one year. Prior to that, he was assistant dean of the school from 2010 to 2013.

Before moving to Ohio, he worked as director of the Center for Global Citizenship at Elizabethtown College in Elizabethtown, Pa., where Ayres was an associate professor of international relations from 2006 to 2010. He spent eight years at the University of Indianapolis as an assistant professor of history and political science from 1999 to 2003 and was promoted to associate professor in 2004. In 2000, he founded the UI International Relations Program and served as its director for six years.

Ayres also was a visiting assistant professor of political science at the University of Mississippi in Oxford from 1998 to 1999 and at St. Mary’s College of Maryland in St. Mary’s from 1997 to 1998.

He is the co-author of two books, “For Kin or Country: Xenophobia, Nationalism and War (2008 with Stephen Saidman)” and “Carry a Chicken in Your Lap, or Whatever It Takes to Globalize Your Business (2009 with Bruce Alan Johnson),” and the author of numerous peer-reviewed journal articles.

Ayres received doctoral and master’s degrees in political science from Ohio State University in 1997 and 1994, respectively, and a bachelor of arts degree in political science from Williams College in 1991. He also completed a management development program at the Harvard Institutes for Higher Education.

AVP for auxiliaries joins staff

Bonnie D. Murphy started her job at the University as associate vice president for auxiliaries March 27.

She oversees service providers for parking, dining services (including catering and vending), transportation, Rocket Wireless, copy center, residence halls, students’ Rocket Card and the child care center, as well as retail operations, including the Barnes & Noble University Bookstore and Rocky’s Locker.

“Responsibility for these services were in different departments, and we believe there is opportunity to operate them more efficiently under one umbrella,” said Larry Kelley, executive vice president for finance and administration, and chief financial officer. “Bonnie has nearly 30 years of experience in similar roles at other universities, as well as in retail management, and we are excited about the contribution she will make at UT.”

“I am looking forward to learning more about UT and building this new organization,” Murphy said. “My past experience tells me that there are likely linkages between these seemingly disparate services that we can tap into for the benefit of all.”

She was associate vice president of commercial services and executive director of Cal Poly Corp. at the California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo from 2007 to 2014. Murphy also worked at Georgia State University in Atlanta as director of auxiliary enterprises from 1995 to 2000.

Her memberships include the National Association of College Auxiliary Services, the Auxiliary Organizations Association, the National Association of College and University Food Services, and the National Association of College Stores.

Murphy received a bachelor of arts degree in business and commerce from Oglethorpe University in Atlanta and a master of business administration degree in marketing from Mercer University’s Stetson School of Business in Atlanta. She holds a certified auxiliary services professional certification from the National Association of College Auxiliary Services.

Outstanding Awards Reception slated for April 17

The UT Outstanding Awards Reception will take place Monday, April 17, at 5:30 p.m. in the Thompson Student Union Ingman Room.

Awards for outstanding advising, research and scholarship, and teaching will be presented, and the recipients of the Edith Rathbun Outreach and Engagement Excellence Award will be recognized.

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UT employees may schedule graduate photos

Faculty and staff or members of their families who will graduate from UT this semester may contact the University Marketing and Communications Office if they wish to have a photo taken and published in UT News.

Call Joanne Gray at 419.530.5157 to schedule an appointment before Wednesday, May 10.

Photos will appear in an upcoming issue of the paper.

In memoriam

Bruce M. “Bruno” Hankins, Pemberville, Ohio, died April 3 at age 81. A successful insurance salesman, he lectured at the University.

Rosemary F. Kwiatkowski, Toledo, a member of the Satellites Auxiliary who volunteered in the Orthopaedic Department, died April 2 at age 76.

Wendell B. “Wendy” Lawrence, Toledo, who worked at MCO from 1980 until his retirement in 1993, died March 31 at age 91. Over the years, he was director of cardiac rehabilitation and manager of fitness at the Morse Center.
2017 Pacemaker Awards honor local entrepreneur, outstanding business students

By Bob Mackowiak

The College of Business and Innovation and the Business Engagement and Leadership Council recognized business and academic excellence during their 54th annual Pacemaker Awards April 7 at the Inverness Club.

