UT lands in top 20 graduate engineering programs

By Matt Lockwood

The University of Toledo’s College of Engineering has engineered its graduate education into a top 20 ranking of the country’s graduate engineering programs.

In recently released rankings from The Princeton Review, UT is 18th in the company of Ohio State, Michigan, the University of Texas, Duke and others. The top-ranked program is the University of California at Santa Barbara.

“To be named among a group of such exceptional institutions is both humbling and energizing,” said Dr. Nagi Naganathan, dean of the College of Engineering.

“The credit goes to the focused efforts of our faculty, staff and students for helping us deliver a quality graduate education. It is certainly gratifying to have The Princeton Review’s independent analysis acknowledge these efforts.”

The Princeton Review collected and validated institutional and program specific data over the last two academic years to develop its first-ever list of the top 20 graduate engineering programs.

The programs were ranked using a combination of quantitative criteria, including GRE scores, undergraduate GPA, percentage of applicants accepted and percentage of top undergraduates applying. The College of Engineering graduate programs first appeared in Princeton Review’s The Best Graduate Programs: Engineering in its 1997-98 edition.

The College of Engineering offers master’s and doctoral degrees in several disciplines. Its graduate programs make use of faculty expertise to conduct research in the high-technology areas of the new economy, as well as the technologies that continue to underlie the economy of the region, state and nation. Through collaboration with industry, government and other institutions of higher learning, students and faculty in the College of Engineering are making significant technological contributions in Ohio and throughout the world.

The Princeton Review is a private tutoring company for standardized tests and the publisher of the annual Best Colleges guidebook.

‘Building a New UT’ during Homecoming 2006

By Stacy Moeller

Everything from creative food structures to a cardboard city will be built during this year’s Homecoming, “Building a New UT.”

The Homecoming Commission, the UT chapter of the Blue Key Honor Society, the UT Alumni Association, Student Government and the Dean of Students Office, as well as many other organizations, have planned new events for the week, along with the traditional Homecoming events.

Monday, Oct. 2
Good Morning, Commuters, Rocket Hall and Student Union on Main Campus, Skyview Food Court on the Health Science Campus, 7:30 to 10 a.m. UT commuter students can grab some free breakfast on their way to class.

Food Building Contest, Centennial Mall, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. If you’ve ever been scolded for playing with your food, here’s your chance to show off your imagination.

Good Evening, Commuters, Rocket Hall and Stranahan Hall on Main Campus, 5 to 7 p.m. Grab some free snacks and drinks on your way to evening classes.

Movie Night in the Glass Bowl, 9:30 p.m. Bring your blankets and some popcorn to catch the movie “Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man’s Chest,” starring Johnny Depp.

Tuesday, Oct. 3
Freeze Your Rocket Off, Centennial Mall, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. How long can you last in the fountain in Centennial Mall?

Annual Pep Rally, Centennial Mall, noon. Show school spirit by celebrating with the football team, Rocket Marching Band, Blue

continued on p. 2

LOOK FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF UT NEWS OCT. 16
It has been one of the most high-profile proposals to materialize from the merging of the Medical University of Ohio and The University of Toledo. Now the proposal is becoming a reality.

The architect for what will one day be home for the College of Pharmacy was selected Sept. 21.

Toledo-based Poggemeyer Design Group will lead the project. Poggemeyer has worked on such local and award-winning projects as the Maumee Indoor Theatre and the Wood County District Public Library. The firm also has worked on several projects on the Health Science Campus, including the Inpatient Physical Rehabilitation Center and the University Medical Center lobby renovation.

“We were really excited by what Poggemeyer was able to bring to the table,” said Charles Lehner, associate vice president for facilities and construction. “Now we’re ready to move forward rapidly on a structure that will serve as a permanent, brick-and-mortar symbol of the new University of Toledo.”

“The excitement surrounding this project is really growing in the College of Pharmacy,” said Dr. Wayne Hoss, executive associate dean in the College of Pharmacy and member of the selection committee.

“I believe Poggemeyer will help us create a top-notch facility for our students and faculty to call home.”

The first conceptual drawing was made available for review at the Board of Trustees meeting Sept. 13.

The $15 million to $20 million project is expected to be completed fall 2009.

Advertisements for provost position to appear this week

By Tobin J. Klinger

The announcement of the search for a permanent provost for the Main Campus will be circulating nationwide by the end of the week.

