Bright work: UT research shines, sets perovskite solar cell world record for efficiency

By Ashley Diel

With the depletion of nonrenewable energy sources and the increase of pollution, researchers have turned to finding ways to harness clean energy from cheap alternative sources.

Researchers at The University of Toledo have recently focused their investigation in the area of perovskite solar cell technology.

Perovskite is a compound material with a special crystal structure, according to Dr. Yanfa Yan, Ohio Research Scholar chair and UT professor of physics.

“Metal halide perovskites can effectively harvest sunlight and efficiently convert it into usable electrical power. They have the potential to be used for fabricating cheap and highly efficient solar cells,” he said. “Perovskite photovoltaic technology has attracted tremendous interest in the past several years.”

Current conventional solar cells are made out of materials such as silicon, a material more expensive than perovskite solar cells.

Yan said that his research combined theoretical and experimental approaches to understand the fundamental mechanisms of the limitations of the perovskites and to develop processes and design new materials to overcome the limitations.

“Our ultimate goal is to help improve the energy conversion efficiencies of photovoltaic cells and solar fuel devices,” Yan said.

He and his team did just that. In fact, their research revealed a world record efficiency for the conversation of sunlight to electricity in the area of perovskite solar cell technology using less toxic lead as well as demonstrated a concept for producing an all-perovskite tandem solar cell that can bring together two different solar cells to

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Rape survivor to share story April 19

By Ashley Diel

In 1984, Seccuro was gang-raped during her freshman year at the University of Virginia at a fraternity party. It would not be until 20 years later that Seccuro would receive justice through one attacker’s apology and criminal conviction.

The free, public lecture will focus on Seccuro’s experience, her path to justice, and her advocacy for other victims.

“This is a story of how a victim has endured the most horrible of acts, was re-victimized, and found the strength to embark on a journey of healing and victim advocacy,” said Dr. Kasey Tucker-Gail, associate professor of criminal justice and director of the UT Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness. “I cannot think of a better story of empowerment for our campus and community.”

Seccuro is a victims’ rights advocate and the founder of Sisters Together Assisting Rape Survivors, a donor-advised fund that assists all survivors of rape, sexual assault and incest. She also teaches a few

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Steak ‘n Shake to open April 18

In response to requests from UT students, Steak ‘n Shake will open Tuesday on Main Campus.

A ribbon-cutting for Steak ‘n Shake will be held Tuesday, April 18, at 9 a.m. in the Thompson Student Union.

“We are excited to expand dining choices for students through our partnership with Aramark,” Dr. Kaye M. Patten, senior vice president for student affairs, said. “Our students have asked for national restaurant chains, and we are proud to welcome this one to campus.”

Freshens also opened last month on UT’s engineering campus.

UT will give away T-shirts to the first 10 Steak ‘n Shake customers Tuesday. Plus, the first 200 people will receive a coupon for a 20 percent discount on their next order.

After Tuesday’s grand opening, Steak ‘n Shake will be open Monday through Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Photo by Rachel Nearhoof
Bright work

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increase the total electrical power generated by using two different parts of the sun’s spectrum.

“We reported a method that can easily be followed by other researchers in the field,” Yan said.

The research has been published in the journal Nature Energy.

“The publication of this paper in Nature Energy shows a significant recognition of our work by the peers in the field of photovoltaics,” Yan said. “We are very proud of our achievements.”

He added, “We are thankful for collaborations with colleagues in the Wright Center for Photovoltaics Innovation and Commercialization at UT.”

“Dr. Yan and his team are doing outstanding work on this promising type of solar cell, paving the way for cheaper and more efficient ways to provide clean renewable energy to meet the needs of society,” said Dr. Karen Bjorkman, dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics; Distinguished University Professor of Astronomy; and Helen Laedtke Brooks Endowed Professor of Astronomy. “The faculty and researchers in the Department of Physics and Astronomy and UT’s Wright Center for Photovoltaic Innovation and Commercialization continue to lead the way in improving photovoltaic devices to address our growing energy demands through sustainable and renewable means.”

UT seeks input on nearly final draft of strategic plan through April 28

By Christine Billau

The University of Toledo’s strategic planning committee has completed its nearly final draft of the University’s strategic plan.

UT is seeking input from the community one last time before finalizing the plan. Included in this plan also is a revised version of the University’s mission, vision and values statements.

The plan was developed after conducting multiple information and input sessions with students, faculty, staff and the public earlier this year.

Stakeholders are invited to review the revised draft of the strategic plan during a two-week public comment period, which runs from Monday, April 17, through Friday, April 28.

Individuals can review the draft and provide their opinions at utoledo.edu/strategicplan.

The final version is expected to be presented to the UT Board of Trustees at its meeting in June.

Rape survivor

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classes a year at Georgetown University’s Graduate School of Journalism on how to write responsibly about sex crimes and the art of interviewing victims of violence.

“We are thankful to the YWCA Hope Center for co-sponsoring this event with the Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness and the UT Office of Marketing and Communications,” Tucker-Gail said. “I encourage everyone to come and hear Liz Securo’s message.”

Her talk is part of a series of events at UT for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

For the full list of events, go to utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/saepp/awareness-month.html.

Powerful messages
University offers voluntary separation opportunity for qualified recipients

By Christine Wasserman

The University of Toledo announced April 11 it is offering a voluntary separation program for faculty and staff. Employees who meet certain criteria will receive an incentive equivalent to one-half of their base salary on a one-time basis in exchange for their voluntary separation from the University.

“The savings from the program will help to provide flexibility to the University as we continue to manage through limited growth in state support, including freezes on tuition and fees,” said Larry Kelley, executive vice president for finance and administration.