Receiving the 2017 Business Pacemaker Award was Brent L. Cousino, acting chief operating officer and chief financial officer for VentureMed Group. VentureMed is a medical device startup company based at ProMedica Innovations in Toledo. Its first product was approved by the FDA last year, and sales have begun in Europe and the United States.

He is also CEO of Browning Cousineau Corp., a private advisory firm founded in 2012 focused in the health-care industry. He serves on the advisory board of Principle Business Enterprises in Bowling Green. From 2012 to 2015, he was CEO of IRISense LLC, a biomedical device startup at UT Innovation Enterprises. During that time, he also served as assistant for business outreach and engagement for then UT College of Business and Innovation Dean Thomas Gutteridge, as well as an entrepreneur-in-residence for UT Innovation Enterprises.

Cousino co-founded the CPA firm of Nachtrab, Cousino, O’Neil, Treuhaft & Co. in 1984 with a primary focus on the health-care industry and led a merger with Plante Moran in 1997. He went on to build a national feasibility consulting practice and retired from Plante Moran in 2012.

Active in community service, Cousino is a member of the Mercy Health – Toledo Market board of directors, a seven hospital region of Mercy Health, and serves on its strategy development committee. He is involved in Toledo Rotary and the Young Presidents’ Organization. He also has served in numerous board leadership capacities over the years; these include the UT Alumni Association, Imagination Station, Lott Industries, Sunshine Communities, St. Michael’s in the Hills, and the Young Presidents’ Organization Maumee Valley Chapter.

A 1978 UT alumnus who graduated with a bachelor of business administration degree in accounting, Cousino received a Student Pacemaker Award in 1977 and in 1997 received the Outstanding Accountant Award from UT’s Beta Alpha Psi Chapter. In 2000, he was named to the Sylvania Schools Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame. He lives in Toledo with his wife, Pam, and they have two sons who live in Washington, D.C.

“Recipients of the Pacemaker Award over the past five decades read as a Who’s Who of current and legendary business leaders in the Toledo region,” said Dr. Gary Insch, dean of the UT College of Business and Innovation, “and Brent Cousino certainly belongs in that impressive roster. The Pacemaker Award is the College of Business and Innovation’s highest honor, recognizing individuals for outstanding achievement in business, as well as contributions to the community and the University.”

Student Pacemaker Awards were presented to UT College of Business and Innovation graduate and undergraduate students for their outstanding academic achievement, University and community service, and leadership.

The 2017 student Pacemakers are: Master of Business Administration — Alejandro Vera; Executive Master of Business Administration — Abul Faiz Ahmed; Master of Science in Accountancy — Malachi Benesh; Accounting — Dana Breese and Jessica Knepper; Finance — Jordan Spellis and Elizabeth Bates; Information Operations Technology Management — Abdulmonem Alfaidhel and Brad Spelman; Management — Jessica Perkins and Hala Abou-Dahech; Marketing/International Business — Grant Horlamus and Gabriella LeMaster; Applied Organizational Technology — Teresa Rodriguez, administrative assistant in UT Undergraduate Admission; and Dean’s Recipient — Patrick Ryan.

Permission needed to fly drones on campus

It’s spring and time to hang outside on Centennial Mall with friends, maybe play corn hole, toss a ball around, fly a drone.

But the UT Police Department wants to issue a reminder: If you intend to fly, remember to run that by them.

“All operation and use of unmanned aircraft systems, including drones, and model aircraft on or above University property must be preapproved by the UT Police Department,” said UT Police Chief Jeff Newton.

Requesting permission is simple. Anyone wishing to fly an unmanned aircraft system for educational or recreational purposes on campus should go to utoledo.edu/depts/police/UAS.html. There, would-be pilots will find frequently asked questions, guidelines and a request form.

“This policy is designed to ensure the safety of the campus community in addition to protecting the privacy of others,” UT Police Deputy Chief Rodney Theis said. “Unmanned aircraft system operators also must comply with applicable federal, state and local laws in addition to University policy.”