According to Dr. Carter Wilson, co-chair of the Provost Search Committee, chair of Faculty Senate and professor of political science, the advertisement will appear in numerous electronic and print publications, with the Chronicle of Higher Education Web site among the first listings.

“We have an aggressive plan, which we believe will yield a pool of highly qualified candidates for this important position,” Wilson said.

The search firm of Baker-Parker and Associates Inc. in Atlanta has been retained to assist the committee.

The advertisement is scheduled to appear in:

- Chronicle of Higher Education (Oct. 13 and Oct. 20);
- Diverse Issues in Higher Education (Oct. 19);
- Hispanic Outlook (Nov. 1);
- Women in Higher Education (Oct. 23);
- Hispanic Outlook (Oct. 23);
- The University of Toledo Web site (Oct. 2); and
- Other key academic Web sites.

The group plans to begin discussing curriculum vitae in January, with finalists visiting campus in mid-February.

“It is our hope that the entire campus community, faculty members in particular, will help spread the word about the tremendous opportunity we have here at The University of Toledo,” Wilson said. “President Jacobs has established a tremendous committee to take on this significant task, and we will need everyone to help spread the word.”

The president’s charge to the committee and membership can be viewed by downloading the Aug. 1 memorandum on new working groups at http://www.utoledo.edu/President/New%20Working%20Groups%20Memo.doc.

Architect for new College of Pharmacy home selected

By Tobin J. Klinger

Crew and UT cheerleaders. Don’t forget to take a swing at the Central Michigan car.

Fall Festival of Music and Concert, Flatlands, 8 p.m. Come check out the local talent. Campus Activities and Programming will sponsor a concert with some of the hottest bands in the area.

Wednesday, Oct. 4

UT Carnival, Centennial Mall, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Stop by and compete in the inflatable games and play corn hole, ring toss, duck pond, darts and balloons and win a prize.

Community Night, Flatlands, 5 to 8 p.m. The Toledo Zoo, COSI and the Toledo Mud Hens will entertain area families. There also will be carnival games and food.

Annual Homecoming Bonfire, Flatlands, 9 p.m. The 2006 Homecoming Royalty will be announced along with the day’s contest winners. Enjoy food and drink in the beer garden as you listen to music from a live band.

Thursday, Oct. 5

Dunk Tank, Centennial Mall, noon to 2 p.m. Try to dunk your favorite candidate on the Homecoming Court.

Faculty/Staff Auction, Rocky’s Attic, 7 to 9 p.m. Bid on items ranging from home-baked cookies to a faculty/staff parking pass donated by employees to help raise money for Habitat for Humanity.

Midnight Munchies, Varsity T Pavilion, 11 p.m. to 3 a.m. In need of a late night study break? Stop by the pavilion for some free food.

Friday, Oct. 6

Homecoming Gala, Student Union Auditorium, 6 to 9 p.m. The UT Alumni Association dinner will include the presentation of this year’s Blue T, Gold T and Edward H. Schmidt Outstanding Alum awards. The cost is $25 per person. Members of the Student Alumni Association may use their free event benefit to attend. The 2006 Homecoming Court also will be announced. Stop by for free at 7:15 to support your candidate.

Saturday, Oct. 7

Homecoming Parade, West Bancroft Street to Middlesex Drive to Kenwood Boulevard to Cheltenham Road and back to West Bancroft Street, 2 p.m. A classic parade sponsored by Blue Key.

Rocket Rally, Rocket Hall Parking Lot, after the parade. Stop by the tailgate party. There’ll be games, food and entertainment sponsored by the Student Government.

Homecoming Football Game, UT vs. Central Michigan, Glass Bowl, 7 p.m. The king and queen, along with the winners of the 2006 Homecoming Champion Award and decorating contest, will be announced. Tickets are $24 for reserved seating; $19 for general admission; $12 for children 12 and younger; half off for UT faculty and staff; and free for UT students with ID.

Homecoming After Party, Student Union Auditorium, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. All students are invited to come celebrate after the Homecoming game. The event is sponsored by the Black Student Union.

For more information, contact the Alumni Relations Office at 419.530.2586 or the Student Activities Office at 419.530.7221.
**NEWS**

**UT seeks employee input to evaluate students’ first-year experience**

By Jon Strunk

Early this month, UT officials will ask faculty and staff to help evaluate the effectiveness of UT students’ first year as part of the University’s participation in “Foundations of Excellence® in the First College Year,” a major first-year self-study and improvement planning process.

