

## Match Day reveals sharp increase in medical students staying in Toledo for residency

By Christine Billau

Through waves of happy tears and cheers at Stranahan Theater's Great Hall on Match Day, members of the next generation of doctors reached a thrilling milestone in their medical careers by ripping open envelopes that revealed not only where they will spend the next few years of their training, but also a growing commitment to the northwest Ohio region.

Fifteen percent of the 155 medical students graduating from The University of Toledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences this year will stay in Toledo to continue their training at UT. That is more than double the number in 2016.

Twenty-three fourth-year students matched here for their hospital residencies, compared to a total of nine last year and eight in 2015.

"We are very excited that many students are choosing to stay in Toledo to continue their training," Dr. Christopher Cooper, dean of the UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences and executive vice president for clinical affairs, said. "There are many contributing factors, and one is the Academic Affiliation with ProMedica. This is helping our region retain talent because approximately 70 percent of residents establish their practice in the community where they complete their terminal training."

Jennifer Amsdell matched at UT for neurology.

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Photo by Mike Henningsen

**MATCHING AT UT:** Amala Ambati, left, Megan Mooney and Eric Lindsley all matched at The University of Toledo. Ambati will study internal medicine, Mooney will focus on orthopaedics, and Lindsley will work in physical medicine and rehabilitation.

## Rockin' robins

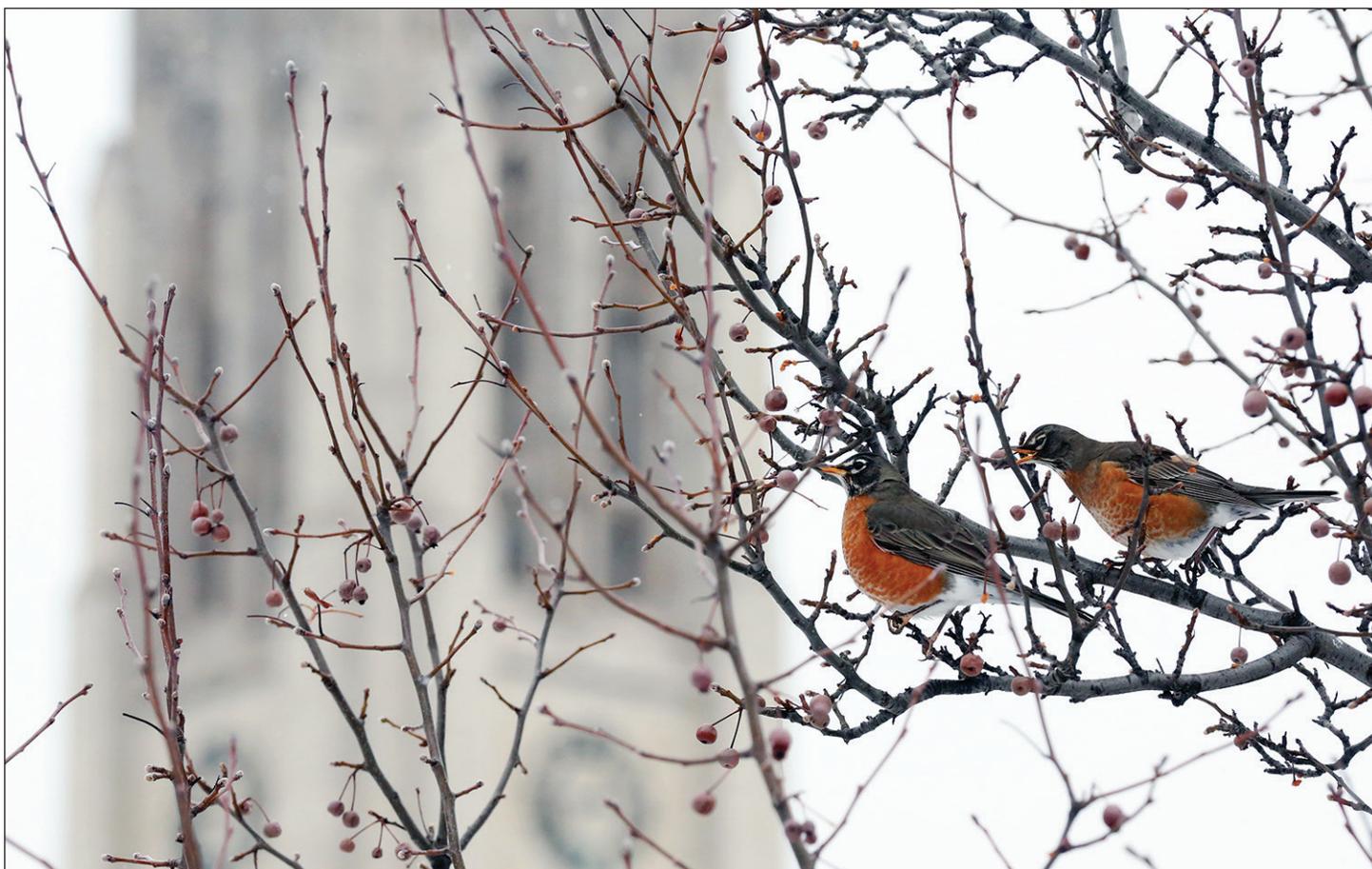


Photo by Daniel Miller

University Photographer Daniel Miller spotted these robins in a tree in the bus circle west of the Thompson Student Union. The birds were among more than two dozen snacking on the flowering crabapple last month.

