

UT dedicates new research lab created with help of \$250,000 gift from Shimadzu

By Christine Long

The University of Toledo College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences celebrated the dedication of a new state-of-the-art research laboratory created with the help of a leading scientific instrument company last week.

UT President Sharon L. Gaber, College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Dean Johnnie Early and Robert Classon from Shimadzu Scientific Instruments addressed the crowd at the event, which was followed by an open house for the Shimadzu Laboratory for Pharmaceutical Research Excellence.

Shimadzu donated more than \$250,000 to help UT pay for several new instruments, including a mass spectrometer that is capable of analyzing samples with a high degree of accuracy and unmatched speed.

“This donation will help UT train the scientists of tomorrow with cutting-edge technology,” Phil Martin, life science account manager with Shimadzu, said. “The liquid chromatograph mass spectrometer

can analyze a wide array of sample types, including biological and environmental, with great speed, accuracy and ease-of-use. The LCMS-8050 will open new avenues of teaching and research, including drug discovery and metabolism, disease biomarkers, and oxidative damage to DNA. This technology also can be used to monitor water quality and detect dangerous algal toxins in Lake Erie faster and with more accuracy than other techniques.”

“Shimadzu’s goals are very strongly aligned with UT’s in striving to best prepare the next generation of pharmacists, researchers and scientists to improve the world,” Gaber said. “On behalf of The University of Toledo, I want to extend sincere thanks to them for their generous contributions and collaboration.”



Photo by Daniel Miller

DEMO: Ryan Carlson, left, and Derek Averill, technical support specialists with Shimadzu Scientific Instruments, showed how the liquid chromatograph mass spectrometer works during a Jan. 28 tour of the Shimadzu Laboratory for Pharmaceutical Research Excellence. Shimadzu donated more than \$250,000 to the UT College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences for instruments in the lab.

“Through this partnership, state-of-the-art equipment for pharmaceutical analysis will be available to students, faculty and members of the corporate sector, all with

the support of trained and knowledgeable experts in the area of pharmaceutical research,” Early said.

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Conversations on Diversity

A Community Conversation on Diversity — Monday, Feb. 1, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Kent Public Library, 3101 Collingwood Blvd.

A Faculty Campus Conversation on Diversity — Tuesday, Feb. 2, from 6 to 8 p.m. in Health Education Building Room 103 on Health Science Campus

Student Campus Conversation on Diversity — Wednesday, Feb. 3, from 6 to 8 p.m. in Health Education Building Room 100 on Health Science Campus

A Staff Campus Conversation on Diversity — Thursday, Feb. 4, from noon to 2 p.m. in Health Education Building Room 103 on Health Science Campus

Black History Month to celebrate student activism

By Meghan Cunningham

The University of Toledo’s celebration of Black History Month will inspire students to be active in shaping the world they want to live in.



Johnson

around the country and the need for action to address issues continuing to impact the African-American community.

This year’s theme is “Live for the Moment, not for the Movement: Black Activism in the 21st Century” and will kick off with a keynote address by Tuskegee University President Brian J. Johnson.

The kickoff luncheon will be Saturday, Feb. 6, from noon to 2 p.m. in the Student Union Auditorium when Johnson will discuss recent events happening

“UT students want to get involved. As a college student, this is the time to learn, to grow, to develop, and to do your part to shape the world you will live in,” said Henderson Hill III, UT assistant dean of multicultural student success. “Be part of the conversation, but also be intentional and mature in how you handle activism.”

Henderson joined UT in January from Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn., where he was the director of the Wilbur N. Daniel African American Cultural Center. In the newly created position, Henderson leads the UT Office of Multicultural Student Success in the Division of Student Affairs.

Johnson has served since 2014 as the seventh president of Tuskegee University, one of the nation’s leading historically black institutions of higher education founded in 1881 by Booker T. Washington.

“We are honored to have Dr. Johnson begin our celebration of Black History Month that gives us the opportunity to recognize cultural history and honor the contributions of African Americans who have contributed to our global society,” Hill said.

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Student retention increases as University maintains spring enrollment numbers

By Meghan Cunningham

The number of University of Toledo undergraduate students continuing their studies into the spring semester increased more than 2 percentage points over last year helping to keep enrollment on par with the previous year.

Total enrollment for spring semester 2016 is 18,849, according to official 15-day census numbers. UT had 18,783 students enrolled in spring semester 2015.

The fall to spring semester undergraduate retention numbers for the 2015-16 academic year increased to 89.1 percent from 87 percent the previous year. The trend follows a nearly 2 percent increase in the first-year to second-year undergraduate retention rate recorded in the fall semester.

