Two students honored for internships by Washington Center

By Ashley Diel

Two students spent fall semester in Washington, D.C., working at internships awarded by the Washington Center Internship Program.

Colleen Anderson, a senior majoring in paralegal studies with a focus in litigation, was an investigative intern with Public Defender Services for the District of Columbia, an organization that promotes and provides quality legal representation to indigent adults and children facing a loss of liberty in D.C.

Emily Grubbs, a senior with a dual degree in English literature and law and social thought, was an investigative intern with Public Defender Services for the District of Columbia, an organization that promotes and provides quality legal representation to indigent adults and children facing a loss of liberty in D.C.

After finishing their internships in December, both students were honored at the Washington Center commencement.

Anderson won the award for academic excellence for demonstrating intellectual curiosity and offering thoughtful contributions during the Leadership, Engagement, Achievement, Development Colloquium and evening course, while Grubbs won the award for civic engagement for displaying initiative, care and concern in efforts serving the D.C. community.

“I cannot be more clear in saying that the Washington Center Internship Program has been the most valuable, professional opportunity of my undergraduate career,” Grubbs said. “Having the chance to network and explore Washington, D.C., with the

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On the air: UT alumna starts Toledo’s first Spanish-language FM radio station

By Ashley Diel

Uninversity of Toledo graduate Linda Parra has launched Toledo’s first fully Spanish-language radio station, WVZC-LP 96.5 FM Nuestra Gente.

The station officially went on air Dec. 30 and has been broadcasting a lineup of Latin favorites and hits, reaching the Spanish-speaking community in most of Toledo, Rossford and Oregon.

In 2005, Parra started a Spanish-language program, “Nuestra Gente Radio Show.” After being asked why Spanish-language programming was only on a few hours a week, Parra began dreaming of starting a Spanish-language station.

“The whole community has been asking to hear something in their own language,” Parra said. “There were Spanish stations in other communities, but not in Toledo, where the population is growing.”

She said the station’s long-term goal is to expand the programming the station offers beyond music to news, weather and other vital community information.

“We are contributing to local education and providing a voice to those who speak Spanish who may find it harder to access the media,” Parra said. “Without the station, they would not be able to participate in local news, discussions and debate. It’s empowering for the listeners.

“The music we offer through our station is varied with the traditional rhythms that distinguish the cultures of different Latin American countries,” she added.

In 2008, Parra founded a nonprofit organization called Nuestra Gente Community Projects to serve Lucas County’s Hispanic population. The nonprofit looks to provide a combination of health and community-based programs, including education, social services, and health and safety awareness to residents, migrant workers and families.

This fall, Parra plans on returning to UT to pursue the dual juris doctor and master of public health. She received a bachelor of arts degree in international business from University College in 2016.

For more information on Nuestra Gente or to make a donation, visit nuestaGenteCommunityProjects.org.

Students

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support of my internship and program was a once in a lifetime experience. After leaving D.C., I had to completely change my career path, simply because I never knew the program would offer me so many unimaginable opportunities.”

During her internship, Grubbs developed materials to be used in campaigning activities, advocacy discussions and public education to conduct qualitative research on intersectional identity issues and rights violations targeted at people because of their identity; to analyze emerging areas of relevant global and national law and government policy; and to rank the progress of legislation in the U.S. Congress and identify key legislative opportunities.

She also had the opportunity to work with Amnesty’s Board of Directors to lobby Senate offices for the organization’s top human rights concerns.

“My favorite part of my internship was participating and organizing political actions for issues that I am deeply passionate about,” Grubbs said. “Gender and sexuality are areas that dominate both my academic and activist life. Every day I walked through the city to my internship, I knew I was helping society to become more equal and just.”

Anderson assisted in the investigation of cases, including interviewing witnesses and taking statements, photographing crime scenes, reviewing evidence, conducting social media research, and writing memorandums for attorneys.

She also had the chance to attend hearings and court events with attorneys, even having the opportunity to testify in court on one occasion.

“I really appreciated that this internship forced me out of my comfort zone,” Anderson said. “I can sometimes be reserved when meeting new people, and this internship thoroughly cured me of that after a few days of going door to door knocking and asking questions or interviewing strangers; I got much more comfortable with the process.

“Although it was a challenging internship, I believe strongly that sometimes the best experiences are ones that push you to grow, and my internship with the public defender’s office certainly did that for me,” Anderson said.

Both Grubbs and Anderson received grant money from UT as well as the Washington Center Internship Program to help pay for living expenses.