“We recognize that student centeredness goes beyond our direct interactions with students,” said Jennifer Rockwood, director of UT’s First-Year Experience Program. “Every UT faculty and staff member contributes to an environment that supports students’ academic achievement and their increased personal involvement in the world around them.”

Rockwood said faculty and staff will be asked to complete an anonymous, online, 10- to 15-minute survey soliciting their opinions.

Research has indicated that students who are more involved in multiple aspects of college life are more likely to succeed. As a result, many schools have created programs designed to help first-year students transition more easily into college. UT is one of 19 four-year institutions selected to participate in a national study to help establish benchmarks to which other universities’ first-year programs can compare themselves.

The project is sponsored by the Policy Center on the First Year of College with support from Lumina Foundation for Education and Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation.

**50 classrooms to ‘upgrade to first class’**

By Tobin J. Klinger

Students and faculty members arriving for class in the next few months may find they have been “upgraded to first class.”

A new initiative in the divisions of Administration and Academic Affairs aims to raise the quality of dozens of classrooms before the end of the calendar year.

“We have set aside $1 million to fund this initiative,” said Bill Logie, vice president for administration. “A quality classroom experience isn’t only about teaching. It’s also about creating the right learning environment. We want all our facilities to enhance the educational process, and this investment will help us do just that.”

“There are many general purpose classrooms in need of upgrades,” said Dr. Robert Sheehan, interim provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. “We are hoping to enhance at least 50 spaces before wrapping up this effort.”

“We have identified a number of classrooms for upgrade,” said Charles Lehnert, associate vice president for facilities and construction. “We will be working over the next several months to spruce up as many as possible with a new coat of paint, new carpeting, better lighting and other somewhat simple refurbishments.”

One room has already received an upgrade. Stranahan Hall Room 120 experienced significant water damage during this summer’s flooding. As a result, the basement room required new flooring, paint, trim, desks and other upgrades.

“It only took a couple weeks of focusing on the space and we were able to upgrade it to what I think is a first-class facility,” Lehnert said.

A call for nominations for classrooms to upgrade has gone out to academic deans, who will seek input from faculty and advisers.

“There are a lot of high-profile projects on the horizon,” Logie said. “We want the campus to know that we won’t be neglecting our existing facilities in the process.”

“This initiative is about student centeredness and our commitment to focusing resources at the customer interface,” said President Lloyd Jacobs. “If we want our students to succeed, we must create an environment that empowers that success.”

Faculty members are encouraged to submit rooms they feel are in need of improvement by e-mailing their deans.
Toledoan named director of UT alternative energy center

By Jim Winkler

The University’s effort to add jobs to the regional economy is getting a big boost with the appointment of a director for the Clean and Alternative Energy Center.

Megan Reichert, former vice president of business development services at the Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce and former vice president of Reichert Stamping, an automotive manufacturing company, has been named to head the nonprofit center, which will work to support clean-energy businesses, transportation and material sectors through strategic consulting, networking opportunities and infrastructure assistance. The Toledo native started the job Sept. 25.

Located at 2600 Dorr St., the center is aimed at stimulating the development and success of early-stage companies working to bring the next generation of clean, renewable and efficient energy technologies to market, according to Dr. Frank Calzonetti, vice president for research development.

Currently, the incubator provides laboratory and office space for three startup energy technology firms and is interested in adding more. Incubators provide locations where entrepreneurs can develop and grow self-sufficient, successful companies without necessarily incurring the costs and concerns if they were on their own.

Reichert’s appointment comes when interest in clean, alternative energy is high. As worldwide oil reserves slowly dwindle, the price of oil wildly fluctuates, concern about global warming increases, and calls increase for the United States to become more energy self-sufficient, there is tremendous interest in developing clean, alternative energy technologies. The challenge is for scientists to make technical breakthroughs that attract the attention of venture capitalists.

A graduate of Indiana University and the University of Toledo’s Executive MBA Program, Reichert will work to make sure that companies in the incubator have access to expertise such as patent attorneys, potential investors, accountants and business consultants. She also will assist with marketing and grant writing; provide coaching, mentoring, education and training; help increase awareness of new alternative energy-related businesses in northwest Ohio; and work closely with the MU/O Foundation, the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority, Lucas County Improvement Corp., Regional Growth Partnership, Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce, and the Science and Technology Corridor project being spearheaded by Dr. Daniel Johnson, president emeritus.