“As the University develops a strategic enrollment plan to grow our student body, we intend to continue this momentum to both recruit and retain more UT students,” President Sharon L. Gaber said. “Every member of the UT faculty and staff is committed to the success of our students to ensure that they succeed in their studies and graduate on time. We will continue to see the enrollment numbers reflect that commitment.”

UT engaged enrollment consultant Ruffalo Noel Levitz in the fall to begin working to increase student populations across the institution.

Through the additional outreach to potential students currently underway that is more personalized,

customized and timely, UT leaders are optimistic the University will end the enrollment declines by the upcoming fall semester, and hopefully begin a trend of increased enrollment next academic year, said Jim Mager, interim vice president for enrollment management.

“The quality of the admission and financial aid staff, advisers, success coaches, faculty and staff at UT is outstanding, and everyone is committed to student success,” Mager said. “Spring enrollment is what we predicted given fall enrollment numbers, but the outreach efforts of these dedicated individuals is already having an impact on the number of students attending UT, and we will continue to see that grow.”

Long-term strategies also are being developed to position UT to continue to grow enrollment in subsequent years, he said.

The spring 2016 enrollment includes 14,679 undergraduate students, an increase from 14,478 in spring 2015, and 4,170 graduate students, a decrease from 4,305 in the same semester last year. Contributing to the growth in undergraduate students is an increase in the number of high school students participating in the College Credit Plus program.

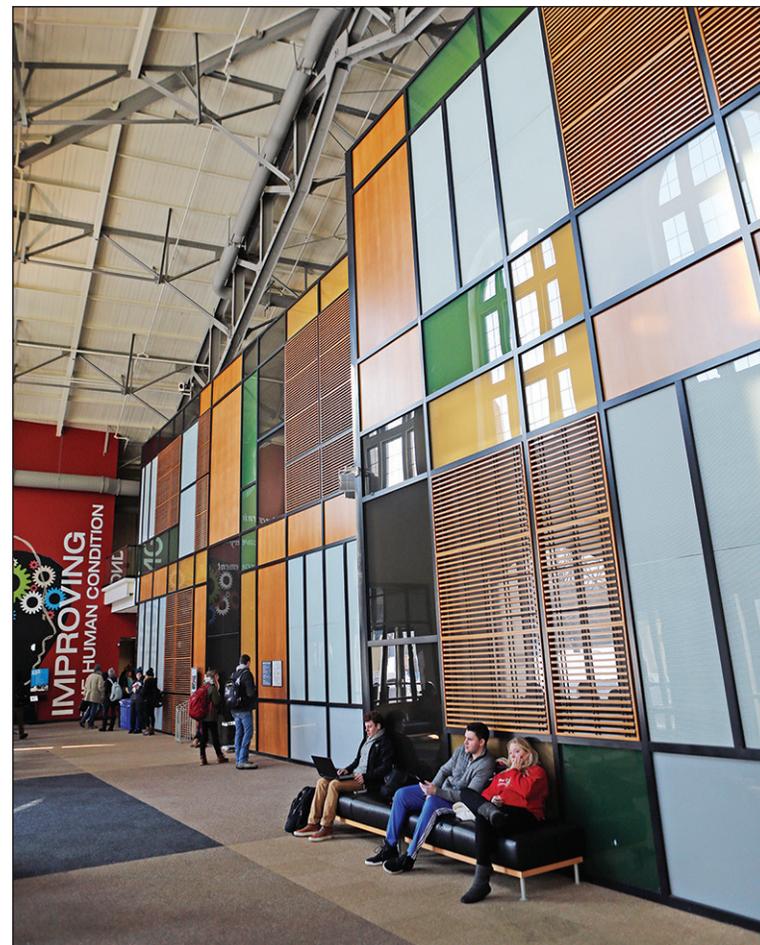


Photo by Daniel Miller

HANGING OUT: University Photographer Daniel Miller took this shot of students in Memorial Field House during the first week of spring semester. Total enrollment for this semester is 18,849, according to official 15-day census numbers. That's up from 18,783 in spring semester 2015.

Law lecture on admissions preferences to take place Feb. 3

By Rachel Phipps

Stuart Taylor Jr., journalist and co-author of the book *Mismatch: How Affirmative Action Hurts Students It's Intended to Help, and Why Universities Won't Admit It*, will deliver a lecture Wednesday, Feb. 3, at noon in the Law Center McQuade Law Auditorium.



