

Finalists for University of Toledo presidency announced

By Jon Strunk

The University of Toledo has announced its presidential finalists. Candidates who will be invited for campus interviews are:

- Dr. Sharon Gaber, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Arkansas. Read more at utoledo.edu/presidential-search/candidates/gaber.html.
- Dr. Christopher Howard, president of Hampden-Sydney College, Hampden-Sydney, Va. Read more at utoledo.edu/presidential-search/candidates/howard.html.
- Dr. Michele Wheatly, professor and senior adviser to the president at West Virginia University. Read more at utoledo.edu/presidential-search/candidates/wheatly.html.

Calling the group of leaders outstanding, UT Board of Trustees



Gaber



Howard



Wheatly

Chairman Joseph Zerbey told the UT campus community in a letter Thursday that the most important part of the search was still to come.

“The most important part of the search will take place in the coming weeks and

as members of the UT community, you will play a critical role,” Zerbey wrote, noting that UT plans to set up feedback opportunities through the presidential search website at utoledo.edu/presidential-search.

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UTMC among first to treat cardiac patients with new device

By Aimee Portala

The University of Toledo Medical Center is one of the first hospitals to treat cardiac patients with a newly approved, revolutionary device.

“I know that for these people who live very close to us, we can have the confidence that they could not have gotten better care anywhere else in the world,” said Dr. Mark Burket, chief of the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, director of vascular medicine, director of cardiovascular research and professor of medicine.

The Lutonix drug-coated angioplasty balloon is the first of its kind to be approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). It received final approval in October and is the only drug-coated balloon currently marketed in the United States.

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Winning shot



Photo by Daniel Miller

Lawrence J. Burns, UT vice president for external affairs, center; and Ernie Johnson, host of “Inside the NBA” on TNT, back row center; smiled for a selfie during Saturday’s Tie One On reception in the Fetterman Training Center. More than 1,000 sported bow ties and scarves at the University’s fifth annual event that raised more than \$35,000 to fight prostate cancer. All proceeds benefit UT’s Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center. The men’s basketball team also exuded that winning spirit as the Rockets defeated the Bowling Green Falcons, 71-67, in front of a sellout crowd of 7,392 fans in Savage Arena.

Democratic strategist advocates for compromise

By Meghan Cunningham

Despite how it might appear, American politics right now are not as divided as they have ever been, but there is a strong resistance to compromise that is causing a gridlock in Washington, political strategist Paul Begala said in a speech Wednesday at The University of Toledo.

In his talk peppered with jabs at his Republican counterparts, the former adviser to President Bill Clinton said politicians need to be open to other opinions and work together to move the country forward.

His visit to UT was part of the Jesup Scott Honors College Lecture Series.

Begala noted how intense political polarity led to the Civil War, and mentioned an instance in the past where a congressman bludgeoned another with a cane on the Senate floor over a difference of opinion.



Begala

Photo by Daniel Miller

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Medical Research Society founded to support promising work by faculty

By Lindsay Mahaney

In an effort to promote and aid budding medical faculty research, The University of Toledo is creating a society that will grant funding for biomedical projects.

The University of Toledo Medical Research Society supports biomedical research through a community-university partnership by funding grants for promising UT faculty. The society has already gained 12 members who made \$25,000 commitments and garnered a \$1 million matching donation from The University of Toledo Physicians (UTP).

“There is a new mindset in philanthropy,” said Howard Newman, UT associate vice president for development. “The donor is an investor. In other words, people aren’t just giving money away. They want to see results — measurable results. The Medical Research Society can procure that high level of accountability that today’s donor-investor seeks.”

UTP, a not-for-profit physician group dedicated to providing the highest quality, efficient health care in a patient-centered environment, agreed to match the commitments of up to the first 40

members and put it toward the growth of the society.

Dr. Christopher Cooper, senior vice president for clinical affairs and dean of the College of Medicine and Life Sciences, is one of the first members of the society and UTP chairman.

“Biomedical research is critically important for the College of Medicine,” Cooper said. “It is in the process of discovery that we create a better world. The Medical Research Society acknowledges the importance of funded research and will provide critical support for early career investigators who are transitioning to scientific independence.

“Furthermore, the Medical Research Society is a direct reflection of our community’s commitment to the research efforts of our faculty. As dean of the College of Medicine and as a 20-year member of the faculty and community, my wife and I are proud to be members of this effort.”

The society was started by Marianne Ballas, a longtime supporter of the University. Ballas, who owns Ballas Buick

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UT Health launches new online portal to improve patient experience

By Amanda Benjamin

All UT Health patients now have around-the-clock access to their medical records from the privacy of their homes.

Last week, UT Health launched the Athenahealth patient portal for outpatients. Inpatients at The University of Toledo Medical Center already have access to their medical records through the RelayHealth patient portal.

“One of the most important things for people to manage is their health,” said Olivia Dacre, chief administrative officer of revenue cycle and clinic operations. “This puts it right at their fingertips.”

