UT recognized for number of new inventions from federally funded research

By Nicolette Jett

The University of Toledo has earned recognition as one of the best schools for innovation transfer in fiscal year 2011. Innovation Excellence, a website focused on inventions within industry and academia around the world, ranked UT as one of the top 20 universities in the country for new inventions per $1 million in grant funding.

"Without the diligent, high-quality work that our faculty members perform and direct, the University would not have received this acknowledgement," said Dr. Dan Kory, UT senior director of technology transfer.

Faculty, staff and students pursuing disciplines, including engineering, chemistry, biology, pharmaceuticals and orthopedics, made important contributions that led to the recognition, Kory said.

The Innovation Excellence website measured the most new inventions per federal dollar because that formula indicates the efficiency and inventiveness of universities and measures how effectively schools translate federal research funding into new knowledge and technologies.

The article states that schools receiving less in grant funding can and often do translate those funds into more “inventive bang for the buck, and turn their research into inventions at a brisk rate.” UT’s research expenditures were $70 million — with $38 million from the federal government — in 2010 compared to schools such as Johns Hopkins, which spent more than $1.4 billion in 2010.

“We would like to thank all those who have submitted invention disclosures for...”

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Researcher gains national exposure for his work linking musical taste to handedness

By Josh Martin

Whether or not you like a new song may have less to do with how the melody strikes your ears and more to do with what’s between them.

According to Dr. Stephen Christman, UT professor of psychology, the size of the corpus callosum — the bundle of nerve fibers in the brain that serves as the primary connection between the left and right cerebral hemispheres — influences not only how individuals use their hands, but also how open a person is to unfamiliar musical genres.

Christman’s study linking handedness and musical taste was published in the journal Psychology of Music and garnered national attention from news organizations MSNBC and The Huffington Post.

The bigger the corpus callosum, according to Christman, the greater the interaction possible between the left and right sides of the brain — which leads to greater access to right hemisphere processing.

“The right hemisphere plays a key role in the updating of beliefs, and increased...”

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PICKIN’: Dr. Stephen Christman played a little bluegrass on the banjo. His research on handedness and music found that those who use their nondominant hand for a few daily activities are more open to listening to different genres of music.

HONORED: Dana Drew-Shaw, center, shown here with Vice President and Athletic Director Mike O’Brien and Women’s Basketball Coach Tricia Cullop, became the second Toledo women’s basketball player to have her jersey hung from the rafters of Savage Arena. Drew-Shaw, who wore No. 11, was a two-time Mid-American Conference Player of the Year who helped lead Toledo to four postseason appearances (three NCAA, one WNIT) and three MAC regular-season and tournament championships in 1991, 1992 and 1995. She is first in UT annals in career assists (659), second in minutes played (3,832), third in scoring average (16.3 points per game), fourth in points (1,919) and free throws made (486), fifth in field goals made (635) and free-throw percentage (.811), sixth in steals (179), and tied for seventh in three-point field goals made (163). She is married to former men’s basketball player Casey Shaw.

HONORED: Dana Drew-Shaw, center, shown here with Vice President and Athletic Director Mike O’Brien and Women’s Basketball Coach Tricia Cullop, became the second Toledo women’s basketball player to have her jersey hung from the rafters of Savage Arena. Drew-Shaw, who wore No. 11, was a two-time Mid-American Conference Player of the Year who helped lead Toledo to four postseason appearances (three NCAA, one WNIT) and three MAC regular-season and tournament championships in 1991, 1992 and 1995. She is first in UT annals in career assists (659), second in minutes played (3,832), third in scoring average (16.3 points per game), fourth in points (1,919) and free throws made (486), fifth in field goals made (635) and free-throw percentage (.811), sixth in steals (179), and tied for seventh in three-point field goals made (163). She is married to former men’s basketball player Casey Shaw.

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Student named annual Jefferson Award ‘Champion’

By Kim Goodin

UT senior Shannon Longenecker was named the recipient of UT’s fourth annual Jefferson Award for Public Service during a recent event celebrating volunteerism.

Longenecker, who is slated to graduate in May with a bachelor of science degree in biology, was lauded for her local and global community service.

She has led a campaign to raise funds for victims of human trafficking and has been an active volunteer for Nature’s Nursery, UT’s Perceptual Motor Development Program, the Cherry Street Mission and various sports programs. In addition, she has participated in three service missions to Haiti since 2010.

The announcement of Longenecker as UT’s annual Jefferson Award honoree came as a surprise during a celebratory luncheon in Libbey Hall last week. Eleven of the 12 monthly Jefferson Awards “Champion” honorees were on hand for the event, which recognized their volunteer efforts on behalf of the University and the local, national and global communities that benefit.