Taylor

The free, public lecture is a part of the Stranahan National Issues Forum and is sponsored by the UT College of Law and its chapter of the Federalist Society for Law and Public

Policy Studies. Food and drink will be provided.

“Affirmative action is perennially front-page news, and the Supreme Court this term once again has a case challenging it,” said Lee Strang, the John W. Stoepler Professor of Law and Values at the College of Law. “Taylor’s argument is potentially powerful because it takes affirmative action proponents’ key argument at face value and uses it against affirmative action. Taylor’s lecture is sure to spark thought and conversation on this important topic.”

Taylor is an author and freelance writer focusing on legal and policy issues, and a Brookings Institution senior fellow. In 2012, Richard Sander and Taylor co-authored *Mismatch*. In 2007, Taylor and KC Johnson co-authored the book *Until Proven Innocent: Political Correctness and the Shameful Injustices of the Duke Lacrosse Rape Fraud*.

Taylor was a reporter for The New York Times from 1980 to 1988, for The American Lawyer, Legal Times and their

affiliates from 1989 to 1997, and for National Journal and Newsweek from 1998 through 2010. He also has written for The Atlantic, The New Republic, National Review, Slate, The Daily Beast, Harper’s, Reader’s Digest and other magazines, plus op-eds for The Washington Post, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Los Angeles Times and USA Today.

He is a graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School. Read more about Taylor at stuarttaylorjr.com.

The Stranahan National Issues Forum is made possible by an endowment from the Stranahan Foundation. The forum’s purpose is to address issues of national importance through the lens of the American legal system, and Taylor joins a long list of high-profile speakers who have delivered the Stranahan Lecture at the UT College of Law.

Research lab

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Shimadzu Scientific Instruments (Columbia, Md.) is the American subsidiary of Shimadzu Corp. (Kyoto, Japan). A global leader in analytical technologies, Shimadzu is proud to produce its most innovative technology in America. The LCMS-8050 is built in Shimadzu’s U.S. manufacturing facility, located in Canby, Ore.

“The company has a history of identifying researchers who are doing cutting-edge work at institutions poised to make an impact on the training of students,” Dr. Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, UT associate professor of medicinal and biological chemistry, said. “I have been delighted to work with Shimadzu over the years to make this relationship a reality.”

Update on Affordable Care Act IRS tax filing requirement for employees completing 2016 returns

By Jon Strunk

On Tuesday, Jan. 12, the Internal Revenue Service issued an update extending the information reporting due dates for the Affordable Care Act IRS tax filing requirement. The deadline for distributing Form 1095-C to employees has been moved from Monday, Feb. 1, to Thursday, March 31.

Employers subject to the Affordable Care Act's 2015 information reporting requirements now have extra time to distribute forms to employees and to file them with the IRS.

As announced in UT News in December, Form 1095-C confirms to the Internal Revenue Service that employees and their family members had qualifying health coverage during the year.

Form 1095-C will be distributed to all eligible employees who either had health coverage with UT for at least one month during 2015 or were offered coverage with UT during 2015 but declined. Employees who were not eligible and did not receive health coverage will not receive Form 1095-C.

"Even if your spouse or friends have a different form, the 1095-C Form is the one you will receive from The University of Toledo," said Jovita Thomas-Williams, vice president and chief human resources officer.

"This is not a University of Toledo change; it is a change for all employers in the country who offer health insurance as required by the Affordable Care Act," Thomas-Williams said. "Since this will be new to UT employees, we want to be sure

we are communicating clearly about the change."

Employees should expect to receive Form 1095-C no later than March 31, but do not need to wait for this form to file tax returns. Employees with full health-care coverage for the 2015 tax year will simply check the appropriate box on the IRS document used for their tax filing. After receiving Form 1095-C, these employees will need to verify information contained on Form 1095-C with what was designated on their tax return.

If Form 1095-C is consistent with what was reflected on their tax filings, employees should keep Form 1095-C for their records. If Form 1095-C is not consistent, employees should contact the UT Benefits Department. Employees with questions about their

tax return or how to use Form 1095-C information on their tax return should consult with their tax adviser.

Employees who choose to file their returns prior to receiving Form 1095-C but who did not have full health-care coverage for the 2015 tax year should consider speaking with their tax adviser on how to reflect the information on their tax filing.

UT Human Resources and Talent Development will continue to spread the word about the 1095-C Form and its distribution to employees over the next several weeks.

Employees with questions about Form 1095-C should contact Human Resources and Talent Development at benefits@utoledo.edu.