In addition to viewing their health information, patients can request refills and pose questions to their health-care team through the portal. Another feature of the Athenahealth patient portal is the ability to send mass communications to patients, such as if there is a Level 3 Snow Emergency.

“Athena offers a much more intuitive and robust platform to provide high-quality care,” said Dr. Bryan Hinch, chief medical information

officer and assistant professor in the Department of Medicine. “Over time as we begin to delve deeper into these tools and features, we expect to improve the care we provide and enhance our communication with patients and referring providers.”

Dacre said she would like to thank all of the UT Health physicians, nurses, caregivers and information technology experts for their work over the last several weeks learning the new system, as well as the staff who helped launch the new Athenahealth patient portal.

Dave Morlock, CEO of UT Health and executive vice president of finance and administration, echoed these sentiments.

“At UT Health, it is our goal to make the health-care experience as seamless as possible for our patients,” Morlock said. “The addition of the Athenahealth patient portal allows us to move closer to that goal. Thank you to all of our staff who were involved in making this happen.”

For more information or to register for a patient portal account, visit uthealth.utoledo.edu.

UTMC

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UTMC participated as a clinical site for the LEVANT-2 study, which led to the FDA approval of the balloon.

The balloon is primarily for use in patients with peripheral arterial disease (PAD), a circulatory condition in which narrowed arteries reduce blood flow to the limbs.

“We were quite privileged to be able to participate in this trial. By participating, we were among the first to receive the balloons once they received FDA approval. The first person in northern Ohio to receive the treatment was a UT employee treated at UTMC,” Burket said.

Four patients have been treated with the device at UTMC.

The study compared the safety and effectiveness of the drug-coated balloon with a standard balloon.

“The approval of this device is extremely important to patients who suffer from blocked arteries to the legs. Opening obstructions with a balloon is much safer than performing surgical bypass, but the limitation of balloon angioplasty is that blockages can recur,” Burket said.

The Lutonix balloon releases a drug, paclitaxel, which limits the growth of scar tissue after a blocked artery has been opened.

“The outer surface of the balloon is coated with paclitaxel. When the balloon inflates, the drug is transferred to the wall of the vessel.

The drug suppresses scar formation, thus ensuring that the vessel won’t clog up again,” Burket said. “Paclitaxel significantly decreases recurrence, so patients are more likely to have permanent relief of leg pain.”

“UTMC’s Cardiovascular Division was invited by Lutonix to participate in this study because we had extensive experience in clinical research in peripheral vascular disease. For example, UT was the top U.S. university center for enrollment in Zilver PTX, a clinical trial in which a drug-coated stent was used to treat blockages in the same artery that was treated in the Lutonix study,” Burket said.

Participation in the LEVANT-2 required dedication from the entire cardiovascular staff.

“We are dependent upon our research coordinators to carefully attend to every detail for enrollment, data entry and follow-up. The first-rate staff in the Cardiovascular Lab ensures that we have the right equipment, that imaging is complete and of the highest quality,” Burket said.

A second drug-coated balloon received FDA approval in early January.

“We are proud to have been involved with the trial and approval of the Lutonix balloon. The distribution and use of this device, and others like it, will greatly benefit patients affected by PAD, and will ensure they receive quality treatment,” Burket said.

Celebrating unity



Photo by Mickey Ross

Dr. Shanda Gore, UT associate vice president for equity, diversity and community engagement, and chief diversity officer at the University, announced the 2014 recipients of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarships, including Armani Yett, a sophomore majoring in business, center, who was congratulated by UT Interim President Nagi Naganathan at the annual event in honor of the civil rights leader. Other UT students who received MLK Scholarships were Brandi Ball, a senior majoring in public health; Sharon Hill, a senior majoring in political science; Tyrone Jacobs, a junior majoring in engineering; Phillip Lewis, a sophomore majoring in pharmacy; Bre’Auna Smith, a sophomore majoring in bioengineering; and Dominic Strodes, a senior majoring in social work. Some 2,000 people attended the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Celebration in Savage Arena.

Black History Month kickoff to celebrate extraordinary stories of ordinary people

By Cynthia Nowak

“Life is more than selfies, and the journey is about more than you.”



McKether

That’s the core of the message Dr. Willie McKether, associate dean of the College of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences, plans to share with

students and community members at the Feb. 7 luncheon that will kick off Black History Month at UT.

Calling on his background as an anthropologist and historian, McKether will talk about the oral histories in the Edrene Cole African American History Collection that he helped establish in collaboration with the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library System, which houses the project.

“Thanks to a technology grant, I was able to do 25 interviews of African-American residents who were either born or raised in Toledo between 1940 and 1960, or who moved here within the same time period,” he explained.

Although Edrene Cole died before the project began, the collection’s name honors the longtime Toledo educator who also wrote local histories.

Documenting the seemingly ordinary lives of the project’s participants — from assembly-line workers to lawyers, from teachers to barbers to jazz musicians — was a deeply moving experience for McKether. “They would usually say, ‘I don’t have much to talk about’ — then they’d share these amazing stories,” he said.

