Couple gives $1 million for endowed professorship in accounting

By Laurie R. Davis

A lan H. Barry and his wife, Karen A. Barry, have given their alma mater a $1 million gift to establish an endowed professorship in accounting at The University of Toledo.

The Barrys announced the gift April 21 at their home in Scottsdale, Ariz., at an alumni event for the Phoenix Chapter of the UT Alumni Association. University President Sharon L. Gaber attended the event in Scottsdale as the alumni chapter’s invited speaker.

“UT’s College of Business and Innovation has benefited greatly from the generosity of Alan and Karen Barry through their many gifts, which have supported both the Management and Accounting departments,” Gaber said. “Their donations have helped our business faculty prepare UT students to enter the accounting and management professions with all of the necessary critical-thinking skills and core business principles to succeed as leaders in today’s competitive marketplace.

“This newest gift from Alan and Karen Barry to endow a professorship adds another level of support, ensuring that our students are receiving the best possible education in accounting, and that our faculty have the resources they need to deliver an education of excellence,” she said. “The University is deeply grateful for Alan and Karen Barry’s generous gift and all that they do to support UT students.”

The Alan H. and Karen A. Barry Endowed Professorship in Accounting will be used to recruit or retain a professor in the Department of Accounting; costs related to the recruitment of a faculty member; bridge or pilot research projects; faculty and staff development costs; curriculum development; the development of a fellowship program; and specialized equipment needed for teaching.

“We are ecstatic that Alan and Karen have made such a tremendously generous gift to establish the endowed professorship in accounting at the University,” Karen A. Barry, left, and her husband, Alan H. Barry, signed an agreement April 21 with UT President Sharon L. Gaber to establish an endowed professorship in accounting at the University.

UT ranked 66th in nation for technology transfer, commercialization

By Christine Billau

T he University of Toledo is ranked 66th in the nation by the Milken Institute’s Center for Jobs and Human Capital in its list of Best Universities for Technology Transfer.

The 2017 report focuses on innovative discoveries at public and private research universities that lead to new products and a rise in entrepreneurial success and regional economic impact through job creation and growth.

The ranking measurements include a four-year average of research expenditures, patents, licenses executed, licensing income and start-up companies. The University Technology Transfer and Commercialization Index uses data from 2012 to 2015.

In fiscal years 2012 through 2015, the University received 258 invention disclosures and entered into 59 option or license agreements. Eleven start-up companies were established to commercialize UT technology.

“I was pleased to see the University was ranked in the top 75 Best Universities for Technology Transfer by the Milken Institute,” Stephen Snider, UT associate vice president of technology transfer, said.

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Returning to Glass Bowl

Christine Brennan will speak at UT’s spring commencement Sunday, May 7, at 10 a.m. in the Glass Bowl. The USA Today columnist and commentator at ABC News, CNN, PBS NewsHour and National Public Radio will address 2,906 candidates for degrees during the ceremony, which will be streamed at video.utoledo.edu. “It’s such an honor to be giving the commencement keynote address in the Glass Bowl, where I spent so much time as a child cheering for the undefeated Rockets,” Brennan said referring to UT’s 35-0 streak from 1969 to 1971. “I threw my heart and soul into that team, and it rewarded fans like me with victory after victory. To be coming back to a place filled with so many great memories is just a delight.” For more information, visit utoledo.edu/commencement.

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Strategic enrollment plan focuses on student success, recruitment, academic programs

By Christine Billau

The University of Toledo’s five-year strategic enrollment plan is posted online for the community to view.

The plan is considered a first version because it’s a comprehensive and continuous process that must relate to ever-changing internal and external environments.

“While it’s a five-year plan, we will assess every year for effectiveness,” Stephanie Sanders, interim vice president for the Division of Enrollment Management, said. “We will assess our results and the market every year to adjust as necessary.”

The situation analysis, which includes UT’s strengths, weaknesses, and understanding what led to a decline in enrollment, is completed.

Sanders said the committee is in the process of developing action plans to address all parts of enrollment, including new and continuing students across all populations. Once the additional action plans are completed, a second version of the strategic enrollment plan will be released.

“The committee includes all areas of enrollment management, including admissions offices, new student orientation and financial aid, as well as representatives from academic affairs, student affairs and individual colleges.

“We are engaging lots of people around campus in understanding where we are, how we got here, and developing solutions for the future,” Sanders said. “We are focusing on where there is potential and going after that potential. Student success is our priority. We want to put more programs in place to help increase retention and graduation rates, while growing enrollment and aligning academic program capacity with market demand.”

To view the strategic enrollment plan, go to utoledo.edu/offices/ enrollmentmanagement/pdfs/enrollment-strategic-plan.pdf.

Deadline extended for new graduate programs proposals

Tuesday, May 30, is the deadline for campus community members to submit proposals for new graduate programs.

Earlier this year, the College of Graduate Studies issued a request for proposals for new graduate programs.

“To date, we have received 10 proposals,” said Dr. Amanda C. Bryant-Friedrich, dean of the College of Graduate Studies. “We’re extending the deadline for proposals to allow those who are busy with end-of-the-year duties to participate in this process.”

Proposals will be accepted from all UT community members, including students, staff, alumni, administrators and faculty.

