Champions of human rights, American cities to address UT graduates May 5

Two former politicians who now lead preservation efforts for human rights and U.S. cities, respectively, will speak at The University of Toledo’s commencement ceremonies Saturday, May 5, in Savage Arena.

At 9:30 a.m., Dr. Maurice Manning, president of the Irish Human Rights Commission, will address graduates of the colleges of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences; Natural Sciences and Mathematics; Visual and Performing Arts; Engineering; Adult and Lifelong Learning; and Nursing.

Lee Fisher, president and CEO of CEOs for Cities, will speak at the 2 p.m. ceremony for graduates of the College of Business and Innovation and the Judith Herb College of Education, Health Science and Human Service.

The University will confer honorary doctor of humane letters degrees on both men.

There are 2,790 candidates for degrees from the spring and summer semesters from eight of the University’s colleges. There are 821 candidates for doctoral, education specialist and master’s degrees, as well as graduate certificates, and 1,969 for bachelor’s and associate degrees.

The events will be webcast live at http://video.utoledo.edu.

Manning has been president of the Irish Human Rights Commission since 2002 and was chair of the European Group of National Human Rights Institutions from 2006 to 2011. He has worked extensively with the United Nations and Council of Europe on human rights issues, and has been outspoken in his pursuit of human rights for society’s vulnerable: travelers, migrants, asylum seekers, women, children, prisoners, people with disabilities, and those in poverty.

He is serving as the fifth chancellor of the National University of Ireland and as adjunct professor of politics and international relations at the University of Dublin.

As an academic, he established a reputation for his teaching, his closeness to students and his numerous publications. Among the last are those on modern Irish politics, including The Blueshirts, Irish Political Parties, James Dillon – A Biography and (as joint editor) The Houses of the Oireachtas – Parliament in Ireland. He is also chair of the Publishing Committee of the Institute of Public Administration.

Moreover, he has applied his political knowledge in even larger arenas. Manning, who has been visiting professor at the University of Paris and the University of West Florida and a member of the

ON THE BOARDWALK: UT students James Miller and Kelsey Friemoth travel on Irwin Prairie Preserve’s boardwalk, which now is more open thanks to UT students removing invasive buckthorn.

Irwin Prairie Preserve benefits from ecology students’ volunteer, research efforts

Nearly five acres of invasive plant species have been cleared from the Irwin Prairie Preserve thanks to students in three University of Toledo ecology classes working to improve the local natural ecosystems at the 226-acre wetland preserve.

Since spring semester 2011, students enrolled in the Environmental Sciences Department’s General Ecology Lab, Environmental Problems Lab and Environmental Ethics class have volunteered to clear shrubbery in the preserve, located on Bancroft Street about eight miles west of the UT Main Campus.

The classes learned about a major management issue at Irwin Preserve: glossy and common buckthorn, two invasive Eurasian species that create an environment where native species have difficulty surviving.

“Buckthorn reduces a biodiverse community, where 150 to maybe 250 species could flourish, down to about

continued on p. 3

UT explores partnership with YMCA to offer clinic in new downtown location

The University of Toledo Medical Center may offer a new clinic in downtown Toledo through a partnership with the YMCA and JCC of Greater Toledo.

The YMCA will relocate the Summit Y to the Water Street Station former steam plant on the Maumee River downtown and is possibly going to lease a portion of the building to UT Medical Center to continue its efforts to bring university-quality health care closer to home.

The Family Physicians Primary Care Clinic within the downtown Y will likely offer wellness classes and one-on-one clinical care with UTMC physicians, nutritionists and therapists, as well as a fully functional laboratory.

continued on p. 2

continued on p. 5
Distinguished intellectual property lawyer to speak at law commencement May 6

By Rachel Phipps

Christopher P. Bussert, a partner at Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP in Atlanta, will return to his alma mater to deliver the UT College of Law commencement address Sunday, May 6, at 1 p.m. in the Student Union Auditorium. Those 147 candidates eligible for law degrees in December 2011. May and August will march in the ceremony.

Miranda M. Vollmer, the 2011-12 Student Bar Association president, and Michael J. Hohl, who will graduate summa cum laude, will address their peers during the event.

“Chris Bussert has gone far on his Toledo College of Law degree, but has not forgotten his alma mater,” said Daniel J. Steinbock, dean of the College of Law. “Despite an extremely busy law practice, he returns regularly to guest lecture and to advise our students. His journey from our classrooms to courtrooms all over the country is the perfect sendoff to our graduates as they start their own careers.”

Bussert, a 1983 graduate of the College of Law, has more than 25 years of experience helping clients such as Sony Music Entertainment Inc., Harley-Davidson Motor Co. and National Football League Properties Inc. protect and defend their assets and brands. He represents clients in trademark, copyright, unfair competition, franchise litigation and licensing matters.

He was recognized in The Best Lawyers in America in the areas of franchise law and intellectual property law for 2012 and for the five years previous. He was listed in The Trademark Experts’ Experts, and was selected in World Trademark Review’s inaugural guide to the top 1,000 trademark practitioners in the world. Bussert also has been listed in the International Who’s Who of Trademark Lawyers and the International Who’s Who of Franchise Lawyers by Law Business Research Ltd.

In addition, Bussert is the editor-in-chief of The Franchise Law Journal, an American Bar Association publication, and The Intellectual Property Strategist.

Bussert was the recipient of the 2010 University of Toledo College of Law Distinguished Alumnus Award.

YMCA

continued from p. 1

“The UT Medical Center is committed to serving residents throughout northwest Ohio, and the new Family Physicians Primary Care Clinics will hopefully allow us to better serve patients who might not live close to UTMC,” said Dr. Scott Scarborough, senior vice president and executive director of UTMC. “We are excited to partner with the Y to bring our services to people who work and live downtown and to support their mission to build health spirit, mind and body for all.”

UTMC opened its first primary care clinic in February at the corner of Talmadge Road and Sylvania Avenue near Westfield Franklin Park Mall. The medical center will continue to look at other sites around northwest Ohio where similar University Primary Care Clinics could be located.

Construction at the Water Street Station is expected to be finished mid to late 2013 with the new Y and UTMC clinics likely to open shortly thereafter.