“Shannon epitomizes the people we celebrate through our Jefferson Awards ‘Champion’ Program,” said Lawrence J. Burns, vice president for external affairs and chair of UT’s Jefferson Awards “Champion” Program. “We gathered 12 incredibly giving people in one room to say ‘thank you’ for their community service, and each one could have been our annual honoree. It’s a shame we can choose only one to represent us at the national conference.”

UT’s Jefferson Awards Selection Committee names a “Champion” honoree each month based on nominations submitted to the Jefferson Awards website and Facebook page. Of the 12 monthly honorees, Longenecker was selected to represent the University during the national Jefferson Awards program’s annual conference in Washington, D.C.

The University’s 2011 “Champions” were students Jacob Brokaw, Jordan Maddocks, Drew Mathews, Nancy Ngo, James Nolan, Sarah Ritenour, Stephen Urbanski and Cameron Streib; faculty members Dr. Tavis Glassman and Dr. Michele Knox; and alumna Amanda Geletka.

Watch a video of UT’s honorees and their community service achievements at utoledo.edu/jeffersonaward and fb.com/utjeffersonawards.

UT hosts educational forum on state construction reform

By Jon Strunk

The University of Toledo’s Scott Park Campus of Energy and Innovation was the site of the state’s first educational forum on construction reform as hundreds of attorneys, architects, engineers and government organization representatives gathered to learn about a process designed to save time and money.

The new rules are timely as just last week a higher education capital budget proposal was received favorably by Ohio Gov. John Kasich. UT President Lloyd Jacobs was one of the seven people on the proposal’s leadership committee.

Chuck Lehnert, UT vice president of administration, pointed out that UT already was home to one of the two construction reform pilot projects and said the University was pleased to host the forum.

“The new construction rules create a better process, and the efficiencies that result will save UT, government organizations and the taxpayers money and reduce construction delays,” Lehnert said.

Under the new law, UT now is able to award a bid to a single prime contractor who then coordinates the various subcontractors.

HONORED: Shannon Longenecker was named the 2011 annual Jefferson Awards for Public Service “Champion” winner. She held her award and posed for a photo last week with UT President Lloyd Jacobs, left, and Lawrence J. Burns, UT vice president for external affairs and chair of the University’s Jefferson Awards “Champion” Program.

Jefferson Awards nominations due Feb. 22

Do you know the next Shannon Longenecker?

That’s right — Shannon Longenecker, UT’s annual Jefferson Awards honoree for 2011, was nominated by someone in the UT community. Everyone – faculty, staff and fellow students — is eligible to submit a nomination for the monthly award.

Nominations can be submitted on UT’s updated Facebook page, fb.com/utjeffersonawards, or directly to UT’s Jefferson Awards page at http://bit.ly/utjefferson.

Nominations for this month’s honoree are due Wednesday, Feb. 22.

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Astronomer’s discovery of cool ‘stars’ among top 100 scientific stories of 2011

By Feliza Casano

A discovery by a University of Toledo researcher is among the top scientific findings of the year, according to Discover Magazine.

The detection of cool star-like orbs called Y dwarfs made by a team of scientists that included Dr. Michael Cushing, UT assistant professor of astronomy and director of Ritter Planetarium, was listed as No. 66 on Discover Magazine’s top 100 list of discoveries for 2011.

“It’s exciting because there is so much great science being done all over the world,” said Cushing, who was a member of the NASA team that discovered the cooler stars, and the lead author of a paper describing them. “It is a real honor for our work to be selected as one of the top 100 discoveries of 2011.”

Y dwarfs are actually the coolest class of brown dwarfs. Unlike most stars, brown dwarfs are not hot enough to sustain nuclear fusion deep in their interiors. Without this internal energy source that keeps stars like our sun shining for billions of years, brown dwarfs simply cool off as they age, Cushing said.

“Astronomers classify stars based on their temperature, using an odd collection of letters beginning with the hottest ‘O’ stars and, until recently, ending with the cool ‘M’ stars,” Cushing said. “During the last 15 years, we’ve been finding cooler and cooler brown dwarfs, and ‘Y’ represents the latest addition to this system.”

The Y dwarfs originally were identified with information from NASA’s Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer, or WISE, which took a survey of the entire sky in infrared. Subsequently, the team did follow-up research using ground-based telescopes, including one in Hawaii, as well as the Hubble Space Telescope.

Y dwarfs can be as cool as room temperature. One Y dwarf called WISE 1828+2650 is about 300 degrees Kelvin. In comparison, the sun’s temperature is about 6,500 degrees Kelvin.

Cushing, who joined UT in August 2011, will conduct additional research at the University to learn more about these colder stars.