Approximately 230 faculty members and 250 staffers meet the requirements of the Voluntary Separation Incentive Program. Eligible employees are those who are retirement-eligible under the State Teachers Retirement System, Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, Ohio Public Employees Retirement System-Law Enforcement or Alternative Retirement Plan.

Although retirement-eligible employees received an email April 11 from Human Resources, because some employees have additional service that UT is unaware of, they also may be eligible for this program. Therefore, employees should contact their applicable retirement system to confirm their retirement eligibility.

Employees who would like to select the Voluntary Separation Incentive Program opportunity have 45 days to inform the University. They must complete the Voluntary Separation Incentive Program election documents and submit these forms no later than 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 30, to Human Resources.

“Submitting the completed forms does not guarantee an approval from the University, however,” said Wendy Davis, interim associate vice president for human resources and talent development. “Human Resources will review the forms to confirm eligibility, and then all applicants will be reviewed by the Voluntary Separation Incentive Program Review Committee.”

Individuals who submit forms will receive confirmation from Human Resources, with their separation becoming effective Friday, June 30, or an alternative date, based on department need or other circumstances, as noted in the plan documents.

“We encourage all retirement-eligible employees to discuss this separation option with their financial, tax or legal adviser,” Davis said. “The Voluntary Separation Incentive Program is a one-time offer that’s completely voluntary, and employment status will not be affected if an employee decides to decline the offer.”

More information about this offer — including frequently asked questions, the election forms, and a list of retirement system contacts — is available at utoledo.edu/depts/hr/voluntary-separation.

Read all the information provided about this program on the webpage before contacting Human Resources because this was prepared to answer most questions. Any remaining questions may be directed to the Voluntary Separation Incentive Program plan administrator at humanresourcesdepartment@utoledo.edu.

Diversity Climate Survey open through April 28

By Jen Sorgenfrei

The University of Toledo is beginning the process of updating the Campus Diversity and Inclusion Plan with the launch of the 2017 Diversity Climate Survey.

All students, faculty and staff will receive a link to the online survey in their University email boxes Monday, April 17.

The 40-question survey should take about 20 minutes to complete and contains queries designed to anonymously collect honest feelings about the campus climate related to diversity, classroom climate and inclusion. A handful of questions are open-ended for participants to provide in-depth responses.

The University initiated the first diversity survey in 2016 as part of development of the diversity and inclusion plan. The survey will be offered annually to measure the changing campus perceptions about inclusion issues and the effectiveness of ongoing programs that contribute to furthering the dialogue on the topic.

“The survey remains an important tool to measure perceptions and feelings about the diversity climate in the University community,” said Dr. Willie McKether, vice president for diversity and inclusion. “It provides an opportunity for us to continue a meaningful conversation about a united campus community accepting of our differences and recognizing our commonalities.”

The survey will be active until Friday, April 28.

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

Lovell Jones, Sylvania, died April 9 at age 94. She was director of day care at MCO when she retired in 1983. She joined the day care staff at Maumee Valley Hospital in 1953. Jones served on the advisory board of the UT Community and Technical College.

Joan Siegel Katz, Toledo, who served a nine-year term on the UT Board of Trustees, died April 7 at age 82. She was appointed by Gov. Richard Celeste to the board in 1984 and served to 1993. During that time, she participated in the selection of two presidents — Dr. James McComas in 1985 and Dr. Frank Horton in 1988.

Correction

Dr. Mysoon Rizk's title was wrong in the April 10 issue in a story about the Humanities Institute being renamed. She is associate professor of art history and director of the Roger Ray Institute for the Humanities.
Faculty selected for UT Scholars Institute Program

By Madison Vasko

Winning competitive external grants is an important element of faculty members’ road to success, and the UT Office of Research and Sponsored Programs is working to help them navigate the complexities of this progress.

The UT Scholars Institute Program has selected 38 early career faculty members to assist in their journey to promotion.

The program will help faculty members identify sources of funding targeted to their research projects; how to prepare and submit proposals that meet various agency and foundation requirements; how to comply with federal, state and University policies and rules; and ways to write a compelling story that is likely to sway external review panels.

The institute, which will convene in May, will consist of six monthly sessions, the topics of which are flexible to the interests of the participants.

“I am excited for the new Scholars Institute Program to launch. We had a large pool of applicants indicating a strong desire for faculty to increase their scholarly activity and grantsmanship,” said Dr. Amy Thompson, professor of public health and faculty fellow in the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, who developed the program.

The 2017 Scholars Institute Program participants are:

- Dr. Ana Alba-Rubio, Department of Chemical Engineering;
- Dr. Wissam Abou Alaiwi, Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics;
- Dr. Gabrielle Baki, Department of Pharmacy Practice;
- Dr. Larissa Barclay, Department of Advanced Population Care;
- Dr. Tian Chen, Department of Mathematics and Statistics;
- Dr. Carmen Cioc, Department of Engineering Technology;
- Dr. Madeline Clark, Department of Counselor Education;
- Dr. Aiding Coughlan, Department of Bioengineering;
- Dr. Allyson Day, Department of Disability Studies;
- Dr. Katherine Delaney, Department of Early Childhood, Higher Education and Special Education;
- Dr. Hamoun Delaviz, Department of Neurosciences;
- Dr. Obi Ekwenna, Department of Urology, Department of Transplantation;
- Dr. Saori Furuta, Department of Biochemistry and Cancer Biology;
- Jenn Glassman, Department of Speech Language Pathology;
- Dr. Temeeka Gray, Department of Advanced Population Health;
- Dr. Serhan Guner, Department of Civil Engineering;
- Dr. F. Scott Hall, Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics;
- Dr. Trieu Le, Department of Mathematics and Statistics;
- Dr. Jiayong Liu, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery;
- Dr. Kimberly Mack, Department of English Language and Literature;
- Dr. Luis Mata, Department of Engineering Technology;
- Dr. Kimberly McBride, School of Population Health,
- Nicole McKenzie, Department of Exercise and Rehabilitation;
- Dr. Gigi McNamara, Department of Communication, Department of Women’s and Gender Studies;
- Dr. Peter Mezner, Department of Psychology;
- Dr. Jared Olouch, Department of Engineering Technology;
- Dr. Megan Petra, Department of Social Justice;
- Dr. Brad Pierson, Department of Music;
- Dr. Dayanidh Raman, Department of Biochemistry and Cancer Biology;
- Dr. Isaac Schiefer, Department of Medicinal and Biological Chemistry;
- Dr. Heidi Shank, Department of Nursing;
- Dr. Vithal Shendge, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery;
- Dr. Heather Sloane, Department of Social Justice;
- Dr. Tonya Schmidt, Department of Advanced Population Care;
- Dr. Amit Tiwari, Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics;
- Dr. Brian Trease, Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering;
- Dr. Kasumi Yamazaki, Department of Foreign Languages; and
- Ronald Zallocco, Department of English Language and Literature;