Anyone who has questions after visiting the website should contact Theis at 419.530.4448.

Commencement

continued from p. 1

Brennan also broke the story about a judging scandal in figure skating during the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah, as well as a similar judging scandal during the 2014 winter games in Sochi, Russia.

Currently, Brennan is a national columnist at USA Today and a commentator at ABC News, CNN, PBS NewsHour and National Public Radio. She has authored seven books, including the best-seller “Inside Edge,” which was named one of the top 100 sports books in history by Sports Illustrated, and “Best Seat in the House,” a 2006 memoir of her relationship with her father, and their connection through athletics.

Brennan has twice been named one of the country’s top 10 sports columnists by the Associated Press Sports Editors, and is a member of the Ohio Women’s Hall of Fame, the Washington, D.C., Sports Hall of Fame and the Medill School of Journalism (Northwestern University) Hall of Achievement. She was the first president of the Association for Women in Sports Media (AWSM), and created an AWSM program that provides internships and scholarships for women. To date, more than 140 students have benefited from that program.

Other honors include: 1993 Capital Press Women’s “Woman of Achievement”; University of North Carolina’s 2002 Reed Sarratt Distinguished Lecturer; U.S. Sports Academy’s Ronald Reagan Award in 2002; Jake Wade Award from the College Sports Information Directors of America in 2003; AWSM’s Pioneer Award in 2004 and Service Award in 2016; Women in Sports and Events’ Woman of the Year award in 2005; inaugural Women’s Sports Foundation Billie Award for Journalism in 2006; Chi Omega’s 2006 Woman of Achievement Award; Northwestern University’s Alumni Service Award in 2007; and Yale’s Kiphuth medal in 2013.

In addition, Brennan has received honorary degrees from UT and Tiffin (Ohio) University, and is a member of Northwestern University’s Board of Trustees.

UT’s spring commencement ceremony will recognize graduates from the colleges of Arts and Letters; Business and Innovation; Judith Herb College of Education; Engineering; Health and Human Services; Graduate Studies; Natural Sciences and Mathematics; Nursing; and Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences; as well as University College.

For more information, visit utoledo.edu/commencement.
Events set for National Library Week

University Libraries has scheduled several events to celebrate National Library Week, April 9-15.

“Libraries Transform” returns as the theme again this year.

“National Library Week is a chance for people to remember and celebrate the role libraries play in transforming lives,” Barbara Floyd, interim director of University Libraries, said. “We hope UT community members will visit the library this week, attend one of our fun or cultural events, and reflect on the way libraries have changed their lives as students, as researchers and as citizens.”

Since 1958, National Library Week has been sponsored by the American Library Association and observed by libraries across the country.

A book sale will be held in the Carlson Library Concourse Monday through Thursday, April 10-13, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A wide selection of books will be available; topics include business, social sciences, sciences, children’s literature and popular titles. Prices will be 50 cents a book, or $5 a bag, and sales will be cash only. All proceeds raised will benefit the library. For more information about the sale, contact jessica.morales@utoledo.edu

Listed by date, events hosted by University Libraries will be:

- **Monday, April 10** — Author Amy Haimerl will talk about her experience in preserving a home in Detroit that she chronicled in her book “Detroit Hustle: A Memoir of Love, Life, and Home” (Running Press, 2016) at 3:30 p.m. in the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections. This talk is in conjunction with the Canaday Center’s exhibit, “House and Home: The Intersection of Domestic Architecture and Social History, 1870-1970,” which is on display through May 5.

- **Tuesday, April 11** — Library Scavenger Hunt, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Carlson Library. Meet at the reference desk on the first floor.

- **Wednesday, April 12** — Write-In, noon to 5 p.m., Writing Center, located in the Carlson Library basement. Walk in and receive assistance from writing tutors and librarians.

- **Thursday, April 13** — BASH Game Night, 6 p.m., Carlson Library second floor. Stop by to play board, card and video games.

- **Friday, April 14** — Poetry Slam, 6 p.m., Carlson Library Room 1005. There will be featured readers from Toledo Poet and DEEP (Developing, Enhancing and Empowering Poets), and anyone is invited to share his or her work at the open mic.