“As you know, the quality and prestige of graduate programs is dependent upon the availability of competitive, challenging and cutting-edge curricula that are of interest to today’s student,” said Bryant-Friedrich. “The University of Toledo has excellent offerings that attract highly qualified students from around the world, but there are some deficits in our portfolio. Please assist me in bringing new and modified programs online that utilize the existing expertise on our campus to support those in need of our instruction.”

The proposal is short and easy to complete; go to utoledo.edu/graduate/gradproposals.html.

Going up

Workers from Mosser Construction Inc. in Maumee used an 80-foot crane to begin masonry removal on Carlson Library last week. This summer a glass curtain wall will be installed on the east side of the library. The $3 million project is made possible by state biennium capital funds.
Distinguished University Lecturers named

Three Distinguished University Lecturers were recognized April 20 during a ceremony in Doermann Theater.

“Appointment to the rank of Distinguished University Lecturer is the highest permanent honor UT can bestow on a lecturer,” Dr. Andrew Hsu, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, said.

“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.”

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

Faculty eligible for the designation are assistant, associate and senior lecturers.

Named Distinguished University Lecturers were:

- **Dr. Joseph Hara**, senior lecturer in the Department of Foreign Languages in the College of Arts and Letters. He has taught at UT since 1987, first as a Japanese instructor and then as a lecturer. He is the director of the Japanese Program.

  “Dr. Hara developed a minor degree program in Japanese, now the second highest enrolled Japanese program in the state, following Ohio State University,” one nominator wrote. “Dr. Hara is well-known for never saying no to a student who needs his support and for his promotion of study abroad, taking students to Japan each summer for cultural and language immersion, as well as developing exchange programs with Japanese universities, including Aichi University. Some UT graduates were able to successfully find jobs in Japan after their degree completion because of the programs that Dr. Hara established and continues to lead. His exemplary teaching evaluations also attest to the impact he has on the lives and the success of students. He received the University Outstanding Teaching Award in 2002.”

- **Teresa Keefe**, senior lecturer in the Department of Information Operations and Technology Management in the College of Business and Innovation. Keefe has been teaching at UT 13 years. She is the faculty adviser to the Association for Information Technology Professionals.

  “She continuously develops new and innovative courses, incorporating new technologies, and providing active learning experiences for her students, including flipped classes and service learning, all contributing to student retention and graduation rates,” one nominator wrote. “Over my 37 years at the University, I have never seen the likes of Teresa in terms of teaching, service and dedication to the betterment of students.” A former student wrote, “If I was asked who outside my immediate family had the largest impact on my education and professional growth, without hesitation, ‘Teresa Keefe’ would be blurted out.” And another graduate noted, “I owe my success to Teresa Keefe. She is an exceedingly wonderful professor, mentor and friend. The amount of dedication that she pours into her passion daily is inspiring.”

- **Dr. Susanne Nonekowski**, associate lecturer in the Department of Medicinal and Biological Chemistry in the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. She began teaching at the University in 2001.

  “Dr. Nonekowski is often the earliest adopter of active learning methods such as clickers and Blackboard chat rooms; she won an Assessment Award in the college in 2014 and mentors other faculty who are incorporating assessment in their courses,” one nominator wrote. “She received an Innovations in Teaching Award in 2015, and she was nominated for a University Outstanding Teaching Award in 2010.” A graduate wrote, “I believe that Dr. N. is truly in a league all her own when it comes to her teaching style, her abundant ability, and her academic perspective. She is not only compassionate and knowledgeable, but also a lecturer who makes learning interesting and fun.” A student wrote, “It is clear that the instructor really knows her stuff, and her passion and understanding for the material had a great impact on my learning.”

HONORED: The three Distinguished University Lecturers, holding their certificates from left, Dr. Susanne Nonekowski, Dr. Joseph Hara and Teresa Keefe, posed for a photo during the April 20 ceremony in Doermann Theater with, from left, Dr. Andrew Hsu, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs; President Sharon L. Gaber; and Dr. Jamie Barlowe, interim vice provost for faculty affairs and dean of the College of Arts and Letters.

Technology transfer

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“This wouldn’t be possible without the participation of faculty, staff and students throughout the institution who help our office to protect and transfer novel innovations to the commercial marketplace.”

According to the report, “More than 1,000 firms were launched in fiscal year 2015 through [technology transfer offices] at research universities, with more than 70 percent of start-ups located in the same state as the affiliated university.”

“The University of Toledo’s Technology Transfer Office has been one of the top performers in the state for many years under the leadership of Stephen Snider,” Dr. Frank Calzonetti, UT vice president of research, said. “We are proud to support faculty and students who are coming up with creative ways to solve problems and helping generate high-tech jobs.”

Ohio State University is ranked No. 55 on the Milken Institute’s list. Ohio University is ranked No. 113, and the University of Dayton is No. 200. The University of Utah is No. 1.

For the entire report, go to milkeninstitute.org/publications/view/856.
Endowed professorship in accounting

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said Dr. Gary Insch, dean of the College of Business and Innovation. “Their action will benefit countless students for years to come and further elevate the College of Business and Innovation’s reputation. Alan shows how much he truly cares about our students by frequently coming to campus when he is in town, and taking the time to meet and talk with business students, answering their real-life questions, and being a true mentor to them. We cannot thank Alan and Karen enough for their kindness, generosity and support.”

Alan Barry, who is a certified public accountant and the retired president and chief operating officer of the Fortune 200 company Masco Corp., said giving back to UT students is a pleasure: “The accounting background I got at the University was beneficial to me throughout my career. I’ve always been a supporter of the University, and once I was in a position to do so financially, I felt pretty good about giving back to the University that gave me the opportunity to succeed.”