For more information on the Scholars Institute Program, visit utoledo.edu/research/SIP.html.

Spring blooms

University Photographer Daniel Miller took this shot of Bradford Callery pear tree blooms on Main Campus last week.

Photo by Daniel Miller
Celebrate the colors of religious diversity at Holi Toledo April 20

By Madison Vasko

The University of Toledo has a tradition of drawing strength from the diversity that is brought from its students, faculty and staff.

Four years ago, in keeping with this tradition, the campus adopted the event Holi Toledo.

“There is the story about Holi, and then there is the story about Holi Toledo, and the two are very much connected,” said Dr. Yonatan Miller, director of the Center for Religious Understanding.

“Holi is a popular springtime festival that is celebrated with great fanfare in India; this year it was celebrated March 13. It is a colorful celebration — both cultural and religious — of the change of seasons and the triumph of good over evil. And, significantly, it is also a time when, at least for one day, all people are considered equals; the usual social hierarchy is suspended,” Miller explained.

During a typical Holi celebration, people smear each other with colors and colored water is thrown, drenching anyone and everyone. The festivals also include song, dance, food and drinks.

Holi Toledo was the brainchild of Dr. Jeanine Diller, former director of the Center for Religious Understanding. The event, which draws on the festivity, color and seasonal meaning of the holiday, has the blessing of the Hindu Temple of Toledo.

“Holi Toledo also serves a more immediate purpose here in the UT community, which is to highlight our diversity, promote unity, and foster improved understanding of the religions represented on campus,” Miller said.

In addition to the colors, there will be music, dancing and a T-shirt giveaway sponsored by the Center for International Studies and Programs.

Miller also gave details on how the peer learning experience that is unique to this event cultivates religious understanding: “In order to obtain packs of color to throw periodically during the event, participants must first approach tables staffed by the myriad of UT’s religious and cultural student organizations and ask a question, start a conversation, or have a meaningful interaction. My students know that as a teacher, I am always looking for ways to get them talking, and the incentive of the color packs is a fun way for us to jump-start conversations and create the foundations for longer term dialogue.

“My hope is that the interactions that students have with their peers serve to improve their religious literacy, and, as a consequence, their understanding of the religious ‘other.’ This is one of the outcomes that I, as a professor of religion, seek in the classroom, in the context of formal education. To do this in a fun, informal and social environment is a nice complement to the more formal manner in which religion is usually approached in a university context.”

The significance of the event and the unique festivities have made it a favorite among students.

“To have Holi celebrated on campus is such a beautiful sight to see,” said Hima Katrapati, a UT senior studying biology and finance, who is a native of Hyderabad, India. “There are so many people from different cultures who come out to celebrate ours and share memories with each other. Even though many people don’t know the meaning behind it, many people ask questions and try to gain the true meaning of Holi.”

Holi Toledo will take place Thursday, April 20, from 3 to 5 p.m. on the grounds outside Memorial Field House. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held Thursday, April 27.

For more information on Holi Toledo, visit cfru.eventbrite.com.
University Libraries receives largest gift to date

The University of Toledo Libraries has received a bequest of $500,000 from the estate of Dorothy MacKenzie Price. It is the largest gift in the libraries' history.

The donation will provide an endowment to support a model classroom in Carlson Library and staffing in the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections.

Price, a UT alumna and supporter of many University programs, died in 2016. She provided the funds in her will to create a state-of-the-art classroom in the library. The model classroom is part of the current renovations underway on the second floor of Carlson Library. The classroom will be used as a space for instructing students on how to access and use both basic and advanced library resources.

“This room will be instrumental in helping us introduce students to college-level research, especially in how to use the many electronic resources we have available in the library,” Barbara Floyd, interim director of University Libraries, said.

Floyd added the technology will connect UT students to the resources, and librarians will provide instruction on how to best utilize these resources in the research they are completing for their classes.

“Students who know how to use the library effectively are more successful in their academic careers,” she said.

Dr. Andrew Hsu, provost and executive president for academic affairs, added, “The library is central to student life and student success, and this gift will further enhance our libraries' ability to serve our students.”

In addition to $100,000 to support the classroom, an additional $400,000 will serve as an endowment to support staffing in the Canaday Center. The center houses more than 15,000 feet of unique manuscripts and archival material, and 30,000 rare books.

“Organizing, preserving and making available special collections materials is labor-intensive,” Floyd said. “To have additional funding to help provide the staff to complete this work will allow us to more effectively serve our patrons — some of whom travel to the center from around the world to use our collections.”