“We conducted a national search for the position, and we are delighted that Megan has joined us,” Calzonetti said. “She is well plugged into the colleges of Business and Engineering and has extensive ties to the Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce.”

“I am thrilled to be working for the University and with the entrepreneurial companies housed both within the incubator and those considering incubation,” said Reichert, who will report to a board of directors and Calzonetti. “This is an exciting time in northwest Ohio for technology-based economic development. The Science and Technology Corridor, the merger of the universities, and the increased focus on advanced technologies by the state create unique opportunities for northwest Ohio.”

UT researcher looks at science education and racial achievement gap

By Jim Strunk

When No Child Left Behind first became law in 2002, the focus was—and remains—on ensuring students’ proficiency at math and reading; so much focus in fact, it was hardly the rare school where teachers continued math and reading lessons during science or social studies classes.

But in 2007, the law U.S. Education Secretary Margaret Spellings recently referred to as nearly perfect will begin mandating that students pass science testing as well. Having spent the last four years at a dead run trying to meet reading and math requirements, will schools have the agility to absorb the added burden of science testing?

The answer, according to Dr. Carla Johnson, UT assistant professor of education, is a resounding, “Yes, if ...”

“The key is to help teachers find creative ways to help students do science, not just read science,” Johnson said. “Instead of having them read about different types of rocks, give them a crate of rocks and tell them, ‘NASA needs these categorized.’ Make students think like scientists. Scientists don’t know the answers before they investigate, so why would we train potential scientists by giving them the answers right off the bat?’”

Johnson is working to implement the Transformative Professional Development model, where all science teachers regardless of grade level work together and take time to watch each other teach to help determine what is engaging students and what isn’t.

Chemicals and equipment are expensive, as are the number of substitute teachers needed during the time teachers are evaluating each other. But it pays off. The science achievement gap between African American and white students was completely eliminated in a three-year study in Dayton middle schools on which Johnson collaborated with Dr. Jane Butler Kahle from Miami University.

Johnson, the nation’s only recipient of the Outstanding Early Career Scholar Award for 2006-07 from the School Science and Mathematics Association, is in the midst of a three-year $1 million U.S. Department of Education-funded research initiative to implement this model in largely Hispanic schools near Salt Lake City — and to find a way to do so at a fraction of the cost.

“These changes are so crucial because it’s the middle school students who are right at the age where they are deciding whether science is an adventure or a chore. This is where students are turned on or off to science for the rest of their lives,” Johnson said.

Johnson said she would like to start a national center charged with improving science and technology education and implementation in urban schools across the nation.
River commission to share feedback, future plans
By Tobin J. Klinger

As a follow-up to a charrette held in April and student focus groups in September to elicit feedback from the campus community on the Ottawa River as it runs through the Main Campus, the President’s Commission on the River is hosting a final forum to discuss feedback received and initial ideas on the future of the water body.

On Friday, Oct. 6, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in Student Union 2582, members of the commission will field questions, share ideas and discuss the general themes relayed during the previous public input session and focus groups.

“We received excellent feedback from these sessions,” said Richard Eastop, chair of the commission and vice president emeritus of enrollment services. “There are a lot of great ideas out there, and now we need to finalize our thoughts and prepare a report for President Jacobs’ consideration.”

Following the Oct. 6 session, members of the commission will begin compiling a report for consideration by the administration, outlining water restoration options, as well as future research options, beautification and capital projects that highlight the river.

“Our initial charge by President Emeritus Dan Johnson was to find ways to ‘celebrate the river,’ and that message has been part and parcel to our work thus far,” Eastop said. “We are now developing concrete ideas on how to do just that, incorporating the Ottawa River into the fabric of our campus culture.”

The free, public forum also will feature three conceptual renderings for discussion.

For more information, contact Eastop at de eastop@buckeye- express.com.

New initiatives place focus on efficiency, service at myUT Pharmacy
By Tobin J. Klinger

When plans were made to start providing prescription services to faculty and staff on The University of Toledo Main Campus, it was estimated that the pharmacy would be filling approximately 100 prescriptions a day.

