Researchers develop mouse model for Type I diabetes that mimics full scope of human disease

By Tyrel Linkhorn

Researchers at The University of Toledo have found a new way to replicate in lab mice the development and progression of Type I diabetes, a breakthrough that has the potential to reshape how the chronic disease is studied.

An estimated 1.25 million Americans are living with Type I diabetes. While the condition can be managed with insulin, finding a treatment or cure for the disease has been elusive — in part because scientists have not had a reliable animal model that mimics the full scope of human Type I diabetes.

“We see these patients every day. We see them come to the hospital, we see how they struggle,” said Dr. Juan Jaume, professor of medicine in UT’s College of Medicine and Life Sciences, and senior author of the new invention. “Unfortunately, research has been held back because the scientific community didn’t have a good model to study the disease and its progression. Now we do. We have developed a mouse model that is a step forward toward finding a cure.”

The first peer-reviewed study using the UT-developed mouse model was published Feb. 7 in the natural sciences journal Scientific Reports.

In that study, Jaume, who is also chief of the Division of Endocrinology and director of UT’s Center for Diabetes and Endocrine Research, and co-collaborator Dr. Shahnawaz Imam, a senior researcher in the Department of Medicine and an associate member of the Center for Diabetes and Endocrine Research, looked at how a certain protein can influence T-cells in the pancreas to delay the onset of diabetes.

While the study adds to the overall knowledge about diabetes, it is the mouse model that holds the real potential.

In the new model, mice spontaneously develop Type I diabetes and, importantly, the full range of complications experienced by diabetes patients. That allows study of the disease and its natural progression in a way not previously possible.

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‘Millionaire Moves’

Dr. William F. Pickard, chair of Global Automotive Alliance, co-managing partner of MGM Grand Detroit Casino, and author of “Millionaire Moves: Seven Proven Principles of Entrepreneurship,” will visit the University to give a free talk for Black History Month. He will discuss “Business Savvy for a 21st Century Community” Tuesday, Feb. 26, at 7 p.m. in Doermann Theatre. See p. 12 for more information.

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“Our model is showing exactly the same physiopathology that humans with diabetes suffer,” Imam said. “Our mice are getting eye problems, they are getting kidney problems and also neuropathy. That’s a very important part of this — they have the same human complications that all diabetes patients have, not just those with Type I.”

The laboratory mice were developed through a series of selective breeding experiments and genetic modification that included adding human genes to the mice.

A provisional patent on the Spontaneous Type I Diabetes Mouse Model was filed last year.

Type I diabetes, formerly known as juvenile diabetes, results from an autoimmune attack on cells in the pancreas that produce insulin. Without insulin, the body cannot process the sugars in food, leading to dangerously high blood sugar.

Though many species develop diabetes, Jaume said the process of Type I diabetes seems to be unique to humans.

And while scientists have frequently used other specially bred mice, including what’s known as the non-obese diabetic mouse, to study diabetes and test treatments, those lab animals don’t mimic the exact human pathophysiology of the disease.

“The existing non-obese diabetic mouse model does not completely resemble the human condition,” Jaume said. “There are more than 125 different therapies that cure Type I diabetes in non-obese diabetic mice. Clinical trials were developed because of that model, but none have worked in humans. Everybody has been searching for a better model.”

Jaume and Imam have been working on their model for more than a decade. It is already showing research promise.

Using the same idea behind CAR T-cell therapy for cancer, in which certain immune system cells are taken from a patient and paired with an artificial receptor that once reintroduced into the body homes in on the tumor, the team is developing cellular therapies for diabetes that use the mice’s regulatory cells to cool down the immune response.

The University also has filed a provisional patent on the treatment method, and Jaume and Imam soon will begin a more in-depth study of its effectiveness.
Rocket Innovations seeks applications for Student Venture Investment Program

Rocket Innovations, The University of Toledo’s technology investment fund, has seen recent return on its investments and is ready to invest in new technology business ventures.

Current UT undergraduate and graduate students, as well as recent UT alumni within one year of graduation, are invited to submit ideas for a new technology venture that may lead to up to a $20,000 investment from Rocket Innovations.

The purpose of the program is to provide critical early funding and mentoring to move a promising idea for a new venture into a successful business enterprise.

More information on the program and application materials are available on the Rocket Innovation website at utoledo.edu/rocketinnovations.

All applicants are required to participate in UT’s I-Corps or other customer discovery process and must be able to demonstrate a clear market need and a viable business model to support the venture.

Those receiving funding will be provided mentoring from Rocket Innovations staff and the UT LaunchPad Incubation Program.