The Washington Center Internship Program helps provide internships in D.C. for students from a variety of academic disciplines and is offered each semester to students from all over the world. Students who participate receive college credit as well as experiences they can carry with them throughout their professional careers.

Trustees

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Also approved by trustees was a 2 percent increase in housing and meal plan rates for students who are not part of the incoming class under the Toledo Tuition Guarantee program. The changes in housing fees represent an increase of up to $96 per semester, depending on the residence hall, and up to $42 per semester in increased dining costs, according to the meal plan selected. The new fees, which will begin fall 2018, cover increasing costs of operations while keeping the additional costs for students at less than $10 per week.

In addition, two departments in the College of Nursing are being renamed to better group faculty according to shared content expertise to enhance collaboration opportunities. The Department of Nursing Science will be changed to the Department of Maternal, Pediatric and Mental Health, and the Department of Advanced Population Health will be the Department of Adult, Family and Population Health.
Toledo Women in Leadership Symposium to be held March 6

By Ashley Diel

“Women Blazing Trails” is the theme of this year’s Women in Leadership Symposium, which will be held Thursday, March 6.

The event will run from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in The University of Toledo’s Thompson Student Union Ingman Room.

The focus of the event is to bring together successful women leaders who, through discussion, will educate, inspire and encourage other women to reflect on their own goals and status.

“Very often women do not take the time to reflect upon their achievements and the goals that they have set for themselves,” said Dr. Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, dean of the UT College of Graduate Studies. “Providing this opportunity to women in our area to interact with women who are invested in their success and helping them find their path is an important investment in our community.”

The symposium will allow attendees to network and will include several speakers who will touch on a variety of topics, including caring for your whole self and how to handle difficult conversations with confidence.

In addition to Bryant-Friedrich, speakers will include Amy Yustick, chief financial officer for Champion Laboratories; Kim Riley, president of Cleveland-Hylant; Linda Alvarado-Arce, executive director of the city of Toledo; and Tasha Hussain Black, vice president of marketing for The Andersons Inc.

“This will be a wonderful event to gain firsthand knowledge from women who are successful in their fields and to gain insight into what it takes to be successful,” Bryant-Friedrich said.

To register for the event, visit wilsymposium.com/2018-symposiums/2018-toledo/#reg-cta.

Read about Women’s History Month events — p. 8
Tickets on sale to see Yanshan University performance troupe

Traditional Chinese dance, music and martial arts will be in the spotlight in northwest Ohio next month.

“Whispering Dreams of a Spring Breeze” will be presented by a performance troupe from Yanshan University Wednesday, March 14, at The University of Toledo. The show will start at 7 p.m. in Doermann Theatre.

The 14-member group will dance, sing, and play Chinese zithers, fiddles and pipas. In addition, there will be martial arts demonstrations.

“It’s always a great honor to have professional Chinese art troupes come in and give our community an opportunity to experience something new and beautiful,” Xinren Yu, international program coordinator for the Center for International Studies and Programs, said. “We are delighted the Confucius Institute has the resources that can support to bring the group on campus and give the community an international experience.”

From graceful Chinese folk dances to moving, beloved songs and displays of strength and agility in martial arts, the show will be something to behold, according to Yu.

“Some of the performers are well-known in China and very active in various national stages and performances,” he said. “We are lucky to have the chance to see them.”

Tickets for the 90-minute show are $5 and available at Ask Rocky in the Thompson Student Union and online with a $1.22 processing fee at eventbrite.com/e/whispering-dreams-of-a-spring-breeze-at-tickets-43165505188?utm_medium=discovery&utm_campaign=social&utm-content=attendeshare&utm-source=cp&utm-term=list.

The performance troupe also will appear at Bowling Green State University Monday, March 12, at 7:30 p.m. in Kobacker Hall and at Lourdes University Monday, March 19, at 7 p.m. in the Franciscan Center.

Tickets for all three shows will be available at Ask Rocky.

For more information on the performances, email confuciusinstitute@utoledo.edu.
Editor to discuss book on African-American history in Toledo

By Vicki L. Kroll

Dr. Rubin Patterson will return this week to campus and a city he called home for more than two decades.

“I really enjoyed my time at The University of Toledo,” said Patterson, professor and chair of sociology and criminology at Howard University. “I learned a lot about the city.”

So when a colleague he met while at UT contacted him about a book project focusing on the black experience in the Glass City, he was all in.

“Black Toledo: A Documentary History of the African-American Experience in Toledo, Ohio” was published by Brill in November as a hardcover and will be published as a paperback by Haymarket Books in December.

