New grant makes splash in local environmental science community

By Matt Lockwood

The Great Lakes, including their streams and waterways, represent the world's largest freshwater ecosystem, which thanks to a new $2.4 million National Science Foundation grant will continue to serve as one of The University of Toledo's great classrooms.

UT’s Lake Erie Center has received funding for five years for a program that is designed to create an educational ripple effect for graduate students, high school teachers, high school students and the community.

The program, “Graduate Teaching Fellows in High School STEM Education: An Environmental Science Learning Community at the Land-Lake Ecosystem Interface,” works like this.

UT environmental science graduate students will be partnered with high school science teachers in the Sylvania, Oregon and Toledo public schools, including the Toledo Early College High School on the University’s Scott Park Campus. The grad students will spend about 15 hours a week in the high school classrooms assisting teachers and mentoring students.

Objectives of the project include generating interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) careers among minority high school students; giving

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UTMC one of few U.S. hospitals to receive American Heart Association’s national stroke care award three straight years

By Jon Strunk

For the third consecutive year, the UT Medical Center has been awarded the American Heart Association’s Get With The Guidelines Gold Award for 2007, making UTMC one of only a handful of hospitals nationwide to be so recognized by the association in U.S. News and World Report.

“Especially during February, which is American Heart Month, this recognition of the dedication of UTMC physicians, nurses and other health-care providers serves as a reminder to everyone in our community that university-quality cardiac and stroke care doesn’t happen easily or by accident,” said Mark Chastang, UTMC vice president and executive director.

Representatives of the American Heart Association presented UTMC health-care providers with the 2007 Gold Sustained Performance Award last week during President Lloyd Jacobs’ town hall meeting on the Health Science Campus.

The Get With The Guidelines Gold Award recognizes hospitals that have successfully met 85 percent of all the association’s performance measures for two or more years.

Long a leader in stroke care, UTMC was one of the first hospitals in Ohio to be designated a primary stroke center — the highest possible standard for treating stroke patients in medicine — and earning the designation before the Cleveland Clinic or

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First black woman astronaut to visit UT

By Kim Harvey

The University of Toledo will host Dr. Mae Jemison, the first African-American woman in space, as part of special programming for Black History Month.

“An Evening With Dr. Mae Jemison” will feature discussion with the astronaut who orbited Earth as a member of the space shuttle Endeavour crew.

The free, public event will take place Wednesday, Feb. 13. There will be a meet-and-greet session for University students from 4:15 to 5:30 p.m. in Student Union Room 2584 on Main Campus, followed by Jemison’s keynote program from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Student Union Auditorium.

“Mae Jemison is an icon with expertise in many fields,” said Dr. Rubin Patterson, interim director of the Africana Studies Program and associate professor of sociology. “She is best-known as the first African-American woman in space, but her other titles include physician, engineer, entrepreneur, author, educator, social advocate, Africana studies contributor and multilingualist.

“Mae Jemison has reached for the stars. Her achievements inspire young people, minorities and women to blaze their own trails in liberal arts, engineering, medicine or business. Or, if they are truly ambitious, to pursue a career that synthesizes all of these fields,” Patterson said.

Born in Decatur, Ala., Jemison was an accomplished scholar and medical professional before she boarded the Endeavour. She earned undergraduate degrees in African and Afro-American studies and chemical engineering from Stanford University. Later, she earned a doctorate in medicine at Cornell University Medical College.

After working as a physician in Los Angeles and spending nearly three years as an area Peace Corps medical officer in West Africa, Jemison returned to California. She was with NASA for six years, embarking on her historical shuttle flight in 1992 before

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UT Medical Center honors custodial worker for lifesaving action

By Jim Winkler

As UT Medical Center Environmental Services Worker Tina Ceglio recently finished cleaning a patient room on the fourth floor of the hospital, she paused. Something is terribly wrong, she thought to herself, hearing the labored breathing of a patient and seeing the stress on his face.