The initial estimates were way off, in a good way.

“Response has been phenomenal,” said Norine Wasielewski, senior director of health and wellness. “We’re filling between 250 and 300 scripts a day, and about two-thirds of those are faculty and staff.”

With more than twice the volume than originally expected, the medical center has taken steps to increase efficiency while enhancing service. Hours were extended in March (7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday; 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday), and now a new interactive voice recorder system will allow customers to order refills, check refill status and estimate order completion with a touch of a button.

“This will allow our staff to focus on filling orders and automate things for our customers,” Wasielewski said. “Additionally, we have upgraded our software and network servers to create seamless delivery of care between the Main and Health Science campuses.”

“We want our employees to see University Medical Center as their medical center,” said Bill Logie, vice president for administration. “As they become more accustomed to taking advantage of UMC’s university-quality health care, they will find the systems at the Main Campus can interact seamlessly with those at the hospital, helping to streamline the whole process.”

“For our customers that are traveling back and forth between campuses, you will be able to drop off and pick up at either location. This allows the opportunity to utilize both campus’ facilities,” Wasielewski added. “If the HSC pharmacy is closed, those employees can have prescriptions filled at the Main Campus and vice versa.”

Staffing levels also have increased, with the addition of a full-time technician and a part-time pharmacist.

Police unions planning for merger
By Vicki L. Kroll

UT Police are planning to come together under one union in 2007.

Officers on the Health Science Campus approved an 18-month contract Sept. 18. The seven officers are members of the International Union of Police Association (IUPA) Local 39. Their contract now coincides with the expiration date of the UT Police Patrolman’s Association (UTPPA) contract.

“If we haven’t merged, we hope to at least have a plan in place where once those 18 months are up, we’ll be able to negotiate as one and be working under one union,” said Officer Kevin Zimmerman Jr., president of the IUPA Local 39. “We hope to have an agreement set forth in June where we’ll be one union in six months. After that, we’d have everything in place and the transition will go smoothly.”

“There are a few stumbling blocks to get over, but not many,” said UT Interim Chief of Police Jeff Newton about the merger. “I think we’re all optimistic that we’ll be able to get this done.”

Both Newton and Zimmerman see benefits to merging the unions.

“I think bringing the unions together under one umbrella will combine resources and increase opportunities for all officers,” Newton said.

“It’s going to create more police presence — the ability to have the Main Campus come over to the Health Science Campus and help us here, whereas sometimes it takes a little longer for the Toledo Police to help us,” Zimmerman said. “I think bringing together the knowledge our officers have with the knowledge their officers have will benefit both sides.”

Zimmerman added there would more members — nearly 30 — in the bargaining unit.

UT Police to cruise Main Campus by cart
By Vicki L. Kroll

The UT Police Department’s latest addition looks like a golf cart on steroids, according to Interim Chief of Police Jeff Newton.

“It’s a beefed up golf cart with big tires,” Newton said. “We demoed it at a football game and it was a big hit.”

The utility vehicle will continue the department’s community policing efforts.

“It’s an open-air vehicle that fosters interaction with students, faculty, staff and visitors,” Newton said. “It’ll create positive contacts with the campus community.

“It’ll be great for football games, Homecoming, Rocket Launch. We’ll use it for regular patrol, as well,” he said.

UT is purchasing the E-Z-Go cart that features seating for two and a top speed of 17 miles per hour for $6,000 to $7,000, according to Newton.

“It’s relatively cheap for a police vehicle, and it’ll be fuel-efficient,” he said. Once the cart is outfitted for additional equipment and UT Police emblems and striping is complete, officers will start using the vehicle to patrol Main Campus. Newton said it should be ready the week of Oct. 2.

READ ON: Dr. Mojisola F. Tiamiyu, associate professor of psychology and director of the Center for Applied Psychology gave a talk on “The Right to Read Freely in Nigeria: Counting One’s Blessings But Still Some Ways to Go” during the ninth annual Banned Books Vigil last week on Main Campus. She discussed how the right to read freely is an inalienable human right in theory and what the practice is in Nigeria based on the current economic, social and political situation of the country. “One can choose to either see the glass as half full or half empty,” Tiamiyu said.
From the board

The UT Board of Trustees approved the following personal actions at its Sept. 18 meeting:

FACULTY NON-AAP APPOINTMENTS: John Crellin, assistant professor/co-director of the power systems lab, College of Engineering, effective Jan. 1; Nasrin Momen, office of the Provost and Provost, effective July 1.