Encountering racism was an inescapable part of their lives, he noted: “Like Gladys Glenn, whose husband was a Tuskegee airman, and their experiences in Alabama. She was pregnant and her husband was in uniform; she was forced to give up her seat on a bus, and he had to watch without saying much.”

The older adults McKether interviewed maintained a longer view of their lives that young people today need to understand: “The people who came before us had experiences. In many ways they understood that those experiences were not only personal, but collective as well, and paved the way for us today.

“The progress we’ve made in race relations over the past 50 or 60 years have been made because of the selfless acts of

these people who were not thinking about themselves. ‘I may not see the results in my lifetime’ is a phrase I heard a lot,” he said.

The oral histories in the collection also highlight the importance of service: “Regardless of their accomplishments in life, what they say consistently is they want to be remembered for helping other people,” McKether said.

A video that includes segments of some of the interviews will be shown at the luncheon.

The kickoff event, which runs from noon until 2 p.m. in the Student Union Auditorium, is sponsored by The University of Toledo, Study Hour Club and the Toledo chapter of The Links Inc., and will include musical performances by the UT Gospel Choir.

The event is free and open to UT students, faculty and staff, but a ticket must be obtained by calling the Office of Excellence and Multicultural Student Success at 419.530.2261 or emailing oeemss@utoledo.edu.

Tickets for members of the general public are \$20 and may be purchased by contacting Erin Thomas at 419.530.5214 or erin.thomas@utoledo.edu.

Strategist

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“So we’re not the most polarized we’ve ever been, but we are the most paralyzed, at least in modern times,” he said.

Begala told a story about how even during Clinton’s impeachment process, he worked with Newt Gingrich and other Republicans to double funding for the National Institutes of Health. But now? Politicians don’t make the deals. Government has grinded to a halt and compromise has become a dirty word, he said.

“We are rewarding shutdowns and showdowns instead of compromise,” he said.

Part of the problem, he said, is a diverse media pallet where people can choose to get their news from a source they agree with, rather than being challenged with a different perspective. Another concern is politicians pandering to their gerrymandered bases.

As the demographics of the country continue to change, politicians need to embrace the adapt-or-die model, and so far Democrats are adapting better than Republicans, Begala said. Embracing the rising American electorate — young people, Latinos and unmarried women — will lead to future successful elections.

But success in office to get things done will continue to require collaboration. Begala suggested nonpartisan investments in the sciences or infrastructure as good opportunities to start to come together. But, he said, it is up to the voters to demand that principled compromise.

The final lecture in the second annual series will be from Toledo Museum of Art Director Brian Kennedy, who will speak Tuesday, March 24, at 7 p.m. in Doermann Theater. Visit utoledo.edu/honorslecture for more information.

Finalists

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Zerbey noted that itineraries for the candidates would be developed and published in the coming days.

“While here, they will meet with leadership from our faculty, students, staff and administration, learn about the campus, and participate in open forums where members of the UT community can come ask questions and hear about the candidates’ visions for this University’s future,” Zerbey wrote.

Zerbey also had praise for the presidential search committee.

“On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I want to say how thankful we are for the input, expertise and guidance from faculty, staff and student leadership, as well as alumni, UT supporters and members of the community who served on the search committee.”

Visit utoledo.edu/presidential-search for the most up-to-date information.

In memoriam

Diane L. Hymore, Toledo, who was the longtime executive assistant for former UT President Lloyd Jacobs, died Jan. 19 at age 58. She joined the MCO staff in 2001 as team coordinator in the Office of Institutional Advancement. Two years later, Hymore moved to the President’s Office. In 2004, she was named administrative associate and later that year administrative assistant to the president. In 2012, Hymore was named director of administrative operations for the president and the senior leadership team. She was diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) in 2012 and left the University in 2013. Family, friends and co-workers formed a team for the Walk to Defeat ALS in 2012. Since then, the UT team, Nana’s Flowers of Hope, has raised thousands of dollars for the ALS Association with a mum sale and participation in the walk. To honor Hymore, the University created an award in her name. She received the inaugural Diane Hymore Exemplar of Excellence Award in 2013. The recognition is presented annually to an individual whose work defines the core values of UT in Hymore’s spirit of support, encouragement and service. Memorials are suggested to The University of Toledo Foundation designated for neurosciences at UT Medical Center:



Hymore

Shirley R. Majeski, Sylvania, a custodian at UT from 1981 until her retirement in 1993, died Jan. 16 at age 85.

Dr. Barbara L. Straus, Sylvania, clinical assistant professor of pediatrics from 1995 to 2009 and wife of Dr. Blair Grubb, Distinguished University Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, died Jan. 22 at age 64. In 1976, she went to the Dominican Republic to attend the Universidad Central de Este College of Medicine. There, she met Grubb. The two married in 1978. They moved to Toledo in 1988 when Grubb joined the MCO faculty. Straus was a pediatrician who worked at several practices, including Airport Highway Pediatrics. She is survived by Grubb and their two children, Helen and Alex.