## UT College of Law jumps 12 spots in U.S. News graduate school rankings

By Christine Billau

The University of Toledo College of Law improved its national ranking by 12 spots in one year.

U.S. News & World Report ranked UT's law school No. 132 out of 196 schools as part of its 2018 Best Graduate Schools edition. That is up from No. 144 last year.

Indicators that helped this increase include higher selectivity of incoming

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# UT, Owens Community College create Rocket Express Dual Admission Program

By Christine Billau

The presidents of The University of Toledo and Owens Community College signed a dual-admission partnership called Rocket Express March 16 in Libbey Hall on Main Campus.

Rocket Express is designed to provide a seamless pathway to a bachelor's degree from UT starting at Owens Community College.

"The new Rocket Express Dual Admission Program is a wonderful opportunity for students to save time and money," UT President Sharon L. Gaber said. "We are proud to strengthen our relationship with Owens Community College to help students succeed and achieve the dream of earning a degree. This program will ensure a smooth, more efficient transition from Owens to UT and further contribute to helping the region."

Students apply once for dual admission, work to complete their program of study at Owens, and then transition to UT with help along the way from both Owens and UT student and academic services.

New and continuing Owens students who meet qualifications can apply to take advantage of the program that guarantees admission to UT and charts a course to a four-year degree. With the help of a transfer specialist, this option allows students to save time by only taking classes that count toward their specific degree.

"The seamless process of the Rocket Express program effectively removes any potential barriers that could hinder students from transferring from Owens to UT," said Owens President Mike Bower. "The goal of both institutions is student success by offering programs that allow them to earn a degree and enter the workforce as smoothly as possible."

Students can apply to enroll for the summer and fall semesters.

Currently, approximately 350 students a year transfer to UT after starting at Owens.

For more information, go to [utoledo.edu/admission/rocket-express](http://utoledo.edu/admission/rocket-express).

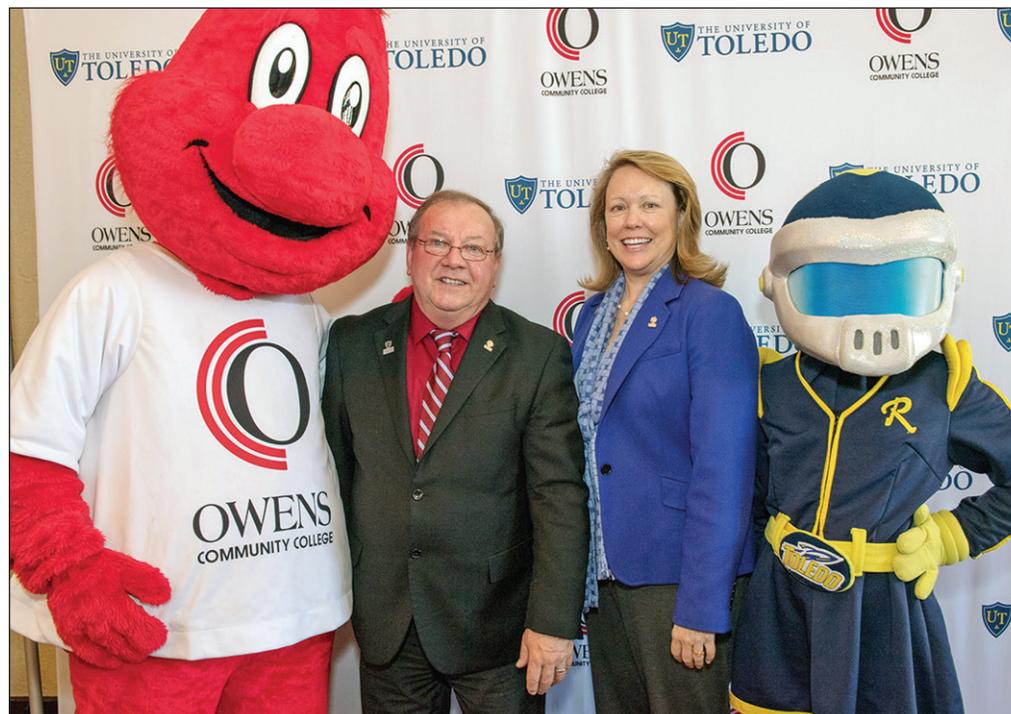


Photo by Mike Henningsen

**PARTNERS:** Owens Community College President Mike Bower and UT President Sharon L. Gaber posed for photos after signing a dual-admission partnership called Rocket Express last week in Libbey Hall. They were joined by Big E and Rocks.