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Cushing, who joined UT in August 2011, will conduct additional research at the University to learn more about these colder stars.

“I’m looking forward to continuing my study of these elusive objects,” he said. “We’ve just begun our study of the Y dwarfs, and there are still many questions to be answered about their properties.”

To read the Discover Magazine article, “Found: Stars Cool Enough to Touch,” visit discovermagazine.com/2012/jan-feb/66.

Researcher

continued from p. 1

access makes a person more open to persuasion and new experiences — such as listening to a new musical genre,” Christman said.

“The left hemisphere, conversely, is in charge of maintaining our current beliefs and strives to interpret information in terms of those beliefs,” he continued. “If enough contradictory evidence accumulates, the right hemisphere can force an updating of the left hemisphere-based beliefs — which may include an appreciation for a newly discovered musical style."

People with large corpus callosums also are disposed to be mixed-handed; roughly half of all people are mixed-handed. According to Christman, this refers to the use of the nondominant hand for at least one common manual activity such as writing, drawing, throwing, opening jars, combing hair, brushing teeth, striking a match and using eating utensils. It does not, however, refer to ambidexterity.

Strong-handed individuals will use their dominant right or left hands regularly for all such activities while mixed-handed individuals use their nondominant hand regularly for at least one such activity.

Christman’s hypothesized link between handedness and musical preferences was corroborated by a study he performed on 92 UT students. The strong-handed students cited R&B, modern pop and alternative rock as their top three musical choices while the mixed-handed students were more favorable to less familiar genres such as bluegrass and reggae.

Christman is planning a follow-up study to see if similar effects can be found with popular versus obscure films as well as with popular versus obscure authors and books.

In memoriam

Irene Kusz, Toledo, a former member of the Satellites Auxiliary, died Feb. 15 at age 91.

Dr. R. Donald Woodson, Lakeside, Ohio, an associate professor in the MCO Department of Surgery from 1969 to 1978, died Feb. 6 at age 80. He served as a volunteer faculty member with the rank of clinical associate professor from 1978 to 1996 and was reappointed in 2000. Woodson received a juris doctor from the UT College of Law in 1984.
Higher Learning Commission team to visit campus Feb. 27-29

By Kim Goodin

The University community will welcome some important guests next week, as representatives from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools arrive for a much-anticipated site visit.

If the Monday through Wednesday, Feb. 27-29, visit is UT’s test of whether it exemplifies its mission of improving the human condition on a path to excellence in education, Dr. Dorothea Sawicki is confident the University will make the grade.

“We’ve worked extremely hard for nearly four years to prepare,” said Sawicki, professor of microbiology-immunology, associate dean and vice chancellor of graduate health science, and co-chair of UT’s HLC self-study steering committee.

“The process has identified some solid accomplishments faculty, staff and students can feel really good about, as well as areas that need additional focus. This has provided UT with an invaluable opportunity for continuous improvement.”

The HLC team will review UT’s success at meeting five key criteria, as documented in its self-study report available at utoledo.edu/accreditation/pdf/selfstudy.pdf.

The criteria are:

- Criterion I: Mission and Integrity;
- Criterion II: Planning for the Future;
- Criterion III: Student Learning and Effective Teaching;
- Criterion IV: Acquisition, Discovery and Application of Knowledge; and
- Criterion V: Engagement and Service.

Meeting the criteria is essential for UT’s continued accreditation, which affects faculty, staff and students in the following ways:

- Quality education: Accredited colleges and universities deliver quality educational programs.
- Financial aid: Accredited schools receive federal student financial aid funds.
- Transfer: Most colleges and universities accept transfer credits only from accredited schools.
- Graduate school: Most graduate programs accept only students with degrees from accredited schools.
- Tuition assistance: Employers are more likely to endorse and reimburse tuition for courses taken at an accredited school.

During the site visit, a series of forums on Health Science and Main campuses will be offered as opportunities for faculty, staff and students to participate.

Dr. Thomas Sharkey, associate professor of marketing and co-chair of the HLC self-study steering committee, said the events planned for the two-day site visit would be directed by the commission team as its members seek to gain further details about information in the self-study report.

“The evaluation team has a mountain of detailed information from the self-study report,” Sharkey said. “The team’s interest during the forums will, essentially, be to verify that information.”

Since they may be asked to expand on the self-study report, Sharkey said those who attend the forums should be familiar with it. Browsing UT’s HLC website at utoledo.edu/accreditation may be helpful, as well.

The HLC team will meet briefly with members of UT’s senior leadership Feb. 29 to offer preliminary comments.

More detailed and final conclusions will arrive within the next few months and into the summer.