The YMCA and JCC of Greater Toledo serve more than 300,000 youth, adults and families in area communities. The organization has ensured a seamless transition for users of the Summit Y to the new location in the downtown Toledo business district.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE: Todd Tibbits, president and CEO of the YMCA and JCC of Greater Toledo, left, and Dr. Scott Scarborough, senior vice president and executive director of UTMC, showed off renderings of how the Water Street Station former steam plant may look when construction is finished next year.

Pharmacy commencement to take place May 6

By Charisse Montgomery

The UT College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences will hold its spring commencement Sunday, May 6, at 9:30 a.m. in Savage Arena.

Of the 304 students who will have degrees conferred at the ceremony, three are PhD candidates, 96 will earn the doctor of pharmacy degree, six will receive the doctor of philosophy degree in medicinal chemistry, 19 are master’s degree candidates, and 180 will receive bachelor’s degrees.

“Of the bachelor’s degree candidates, 111 are graduating with honors this year,” said Dr. Johnnie Early, dean of the UT College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. “We are so proud of the excellent students our programs attract.”

This year’s bachelor’s degree class valedictorian is Garrett Davidson, who plans to attend medical school after graduation.

The pharmacy doctoral class of 2012 has four valedictorians: Kelli Cole, Elizabeth Fragapane, Alicia Petraca and Marisa Sochacki.

Sochacki and Davidson will speak at commencement.

By Charisse Montgomery

The UT College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences will hold its spring commencement Sunday, May 6, at 9:30 a.m. in Savage Arena.

Of the 304 students who will have degrees conferred at the ceremony, three are PhD candidates, 96 will earn the doctor of pharmacy degree, six will receive the doctor of philosophy degree in medicinal chemistry, 19 are master’s degree candidates, and 180 will receive bachelor’s degrees.

“Of the bachelor’s degree candidates, 111 are graduating with honors this year,” said Dr. Johnnie Early, dean of the UT College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. “We are so proud of the excellent students our programs attract.”

This year’s bachelor’s degree class valedictorian is Garrett Davidson, who plans to attend medical school after graduation.

The pharmacy doctoral class of 2012 has four valedictorians: Kelli Cole, Elizabeth Fragapane, Alicia Petraca and Marisa Sochacki.

Sochacki and Davidson will speak at commencement.
University invalidation process to be implemented for fall enrollment

By Tobie J. Klinger

The University of Toledo is taking steps to ensure that students who have made appropriate provisions for payment of tuition and fees have improved access to classes they wish to take.

According to the Office of the Treasurer, the University is introducing an invalidation process through which students may be removed from all classes and housing they are registered for if they have an outstanding balance and have not made appropriate payment arrangements by Tuesday, Aug. 14. The payment due date for fall 2012 is Friday, Aug. 10. Invalidation also is scheduled to take place for fall 2012 registration Monday, June 18, for students who owe $500 or more for spring 2012 and prior terms.

“Students who are removed from classes and housing will not be able to re-register until all appropriate financial holds have been removed,” said Jeff Bowman, interim assistant treasurer. “Students who receive funding from an employer or organization should have all paperwork turned into the University in a timely fashion to receive credit for the funding prior to the invalidation date.”

All invalidations will be based on outstanding balances after financial aid and scholarships have been taken into account.

According to Bowman, this practice will enable the University to better keep costs down by reducing uncollectible debt and associated administrative costs. It also will be beneficial to the general student population by making more seats available to paying students and keeps them from having their credit ratings negatively impacted by lack of tuition and fee payments.

Various forms of communications will be distributed to those at risk for invalidation in June and mid-July as a reminder that lack of payment will mean removal from classes and housing. If students are removed, they will only be able to get back into their original classes or rooms if they are still available.

“We are calling on students to ‘just drop it,’” Bowman said. “Students need to remember that if they decide not to attend a class they are registered for, they must drop it before the class begins to avoid financial responsibility. Students who elect not to attend The University of Toledo and subsequently fail to drop or withdraw from all their courses by the established dates will be assessed a non-refundable administrative fee of $500 once their non-attendance has been verified and an administrative drop is processed.”

Faculty and staff can help minimize the impact of invalidations by:
- Submitting spring grades in a timely fashion for financial aid purposes;
- Making it clear to students this fall that if they are not on the class rosters they are not able to attend; and
- Turning in all dependent fee waivers for timely processing.

Communications will be distributed across campus through the end of the semester and through the summer in an effort to raise awareness among students about the importance of paying bills in a timely fashion, while alerting them to the invalidation dates. A strategy is being implemented to raise awareness of the June 18 and Aug. 14 invalidation dates.

Champions

continued from p. 1

Governing Authority of the European University Institute at Florence, Italy, was a member of the Irish Parliament from 1981 to 2002. During that time, he served as Minority Leader and later Majority Leader in the Irish Senate, was a member of the New Ireland Forum and a founding member of the British-Irish Inter-Parliamentary Body.

A member of council of the Royal Irish Academy, Manning recently was appointed to chair the expert committee of historians to advise the Irish government and parliament on the commemoration of significant and sensitive centenaries such as the 1916 Easter Uprising.

Born in Bagenalstown, County Carlow, Ireland, Manning was educated at De La Salle Schools Bagenalstown, Rockwell College, University College Dublin and the University of Strathclyde.

Manning, while distinct from Dr. Maurice Manning of the UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences, does possess a connection to that Distinguished University Professor of Biochemistry and Cancer Biology: The two are cousins.

Fisher has been at the helm of CEOs for Cities since it was founded in 2001. In addition to leading the global learning network of cross-sector, cross-generational urban leaders dedicated to building and sustaining the next generation of great American cities, the Ohio native is a Senior Fellow with the Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University.

Prior to his appointment to the Chicago-based organization with offices in Washington, D.C., and Cleveland, Fisher served as an Ohio State Representative, as a State Senator, as Ohio Attorney General, as president and CEO of the Center for Families and Children in Cleveland, and as Ohio Lieutenant Governor. In that last role, Fisher also served as director of the Ohio Department of Economic Development and as chair of several state initiatives: the Economic Growth Council, the Ohio Third Frontier Commission, the Clean Ohio Council and the Governor’s Council on Affordable Housing and Homelessness. As well, he was a member of the Ohio Venture Capital Authority.

