UT, BGSU sign foreign language course exchange agreement

By Meghan Cunningham

The University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University have announced a collaboration in foreign language education that will expand opportunities for students at both universities, while saving resources by reducing duplicative academic programs. The programs are among those identified by the Ohio Department of Higher Education in response to the Governor’s Task Force on Affordability and Efficiency’s recommendation that universities in the same region offering duplicative programs look for opportunities to collaborate.

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Jazz icon who taught at UT passes away

By Vicki L. Kroll

Jon Hendricks, a legend in the jazz world who taught at The University of Toledo 16 years, died Nov. 22 at age 96 in New York City.

The UT Distinguished Professor of Jazz struck a lasting note in the music world. Many considered Hendricks to be the father of vocalese — the art of setting lyrics to established jazz standards. Time magazine dubbed him “the James Joyce of jive,” and music critic Leonard Feather called him “the poet laureate of modern jazz.”

In 1957, he formed the jazz vocal group Lambert, Hendricks & Ross. The trio refined vocalese, whereby voices are arranged to sing the parts of instruments. Vocalists Bobby McFerrin, Al Jarreau and the Manhattan Transfer cite the group’s work as a major influence.

Hendricks was born in Newark, Ohio, in 1921. His family moved to Toledo when he was 4 years old. They lived on the same street as Toledo’s other jazz legend, pianist Art Tatum.

“Everything for me started right here in Toledo,” the superstar said in a 2012 interview. “When I was 12 or 13, I stood in front of the juke box at Stanley Cowell’s hamburger joint on Indiana Avenue and...”

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Open forum dates for education dean candidates this week

Final candidates have been selected from a national search for the position of dean of the Judith Herb College of Education.

The candidates and their open forum dates are:
- Dr. Joaquin S. Vila, dean of the School of Education and professor at Northern New Mexico College — open forums Monday, Nov. 27;
- Dr. Raymond H. Witte, chair of the Department of Educational Psychology at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio — open forums Tuesday, Nov. 28; and
- Dr. Brian V. Carolyn, associate dean of the Graduate School at Montclair State University in Montclair, N.J. — open forums Wednesday, Nov. 29.

Each of the candidates will participate in an open forum this week. All members of the University campus, as well as community members and alumni, are invited to attend. Go to utoledo.edu/offices/provost/search-dean-education to see the schedules and curricula vitae for the candidates.

The dean serves as the chief academic and administrative officer for the Judith Herb College of Education and has a direct reporting line to the provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. The dean provides a clear vision for the college in keeping with accreditation and University standards.

UT-BGSU

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On Nov. 15, UT President Sharon L. Gaber and BGSU President Mary Ellen Mazey led the signing of a memorandum of agreement supporting the foreign language course exchange in advance of the rivalry football game.

Also signing the agreement were Andrew Hsu, UT executive vice president and provost; Rodney Rogers, BGSU provost and senior vice president; Charlene Gilbert, dean of the UT College of Arts and Letters; and Raymond Craig, dean of the BGSU College of Arts and Sciences.

“This foreign language partnership builds on the existing culture of collaboration between UT and BGSU to better serve our students and the community in the most efficient ways possible,” Gaber said. “By sharing resources, we will be able to provide our students access to more foreign language education opportunities to better prepare them for success in the global marketplace.”

“We are pleased to enter into this partnership with The University of Toledo, which will provide exceptional educational experiences for both BGSU and UT students,” Mazey said. “As one of BGSU’s core values, we welcome opportunities to collaborate. This agreement combines the strengths of both universities, resulting in efficiencies that support students’ degree completion.”

The universities are already collaborating at the course level. This fall, UT students have been taking an online BGSU Italian course, and in the spring, BGSU students will be able to take a UT Arabic course. Sharing course offerings in French and German is also planned to begin as early as spring. Opportunities for collaboration in additional languages will be explored by a joint task force under the direction of the two college offices.

The universities have worked to ensure the process is as seamless as possible for students.

BGSU recently merged its romance and classical languages department with the German, Russian and East Asian languages department to better prepare undergraduate students to be engaged global citizens. The new Department of World Languages and Cultures promotes linguistic and cultural competence as a bridge to achieve intercultural understanding of global issues, ideas and values.

UT also is in the process of renaming its foreign languages program to the Department of World Languages and Culture to better reflect the curriculum that also includes culture and literature instruction to prepare students to thrive in the global world.
Fellows

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said. “This recognition by AAAS is an external validation of the talented experts on our campus. UT faculty make important contributions to their fields of study and actively engage our students in research projects in the process.”

Appel, who joined UT in 2016, is being elected to the biological sciences section of the AAAS for her contributions to the field of chemical ecology. Her research on how plants can “hear” by detecting feeding vibrations from insects and responding with an enhanced chemical defense has been widely cited.