Editors Patterson and Dr. Abdul Alkalimat, professor emeritus of African-American studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, pored over documents to chronicle more than 200 years of African-American struggles for a better life in Toledo. With newspaper articles, academic papers, census data and popular writings about Toledo, the two pieced together the story of African-American organizations, institutions, events and individuals confronting oppression and other challenges.

Patterson will talk about “Black Toledo” Wednesday, Feb. 28, at 6 p.m. in Law Center Room 1002. The free, public event is hosted by the Africana Studies Program and the College of Arts and Letters in honor of Black History Month.

“We are very happy to welcome back Rubin to talk about this landmark book,” Angela M. Siner, director of anthropology and the UT Africana Studies Program, said.

The 317-page book is divided into four sections: the origin of the black community, 1787 to 1900; the formation of community life, 1900 to 1950; community development and struggle, 1950 to 2000; and survival during deindustrialization, 2000 to 2016.

“Abdul led a team that originally worked on the project for a few years, then it laid dormant for a time, then I worked on it off and on a few years,” Patterson said.

“After moving to Washington, D.C., in 2014 and looking back on my Toledo experience and taking stock, I realized that I wanted to leave something concrete that could continue doing for years to come what I had done the previous two decades, namely, to educate UT students and the Toledo public.

“With that mindset, I took charge of the project and brought it to a soft landing with the publication. We now leave this book as part of the UT Africana Studies legacy and contribution to Toledo and to scholarship,” Patterson said.

“The years-long effort has resulted in the type of book that my wife and I wished we would have had access to when we first moved to Toledo in 1992. We would have better understood the city and its black community from the beginning.”

From the Underground Railroad to Frederick Douglass and Sojourner Truth speaking in Toledo in 1864, neighborhood segregation to fighting the Klu Klux Klan, the musical genius of natives Art Tatum and Jon Hendricks to the Hines Farm Blues Club, Black Panthers patrolling Dorr Street and the proliferation of African-American businesses, to memorable moments of boxer Wilbert “Skeeter” McClure who won a gold medal in the Olympics in Rome and legendary UT quarterback Chuck Ealey who led the Rockets to a 35-0 record from 1969 to 1971, “Black Toledo” has it all.

“Readers will obviously come away with a better understanding of the black experience in Toledo, but black Toledoans will have a better appreciation for the rich legacy that they have inherited and of which they are a part,” Patterson said.

Alkalimat also played a historic role: He was the first director of the Africana Studies Program at the University in 1996.

He was a faculty member at UT from 1995 to 2007. Patterson, who worked with student leaders in the early 1990s to convince UT administrators to create Africana Studies, then served as director of the program from 2007 to 2014.

“It was an honor and a privilege to serve as director of the UT Africana Studies Program, and it delights my heart to know that I have contributed to a book that memorializes Toledo’s black experience for all to better appreciate,” Patterson said.

UT Graduate Student Association to host Midwest research symposium

By Jessica A. Guice

The University of Toledo’s Graduate Student Association is accepting registration for its ninth annual Midwest Graduate Research Symposium.

The symposium will take place Saturday, April 27, in the Memorial Field House and the Thompson Student Union.

“The Midwest Graduate Research Symposium is an inspirational event that uniquely features the talents of graduate students from across the nation,” said Mitchell Haines, president of the Graduate Student Association. “Each year I am inspired by the ambition, innovation and work ethic from so many individuals.”

Graduate students from 65 universities from across the United States are invited to the symposium, which will consist of oral and poster presentations, professional development workshops, and an award ceremony. The event provides a great opportunity for students to share their research, refine their communication skills, and experience a diverse, intercollegiate environment.

“The Midwest Graduate Research Symposium has presented me with challenges that I may not experience in my normal degree program,” said Alisa Nnonnunong, vice president of the Graduate Student Association. “It has pushed me to work harder and manage time better while staying positive to lead and inspire others.”

The symposium will feature a keynote address from Dr. Clinton Longenecker, Distinguished University Professor of Management and director of the Center for Leadership and Organizational Excellence in the UT College of Business and Innovation. Longenecker has received more than 60 research, teaching and service awards. During his address, he will discuss his new book, “The Successful Career Survival Guide,” and additional topics regarding brand development and emotional intelligence.

Several awards will be given out during the dinner, where the top three oral presentations and posters will be recognized.

Registration must be submitted by Saturday, March 10, online at https://graduatetestudentassociationblog.wordpress.com. All participants will receive invitations to the awards dinner.