During Fisher’s tenure as leader of Ohio’s economic development efforts, Site Selection magazine awarded Ohio its top national economic development award — the Governor’s Cup — three consecutive times. Site Selection also recognized the Buckeye State with the 2008 Competitiveness Award, recognizing the Ohio Department of Economic Development, under Fisher’s leadership, as the nation’s top economic development agency.

Fisher led the creation of Ohio’s first-ever Strategic Plan for Economic Development. The plan is best known for Fisher’s idea, the Ohio Hubs of Innovation and Opportunity, designed to foster urban-based collaborations between businesses, colleges and universities, and research institutions.

During his four years as state Attorney General, Fisher created the nationally recognized Operation Crackdown program and established the first statewide law enforcement and crime victim conferences. He successfully defended the constitutionality of the Ohio Hate Crime law — which he had authored as a state senator years earlier — before the Ohio Supreme Court.

A 1973 graduate of Oberlin College and a 1976 graduate of Case Western Reserve University School of Law, Fisher also holds a master’s degree in nonprofit organizations from Case Western Reserve University.

The College of Law and the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences will recognize their graduates with ceremonies Sunday, May 6; see stories on p. 2.

The College of Medicine and Life Sciences will hold its commencement ceremony Friday, June 1, at Stranahan Theater.

In memoriam

Dr. J. Hugh Webb, Toledo, clinical associate professor of surgery from 1970 to 2003, died April 19 at age 90.
Outstanding staff members recognized

By Vicki L. Kroll

Seven employees were honored at the University’s 2012 Outstanding Staff Awards ceremony held last week in the Toledo Hilton Ballroom.

The event honored more than 20 nominees from the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 2415; the Communications Workers of America (CWA) Local 4319; the Professional Staff Association (PSA); and the UT Police Patrolman’s Association (UTPPA).

The top winners from the four groups each received $1,000. They were:

**AFSCME — Missy Johnson**, a medical transcriptionist in UT Medical Center’s Radiation Oncology and a clerical specialist in Endoscopy. She has worked at the hospital for 23 years. “Missy is a pleasure to work with; she helps our department run smoothly. Whenever there is a need with updates, paperwork or any patient’s needs, she is willing to stop her routine and help in any area needed,” one nominator wrote. “On multiple occasions, I have seen Missy come away from her desk duties to offer a patient or family member a coffee or beverage following endoscopic procedures. She goes above and beyond every day to make our department a wonderful place to work.”

**Roger “Chip” Lewis**, physical therapy assistant in UT Medical Center’s Outpatient Rehabilitation. He has worked at the University for 17 years. “As a physical therapy assistant, Chip has been committed to offering excellent care. He always maintains a positive attitude and is always giving of his time,” a nominator wrote. “He has become the outpatient clinic’s go-to guy for many of our machines or to concoct a creative new device to meet the needs of our patients. There are even instances where Chip has built equipment to maximize our gym space. He does this on his own time with his own resources.”

**Tamara Phares**, instructional laboratory coordinator in the Bioengineering Department in the College of Engineering. She joined the UT staff in 2000. “Tammy is knowledgeable, kind and cares not because she has to, but because she wants to care.”

**Ruth Ann Easterwood**, secretary in the Educational Foundations and Leadership Department in the Judith Herb College of Education, Health Science and Human Service. She has worked at UT since 1992. “Ruth Ann is the epitome of loyalty and support. Due to budget cuts, she was asked to cover two departments and divide her time. Ruth Ann did so with a healthy attitude and without sacrificing the quality of service extended to students in both departments,” one nominator wrote. “She is a plethora of information and does not hesitate to pitch in and help when someone gets into a bind and needs extra care.

Ruth Ann by nature is a caregiver. She is knowledgeable, kind and cares not because she has to, but because she wants to care.”

**Dr. Vickie Kuntz**, director of the Engineering Career Development Center in the College of Engineering. She has worked at the University since 1996. “Vickie is the founding director of the program and is credited with creating relationships with thousands of employers who form partnerships with our students, who are paid a salary, which they use to pay their tuition, fees and books the following semester. The mandatory cooperative education program, one of eight in the country, allows literally thousands of students to graduate and leave the College of Engineering in no debt due to the financial stability the program brings to each student,” one nominator wrote. “Vickie does this not as part of her job, but because she has a deep appreciation for our students.”

**Traci McDaniel**, assistant to the chair of the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology in the College of Medicine and Life Sciences. She has worked at UT since 2006. “Traci has completely modernized our system for teaching and interacting with second-year medical students. She now files and updates all our course schedules, creates and updates policies as necessary, and produces lecture materials and exam questions digitally and securely in a searchable fashion. She also has created and maintained our web-assisted elective courses for fourth-year medical students,” one nominator wrote. “Our students just love her for her cheerful personality and highest level of professionalism.”

**UTPPA — Sgt. Dan Protsman**, a member of the UT Police Department since 2002 who was promoted to his current rank in 2011. “Sgt. Protsman leads by example. He wants everyone to do a good job, and he works hard to make sure the officers on his shift have the tools they need to do their job. He acts as a mentor and coach to make sure the officers feel supported in their duties and steps in when he is needed,” one nominator wrote. “Sgt. Protsman has spearheaded an objective to improve the professional look and feel of the UT Police uniforms. He strengthened our communication and also has created an objective to improve the professional look and feel of the UT Police uniforms.”
Carbon sensor network to help UT researchers investigate algal blooms

By Jon Strunk

University of Toledo researchers will be out on Lake Erie this spring investigating the very thing that likely contributed to 2012’s abnormally warm winter — carbon dioxide.

Researchers from UT’s Lake Erie Center were awarded a three-year, $350,000 grant by the National Science Foundation to install the first carbon-sensing network on any large lake in the world.

“For the last two decades, we’ve been trying to measure the exchange of carbon dioxide between the atmosphere and earth surfaces,” said Dr. Jiquan Chen, professor of environmental sciences and the lead researcher on the sensor network. “We want to determine which areas serve as carbon sinks or sources of carbon as we investigate ways to sequester the molecule to slow down global warming.”