Black History Month

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This event is free to all UT students, faculty and staff, and community members can reserve tickets for \$20 by contacting the Division of Student Affairs at 419.530.2665.

Listed by date, additional Black History Month events will include:

- **Wednesday, Feb. 10**
"We'll Have No Race Trouble Here: Memphis Politics and the 1940 Reign of Terror" by Dr. Jason Jordan, UT visiting assistant professor of history, 4:30 p.m., location to be determined.
- **Wednesday, Feb. 17**
"We Are STEM: A Celebration of African-American Accomplishments in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine" by Dr. Emanuel Rivers, vice chair and research director of Henry Ford Hospital's Department of Emergency Medicine, 6 p.m., Health Education Building Room 110.
- **Friday, Feb. 19**
African-American Children's Books Read-In, noon, Robinson Elementary, 1075 Horace St.
- **Saturday, Feb. 20**
Student trip to the Motown Museum in Detroit sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Student Success. Open to the first 42 UT students to RSVP to omss@utoledo.edu or 419.530.2261.

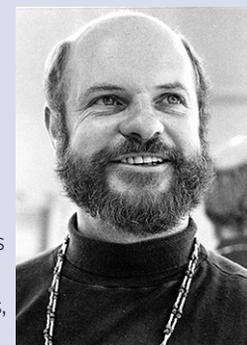
- **Thursday, Feb. 25**
Africana Studies Brown-Bag Lecture, 12:30 p.m., location to be determined. Dr. Rubin Patterson, professor and chair of sociology and anthropology at Howard University, will present "Preparing African Americans for Environmental and Climate Stabilization Leadership." — Screening of the film "Fruitvale Station," 5:30 p.m., location to be determined.
- **Monday, Feb. 29**
The Men of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. (Lambda Epsilon) and the Ladies of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. (Alpha Pi) will present "We Shall Overcome," 7 p.m., Student Union Room 2582.

Throughout the month of February, The University of Toledo Libraries will have displays of books by African-American authors in Carlson Library and Mulford Library. To view the "Activism and Civil Rights: 20th Century Activism" library guide, visit <http://utoledo.edu/activism>.

For more information, contact the Office of Multicultural Student Success at 419.530.2261 or omss@utoledo.edu.

In memoriam

Dr. Bernard A. Coyne, Ann Arbor, Mich., professor emeritus of theatre, died Jan. 23 at age 83. He came to the University in 1964 with the charge of establishing the Theatre and Speech Department. He served as the first chair of the department for 10 years. In that capacity, he helped shape the Theatre Department as well as its eventual home, the Center for Performing Arts, which opened in 1976. Over the years, Coyne directed numerous UT productions, and he was co-founder of the Creative Arts Community in Toledo and founder of the Alternate Theatre Company of Toledo. In 1968, he was elected to a two-year term on the board of directors for the U.S. Institute for Theatre Technology, a New York-based organization dedicated to improving technical standards. He retired from the University in 1985 and received emeritus status. Tributes are suggested in his memory to the UT Foundation.



Coyne

Frances A. (Kwiatkowski) Bishop, Toledo, died Jan. 17 at age 57. She was a custodian at the University from 2007 to 2010.

Grace L. (Goodsite) Russell, Waterville, retired UT employee, died Jan. 9 at age 94.

Dr. Ayyaswamy Thambuswamy, Perrysburg, a former volunteer assistant professor in the Department of Surgery, died Jan. 23 at age 83.

UT Health physician receives career achievement award

By Samantha Watson

Before Dr. Blair Grubb became a doctor, he was an electrician.

Now as a Distinguished University Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics at The University of Toledo, he is the College of Medicine and Life Sciences' most recent recipient of the Career Achievement Award.

"It's nice to be recognized for having chosen to spend my career here," Grubb said. "As you get older, you always wonder how you've spent your life, so it's a nice feeling to say that I did the right thing."

This award arrives on the heels of two other large accolades he received in 2015: He is Dysautonomia International's Physician of the Year as well as the British Heart Rhythm Society and Arrhythmia Alliance's Medical Professional of the Decade.

But to look at Grubb's success, it's important to understand how he got here. A native of Baltimore, he began his career as an electrician before deciding to go into medicine.

Grubb earned a degree in biologic sciences from the University of Maryland in Baltimore County and his doctor of medicine from the Universidad Central del Este in the Dominican Republic. He completed his

residency at the Greater Baltimore Medical Center, where he also was chief resident.

It was because of a mistaken rotation at Johns Hopkins Hospital that he found his passion. He was supposed to complete a rotation in general cardiology, but because there were too many people in the rotation, he was placed in a rotation for a new field at the time — cardiac electrophysiology.