TENURE-TRACK FACULTY APPOINTMENTS — assistant professor effective Aug. 7 unless otherwise noted: Masoud Alfarabi, Imam Khatib Chair in Islamic Studies/philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences; Bhuiyan Alum, geography and planning, College of Arts and Sciences; Dyrk Ashton, theatre and film, College of Arts and Sciences; Bruce Bamber, biological sciences, College of Arts and Sciences; Terry Bigioni, chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences; Julian Brash, sociology and anthropology, College of Arts and Sciences; John Groves, College of Arts and Sciences; Michael S. Fioravanti, clinical assistant professor of medicine, College of Medicine; Maria Dukakos, biological sciences, College of Arts and Sciences; Steven Prior, communication, College of Arts and Sciences; Michael Prior, sociology and anthropology, College of Arts and Sciences; Kenneth Kilbourn, management, College of Business Administration; Aug. 1; Anusz Barszcz, mechanical, industrial and manufacturing engineering, College of Engineering; Mary Dukakos, biological sciences, College of Arts and Sciences; Dorin Figan, public health and rehabilitative services, College of Health Science and Human Service; Cornel Gabara, theatre and film, College of Arts and Sciences; Building Gammoh, marketing and international business, College of Business Administration; Daniel Georgiev, electrical engineering and computer science, College of Engineering; effective Aug. 1; Salvatore Velti, assistant professor of medicine, College of Medicine, effective Aug. 1; Christine Uley, assistant professor of neurology, College of Medicine, effective Aug. 1; John Wysokobrod, assistant professor of psychiatry, College of Medicine, effective Aug. 15.

FACULTY REAPPOINTMENT: Helen Gatze, assistant professor of nursing, College of Nursing, effective Sept. 1.


VISITING PROFESSOR APPOINTMENT: David Dittmer, effective Aug. 1, assistant professor of engineering and computer science, College of Engineering, effective Aug. 17.

VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR APPOINTMENTS — effective Aug. 7 unless otherwise noted: Ovid Asfaw-Morales, philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences; Hossein Andikfar, mathematics, College of Arts and Sciences; Youri Bae, mathematics, College of Arts and Sciences; Kevin Capuro, pharmacy practice. College of Pharmacy, effective July 1; Richard Carelli, chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences; Ziva Chen-Esterly, chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences; Okkyung Cho, mathematics, College of Arts and Sciences; Constantino Caks and mechanical, industrial and manufacturing engineering, College of Engineering; Claire Cohen Schmidt, chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences; Carl Collins, music, College of Arts and Sciences; Michael Collins, criminal justice, College of Health Science and Human Service; Bradley Crowell, philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences; Lauren Donahue, law, College of Law; Patrick Dyer, psychology, College of Arts and Sciences; Matthew Eshleman, philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences; Bonnie Fleming, music, College of Arts and Sciences; David Griffith, theatre and film, College of Arts and Sciences; Megan Kaun, pharmacy practice, College of Pharmacy; Lee Krabehnulb, communication, College of Arts and Sciences; Mary Kaum, history, College of Arts and Sciences; Yi Lin, mathematics, College of Arts and Sciences; Iosam Louchi, mathematics, College of Arts and Sciences; Kenneth Freeman, assistant professor of family medicine, College of Medicine, effective Aug. 1; Joseph Centa, clinical assistant professor of surgery, College of Medicine, effective April 1; Douglas Cifuentes, clinical assistant professor of medicine, College of Medicine, effective Aug. 1; Cathi Braze, assistant professor of pediatrics, College of Medicine, effective Aug. 1; Cathi Braze, assistant professor of pediatrics, College of Medicine, effective Aug. 1; Robert Bowes, instructor of obstetrics and gynecology, College of Medicine, effective Aug. 1; Michael Annell, assistant professor of foundations of education, College of Education; and immunology/director of BSL3 Laboratory, College of Medicine, salary adjusted, effective July 1; Patricia Komuniecki, distinguished University Professor/distinguished University Professor in Biomedical Research, College of Arts and Sciences; salary adjusted, effective Aug. 17; Eric Lofatovine, from associate professor to associate professor of medical microbiology and immunology/director of BSL3 Laboratory, College of Medicine, salary adjusted, effective July 1; Richard Komuniecki, from distinguished University Professor/distinguished University Professor to associate professor of pathology, College of Medicine, salary adjusted, effective June 30; Patricia Groves, professor of women’s and gender studies, College of Arts and Sciences, effective May 31; John Boeving, professor of English, College of Arts and Sciences, effective May 31; Martin Cave, professor/interim chair of women’s and gender studies, College of Arts and Sciences, effective June 30; Gregory Haubhuhn, assistant professor of urology, College of Medicine, effective June 30; Peter Patchen, assistant professor of art, College of Arts and Sciences, effective June 30; Kevin Petre, associate professor of foundations of education, College of Education, effective July 30; David Stern, professor of philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 1; Michael WalDROP, assistant professor of music, College of Arts and Sciences, effective Aug. 11; and Shuhui Zhang, research assistant professor, Plant Science Center, effective June 15.