## International Joint Commission invites public to meeting at UT Lake Erie Center March 23

By Christine Billau

The International Joint Commission, an independent binational organization that prevents and resolves issues facing boundary waters between the U.S. and Canada, is holding a public meeting at The University of Toledo Lake Erie Center this week to gather input about progress to restore and protect the Great Lakes.

The free, public event will take place Thursday, March 23, at 6 p.m. at the UT Lake Erie Center, 6200 Bayshore Road in Oregon.

It is one of six public meetings being held in communities around the Great Lakes throughout March as the commission finalizes its assessment of progress made by the U.S. and Canada to reach goals of the U.S.-Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

Dr. Christine Mayer, UT professor and aquatic ecologist, serves as a member of the International Joint Commission Great Lakes Science Advisory Board, which studies Great Lakes issues and provides its findings to help the International Joint Commission make

recommendations to the governments of the two countries.

"Residents of the Great Lakes region deserve clean water, healthy beaches and fish that are safe to eat," Mayer said. "I encourage residents of northwest Ohio to attend the International Joint Commission meeting and provide their feedback on progress toward restoration of the Great Lakes. Now is a crucial time for the public to voice their support for sustained restoration of the Great Lakes."

With more than \$12.5 million of active grants underway to address water quality concerns, UT faculty and researchers are taking a multidisciplinary approach to protecting the nation's Great Lakes from invasive species and providing clean drinking water for generations to come.

"I am delighted that the public meeting for the International Joint Commission will be held at The University of Toledo Lake Erie Center," said Dr. Tim Fisher, geology professor, chair of the UT Department of Environmental Sciences and interim director

of the Lake Erie Center. "The citizens of Oregon and Toledo will not have to travel far to learn about ongoing research on harmful algae blooms, restoration and protection plans for Lake Erie, and the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. But most importantly, the public will have an opportunity to express their suggestions, views and concerns to this binational agency to influence future activity."

According to the Ohio Environmental Council, Lake Erie supplies drinking water to roughly three million Ohioans, and visitors spend more than \$10 billion a year in communities along Lake Erie for tourism, travel and fishing.

"This meeting in Toledo — and all six of the International Joint Commission's public meetings — is integral to the the commission's assessment process," said Lana Pollack, chair of the U.S. section of the International Joint Commission. "We want to hear what people think about the government's progress report and the International Joint Commission's draft



assessment of progress, and hear their views on how governments should address the Great Lakes water quality issues that residents care about the most."

The International Joint Commission's draft report, the Canadian and U.S. government report, as well as details on the upcoming public meetings around the Great Lakes, can be found at <http://participateijc.org>.

Event registration is online at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/public-meeting-on-the-great-lakes-your-voice-toledo-tickets-31721193945> and will be available at the door as well.

## Former Ohio Supreme Court Justice donates papers to UT

Former Ohio Supreme Court Justice and Toledo native Judith Ann Lanzinger recently donated her personal papers to the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections at The University of Toledo.

Lanzinger, who is the only person ever elected to all four levels of Ohio's judiciary, retired from the state's highest court in 2016.

During her long career, she also served on the 6th District Court of Appeals, the Lucas County Court of Common Pleas and the Toledo Municipal Court.

The Canaday Center, the special collections department of the UT Libraries, has long collected manuscript materials related to the history of women in northwest Ohio. Noteworthy collections include the papers of educators, politicians and activists such as Linda Furney, Betty Mauk, Betty Morais, Mary Boyle Burns, Ella P. Stewart and Olive Colton. The center recently has begun collaborating with the College of Law to preserve the history of Toledo's women lawyers and judges.

"We are delighted to help ensure this important history is accessible to future scholars and citizens," said D. Benjamin Barros, dean of the College of Law.

As part of this collaboration with the College of Law, the center also recently acquired a collection of scrapbooks documenting the career of Geraldine

Macelwane, the first woman elected judge of the Toledo Municipal Court (appointed in 1952) and the first woman judge of the Lucas County Common Pleas Court (appointed in 1956). She died in 1974.

"Justice Lanzinger is one of our most distinguished alumni, having notably served at all levels of the Ohio judiciary. We are honored that the University is able to house her papers, which we hope will encourage and inspire others to civic engagement," Barros said.

The Lanzinger collection contains photographs, awards and research files documenting her judicial career. Of particular note are the former justice's case notes that provide insight into her thoughts and opinions as they developed during trials.

"This collection will provide a rich source of information on many aspects of Justice Lanzinger's career," said Barbara Floyd, director of the Canaday Center and interim director of University Libraries. "We hope to continue to collect and preserve the papers of other women lawyers and judges from this area to add to these collections."

Lanzinger said, "I am honored that the Ward M. Canaday Center has accepted these documents that represent my 31 years of service at all levels of Ohio's judiciary. I hope they may be of help in future academic



Photo by Rachel Nearhoof

**LEGAL PERSPECTIVE:** Former Ohio Supreme Court Justice and UT law alumna Judith Ann Lanzinger, second from left, recently donated her personal papers to the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections. She posed for a photo with, from left, Lauren White, manuscripts librarian and lecturer; D. Benjamin Barros, dean of the College of Law; and Barbara Floyd, director of the Canaday Center and interim director of University Libraries, who propped up a 2007 portrait of justices from the Supreme Court of Ohio.

projects at The University of Toledo, my alma mater."