The center purchased and installed two permanent monitoring stations and one boat-mounted mobile sensor to measure the exchange of carbon dioxide and water between the lake surface and the atmosphere.

“Measuring the ecological patterns of Lake Erie will help us better understand things like algal blooms and the role industrial activity and agricultural runoff play in affecting one of this region’s greatest natural resources,” Chen said.

Dr. Carol Stepien, director of the Lake Erie Center, said this is the first time this sort of carbon exchange will be measured on a large inland lake and pointed to some of the tangible benefits that more knowledge about the carbon dioxide interaction cycle could have.

“There was a hole in the available research and given the Lake Erie Center’s leadership role in this area, we’ll soon have data that we hope will help investigations into monitoring ever-increasing algal blooms to improve our water quality and the ecology of the Great Lakes, including fishery resources. This research impacts everyone in the region and will provide important insights into the global carbon cycle,” Stepien said.

Joining Chen and Stepien in the project are Dr. Richard Becker and Dr. Tom Bridgeman, assistant and associate professors of environmental sciences, respectively; Dr. Kevin Czajkowski, professor of geography and planning; and Michael Deal, a research technician in environmental sciences.

Irwin Prairie Preserve

continued from p. 1

six species,” said Todd Crail, a PhD student who teaches the courses. “Buckthorn has effects on pollinators, birds, frogs and turtles and, in terms of human effects, it reduces wetland function, which promotes flooding and mosquitoes.”

After learning about the invasive species, students expressed an interest in helping to clear parts of the preserve of buckthorn.

“At first, we only planned to work on a small area near the boardwalk to increase the breezes, reduce the mosquitoes, and make a better experience for preserve visitors, but we just didn’t stop,” Crail said.

Students in the classes have logged more than 1,200 volunteer hours at the preserve resulting in about five acres cleared along the boardwalk trail through the preserve. A report on the project said Irwin visitors reported a reduction in mosquitoes and slippery, filmy growth along the boardwalk since the project began.

In addition to the volunteer hours logged at the preserve, two students have launched research projects based on their experiences at Irwin.

Kirk Zmijewski, a graduate student in the Environmental Sciences Department in the Geology Program, is analyzing satellite images of Irwin Prairie to get a bird’s eye view of the species on different wavelengths of light, each of which tells researchers different things about buckthorn and other plants.

“Buckthorn leaves out earlier in the spring than native plants and keeps its leaves for longer, giving it a much longer growing time than native species have,” he said. “The growing season makes it easier to identify with satellite images both early in the spring and late in the fall, since it’s the only thing leafed out at that time.”

Zmijewski’s research uses images from NASA’s Landsat satellite taken over a number of years to see changes in buckthorn growth patterns over time.

Kelsey Friemoth, a senior majoring in biology with a concentration in ecology and organismal biology, is using Zmijewski’s research as a launch point for her own.

“My research relates the stem density and biomass of the plants on the ground to what he can see from space,” she said. “To calculate that, I’ve been setting up 10-meter by 10-meter plots and cutting down woody species to take samples and counting estimates from buckthorn. My research is tied to management efforts at Irwin and contributes to what they’re already doing — just putting in the man hours to collect data.”

Zmijewski and Friemoth began their research after logging volunteer hours with the ecology classes — something both recognize as important for students and community members alike.

“Volunteering is a very good form of community outreach,” Zmijewski said. “Instead of coming from a scientist, it’s more effective and carries more weight if the layman says that this is important. Citizen science is important, and the community needs to be involved in science. The volunteer efforts can bridge that gap.”

Read more about UT’s efforts at the Irwin Prairie Preserve and how you can volunteer at http://utole.do/prairie.

ON THE LAKE: A suite of sensors mounted on the bow of the Mayflier II is part of a network to measure the exchange of carbon between the atmosphere and Lake Erie.
University honors faculty, staff for advising, researching, teaching, outreach work

By Vicki L. Kroll

UT outstanding advisers, researchers and teachers, and recipients of the Edith Rathbun Award for Outreach and Engagement were recognized last week at the Academic Honors Reception. Each adviser, researcher and teacher received $1,500; Rathbun Award winners each took home $750.

Recipients of the Outstanding Adviser Award were:
Michelle R. Rose, academic program coordinator in the Civil Engineering Department in the College of Engineering. She joined the University in 2010.

“Michelle has made it a top priority to know each and every student. She is always in her office with the door open, willing to help with everyone who walks in,” one nominator wrote. Another noted, “Michelle has been more than helpful to me these past two years. She is always available to meet when I ask, and she seems to know the answers to my questions before I ask.”

“My current advising philosophy can be summed up with five words: student-centeredness, empowerment, accuracy, accessibility and support,” Rose said. “As an undergraduate and graduate student, I experienced the full range of helpfulness vs. inefficiencies as I worked with various staff and faculty advisers. Reflecting on those experiences allowed me to develop my own advising philosophy, which I have adjusted over the past four years as I continue to learn from my students.”

Dr. Linda Smith, associate dean and senior lecturer in the Honors College. From 1979 to 1992, she was with the English Department as an instructor, graduate assistant and University Fellow, and then joined the Honors Program, which became the Honors College.

“Linda Smith is one of those people who is like sunshine, always warm, and whenever I went to visit her, she would always brighten up my day,” one nominator wrote. Another wrote, “I have not had the easiest college experience since I entered UT my freshman year. However, I was lucky enough to have Linda Smith as my academic adviser and through all my tragedies and triumphs, she has been immensely supportive of me.”

“In my view, an adviser is many things: a cheerleader, a problem-solver, an advocate, sometimes even a financial planner, a career counselor and a friend,” Smith said. “But it all starts with being a provider of information and being willing to keep a handle on the many changing complexities of academic requirements for graduation.”

Recipients of the Outstanding Researcher Award were:
Dr. Kevin Czajkowski, professor of geography and planning in the College of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences. He joined the UT faculty in 1998.

“His research interests are in the areas of applications of remote sensing and geographic information science to environmental issues, including land-use change, watershed processes, meteorology and agricultural practices, and also in kindergarten-through-12 science education,” one nominator wrote. “Dr. Czajkowski has been awarded more than $16 million in external research funding support in collaboration with colleagues from various UT departments, most notably Environmental Sciences, Education and Health Sciences, as well as other universities.”