FACULTY CONVERTING FROM 12-MONTH TO 9-MONTH OR 9-MONTH TO 12-MONTH STATUS: ADJUSTED: Lawrence Baines, professor/interim associate dean for graduate programs, College of Education, effective Aug. 7; Jamie Barlowe, professor/interim chair of women’s and gender studies, College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 1; Alfred Care, professor/interim chair of history, College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 1; Dwayne DeMedio, professor/interim chair of curriculum and instruction, College of Education, effective July 1; William Gray, professor, College of Education, effective Aug. 7; Anthony Koh, professor/interim chair of marketing and international business, College of Business Administration, effective June 26; Joel Lipman, professor of art and English, College of Arts and Sciences, effective Aug. 7; Carol Nelson-Burns, assistant professor of English, College of Arts and Sciences, effective Aug. 7; William Weber, associate professor of curriculum and instruction, College of Education, effective Aug. 7; and Ronald Zalocco, professor of marketing and international business, College of Business Administration, effective June 26.

FACULTY RESIGNATIONS: Sandy Atkins-Bennett, assistant professor, College of Education, effective Aug. 20; Nundini Bhattacharya, associate professor/chair of women’s and gender studies, College of Arts and Sciences, effective June 30; Gregory Haubhuhn, assistant professor of urology, College of Medicine, effective June 30; Peter Patchen, assistant professor of art, College of Arts and Sciences, effective June 30; Kevin Petre, associate professor of foundations of education, College of Education, effective July 30; David Stern, professor of philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 1; Michael WalDROP, assistant professor of music, College of Arts and Sciences, effective Aug. 11; and Shuhui Zhang, research assistant professor, Plant Science Center, effective June 15.

FACULTY RETIREMENT: Robert Abell, assistant professor of mechanical, industrial and manufacturing engineering, College of Engineering, effective May 13; Tamir Abu-Abi, professor of English, College of Arts and Sciences, effective May 31; John Boeving, professor of English, College of Arts and Sciences, effective May 31; James LeSage, professor of economics, College of Arts and Sciences, effective June 30; Ronald Randall, professor of political science, College of Arts and Sciences, effective June 30; Roger Ray, professor of history, College of Arts and Sciences, effective June 30; Gerald Sherman, professor of pharmacology, College of Pharmacy, effective June 30; and Richard Weisfelder, professor of political science, College of Arts and Sciences, effective June 30.
2006 charity campaign to begin Oct. 9

By Jon Strunk

The University of Toledo will kick off its 2006 Community Charitable Campaign Oct. 9 with a goal of using the combined resources of the new UT to raise $195,000 for local, state and national charity organizations.

“As our University has grown, our ability to positively affect those in the community around us has increased enormously,” said Dan Saevig, associate vice president for alumni affairs and campaign co-chair. “I have no doubt of the generosity of this University, and I’m sure we’ll reach our goal.”

Each Monday through Nov. 6, UT employees will receive by e-mail a secure, password-protected link to donate online to one of more than 200 organizations represented by United Way, Community Health Shares, Northwest Ohio Community Shares and Earth Shares.

Employees can choose to have their pledge payroll deducted, or can pledge by credit card, check or cash, as the online pledge system will explain. Paper pledge cards will be made available to those who do not have easy access to e-mail or who would prefer to contribute by paper pledge card.