Soon after, he completed a fellowship in cardiology and cardiac electrophysiology at Pennsylvania State University.

In 1988, Grubb and his wife of 38 years, Dr. Barbara Lynn Straus, moved to Toledo along with their daughter, Helen. Shortly afterward, Straus gave birth to their son, Alex.

"By the time I finished my fellowship at Penn State in Hershey, I was older, and Toledo offered me the opportunity to start an electrophysiology program," Grubb said. "The opportunity to start a program from scratch and build whatever I wanted was a unique opportunity."

Today, Grubb leads the Electrophysiology Program as well as UT Medical Center's Syncope and Autonomic Disorders Clinic, where he sees patients from all over the United States and the world. He has helped develop the field of autonomics and

has pioneered many of the diagnostic and treatment modalities that are in common use today.

"People with autonomic disorders frequently come to us in wheelchairs," Grubb said. "The most rewarding thing for me is to take people whose lives have been taken from them and restore them to something resembling a normal life. And not only doing that on a personal basis, but also helping build the structure of a new specialty of medicine, which is really what autonomics has become."

Though Grubb has worked tirelessly for years, he credits most of his success to his wife, who passed away in 2015 at the age of 64.

He said that without her, he wouldn't have succeeded in academia, having come from a vocational school.

"I freely admit that if I've had any success in life it's because of my wife," Grubb



HONORED: Dr. Blair Grubb posed for a photo with his daughter, Helen, after receiving the UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences' Career Achievement Award in January.

said. "I was truly a diamond in the rough, and my wife was the exact opposite. She really provided a structure to my life that I needed."

UT Health doctors push for multiple arterial coronary bypass grafting as a life-saving treatment

By Brandi Barhite

The University of Toledo Medical Center continues to offer cutting-edge treatment for those suffering from coronary artery disease.

Cardiovascular disease, including atherosclerotic coronary artery disease, remains a significant public health challenge and is the No. 1 killer in the developed world.

Coronary artery bypass surgery and stenting are the two principal treatment options for coronary artery disease.

Dr. Thomas A. Schwann, professor of thoracic and cardiovascular surgery, in collaboration with investigators from Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York and the American University of Beirut, published a paper in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology* on the effectiveness of each of these treatment options in a study involving more than 8,000 patients.

The investigators determined that a new form of coronary artery bypass surgery, using multiple arteries, as opposed to the standard coronary artery bypass surgery, in which



Schwann

only one artery and additional vein grafts are used, is the best treatment for patients with the most complex coronary artery disease. Using multiple arteries in coronary surgery resulted in a statistically significant

increase in patient survival compared to stents that release medication.

The paper concluded that multi-arterial coronary artery bypass surgery is the optimal treatment for the most complex patients and "should be enthusiastically adopted by practicing cardiac surgeons and members of a multidisciplinary heart team as they strive to implement best evidence-based therapy."

UT Health cardiac surgeons are on the forefront of multi-arterial coronary artery bypass surgery and have published extensively on the subject with the same consistent message that compared to traditional surgery, multi-arterial surgery saves lives. With the current publication, they have further extended the value of multi-arterial coronary surgery showing improved outcomes compared to coronary stents.

"Traditional single arterial coronary artery bypass surgery is the 'Chevy' of cardiac surgery, while multi-arterial coronary artery bypass surgery is the 'Porsche' of cardiac surgery," Schwann said. "By using multi-arterial coronary artery bypass surgery, we extend patients' lives for up to 15 years post-operatively."

Despite this compelling data, Schwann said only 10 percent of all coronary artery disease patients in the United States receive more than one arterial graft during their operations, while 70 percent to 80 percent

of UTMC patients receive multi-arterial coronary artery bypass surgery.

"Cardiac surgeons and cardiologists work collaboratively at UTMC as part of an integrated heart team to choose the best treatment option for our patients," Schwann said.

"We are working with our professional societies to influence our colleagues nationally to adopt a similar strategy. One artery is good, but using two or more is clearly a superior treatment strategy."

He said future investigations are needed to delve deeper into patients who benefit most from multi-arterial coronary artery bypass graft.

"In conjunction with the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, we are trying to secure grant funding to study this issue on a nationwide basis to fundamentally change the surgical treatment of coronary artery disease," Schwann said.

Business bubbles up



Photos by Daniel Miller

UT student Austin Carr created a cocktail based on tea at Bubble Tea, which was opened by University alumni Prakash Karamchandani and Hochan Jang in the Gateway.