Equal opportunities for people with disabilities to be discussed Jan. 29

This year marks the 25-year anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act. Where it stands now will be addressed Thursday, Jan. 29, at noon in the Law Center McQuade Law Auditorium.

Dr. Michael Stein, co-founder and executive director of the Harvard Law School Project on Disability, will give a talk titled “The Americans With Disabilities Act at 25: Looking in by Looking out.”

The landmark civil rights law prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all places that are open to the general public.

Stein will survey the act’s 25-year legacy of promoting equal opportunity for people with disabilities and address what needs to be done, drawing on his work on disability rights in three dozen countries.

An internationally recognized expert on disability law and policy, Stein helped draft the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In addition, he works with disabled persons organizations around the world, consults



Stein

with governments on their disability laws and policies, advises a number of UN bodies, and has brought landmark litigation and written extensively on disability rights.

Stein has received numerous awards for his work and was appointed by President Obama to the United States Holocaust Council.

A longtime visiting professor of law at Harvard, Stein also has taught at New York University, Stanford and William & Mary law schools.

Stein’s free, public talk is sponsored by the UT College of Law.

Key dates approaching for business innovation competition

By Bob Mackowiak

University of Toledo students, faculty and staff are encouraged to enter the fifth annual business innovation competition sponsored by the UT College of Business and Innovation and attend a free workshop Thursday, Jan. 29, from noon to 1 p.m. in the PNC Entrepreneurship Lab, located in Savage & Associates Business Complex Room 3100.

“Competition entries must be submitted using Lean Launch Pad concepts, which enable people to develop their business model upon key basic building blocks, such as value propositions, key resources, revenue streams and more. The January 29 free workshop will explain these concepts to help individuals and teams prepare their entries, which are due by February 20,” Dr. Sonny Ariss, professor and chair of the Management Department, said.

Finalists will be announced Friday, March 20, and winners will be announced Thursday, April 16.

The UT College of Business and Innovation is providing the following prize money:

- First place: \$10,000;
- Second place: \$5,000;



- Third place: \$2,000; and
- Honorable mention: \$500.

There is no cost to enter the competition. Registration must be completed online. Winners must prove that they have formed an LLC or S Corp in order to receive a financial award.

“We are expecting another tremendous array of entries this year,” Ariss said, “and trust the contest will continue to advance a creative culture of growth in all areas of the University.”

The competition is open to all UT students, faculty and staff, while alumni can participate as a member of a team involving current students, faculty or staff.

To register or for more information, go to utoledo.edu/business.

Novel drug development topic of Distinguished University Professor Lecture Jan. 29

By Lindsay Mahaney

With a wealth of experience in medicinal chemistry, Dr. Paul Erhardt will give a talk on some of his groundbreaking findings this week.

Erhardt’s presentation, “How Evolution of Medicinal Chemistry and an Academic-Based Drug Discovery Center Led to SEARMs: Novel ‘Selective Estrogen and Androgen Receptor Modulators’ From Soybean,” is part of the Academic Honors Committee Distinguished University Professor Lecture Series, which will take place Thursday, Jan. 29, at 4 p.m. in Collier Building Room 1000B on Health Science Campus.

A reception will follow the free, public event.

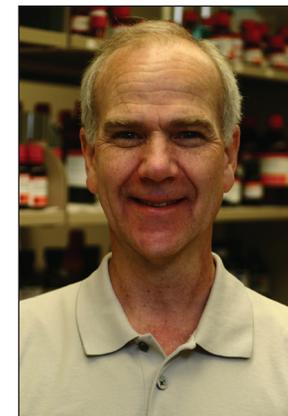
Erhardt serves as the director of the Center for Drug Design and Development. The primary purpose of the center is to promote health-related interdisciplinary research programs and to facilitate collaborations between the academic and private sectors so useful technologies can be effectively matured and ultimately delivered to the marketplace for the benefit of the public, Erhardt said, noting that the center was one of the first of its kind.

“It turns out, God loves us; our Center for Drug Design and Development has been ahead of the game,” he said with a laugh. “Twenty years ago when we first fired up — although it was not me who facilitated that — there might have been maybe three, at most five, academic-based drug discovery centers in the entire country. And we were one of them.”

In the last five years, nearly 100 centers have been built, Erhardt said. The work the center has done has led to numerous projects that helped evolve modern medicinal chemistry. One project that will be the focus of the talk is developing a new compound derived from soybeans.

“Picture Sean Connery in the jungle scene of ‘Medicine Man,’ up above the canopy swinging around, trying to get these natural products from species of insects and plants that are being wiped out,” he said. “We do need to preserve those medications, but it turns out you can go in your own backyard and you can take your common soybean to do the same thing.”

Both men and women have estrogen, the hormone that produces female qualities,



Erhardt

and androgen, the hormone that produces male qualities. The level a person has of each hormone differs based on sex. However, these two compounds don’t interact

with each other, despite everyone having both, Erhardt explained.