For more information, contact the Graduate Student Association Office at gradstudentassociation@gmail.com.
Two former Rockets chosen to participate in 2018 NFL Scouting Combine

By Paul Helgren

Former Toledo football players Logan Woodside and Olasunkanmi Adeniyi have been selected to participate in the 2018 NFL Scouting Combine at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

The combine will take place from Tuesday, Feb. 27, through Monday, March 5.

Woodside finished his four-year Toledo career as the Rockets’ all-time leading passer, throwing for 10,514 yards. He also set the school records for touchdown passes (93) and passing efficiency (162.9). A two-time, first-team All-Mid-American Conference selection, Woodside was 29-9 as a starting quarterback. As a senior, he led the Rockets to a MAC Championship, throwing for 3,882 yards and 28 scores. He was named 2017 MAC Offensive Player of the Year and was honored with the Vern Smith Leadership Award, given annually to the league’s top player.

Adeniyi, a 6-2, 248-pound defensive end, was a second-team All-MAC selection in 2017, finishing third in the conference with 20.0 tackles for loss. In his three-year career at UT, Adeniyi racked up 115 tackles, 28.0 tackles for loss and 12.5 sacks.

Toledo had three invitees to the NFL combine last year: running back Kareem Hunt, tight end Michael Roberts and defensive tackle Treyvon Hester. All three were selected in the NFL Draft. Hunt went on to lead the NFL in rushing and play in the Pro Bowl in his rookie season with Kansas City.

Toledo led conference in football attendance in 2017

By Paul Helgren

The NCAA recently released its annual attendance report, and The University of Toledo finished No. 1 in the Mid-American Conference with an average of 20,745 fans per game in 2017.

The 2017 MAC Champion Rockets totaled 124,470 fans in six home games. The season-high mark was 24,239 in a 54-51 victory over Tulsa Sept. 16.

Seating capacity for the Glass Bowl is 26,038.

“We are very proud of the support we receive from the Toledo community,” said Deputy Athletic Director Dave Nottke. “Obviously, we have a very good football team for our fans to come out and enjoy. We also try to make game day at the Glass Bowl more special with features such as our pre-game fan fest concerts, in-game promotions, and halftime entertainment featuring the UT Marching Band. We feel the entertainment value of Rocket football is among the best in the country.”

Toledo’s 2018 schedule will feature seven home games, including a much-anticipated matchup with Miami (Fla.) Saturday, Sept. 15, and a battle with archrival Bowling Green. UT will open the 2018 season at home vs. Virginia Military Institute Saturday, Sept. 1.

Season tickets start at $80. UT faculty, staff and retirees can purchase up to two season tickets at half price (additional at full price); UT students are admitted free with IDs. To purchase 2018 season tickets, go online at utrockets.com, call 419.530.GOLD (4653), or stop by the UT Athletic Ticket Office at Savage Arena.

Women’s basketball player named Academic All-District for school record third consecutive year

By Brian DeBenedictis

Senior Jay-Ann Bravo-Harriott has been named to the 2017-18 College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-District 5 Team for a school record third straight year.

The two-time team captain is one of five players in program history to earn this prestigious honor and the first to achieve this feat on more than two occasions.

To be nominated, the student-athlete must be a starter or important reserve with at least a 3.20 cumulative grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) for her career.

District 5 includes all schools in Ohio, Illinois, Indiana and Michigan.

Bravo-Harriott will advance to the College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-America Team ballot, where first-, second- and third-team All-America honorees will be selected.

Bravo-Harriott, a 5-foot-10 guard, is averaging 12.8 points, 3.6 rebounds, 2.2 assists and 0.6 steals in 29.0 minutes per game. As of Feb. 23, the two-time All-Mid-American Conference honoree ranked seventh in the league in three-point field-goal percentage (.368, 63 of 171) and 20th in scoring (128 points per game).

A native of London, Bravo-Harriott graduated in December with a degree in communication and a minor in general business and a perfect 4.0 GPA. She is working on a master’s degree in business administration.
Musical enlightenment

Five-time Grammy Award-winning artist Billy Childs gave a master class Feb. 21 in the Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall. The jazz pianist was on campus to perform at the Department of Music’s Art Tatum Memorial Jazz Scholarship Concert. During the class, Childs told students about his song, “Into the Light,” which won a Grammy for best instrumental composition in 2006. He took the music apart and talked about how he built the work, playing excerpts on the piano and then a recording of the finished piece.

In memoriam

Leo E. Cahill, Sandy Springs, Ga., who was an assistant football coach for the Rockets in 1956, died Feb. 15 at age 89. A UT alumnus, he received a master of education degree in 1965.