He joined Brass Craft Manufacturing Co. in 1972 as controller and became president of that Masco division in 1988. In 1996, he became a group president of Masco, a manufacturer of home improvement and building products. He has broad business experience that includes finance, manufacturing, customer development, acquisitions and general operating management.

He serves on the board of directors of the H.W. Kaufman Financial Group. He is a retired director of Arch Aluminum & Glass Co. Inc., Scotts Miracle Gro Co., Flint Inc., and IPS Corp. He also served as an executive board member of the Plumbing Manufacturing Institute from 1985 through 2000, and as chairman of the institute in 1994. In addition, Barry served on the executive board of the associate member division of the American Supply Association during 1995 and 1996.

The Barrys have a history of philanthropy at The University of Toledo. In 2014, the University named a new accounting lab in the College of Business and Innovation for Alan Barry. At the time the lab was established, it was the first nationwide to have a certified management accountant license, in which students could access for free the review material from Wiley, a leading provider of educational programs for professionals and students preparing for the certified management accountant exam.

The lab also serves as the location of the free income tax preparation assistance the College of Business and Innovation provides annually to qualified, low- to moderate-income individuals and families in the Toledo area during the spring income tax filing season.

“I am truly grateful for Karen and Alan Barry for their continuous support to the accounting students,” Dr. Hassan HassabElnaby, professor and chair of the UT Department of Accounting, said. “It’s only through people like Karen and Alan that we are able to provide the high-quality education we offer at the UT College of Business and Innovation. It has been my privilege to see Alan as a guest speaker in the classrooms, meeting and advising accounting students, supporting their development through the state-of-the-art Alan Barry Accounting Lab and the $1 million gift.”

The Barrys also endowed the Alan and Karen Barry Scholarship Fund, which provides support for full-time UT business accounting students, based on both merit and needs. Alan Barry, a native of Toledo, is an active UT Alumni Association Phoenix Chapter member, as well as an active member in UT’s Blue Key organization. He also serves on the UT Foundation Board of Trustees.

The couple’s interest in supporting accounting students through financing scholarships, the accounting lab and the endowed professorship grew out of a nostalgic return to campus. “I was invited back to the University about 15 or so years ago,” Alan Barry said. “I hadn’t been on the campus for a long time, and I guess I kind of fell in love with the place for the second time.” The Barrys have been supportive donors ever since.

Alan received a business degree in 1966, and Karen graduated in 1964 with an associate degree.

The Department of Accounting is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International. This prestigious accreditation places the department among the top 2 percent of accounting departments worldwide.

Spring’s a poppin’

University Photographer
Daniel Miller took this shot of Centennial Mall and University Hall last month.

Photo by Daniel Miller
New organization allows students to train service dogs

By Madison Vasko

Animal companions can have an astounding benefit to the health of their human owners. Decreased stress and lower blood pressure are often observed through interaction with animals.

For many, however, the relationship they have with their four-legged companion can be life-changing. Persons with disabilities make up one of the largest minorities in the United States, and many of those affected have a service animal to help with daily tasks.

UT students now have the opportunity to learn more about the support these animals can provide through Rocket Service Dogs. The organization, which is partnered with Assistance Dogs for Achieving Independence and the Ability Center of Greater Toledo, encourages students to become puppy sitters and potential service dog trainers.

Dr. Janet Hoy, associate professor in the School of Social Justice and adviser for Rocket Service Dogs, said the idea for the organization came after visiting the Assistance Dogs for Achieving Independence training center in Sylvania.

“Service dogs can tremendously increase independence and quality of life for a person living with a disability,” Hoy said. “Unfortunately, there is often a long wait list before a service dog can be obtained. Through providing foster placements and training, Rocket Service Dogs can increase the numbers of service and therapy dogs available to be placed with individuals living with disabilities in the region.”

Through the partnership with Assistance Dogs for Achieving Independence, students involved with Rocket Service Dogs will be provided with food, veterinary care and regular classes for their service dog trainees.

Hoy stressed the importance of regular training and socialization: “Service dog training would occur under the direction of an Assistance Dogs for Achieving Independence trainer and would entail attending regular classes and practicing in between to teach a service dog trainee basic commands and later more specialized tasks.

“Socialization of the service dog trainees in a wide variety of settings is also a key part of training; it is imperative that service dog trainees become comfortable out in public in places such as restaurants, stores, sport events, etc...” she said. “Puppy sitters provide respite care and socialization for the service dog trainees when the primary caregiver/trainer is unable to do so.”

Those who feel they have time and love to give to a future service dog — and a strong interest in learning about dog behavior, human health and disability — are encouraged to reach out to Rocket Service Dogs.

More information on the organization, including upcoming meetings, can be found on its Facebook page, facebook.com/rocketservicedogs.

READY TO TAKE THE LEASH: Anna Jones, Assistance Dogs for Achieving Independence training manager; right, brought Penny, the dog on the right, and Potter, the puppy, to a Rocket Service Dogs meeting, where they met Summer Martin, graduate student in social work, left, and Danielle Tscherne, graduate student in criminal justice and leader of the Rocket Service Dogs organization.

The guitar man

Mark Siefring and Joan Onwumma chatted on a bench in Centennial Mall.
Student advocates for clean drinking water worldwide

By Ashley Diel

Last month, 17 high school students from the Natural Science and Technology Center, a Toledo Public Schools Career Tech Program, came to the Chemical Engineering Unit-Ops Laboratory in Nitschke Hall to learn about water quality and purification systems.