Open forums during Higher Learning Commission site visit

Monday, Feb. 27:

- Main Campus Faculty Forum, 4 p.m., Student Union Room 2582;
- Health Science Campus Faculty Forum, 4 p.m., Health Education Building Room 110;
- Main Campus Staff Forum, 4:30 p.m., Student Union Room 2591; and
- Main Campus Student Forum, 4:30 p.m., Student Union Room 2584.

Tuesday, Feb. 28:

- Health Science Campus Staff Forum, 11 a.m., Toledo Hilton Oak Room; and
- Health Science Campus Student Forum, 4 p.m., Health Education Building Room 103.
PhD student awarded grant to continue Lake Erie yellow perch research

By Nicolette Jett

The Ohio Lake Erie Commission has awarded a $15,000 grant to a UT doctoral student researching yellow perch.

Nate Manning, who is in the process of completing his PhD dissertation work at the UT Lake Erie Center, was one of five people who received a grant in the state in the most recent award cycle.

The funding will go toward Manning’s ongoing research analyzing the relationship between recent land-use alterations in the Maumee River watershed and fluctuations in the growth and abundance of yellow perch in the western basin of Lake Erie.

“My research does not just impact the local fisherman in the area, but also impacts the entire region and changes in agriculture,” Manning said. “The UT Lake Erie Center has had great success in the past with this grant, and I hope my ongoing research will provide insight into how changes on land can affect changes in the lake.”

Manning’s research utilizes both historical records and current satellite imagery to create computer models that link these data to the differences in Lake Erie and the perch population.

He works closely with his supervisors, Dr. Christine Mayer and Dr. Jon Bossenbroek, both UT associate professors of environmental sciences.

“His dissertation is quite the undertaking in regard to time and effort,” said Bossenbroek, who was assigned the principal investigator on the project. “He has worked very hard to earn his PhD, and all of his work has been completed in an admirable way.”

Green chemistry expert to speak Feb. 27

By Paul Webb

Dr. Philip Jessop, an expert on green chemistry, will visit The University of Toledo to talk about the benefits of more environmentally friendly chemicals.

Jessop, professor of inorganic chemistry at Queens University, director of GreenCentre Canada and Canada’s Green Chemistry Research Chair, will speak at 4 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27, in Bowman-Oddy Laboratories Room 1059.

His free, public talk, “Solving Environmental Problems With Club Soda,” explains his work with switchable materials from discovery and design to development.

“It’s really all about finding a silver lining in a very dark cloud. We all know how bad global warming and carbon dioxide are, but can’t we find a way to use some of that carbon dioxide to make the world a better place? Using carbon dioxide to make processes more efficient or less damaging to the environment would be a great silver lining,” Jessop said.

He works with switchable materials that can be turned from one kind of liquid to a very different kind of liquid upon command with the use of carbon dioxide. The process is used as an effort to solve specific environmental problems.

“Jessop is trying to minimize the usage of toxic organic solvents in the industrial sector,” said Dr. Jared Anderson, UT professor of chemistry. “The toxic solvents that are used are becoming an issue because they are used far too much. Jessop is working to design new solvents that are more environmentally friendly.”

Jessop’s visit to campus comes at a time when the University is working to establish a new School for Green Chemistry and Engineering to build on its expertise in alternative energy and sustainability.

“He is the first eminent speaker in the field that we will have here since the announcement of the new school in July. It will be a wonderful way to kick it off,” Anderson said. “We are extremely excited to have a world-class scientist in green chemistry on campus.”

UT recognized

continued from p. 1

their cooperation and assistance as patent protection is secured,” said Stephen Snider, UT director of technology licensing and contracts. “We are fortunate to have such innovative faculty at UT with whom we work to provide an efficient and effective conduit for the licensing of promising technologies to industry.”

To read the complete article from Innovation Excellence, visit innovationexcellence.com/blog/2011/12/14/best-us-universities-for-innovation-transfer.

To learn more about technology transfer at the University, view the 2011 annual report on technology transfer at www.utoledo.edu/research/TechTransfer/PDFs/2011annual.pdf.
‘Medicine on the Maumee’ exhibit to examine history of health care in region

Clarice Church, 8 years old, tetanus, Jan. 29, 1859. Chris Fall, 35 years old, laborer, drinking ice water, May 15, 1860. John Ayers, 32 years old, bad whiskey, June 3, 1863. Theodore Hansen, 27 years old, soldier, starved in Rebel prison, April 3, 1865. Ada Meeker, 1 year old, cholera infantum, Sept. 24, 1865. Susanna H. James, housewife, 23 years old, typhoid fever, Jan. 23, 1866.