She earlier had spoken with the patient’s wife, who said her husband had experienced a sleepless night and had difficulty breathing. His nurse had adjusted the patient’s oxygen 15 minutes earlier, and it seemed to help.

However, the patient was again having trouble breathing. His wife held his hand and touched his chest, which both felt cool.

It looked like a serious medical emergency. A patient in the adjacent bed hit the nurse-call button.

But instead of waiting for a nurse to respond, Ceglio hurried down the hall and got a staff nurse, Brianna Bertok, who rushed to the room, increased the patient’s oxygen level and performed a set of vitals. Several nurses and a physician arrived to help, but his condition deteriorated. A Code Blue alert was called, prompting doctors and nurses to swarm to the room to save the patient’s life.

At last Thursday’s town hall meeting, Ceglio was honored for saving the patient’s life, and received an American Express gift card. She was hailed a hero by more than 100 Health Science Campus faculty members and administrators that included President Lloyd Jacobs; Dr. Jeffrey P. Gold, provost, executive vice president for health affairs and College of Medicine dean; and Mark Chastang, vice president and UT Medical Center executive director.

“Her actions underscore that ‘it’s not my job’ is an anathema in any activities involving patients and their care in the hospital,” Gold said. “Without Tina’s prompt action, the outcome might have been much more tragic.”

As for being called a hero, Ceglio is humble.

“All I did, really, was get a nurse,” Ceglio said modestly. “I couldn’t do anything for him, so I got someone who could.”

Ceglio, who works the 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. shift, has visited the patient and his wife during his recovery and is grateful that he is doing well.

THANK YOU President Lloyd Jacobs presented Tina Ceglio, custodial worker; a gift card as Arlene Fell, director of environmental services, watched during last week’s town hall meeting.

Gaboury will continue to serve as dean of University Libraries during his appointment, although some variance in reporting structure will take place.

Haggett said Gaboury’s background and skill set make an excellent match with the position, noting his background with information technology and classroom learning environments.

“Not only does John have a wealth of experience, having served as chief information officer at William Paterson University, he has shown measurable success during his time at UT, helping to lead the Information Commons initiative and developing a good working relationship with faculty across our campuses,” she said.

“I’m thrilled to take on this new challenge,” Gaboury said. “The scope of responsibility held in this position encompasses many of my passions, and I look forward to helping provide our outstanding faculty with new opportunities for professional growth that will ultimately benefit the entire organization.”

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graduate students and high school teachers a chance to share science knowledge and teaching skills; and developing real solutions to environmental problems along stream ecosystems feeding the Great Lakes.

“A major focus of this project is mentoring,” said Dr. Carol Stepien, director of the Lake Erie Center and principal investigator on the project. “Our graduate students will take their knowledge and love of the environment and hopefully engage these high school students in environmental research.”

Through mentoring the high school students, it’s expected the graduate students will in turn improve their teaching competence by developing their communication, mentoring and team-building skills.

The science teachers also come away with something. Through professional development opportunities and interacting with the grad students, the teachers will gain experience in research methods and recent developments in STEM research knowledge that will help improve their students’ test scores. In addition, the project will establish long-lasting professional relationships.

“This project is a way for everyone involved to build an educational network focused on making our lifestyles more interactive with the natural environment,” Stepien said. “Our program embraces the concept of merging scientific research with civic responsibility to benefit the public and the community.”

Co-investigators on the project are Dr. Tom Bridgeman, assistant professor of environmental sciences; Dr. Cyndee Gruden, assistant professor of civil engineering; Dr. Timothy Fisher, professor of environmental sciences; and Dr. Daryl Moorhead, professor of environmental sciences.

The project is expected to launch in June.

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resigning a year later.

Jemison founded the Jemison Group Inc. to further the integration of science and technology into everyday life. One of the group’s projects is the creation of solar, thermal electricity generation systems in developing countries. Jemison also founded BioSentient Corp., a medical technology business that develops mobile equipment to help individuals control stress responses.