The Canaday Center is responsible for collecting personal papers and organizational records that primarily focus on documenting the history of Toledo and northwest Ohio. Among the center’s most important collections are records documenting the history of the glass industry in Toledo, which includes 1,000 linear feet of materials from Toledo’s glass corporations.

The center also is one of the national leaders in collecting materials that document the history of people with disabilities. These include many local organizations such as the Ability Center of Toledo, Bittersweet Farms, and the now-defunct Toledo Hearing and Speech Center, as well as collections that document disability history nationally.

“These funds from Dorothy MacKenzie Price will be instrumental in helping us to continue our mission of preserving rare and unique materials and making them available to researchers,” Floyd said.

Page-turner

Jihye Lee checked out the book sale last week in Carlson Library. Part of National Library Week, the sale raised more than $500, which will be used to purchase new additions for the collection, according to Barbara Floyd, interim director of University Libraries.
**NEWS**

**APRIL 17, 2017**

**RockeTHON raises more than $150,000, sets new record**

By Madison Vasko

At this year’s RockeTHON, after 13 hours of dancing and interacting with “miracle families,” more than 1,200 UT students gathered in anticipation around the Savage Arena stage.

Members of the RockeTHON team, each holding a sign, raised them one by one to reveal that $153,707.09 had been raised “for the kids.”

This denotes the largest amount raised by UT’s dance marathon in its 16 years held on campus — and more than $1 million during that time.

RockeTHON, which benefits Mercy Children’s Hospital, has become the largest student-run philanthropy event at The University of Toledo.

Students often remark that a highlight of the event is hearing the stories of the lives that are changed as a result of the treatments that their donations help fund.

“RockeTHON] is a day I’ll never forget,” said Cassidy Turner, a morale captain of dance marathon. “The atmosphere is just overall fun and energy is high. We had 25 families come see us, and we got to meet so many miracle kids. It’s nice to see them and know we’re making a difference.”

To keep up to date with RockeTHON and fundraisers happening throughout the year, follow @UTRockeTHON.

**Outstanding Staff Awards to be presented April 19**

More than 30 employees nominated for the Outstanding Staff Awards will be acknowledged Wednesday, April 19.

The ceremony will take place from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Thomas and Elizabeth Brady Engineering Innovation Center.

Five employees will receive awards and $1,000.

In addition, the Diane Hymore Exemplar of Excellence Award will be presented.

“Employees make everything happen at The University of Toledo. We need to honor those who do so much and are dedicated to UT. Their enthusiasm, accomplishments and creativity help this institution continue to evolve,” Wendy Davis, interim associate vice president for human resources and talent development.

**Distinguished University Lecturer Program set for April 20**

By Cathy Zimmer

The UT community is invited to attend the Distinguished University Lecturer Program and Reception.

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

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

At that event, President Sharon L. Gaber will give welcome remarks, and Provost Andrew Hsu will recognize faculty members who will receive the new title of Distinguished University Lecturer.

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

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

Faculty eligible for the designation are assistant, associate and senior lecturers.
Five UT employees were honored last week for exceptional achievement and dedication to the campus community at the 31st annual Outstanding Women's Award ceremony.

More than 70 attended the University Women’s Commission program, which was held Wednesday in the Savage Arena Joe Grogan Room. Dr. Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, dean of the College of Graduate Studies, gave a talk, “Oh, the Places You’ll Go!”

The 2015 recipient of the Alice H. Skeens Outstanding Woman Award shared her story, including her love of science, working in Europe, and how she came to UT.

The recipients of the 2017 Dr. Alice H. Skeens Outstanding Woman Award were:

- Dr. Nina I. McClelland, dean emerita of the College of Arts and Sciences, professor emerita of chemistry, and executive in residence in the College of Business and Innovation. She served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 2008 to 2011. A UT alumna, she received a bachelor’s degree in biology in 1951 and a master’s degree in interdisciplinary studies in 1963. McClelland also received an honorary doctorate of science from the University. During her career, she has won numerous honors, including the 2016 Women in Conservation Award from the National Wildlife Federation for her accomplishments in protecting safe water around the world, promoting clean energy, and preserving wildlife and habitats in Ohio. In 2010, she was inducted into the Ohio Women’s Hall of Fame.

“Dr. McClelland is internationally recognized for her expertise in environmental chemistry. She was elected director at large of the American Chemical Society and served in that role for nine years. She was elected chair of the board of directors, a position she held for three years. Nina served the NSF International for 30 years, including 15 years as chair of the board of directors and executive committee, president and chief executive officer,” one nominator wrote.

“Dr. McClelland is an amazing woman who has dedicated her life to using science to make this world a better place.”

- Dr. Kaye M. Patten, senior vice president for student affairs. She has been working at the University 12 years. She served as chair of the 2016 UT Community Charitable Campaign, which exceeded its goal and raised $134,568 for nearly 220 nonprofit area organizations.

“I have worked with many dedicated women in my 30 years in higher education. Dr. Kaye is in a class by herself. Through working with her, I have witnessed a level of energy, commitment, respect and advocacy for students that I had not experienced before,” one nominator wrote.

“Dr. Patten treats each student exactly how she would want her own son or daughter treated. I have admired and appreciated Dr. Kaye’s approach — to always be upfront with students, letting them know their responsibilities and how UT can help them achieve their goals. She understands the life-changing power of higher education, and it is clear that she wants the best for our students. If she is not attending a student event after hours or on weekends, she is representing the University in the community through the Toledo branch of Links Inc., a women’s service organization whose mission is to enrich the cultural and economic lives of African Americans. Dr. Kaye does nothing halfway — if she makes a commitment, she’s all in. To borrow from the UTC3 campaign slogan: She simply gives.”