For more information on the collection, contact Floyd at 419.530.2170.

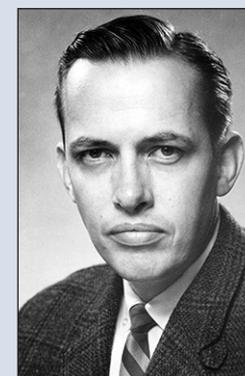
## Scales of justice



Photo by Mike Henningsen

Retired Ohio Supreme Court Justice and UT alumna Judith Ann Lanzinger, center, spoke during a panel discussion of the film, "Balancing the Scales," last week in the Law Center McQuade Law Auditorium. She is flanked by Sharon Rowen, producer of the documentary that examines women in the legal profession, left, and Judge Denise Page Hood of the Eastern District of Michigan. Sponsored by the Toledo Women's Bar Association and the Toledo Women Lawyers History Project, the screening and discussion were part of the University's events scheduled for Women's History Month.

## In memoriam



Durnford

**Thomas H. Durnford**, Sylvania, who was director of publications and graphics from 1965 until his retirement in 1989, died March 12 at age 90. He also taught a graphics class for the Communication Department from 1994 to 2002. A UT alumnus, Durnford received a bachelor's degree in art in 1968. He designed the brown-and-cream UT signs that were placed in front of

University Hall and at the corner of Parkside Drive and Nebraska Avenue at the Scott Park Campus in 1984. Durnford also provided a sketch for the ceremonial mace that was created in honor of the University's 100th anniversary in 1972.

**Ruth S. Flaskamp**, Toledo, an instructor who taught education classes from 1997 to 2002, died Feb. 24 at age 89.

**Johnnie L. Hunt**, Toledo, a custodian at UT for 17 years until her retirement in 1999, died March 8 at age 84.

# Film, music students study abroad in China on spring break

By Dr. Pamela Stover

The spring break study abroad experience in China was truly transformational for everyone. Film Professor Holly Hey and myself took 13 music, music education and film students to Beijing and Toledo's Sister City, Qinhuangdao, for a Confucius Institute/Han Ban-sponsored study abroad experience focusing on music teaching and learning in China.

The students who participated in the study abroad to China were music education majors Nate Krebs, Dondré Cook and Ashley Roark; music performance majors Meridian Prall, Will Floss and Mercy Olson; film students Evan Sennett, Elizabeth Markert, Eva Noria, John Leo, Nick Gaietto, Nikhil Burse and Christian Moran.

The students were immersed in Chinese cultural arts, Chinese traditional music, and music education in Chinese early childhood, high school and university classes. The seven film majors served as a film crew to make documentaries of the study abroad experience and of Chinese culture and historic sites. Five of the music students performed for the music classes at Yan Shan University (our sister university in Qinhuangdao) and at Qinhuangdao High School #1. Everyone had a chance to play and learn about traditional Chinese instruments, such as the erhu, pipa, guzheng and yangqin.

Historic sites visited in Qinhuangdao included the Old Dragon Head, which is the part of the Great Wall that goes into the sea; the Temple of the Sea; Beidaihe, which is a seaside park that was a favorite of Chairman Mao; the Central Shopping district; and the Qinhuangdao Glass Museum.

We then took a train from Qinhuangdao to Beijing. In Beijing, we visited Han Ban and its cultural museum; the Summer Palace; the Forbidden City; the Laoshe Teahouse; the Olympic Park; the Shichahai, which is an old village; the Bell and Drum Towers; participated in a tea-tasting ceremony; had lunch at a family home in the Hutong (an old-style Chinese neighborhood); took a rickshaw ride; visited the Silk and Pearl Markets; and saw a traditional shadow puppet show and a variety show that included Peking Opera, acrobats, Kung Fu, traditional Chinese music and dancing. We also painted Peking opera masks when we visited the Hutong.

We were fed a large variety of Chinese cuisine ranging from Peking duck to Mongolian hot pot; from a traditional family meal at the Hutong, and a "farmers" restaurant, to an elegant seaside seafood buffet. By the end of our time in China, all

were quite good at using chopsticks. This was a group of adventurous eaters. Often someone would ask, "What is that?" and someone would answer, "I don't know, let's try it!"

I was the only one who had previously been to China. This was my third exchange to China. Three years ago, I was part of a UT educator-to-educator summer exchange sponsored by Han Ban and the Confucius Institute. Two years ago, I accompanied the Greater Toledo Youth Orchestra when they performed in a concert at Yan Shan University celebrating 30 years of the Sister City agreement with Qinhuangdao. This time, I met with the dean of the College of Arts at Yan Shan University. We talked about establishing short-term and long-term exchanges with our students and faculty. This study abroad was our first student exchange. It is our hope to bring more Chinese students and faculty to The University of Toledo in the future.