Her other research project explores how galling insects trick plants into making novel structures that they then use as protected places to feed and reproduce. Some of these insects are major agricultural pests worldwide on grapes, wheat, and rice.

“Plant defenses against insects are mostly invisible to us because they are chemical. Just think about all of the herbs and spices we use — plants evolved that chemistry to defend themselves against their own diseases and insect pests,” Appel said. “I’ve been fortunate to spend my career working with great collaborators to advance our understanding of how plants detect and respond to insect pests, including a sensory modality we didn’t realize plants had.”

Bjorkman, who has been a member of UT’s faculty since 1996, is being elected into the association’s astronomy section for her leadership in the field of stellar astrophysics and spectropolarimetry to better understand the disks around massive stars.

He has been a UT astronomer since 1988 and for much of his career has studied interstellar gas clouds to better understand the elements and isotopes within these clouds that form stars. He also is a leader in establishing the field of laboratory astrophysics that brings together theoretical and experimental astronomy research to combine observational and lab data to test theories. He was the first chair of the American Astronomical Society’s Division of Laboratory Astrophysics.

“Studying the abundances of elements and isotopes in the material between stars informs about the reactions and processes that happened in the past that led to the outcome we see today,” Federman said. “I’m proud to have been able to contribute over the years as we’ve moved from modeling to observations to lab studies as we continue to learn more and more about the chemical makeup in material that will become the next generation of stars and planets.”

Appel, Bjorkman and Federman will be recognized at the AAAS Fellows Forum at the association’s annual meeting Feb. 17 in Austin, Texas.

The 2017 AAAS Fellows join UT’s Dr. Carol Stepien, Distinguished University Professor of Ecology, who was elected last year, and Dr. Jack Schultz, who joined UT in September as senior executive director of research development and has been an AAAS Fellow since 2011 when he was elected while at the University of Missouri.

RSVPs requested by Dec. 7 for president’s holiday open house

President Sharon L. Gaber is inviting faculty and staff to stop by a holiday open house Thursday, Dec. 14.

Drop by the Sullivan Athletic Complex in Savage Arena between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m. to celebrate with colleagues. Cupcakes, coffee and cider will be served.

“IT’s always nice to come together during this special time of the year,” Gaber said. “I hope many of you can take a few minutes out of your busy schedules as the semester winds down to join us.”

RSVPs are requested by Thursday, Dec. 7; please reply to the invitation email.
University recognizes faculty for tenure and promotion

By Christine Wasserman

During what has become an annual tradition brought to the University by President Sharon L. Gaber, 53 faculty members were honored in a special tenure and promotion celebration Oct. 30 in Carlson Library.

Each honoree was asked to select a book that was instrumental to his or her success, and these books are now housed in the library — each marked with a bookplate commemorating the honoree’s milestone.

“We’re extremely proud of each of these individuals,” Gaber said. “This tribute helps to build a culture of excellence for our faculty and staff — one of our strategic priorities. They deserve our praise, and we certainly wish them continued success with all of their academic, clinical and research endeavors here at UT.”

“Scholarly activities are fundamental to raising UT’s academic excellence and our national reputation,” noted Provost Andrew Hsu. “The achievements of these faculty members and researchers are critically important to us, as well as to the success of our students.”

Faculty members who achieved promotion to professor are: Dr. An Chung Cheng, Holly Hey, Dr. Kamala London, Newton and Dr. Joni Mihura, College of Arts and Letters; Dr. Debra Johanning, Judith Herb College of Education; Dr. Defne Apul, Dr. Cyndee Gruden, Dr. Dong-Shik Kim, Dr. Matthew Liberatore, College of Engineering; Gregory Gilchrist, College of Law (for academic year 2017-18); Dr. Hossein Elgafy, Dr. Michael Ellis and Dr. William Suarez, College of Medicine and Life Sciences; Dr. Thomas Bridgeman, Dr. Deborah Chadee, Dr. Song-Tao Liu, Dr. John-David Smith, William Taylor, and Dr. Jianglong Zhu, College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics; and Dr. Youssef Sari, College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Individuals appointed to professor with tenure are: Dr. R. William Ayres and Charlene Gilbert, College of Arts and Letters; Beau Case, University Libraries; Dr. Linda Lewandowski, College of Nursing; and Dr. T. Michael Toole, College of Engineering.