Jemison authored a book, _Find Where the Wind Goes: Moments From My Life_, a compilation of autobiographical anecdotes about growing up. Continuing her commitment to mentoring young people, she sponsors programs that foster critical thinking and problem-solving skills in youth.

“An Evening With Dr. Mae Jemison” is sponsored by a number of UT groups: President’s Lecture Series on Diversity; Africana Studies Program; Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women; Office of Institutional Diversity; Office of Multicultural Student Services; College of Engineering; College of Pharmacy; Provost’s Office, Main Campus; Provost’s Office, Health Science Campus; Campus Activities and Programming; Master of Liberal Studies Program; and College of Arts and Sciences.

Distinguished Women in Science Speaker Series Feb. 15 Program on leg artery disease Feb. 20 Details on UToday at myut.utoledo.edu
Arctic roots of UT president emeritus honored with East Coast program

By Kim Harvey

Former UT President William S. Carlson’s tenure was marked by campus growth and leadership that culminated in the University achieving state status in 1967.

A more tangible example of his legacy is the William S. Carlson Library on Main Campus.

But before Carlson was an officer of higher education, he explored frigid frontiers at the top of the world. His milestones in arctic research will be celebrated this week during a special program, “The W.S. Carlson International Polar Year Events,” hosted by the University of Delaware. Carlson was UD president from 1946 to 1950.

Dr. Fritz Nelson, UD professor of geography, became aware of Carlson’s contributions in 2004. “I came across a four-page memo from Carlson to the University of Delaware trustees, dated in 1949,” Nelson said. “It read, in essence, that in the post-war era, it was necessary for universities to be worldly and outward thinking. To that end, a geography program was in order.”

The next year, Nelson said, geography courses were added to UD’s curriculum.

When the International Council for Science and the World Meteorological Organization announced that an International Polar Year would take place from March 2007 to March 2009, Nelson saw the opportunity to recognize Carlson’s legacies while contributing to a significant cause.

“A polar year is a period of intense scientific education and research focused on the Arctic and Antarctic regions,” Nelson said. “When the International Polar Year was announced, I thought Delaware should have a presence, and it made sense that we honor Dr. Carlson because he is still a well-recognized polar scientist and a key military strategist with regard to polar regions.”

The W.S. Carlson International Polar Year Program at UD will feature public lectures, research seminars, art exhibits, receptions and films. Although it takes place 430 miles from Toledo, the UT community can share in a historic moment on Tuesday, Feb. 12, via a real-time webcast.

Lawson Brigham, deputy director of the U.S. Arctic Research Commission, will add his signature to the American Geographical Society’s Fliers’ and Explorers’ Globe during an evening ceremony. The event will be webcast from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at http://www.udel.edu/ums/udlive/.

Years before he became UT’s 10th president, Carlson earned bachelor of arts, master of science and doctoral degrees from the University of Michigan.

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the University of Cincinnati Medical Center.

“Specialized stroke training for doctors and nurses and the latest medical technology enable UTMC to dramatically shorten the time needed for evaluation and begin treatment in time to reduce the chances of long-term damage,” said Dr. Gretchen Tietjen, professor and chair of neurology.

UTMC will officially accept the award at the International Stroke Conference in New Orleans later this month.
University authors, artists: Submit materials for exhibit

The deadline for submitting materials for the 2007-08 University of Toledo Authors and Artists Exhibit is Monday, Feb. 18.

Faculty members who have published books, articles and conference papers since February 2007 are encouraged to submit these materials for inclusion in the exhibit.