But when you take the soybeans from your backyard and expose them to harsh conditions, a defense mechanism releases phytoalexins to protect the plant. This class of compounds hasn’t been fully researched, Erhardt said, but it appears that it can interact with both estrogen and androgen receptors. At this stage, scientists are still testing the new compound by combining selective estrogen receptor modulators (SERMs) and selective androgen receptor modulators (SARMs) — compounds that act on their respective receptors — to create for the first time a result being coined as selective estrogen androgen receptor modulators (SEARMs).

“Breast cancer, which occurs in men, too, or prostate cancer, could benefit conceivably from both an androgen and estrogen blocker,” he said. “There’s no such thing in existence, until maybe now. We have to test these things out.”

Despite his intensive research and academic achievements, Erhardt said he wants the take-home point of his talk to be the importance of the Distinguished University Professor designation.

“I have a tremendous amount of respect for the Distinguished University Professor award,” he said. “Academia is an interesting place, and I think the Distinguished University Professor Lecture Series is part of that. I can go to these lectures and I can hear somebody in a completely different field who has excelled to some level that they’re doing good things in that field, and I can get a different insight to what I do. That, to me, is a very refreshing experience.”

Health Science Campus Artist Showcase opens

By Cassandra DeYoung

University of Toledo Health will celebrate the creativity of students, faculty and staff by displaying nearly 30 artists' work at a favorite event.

The 2015 Health Science Campus Artist Showcase will run from Monday, Jan. 26, through Monday, March 16, on the fourth floor of Mulford Library.

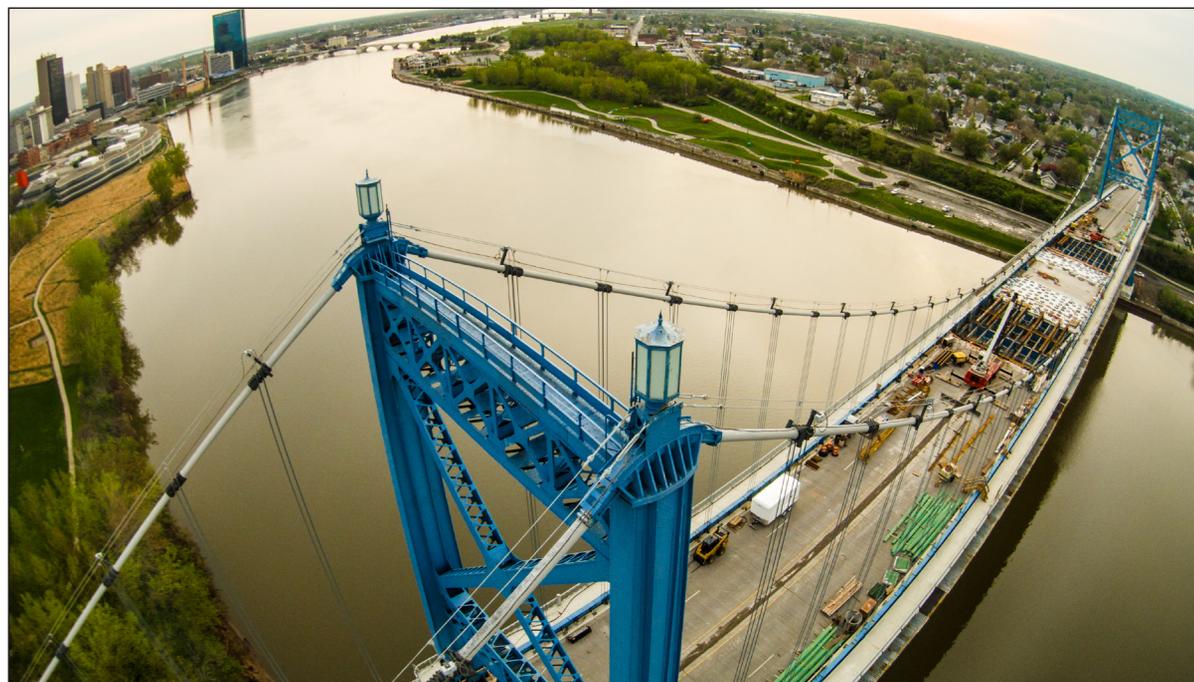
The 10th annual showcase will feature artistic works in a variety of 2- and 3-dimensional media from students, faculty and staff affiliated with the health sciences on both Health Science and Main campuses.

"This is a chance for individuals who are typically only associated with science to be seen for their creative side," Jodi Jameson, instructor in the College of Nursing, librarian at Mulford Library, and member of the artist showcase committee, said. "The showcase is a way of displaying their artwork and highlighting their talents."

In conjunction with the free, public exhibit, an artists' reception will take place Friday, Feb. 6, from 4 to 6 p.m., and include a lecture titled "Eye Disease of Famous Artists," Light refreshments will be served at the event.

Dr. James Ravin, a clinical associate professor in the UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences, will lead the lecture in the iCare University Room in the basement of Mulford Library.