Megan Davidson, a second-year chemical engineering student, taught the students about the engineering aspects of different water purification systems to get them started in thinking about how they can use both water and energy in a more responsible way.

Davidson has been a strong advocate for water purification since starting at UT. Her interest was initially piqued when she went to Guatemala in 2015 to build a home for a family in need.

“I was warned not to drink the water or even eat any food that had been washed in the water because it could make me sick,” Davidson said. “The idea that people are getting diarrhea and are malnourished because of the water they drink always struck me as a great injustice.”

In her freshman orientation class, Davidson had the opportunity to learn about the ultraviolet water purification system made by Clean Water for the World and was surprised by the simplicity of the system.

She then became involved with Walk for Water, an organization that raises money for clean and clean and replace parts as needed. For the communities that already had a unit, they recorded the maintenance of the system and took a list of needed parts to keep it operational.

“I was very excited to be able to see the impact they are making in peoples’ lives,” Davidson said. “It was fantastic to be able to see everything come full circle, from building and researching improvements that can be made to the units to fundraising through Walk for Water to finally installing the units and being able to talk to the people who are now able to drink clean water.”

Davidson is passionate about water purification projects and plans to stay involved with them in the future. She is considering spending time in Central America to address water problems after she graduates.

“I think it is important for people to understand that all waterways are connected. The water we have in the U.S. is clean and safe to drink because we have installed plants to treat water that is not safe,” Davidson said. “Not everyone is fortunate enough to have government-funded systems and are stuck drinking water with chemicals, viruses, bacteria and even feces in it every single day. If we care about others, and not just the people we see every day, but people we share water with across the world, we need to be aware that there are things we can do to help those in need.”

College of Engineering

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The Dana Excelling into Engineering Scholarship Program is a four-stage program that will start after the completion of 11th grade with a summer institute, beginning in July. Mentorship and professional development opportunities will continue through the completion of a degree from the College of Engineering.

“Dana is proud to partner of The University of Toledo in this endeavor to better connect students from underrepresented communities to career paths in engineering,” George Constand, chief technology officer at Dana Inc., said.

“We believe this will help to promote greater diversity and inclusion among the engineering workforce of the future.”

For 28 years Toledo Excel has provided college preparation and scholarships to underrepresented students, including African, Asian, Hispanic and Native Americans. Through services such as summer institutes, academic retreat weekends, campus visits and guidance through the admission process, students increase their self-esteem, cultural awareness and civic involvement.

“The Excelling into Engineering Scholarship Program is a wonderful opportunity for us to expand what we do for some of our Excel students who are interested in careers in engineering,” David Young, director of the Toledo Excel Program, said. “It provides them with a great introduction to the field through amazing faculty in the University’s College of Engineering; mentorship and guidance from a fantastic company like Dana; and continued support from the Toledo Excel staff that has invested in them since the time they left middle school. I am thrilled that the idea Dr. Berhan discussed with me many months ago has now become reality.”

More information on the Dana Excelling into Engineering Scholarship Program can be found at utoledo.edu/engineering/about/diversity/dana_excelling_into_engineering_program.html.
The University of Toledo Department of Communication, in cooperation with the UT Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, marked its 100th ESPN3 produc-
tion April 29. The landmark broadcast was the Rocket softball team’s game against Western Michigan.

UT began producing games for ESPN in October 2015 as part of an agreement between the Mid-American Conference and the “worldwide leader in sports.” Unlike many of the other MAC schools, however, UT was able to build on the longstanding relationship between its Athletic Department and the media production component of the Department of Communication to create an academic-driven means of producing game broadcasts. This initiative was led by the late Don Reiber, UT director of media services and faculty member in the Department of Communication. Reiber developed a Live Web Streaming course that provided the students needed to serve as the eight- to 12-person technical crew for each ESPN3 production, as well as the numerous football and basketball games that were already being produced for the Glass Bowl and Savage Arena’s live video board audiences.

During summer 2015, the Department of Communication and the Athletic Department pooled resources, investing in new equipment to outfit an existing television production truck owned by the Communication Department that had been unused for several years. Seeing both the academic potential and the opportunity to reach a much larger audience, UT’s administration authorized the creation of two new staff positions to support the endeavor. UT hired John Eidemiller, who previously had been a media producer in the Department of Communication, into a new role as executive producer for ESPN and athletic video productions, as well as UT alumnus and former WTVG 13 ABC executive director Jonathan Mondelli, into the role of technical director.

Unfortunately, in September 2015, just weeks before the first scheduled UT-produced ESPN3 broadcast, Reiber passed away unexpectedly. Determined to meet the broadcast schedule they had set weeks before, Eidemiller and Mondelli pressed on, completely rebuilding and rewiring the production truck in less than two weeks with the help of Meagan Dietz, who was then a junior majoring in communication, and getting the newly received equipment configured in time for the first production, a UT volleyball game against Western Michigan.

During fall semester 2015, Eidemiller and Mondelli continued to update the production truck, and the UT crew eventually racked up a total of 53 game productions for ESPN3 in the inaugural year. This year, an additional 51 broadcasts will be completed by the end of the spring sports season.

The class has changed somewhat. Eidemiller has taught Live Sports Production for four semesters following Reiber’s death, and has refined it to address the goals of the students, but he said that at the core, the principle remains the same.