Faculty who received tenure and promotion to associate professor are: Dr. Ammon Allred, Dr. Denise Bernardini, Dr. Jetsabe Caceres, Dr. Olman Piedra, Dr. Pamela Stover, Tad Weed and Barry Whittaker, College of Arts and Letters; Dr. Mark Gleim and Dr. Alex Petkevich, College of Business and Innovation; Dr. Liangbo Hu, College of Engineering; Dr. Jennifer Reynolds, College of Health and Human Services; and Dr. Song Qian and Dr. Akaki Tikaradze, College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

Faculty promoted to associate professor are: Agnieszka McPeak, College of Law; and Dr. Mark Bonnell, Dr. Kathryn Eisenmann, Dr. Elhab Eltaahawy, Dr. Jason Huntley, Dr. George Moukarbel, Dr. Daniel Rapport, Dr. Joseph Sferra and Dr. Elizabeth Wroblewski, College of Medicine and Life Sciences.

Those recognized for earning tenure are: Dr. Matthew Tull, College of Arts and Letters; Elizabeth McCuskey and Evan Zoldan, College of Law (both for academic year 2017-18); and Dr. Annie (Tsui Sui) Kao, College of Nursing.

Dr. Mary Jean Ohns, College of Nursing, was promoted to assistant professor. 

SPECIAL OCCASION: President Sharon L. Gaber and Provost Andrew Hsu, center standing, posed for a photo with some of the faculty members who attended the tenure and promotion celebration last month in Carlson Library.
The University of Toledo’s Continuity of Operations Plan helps to ensure students, faculty and staff are safe during snow emergencies when classes need to be delayed or canceled.

Although essential services continue and the University and UT Medical Center remain open during severe weather, classes and campus events may need to be delayed or canceled.

“Keeping our campus community members, our patients and guests safe is our No. 1 concern,” said Larry Kelley, executive vice president for finance and administration. “We strive to communicate as quickly as possible through multiple avenues when severe weather may impact campus operations.”

If a major snowstorm or ice storm affects classes, the University will announce this information through the following communication channels:

- UT Alert text message and email — visit utalert.utoledo.edu to sign up;
- Website — utoledo.edu and myut.utoledo.edu;
- Social media — UT on Facebook and Twitter;
- Phone — 419.530.SNOW (7669); and
- Local media outlets, including TV and radio stations.

Decisions to delay or cancel classes due to weather are based on the condition of UT campuses and area roads, as well as reports from local transit authorities and weather forecasters.

“Even though we must weigh multiple factors when making decisions to cancel or delay classes, we do our best to make these announcements in three phases when possible: to suspend morning classes by 6 a.m., afternoon classes by 10 a.m. and evening classes by 3 p.m.,” Kelley said. “This approach enables us to have flexibility should conditions improve throughout the day.”

The University’s policy is to remain open whenever possible in order to minimize interruption of teaching and research.

When there is a temporary suspension of University operations due to weather-related conditions or other emergencies, the Continuity of Operations Plan is enacted to continue essential operations; ensure timely and ongoing communications; and protect the health and safety of the campus community, patients and guests.

The areas defined as “essential” in maintaining continuous operations during a temporary suspension of operations include:

- Clinical operations;
- Campus safety and security;
- Information technology;
- Academic and student services;
- Supply chain operations (for clinical operations only);
- Facility services; and
- Employee payroll and human resources information system services.

Employees who work in these areas may be designated as essential personnel. As a result, they are required to report to work when the Continuity of Operations Plan is activated. These employees will be notified of their designation by their supervisors.

If employees are stopped by authorities during a state of emergency, such as by the police, they should show their Essential Personnel Restricted Travel Memo and explain they are on their way to work.

County officials recognize that even during a state of emergency, certain employees must report to work.

Throughout the coming winter, campus members are reminded to use extra caution when walking around campus in snowy and icy conditions. Additionally, sightings of walkways that need to be cleared may be reported to the grounds crew on Main Campus at 419.530.1000 and on Health Science Campus at 419.383.5353.

If you have questions about campus operations and severe weather, talk with your supervisor or visit http://utoledo.edu/depts/hr/essentialemployee.html.
MAC Championship ticket orders available online

By Paul Helgren

Tickets for the 2017 Mid-American Conference Football Championship Game may be ordered online at utrockets.com.

The Rockets, champions of the MAC West Division, will face Akron, champions of the East, at Ford Field in Detroit Saturday, Dec. 2. Kickoff is set for noon on ESPN.

Tickets may be ordered online at utrockets.com. All orders placed before 5 p.m. Tuesday will receive priority-seating assignments in the Toledo sections of Ford Field — behind the Rocket bench, sections 123-131. Rocket Fund contributors and Rocket football season ticket holders will receive priority-seating locations over the general public. Seats will be assigned based on donation and season ticket history. Any orders placed after 5 p.m. Tuesday will receive best available seating.

Orders may be placed over the phone at 419.530.GOLD (4653) or in person at the UT Athletic Ticket Office Monday, Nov. 27, from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., or Tuesday, Nov. 28, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

All tickets can be picked up at the UT Ticket Office in Savage Arena beginning Wednesday, Nov. 29, at 9 a.m. until Friday, Dec. 1, at 7 p.m. A photo ID is required to pick up tickets.