For more information about these events, visit libguides.utoledo.edu/nlw, or contact Jonathan DaSo at 419.530.2019 or jonathan.daso@utoledo.edu.
Men to walk in high heels to raise awareness about sexual assault

By Ashley Diel

The University of Toledo’s Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness and Alpha Chi Omega will host a “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes” event called #RedShoeChallenge in recognition of April being Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

The event will take place Tuesday, April 18, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Centennial Mall, starting at the steps of the Thompson Student Union.

During the event, men will be challenged to walk a mile in high heels. It costs $5 to challenge a man, and all proceeds will go to the Bethany House in Toledo, a long-term shelter for victims and their children who are escaping domestic violence in northwest Ohio.

“Alpha Chi Omega is holding this event because our philanthropy is domestic violence awareness,” said Kristen Matson, philanthropy chair of Alpha Chi Omega. “Partnering with UT’s Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness has allowed this event to expand beyond Greek life and provide knowledge about sexual assault and domestic violence.”

To help keep costs down, shoes will not be provided. However, some sororities and fraternities have an arrangement where they will provide some shoes.

The registration fee can be dropped off at the Alpha Chi Omega house in McComas Village in check or cash form any time before the day of the event. Only cash will be accepted the day of the event.

Participants should arrive at 11 a.m. for check-in.

Before walking the mile, there will be several events, including best decorated shoes and best fashion walk in the shoes.

“Students should attend to support the women and men of Toledo who have experienced or been affected by domestic violence and sexual assault,” Matson said. “This event is proactive in making The University of Toledo a more inclusive and protective environment.”

This event is one of many UT is holding during Sexual Assault Awareness Month. For a complete list, go to utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/saepp/awareness-month.
The University of Toledo’s Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute will host the first screening in Ohio of “I Am Jane Doe,” a documentary focusing on the fight against child sex trafficking online.

The free, public event will begin with a panel discussion at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, in Doermann Theater.

“Most of the members of our community have now heard of human trafficking. What they don’t know about is the front-line battle being waged to fight the trafficking of children online,” said Dr. Celia Williamson, UT professor of social work and director of the UT Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute. “‘I Am Jane Doe’ is a powerful documentary about this fight.”

The 2017 film chronicles the battle waged by American mothers on behalf of the victims, their middle-school daughters. The film follows their efforts to stop sex-trafficking advertising on the webpage Backpage.com.

Panelists will be UT President Sharon L. Gaber, U.S. Sen. Rob Portman and Williamson.

“Backpage has knowingly facilitated the sex trafficking online of vulnerable women and underage girls and covered up the evidence of these crimes in order to increase its own profits,” said Portman, who serves as chairman of a Senate subcommittee that brought the issue to a hearing on Capitol Hill. “This documentary shines a spotlight on the brave victims and their families as they fight to expose the world of human trafficking through the dark side of the Internet.”

A reception will be at 6 p.m., discussion at 6:30 p.m., and screening at 7 p.m.

“As a mother, this film is gut-wrenching to watch, but also empowering,” Gaber said. “By sharing the pain, strength and resilience of these mothers and daughters, we hope to help save others from suffering in the future.”

The film screening is part of a series of events at UT for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

For the full list of events, u Toledo.edu/studentaffairs/saep/saep/awareness-month.
UT to celebrate 100th anniversary of Rocket football in 2017

By Paul Heiferman

The University of Toledo football program will mark its 100th anniversary in 2017, and the Rockets have some special plans to help celebrate this historic milestone.

UT will recognize an All-Century Team as part of the celebration. Fans will have a chance to vote for the team, which will include the top 50 Rockets of all time, going back to the first season of organized football at the University in 1917. Fans also can take part in selecting the 10 greatest victories in Rocket history.

Voting will take place online from Monday, May 1, through Monday, May 15. The All-Century Team and All-Time Victory list will be unveiled via social media throughout the summer during a 100-day Countdown to Kickoff, culminating Thursday, Aug. 31, the date of Toledo’s home opener vs. Elon.