Funding support has come from the National Science Foundation, NASA, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers, among others. Results of his work have been published in more than 40 peer-reviewed journals and presented at more than 50 regional, national and international meetings.

Rebecca Zietlow, Charles W. Fornoff Professor of Law and Values in the College of Law. The nationally recognized scholar in constitutional history and politics who is an expert in constitutional interpretation outside of the courts has been at the University since 1995.

“Her research and scholarship focuses on the Reconstruction Era, including the meaning and history of the 13th and 14th Amendments,” one nominator wrote. “Professor Zietlow’s most recent scholarship has focused on the history and meaning of the 13th Amendment, which outlawed slavery and involuntary servitude, as well as the history of congressional enforcement and that amendment. Her latest article, ‘James Ashley’s 13th Amendment,’ which will be published in the Columbia Law Review this year, promises to bring national attention to the contribution of Ashley, a member of the Reconstruction Congress from Toledo, who played a pivotal role in ensuring that the amendment was approved by Congress.”

The nominator also noted, “Zietlow has developed an original theory of equal citizenship about the 14th Amendment, which guarantees individual rights against state intrusion, enabling her to explain its continuing vitality in modern jurisprudence.”

Recipients of the Edith Rathbun Award for Outreach and Engagement were:
Dr. Patrick Lawrence, professor and chair of the Department of Geography and Planning in the College of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences. A faculty member at UT since 1999, Lawrence also is chair of the UT President’s Commission on the River.

His longtime involvement with the Maumee Remedial Action Plan Committee through the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments helped lead to the 2007 creation of the local nonprofit Partners for Clean Streams, of which he is a founding trustee and has served as president for the past five years. And he brought and leads Clean Your Stream efforts to the University and started Celebrate Our River Week at UT.

“Dr. Lawrence’s involvement with Partners for Clean Streams led him to the knowledge and resources needed to leverage in-kind resources for an Army Corps of Engineers’ agreement to survey, engineer and design the Ottawa River habitat improvement project currently in design at UT,” one nominator wrote. “The habitat restoration project for the 3,700 feet of the Ottawa River through Main Campus nearing completion will be a cornerstone for river revitalization and education throughout campus.”

Dr. Sudershna Pasupuleti, associate professor of social work in the Judith Herb College of Education, Health Science and Human Service. He joined the UT faculty in 2001 and has been director of the Office of Service Learning and Community Engagement since 2005.
As the first director of the Office of Service Learning and Community Engagement, he has helped design projects on behalf of the University as well as answer calls from area agencies in need of research assistance and volunteers. Pasupuleti is working with the Age Friendly Network group in the city of Toledo and Lucas County to make the community respectful for those of all ages.

“Currently, Dr. Pasupuleti is involved with the project that he designed in response to President Obama’s Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge. UT students working with different faith traditions are brought together for this project, which is designed to help Chase Elementary School and the surrounding neighborhood,” one nominator wrote. “More than a dozen community organizations, hundreds of UT students, students in Toledo Public Schools, and a few thousand community people all can attest to his excellent projects.”

**Recipients of the Outstanding Teacher Award were:**

**Dr. Deborah Coulter-Harris**, associate lecturer in English. She has been a faculty member of the College of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences since 2003.

“She is the real meaning of what a teacher is; she is there for you whenever you need help with anything, and she will make sure you understand what you’re doing,” one nominator wrote. “She is kind and generous and willing to do whatever to make sure that her class is not just a group of students, but sits one by one and gets to know each and every single one of us. Dr. Coulter-Harris strives for excellence in herself and students; she believes in every student who walks through her door.”

“I run very interactive classrooms and strive to be cheerful and caring toward all students; however, I never weaken standards of classroom conduct and expected performance,” Coulter-Harris said. “There is no greater profession than teaching others to become articulate and successful citizens of the future. The profession of teaching does not just involve students but includes working with colleagues for a higher purpose than self.”

**Dr. Ron Fournier**, professor of bioengineering. He has been teaching in the College of Engineering since 1985. He received an Outstanding Researcher Award in 1995.

“Dr. Fournier is incredibly personable and willingly makes even the most intense subject matter accessible to every student individually. He does this through a variety of means perfected by his years of experience in the field. He is always readily available,” one nominator wrote. “Dr. Fournier also incorporates a charming sense of humor into every lecture, stopping now and then to trail off into a story about the subject matter to keep students engaged in the material and to show the real-world application of the content.”

“I like to challenge students with rather involved problems and show them how engineering analysis can be used in the real world,” Fournier said. “I also work very hard at being accessible to my students and encourage them to stop by my office where, in most cases, the real learning happens.”

**Selma Griswold**, associate professor of applied organizational technology. She joined the College of Business and Innovation faculty in 2009 but has taught at UT since 1989.

“My first semester at UT, I had three classes — one class with a professor who was completely unapproachable and the other two with Selina. She was a polar opposite, and a complete joy to learn from,” one nominator wrote. “The classes I had then were Organizational Behavior and Human Resource Development. She was incredibly knowledgeable in both subjects, and I thoroughly enjoyed learning from her. She became to me the face of UT. Had it not been for her kindness and passion for teaching what she loved, I may have left UT.”

“I currently teach completely online, but I have learned that whether a course is in the lecture hall or online, it is important that I make sure students are engaged in the learning process, encouraged to be critical thinkers, and that they know I am excited about the subject matter,” Griswold said. “Ultimately, what becomes most important is that I convey to students that they are a valued member of our UT family.”

**Dr. Amira Gohara**, professor of pathology and dean emerita. She completed her residency at MCO from 1970 to 1973 and has taught in the College of Medicine and Life Sciences since 1974.

“During the winter of my first year at UT, Dr. Gohara became my mentor and helped make Toledo my home,” one nominator wrote. “She made time every month to meet with myself and a few other students, and with her soft words and caring gestures made us feel at home. Dr. Gohara made a positive influence on my life by asking how I felt, how my family was, and whether or not I was happy. These questions helped me realize that through all the rigorous academics, I have to maintain who I am and continue to love and care for others to make a well-rounded physician.”

