Leaders remember NIU victims at memorial

By Kim Harvey

With heartfelt messages, poetry and calls to unify, UT expressed its sympathy to the Northern Illinois University community during a Feb. 21 memorial service in the Student Union.

University communities nationwide were shaken by the Feb. 14 murders of five students at the DeKalb, Ill., college.

Amid remarks about the senselessness of the NIU shooting less than a year after the murder of 32 people at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, speakers urged UT students, faculty and staff to remember the victims as they make their marks in the world.

“Each of us must pick up a piece of the possibilities and potential lost with these deaths and say, ‘I will carry a part of it; I will make it part of me, my dreams, my life, my goals and my accomplishments.’”

Others noted how the tragedy hit close to home, as UT and NIU share the Mid-American Conference.

“Today, we are all Huskies,” said Jer- rah Young, men’s basketball player, referring to NIU’s mascot.

Dr. Jeffrey Gold, provost and executive vice president for health affairs and dean of the College of Medicine, stated, “This is an occasion to measure our own motives and values. This is a day when we must grasp our mission and vision of our University and not let the view of the day deter us.”

Other speakers included Michael Betz, Student Government president; Breanne Democko, Student Government vice president; and the Rev. James J. Bacik, head of the University Interfaith Council and pastor of Corpus Christi University Parish.

Some who attended signed a banner of collective condolences. According to Betz, the banner will be sent to NIU and most likely be displayed during a memorial service at the college.

UT’s memorial service was presented by Student Government, in conjunction with University administration.

“Virginia Tech was a shock and now this,” said Rose Shuber, a sophomore majoring in Spanish and education, center, one of many who signed the memorial banner that was sent to Northern Illinois University.

Campbell L. Miller
UT looks to align budget with strategic plan
By Jon Strunk

University leaders are asking administrative and academic areas to evaluate their budgets and ensure their alignment with UT’s strategic plan.

Colleges and administrative units are being asked to identify 10 percent of their total budget that could be reallocated to more fully align priorities with the strategic “Directions” document created last year, as well as the subsequent individual unit strategic plans created under the “Directions” umbrella.

“It is critically important to begin a conversation about institutional priorities and that’s what this budgetary exercise is designed to do,” said Scott Scarborough, senior vice president for finance and administration, emphasizing that while some level of strategic reallocation would move forward, the exact percentages of resources to be realigned would likely change as the conversation continues.

“If your budget doesn’t fund the strategic priorities you’ve identified, your strategic plan becomes just a piece of paper,” Scarborough said.

Of the total 10 percent a college or administrative unit identifies, the college would reinvest half of it internally on its identified priorities and the other 5 percent would go collectively toward strategic initiatives throughout the University.

“A university that isn’t constantly evaluating where it is and where it wants to be is standing still or falling backward,” said Dr. Rosemary Haggett, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs.

“This process of engaging the academic and business units of the University to decide how our future will look is one of the most important continuing discussions at UT.”

Dr. Jeffrey Gold, provost and executive vice president for health affairs and dean of the College of Medicine, pointed to the depth and breadth of knowledge and experience across the University community.

“There are many great things on the horizon for this University, and it’s critical to have the right resources focused on the right priorities,” Gold said.

Associate VP for development named
By Kim Harvey

Belinda Cook, new associate vice president for development on Main Campus in Institutional Advancement, has been on the job for about four weeks.

Cook, who prefers to be called Bel, came from Michigan State University, where she was director of development in the College of Communication Arts and Sciences, and in the Libraries, Computing and Technology Unit.

She will manage fundraising strategies and operations that pertain to Main Campus, which includes the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business Administration, Judith Herb College of Education, College of Law, University College and the College of Engineering.

“Bel brings a depth of experience to our University, having been engaged in nonprofit organizations ranging in size from very small to significant,” said Vern Snyder, vice president for institutional advancement.

“For example, she has significant capital campaign experience, having recently worked on a successful $1.2 billion campaign at Michigan State University.

“I look forward to working with Bel as we take our fundraising to the next level.”

Cook said her timing couldn’t be better. She joins UT as the current $100 million campaign nears successful completion, and at a time that is important for the planning phase of a future capital campaign.

“I’m thrilled to be here,” Cook said. “Having come from a very large organization, I like UT’s size because it’s more manageable. I’ve worn multiple hats in past positions, so I understand the various roles my colleagues in Institutional Advancement play.

Our goal is to increase financial support for the University and to help our alumni find their passions in terms of their giving interests.”