This was a trip of many firsts. Not only was this the first student exchange with Yan Shan University, but the 14-hour flight was the first time on an airplane for one of the participants. In addition to brand new Chinese visas, there were many students with brand new passports. It was the first performance in Asia for the music students. Voice students Krebs, Roark, Floss and Prall performed at Yan Shan University and at Qinhuangdao High School #1 accompanied by Olson, who also performed a piano solo. The film students continually shot footage and took photographs that will be crafted into a series of documentaries and short films. These projects will be completed in Professor Hey's classes during the next few years.

Roark said, "The study abroad was really cool because I could experience Chinese culture and music education in real time. I really enjoyed connecting with the high school students and creating friendships that will last a long time."

She added she really enjoyed the Temple of Heaven park because the Chinese people were actively making music and dancing in the historic park.

Olson said that her study abroad experience has made her more empathetic



Rocky is front and center at the Bird's Nest, the Beijing National Stadium. Posing for a photo were, front row, from left, Ashley Roark, Eva Noria, Rocky, Mercy Olson and John Leo; and standing, from left, Nikhil Burse, Nate Krebs, Pamela Stover, Nick Gaietto, Holly Hey, Christian Moran, Meridian Prall, Will Floss, Dondré Cook, Evan Sennett and Elizabeth Markert.



Meridian Prall learned about the pipa at Qinhuangdao High School #1.



Evan Sennett filmed Elizabeth Markert at the Old Dragon Head portion of the Great Wall.

with the difficulties that foreign students and travelers have in the United States. She also said that although she was halfway around the world, the scenery was similar to Ohio and the western United States. Even though we had a language barrier, we could connect non-verbally with the people there.

All of the in-China costs were paid by Yan Shan University and Han Ban. Part of the funding for the airfare was provided by the UT School of Visual and Performing Arts, and the departments of Music, and Theatre and Film.

We also want to thank the leadership of the Confucius Institute at The University

of Toledo for its role as liaison and offering encouragement and support for this project.

Students are encouraged to take advantage of all kinds of opportunities available at The University of Toledo, such as study abroad, other cultural travel and professional conferences.

*Stover is an assistant professor of music education.*

# A different kind of spring break

By Ashley Diel

When it comes to spring break, most people think of going to Miami for the beaches and to party, or just sitting at home and catching up on sleep. However, I wanted something more meaningful than that.

Last semester, I studied abroad in Ghana, a small country in West Africa. While there, I fell in love with traveling. In the four short months that I was there, I made traveling a priority and was able to visit Togo, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Palestine and England.

Once I got back to the States, I felt like I could not acclimate myself back to the way of life. I could not figure out why that was for the longest time, but then it hit me: I was angry at the American way of life. Our culture focuses on the concept of everyone for themselves and always being busy to the point that we are always stressed out.

In all of the countries that I had visited, things were different. Everything was more laid-back. On top of that, I had fallen in love with learning about and seeing different cultures. They were all unique in their own way.

One day I was going through my UT email, and I saw something that caught my eye. The Jesup Scott Honors College was offering alternative spring break service-learning trips to several Central America countries. I saw that one of the options was to Nicaragua to work with dump dwellers, which are people who make their living in the garbage dumps by picking through the trash and finding things to sell.

While I had been in Ghana, I had worked in a school in a very poor area teaching math and English, and it had been

an extremely rewarding experience, so I figured that volunteering in Nicaragua would be similar. I could have never anticipated just how rewarding it would be.

There were a total of nine honors students going on the trip, and I knew none of them going in. We met at the Detroit airport and off we went.

For our first day in Nicaragua, we traveled around the capital Managua as well as Granada. This was meant to show us the country as well as let us learn a little about its culture. We took a boat ride around Lake Nicaragua and saw many of the beautiful and historic sites that Nicaragua has to offer.

However, we were not there to vacation. We were there to work.

For the rest of the week, we spent our time in Ciudad Sandino at Nueva Vida School, where we built a library. I have never been much of a builder or really any kind of handyman. Throughout the week, we painted the walls and ceiling, put in blinds, built a desk, stained bookshelves, and completed numerous other tasks. I had never before done things like that, but now I like to think that I could drop out of school and take it up as a profession with how hard we all worked.

While we were there, the students of the school would always come up to us, interested in what we were doing. We tried talking with them, but it was difficult since none of us really knew Spanish, and they barely knew English. However, that did not stop either of us. We worked together to get our messages across the language barrier.

Even though we could not really talk to them, we still found ways to communicate. While we were working, some of the kids

would come into the room to see what we were doing. Some of us took that as an opportunity to dance with the kids since that was a language we all could speak. I have to say that those kids danced better than we did.

As the week came to a close, I looked around the library and realized just how much we had accomplished in such a short amount of time. I felt like I was truly making a difference in the lives of those students for the better.