- Dr. Dorothea Sawicki, vice provost for health affairs and university accreditation, and professor of medical microbiology and immunology. In 1977, she began her career as an assistant professor at the Medical College of Ohio. She received tenure and worked her way up to professor. She also served in several administrative roles in the College of Graduate Studies and in the College of Medicine and Life Sciences; as secretary-treasurer of the American Society for Virology since 2006; and as a member of the Journal of Virology editorial board since 1988.

“Dr. Sawicki has contributed to the University in a variety of ways for almost 40 years. She was one of the first people I met when I began at UT in 2010. At the time, I was a temporary hire helping the institution prepare for its Higher Learning Commission accreditation visit, and Thea was one of the committee co-chairs. I was immediately struck by her direct, no-nonsense approach to getting things done,” one nominator wrote. “I appreciate the historical background she is often able to provide about some obscure policy or way of doing things, and her unwavering commitment to the University. She is successful in her field and is a role model for women in science; she is extremely involved in the UT community at all levels; she maintains a positive, can-do attitude in her work; and she is active in various women’s issues.”

- Sherry Stanfa-Stanley, director of communication and fund stewardship with the UT Foundation. She joined the University in 1992. Over the past 25 years, she has significantly enhanced the Foundation’s internal and external communications, donor relations, and stewardship efforts. A UT alumna, she received a bachelor’s degree in communication in 1983. In 2013, Stanfa-Stanley embarked on “The 52/52 Project,” a year where she challenged herself every week with a new experience. As she turned 52, she shook things up. Her adventures included suiting up as Rocky the mascot for a UT soccer game; babysitting quadruplets; wearing pajamas in public for a day; riding with police and going on a raid with the vice squad and SWAT team; visiting a nude beach; performing as a mime outside a shopping center in Kentucky; and crashing a wedding reception — and catching the bride’s bouquet.

“All the while, Sherry blogged about her amazingly crazy year on Facebook.com/ The52at52Project. The witty writer served

Recipients of the 2017 Dr. Alice H. Skeens Outstanding Woman Award were, from left, Dr. Kasumi Yamazaki, Dr. Kaye M. Patten, Sherry Stanfa-Stanley, Dr. Nina I. McClelland and Dr. Dorothea Sawicki.
up entertainment and enlightenment for nearly 5,000 followers. Her book, ‘Finding My Badass Self: A Year of Truths and Dares,’ will be published Aug. 15 by She Writes Press,” one nominator wrote. “Sherry likes to call herself ‘a cautionary tale,’ but she really is a role model, showing it’s never too late to change your life. Her heady heroism is inspiring.”

• Dr. Kasumi Yamazaki, assistant professor of Japanese in the Department of Foreign Languages. She started to work part time at UT in 2011. She is the social media coordinator for the Japanese Studies Program and adviser of the Calligraphy Club. She also is a translator in various community organizations local and abroad, as well as assistant coordinator for the Toledo Sister Cities International. A UT alumna, she received a bachelor of arts degree in global studies in 2009, a master of arts degree in English in 2011, and a doctoral degree in curriculum and instruction in 2015.

“Dr. Yamazaki’s contributions and achievements are numerous and balanced in research, teaching and service. She has three articles in press, and in the 2016-17 academic year, she presented or is scheduled to present eight sessions at international and national conferences,” one nominator wrote. “Dr. Yamazaki has implemented a 3D virtual world simulation game into Japanese as a foreign language classroom and designed an immersive Japanese curriculum for her students. She uses an experiential and integrative computer-assisted language learning framework, conducting classes in a 3D massive multiplayer online learning environment to enhance students’ acquisition of Japanese and cultural proficiency. With what Dr. Yamazaki calls computer-assisted learning of communication, she developed an advanced Japanese course that is based in a 3D simulation in Tokyo. Through communicative collaboration with native Japanese game-users online, she made it possible for students to acquire knowledge to function in Japan.”

The University Women’s Commission also presented $1,000 scholarships to four students. Receiving awards based on academic achievement, support of women’s and gender issues, and campus involvement were Jessica Angelov, a senior majoring in interdisciplinary studies with a minor in entrepreneurship, family and small business; Bianca Caniglia, a senior majoring in environmental science with a minor in women’s and gender studies; Jennifer Zaurov, a junior majoring in communication with a minor in psychology; and Areeba Shaw, a sophomore majoring in media communication.

Students who received $1,000 scholarships from the University Women’s Commission were, from left, Areeba Shaw, Bianca Caniglia, Jennifer Zaurov and Jessica Angelov.

Jam out while raising awareness about human trafficking

By Ashley Diel

With Ohio ranking as the fifth highest state in regard to human trafficking, it is integral for the Toledo community to bring attention to the issue.

The International Justice Mission will host Traffic Jam UT, a carnival-themed event to raise awareness on human trafficking.

The event will take place Friday, April 21, from 3 to 8 p.m. at Carter Field. If it rains, the Traffic Jam UT will be moved to the Health Education Center.

Tickets are $6 for students, $10 for non-students, and $25 for VIP passes, which grant entrance and allow unlimited games and prize drawings.

Tickets can be purchased at Ask Rocky in the Thompson Student Union or at the International Justice Mission table in the Thompson Student Union Tuesday, April 18, and Thursday, April 20, from noon to 2 p.m.

“Traffic Jam UT is our mild approach to raise awareness on human trafficking,” said Areeba Shah, UT sophomore and vice president of International Justice Mission.

“Students should attend to show their support. Even though the problem may not directly affect them, they will learn about human trafficking and its impact on Toledo. At the same time, they will be able to enjoy themselves and have a great time with friends and family.”

The event will feature performances from Little Pink, Ice Cream Militia, Cryface and Shell. There also will be carnival games, 50/50 drawings and a prize basket drawing.