Prizes will be given out each week at random to those who have contributed. Those who give more than $96 will be invited to a celebration breakfast with President Lloyd Jacobs Nov. 29. The final tally will be unveiled and additional prizes will be distributed at the event.

“The enthusiasm I’ve seen already has been amazing,” said Dr. David Krol, newly appointed chair of pediatrics and campaign co-chair. “It’s always exciting to see a group of people come together to help others.”

Look for additional information in the coming weeks as UT gives back to its community.

It’s short and official: Department of Environmental Sciences

By Stacy Moeller

By a vote of 17-2 with one abstention, the faculty of the Department of Earth, Ecological and Environmental Sciences proposed to shorten its name to the Department of Environmental Sciences.

The name change was officially approved by the interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and the interim provost.

According to Dr. Mike Phillips, chair of the department, “While the former name is certainly descriptive of who we are and what we do, it is too unwieldy and leads to an abbreviation, EEES, which, in turn, leads to an identity problem outside of the department.

“We feel that the shorter name will be more ‘user friendly’ and easier to market to potential undergraduate students outside the University,” he said.

For more information, contact the Department of Environmental Sciences at 419.530.2009.
Artist to be featured in solo exhibit in New York

By Vicki L. Kroll

Hunks of wood jut out from the gallery wall. They’re covered with scraps of fabric, pieces of paper. Some bear images of people.

“This exhibit really grew out of the loss of my mom this spring and I think in response to loss in general with what’s going on in the world,” said Barbara WF Miner, UT associate professor of art.

“Offering: In Response to an Interior Landscape” will open Oct. 10 in Brownson Gallery at Manhattanville College, Purchase, N.Y., just outside of the Big Apple. The solo mixed-media exhibit will be on display through Nov. 11.

“There are images of my daughters, an X-ray of the broken wrist my mom sustained. It’s about children and parents and the loss and the value of that,” Miner said. “Because the materials are somewhat ephemeral — slabs of wood that some images are adhered to — the feeling that nature is part of it, the precariousness of the natural world was going into the thinking also — the impact on it and our need for support from it.”

The artist likes the challenge of putting together a solo show — and the chance to make a statement.

“It’s one of the toughest things to do is to find solo exhibitions. It’s one of the most exciting for artists because you get to sculpt the entire show and reinforce the statement you’re making with your work,” Miner said.

“You can have 15 to 20 pieces; you’re not in a group show represented by just one piece. Holy smokes! It’s scary! It’s all me. If I don’t get the work done or people don’t respond to the work, I can’t hide in a group show.”

Miner said she is grateful to work at UT, which funded this summer project with a grant from the University Research Council. “It takes The University of Toledo name outside Toledo. This is more critical for artists because when you’re able to compete at an international and national level, it creates a buzz,” Miner said. “A lot of things are about where your shows have been seen, if you’re able to get your work out there, then it moves you forward as an artist. Your reputation grows, and certainly your students benefit.”

It doesn’t hurt your self-esteem either. “Art, in some respects, has to do with ego. Whether you’re a scientist, artist or a poet, being able to compete at the national level is acknowledgement of obtaining certain growth or validity of your creative career,” Miner said. “When it’s peer-reviewed, it goes beyond a pat on the back — it’s a real sense of accomplishment. It spurs you on to want to do more work.”

“In memoriam”

Guenther Buenning, Toledo, who designed and built research instrumentation for UT and the former MCO, died Sept. 17 at age 83. Born in Germany, he and his family emigrated to the United States in 1962, settling in Toledo in 1965. In 1966, he joined the Department of Physics and Astronomy as master mechanic. He subsequently held the positions of engineering technician, administrative specialist and lab mechanic, and was promoted to shop superintendent in 1976. In 1983, the department honored him with the Sigma Xi Award; he was the first non-academic recipient. At his 1988 retirement, UT bestowed on him the honorary title of master machinist emeritus. His constant quest for the finest instruments led him to collaborate in the late 1960s with John Georgia, a UT technician, to replace the worn-out mechanisms of the University Hall power clock. He added the chimes to sound every 30 minutes “as a reminder for students that they are here to learn,” he said later. Buenning was a lifetime member of the UT Alumni Association.

Carrie Lee Tucker, Toledo, who worked 20 years in the Housekeeping Department at the former Medical College of Ohio, died Aug. 11 at age 79. She retired in the 1970s.