“I feel teaching is an honor and a privilege as we are entrusted with our students’ futures. For me to be an effective teacher, I need to know my students as individuals and their backgrounds because each one of us learn in a different way, and knowing the person you are teaching is a key to their mind, future and success,” Gohara said. “I basically love my students as my own children, and their well-being is very important to me. My teaching philosophy is to be simple, clear, caring, understanding and always enthusiastic when you interact with the students.”

**Dr. Thomas McLoughlin**, associate professor of kinesiology. He joined the faculty in the Judith Herb College of Education, Health Science and Human Service in 2004.

“Dr. McLoughlin was not the kind of teacher who reads straight off his slides, but he used them as a starting point and dove right into the material, bringing it to life,” one nominator wrote. “Few people can make discussions about neuromuscular adaptations to resistance training or how to measure energy that was used during exercise digestible, much less exciting. Somehow Dr. McLoughlin manages this with an alacrity and clarity that is almost magical.”

“I feel like a con man winning this award, but in a good way. I get paid to work with bright, motivated, enthusiastic students at a terrific institution. Now I’m getting an award for doing it? What a racket I have going here,” McLoughlin said. “I am truly grateful to hear that I have had a positive impact on the UT students I have been fortunate to teach here.”

**Dr. Susan Sochacki**, assistant professor of nursing. She joined the College of Nursing in 2003.

“I wish there were more professors who catered their teachings to all learning, visual or written, the way Dr. Sochacki does. She is able to explain a disease process where you understood it in detail in 30 minutes that took pathophysiology three classes to explain,” a nominator wrote. “She provides real-life experiences to apply the information to in the clinical setting. She is passionate about students learning and what our learning needs are. You can see that she spends a great deal of time with her lectures and presentations.”

“I take my role as gatekeeper to this profession very seriously. I want to ensure that student nurses have the tools to transition to novice practitioners,” Sochacki said. “Each day I stand in front of a group of students, I am grateful for the wonderful role models who have gone before me here in the College of Nursing. I have been blessed with wonderful mentors in my career, and am honored to be recognized not only as a nurse, but as a teacher.”

Pasupuleti, left, and Lawrence

Back row, from left, Fournier, Sochacki and McLoughlin; and front row, from left, Gohara, Griswold and Coulter-Harris
University Women’s Commission pays tribute to employees, students

By Vicki L. Kroll

Three UT employees were honored last week for their exceptional contributions to the campus community at the 26th annual Outstanding Women’s Award ceremony.

The University Women’s Commission sponsored the program, which was held in the Savage Arena Joe Grogan Room Tuesday.

This year, the awards were renamed to honor Dr. Alice Skeens, longtime UT faculty member and administrator, who championed women’s issues.

Receiving the Dr. Alice Skeens Outstanding Woman Award were Kelly Andrews, senior associate athletics director/senior woman administrator in Intercollegiate Athletics; Dr. Lynne Hamer, associate professor of foundations of education in the Judith Herb College of Education, Health Science and Human Service; and Dr. Barbara Kopp Miller, professor and associate dean for research and quality in the Judith Herb College of Education, Health Science and Human Service, and administrative director of the Center for Successful Aging.

Andrews, a former collegiate student-athlete, oversees 11 sports at UT. She joined the staff in 2002 and has been chair of the University Women’s Commission since 2007.

“As chair of the University of Women’s Commission, Kelly has remained dedicated, enthusiastic and motivated to do more with less. Under her leadership, the commission has provided the greatest number of scholarships possible,” one nominator wrote. “It’s never an easy thing to do — nominating someone who is already a leader — but it is the right thing to do. Kelly has earned my respect and admiration.”

“I’m honored to be recognized with this award, and it was quite a nice surprise from the University Women’s Commission Board,” Andrews said. “The commission has recognized so many women at UT through the years, and I’m so pleased to be included with that group.”

Hamer became a member of the education faculty in 1994 after receiving her PhD from Indiana University and relocating to Toledo to work in urban education and with first-generation college students. In 1999, she received UT’s Outstanding Teacher Award and in 2011, the Judith Herb College of Education, Health Science and Human Service’s Service Award for her engagement with the community via the Padua Alliance for Education and Empowerment.

“Dr. Hamer has served as a role model to other female professors as well as female graduate and undergraduate students who aspire to the profession,” one nominator wrote. “She is a model academic and is part of a relatively new set of academic women who has coped with the demands of being a full-time parent and professional. She actively integrates issues of gender into the numerous foundations courses that she teaches and is an enthusiastic proponent of women’s rights.”

“As a scholar and teacher of social foundations of education, I know that anything any of us accomplishes is because of our social context — the people we are blessed to work with and who choose to work with us,” Hamer said. “I’m honored to have colleagues and graduate students from the Department of Educational Foundations and Leadership, collaborators from the community, and students from the UT@TPS Program here today. Without them, I couldn’t do anything outstanding.”

Kopp Miller joined the University as a graduate assistant in 1991 and has worked her way up to professor and associate dean. She received the MCO Dean’s Award for Teaching Excellence in 1999, the 20 Under 40 Award for Community Service and Leadership in 2003, and a Jefferson Award for Public Service in 2009.

“Barb has made exceptional contributions and achievements, is highly involved in the UT community as well as the northwest Ohio community, has a positive attitude toward responsibilities, and is active in her support of women’s issues,” one nominator wrote. “She has advised 68 occupational therapy students’ scholarly projects since 1994. She presents at local and state conferences as well as national and international conferences. Barb shares her expertise on aging, grief and bereavement during speaking engagements throughout northwest Ohio.”

“It’s an honor to receive this award from the University Women’s Commission,” Kopp Miller said. “The commission and its work are central to the University’s mission of enhancing the quality of life for women faculty, staff and students.”

The University Women’s Commission also presented $1,000 scholarships to two students. Receiving awards based on academic achievement, support of women’s and gender issues, and campus and community involvement were Jeannetta Mohlke-Hill, a junior majoring in women’s and gender studies, and Jessica Meyer, a junior majoring in exercise science.
The University of Toledo College of Graduate Studies recognized its largest class of international graduate Fulbright Scholars with a luncheon to celebrate their contributions to campus.