Cook earned a bachelor of arts degree in history and classical civilization from the University of Texas at Austin and a master of public administration degree from Angelo State University.


Clinton adviser to speak Feb. 25 at UT
By Kim Harvey

The University of Toledo has become a political hot spot in recent days.

Hours after Sen. Barack Obama’s campaign pulled out of Savage Hall Sunday, a representative for Sen. Hillary Clinton will arrive for a program on the Health Science Campus.

On Monday, Feb. 25, Andrea Palm, Clinton’s senior health policy adviser, will discuss the candidate’s proposed health-care plan as a guest of the Campus Democratic Club.

Palm’s free, public program will take place from noon to 1 p.m. in Health Education Building Room 100 on the Health Science Campus.

Full text of Clinton’s health-care plan is available at www.hillaryclinton.com.

Memorial
continued from p. 1

...to us all, but when it happens to a MAC school, it really hits home,” Betz said. “This reminds us that we need to stand united against acts of violence.”

As faculty, staff and students slowly filed out of the Student Union Ingman Room, they stopped to commiserate. One wore a shirt that read, “We are Virginia Tech.”

Jordan Hoffman, a junior in the College of Arts and Sciences, talked with friends who identified themselves as members of the UT Blue Crew.

“We’re the face of the University,” he said. “It’s important for NIU to know we feel for them.”
Interdisciplinary teaching allows UT nursing, physical therapy students to learn about teamwork

By Jim Winkler

ix lectures and lab sessions on hospital infection control, proper patient-lifting techniques and professionalism, some 50 graduate-level nursing and physical therapy students, and two forward-thinking University of Toledo professors.

Then watch for new insights, respect and understanding, multiple perspectives and flashes of illumination.

Martha Sexton, a College of Nursing instructor, and Dr. Michelle Masterson, an associate professor of physical therapy in the College of Health Science and Human Service, are breaking down the walls between nursing and physical therapy education by helping graduate-level students in the two disciplines become more familiar with each other’s education, skills, roles and responsibilities.

They have held joint classes this semester, allowing Sexton to teach isolation precautions, infection control and sterile techniques to both nursing and physical therapy students enrolled in the clinical nurse leader master’s and in the doctor of physical therapy degree programs, respectively, and Masterson to teach patient mobility, proper patient-lifting techniques and patient safety to both groups of students. The pair also lectured on socialization, professionalism, the importance of communication, and collegiality.

Until recently, nurses and physical therapists have trained and learned separately. Yet once in the working world, the two professions work very closely together, side by side, sometimes in difficult situations.

Masterson said there are numerous benefits for health-care students to learn together. The approach is efficient, broadens students’ perspectives, gives the professors an opportunity to learn from each other, and builds stronger relationships through their collaboration. It also takes advantage of Sexton’s and Masterson’s core expertise, background and experience, and gives the two professors a common experience to discuss.

“Students must understand and know the kinds of education each has had, know each other’s responsibilities and contributions to patient care, expectations and terminology,” she explained. “Students often participate on health-care teams that include therapists and nurses during a clinical rotation. Therefore, it is important that they learn in the classroom what will be expected of them in the clinic, specifically what the roles and expectations are of each team member and how best to collaborate and work together for the benefits for patients.”

Sexton, who is working on a Ph.D. degree in higher education at UT while teaching, noted, “Each discipline has much to learn from the other.”

“For example,” she said, “most of the physical therapy students had never seen the balloon that is inflated when a Foley catheter is inserted. By understanding the mechanics of the equipment, better care will be taken when working with catheterized patients. Likewise, the nursing students learned the importance of transferring patients with a gait belt. This piece of equipment, which is not commonly used by nurses, provides patient safety as well as reduced back injuries in health-care workers.”

“It was neat to see the facial expressions of the PT students when they saw how nurses insert a catheter,” she recalled. She thinks the students came away with a greater understanding and appreciation for each other’s profession after the classes.

Both faculty members think academic health centers like UT should work to change the traditional “silo” mode of health-care education and to strengthen the team element in the delivery of health care.

So-called “silo” thinking—the persistent lack of communication between different groups of health-care professionals—gets in the way of the patients’ needs. Teamwork is increasingly a big part of health-care reform, seen as being both better for patients and more cost-effective.

Noting that health care increasingly is being provided by a variety of health-care professionals—physicians, nurse practitioners, pharmacists, physical therapists and others in different settings—the National Academy of Sciences’ Institute of Medicine has recommended health-education team training to improve the quality of health care.