“There’s a big push right now in higher education for hands-on experiential learning that gets students out of the traditional classroom,” Eidemiller explained. “That is exactly what this is all about. The biggest difference between Toledo and what a lot of other schools are also doing in terms of delivering content to ESPN is in our approach. With the exception of me, Jonathan, the on-air talent, and one or two paid undergraduate students in mentoring roles on the crews, our productions at UT are entirely staffed by students earning class credit. That lets us produce far more than the minimum 35 games per year required by the MAC, while at the same time giving our students a chance to graduate with hands-on experience that they simply cannot get at most other universities.”

Mondelli added, “We do our best to rotate students through each crew position so they learn a variety of technical skills they can apply later in their careers, such as camera operator, graphics operator, audio and replay. Those students who show an interest in a particular skill can continue to fine-tune their abilities by doing an independent study. Our students get to learn remote production hands-on with some of the latest broadcast-level equipment available, making the learning curve for our students much easier when they transition to an industry crew. All of this makes our students extremely versatile in the ever-changing job marketplace.”

You learn through the different positions on the crew how everyone works together and that you really do need everyone,” said Dietz, who will graduate this weekend with a double major in communication and film after working on nearly all of UT’s 100 ESPN3 productions.

“We work together and get to put out something that can be seen by anyone in the world. I like that I get to put my name on a quality production and that I have a leg up on people who don’t get that experience in school.”

In addition to the complement of women’s soccer and women’s volleyball games in the fall, men’s and women’s basketball in the winter, and baseball and softball in the spring, Eidemiller and Mondelli are planning to increase coverage to include women’s swimming and diving in the 2017-18 academic year, and are exploring the addition of tennis down the road.

All UT-produced ESPN3 games are available online at watchESPN.com or on mobile devices through the ESPN app. For a schedule of games, including a listing of available viewing options, visit utrockets.com and search by sport.

Students interested in becoming part of the production crew are encouraged to contact Eidemiller at john.eidemiller@utoledo.edu or Lisa Bollman, academic adviser in the Department of Communication, at lisa.bollman@utoledo.edu.
Celebrating 100 years of Toledo football: Voting begins for All-Century Team, All-Time Greatest Victories

By Paul Helgren

The University of Toledo recently revealed the ballots for fans to vote for its All-Century Team and its All-Time Greatest Victories as part of the 100th anniversary celebration of Rocket football.

Fans can vote for the All-Century Team and All-Time Greatest Victories Monday, May 1, through Monday, May 15. Fans may vote online at the official UT Athletics website, utrockets.com. Fans may vote only once. Write-in votes for any player or game not on the ballot are welcome.

Rules for voting are available at utrockets.com as are the lists of biographies for All-Century Team candidates and All-Time Greatest Victories.

The All-Century Team will include the top 50 Rockets of all-time, going back to the first season of organized football at UT in 1917. The All-Time Greatest Victories list will include the 10 greatest victories in Rocket history.

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

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

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

The Rockets will open the 2017 season with a Thursday night home game vs. Elon at the Glass Bowl Aug. 31.

Rockets annual Reverse Raffle and Auction slated for May 13

By Paul Helgren

The 2017 Spring Reverse Raffle and auctions will take place Saturday, May 13, at 6:30 p.m. in Savage Arena.

The Reverse Raffle is a night of fun, food and games. A limit of 350 tickets at $150 each are sold for the event. Each ticket admits the purchaser and one guest to the event and provides the opportunity to win the $7,500 grand prize or one of many cash prizes or gift items.

Buffet grazing stations, as well as snacks and beverages, will be available throughout the night.

Tickets include:
• Admission for two;
• One entry in the reverse raffle;
• Chance to win cash prizes, including a grand prize of $7,500 — winners need not be present to win;
• A set of six Rocket football ticket exchange vouchers for the 2017 Rocket football season (a $185 value);
• Silent and live auctions;
• Optional tour of UT athletic facilities; and
• Meet and greet with Rocket coaches and fans.

Proceeds will benefit the UT Athletic Department and Rocket student-athletes.

Reverse raffle tickets are going fast; call 419.530.5087 or go to utrockets.com to purchase them.

UT Head Football Coach Jason Candle joined the tradition of celebrities signing a world-famous Tony Packo’s hot dog bun April 19 at Tony Packo’s at the Park. Fans can look for the bun enshrined on the walls of the original Tony Packo’s Restaurant at 1902 Front St. in Toledo. Candle joins UT Head Men’s Basketball Coach Tod Kowalczyk as a Tony Packo’s bun-signer. UT Head Women’s Basketball Coach Tricia Cullop also is scheduled to sign a Packo’s bun.
Student Appreciation Day

Students held hands and danced on Centennial Mall during the April 26 event. Sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs and Dr. Kaye M. Patten, senior vice president for student affairs, Student Appreciation Day featured free food, music and games.

Samantha Hill, left, Kathleen Kurman, center, and Katia Diaz ate corn during the April 26 celebration.

Students didn’t mind getting hit with water balloons as temperatures soared into the 80s.

Shardul Sawant had his caricature drawn by artist Ryan Holman.
March for Science

Nearly 400 joined the March for Science in Toledo April 22. The rally and march were followed by teach-ins and hands-on learning activities at Imagination Station. The Northwestern Ohio Chapter of the Association for Women in Science and Imagination Station sponsored the events.