Rocket fans attending the women’s basketball game Thursday, Nov. 30, also may pick up their tickets at the UT Ticket Office before or during the game.

Any tickets not picked up by Friday at 7 p.m. must be picked up at Ford Field at the UT Will Call area at Gate C beginning at 9 a.m. Ford Field gates will open at 10:30 a.m.

UT student tickets are available for $5 and are located in the end zone. UT Students may purchase one ticket at the student rate. Any additional tickets in the student section will be $10. Student tickets are available only at the UT Athletic Ticket Office beginning at 9 a.m. Monday until Friday at 7 p.m. (if still available). Students must show their Rocket ID at the time of purchase.

The UT Alumni Association is sponsoring bus trips to the MAC Championship Game for alumni, fans and students, as well as a pre-game reception. For more information, go to toledoalumni.org or call 1.800.235.6766 or 419.530.2586 (ALUM).

REWRITING ROCKET HISTORY: Senior quarterback Logan Woodside threw for more than 300 yards and two TDs to lead the Rockets over the Broncos. He became the first Toledo player to throw for more than 10,000 yards; he has 10,083 yards in his four years at UT.

TRUE MIDNIGHT BLUE: Daniel Wurzinger, right, and Harry Bolin had a lot to cheer about Friday afternoon in the Glass Bowl as the Rockets defeated the Broncos to advance to the MAC Championship Game.

POURING IT ON: Toledo players doused Head Football Coach Jason Candle on the sidelines to celebrate the big win.

The UT Alumni Association is sponsoring bus trips to the MAC Championship Game for alumni, fans and students, as well as a pre-game reception. For more information, go to toledoalumni.org or call 419.530.2586 (ALUM).
learned every song. And when people would come up to play it, I’d say, ‘What are you going to play?’ And they’d say, ‘What’s it to you?’ I said, ‘Give me the nickel, I’ll sing it.’ And they’d say, ‘I’d like to hear that.’ So they’d give the nickel, and I’d sing them the song they were going to play.

“As I look back on it, that’s where vocalese came from,” Hendricks said.

At age 14, he started performing at the Waiters and Bellmen’s Club on Indiana Avenue in Toledo. “I met a lot of people at 14 — Louis Armstrong, Count Basie, Lucky Millinder, Andy Kirk, Don Redman. I met just about anybody that there was because everybody came to hear Art Tatum.”

The Scott High School graduate sang in Detroit and in the Glass City — until he was drafted into the army in 1942.

After serving his country, Hendricks returned to Toledo. In 1946, he enrolled at The University of Toledo, where he studied literature and law. Some of his poetry was published in The Collegian, UT’s student newspaper. All the while, he worked as a singer and drummer at night. Hendricks even sat in with Charlie “Bird” Parker when he played the Civic Auditorium in Toledo in 1950. It was the saxophonist who encouraged him to go to New York City.

With $27 in his pocket, Hendricks went to the Big Apple in 1952 and found Parker playing at the Apollo Bar. “[Parker] had already told everybody about me, so I had an instant entry into the jazz world. I had sung with Dizzy [Gillespie], so I knew Dizzy and he talked about me, too. So everybody knew me,” he recalled in a 2004 interview.

Hendricks started writing and trying to sell his songs. After some success on his own, he teamed up with Dave Lambert. In 1955, they wrote “Four Brothers,” which they recorded as Jon Hendricks and the Dave Lambert Singers.

The two continued to be innovative in the studio and began recording vocalese versions of Count Basie songs. Enter British jazz singer Annie Ross. She performed the trumpet and piano parts; Lambert took trombone and middle-tone sections; and Hendricks sang saxophone sections. Thanks to multi-track recording, the result was an orchestral sensation.

“Sing a Song of Basie” by Lambert, Hendricks & Ross was released in 1958. Accolades abounded. The trio continued their success, teaming up with the Count Basie Orchestra for “Sing Along With Basie” in 1959. Buoyed by their growing reputation as masters of setting lyrics to jazz standards, the group released two more albums that same year — “The Swingers” and “The Hottest New Group in Jazz.” The title of the latter was courtesy of a critic.

The three became a force in the music world and recorded nearly 30 albums. Ross left the group in 1963, and Lambert and Hendricks went their separate ways a year later.

As a solo artist, Hendricks continued to gain attention behind the microphone. His early recordings included “Bossa Man” (1963), “Salud!” (1964) and “Watermelon Man” (1965). He also sang with the Count Basie Band from 1959 to 1965 and with Duke Ellington from 1965 to 1974. Another collaboration found Hendricks recording a song with the grateful Dead in 1966.