These brief entries recorded in the pages of the Record of Deaths in the City of Toledo are more than just statistics. Individually, they hint at lives tragically cut short. Collectively, they tell the story of the difficulties of survival in Toledo in the middle of the 19th century, and the state of medical care in the city at the time.

The exhibition titled “Medicine on the Maumee: A History of Health Care in Northwest Ohio” will open Thursday, March 1, at 3 p.m. in the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections in The University of Toledo’s Carlson Library. The free, public exhibit traces the history of medicine in our community from the earliest years of settlement to current day. It looks at epidemics that devastated the population, hospitals that sought to cure, doctors and nurses who provided care, and at how medicine became an industry.

“While the medical history of northwest Ohio is probably not unique in any of these aspects, how medicine was practiced locally has had a profound impact on who and where we are as a community today,” said Barbara Floyd, director of the Canaday Center and coordinator of the exhibition.

In addition to items from the Canaday Center’s holdings, the exhibit will incorporate articles borrowed from many local organizations, including Mercy, Mercy College, ProMedica, the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library and the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library. The exhibit will present a unique opportunity to see rare medical history-related items that are not likely to be brought together again in a single exhibit. Included in the exhibit will be early documentation of medicine in northwest Ohio, including a patient logbook from Dr. Frederick William Jaeger, who practiced medicine in Woodville in the 1840s and 1850s. The logbook is being lent to the exhibition by the Harris-Elmore Public Library.

The exhibit’s opening presentation will be a “living history” re-creation of Jaeger, done by his great-great-grandson, John Jaeger of Perrysburg. Jaeger’s “Black Swamp Doctor” interpretation discusses some of the diseases that were rampant in the early settlements of the region, the plants and medicines used to treat them, and care provided by doctors of the time. Jaeger, who was a naturalist and interpreter for Metroparks of the Toledo Area before his retirement, has won awards for his “Black Swamp Doctor” re-creation.

In addition to early patient logs, the exhibit will feature the minutes of the Academy of Medicine dating back to 1864; these records reveal much about the practice of medicine in the region. Also included are patient logs dating back to the founding of Mercy Hospital and Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center; newsletters written by patients at the William Roche Memorial Tuberculosis Hospital; photographs and scrapbooks documenting now-defunct hospital nursing schools; letters from Civil War doctors from northwest Ohio; and founding documents of the Medical College of Ohio.

The topic of public health will be addressed, and the Toledo-Lucas County Department of Health has loaned its earliest
‘Anatomical Art’ to accompany ‘Medicine on the Maumee’ exhibit

To accompany its “Medicine on the Maumee” exhibition, the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections will feature anatomical specimens and medical illustrations prepared by members of UT’s Health Science Campus.

“Anatomical Art: The Internal Beauty of the Human Body” will be on display in the art gallery area on the fifth floor of Carlson Library adjacent to the Canaday Center.

The exhibit will feature specimens preserved through the process of plastination by Dr. Carlos Baptista, associate professor in the Department of Neurosciences. The specimens are produced as models used in teaching.

Last summer, the University hosted the 10th International Interim Conference on Plastination, organized by Baptista.

Also on display will be illustrations by Roy Schneider, manager of medical and biological illustration in the Center for Creative Instruction. Schneider, who has worked as an illustrator for more than 35 years, has extensive experience developing visualization concepts as they apply to the advancement of medical education.

He is an active member of the Association of Medical Illustrators, and received the International Dr. Frank Netter Award for the original concept and design of his work titled Anatomy Revealed.

Schneider is working to design and create surgical simulation training models and produce educational software for primary and secondary education.

“Together, the specimens and illustrations will allow visitors to literally see inside the human body,” Floyd said. “Hopefully, they will leave with a greater sense of the beauty within.”

‘Medicine’ exhibit

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volume of death records from the city of Toledo dating from 1858 to 1871. The records provide a fascinating glimpse into life — and death — in the early years of the city’s history.

Also included are rare medical books, including a first edition of Dr. Daniel Drake’s A Systematic Treatise on the Principal Diseases of the Interior Valley of North America, published in 1850. Drake’s study included documentation of the Black Swamp in northwest Ohio and its impact on disease and medical care in the years immediately following the settlement of Toledo.

An extensive catalog to accompany the exhibit is available free. The catalog was a cooperative project of the staff of the Canaday Center and archivists and librarians from Mercy, Mercy College and ProMedica.

The exhibit will be open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and by appointment through Dec. 28. Group tours also can be arranged.

For more information, contact Floyd at 419.530.2170.
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MON, FEB 27TH
5:30 P.M - 7:00 P.M
FIELD HOUSE 1910
UT to pay tribute to engineers this week

The University of Toledo College of Engineering and several student organizations have planned events to celebrate National Engineers Week, Feb. 19-25.