Fielding questions at the Northwestern Ohio Chapter of the Association for Women in Science table were, from left, Dr. Susanne Nonekowski, University Distinguished Lecturer of Medicinal and Biological Chemistry; Dr. Caren Steinmiller, associate lecturer of pharmacology; and Dr. Jill Trendel, visiting assistant professor of pharmacology. “The mission of the march and teach-ins is to share and highlight the contributions of science and to inspire future generations to uphold the values of curiosity, free speech, free inquiry and critical thinking,” said Nonekowski, president of the Northwestern Ohio Chapter of the Association for Women in Science.

Kimberly Nonekowski, daughter of Dr. Susanne Nonekowski, worked on her brain hat at Imagination Station. “Our teach-in activity was to give participants a mini-lesson in brain anatomy and function while they made their own brain hats,” the University Distinguished Lecturer of Medicinal and Biological Chemistry said. Dr. Jill Trendel, visiting assistant professor of pharmacology, is seated and wearing the blue shirt.
A national study by University of Toledo researchers shows 75 percent of adults in the U.S. have not completed end-of-life planning.

Only 18 percent of Hispanic and 8 percent of African-American respondents had a living will, durable power of attorney, or talked with family members and loved ones about their wishes, in contrast to 33 percent of whites.

The UT research study titled “Predicting Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Advance Care Planning Using the Integrated Behavioral Model,” which also investigates reasons behind the racial and ethnic gap, was recently published in OMEGA: The Journal of Death and Dying.

“We don’t like to talk about our mortality,” Dr. Timothy Jordan, professor in UT’s School of Population Health in the College of Health and Human Services, said. “But the minute we’re born, we begin the dying process.”

Jordan cites the case of Terri Schiavo, a 26-year-old Florida woman whose death more than 12 years ago still resonates.

After suffering cardiac arrest in 1990, Schiavo was the focus of a contentious, seven-year fight that pitted her parents — and many right-to-life advocates — against her husband, Michael, who vowed to remove her from artificial life support based on her previously spoken wishes.

Jordan said the lack of hard copy documentation of Terri Schiavo’s wishes propelled her case into a slew of legal machinations that twisted through the Florida governor’s office, to the U.S. Senate floor and, ultimately, to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Without clear documentation of one’s end-of-life wishes, Jordan said, the battle that fueled the “what would Terri want” argument could erupt any time, with anyone at its epicenter.

“We live in a society that’s death-denying,” Jordan said, noting that current funeral practices beautify corpses with makeup and hair-styling, and use carpets of artificial grass to hide the freshly dug gravesite holding the deceased’s casket.

“We don’t like to talk about death because it reminds us that we’re mortal.”

Several studies, he said, have established that racial/ethnic minority adults are less likely than whites to complete advance care planning, also called end-of-life planning.

“The question is why,” Jordan said. “[Current research] has just reported that gap. No one has really explained why it occurs.”

Jordan and then-UT doctoral student Dr. Colette McAfee, now an assistant professor at Westminster College in Salt Lake City, designed a study to investigate why African Americans and Hispanics were less likely to have three of the following advance care components completed:

• Living will;
• Durable power of attorney for healthcare decisions; and
• Verbal discussion with family members and loved ones.

The three-component approach is significant. Most studies, Jordan said, consider advance care planning complete if one or two of the elements have been finalized.

The study sampled a random cross-section of 386 American adults between 40 and 80 years of age; 51 percent was female, with 49 percent male. The racial/ethnic makeup and geographical locations of respondents, Jordan noted, were nearly identical to the U.S. population.

Three in four respondents had not completed advance care planning as defined by the study.

“Hispanics were two times more likely than blacks and eight times more likely than whites to say they’d never even heard of end-of-life planning,” Jordan said. “That really shocked us.”

Even more noteworthy was the finding that just 30 percent of respondents’ advance care planning intentions was explained by the Integrative Behavioral Model — a well-accepted standard that helps researchers explain and predict behaviors.

“One of the key take-home points is that 70 percent of the decision to do complete end-of-life planning in the future was outside of our behavior model,” Jordan said. “We could only explain 30 percent of respondents’ behavioral intention, so what other factors were at work?”

He cites several speculations, including lack of awareness, computer access, knowledge of end-of-life documentation and accessibility, as well as language barriers. He and McAfee may address these issues in future studies.

When McAfee presented the research at the American Public Health Association annual meeting last fall, many researchers from across the country were interested in expanding it.

“Dr. Jordan and I are already working on a follow-up study with similar parameters, but in a younger population,” McAfee said, noting the target age range for respondents will be between 20 and 40.

“We know that the younger the population, the less likely they are to give attention to advance care planning.”

Since Hispanics were the least likely to have a basic awareness of advance care planning, McAfee also intends to further explore cultural subsets, including Hispanics of Puerto Rican, Mexican and Cuban descent. Additional research may focus on Americans of Pacific-Islander and Asian origin.

McAfee taught courses on death and dying at UT and has initiated a similar class at Westminster College, where she works mostly with public health students. She and Jordan find it remarkable that a formal end-of-life curriculum is not required for all students in nursing, pre-medical and other clinical fields, considering most of these students will deal with patients’ life-threatening illnesses and death frequently during their careers.

“I think it’s extremely important,” McAfee said of exposing student populations, even those in high schools, to education regarding death and dying.