The exhibit, an annual event since the 1950s, will be on display in the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections in 1950s, will be on display in the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections from April 1 through May 2. Faculty with works in the exhibit will be honored at a reception Tuesday, April 1, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Faculty authors on Main Campus should submit their publications to Suhansini Kumar, Government Documents Department, Carlson Library, MS #509. Faculty members on the Health Science Campus should submit their publications to Jolene Miller, Mulford Library, MS #1061. A complete bibliographic citation for each publication is requested to assist with the preparation of the exhibit catalog.

Faculty in the Department of Art with work to display should contact Dr. David Guip, professor and chair of art, at 419.530.8306 to make arrangements.

For more information, contact Kumar at 419.530.4485.

Exhibit bridges science, technology, art

Works by one of the most sought-after medical illustrators, Roy Schneider, are on display through Sunday, March 9, in the Center for the Visual Arts Gallery on UT’s Toledo Museum of Art Campus.

“Roy Schneider Medical Illustration: Visual Concepts in Science and Medicine” can be seen Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Schneider, director of medical and digital illustration at UT’s Center for Creative Instruction, will be at the center for an artist’s reception Friday, Feb. 15, from 6 to 9 p.m. He will present a lecture on his work at 7 p.m. the same evening in the center’s Haigh Auditorium.

The work featured in the exhibition is a retrospective combination of preliminary concept drawings — how Schneider thinks through a problem — and finished mixed-media drawings, as well as blowups of finished digital prints and work ready for publication.

Schneider is an illustrator and a visual interpreter of anatomy, physiology, pathology and surgical procedure. His drawings of organic systems are accurate and considered beautiful by many. He is a member of the Association of Medical Illustrators and in 2000 received the International Dr. Frank Netter Award for his original concept and design of the work titled Anatomy Revealed, an innovative interactive CD-ROM that literally peels away layers of the human body to show relationships within its systems. Anatomy Revealed and Anatomy & Physiology Revealed have won numerous awards, including the American Medical Association’s Innovations to Curriculum Award and McGraw-Hill Publishers’ Corporate Achievement Award in Technical Innovation.

His additional work includes three editions of a medical textbook, Positioning in Anesthesia and Surgery. The 1981 UT alumnus also has submitted numerous illustrations to four other textbooks, contributed cover designs for the Journal of Neurosurgery, and created more than 2,500 illustrations for the UT Department of Orthopaedics.

Schneider’s current work involves the design and creation of surgical simulation training models and the production of educational software for primary and secondary education. “Prodissector Frog” is a virtual dissection lab for supplementing the study of science as it relates to frog anatomy and physiology. The software is used in more than 50 countries and will be translated into Spanish, German, Romanian, Russian and Portuguese.

For more information on the free, public events, contact the Art Department at 419.530.8300 or go to www.utoledo.edu/as/art.

In memoriam

Annie L. Davis, Toledo, a custodial worker in Environmental Services at the former Medical College of Ohio from 1978 until her retirement in 1991, died Feb. 1 at age 61.

Steven S. Everhart, a candidate for May graduation from the College of Law, died Feb. 4 at age 25. He was a member of Delta Tau Delta.

The Rev. Robert B. Kirtland, Toledo, who served as UT’s Catholic chaplain from 1970 to 1982 and was instrumental in establishing Corpus Christi University Parish, died Feb. 3 at age 78. As the parish’s first pastor, he helped in 1979 to create the University Interfaith Council, which works to unite religious communities throughout the Toledo area. Kirtland also was an adjunct professor at UT’s College of Law until 2004 and helped establish UT’s chair of Catholic studies.

Peggy Samborn, Sylvania, who with her husband, Al, founded the Samborn Scholarship Fund and the Samborn Distinguished Lecture Series in the College of Engineering, died Jan. 25 at 88.

Harry D. Szymkowiak, Toledo, who worked in UT’s Physical Plant for 26 years, died Jan. 30 at age 77. Hired in 1961 as yardman, he moved to building maintenance two years later and became an electrician in 1967. In 1971, he was promoted to electrician foreman, then to electrician 2 in 1976, from which he retired in 1987.