Listed by date, events will include:

MONDAY, FEB. 20
• Egg-Drop Contest. Students will test small, light containers they design to protect a raw egg when dropped from successive heights. This event will take place from noon to 2 p.m. on the first floor of Nitschke Hall.
• Engineering Olympics. Contestants will participate in a decathlon to test the physical and mental abilities of an engineer. The event will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on the first floor of Nitschke Hall.
• Static Cling Challenge. Students will use static electricity to see how many balloons will stick to them. This event will take place from 2 to 2:30 p.m. in the Palmer Hall Lobby.
• Quiz Bowl. Students will test their engineering knowledge at 4 p.m. in Nitschke Hall Room 1027.

TUESDAY, FEB. 21
• Students vs. Faculty Tag O’ War. Student teams will vie for the chance to compete against engineering faculty members. The pulling will start at noon on the first floor of Nitschke Hall.
• Mini-Trebuchet Competition. Students will construct a small catapult-type device and then use it to launch marshmallows at a target. Watch from 3 to 4 p.m. on the first floor of Nitschke Hall.
• Quiz Bowl. Students will test their engineering knowledge at 4 p.m. in Nitschke Hall Room 1027.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22
• Engineer for a Day. Area high school students will visit the University starting at 9 a.m. to tour engineering facilities. After a luncheon on campus, the students will shadow professional engineers in the community.
• Life-Size Jenga Competition. Students will attempt to dismantle a tower of blocks without it falling down. Check it out between 2 and 4 p.m. in Nitschke Hall.
• E-Race. Students will use clues to find locations and perform tasks throughout the UT engineering complex. The race will begin at 4 p.m. on the first floor of Nitschke Hall.
• Mr. and Mrs. Engineer. Students will compete in three events — talent, engineering wear, and question and answer — at 6 p.m. in the Nitschke Hall Auditorium.

THURSDAY, FEB. 23
• Engineering Putt-Putt. Student organizations will design challenging and creative miniature golf holes between 1 and 4 p.m. on the first floor of Nitschke Hall.
• Pop Bottle Rockets Contest. Students will create an air pressure rocket using a two-liter or 20-ounce pop bottle and see how far the craft travels in a straight line. Lift off is slated for 2 p.m. in the Nitschke Hall Courtyard.

FRIDAY, FEB. 24
• Toothpick Bridge. Students will build bridges using toothpicks and white glue, then they will test the bridges by adding weight until the structure fails. Check it out from 2 to 4 p.m. on the first floor of Nitschke Hall.
• Rube Goldberg Competition. Student teams will construct the most creative and complex contraptions to inflate a balloon and then pop it. Stop by to see the machines and count how many steps they take to complete the task between 4 and 6 p.m. on the first floor of Nitschke Hall.

For more information, visit www.utoledoec.org/content/national-engineers-week, or contact Jon Pawlecki, director of student services in the College of Engineering, at jtpawlecki@eng.utoledo.edu or 419.530.8045.

College of Engineering to host Career Expo Feb. 29

More than 70 companies will participate in the Engineering Career Expo Wednesday, Feb. 29, at The University of Toledo to recruit students and alumni from the College of Engineering.

“The number of employers attending our spring 2012 career expo has increased since last year’s event,” said Vickie Kuntz, director of the Engineering Career Development Center, which is hosting the event. “I believe this is a reflection of the caliber of our engineering students and demonstrates our ongoing commitment to both our students and our business community.”

The spring Engineering Career Expo will take place from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. on the first floor of Nitschke Hall.

“The expo is a great opportunity for students to interact and meet with employers representing diverse areas of engineering,” Kuntz said. “With the variety of companies they will meet, they have the opportunity to see a broad overview of potential employers.”

The career expo is open only to College of Engineering undergraduate students, graduate students and alumni.

Companies that will attend the expo include First Energy Corp., General Mills Inc., General Motors Co., General Electric Co., Marathon Petroleum Corp., Honda Motor Co., Dana Holding Corp., SSOE Group, Tenneco Inc. and Plastic Technologies Inc.

“Employers have always said very positive things about our expo,” Kuntz said. “We maintain a very professional atmosphere.”

Students who attend the event will be able to speak with company representatives about future co-op and employment opportunities.

Author to discuss book about slavery and its impact on future generations

Dr. Christina Sharpe, professor of English and women’s and gender studies at Tufts University, will speak at The University of Toledo about her new book, Monstrous Intimacies: Making Post-Slavery Subjects.

Sharpe’s free, public talk will be at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 22, in University Hall Room 4410.