The All-Century Team will be honored Saturday, Sept. 16, during the Rockets’ game vs. Tulsa.

Fans will be able to vote beginning May 1 by going to the official website of the Rockets (UTRockets.com). Complete details on how to vote will be available soon.

The University of Toledo (then known as Toledo University) first fielded a football team in 1917 when a group of 13 students asked Professor John Brandeberry to serve as their head coach. The team adopted the nickname Rockets in 1923 and moved to its current home in the Glass Bowl in 1937.

In its 100-year history, the Rockets have won 526 games and 10 Mid-American Conference Championships, and have appeared in 16 bowl games.

Women’s basketball team ranks 27th nationally in home attendance for 2016-17 season

By Brian DeBenedictis

The NCAA released its final home attendance numbers for the 2016-17 campaign last week, and the UT women’s basketball team finished No. 27 in the country, averaging 3,744 fans per contest.

Toledo also led the Mid-American Conference in home attendance for an unprecedented 27th consecutive season.

The Rockets have ranked in the top 30 nationally in home attendance each of the last six years under Head Coach Tricia Cullop. The 2016-17 Mid-American Conference Champions also finished No. 28 (3,748) in 2011-12, No. 25 (4,012) in 2012-13, No. 24 (3,932) in 2013-14, No. 28 (3,636) in 2014-15, and No. 24 (4,050) in 2015-16.

The Midnight Blue and Gold drew at least 3,500 fans in nine of its 15 home contests this year, including a season best 5,697 against nationally ranked Notre Dame Dec. 18, the sixth largest crowd in school history.

In nine years under Cullop, the Rockets are 112-32 (.779) against MAC opponents. Aiding Toledo’s stellar home mark was a 22-game winning streak over the course of the 2010-11 and 2011-12 seasons, the second longest home unbeaten stretch in school history.

Toledo also has won at least 11 home contests in seven seasons under Cullop, including a school-record 19 victories during the 2010-11 campaign.

UT player named to Good Works Team, takes part in Women’s Final Four festivities

By Brian DeBenedictis

Junior Michaela Rasmussen recently attended the NCAA Women’s Final Four in Dallas as part of the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association’s Allstate Good Works Team.

The Good Works Team honors women’s basketball players who have dedicated themselves to improving the lives of others through giving back to their communities.

A native of Chaska, Minn., Rasmussen was one of five Division I women’s basketball players named to the prestigious squad, along with five student-athletes from NCAA Divisions II and III, and the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

The first Rocket to be chosen to the Good Works Team, Rasmussen was recognized on the court during the second national semifinal and the Good Works Team took part in a series of interviews and panels April 2.

To wrap up the weekend, Rasmussen and the Good Works Team put on a basketball clinic and interacted with patients at the Cook Children’s Medical Center in Fort Worth.

In the classroom, Rasmussen has posted a 4.0 GPA in biology with a minor in chemistry and Spanish and has aspirations to become a doctor.

On the court, she has started 22 of 82 games over the past three seasons wearing the Midnight Blue and Gold. She is averaging 2.7 points and 2.3 rebounds in 12.4 minutes per contest for the Rockets.

Even with those impressive statistics and school records 19 victories during the 2010-11 campaign. and Spanish translator, companion walker for the Toledo Sister Cities International Festival as a middle school children at the Padua Center and Our Lady of Perpetual Health Camp, as well as volunteered at Habitat for Humanity, ALS Walk, Make-a-Wish and the Glass City Marathon.

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Inclusive hiring topic of April 17 workshop

By Cathy Zimmer

An inclusive hiring workshop will take place Monday, April 17, at 2 p.m. in Thompson Student Union Room 2592.

Dr. Marybeth Gasman, professor of higher education in the Graduate School of Education at the University of Pennsylvania, will discuss “Exploring the Real Reasons Universities Don’t Hire Faculty of Color.”

She is an expert on the history of American higher education, minority serving institutions (with an emphasis on historically black colleges and universities), racism and diversity, fundraising and philanthropy, and higher education leadership.