Forum to address health-care disparities in African-American community

While the month of February is dedicated to the rich past of black culture and history in the United States and throughout the world, it also serves as a reminder of work left to do.

UT health-care providers will join Lima-area family physician Dr. Anthony Adkins at a forum titled “Improving Health Disparities in the African-American Community” Friday, Feb. 29, at 11:30 a.m. in Health Education Building Room 103 on the Health Science Campus.

Mark Chastang, vice president and executive director of UT Medical Center, will moderate a panel that will include Adkins; Dr. Frederick Cason, associate professor of surgery; Dr. Linda French, professor and chair of family medicine; and Dr. Patricia Hogue, assistant dean for student diversity, recruitment and retention and chair of the Physician Assistant Studies Program.

Adkins has been a strong advocate for African-American youth, using innovative ways, such as rap music, to communicate with them about steps they can take to ensure their own health.
PREP TIME: Brian Haidet, a student at the Sylvania Franciscan Academy, prepared his entry last Tuesday for the egg-drop contest, which was one of several events hosted by the College of Engineering in honor of National Engineer's Week.

“Wellness Jeopardy”
Wednesday, Feb. 27
Noon to 1 p.m.
Student Union Auditorium on Main Campus
RSVP to Rocket Wellness at 419.383.BFIT (2348)
or e-mail rocket.wellness@utoledo.edu

In memoriam


John “Wes” Haynes, Toledo, who worked at UT 14 years, died Feb. 9 at age 73. He was hired as a custodial worker in 1983, became a custodial worker supervisor two years later, and then a building services supervisor in 1993. He retired from the University in 1997.

Fern (Welker) Mervos, Ann Arbor, Mich., died Feb. 14 at age 97. She began teaching in the Department of Mathematics while still an undergraduate, going on to earn bachelor’s and master’s degrees in mathematics in 1932 and 1933, respectively. She was a part-time instructor from 1932 to 1936, when she was promoted to full time. She became an assistant professor in 1943, a position she held until 1947. She was a charter member of UT’s Pi Mu Epsilon chapter and a lifetime member of the UT Alumni Association. A math scholarship in her name was established in 2001 by her niece, Dr. Nina McClelland.

Steven M. Johnson, Toledo, UT mason journeyman, died Feb. 21 at age 50. He was hired in 1986 as a receiving clerk in Purchasing and became a cement mason one year later; mason 2 in 1993, and mason journeyman in 1998. Johnson received a bachelor’s degree in business administration from UT in 2007.

Kenneth H. Ohlman, Toledo, died Feb. 17 at age 77. A graduate of UT’s ROTC Program, he worked in the Military Education Department for a number of years. He earned a bachelor’s degree in engineering from UT in 1953.

Irene D. Rickard, Toledo, a longtime pastoral care volunteer at the former MCO from the late 1980s to the 1990s and member of the Satellites Auxiliary, died Feb. 8 at age 89.

UT faculty member to inspect University of Kuwait anatomy program

By Jim Winkler

Dr. Richard Lane, professor and acting chairman of neurosciences, will spend a week in March as an external reviewer of the graduate anatomy program in the College of Medicine at Kuwait University.

While in Kuwait City, Lane will meet faculty and students, tour classrooms and laboratories, and write a summary report gauging how the department is performing and how it compares with its counterparts worldwide. He also plans to make recommendations for the future of the college’s research and educational programs.

College of Medicine has been substantially augmented thanks to the efforts of faculty members in the departments of Neurosciences and Radiology, and Center for Creative Instruction medical illustrators and computer programmers who have developed and utilize specialized software, Internet resources, animations and advances in anatomical imaging to promote better learning.

Anatomy courses on the Health Science Campus today have melded classic dissection and plastinated prosections with state-of-the-art imaging techniques used by physicians and surgeons, such as ultrasonography, endoscopy, three-dimensional visualizations, multi-axial computerized image and MRI reconstructions.

“The study of human anatomy,” Lane said, “is now more integrated with and oriented toward preparing our students for the clinical science disciplines.”

Lane, who was chosen for his research and education expertise, was invited last year by Dr. Khaled H. Al-Sagabi, Kuwait University’s vice dean for academic affairs. He said he hopes his visit and report will stimulate discussion among the faculty and assist them in achieving their future objectives.

Kuwait University was established in 1966, five years after Kuwait became an independent state. The university has 14 colleges offering programs in sciences and humanities at the undergraduate, graduate and doctoral levels. It enrolls approximately 19,000 students.