Food trucks from Deet’s BBQ and Rosie’s Italian Grille also will be there.

“A lot of the times, people feel uncomfortable when it comes to the topic of human trafficking and would rather not talk about it,” Shah said. “However, ignoring the issue doesn’t make it disappear. It is our reality, and if we don’t at least recognize this problem, we’ll never be able to work toward a solution.”

Proceeds from the event will go toward fighting human trafficking in the community.
American Heart Association honors dean with Pulse of Toledo Award

By Sarah A. Velliquette

Dr. Christopher Cooper, dean of the College of Medicine and Life Sciences and executive vice president for clinical affairs, recently was honored with the American Heart Association’s Pulse of Toledo Award at the 2017 Toledo Heart Ball.

“Based on Dr. Cooper’s substantial impact on cardiovascular science, prevention and care over many years, the Executive Leadership Team of the 2017 Heart Ball nominated Dr. Cooper for the Pulse of Toledo recognition and award,” according to a statement from the American Heart Association of Northwest Ohio. “Dr. Cooper’s reach and impact has gone well beyond the city of Toledo, the state of Ohio, and throughout the world of cardiovascular care. Celebrating his impact and recognizing one of the predominate leaders in community health was a cornerstone of the 2017 Heart Ball.”

This marked the 20th year for this event, which brings together people from all over the community in an evening that celebrates the work and mission of the American Heart Association.

“I am humbled to have been honored with this award from the American Heart Association,” Cooper said. “I have personally seen the impact of the work the American Heart Association has done; one of my first grants was a local American Heart Association award that was critically important for my academic development. The support that the American Heart Association gives to early career investigators is so important for many of our faculty.”

According to the American Heart Association, the Heart Ball celebrates “donors and volunteers; and — most important — the lives saved and improved because of everyone’s efforts.”

Contributions received at the Toledo Heart Ball help support cardiovascular research, professional and community education, and advocacy efforts.

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Symposium on dizziness, balance slated for May 19

By Sarah A. Velliquette

The UT Department of Neurology, ProMedica and the UT Center for Continuing Medical Education are hosting the Dizziness and Balance Symposium Friday, May 19, at the Hilton Garden Inn at Levis Commons in Perrysburg.

The program will take place from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dizziness and balance issues can be debilitating for patients, and it’s important for health-care providers to recognize red flags and related symptoms as early as possible. Lectures and discussions will emphasize making pivotal decisions in clinical practice.

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HEARTFELT HONOR: Dr. Christopher Cooper, flanked by Dr. Laura Murphy, assistant professor of medicine, left, and Nicole Hollingsworth, women’s golf coach, received the American Heart Association’s Pulse of Toledo Award at the 2017 Toledo Heart Ball.

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Objectives:

- Discuss multidisciplinary approaches to patients with dizziness, imbalance and gait disorders.
- Perform a comprehensive review and discuss common causes of dizziness and gait disturbance focusing on diagnosis and management.
- Organize case presentations and panel discussions pertinent to clinical practices with leading expert professionals, including otolaryngologists, neurologists, and therapists.
The University of Toledo Opera Ensemble will bring the story of Grimm’s fairy tales into the 21st century with its presentation of two one-act operas — “The Brothers Grimm” and “Little Red Riding Hood” — Friday through Sunday, April 21-23, in the Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall.

Curtain time will be 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 3 p.m. Sunday.

The performance of “The Brothers Grimm” will be the Ohio premiere of the opera written by Canadian composer Dean Burry.

“Written for those relatively new to opera, ‘The Brothers Grimm’ is an engaging tale of how the famous siblings took oral German folk stories and immortalized their colorful characters in writing,” said Dr. Denise Ritter Bernardini, assistant professor of music, who is producing and directing the show. “Characters such as Rumpelstiltskin, Rapunzel and Little Red Cap spring to life fresh and anew under the skillful pens of the brothers Wilhelm and Jacob.”

The UT Opera Ensemble will then present one of the most famous of the Grimm’s stories, “Little Red Riding Hood,” by Seymour Barab.

The Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall will be transformed into the forest setting, and the audience will be drawn into the action as Red makes her famous trek to grandma’s house.

Can rap and opera coexist? Apparently, they can, and to great effect. The ensemble’s take on Barab’s libretto, which includes spoken poetry, incorporates rap and modern dance moves, and provides the performance with a sense of currency and relevance, without destroying the romance of the original story.

“Both operas are very accessible to those new to opera, as well as the experienced. For seasoned opera goers, solid performances by award-winning student singers guarantee them a thoroughly satisfying experience,” Ritter Bernardini said.

Cast members for “The Brothers Grimm” are voice students Moises Salazar and Brandon Warren as Wilhelm Grimm; Nate Krebs as Jacob Grimm; Kate Walcher as Frau Viehmann; Joshua Kramer as Brentano/Col. Krause; Ashley Roark as Dortchen; Mackenzie Payton as Rapunzel/Miller’s daughter; Meridian Prall as the Witch/Wolf; Danielle Hale as Little Red Cap; and Will Floss as Rumpelstiltskin.

Taking the stage for “Little Red Riding Hood” will be voice students Paige Chapman as Little Red Riding Hood; Kate Walcher as Mother; Chelsie Cree as Grandmother; Devon Desmond as the Wolf; and Will Floss as the Woodsman.

Assisting Ritter Bernardini with the production are Chelsie Cree, assistant director; Andreea Lee, accompanist/rehearsal pianist; and Mike Vanderpool, costumes.

It should be noted that both operas are a little on the grown-up side. There are scenes with violence that may be too intense for audience members younger than 8 years old.