I believe that I can speak for everyone who went on that trip and say that we all not only felt a sense of pride in what we

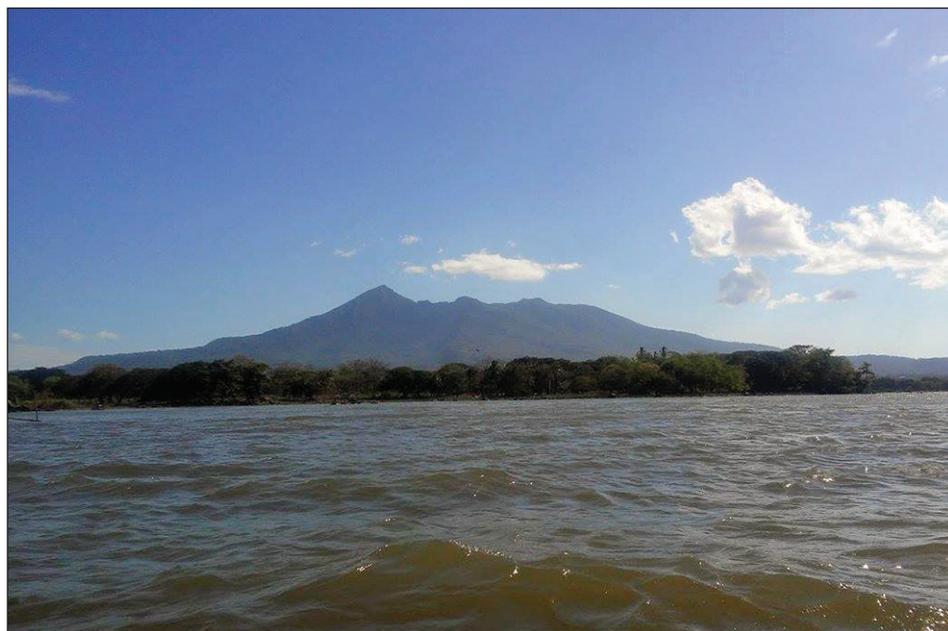
had been able to accomplish, but we had all also fallen in love with the country. A week just was not enough time. We had become friends with those that we had been working with as well as with each other.

Saying goodbye to Nicaragua was hard. However, it is not the end of my traveling or volunteering abroad. I do not want to stay complacent with my life in the States, but rather want to go everywhere that I can and try to make a difference.

*Diel is a junior majoring in communication and a student in the Jesup Scott Honors College.*



Students from the Jesup Scott Honors College posed for a photo at Hotel Las Cabañitas in Managua. They are, back row from left, Clare Byrne, Collin Tassie, Carlee Vaughn and Seth Hasler; and front row from left, Bichtram Nguyen, Tiana Sarsour, Amanda Fahoury, Ashley Diel and Michaela Roberts.



Ashley Diel took a photo of Mombacho Volcano while on Lake Nicaragua.



Students at the Nueva Vida School in Ciudad Sandino were happy to have their photo taken.

## Students to participate in day of service around Toledo March 25

By Ashley Diel

More than 1,000 students along with faculty and staff from The University of Toledo will be giving back to the community by participating in the Big Event Saturday, March 25, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Volunteers will work around the University's campus as well as at downtown sites, where they will pick up garbage, rake leaves, paint, and pull weeds.

The annual Big Event is the largest, one-day, student-run service project at the University when students come together to say "thank you" to the residents of Toledo, Bancroft Hills and Secor Gardens for their continual support throughout the years.

At last year's event, more than 1,400 students provided approximately 6,300 hours of service to the community in just one day.

"For some of our community participants, the Big Event represents a chance to get work done that might be

beyond the resident's abilities," said Dr. Page Armstrong, associate lecturer in the Jesup Scott Honors College and faculty adviser for the event. "It has become an annual part of their lives and they can count on UT students to be there once a year to help.

"The Big Event is a great way to let the Toledo community interact with our students and to see what a wonderful resource our students and UT are to the community."

Participants will meet at the Student Recreation Center before going out into the community for their volunteer projects.

The Big Event is a national organization that was started at Texas A&M in 1982. The University of Toledo's chapter is entirely student-run and funded by donations from the community.

To register, go to [orgsync.com/104109/forms/242712](http://orgsync.com/104109/forms/242712).

## U.S. News

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students, higher employment rate at graduation, and higher employment rate 10 months after graduation.

"I am glad to see that the rankings reflect some of the fundamental improvements that we have made in the past year," said D. Benjamin Barros, dean of the College of Law. "We significantly increased the entering credentials of our first-year class, and our job placement numbers also moved up. We will continue to work on improving our fundamentals, especially in areas of crucial student outcomes like job placement."

The UT Judith Herb College of Education also ranked No. 172 out of 256. That is up 18 spots compared to last year's ranking of No. 190. Contributing factors are higher research expenditure and higher selectivity.

"The Judith Herb College of Education continues to strive to improve the quality

of all of our programs," said Dr. Virginia Keil, interim dean of the college. "This recognition validates the quality of our faculty and the excellence of our students. Our increase in rank mirrors our upturn in graduate-level enrollment, both of which reflects the college's rising reputation."

The rankings are based on fall 2016 data.

Since her arrival in July 2015, UT President Sharon L. Gaber has made boosting the University's national reputation one of her main goals.