“Dr. Gasman’s expertise in diversity and inclusion is intended to initiate more discussion around the recruitment and hiring of underrepresented populations in our faculty,” said Kevin West, senior director and faculty labor relations/inclusion officer. “I encourage the campus community to attend to learn about relevant research on faculty diversity, hear about resources for hiring, and discuss common barriers.”

While on campus, Gasman also will meet with the provost and academic administrators.

Gasman, who holds secondary appointments in history and Africana studies, is the founding director of the Penn Center for Minority Serving Institutions, which works to amplify the contributions and strengthen and support minority serving institutions and those scholars interested in them.


In addition, Gasman has written more than 200 peer-reviewed articles, scholarly essays and book chapters, and has penned some 350 opinion articles for national newspapers and magazines.
The Humanities Institute in the College of Arts and Letters will be renamed during a program Friday, April 14, at 4 p.m. in Libbey Hall.

Founded in 1986 under the directorship of Dr. Roger Ray, professor emeritus of history, and re-established in 2014, it will be named the Roger Ray Institute for the Humanities.

UT President Sharon L. Gaber will speak at the ceremony at 4:30 p.m. Dr. Jamie Barlowe, dean of the College of Arts and Letters, and Dr. Tom Barden, professor emeritus of English, also will talk at the dedication.

For more than 20 years, Ray led the Humanities Institute, offering a monthly research seminar for senior and junior faculty, countless scholarship awards for humanities undergraduates, and extensive public programming. This included a long and vital partnership with the Toledo Museum of Art; a collaboration with many area high schools; and a regular series of scholarly lectures, symposia and public talks on and off campus. He retired from the University in 2006.

“Under Ray’s leadership, the Humanities Institute was granted more than $1 million, including major funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Ohio Humanities Council,” said Dr. Mysoon Rizk, associate professor of art, who was named the director of the institute in February. “The institute became a model for similar programs across the state, including at Ohio State University.”

After the naming ceremony, Rizk said there will be two short presentations to keep with the institute’s public humanities mission.

Dr. Richard Putney, professor emeritus of art history, will give a talk on “The Monuments of Gettysburg: Politics and Culture.” And Dr. Jason Jordan, visiting assistant professor of history, will discuss “A Very Worthy Negro: Tom Lee and the Racial Politics of Jim Crow Memphis.”

For more information on the free, public ceremony and the presentations, contact Rizk at mysoon.rizk@utoledo.edu.
Employees to be recognized at Service Recognition Awards April 18

The Employee Service Recognition Program will be held Tuesday, April 18, at 1 p.m. in the Radisson Mahogany Room on Health Science Campus.

More than 700 employees will be recognized for their years of working at the University.

“Honoring employees for their loyalty is important; staff and faculty members make this University what it is — a place where students want to come to school, a destination patients seek for treatment, and an atmosphere where colleagues want to work,” UT President Sharon L. Gaber said. “That dedicated spirit that leads to so many accomplishments on our campuses is indeed something to be celebrated.”

Gaber will speak at the event. Light refreshments will be served.

Service Awards will be presented to eligible employees who achieved their milestone anniversary during the calendar year of 2016. Those who have worked at the University five, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 and 45 years will be recognized with service pins and awards during the ceremony.

“The University of Toledo is a special place to work, and that’s because of our dedicated employees,” said Wendy Davis, interim associate vice president for human resources and talent development. “Employees make UT feel like home for so many — students, patients and their peers.”

UT Shuttle Service will be provided from Main and Scott Park campuses to the Radisson. The bus will leave from the Thompson Student Union bus circle at 12:15 p.m., stop by the Transportation Center at approximately 12:21 p.m., Parkside Boulevard at Scott Park about 12:28 p.m., and Mulford Library around 12:38 p.m., arriving at the Radisson at 12:45 p.m. The return shuttle will leave at 2:45 p.m. and hit those locations in reverse order.

Additional gift pickup times on all campuses will be available for those who are eligible for an award, but are not able to attend the ceremony.

For additional information and the complete list of award recipients, visit utoledo.edu/depts/hr/employee-engagement/awards.
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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