Tickets $10 to $15 are available through the Center for Performing Arts Box Office online at utoledo.tix.com or by calling 419.530.ARTS (2787).
UT students win big at Japanese speech contest

By Ashley Diel

Evelina Hartus, a recent psychology graduate, and Keaton Bogle, a fifth-year communication student, have received the prestigious Consul’s General Award at the 18th Japan-America Society of Central Ohio’s Language Speech Contest.

The two traveled last month with their speech mentor, Dr. Kasumi Yamazaki, assistant professor of Japanese, to Dublin, Ohio, where Hartus and Bogle presented their speeches, “What Is Good Culture” and “A Voice Actor’s World,” against five students from other universities in the state.

Presenters were scored according to fluency, the ability to answer questions from the judges, and the content of the speech.

The Consul’s General Award is presented to students whose speeches had an interesting or important message.

“This is truly great news for all of us studying and teaching foreign languages,” Yamazaki said. “We have so many talented students in our classrooms, but not many of them recognize their own abilities and potentials. Our job is to help them realize such talent and encourage them to challenge themselves so that our students can achieve the best versions of themselves.”

Bogle has been studying Japanese for four years and began to learn it with the help of online resources before taking the language classes at The University of Toledo.

“Winning this award was a really nice surprise,” Bogle said. “I didn’t even think I’d get accepted into the contest, so walking away with an award was a really nice little boost of self-confidence.”

Hartus studied Japanese for two years in high school and during her last two semesters at the University.

“I feel happy about the award, but I am mostly grateful for Ms. Yamazaki for it,” Hartus said. “If it was not for her, no other teacher would have been able to convince me to even apply for the competition. So for me, the award shows how big of an impact a great teacher can have.”

Bogle and Hartus both hope to be able to use Japanese in the future in their career or to be able to continue learning and studying it.

Since 1999, the Japan-America Society of Central Ohio’s Japanese Language Speech Contest has been an annual event designed to highlight the power of foreign language communication at the high school and university level.

Develop resumé at Professional Staff Association’s brown-bag seminar

By Madison Voake

For many professionals, keeping an up-to-date resumé may seem like an impossible task.

Staff members who have been meaning to refresh their resumé, or do not have one, are encouraged to attend the upcoming brown-bag seminar hosted by the Professional Staff Association to obtain the tools to build their own brand.

“The program will cover basic resumé formats, suggestions for getting started writing your resumé, and also advice on keeping it up to date,” said Emily T. Creamer, assistant director for engineering transfer programs.

Heather Karns, assistant dean for career services and alumni affairs for the College of Law, has assisted professionals with career development, document preparation and coaching for more than 15 years, and will speak at the seminar.

“Sometimes we are so busy taking care of our jobs, our families, etc. we neglect staying on top of things that seem daunting or unnecessary,” Karns said. “I don’t think it is uncommon for professionals who have not transitioned to a new role or searched for some time to have a resumé that is out-of-date. Like many things, if you let this go on for too long, updating can seem overwhelming. The workshop should leave the participants with tips and ideas for updating and for starting from scratch if they don’t currently have a resumé.”

Creamer emphasized that keeping an updated resumé does not imply that a person is seeking a new position: “It is useful for annual evaluations as well as critical for applying for University awards such as the Outstanding Staff Award.”

The brown-bag seminar, “Resumé Writing 101 With Heather Karns,” will be held Thursday, April 20, in Rocket Hall Room 1530, and Tuesday, April 25, in Collier Building Room 1210.

Both sessions will take place from noon to 1 p.m.

To register for the event, visit http://www.utoledo.edu/org/psa/webforms/resumewriting101.html.

For more information, contact Creamer at emily.creamer@utoledo.edu or 419.530.8048.

Students use human simulators to practice caring for brain-dead, organ-donor patients

By Sarah A. Velliquette

One organ donor can save eight lives, according to the American Transplant Foundation.

The University of Toledo is using state-of-the art simulation technology to help future medical professionals practice how to preserve and protect the organs of patients who suffered traumatic brain injury and brain death.

Using human simulators in the Jacobs Interprofessional Simulation Center, a half dozen UT graduate students participated last week in a training scenario on caring for brain-dead patients who are organ donors.

“Our students are getting hands-on practice on how to medically manage brain-dead patients in order to recover organs and help save lives of others through donation,” said James Judkins, assistant professor in the Department of Physician Assistant Studies and director of the Human Donation Science Program.

Two of the students who participated in the mock scenario, Riley Messer and Dylan Launder, thought the experience was not only beneficial, but unique.

“Actually coming into the Sim Center allows us to have real-time experience … and understanding,” Riley said.

Dylan added, “We’re there advocating for the donor that everything possible is done [to save her or him]. If we come on and we see that this test might have been done wrong, we are not just going to ignore it, we’re going to say, ‘You might want to redo it’ because we want to make sure that everything is how it needs to be.”

The students, who are on track to graduate in July with master’s degrees, are studying human donation science in the College of Medicine and Life Sciences.

As part of program curriculum, the students have been learning the principles of medical management in brain death. The use of the Jacobs Interprofessional Simulation Center allows these principles to be applied through the use of human simulators prior to going on clinical rotations in spring.
Now screening: 2017 UT’s Student Filmmakers Showcase

By Angela Riddel

The Department of Theatre and Film will present a public screening of its film students’ best work. The 2017 University of Toledo Student Filmmakers Showcase will take place Saturday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m. in the Center for Performing Arts Center Theatre.

The event is a sensory experience filled with artistry and variety, a film lover’s annual favorite. Chosen in juried competition, entries include film, video and animation projects created as part of the curriculum.

“The opportunity to showcase my films next to my peers makes the entire experience worth it,” Evan Sennett, film student, said. “As director of the Film Curators Club, I can honestly say this is the most exciting screening of the year.”