"I am proud that the U.S. News rankings reflect the progress being made in the colleges of Law and Education," Gaber said. "These are important measures that contribute to student success, and a double-digit climb in one year is a significant accomplishment."

## Match Day

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"The wait was nerve-wracking, but I am so happy I matched with my top choice," Amsdell said. "I wanted to stay because of the faculty in neurology. I've been able to spend a lot of time with them in rotations and during research projects. They are amazing mentors and teachers."

Ryan Johnston matched at UT for emergency medicine.

"My wife immediately started crying, and I couldn't stop smiling because this was our No. 1 choice," Johnston said. "We're both from northwest Ohio and want to stay home. Plus, the Academic Affiliation with ProMedica benefits the specialty of emergency medicine because of high patient volumes, different acuities, and presentations of illnesses at Toledo Hospital.

I think that is going to lead to extensive learning. I'm excited to see what the future holds for the Academic Affiliation."

The students, who are graduating in May, matched in 21 specialties, with 50, or 32 percent, in primary care fields. The top specialties for this graduating class were internal medicine, pediatrics, emergency medicine and anesthesiology.

Ohio was the most popular state with 65 students matching here, compared to 52 last year. The second most popular state was Michigan with 14, followed by Illinois with 12. Overall, students matched with programs in 30 states.



Photos by Mike Henningsen



**CELEBRATING:** Carol Angel gave a thumb's up to matching in general surgery at The University of Toledo.



**PUMPED:** Thomas Klis matched in dermatology at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

**ALL SMILES:** Fourth-year students held up Match Day cards Friday in the packed Stranahan Theater's Great Hall.

## Eberly Center for Women slates lunches to spotlight research

By Anna Brogan-Knight

The Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women's Lunch With a Purpose brings together students, faculty and staff to support UT's women researchers.

All are welcome to bring lunches and hungry minds to find out what researchers are working on and to contribute to interdisciplinary discussions. The lunches are held in Eberly Center, Tucker Hall Room 0152, from 12:10 to 1 p.m. throughout the semester.

The next Lunch With a Purpose will take place Wednesday, March 22, and focus on "Being Mary Willing Byrd: Race, Property and Widowhood in Revolutionary Virginia." Dr. Ami Pflugrad-Jackisch, associate professor of history, will discuss her research on Byrd, who became a widow in wartime and interacted with the state, the occupying military and the market in ways that were considered out of the ordinary for women of the time.

On Wednesday April 5, Dr. Karie Peralta, assistant professor of sociology, and Dr. Shahna Arps, lecturer of anthropology, will present their research, "Becoming Globally Competent Through a Community-Based Approach." This research was not only used to develop an international field school to be used in the Dominican Republic this summer, but also demonstrates how community-based principles may guide the development of global competencies for professors and students.

"By encouraging women researchers to participate in Lunch With a Purpose, we are promoting interdisciplinary discussion, showing support, and offering critical feedback that strengthens the work being produced at The University of Toledo," said Dr. Shanda Gore, associate vice president of the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women and the Minority Business Development Center.

## Immigration seminar set for March 23

By Ashley Diel

Recent changes to U.S. immigration laws will be the topic at an informational immigration seminar sponsored by the Paralegal Studies Program.

The event will take place Thursday, March 23, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Health and Human Services Building Room 1711.

The seminar will focus on general immigration rules and international student visa status; immigration updates under the Trump administration; ramifications to immigration status for those charged with a crime; and the rights and responsibilities of international students after graduation.

The guest speaker for the event will be Tracy Schauff, who has more than 20 years of experience in immigration law, from the Fakhoury Law Group.

"Today, the number of foreign-born residents living in the United States on a long-term basis is the highest it has ever been," said John J. Schlageter, program director and senior lecturer of the Paralegal Studies Program. "Immigration law and

policy has a dramatic impact on the foreign born, their family members, and the U.S. workforce."

Schlageter said that since immigration law is never static and societal goals and public priorities are always changing, the information that will be presented in the seminar is even more valuable.

"This information is of value to everyone, regardless of their nationality. Faculty and staff need to be informed so that assistance can be given to any student who may inquire," Schlageter said. "Students should be informed so that trips to country of origin can be better planned. Doing so will cause less confusion upon re-entry to the United States and will continue the University's goal of creating a memorable educational experience."

Lunch will be provided for the first 50 people at the free event, which is open to faculty, staff and students.

## So many slices



The Department of Mathematics and Statistics was a popular place March 14 as students, faculty and staff gathered to celebrate Pi Day with, of course, pizza pie and pie. Observed March 14 to recognize the first three digits of the pi constant, Pi Day is marked by the eating of pie and discussing the significance of pi in mathematics. More than 13 trillion digits of pi have been calculated so far, though only 39 digits are needed to perform most cosmological calculations.



Photos by Rachel Nearhoof

# UTNEWS

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## 'The Trials of Spring' screening and discussion to focus on political and social justice

By Madison Vasko

In a time of cultural and political upheaval in her home country, Henda Nafea will visit campus to share her story with the UT community.