“It’s a prime opportunity to bring up end-of-life issues. If you’re an oncologist or a health-care practitioner who deals with critical illnesses, you need to be able to communicate these issues with your patients or they won’t get the appropriate care.”

She and Jordan believe the general population is open to end-of-life discussions, but reticent to initiate them.

“Once you bring it up, most people are willing to discuss it,” McAfee said. “Primary care and family physicians, in particular, would provide a perfect atmosphere to intervene because they have longstanding relationships with their patients.”

If those conversations don’t take place, Jordan said people become aware of end-of-life issues when a close friend or family member becomes progressively ill or has a catastrophic situation.

“The only time you really think about it is when we have a big, national case that goes to the Supreme Court, like the Terri Schiavo case,” Jordan added. “But it’s something we need to think about and bring into the classroom, because how much more relevant can a class be?”
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Visit ritter.utoledo.edu to learn more.
While speaking with Diana Attie, professor emeritus of art, there is no doubt the passion she has for her profession — and for sharing her love of it with her students.

“Design is all around us everywhere — great design and bad — from Teslas to T-shirts. But real art engages our personal life experience, our senses, our deep yearnings and empathy — and do not count out humor, or even absurdity,” Attie said. “Seeing, judgment and discernment can be rewarding responsibilities. To see, not merely to look, is a cultivated art in itself. The powers of mindful observation are most acutely developed through the concentrated act of drawing. The process is like the scientific method: intense observations, a vision of an outcome, experimentation, revision, repeat, and repeat again and again. Make your first 5,000 mistakes and think nothing of investing those necessary 10,000 hours of rehearsals.”

This year, Attie received the Milestones Award for her outstanding leadership qualities in the field of art from the YWCA of Northwest Ohio. She also is a former recipient of UT’s Outstanding Teacher Award.

Her visionary example has opened doors for other women to follow.

“The Milestones Award has been given to exemplary women in the fields of science, government, business, and the arts for 23 years. Standing with these luminous women is an honor because I have enormous respect for their work, dedication and accomplishments,” she said.

Attie received a master of arts degree in painting and drawing from the Cleveland Institute of Art and Case Western Reserve University. In 1962, she began teaching in the Toledo Museum of Art/UT joint degree program in art and art history. She has taught a wide range of studio courses in the Department of Art, including her popular Anatomy/Life Drawing course.

“Truthfully, my inspiration comes from each and every woman teacher I have had, and I can name every one, starting from kindergarten,” Attie said. “Their differing personalities, teaching styles, idiosyncrasies, and special talents add up to an aggregate sum of one super teacher.” I thank them for my love of learning.

“I am, however, forever grateful to the indefatigable Mary Ryan, who was supervisor of art in the public schools, a mentor throughout my college years, and who made me realize my capabilities. From the Cleveland Institute of Art and Case Western Reserve University, the inspirational Professor Franny Taft held me spellbound with the dynamic delivery of her art history lectures. I remember my thinking as a student — How can she possibly know so many intricate details?” Perhaps that is why a major credo of my studio teaching has been ‘within every detail, there is a detail.’”

When asked how she strived to foster leadership in her students, Attie replied, “Whether young women or young men, it is most meaningful to find and do what you love, and love what you do. Listen and communicate clearly with others and in the arts particularly, receive and give critique in a constructive, positive light. Read — not just the art journals. Expand your inquiries into all manner of topics, especially science. Therein comes a freshness and cross-fertilization of ideas. Try to give 110 percent to what you want to do. Be relentless.”

For more information about YWCA of Northwest Ohio or the Milestones Awards, visit ywcanwo.org.

**LGBTQ liaison to help Office of Diversity and Inclusion**

Matt Perry, associate director for residence life, has accepted an additional responsibility — LGBTQ liaison to the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

He will start his expanded role Monday, May 8.

“Matt will help provide strategic direction, including advising on inclusion issues relevant to the University’s LGBTQ community,” said Dr. Willie McKether, vice president for diversity and inclusion, and vice provost. “He also will represent the office at the University’s LGBTQ Advisory Board meetings.”

Having a liaison will facilitate implementing part of the Diversity Strategic Plan, McKether added.

“This addition to the Office of Diversity and Inclusion will help the University be even more responsive to the needs of the LGBTQ community, which is a critically important aspect of inclusiveness in our institution,” McKether said.

“All of us play an essential role in elevating The University of Toledo to be more inclusive, and I am excited to be a part of the positive changes to come,” Perry said. “I am grateful for this opportunity and look forward to serving in this liaison role through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.”

Perry
Law students win top two awards in environmental law writing competition

By Kirsten M. Winok

Since 2010, the Ohio State Bar Association Environmental Law Committee presents its annual Environmental Law Award to the best law student paper submitted on environmental, energy or natural resources law.

This year, UT law students wrote both the winning and runner-up papers. Rachel Hammersmith was named winner and received a prize of $1,000 from McMahon DeGulis LLP, a law firm with offices across the state that concentrates on environmental litigation and allied fields. Florianne Silvestri was named runner-up, taking home a prize of $250. Both will graduate this week.

Winning papers are to be of law review or higher quality, and all papers were scored on criteria that included quality of legal research, analysis and writing; relevance to Ohio legal practice; and importance and timeliness of the topic. The awards were announced at the recent Ohio State Bar Association Environment, Energy and Resources Seminar, and both papers were published in the seminar materials.