Holly Hey, associate professor and head of film, agreed: “The showcase is a night to celebrate the work that gets screened, and it’s also a night to celebrate the community of creative culture within the Film/Video Program at UT. I’m proud of everyone involved, and want to share our successes with the local communities on and off campus.”

The Film Curators Club will provide free concessions during the screening and host a free after party following the showcase. Door prizes will add to the evening’s festivities.

Tickets are $10 for general admission and $5 for UT employees/students/alumni, seniors 60 and older, children and members of the military. Advance tickets are available through the Center for Performing Arts Box at 419.530.2787 or online at toledo.tix.com.
Learn more about sustainability, climate change at Earth Fest April 18

By Madison Vasko

In celebration of Earth Day, The University of Toledo will hold its 17th annual Earth Fest Tuesday, April 18, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Centennial Mall.

The event, which is run by student organizations including Building Ohio’s Sustainable Energy Future and the Society of Environmental Education, will focus on practicing sustainable habits and protecting the soil, water and air.

“We want to encourage others to be more sustainable as well as provide them with some information to help them achieve sustainability,” said Jonathan Stuber, member of Building Ohio’s Sustainable Energy Future. “With rising levels of greenhouse gas emissions, we want to create awareness of climate change and get others to think. These problems are no small task; it will require a large grassroots movement to impact current policies around the world. We want to provide a fun time for all who choose to come celebrate Earth Fest this year.”

The event will feature exhibits by many local businesses and organizations: Building Ohio’s Sustainable Energy Future; First Solar; Olander Park System; Lathrop Co.; Lucas County Soil and Water; BREW Coffee Bar; the UT Sustainability, Energy Efficiency and Design Initiative; city of Toledo Division of Environmental Services; Ohio Sea Grant and Stone Laboratory; Partners for Clean Streams; Toledo Student Chapter of the American Chemical Society; and Imagination Station.

Activities will include a bag and bottle swap, spring plant fair, giant Jenga, solar-powered boat races, a wind turbine, and prizes of Chipotle gift cards.

“The bag and bottle swap is an attempt to encourage people to recycle their used plastic bags and plastic bottles,” Stuber explained. “We will have a stock supply of reusable water bottles and reusable shopping bags. If students bring in 10 bottles or 10 bags, they can choose one reusable item.”

Stuber added participants can bring both bags and bottles to swap, as long as the quantity adds up to 10.

Toledo Section of American Chemical Society celebrates 100th anniversary

The Toledo Local Section of the American Chemical Society will celebrate its 100th anniversary Thursday, April 27, with a talk by Barbara Floyd, interim director of University Libraries, on her book “The Glass City: Toledo and the Industry That Built It.”

The book talk, part of the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library’s Open Book Program, will take place at 6 p.m. in McMaster Auditorium of the Toledo main library downtown.

Floyd’s book, which chronicles the history of Toledo’s most important industry, was published by the University of Michigan Press. It was the winner of the Bowling Green State University’s Center for Archival Collection Local History Publication Award for the best book in the academic scholar category for 2015.

The Toledo Section of the American Chemical Society was founded by members of the UT Department of Chemistry faculty in 1917. The Toledo group is one of 187 local sections of the organization. The society’s mission is “to advance the broader chemistry enterprise and its practitioners for the benefit of Earth and its people.”

According to Joanna Hinton, past chair of the Toledo section, the group will hold events throughout the year in what it is calling its “Chem-tennial 2017.”

The talk at the library will include the presentation of awards to American Chemical Society members for their service.

Floyd, who is also director of the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections, will sign copies of her book, which will be available for sale, after the talk.

For more information on the free, public talk, contact Hinton at 419.346.8876 or visit http://toledosection.sites.acs.org.
Who is Generation Z? 
Find out at April 21 program

Determined. Innovative. Confident. These are some of the many characteristics of Generation Z, those born from 1995 to 2010. Some of these traits may look like the Millennial Generation; yet differ in their styles, preferences, concerns, affiliations, beliefs and motivations.

Learn who these “Gen Zers” are and how to better communicate with, relate to, and work with this emerging generational cohort.

“The UT community is invited to join the University Teaching Center for this special event, with speaker Dr. Corey Seemiller from Wright State University,” said Dr. Connie Shriner, vice provost with the University Teaching Center. “Dr. Seemiller will present on how today’s learner brings a new set of attributes and experiences to higher education.”

The “Who is Generation Z?” presentation will be held Friday, April 21, in Libbey Hall. The keynote luncheon will be from noon to 1 p.m., followed by a breakout session from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m.

The breakout session will feature discussions on communicating with students, designing assignments, in-class learning, assessment, instructional strategies, diversity/multiculturalism, and student conduct.

Seemiller has worked in higher education for more than 20 years in both faculty and administrative positions. She has taught and directed programs related to her areas of expertise, which include leadership, civic engagement, career development and social justice.

She is an assistant professor in the Department of Leadership Studies in Education and Organizations at Wright State University and previously held roles including director of leadership, learning and assessment at OrgSync Inc., a campus management technology platform, and director of leadership programs at the University of Arizona.

In 2008, Seemiller cofounded the Sonoran Center for Leadership Development to offer affordable and accessible leadership development training for individuals and groups in southern Arizona.

She wrote “The Student Leadership Competencies Guidebook” to help educators develop intentional curriculum that enhances leadership competency growth with students. Seemiller also designed evaluation measurements for each competency, an online database that outlines leadership competencies needed by each academically accredited industry, a workbook, online competency self-assessment, and an iOS application.

Seemiller received her bachelor’s degree in communication from Arizona State University, a master’s degree in educational leadership from Northern Arizona University, and PhD in higher education from the University of Arizona.

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