While always in demand as a singer, he never got far away from his way with words. Over the years, he penned lyrics for music written by Ellington, Miles Davis, Sonny Rollins and Antonio Carlos Jobim. Thelonious Monk wouldn’t have anyone else but Hendricks write words for his songs.

The Manhattan Transfer paid tribute to Hendricks in 1979. They asked him to write lyrics for Joe Zawinul’s “Birdland” for their album titled “Extensions.” That song won a Grammy Award. He teamed up with the group again in 1985 for “Vocalese”; he provided words for the whole album. His duet with McFerrin on that record earned a Grammy Award for best jazz vocal performance. In 1997, Wynton Marsalis asked Hendricks to contribute to the libretto for the concert opera, “Blood on the Fields,” which won a Pulitzer Prize. Hendricks also narrated and sang in the show about slavery in America.

Through the years, Hendricks received numerous awards. In 1992, he was the recipient of the highest honor given to a jazz artist — the National Endowment for the Arts American Jazz Masters Fellowship. He was given a French Legion of Honor in the class of knight — France’s highest civilian commendation — in 2004. And in 2014, he took home the Satchmo Award for his lifetime commitment to jazz.

In 1999, Hendricks received an honorary doctorate from The University of Toledo in recognition of his iconic career. One year later, he was named Distinguished Professor of Jazz at the University. UT students had the luxury of hearing about jazz greats from the luminary who shared the spotlight with them. “It was such an honor for me to be invited back to my hometown to teach what I do,” he said in an interview for “The University of Toledo Alumni Who Have Changed the World.”

“What I would like students to learn most is that as citizens of the United States of America, they, like any other country in the world, have a cultural art form, like the Russians have ballet, the French have painting, the English have drama; well, in America, we have jazz, and it is a great cultural art form. And it stands up with any of them in its greatness.”

The legend retired from his UT teaching gig in 2016.

Earlier this year, Hendricks saw the premiere of a longtime project, “Miles Ahead.” He began writing lyrics for the Davis album arranged by Gil Evans nearly 50 years ago.
Rocky’s Locker Pop-Up Store to open Nov. 27

Looking for some great deals on gifts for UT fans this holiday season? Maybe you want to spruce up your Rocket wardrobe?

Stop by Rocky’s Locker Pop-Up Store this week!

The store will be open Monday, Nov. 27, through Friday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Thompson Student Union across from Chick-fil-A.

“We thought it would be fun to have our first end-of-the-year sale with a pop-up store,” Bonnie Murphy, associate vice president for auxiliaries, said. “And we wanted to offer extended hours to allow employees to shop after work.”

Students, faculty and staff can score some deals on UT merchandise by Champion, 47 and Under Armour. Check out coats, jackets and vests; long-sleeve fleece and sweatshirts; and hoodies, pants, T-shirts and caps.

Prices range from $10 to $25, with coats from $40 to $60. And there’ll be a rack of sweatshirts, T-shirts and hoodies for $5.

While supplies last, Apple EarPods and Earphones will be given for purchases of $100 or more.

In addition, the first 50 customers who make a purchase will receive a Texas Instruments calculator.

“We hope campus community members come out and take advantage of this sale, which will offer substantial value. Prices marked are final prices,” Murphy said. “If purchasing for the holidays, please keep in mind all sales will be final.”

Look for another Rocky’s Locker Pop-Up Store near the end of spring semester.
Pharmacy student to compete in Dr Pepper Tuition Throw

By Vicki L. Kroll

Rachel Burns is ready. She will face three college students for a chance to win $100,000 in the Dr Pepper Tuition Throw.

The second-year student in the UT College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences will travel to Arlington, Texas, Friday, Dec. 1. She’ll have 30 seconds to see how many footballs she can toss into a hole two feet in diamater in a ginormous soda can five yards away.

If Burns places first or second, she’ll move to the final round Saturday, Dec. 2, and vie for big money live on national television during halftime of the Big 12 Championship game at AT&T Stadium, home of the Dallas Cowboys.

“My family has been huge football fans ever since I can remember. When I was 14 or so, I remember watching these competitions where kids would throw the ball through the cans to get money,” she said.

“When it came time to get scholarships for college, I started looking at my options, and I came across [the Dr Pepper Tuition Throw] again. I thought this is really cool; this is something I want to try. It’s really a one in a million shot because thousands of people apply from all over the country,” she said.

“In her one-minute application video, the Holland, Ohio, native shared her story.

“I was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis when I was 7 or 8 years old. When I was diagnosed with the terminal lung disease, they told me I wouldn’t live past the age of 18,” Burns said. “But because of the medical advancements since then, the life expectancy has grown; I just celebrated my 20th birthday.”

Life has been a blur since her phone rang Nov. 10 with the contest news.

“A lot of participants start practicing right when they apply. I didn’t want to jinx myself or get my hopes up — thousands of people apply,” she said. “I told my dad and my brother, once we get the call, it’ll be your job to build the exact replica.”