Mila Wolfe blew a paint bubble to help complete an art installation at Bubble Tea during a Jan. 15 grand-opening celebration of the new business located in the Gateway.

Pianist to play Mozart, Beethoven at Feb. 7 recital

By Angela Riddel

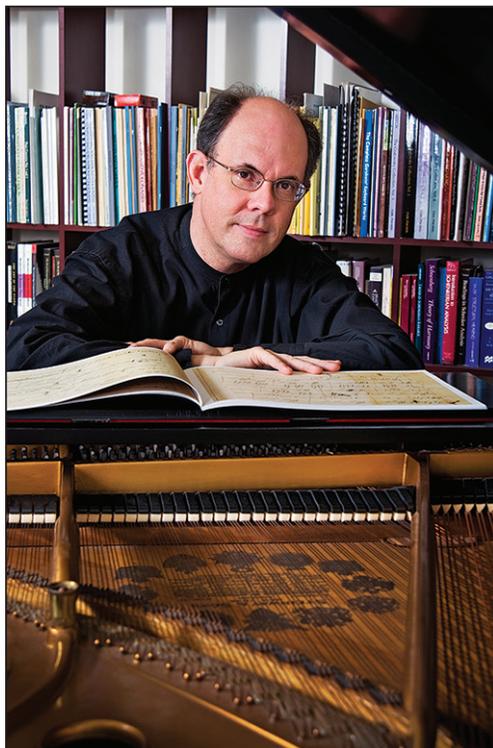
Dr. José López, associate professor and coordinator of keyboard studies for Florida International University in Miami, will give a master class and a recital as part of UT's Dorothy MacKenzie Price Piano Series.

The master class will take place Saturday, Feb. 6, from 10 a.m. to noon, and the recital will be Sunday, Feb. 7, at 3 p.m. Both events are free.

The recital program will include Mozart's Motet from "Thamos, King in Egypt," Beethoven's Waldstein Sonata, "November" by Fanny Hensel Mendelssohn, and a collection of works by Charles Valentin Alkan.

In addition to his work at Florida International University, López is the president of the university's South Florida Chapter of the American Liszt Society

López performs internationally with chamber groups, orchestras and as a solo pianist. As founder of the Dalbergi Trio, he is passionate about



López

restoring unique and unusual pieces from romantic and classical composers.

For more information, contact Dr. Michael Boyd, UT professor of music, at michael.boyd.@utoledo.edu or 419.530.2183.

Dokken added to Rock the Arena lineup

By Sasha Mandros

Dokken has been added to the Rock the Arena festival lineup for the show in Savage Arena Saturday, March 19.

The Grammy-nominated band is best known for songs "Burning Like a Flame," "In My Dreams" and "Alone Again." Dokken will replace L.A. Guns.

"We can't really say Dokken is 'stepping in for L.A. Guns' because with over 10 million albums sold, they are on a different level. Having Dokken on the bill adds value for the fans," said UT Associate Athletic Director Tony Zaworski.

"We appreciate how great Don Dokken has been, even agreeing to play an earlier slot than normal to accommodate other bands' travel schedules, which were already set," Zaworski added.

Bret Michaels, best known as the front man for Poison and for his "Rock of Love" reality show, will headline Rock the Arena.

The all-day music fest also will include Ratt, Warrant, Winger, Lita Ford, Firehouse and Trixter.

Doors will open at 12:30 p.m. with the music beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Tickets start at \$35.50 and can be purchased at UTRockets.com, by calling 419.530.4653, or at the UT Ticket Office in Savage Arena.

Limited UT student tickets are available with ID for \$29 (limit four) at the UT Ticket Office located in Savage Arena.

For further information on Rock the Arena or other upcoming Savage Live events, visit UTRockets.com.



Dokken

Astronomy students conduct research with Discovery Channel Telescope

By Lindsay Mahaney

Several UT students had the opportunity last fall to observe and collect data on celestial objects in a way that most astronomers don't get to experience until well into their professional careers.

In a recent visit to the Lowell Observatory's Discovery Channel Telescope located outside of Flagstaff, Ariz., Dr. Karen Bjorkman, dean of the UT College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Distinguished University Professor of Astronomy, and her class had the opportunity to observe a number of stars, planetary nebulae and galaxies.

The telescope was conceived and built by the historic Lowell Observatory, where Pluto was discovered, using private funds, led by a major contribution from the Discovery Channel. It was completed and dedicated in 2012.