The Fulbright Program was established in 1946 by the U.S. Congress as a way to help better the global understanding and appoint students as ambassadors for their respective countries. Over the years, almost 255,000 participants have had the opportunity to observe each other’s political and economic institutions, exchange ideas, and embark on cultural adventures of substance for the welfare of the world’s inhabitants.

“The Fulbright Scholars Program creates a wonderful experience for international graduate students to study and obtain graduate degrees in the United States,” said Dr. Patricia Komuniecki, vice provost for graduate affairs and dean of the College of Graduate Studies. “UT is honored to serve as host to five Fulbright Scholars from across the globe. We believe that these students are the first international Fulbrighters to pursue graduate degrees at UT.”

The Fulbright Scholars recognized last week were:

- Christopher Adika, from Kenya, doctoral student in electrical engineering, College of Engineering;
- Nuraksa Makodian, from Indonesia, doctoral student in manufacturing and technology management, College of Business and Innovation;
- Roman Madzia, from the Czech Republic, master’s and independent study in philosophy, College of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences;
- Gesnita Nugraheni, from Indonesia, master’s student in pharmaceutical sciences in administrative pharmacy, College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences; and
- Aso Rasool, from Iraq, master’s student in English, College of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences.

Dr. William McMillen, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, added, “Additionally, a significant number of Batterers control women by harming or killing family pets or threatening to do so.”

The Fulbright program annually awards about 1,800 student grants to international students as a way to advance their education and research in the United States. There are about 3,200 new and continuing students who are pursuing their education in the U.S.

“I am very proud of the program and pleased with the positive college campus and community outcome,” Komuniecki said. “We currently have about 10 new international Fulbright applicants for fall 2012, and I look forward to welcoming new Fulbright Scholars to UT this year.”

The program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and hosted at UT by the College of Graduate Studies.

For more information, visit foreign.fulbrightonline.org.

---

Social work student educates community on human/animal violence link

By Jon Strunk

A University of Toledo student who has spent the last two school years interning at the Toledo Area Humane Society said research has shown that increased crossreporting between organizations investigating animal abuse and those looking into the abuse of people would go a long way toward reducing or halting that violence sooner.

Toward this end, the UT student has summarized this research, taken it on the road, and shared it with numerous anti-violence service providers.

“The line separating an animal abuser from someone capable of committing human abuse is much finer than most people care to consider,” said Jason Wegman, a graduate student working toward a master’s degree in social work. “People abuse animals for the same reasons they abuse people — to find power, joy and fulfillment through the torture of a victim they know cannot defend itself.

“Some of them will stop with animals, but enough have been proven to continue on to commit violent crimes against people that it’s worth paying attention to,” Wegman said.

In fact, according to Wegman and John Dinon, the Toledo Area Humane Society’s executive director, animal abuse is often an early indicator of a chaotic household where the safety of children could be compromised.

“Animal protection personnel are often the first public agency to intervene in cases of abuse because society often has a lower tolerance for, a greater chance of observing, and an increased willingness to report animal abuse than child or domestic abuse,” Dinon said.

Wegman, who also works for Lucas County Children Services as an assessment case worker, said he and Dinon have given a number of presentations to organizations throughout northwest Ohio to highlight this link.

As examples of ways abusers can use animals to manipulate victims, Wegman pointed to threats or acts of violence against children’s pets to coerce and control children to maintain silence or acquiescence in sexual assault.

“Additionally, a significant number of battered women and their children are denied access to or defer going to safe houses because no one will care for their animals,” Wegman said. “Many batterers control women by harming or killing family pets or threatening to do so.”

Fortunately, in collaboration with the YWCA Battered Women’s Shelter, the Toledo Area Humane Society has a Safe Place Program that provides temporary housing for pets of people leaving domestic violence situations.

Wegman also said that studying children’s cruelty to animals is a revealing source of information and a red-flag warning of future antisocial behaviors.

“Many boys in abusive households are at risk of becoming abusers; even more girls in these homes are at risk of becoming victims,” he said.

Dr. Janet Hoy, assistant professor in the Department of Criminal Justice and Social Work, said the relationship between UT and the Toledo Area Humane Society is a unique one.

“We are the first and only social work program in the country that has developed field placements for social work students at a humane society,” Hoy said, adding that she, in collaboration with UT colleagues Martha Delgado and Heather Sloane, presented the new relationship at the national Council on Social Work Education, which took place in Atlanta last fall.

“Since our presentation, we’ve been contacted by several social work programs interested in replicating our field placement structure within humane societies. I’m very proud of the leadership role UT is playing in raising awareness of this dimension of human-animal interconnectedness within the social work practice arena,” she said.
Student, staff member receive Diversity Awards

By Nicolette Jett

Each year, the Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Engagement presents two Diversity Awards, one to a student and one to a faculty or staff member who have made extraordinary contributions to assist UT in celebrating a diverse university community.

The 2012 recipients are student Robert Spangler and Jeffery Witt, assistant dean of students and director of the Office of Recreation.

UT President Lloyd Jacobs and Lawrence J. Burns, vice president for external affairs, presented the awards at the town hall meeting last week.

“We are proud to have these two extraordinary men giving countless hours of their time to better our campus community,” Burns said. “Jeff and Robby embody our efforts to create a culture that welcomes all individuals and allows them the opportunity to excel in all facets of academic, social and professional life.”

Spangler, a senior with a dual major in urban studies and Spanish from Englewood, Ohio, received the 2012 UT Student Diversity Award for his efforts to help individuals who do not have a disability understand that individuals with disabilities are capable and independent, and to encourage them to feel comfortable with working with those with disabilities.

Spangler works in the Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Engagement, and has been a member of Student Government and served as a UT Cultural Ambassador.

The 2012 UT Faculty/Staff Diversity Award was given to Witt in recognition of an annual report he developed for all student organizations to highlight their cultures and for his assistance in writing the curriculum for a student-employee leadership development class and mentoring program.

Witt is active on the President’s Council on Diversity and the President’s Lecture Series on Diversity and also is a member the UT Cultural Ambassadors.

RECOGNITION:
President Lloyd Jacobs posed for a photo with Jeffery Witt, assistant dean of students and director of the Office of Recreation, who received the 2012 UT Faculty/Staff Diversity Award, and shared a laugh with Robert Spangler, a senior who won the 2012 UT Student Diversity Award.