"The Trials of Spring" tells the story of 21-year-old Nafea's indomitable spirit, and her journey after being arrested for speaking out against her country's military rule.

"The film shows, not only the actions taken, but the suffering that existed before and after," said Dr. Asma Abdel Halim, associate professor and interim chair of the Department of Women's and Gender Studies. "Autobiographical and biographical stories are detailed and inspiring. I think the film tells us about the fear that was instilled in the people through decades of oppression and the unbelievable courage that overcame that immense fear."

Nafea traveled from her village to Cairo, where she advocated with thousands of Egyptians for the end of military rule. She was arrested, beaten and tortured by security forces. After her release, Nafea was shunned by her family for bringing shame to their name.

All are invited to attend a free screening and discussion of the film Wednesday, March 22. Refreshments will be served starting at 6:30 p.m., and the film will begin at 7 p.m. in the Driscoll Alumni Center Auditorium.

The discussion with Nafea will be moderated by Abdel Halim and Dr. Renée Heberle, professor and honors adviser in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration.

"It is important for every woman that participates in an action that leads to change to tell her story. Even within those seeking change, one cannot ignore the gender aspect of activism. It is also necessary for documenting such events for women's history, as most of the time this history is ignored," said Abdel Halim. "Real heroism is seen in actions taken by the powerless, as such actions are taken by the most unexpected actors, such as women. It is really empowering for people everywhere, to see that everything is possible and the biggest obstacles are surmountable."

The event, one of many scheduled at UT for Women's History Month, is sponsored by the Department of Women's and Gender Studies; School of Interdisciplinary Studies; Office of Diversity and Inclusion; Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women; Program in Law and Social Thought; and Office of Student Services.

For more information, contact Abdel Halim by calling 419.530.2233.



**THE TRIALS OF SPRING**  
عواصف الربيع

**THE TRIALS OF SPRING**  
Screening and Discussion

**Wednesday, March 22**

**6:30 pm Refreshments**

**7:00 pm Screening**

**Driscoll Auditorium**

**FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Sponsored by:

Department of Women's and Gender Studies  
School of Interdisciplinary Studies  
Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Engagement  
Catherine S. Eberly Center for Women  
Law and Social Thought Program  
Office of Student Services

**About THE TRIALS OF SPRING**  
GINI RETICKER - DIRECTOR

*The Trials of Spring* recounts the story of 21-year-old Henda Nafea, who travels from her village to Cairo to add her voice to the tens of thousands of Egyptians demanding an end to sixty years of military rule. She is arrested, beaten, and tortured by security forces. After her release, she faces her family's wrath for shaming the family name. Unbreakable, Henda sets out alone in search of freedom and social justice in a country in the grips of political and cultural upheaval. Buoyed by the courage of women she meets along the way, Henda Nafea's story mirrors the trajectory of the Arab Spring—from the ecstasy of newfound courage to the agony of shattered dreams. In the end, despite crushing setbacks, Henda's indomitable spirit is a testament to a universal desire for freedom.

The screening will be followed by a conversation moderated by Dr. Renee Heberle and Dr. Asma Abdel Halim, with **special guest: Henda Nafea**

  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

For more information, please call 419.530.2233

## Science museum president to discuss career, empowering roles for women

By Ashley Diel

Dr. Tonya Matthews, president and chief executive officer of the Michigan Science Center in Detroit, will speak Monday, March 27, at 6 p.m. in Nitschke Hall Room 1027.

Matthews was selected by Crain's Detroit Business as one of the 100 most influential women in Michigan in 2016. Selections were determined by impact, diversity and proven leadership.

Since she was named president and CEO of the Michigan Science Center in 2013, Matthews has led an effort to take STEMM (science, technology, engineering, math and medicine) programs into the community. The center also started offering adult programming and professional development for teachers; launched STEM Vision Awards to recognize students and adult leaders; and started the Michigan Student Test of Educational

Progress to spark STEMM interest among fourth- through eighth-grade girls.

"The talk will focus on Dr. Matthews' experiences in the STEMM community as a woman and how she was able to incorporate her passion," said Kelley Webb, a graduate assistant of the African American Initiatives in the Office of Multicultural Student Success. "Dr. Matthews is able to relate to many people on many levels. They will learn about grace and grit, how she got to where she is and why."

According to the National Science Foundation, scientific and technological innovations have become increasingly important with benefits and challenges of both globalization and a knowledge-based economy. Students need to develop their

capabilities in STEMM to higher levels than were needed in the past.

"Dr. Matthews is well-known in the STEMM community, and she is very down-to-earth," Webb said. "I believe that she exhibits the qualities that many women, especially black women, desire to develop, and she is doing something positive in a growing field."

Matthews received a bachelor's degree in biomedical and electrical engineering from Duke University and a doctorate in biomedical engineering from Johns Hopkins University. She was a biomedical engineer for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and worked at museums in Maryland and Ohio.

The free talk is sponsored by We Are STEMM, the Office of Multicultural Student Success, African American Initiatives and NaturalHAIRitage.



Matthews

Matthews' visit is one of the University's events scheduled for Women's History Month.