The lecture is based on her book in which she interprets African diaspora and Black Atlantic visual and literary texts by authors that include Frederick Douglass, Essie Mae Washington and Bessie Head. She also tackles issues of intimacy, representation and subjectivity through an analysis of Kara Walker’s black silhouettes, the “Hottentot Venus,” and Issac Julien’s film, “The Attendant.”

“We are extremely excited to have an author like Dr. Sharpe on campus,” said Charlene Gilbert, professor and chair of the Department of Women’s and Gender Studies. “Sharpe is an impressive scholar whose work is both complex and extremely relevant as we continue to grapple with questions of race and identity in the 21st century.”

This event is sponsored by the Department of Women’s and Gender Studies, the Department of English, the President’s Lecture Series on Diversity, the Africana Studies Program, and the Master of Liberal Studies Program.
Apple Tree Nursery School School to hold open house Feb. 21

By Roxanne Ring

A
pple Tree Nursery School, located in the Child-Care Center on The University of Toledo’s Main Campus, will host an open house Tuesday, Feb. 21, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

“Childhood is an important stage of human development, and at Apple Tree, it is celebrated,” said Sherry Roush, director, “Apple Tree children experience responsive settings that promote enjoyment and safe, stimulating exploration. Our center maintains a child-centered, play-based approach to support children at varying developmental levels, while we encourage them to grow and learn in new ways.”

Apple Tree has openings for children to enroll and is recruiting kids with special needs for its infant, toddler or preschool classrooms.

The school has a strong commitment to diversity and recognizes the benefits of inclusion to children with special needs and their typically developing peers, Roush said. Early inclusion provides all children with opportunities to learn about and appreciate the gifts and talents of others.

Apple Tree is working with the Lucas County Department of Developmental Disabilities and Rehab Dynamics to offer pediatric therapy and early intervention play groups on site, making the school one of the few child-care programs in the area to offer these services. Additionally, Apple Tree has a licensed early childhood intervention specialist on staff.

Apple Tree, Rehab Dynamics and Lucas County Department of Developmental Disabilities staff, as well as UT faculty and students, will interact with families during the open house and help children participate in hands-on activities and show parents how the activities benefit children’s development.

UT students come from early childhood education, special education, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech-language pathology and social work.

Established on Scott Park Campus in 1974, Apple Tree moved to Main Campus in 1996. The school is accredited by the National Association of Early Childhood Programs, a division of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Apple Tree also has been awarded a Three Star rating — the highest rating available — from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services’ Step Up to Quality Program, a voluntary statewide quality rating system that assesses early care and education for children as provided by licensed centers.

For further information, contact Roush at stroush@utoledo.edu or 419.530.1070 or Dr. Laurie Dinebeil, professor in the UT Department of Early Childhood, Physical and Special Education, at laurie.dinebeil@utoledo.edu or 419.530.4330.

Program to offer opportunity to experience life of law student Feb. 24

By Heather Niedermeier

D
eciding whether or not to attend law school is a difficult choice. It’s even more difficult if you’ve never set foot in a law school and have no idea what to expect. This is where the Women’s Law Student Association at the UT College of Law can help.

On Friday, Feb. 24, the association is hosting “A Day in the Life of a Law Student” from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Law Center.

The program is designed to familiarize those individuals who are entertaining the idea of becoming an attorney with law school.

“A Day in the Life of a Law Student” will feature:
- A mock class that will introduce what can be expected from most first-year law courses;
- The opportunity to question current law students about their experiences; and
- A tour of the Law Center.

In addition, the UT College of Law’s Trial Advocacy team will demonstrate a mock trial at the program. Students join the Trial Advocacy team to practice litigation techniques, including how to speak to juries and examine witnesses, and to compete with teams from other schools.

Representatives from the Admissions Office and the Office of Professional Development will be available to answer questions and discuss services available to students at the College of Law and the application process.

Complimentary breakfast and lunch will be provided by the UT College of Law.

Individuals who wish to attend should RSVP with “A Day in the Life” in the subject line to wlsa@utoledo.edu.

State construction

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for plumbing, electrical work, steel work, etc. In the past, UT had to have direct contracts with each specialty, but now it can rely on the single prime contractor to handle that coordination.

“We can hold one contractor responsible for costs and timelines, and that contractor can exercise leadership over the various subcontractors,” Lehnert said.

The new laws also permit architects and contractors to work together to design a project, rather than having a contractor bid on a project where he or she knows in advance what will have to be revised structurally, often at greater cost.

The pilot project to renovate space in Wolfe Hall and Bowman-Oddy Laboratories is being conducted under the “construction manager at risk” model, where UT establishes a set fee and timeline and it’s up to the construction manager to meet that budget and timeline or risk financial penalties.