Hammersmith’s paper was titled “The Power Struggle Between Local and State Authorities to Control Oil and Gas Drilling and Fracking in Ohio.” She took issue with a 2015 Ohio Supreme Court decision, Morrison v. Beck Energy, that struck down certain municipal ordinances regulating oil and gas drilling on the basis that they were pre-empted by state law. Notwithstanding Morrison, she argued, Ohio municipalities can use their zoning powers to regulate oil and gas drilling and fracking within their borders.

Silvestri’s paper was titled “Ohio Wind Power and the Legal Challenges With the National Environmental Act and the Endangered Species Act.” Ken Kilbert, professor of law, supervised both papers, which were written as part of the College of Law’s Advanced Research and Writing course work.

“Rachel wrote a terrific paper on a timely issue of legal, practical and environmental import,” Kilbert said. “We are very proud of both Rachel and Florianne.”

This marks the third time in eight years that a UT law student has won the Ohio State Bar Association’s Environmental Law Award. Hammersmith joins previous UT winners M. Zach Hohl, who graduated in 2012, and Alex Vogelpohl, who graduated in 2015. Silvestri joins previous UT runners-up Alex Savickas, who graduated in 2015, and James Madeiros, who graduated in 2010.

OPINION

Wellness Fair aims to help students find healthy ways to deal with stress

By Clark Ausloos

Stress is common in our University climate during the months of April and May. Students are completing internships, preparing for exams and, quite frankly, using any method possible to maintain a sense of composure, calm and confidence. Students often resort to sleepless nights, improper diets, isolation and negative self-talk.

This semester, students were introduced to new methods of increasing self-care and wellness in their lives. On April 21, students gathered to attend the first Wellness Fair in the College of Health and Human Services. The Wellness Fair was hosted by the Alpha Omega Chapter of Chi Sigma Iota, an international honor society for professional counselors, counselor educators and students. Part of Chi Sigma Iota’s mission is to promote wellness among students and community members.

Representatives from businesses and organizations in the Toledo area gathered to share their wealth of knowledge and resources. Companies included Health Foods by Claudia, the Victory Center, the Sophia Center, the Taoist Center, Soto Salon & Spa, Midwest Juicery, Much Kneaded Massage and OZA Day Spa. Also present were student organizations, including the UT Cycling Club, Relay for Life, Juice House, Active Minds, Colleges Against Cancer, and the UT Mindfulness Club, as well as the UT Counseling Center.

Students received information on the various organizations; sampled fresh cold-pressed juice and other products; learned about Tai Chi and mindfulness practices; received free chair massages; sampled essential oils; and experienced sound therapy and Reiki from professional practitioners. Students walked away from the fair with increased knowledge on how to better handle stress and were exposed to modalities that may otherwise not experienced.

Chi Sigma Iota hopes to bridge the gap between community organizations that promote wellness and students, who, more than most, need balance and wellness in their lives.

“If interested in being a part of future wellness fairs, contact clark.ausloos@rockets.utoledo.edu.”

Ausloos, a doctoral student in the Counselor Education and Supervision Department, is president of Chi Sigma Iota and director of the Wellness Fair.
Healthy Campus Coalition to help improve well-being of UT community

By Ashley Diel

Several campus departments have teamed up to form a Healthy Campus Coalition to determine wellness opportunities for UT students and employees.

Rocket Wellness and the Office of Recreational Services, as well as academics, students and services, will be represented by the coalition.

The purpose of the coalition is to improve the health and well-being of the University’s community by providing impactful programming that addresses the needs and wants of students, faculty and staff. The coalition will focus on several aspects such as mental, physical and emotional health.

“The creation of this group is to determine the current health and well-being opportunities that faculty, staff and students have on campus with the intention of exploring the potential for collaboration and partnerships in order to expand the offerings,” said Rachael Decker, assistant director of the programs for the Office of Recreational Services.

The coalition has already had its first meeting, which was an effective launch pad to help establish current wellness initiatives on campus.

A research survey also will be sent via email to help gather information from employees.

“The survey research will focus on a few health habits and patterns along with what the UT community wants on campus in regards to health and well-being,” Andrea Masters, assistant director of community wellness and health programming, said.

The student survey is anticipated to be sent out fall semester.

Parking garages to close for repairs in May

Restoration work is scheduled for the Main Campus east and west parking garages, which are slated to close from May 8 to mid-July.

Construction is expected to start Monday, May 8, and run through Monday, July 10.

The project will include concrete repairs to the floor systems as well as installation of sealants that will require that both ramps be closed during the project, according to Doug Collins, director of grounds and off-site facilities.

“The main scope of the work will be installing supplemental horizontal reinforcement,” Collins said. “Other repairs, such as floor patching and caulking replacement, will be done to address maintenance issues that arise due to the winter months.”

This work is part of the program to maintain the structures, according to Collins.

“We thank everyone for their patience so we can take care of the structures,” he said.

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.

Hanging around

Sarah Jacques worked on some homework outside in her hammock on a recent nice day.
Before you leave for the summer, be sure to register for Fall 2017 classes.

Check your account for registration holds in the myUT portal. MyUT>My Reg Steps>View Holds

Meet with your academic adviser each semester to create a plan for success.

Aim for 15 credit hours per semester to graduate on time. Most degree programs require 120 total credit hours or more to graduate.

For additional assistance:
Visit Rocket Solution Central • Rocket Hall 1200
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Learn more about fall registration by visiting utoledo.edu/offices/registrar/registration_dates_fall.html