Thanks to a diagram and dimensions supplied by Dr Pepper, her dad, Ray, had the oversized can built in less than two hours, with assistance from her brother, Raymond. They even made the can portable.

Burns has been practicing every day since — in her garage and backyard, at Springfield High School, and in UT’s Fetterman Center.

“We’re trying to mimic the conditions I’ll see in Texas,” she said, adding AT&T Stadium has a retractable roof that is likely to be closed. “Practicing in the Fetterman Center has been a huge help; it keeps the conditions as similar as possible.”

The former softball and volleyball player is experimenting with a shot-put style throw.

“You just have to go in with all your heart and trust that either way, this is still an amazing opportunity. Winning any amount of tuition money would take a huge burden off my family. This is going to be a trip of a lifetime, an experience to share with the world, and I’m proud to represent The University of Toledo.”

Twenty college students will participate in the Dr Pepper Tuition Throw, four at five championship games. All are guaranteed $2,500. Second-place finishers will receive $25,000, and winners will take home $100,000 to pay for school.

“I’m very grateful for this opportunity,” Burns said. “Every little bit helps when it comes to paying for college.”

Some say there are no coincidences. Consider these auspicious signs:

• Burns and her family are lifelong fans of the Dallas Cowboys.
• Ray Burns’ birthday is Dec. 1. And Dec. 2 is the birthday of Heather Burns, Rachel’s mom.
• After falling in love with a puppy Burns was training for Rocket Service Dogs, the UT student organization of which she is president, the family brought home an 8-week-old chocolate Labrador retriever and named him Dallas just two days before learning about the competition.

Dr Pepper will cover the cost of the trip for Burns and one person; she’s taking her dad.

“My dad has always wanted to go [to AT&T Stadium]. It’s a win-win for me and for him for his birthday. It’s pretty cool,” she said. “I’m excited; I’ve been practicing; I can’t wait.”
The Kingsley family began to recognize that something wasn’t quite right when Brett was only 4-months-old. He wasn’t sitting up or rolling over like both his older siblings had at that age. Yet the pediatrician assured them Brett was simply a little delayed.

By 6-months-old, Brett was sent to a local children’s hospital for an MRI and blood work, which brought devastating news: Brett had spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) type 1.

Following this heartbreaking diagnosis, Brett’s dad asked the pediatrician if SMA type 1 was terminal. The response stunned the father of three: one in every 6,000 babies are born with SMA, making it the leading genetic killer of children younger than age 2.

Shortly after this rare diagnosis, Brett — an already fragile baby — contracted respiratory syncytial virus at 10 months, which landed him in the hospital for two months. While hospitalized, little Brett coded five times. Each time he pulled through — but not without repercussions.

His parents faced yet another tough decision: insert a feeding tube or admit their little boy to hospice. The Kingsleys chose the tube for their little fighter.

As he grew older, Brett’s mom, Allison, knew about his love of roller coasters. And so, thanks to A Kid Again — one of more than 200 nonprofit agencies UTC3 gifts can support — Allison and the rest of the family visited King’s Island this past summer. There, she eyed a small roller coaster and hesitated only for a moment.

Swiftly, she scooped up Brett from his wheelchair, safely positioned his vent between them, and hopped onto the coaster for the ride of their lives. During the brief duration of their kiddy coaster adventure, Allison watched tearfully; Brett laughed wildly.

All UT faculty, staff and retirees are invited to support any of hundreds of charities, such as A Kid Again, which help families just like the Kingsleys.

UTC3 pledges will be accepted through Friday, Dec. 22.

To pledge your gift, watch for the next email you receive from Dr. Michele Soliz, assistant vice president for student success and inclusion, and 2017 UTC3 chair.

All gifts are tax-deductible, and each donor will receive a complimentary gift, be entered into a weekly drawing for prizes (such as an umbrella or leather portfolio), and will be invited to a breakfast buffet hosted by President Sharon L. Gaber in early January.

For more information, including a complete list of charities you can choose to support, visit utoledo.edu/utc3.
Language learning with a smartphone app topic of Nov. 29 lecture

By Ashley Diel

“Developing an Intelligent Smartphone Application for Language Learning: Progress and Challenges” will be discussed Wednesday, Nov. 29, at 1 p.m. in Memorial Field House Room 2420.

Dr. Kasumi Yamazaki, assistant professor of Japanese, will deliver the lecture hosted by the Department of Foreign Languages.

Her presentation will showcase the new intelligent smartphone application called KAI, which she developed in collaboration with Honda Research Institute Japan Co. Ltd.

KAI helps people in their advancement of fluency in another language by collecting real-time interactions at social occasions and allowing users to share their interactions in order to receive corrective feedback from language experts.