Kathleen A. (De Vries) (Liebengood) Lorigan, Green Springs, Ohio, a former MCO employee, died Feb. 14 at age 62. She was manager of operations in development and left the college in 1989.

Jacquelynn A. “Jackie” Richards, Toledo, who worked with the UT Physicians Group, died Feb. 16 at age 57. In 2012, she received a bachelor’s degree in business administration in information systems from the University.

Professional Staff Association Sick Leave Bank open enrollment in March

Open enrollment for the Professional Staff Association’s Sick Leave Bank will take place in March.

The sick leave bank is a voluntary program open to all Professional Staff Association (PSA) members on all campuses.

Eligible employees are defined in PSA bylaws as “all non-bargaining unit employees on all campuses whether salary or hourly, classified or unclassified, full or part time, excluding those with faculty rank.”

The bank collects one-time, voluntary donations of sick time from PSA personnel to assist PSA colleagues who may be stricken with a personal catastrophic injury or illness. This bank bridges the gap of time between the exhaustion of their benefits from sick, personal and vacation days to when they qualify for long-term, permanent disability benefits.

Full-time PSA members may donate 16 hours, and part-time members may donate eight hours of personal sick time to the bank, which is administered by Human Resources and Talent Development.

Participants donate the time only once, no matter how long they continue their employment at UT.

If you are not sure if you are a member, go to utoledo.edu/org/psa/sickleavebanknew.html to access the link for the member list.

To become a member and enroll, go to utoledo.edu/depts/hr/forms/labor.html. Send the completed PSA Sick Leave Bank donation form to Deb Sobczak, chair of the Sick Leave Bank Committee, Mail Stop 608, by the March 31 deadline.
UT schedules events for Women’s History Month

The University of Toledo has several events planned in honor of Women’s History Month.

“This month’s carefully planned events are not only about recognizing strong women leaders, but celebrating the historical contributions of women in the greater society,” Dr. Shanda Gore, associate vice president of the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women, said. “It is critical that we continue to educate, empower and, through collaboration, engage our campus community in relevant, timely conversations that impact us all.”

“Women’s History Month celebrates the vital role that women have played in all aspects of our society,” said Danielle Stamper, interim program coordinator in the Office of Multicultural Student Success. “Recognizing the accomplishments of women from diverse backgrounds allows us to add strength and inspiration to our own lives and stories.”

Dr. Tonya M. Matthews, president and chief executive officer of the Michigan Science Center in Detroit, will give the UT Women’s History Month keynote lecture Tuesday, March 20, at 6:30 p.m. in the Driscoll Alumni Center Auditorium. She will discuss strong female leaders and their diverse management styles, especially women in science, technology, engineering, math and medicine.

A display marking the 40th anniversary of the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women will be on exhibit on the first floor of Carlson Library. The display is presented by the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections.

Listed by date, additional events at the University include:

**THURSDAY, MARCH 1**
- “Herstory” Month Kickoff, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thompson Student Union Trimble Lounge. Learn about women who made “herstory,” take a photo with a “shero,” and learn about events taking place during Women’s History Month.

**MONDAY, MARCH 12**
- Women’s Leadership Development Workshop, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women, Tucker Hall Room 0180. This six-week program will continue on Mondays at the same time and place through April 16. Live 4 Change LLC will present this workshop designed for women who want to pursue leadership roles or refresh their leadership skills. Register for the free program by calling the Eberly Center at 419.530.8570.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14**
- Women in Business: From Concept to Culmination, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Scott Park Campus. The Minority Business Development Center and the Toledo Ohio Minority Business Assistance Center are sponsoring this program that will discuss how to start a business, including formation options, capital resources, networking, and marketing and promotion. Register for the free event: 419.530.3344.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 15**
- Self-Defense for Women, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Eberly Center for Women, Tucker Hall Room 0180. Retired UT Police Officer Jill Goldberg will lead this Rape Aggression Defense System program that will teach hands-on tactics to use against an attacker. Participants will need to sign a waiver and should wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Cost $25; free for UT students. Space is limited; register by calling the Eberly Center at 419.530.8570.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 23**
- Women of Color Symposium, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., location to be announced. “Navigating a Primarily White Institution” will be the theme of the event, which will be presented by the UT Office of Diversity and Inclusion. Register: utoledo.edu/diversity/webforms/womenofcolor.html.

Events are free unless otherwise noted. To see a complete list of events, go to utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/omss/omss-2017/history_and_heritage_2017/Women%20History%20Month.html.