UT, Boston University and the University of Maryland joined in a scientific partnership with the Lowell Observatory to conduct research using the Discovery Channel Telescope, with UT joining in 2012. In subsequent years, the partnership grew to include Northern Arizona University and Yale University.

For three years, Bjorkman has taken her undergraduate Observational Astronomy class for hands-on experience with the 4.3-meter telescope. Last fall, student travel and observation was made possible by support funds from the Helen Luedtke Brooks Endowed Professorship of Astronomy.

While the class gets the opportunity to work with the 1-meter telescope at the Ritter Observatory on campus for most of the semester, the much larger Discovery Channel Telescope allows for significantly more detailed images of a wider range of objects. It is the fifth largest telescope in the continental United States and one of the most technologically advanced, and its location within the Coconino National Forest offers the clear dark skies that are crucial for observing the cosmos.

"I try to integrate the use of the Discovery Channel Telescope with everything else we do in the class," Bjorkman said. "They learn the basic techniques of observing at our own Ritter Observatory, and they learn about the process, we talk about all the techniques, and they prepare their own mini-research project. During the semester, we talk about the different instruments that astronomers use."

Bjorkman explained the camera on the Discovery Channel Telescope, called the Large Monolithic Imager, makes it easy to take data even on very faint and distant objects. Each student is required to select an object in the sky to observe during the visit, and that object becomes the focus of his or her final project.

"For my project, I chose a reflection nebula, NGC 7023," said Jessica Moore, a senior astronomy student. "This experience helped me with the project by letting me gather my own data. I

was able to see everything that goes into an actual science image from start to finish. It also gave the data some passion because we are the ones collecting it."

Graduate students also are able to request time at the telescope, and one joined Bjorkman's class. Cody Gerhartz, a fifth-year graduate student working with Bjorkman toward a doctorate in physics with a concentration in astrophysics, is monitoring a set of hot stars with gaseous disks that are found in star clusters. Through long-term observations, he's working to determine more information about the processes of formation and evolution of the disks.

"I was among the first group of students from UT to get to experience the Discovery Channel Telescope and have since been out there around seven times," he said. "Trips to the telescope are always a great break to the norm, getting out of the office and into some truly beautiful locales, not to mention the chance to look at a true dark sky. An opportunity like this is not something everyone has, making the



FOCUSED ON LEARNING: UT students Jessica Moore, left, Anthony Howarth, center, and Megan Banks posed for a photo last fall with Lowell Observatory's Discovery Channel Telescope in Arizona.

Astronomy Department at UT a unique experience."

Additionally, Bjorkman is working on some of her own research with Dr. Noel Richardson, a postdoctoral research associate and UT alumnus. Bjorkman's interests are focused on stars with disks of gas around them. Some of the stars lose the disks and later grow new ones, she explained, but no one knows why. She has been observing approximately 10 star clusters with these features and monitoring the stars in the clusters to find evidence of the changes.

"We want to understand the process," Bjorkman said. "What goes on to cause a star to lose a disk or grow a new one?"

Richardson had the opportunity to work on some of his own research as well — specifically a supernova that was discovered about six months ago: "This particular star was a massive star that underwent a large ejection of matter earlier in the year. Until recently, astronomers did not know that such ejections could occur near the end of a massive star's lifetime."

Previously, Richardson observed the star as it exploded from an observatory in Quebec, but he was unable to continue observing it as it went behind the sun. Through his research at the Discovery Channel Telescope, he's been able to confirm that it is acting like a supernova now, and the observations collected will help determine if the explosion created any dust.

Bjorkman said that while the opportunity to use a new telescope is exciting, the partnership aspect of the agreement also is extremely beneficial to the University.

"Through this partnership, we've built relationships and collaborations with our colleagues and astronomers and their students at all these other institutions, which is really good," she said. "It builds good relationships and collaborative opportunities for the University nationally and internationally."

American Red Cross invokes blood donations for annual drive

By Lindsay Mahaney

Will you meet the challenge? The provocation can be found on numerous posters calling for people to donate blood this month at the American Red Cross blood drives at The University of Toledo.

Donors can give on the following dates:

- **Monday, Feb. 1** — Student Union Ingman Room, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, Feb. 2** — Student Union Ingman Room, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday, Feb. 3** — Brady Engineering Innovation Center, Nitschke Technology Commercialization Complex Room 1000, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **Thursday, Feb. 4** — UTMC Morse Center, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

“We cannot manufacture blood, and someone throughout the U.S. receives a blood product every two seconds,” said Jennifer Hughes, donor recruitment account manager of the American Red Cross Western Lake Erie Region. “Recipients can range from those that suffer from a blood disorder or disease, trauma patients, burn victims, and those impacted by cancer. Each blood donation has an impact on up to three lives, so it is a great way to give back to the community.”