“I believe the session will be a showcase of what could be accomplished by the university-industry collaboration,” Yamazaki said. “The session will also provide an example of potential opportunities for interdisciplinary exchange and to develop new research ideas in different fields.”

The lecture will include a demonstration of KAI, discussions of its advantages and challenges, and recommendations for future studies.

Research has shown that learning another language creates a positive relationship between second language motivation and global competence, has far-reaching academic and cognitive benefits, increases social and communication skills, and expands employment opportunities.

“Students have a firsthand opportunity to see the smartphone application KAI and its features, exploring the behind-the-scenes process of how to turn our ideas into reality,” Yamazaki said. “Because of the interdisciplinary nature of the research topic, this lecture is applicable to a wide range of students and faculty.”

For more information on the free, public lecture, contact Yamazaki at kasumi.yamazaki@utoledo.edu.
Helping out

On Nov. 18, UT students in the Klar Leadership Academy and Dr. Clinton O. Longenecker, Distinguished University Professor and director of the College of Business and Innovation’s Center for Leadership in Organizational Excellence, were among volunteers assembling Thanksgiving meals for local families in need as part of the eighth annual Box Out Hunger campaign. As a result, an estimated 2,000 meals were delivered to area families in need this Thanksgiving. The academy, started in 2015, is a leadership development experience conducted by the UT College of Business and Innovation. It is spread out over seven months for 75 students across all undergraduate colleges on campus. Steven Klar, president of the Klar Organization, a diversified real estate development, building and brokerage firm, received a bachelor’s degree in business administration from UT in 1969.

Photo by Natalie Zerucha

Pitching in

Physician assistant students helped Stuff the Truck for the Toledo SeaGate Food Bank Nov. 17 at Walt Churchill’s Market in Maumee. The students even met the store’s namesake and posed for a photo: back row from left, Amani Brown, Daniel Hatfield, Churchill with his dog, Alyssa Kitts, Shannon O’Hearn and Monica Hajjar; and, front row from left, Emily Kohler, Stacey Stewart and Amber McCoy. Donations were for Thanksgiving dinners for those in need.

Photo by James A. Mohar
UT Music Choral Program to present three concerts in December

By Angela Riddel

The University of Toledo Department of Music choirs will present three concerts this December, including one featuring a guest choir, the Children’s Choir of Northwest Ohio.

On Saturday, Dec. 2, the UT Concert Chorale will perform “Abendmusik” (“Evening Music”) at 7 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Broadway St., Maumee.

This show will spotlight historical German church music to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The music of composers Johann Sebastian Bach, Franz Tunder and Hugo Distler will be featured. Guest organist James Biery of Detroit and UT student chamber ensemble musicians will accompany the choir.

Tickets — $10; $5 for students, children and seniors — are available at utoledo.tix.com or by calling 419.530.2787. Tickets also will be available at the door.

On Sunday, Dec. 3, the UT Concert Chorale will perform at the Toledo Museum of Art Great Gallery Concert at 3 p.m.

Carlson Library and Writing Center to host write-in Nov. 29

Writing tutors and librarians will be available to answer students’ writing and research questions.

There will be giveaways, and snacks will be available.

For additional details, contact Elaine Reeves, senior lecturer in University Libraries, at elaine.reeves@utoledo.edu or 419.530.2868, or Clayton Chiarelott, coordinator in the Writing Center, at clayton.chiarelott@utoledo.edu or 419.530.7753.

Hypnotizing horror

The UT Department of Theatre and Film will screen “The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari” Friday, Dec. 1, at 7:30 p.m. in the Center for Performing Arts Center Theatre. Shown from 16-millimeter film, the 1920 German horror film directed by Robert Wiene is about a hypnotist who uses a sleepwalker to commit murders. The dark 74-minute film is considered a German Expressionist classic. Live music by Secondhand Love Cuffs will accompany the silent movie. Tickets — $10 for general admission and $5 for students, UT employees and alumni, military members, and seniors 60 and older — include popcorn and soft drink. Get tickets at utoledo.tix.com or by calling the Center for Performing Arts Box Office at 419.530.2787. Read more about Fridays on Film and the department’s 2017-18 season at utoledo.edu/al/svpa/theatrefilm/currentseason.
Lauren Wheeler, left, and Anitra McFarland got their creative on at the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women’s holiday card-making session. The free event was held Nov. 17.

‘Tis the season

Bunny Slagle, a nurse at UT Medical Center, looked at jewelry made by Ron Dutro of Studio Dutro who was one of the vendors at the Holiday Bazaar Nov. 17 at the hospital. The event was presented by the Professional Staff Council. Proceeds from vendor table registrations will benefit the Professional Staff Association Scholarship.

Shopping
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.