Signed copies of his book, *The Artist's Eyes*, which explores the relationship



"Bird's-Eye View of the Anthony Wayne Bridge," photograph, by Dr. Rick Francis, director in Research and Sponsored Programs

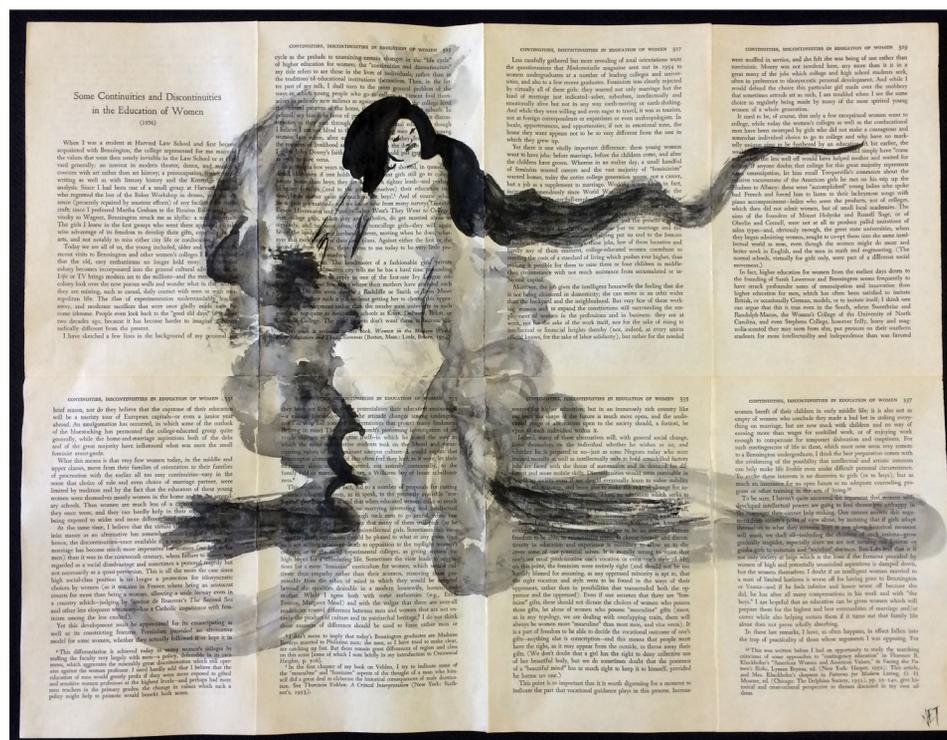
between vision, eye disease and art history, will be raffled at the reception.

Visitors can view the artwork during regular library hours: Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to midnight; Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Sunday from 9 a.m. to midnight.

For more information, visit libguides.utoledo.edu/hscart or call 419.383.4218.



"Winter in the Garden," acrylic, by Dr. Paul Brand, associate professor emeritus of physiology and pharmacology



"Unique Aims to be Furthered," watercolor, by Andrea Tsatalis, a student in the Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Biology/Doctor of Dental Medicine Program

Huntington Bank provides \$10,000 in scholarships to five UT business students

By Bob Mackowiak

Huntington Bank presented scholarships totaling \$10,000 to five University of Toledo College of Business and Innovation students last week in the Huntington Sales Lab, located on the fourth floor of the Savage & Associates Business Complex.

The recipients are graduate student Cassandra Wenman (\$3,000) and undergraduate students Paviele Pena (\$2,000), Kaleigh Rapp (\$2,000), Jae Huth (\$2,000) and Boram Kim (\$1,000).

“We were extremely impressed with the recipients and their respective accomplishments and aspirations — a compliment to the talented students that the University is developing,” Joel Jerger, senior vice president at Huntington Bank in Toledo, said. “The scholarships reflect Huntington’s commitment to northwest Ohio. We look forward to continuing to work with the University as it educates the next generation of leaders.”

Through an expanding banking program between Huntington Bank and UT, Huntington is providing \$150,000 in academic programming and scholarships for students and additional convenient banking options on campus.

“Both The University of Toledo and the College of Business and Innovation are extremely grateful to Huntington Bank for their outstanding support of our tremendous students,” Dr. Gary Insch, dean of the UT College of Business and Innovation, said. “Huntington is serious about its role as

UT’s banking partner, and these new scholarships reflect their commitment to provide meaningful financial support to some of our extraordinary business students.”

Rapp, a junior double majoring in accounting and finance, said, “Becoming a recipient of this scholarship shows that my hard work has paid off. It really means a lot that I was chosen out of a pool of recipients to represent the College of Business and Innovation. This scholarship is going to help me achieve my academic goals because I will be able to focus more on my school work rather than the stress of making ends meet.”

Pena, a financial services major, said, “This scholarship is a proud pat on the back and a reminder that all this hard work, stress and sacrifice we go through in college isn’t only for a degree. It’s for the discipline we get out of it. Thank you to The University of Toledo and to Huntington Bank for the opportunity and your investment in our success.”