Due to the severe weather across the nation in recent weeks, the American Red Cross has an emergency need for blood. More than 300 drives across 20 states were canceled, resulting in more than 9,500



American Red Cross

uncollected donations, taking away from the already low winter supply.

“You never know when you or a loved one will need blood products,” said Diane Smith, donor recruitment account manager of the American Red Cross Western Lake Erie Region. “If more healthy people donated, we would never have to worry about whether our hospitals have enough inventory.”

The goal is to collect more than 160 pints from Main Campus and 34 pints from Health Science Campus.

While an appointment is not necessary, it is encouraged. To schedule an appointment, donors should visit redcross.org and enter a sponsor code — UTMAIN for Main Campus or UTMED for Health Science Campus. Donors also can call 1.800.RED.CROSS. A valid photo ID is required to give blood.

A limited number of free T-shirts will be available for donors on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, contact Hughes at 419.764.4168 or jennifer.hughes@redcross.com or Smith at 419.205.8178 or diane.smith2@redcross.org.

All about sole



Photo by Crystal Hand

Anesthetist Karen Holler checked out some new footwear during the Satellites Auxiliary's recent 55-hour shoe sale. Held in conjunction with Outside the Box Shoes, the event raised funds for the auxiliary's nursing scholarship.

UTNEWS

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Celebrating at home



Photos by Daniel Miller

Surrounded by their teammates, football players Michael Roberts, left, and Kareem Hunt held up the 2015 Marmot Boca Raton Bowl trophy during halftime of a recent basketball game, when UT President Sharon L. Gaber presented Jason Candle with a commemorative ball in honor of his first victory as head coach. It was a big win: The Rockets defeated the No. 24 Temple Owls, 32-17, Dec. 22 in Florida Atlantic University Stadium. UT finished the season 10-2.

UT creates donation account in support of runner recovering from burns

By Paul Helgren

The University of Toledo has set up an account where Rocket fans and supporters can donate funds to the family of UT junior track and cross country athlete Janelle Noe in support of her recovery from burns suffered in an off-campus incident Jan. 15.

To donate by mail, donors can write checks to The University of Toledo, note "Janelle Noe Recovery Fund" on the memo line, and send to:

University of Toledo Athletics
Attn: Tony Zaworski
MS#302
2801 W. Bancroft St.
Toledo, OH 43606

To donate by major credit card, call Tony Zaworski, associate athletic director for finance, at 419.530.2412.

There also will be a location at upcoming home basketball games where



fans can drop off checks. One hundred percent of the donations will go to the family to help with any medical expenses not covered by health insurance and other bills that have occurred due to Noe's injury.

Also, special T-shirts in support of Noe are on sale at Rocky's Locker, with locations in both the Sullivan Athletic Complex at Savage Arena and at Franklin Park Mall. T-shirts are priced at \$20, with 100 percent of the profit from sales going to the Noe family.

Rocket football to hold signing day event Feb. 3

By Paul Helgren

The University of Toledo football coaching staff will host a special presentation of its 2016 recruiting class Wednesday, Feb. 3, at 5:30 p.m. in Savage Arena.

Doors will open at 5 p.m. The event is free for all Rocket fans.

Head Coach Jason Candle and his assistant coaching staff will review their 2016 recruiting class and show video highlights of each signee at the event.

Feb. 3 is the first day that high school seniors are allowed to sign national letters of intent.

Following the presentation, Rocket fans will have a chance to meet the coaches at a reception and sign their own "letter of intent" with the football team. Fans who sign a letter committing to purchase season tickets for the 2016 season can get their "signing day" photo taken with Candle. Season ticket information will be available. Current season ticket holders may renew their season tickets at the event.

"While we celebrate the signing of our 2016 football recruiting class, we thought it would be appropriate to celebrate the commitment our fans have to the Toledo football program," said Senior Associate



Athletic Director Dave Nottke. "Fans who get a photo of themselves signing their 'letter of intent' with Coach Candle will have a great memento for their office or home."

Free soft drinks and snacks will be available at the event. There also will be a cash bar, and the concessions stands will be open.

In addition, free Marmot Boca Raton Bowl Championship posters will be distributed at the event.

The Rockets will open the 2016 season at Arkansas State Saturday, Sept. 3. The home opener is Saturday, Sept. 10, vs. Maine.

For season ticket information, call 419.530.GOLD (4653).