Mock Trial Team wraps up season with regional tournament, student awards

By Feliza Casano

The University of Toledo Mock Trial Team competed in the Mid-East Regional Mock Trial Tournament this spring, and two students brought home awards.

The 11 students participating in the UT Mock Trial Team are undergraduates majoring in legal specialties. UT competed against 25 teams in the regional competition in Cincinnati in February; none of the members had mock trial experience before beginning the competitions.

“They really did a nice job this season, not having done it before,” said John Schlageter III, UT associate lecturer for undergraduate legal specialties and coach of the team.

Bradene Moore, UT associate professor of undergraduate legal specialties, also coaches the team, which won several of the competition rounds during the season.

Two students received individual awards: Senior Sarah Guthrie won the All-Region Witness Award, and junior Sarah Phipps earned the All-Region Attorney Award. Guthrie also received an Outstanding Witness Award at an invitational event in November.

Participation on the team is important for anyone with an interest in public speaking,” Schlageter said. “It really helps students build confidence and understand both the judicial system and the rights affirmed to citizens.”

The Mock Trial Team is sponsored by the UT Paralegal Studies Program, and the team was able to compete on the local and regional levels thanks to the Richard and Jane McQuade Endowment and a gift from Marathon Petroleum Co.

“The Paralegal Studies Program is most grateful to Marathon and the McQuades for their ongoing support,” said Kathleen Reed, director of UT paralegal studies. “Marathon has long been a supporter of the Paralegal Studies Program — taking our interns and hiring our graduates — and the Richard and Jane McQuade Endowment has made it possible for all paralegal studies students, including the Mock Trial Team, to have a real-world courtroom experience in the high-technology McQuade Courtroom.”

Posing for a photo were, standing from left, Kathleen Reed, John Schlageter III, Robert May, Jesse Bachl, Timothy Higgins, Jessica Seever, Sarah Scheid, Sarah Phipps, Sarah Guthrie, Joseph Corey, Michael Osowik and Robyn Miller; and seated from left, Dr. Martin Ritchie, Suzanne Gagle of Marathon Petroleum Co., President Lloyd Jacobs, and benefactors Richard and Jane McQuade.
Girl Friends Inc. donates to UT scholarship fund

By Nicolette Jett

The Girl Friends Inc. is considered one of the oldest social and civic organizations for African-American women, with 45 chapters and more than 1,400 members.

The Toledo chapter, which was founded in 1960 and currently includes more than 30 members, recently donated $500 to The University of Toledo Black Community Scholarship Fund in its efforts to promote social, civic and philanthropic endeavors. This was the second donation within the past six months.

“Our donations to The University of Toledo are our way of showing support of youth in the Toledo area,” said Wanda Brown, Toledo chapter president. “As an organization, we encourage the youth not only to enroll in college, but we also support them to succeed and graduate with a degree.”

Proceeds from the Toledo chapter’s Women on the Move benefit luncheon and fashion show went to establish The University of Toledo Black Community Scholarship Fund, which has presented 94 students $500 scholarships. The scholarships are awarded to entering freshmen African-American students who graduated from Toledo Public Schools who will attend UT.

Rheanne Dunlap received the 2011-12 UT Black Community Scholarship.

An application for the 2012-13 award is available at www.utoledo.edu/financialaid/scholarshipcontents.html.

For more information about Girl Friends Inc., visit thegfin.org.

Google search launched on UT website

Surfing The University of Toledo’s websites has become a bit more user-friendly as utoledo.edu and utmc.utoledo.edu launched Google Custom Search, which for nonprofits provides a cost-effective, ads-free product for web navigation.

Implemented on utoledo.edu and marketing-focused UT websites last week, Google Custom Search has been adapted by the Center for Creative Instruction so visitors can find content on the UT website easier. The new search takes advantage of Google’s auto-complete technology to suggest common search criteria starting with the first word typed.

“The Division of External Affairs is always looking to improve, and this new search functionality is in direct response to comments from our students, faculty and staff,” said Lawrence J. Burns, vice president for external affairs. “The web team has populated the search product with more than 275 terms that promote selected search content to the top of the results. These elevated results include the top 100 search words, all degrees and majors, and prospective student content.”

Additionally, the web team studies UT site visitor behaviors, incorporates focus group feedback, and aligns efforts with marketing and enrollment to assure search results meet visitors’ needs.

The new search engine comes on the heels of the introduction of OmniUpdate, a new web content management system that was rolled out a year ago that allows content owners to manage college, department and office web sites. The UT home page and top-level pages followed with a redesign to focus on recruiting students from all populations in December.

“The web is in a constant state of evolution,” Burns added, “and our web team is working hard to exceed our users’ expectations day in and day out.”

UT employees may schedule graduate photos

Faculty and staff or members of their families who will graduate from UT this semester may contact the University Communications Office if they wish to have a photo taken and published in UT News.

Call Laurie Flowers at 419.530.2002 to schedule an appointment before Friday, May 4.

Photos will appear in an upcoming issue of the paper.

NORTHWEST OHIO HEARING CLINIC WELCOMES YOU TO OUR 3-DAY EVENT

MAY 8TH SEMINARS
Way Library 1015 East High Street, Perrysburg 8:30 am
Invisalign Country Club 4011 S. Toledo 9:30 am
Lunchroom hearing loss and Invisible solutions and how
Widex can help you reach your hearing goal from our
Considering hearing solutions and Laurie
Issac, MD, of Toledo OSU

MAY 9TH & 10TH OPEN HOUSE EVENT
At both office locations
Consentory hearing consultation for adults
CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT

$500 OFF on purchase of a pair of WIDEX CLEAR
Hearing Aids

NORTHWEST OHIO HEARING CLINIC

1123 Hospital Drive, Suite 50, UT Medical Center, Toledo, OH 43693-4012
10310 Boulevard, Suite 100, Perrysburg, OH 43501-4327
Rocket Hall Parking
Lot 25 Closed and Under Construction
May 7th – Early August

Alternative Parking Options:
Rocket Hall Visitors
& Handicapped parking - Lot 27A
Near Ottawa House

Faculty, Staff & Students - Lot 26
Near the Student Medical Center