Wenman, who is in the Master of Science in Accountancy Program, said,



Receiving scholarships funded by Huntington Bank were, front row from left, Cassandra Wenman, Boram Kim, Paviele Pena, Jae Huth and Kaleigh Rapp. Also in the photo, back row from left, were UT Business Dean Gary Insch, UT Business Senior Associate Dean Terribeth Gordon, Schmidt School of Professional Sales Director Deirdre Jones, and Jon Grimm, John Harvey, Ronnie Wolfe and Joel Jerger of Huntington Bank.

“I’m very appreciative of the relationship that The University of Toledo and the College of Business and Innovation has with Huntington Bank. I feel honored to be a recipient of this scholarship, and receiving the Huntington scholarship reaffirms UT and the College of Business and Innovation’s role in my success.”

Jae Huth, a junior marketing major, said, “Being honored with a scholarship from Huntington Bank is truly empowering,

and I appreciate it more than words could ever say. This scholarship means that there are organizations, such as Huntington, that truly care about the importance of education and are willing to help students make their dreams come true.”

University to compete in RecycleMania

By Cassandra DeYoung

Starting on Sunday, Feb. 1, The University of Toledo will participate in RecycleMania, an eight-week international recycling competition.

During the next few months, more than 300 schools across the United States and Canada will promote waste reduction activities on their campus communities through this friendly event.

“The University has been a part of this competition for many years,” said Brooke Mason, sustainability specialist. “It’s a great way to educate the campus community by creating new habits that will hopefully continue on after the competition.”

Each week UT will report the weight of recycled materials collected in order to be ranked in various categories.

At the end of the contest, winners will be chosen in each of the nine categories and will receive an award made out of recyclable materials.

“Last year, UT ranked in the top three against other Mid-American Conference schools in various categories and ranked 17th nationally in the electronic recycling category,” Mason said.

In conjunction with the competition, UT hosts an internal contest between residential halls. Carter Hall won last year’s competition, followed by Ottawa Hall and Academic House.

“Each residence hall has a sponsor that is a residence adviser,” Mason said. “They help encourage and educate students in their buildings about the importance of recycling.”

A community electronics recycling day will be held at UT Saturday, March 21, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in parking lot 28 by Plant Operations and the south entrance to Main Campus. Electronics — except for TVs — will be accepted and disposed of in an environmentally safe manner.



For more information, visit recyclemania.org or contact Mason at brooke.mason@utoledo.edu or 419.530.1042.

Business executive to speak at Aspiring Minority Conference Jan. 31

By Cassandra DeYoung

Business leader and child advocate Steve Pemberton will be the keynote speaker at The University of Toledo's 31st annual Aspiring Minority Youth Conference Saturday, Jan. 31, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Student Union Auditorium.

The conference titled "Embracing Diversity: Understanding the Reality of 21st Century" is designed for sixth- through 12th-grade students, parents and community members.

"Our theme this year focuses on how critical it is that young people begin to understand the diverse and global world that they are a part of and how critically important it is for them to engage with and understand people who are different from themselves," David Young, director of the UT Office of Excellence, said.

Pemberton, chief diversity officer and divisional vice president for Walgreens, is considered one of America's most inspiring executives. Despite setbacks, he has been successful in both his personal and professional life by utilizing opportunity, access and equality.

"He is recognized as a leader on matters of diversity and inclusion and their importance to the growth of the American industrial complex," Young said.

Pemberton's inspiring journey from foster care to finding his biological family is shared in his memoir, *A Chance in the World: An Orphan Boy, a Mysterious Past, and How He Found a Place Called Home*.

After the general session featuring Pemberton, there will be a session for parents and educators titled "Fostering



Pemberton

and Maintaining Healthy Lifestyles for the Whole Family," which is designed to encourage parents to discuss nutrition and exercise with their children and be proactive about health and wellness.

Students will attend a concurrent session on "Ethnic Diversity: Overcoming the Negative, Reinforcing the Positive." A Toledo Excel alumni panel will lead a discussion to encourage students to celebrate diversity and take pride in their ethnic backgrounds.

A free lunch will be provided for all attendees after the last session.

The conference is hosted by Toledo Excel, which was established in 1988 and has since helped prepare underrepresented students in higher education for success in college.

To make a reservation for the free, public conference, visit utoledo.edu/success/excel/index.html or call 419.530.3823.

'The Relevant University' to air Jan. 27

Tune in to "The Relevant University" Tuesday, Jan. 27, at 7 p.m. on AM 760 WJR.

This month, Lawrence J. Burns, UT vice president for external affairs, discusses current trends, community partnerships, and post-graduation hiring of business students.

Guests on the show will be:

- Dr. Gary Insch, dean of The University of Toledo College of Business and Innovation;
- Tony Moore, talent acquisition supervisor at Marathon Petroleum Corp.;
- Danielle DeLuca and Jeff Webster of Detroit Lions

Corporate Partnerships Services; and

- Dr. Sanjay Gupta, acting dean and Russell Palmer Endowed Professor of Accounting at the Eli Broad College of Business at Michigan State University.