Contact Kelsi Rooks at kelsi.rooks@utoledo.edu or 419.530.2299 to schedule an appointment before Wednesday, Dec. 20.

Photos will appear in an upcoming issue of the paper.

In memoriam

Stella A. (Cukierski) Blachowski, Toledo, a former secretary at MCO who took classes at UT, died Nov. 13 at age 91.

Richard W. Knepper, Perrysburg, a member of the College of Law Foundation Board, died Nov. 15 at age 70. A UT alumnus, he received a bachelor’s degree in business in 1969 and a law degree in 1973. He served 13 years on the Lucas Court of Common Pleas and eight years on the District Court of Appeals, Sixth Appellate District. Knepper was a lifetime member of the UT Alumni Association and a member of the UT Law Alumni Association.

Philip Markowicz, Sylvania, the namesake of an annual lecture series and professorship/instructorship at the University, died Nov. 8 at age 93. The Holocaust survivor shared his story in the 2010 book, “My Three Lives,” and gave talks and was featured in the documentary, “Bearing Witness: The Voices of Our Survivors.” A religious scholar, Markowicz wrote a forthcoming monograph to be published by the UT Press under the imprint of the Center for Religious Understanding. Memorials are suggested to the Philip Markowicz Instructorship/Professorship in Judaism and Jewish Biblical Studies through the UT Foundation at https://give2ut.utoledo.edu. Established in 1999 by Philip’s children, Dr. Allen Markowicz and Sylvia Neil, the fund in honor of their father helps support an instructor or professor teaching courses in Judaism and Jewish biblical studies, as well as the annual Philip Markowicz Lecture in Judaism and Jewish Biblical Studies.

Vincent M. Nathan, who was a faculty member in the College of Law and later the Criminal Justice Department, died Nov. 8 at age 79. From 1963 to 1979, he was a professor of law who specialized in commercial law and contracts. Nathan was appointed assistant dean in the College of Law in 1966 and later was promoted to associate dean. After practicing law at Nathan & Arnold, he returned to the University, where he was a visiting faculty member, lecturer and associate lecturer in the Criminal Justice Department from 2003 to 2012.

Robert F. Walters, Oregon, who was a volunteer with the Satellites Auxiliary, died Nov. 10 at age 96.

Thomas P. Wojnowski, Toledo, a custodian at UT 10 years, died Nov. 16 at age 81. He retired from the University in 1999.

UTNEWS

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In the bag

Antonetta Stewart, a patient registration specialist at UT Medical Center, left, and Diamond Stewart checked out purses during the Satellites Auxiliary’s recent Carline Leathers sale in the Four Seasons Bistro Atrium. A portion of the proceeds benefited patient programs.
Donations sought for holiday book drive through Jan. 1

By Madison Vasko

The Barnes & Noble University Bookstore has partnered with Mercy Health Children’s Hospital, Promedica Toledo Children’s Hospital and the East Toledo Family Center to bring books to local children this holiday season.

The organizations hope to receive at least 1,000 book donations before Jan. 1, all of which will be dispersed through programs and gift baskets. Those interested may purchase books to donate or bring their gently used books to the bookstore.

Not only will the donated books go to deserving Toledo programs, the gifts will have a significant impact on the children who receive them, according to organizers.

“Books are so vital to a child’s development. Parents who spend time reading to their children create nurturing relationships that enhance their child’s cognitive, language and social-emotional development,” said Cindy Pisano, supervisor of the Healthy Connections Department at Mercy Health Children’s Hospital. “For some of these children, it may be the first book they will ever have of their own.”

For more information on the holiday book drive, or to suggest a children’s organization that may benefit from the event, contact Ashley Patrizzi, assistant store manager of the Barnes & Noble University Bookstore, at am573@bncollege.com or 419.530.2516.

Native American drum group to perform Nov. 28

By Ashley Diel

SouthEastern WaterSpider, an Eastern Woodland Native American drum group, will visit The University of Toledo Tuesday, Nov. 28.

The ensemble will perform a free, public concert at 6 p.m. in the Health Education Center Gymnasium on Main Campus.

The group will play traditional Eastern Woodland songs that have been approved by their elders as being genuinely Eastern and indigenous.

“All too often, Native American Heritage Month celebrations go immediately to stereotypical Indians, who are from points East, with the Great Plains and the desert Southwestern cultures being usually highlighted,” said Dr. Barbara Mann, professor of humanities in the Jesup Scott Honors College. “Spatial location is very important to Native Americans because songs, dances and ceremonies connect with geography, so that the medicine from a song made to honor the desert just confuses the spirits of a watery place like Ohio.”

The event honors the people of the Eastern Woodlands and clears the misconception that all Native Americans moved west during the Indian Removal Act from 1832 to 1845.

“The event is a reminder that ‘we are still here,’” Mann said. “It helps Americans remember who was here first.”

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