“All of these new rules are fairly common in the private sector, and by moving them into the public sector, we’ll save money, we’ll save time, and more people will benefit from capital improvements faster,” Lehnert said.

Feb. 22 location for Shapiro

Essay Revision Contest changed

Due to the temporary move of the Writing Center, the location of one session of the Shapiro Essay Revision Contest has been changed.

Participants planning to go to the session from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 22, should report to Carlson Library Room 1025.
Four Seasons Bistro opens

By Nicolette Jett

The University of Toledo Medical Center’s commitment to making the patient experience the best possible has extended to food service with the complete renovation of the hospital cafeteria.

The opening of the Four Seasons Bistro was celebrated last week with a ribbon-cutting and unveiling ceremony. The cafeteria’s new name was chosen from submissions by employees and students.

“The renovations are a part of the overall rejuvenation of the UT Medical Center and its focus on patient satisfaction and student-centered excellence,” said Ioan Duca, service excellence officer for the University. “As patients and their friends and family visit the new UTMC food service space, we feel they will find a great place to retreat from their current reality. The space invites them to a warm smile, great food options and an area to share time together in a clean, comfortable environment.”

The cafeteria has new flooring and new tables and seating, including hotel-style couches and lounge chairs. Updated light fixtures, fresh paint and a new artwork collection add to the vibrant appearance.

A banquet/conference room has been created that will feature state-of-the-art audio and visual technology with wall-mounted flat screens available to host a variety of functions with meals prepared by the chefs.

The physical changes are in addition to a new menu featuring high-quality ingredients.

“We look forward to UTMC employees also enjoying the fabulous retreat area where they can meet with colleagues and friends and share a great meal without leaving the building,” Duca said. “Our food service operation has become strong and is getting stronger each and every day. I truly see and hear the community’s delight in what was built and created.”

Duca said he is proud to have worked to impart the vision of Dr. Scott Scarborough, senior vice president and executive director of UT Medical Center, of what a great dining space should be.

UNVEILING: Ioan Duca, right, and Ken Lambert revealed the new name of the renovated UT Medical Center cafeteria during a ceremony last week. Lambert, a radiation therapy technologist, won an iPad at the event for the name he submitted: Four Seasons Bistro.

IT’S OFFICIAL: UT Medical Center’s first Family Physicians Primary Care Clinic opened last week with the help of Amy Bates, lead medical assistant, Dr. Lawrence Monger, center, and Dr. Jeffrey P. Gold, chancellor, executive vice president for biosciences and health affairs, and dean of the College of Medicine and Life Sciences. Monger will lead the clinic, which is located at the northeast corner of Talmadge Road and Sylvania Avenue near Westfield Franklin Park Mall. To make an appointment at the clinic or learn more about wellness classes, call 419.383.5000.

SHOPPING: Fidelia Guerrero, medical assistant at the Outpatient Orthopedic Clinic, looked at scarves and purses during the Satellites Auxiliary’s recent sale that included more than 300 designer-inspired accessories. A portion of the proceeds benefited scholarship funds.
Jazz pianist to play Tatum Scholarship Concert Feb. 23

Michael Wolff will pull up the piano bench and hit the keys at the 21st Annual Art Tatum Memorial Jazz Scholarship Concert Thursday, Feb. 23, at 8 p.m. in the Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall.

In 2001, Taylor retired as chief arranger for the U.S. Army Band (“Pershing’s Own”), where he was on staff 24 years. He wrote all the compositions for the band’s disc, A New Beginning, and much of the material for Scream Machine.

Before joining the Army, Taylor wrote for bandleader and pianist Stan Kenton, who recorded several of his songs, including “Samba de Haps” and “Granada Smoothie.”

These days, Taylor is working with drummer Steve Fidyk. The Taylor/Fidyk Big Band has released two discs, A Perfect Match (2002) and Live at Blues Alley (2006).

Taylor is an arranger for Hal Leonard Corp., a music publishing company, and resides in Cape Coral, Fla.

Tickets for the show — $5 for the public and $3 for students and seniors — will be available at the door.

Retired U.S. Army Band arranger to be guest conductor

Jazz pianist to play Tatum Scholarship Concert Feb. 23

LATE BLOOMER: Todd Crail, a doctoral student in the Department of Environmental Sciences, took this photo of a soapwort gentian at the Lou Campbell State Nature Preserve in Monclova. He said the soapwort gentian is one of the last flowers to bloom in the year; in the background is winged sumac, which becomes fire red as it readies itself for winter. Crail won third place in the adult category of the fourth annual “Nature of the Bay” photography contest sponsored by the Lake Erie Center. All 110 entries are on display at the center, 6200 Bayshore Drive in Oregon, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The free, public exhibition will be up through April.