The University of Toledo and Detroit's WJR Radio produce "The Relevant University," a monthly, hourlong program that explores the critical role higher education plays in our world.

Listen at utoledo.edu/therelevantuniversity, WJR 760 AM or wjr.com.



THE RELEVANT UNIVERSITY

THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

Medical Research Society

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GMC on Central Avenue, is the chair of Women & Philanthropy at UT. Under her leadership, the organization was created to support the work of medical faculty members who are progressing into scientific research careers.

The goal is to create a permanent endowed source of seed funding for biomedical research projects developed in the College of Medicine and Life Sciences, Newman said.

Newman explained that the National Institutes of Health (NIH) used to fund more than 25 percent of the grants applied for by junior faculty, but in recent years the number has decreased to 10 percent due to reduction in federal funding. For this reason, it is difficult for young investigators in

the country to obtain funding for research, which is why the society is aiding these individuals. Once researchers have received funding, it's easier to get renewal funding, he said.

"Once you've demonstrated that you have more than a good idea, that you have in fact a good idea substantiated with data, then your opportunity to go back to the NIH and be competitive and get funding is greatly enhanced," Newman said.

In the next year, the society is hoping to have 75 members and award its first grant.

For additional information or to become a member, contact Newman at howard.newman@utoledo.edu or 419.383.6840.

UT NEWS

UT News is published for faculty, staff and students by the University Communications Office weekly during the academic year and periodically during the summer. Copies are mailed to employees and placed in newsstands on the Main, Health Science, Scott Park and Toledo Museum of Art campuses. UT News strives to present accurate, fair and timely communication of interest to employees. Story ideas and comments from the UT community are welcome. Send information by campus mail to #949, University Communications Office, Vicki Kroll. Email: vicki.kroll@utoledo.edu. Fax: 419.530.4618. Phone: 419.530.2248. Mailing address: University Communications Office, The University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606-3390.

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Women's basketball team to hold 'Rockets for the Cure' Feb. 7

By Brian DeBenedictis

Toledo will hold its seventh annual "Rockets For the Cure" sponsored by Kroger Saturday, Feb. 7, as the Midnight Blue and Gold entertain Ball State at 2 p.m.

The Mid-American Conference West Division matchup will benefit the Susan G. Komen for the Cure of Northwest Ohio and the Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center.

The Rockets encourage everyone in attendance to wear pink in support of cancer research.

Groups that purchase 15 or more tickets may do so for \$6 each. The first 500 group tickets purchased will receive a free "Rockets for the Cure" commemorative T-shirt.

Tickets also will be sold for a raffle throughout the game. Immediately following the contest, guest emcee Chrys Peterson will host a live auction for the UT players' pink game jerseys.

Two additions to this year's event will be a Legends Online Auction and an opportunity for fans to make an extra

donation to cancer research based on UT's accuracy at the charity stripe.

The auction will run through Sunday, Feb. 8, on utrockets.com. Fans can bid on legend jerseys of Kahli Carter, Kim D'Angelo, Tia Davis, Dana Drew, Angela Drake, Latoja Harris, Courtney Ingersoll, Linda Janicki, Lucretia LeGault, Kim Knuth, Mimi Olson, Yolanda Richardson, Courtney Risinger, Jane Roman, Kelly Savage, Kim Sekulski and Naama Shafir.

In addition, Head Women's Basketball Coach Tricia Cullop will donate \$25 for every free throw the Rockets make during the game, and she is asking fans to match it.

"Kroger is a committed supporter of breast cancer research, awareness and services," Bruce Macaulay, president of Kroger's Columbus Division, said. "That's why we are proud to partner with The University of Toledo as the title sponsor of the Rockets for the Cure game. We are donating pink rally towels to all in attendance as a reminder that we are in this fight together."

Last season, Toledo raised \$13,582 for breast cancer research. Six of the Nike uniforms that were auctioned off after the contest went for more than \$1,000,

including a high of \$1,500 for Ana Capotosto.

The hounds and the furry



Photos by Samantha Watson

Holly Hammond and Michael Blackwood, freshmen majoring in mechanical engineering, gave some love to Rosie, left, and Ellie, two dogs from the Toledo Area Humane Society, who were at Barnes & Noble University Bookstore at the Gateway last week. The dogs, both 4 years old, are a package deal; they are so bonded that the shelter hopes to find someone who will adopt the pair.



Sam Mishler, left, Hailey Kim, center, and Chelsea Turner, all sophomores majoring in pre-pharmacy, visited with Rex, a 7-month-old pit bull puppy from the Toledo Area Humane Society. Rex was given to the nonprofit organization along with his eight brothers and sisters. The adoption event was held to provide some pet therapy, according to Colleen Strayer, general manager of the bookstore. "This was the second time we hosted the puppies," she said. "It's a way for the students to relax and take a mental break from academics while on campus. We plan to do this several times a year. The Toledo Area Humane Society has been great to work with."