Opportunities for funding to support critical services from the Northwest Ohio Entrepreneurial Services Program, NextTech, will be available to successful student entrepreneurs.

In addition, mentoring will assist the student entrepreneur(s) in moving her or his venture to the next level, positioning the venture for follow-on funding and revenue generation, and taking the enterprise toward a desired exit.

The Rocket Innovations Board of Directors has approved $100,000 in support of this new program. The board approved this new funding because of the recent positive performance of the Rocket Innovations portfolio, where previous business investments have returned funds into the program.

For more information, contact Dr. Norman Rapino, executive director of Rocket Innovations, at 419.530.6165 or norman.rapino@utoledo.edu.

Faculty and postdocs: Register for UT Scholars Institute Program

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs will hold its UT Scholars Institute Program during spring break, Monday through Friday, March 4-8.

“This program is designed to help researchers with preparing successful grant proposals and developing a fundable research program,” said Dr. Jack Schultz, senior executive director of research development.

The workshop will run daily from 9 a.m. to noon and is open to all non-tenured faculty members and postdoctoral scholars who are within their first four years of hire.

Topics that will be covered during the sessions include:

• Preparing for grant submissions;
• Identifying external sources for funding;
• Effective proposal writing and the review process;
• Budgets and proposal research goals;
• Accessing UT resources;
• Submitting proposals; and
• The award process and sponsor requirements.

At the conclusion of the weeklong workshop, participants will produce a two-page draft proposal summary and engage in peer review for feedback.

“This is a wonderful opportunity to learn how to establish an externally funded research program,” Schultz said.

Monday, Feb. 25, is the deadline to register for the program. Space is limited to 35 participants.

To register, email Marcie Ferguson, special projects manager with Research and Sponsored Programs, at marcie.ferguson@utoledo.edu.

Read more about the UT Scholars Institute Program at utoledo.edu/research/rsp/SIPhtml.

Outstanding Faculty Research and Scholarship Award nominations sought

Friday, March 1, at noon is the deadline to submit nominations for the Outstanding Faculty Research and Scholarship Award.

This award recognizes the quality and contributions of faculty research, scholarship and creative activity by UT faculty members across the spectrum of disciplines.

Full-time faculty members may be nominated by their peers or may submit their own materials for consideration.

All full-time faculty at the University are eligible for the award, with the exception of past recipients.

Details and a list of past honorees are available on the Research and Sponsored Programs’ website at utoledo.edu/research/rsp/ofra.

Recipients of the award will take home a $1,500 cash stipend and a certificate of recognition.

Winners will be honored at the UT Outstanding Awards Reception Tuesday, April 16, at 5:30 p.m. in the Thompson Student Union Auditorium.

At that event, the University also will recognize recipients of the Outstanding Teacher Award, the Outstanding Advisor Award, and the Edith Rathbun Outreach and Engagement Award, as well as Distinguished University Lecturers and Distinguished University Professors.

Nominations and questions should be sent to ofrsa@utoledo.edu.
Two events will bring more than 600 area students to The University of Toledo for Engineers Week.

Founded in 1951, Engineers Week will be celebrated Feb. 17-23 and is dedicated to increasing understanding and interest in engineering and technology careers.

The theme of this year’s week is “Engineers: Invent Amazing.”

Approximately 200 high school students from 24 districts will be on campus Tuesday, Feb. 19, to be an Engineer for a Day.

They will arrive at 9 a.m. and watch a movie, “Dream Big,” in the Lois and Norman Nitschke Auditorium, and then learn about different careers during a tour of UT’s engineering facilities, and engage in hands-on activities with UT engineering students. After lunch, the high school students will shadow a professional engineer in the community for the afternoon.

“We want to show students the wide range of possibilities a career in engineering offers,” said Bryan Bosch, manager of diversity, inclusion and community engagement in the UT College of Engineering. “Engineers design, invent and create things to make our world better — and they have a lot of fun, too.”

The UT College of Engineering also will host its second annual Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day. More than 450 sixth- through eighth-graders from 20 school districts will visit the University Thursday, Feb. 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

While on campus, the girls will tour the University’s engineering facilities, eat lunch with UT engineering students, and spend the afternoon participating in hands-on activities.

“We’re extremely excited for how much growth we’ve seen in the Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day, both in sheer numbers and the increase in exposure to more schools,” Bosch said. “There were 312 girls at the event last year.”

For more information, contact Bosch at bryan.bosch@utoledo.edu.

As part of the grant-funded research, Alba-Rubio plans to engage students from elementary school to high school in her activities to expose them to chemical reactions and catalysis, as well as raise awareness of the effects of carbon dioxide on global warming.

“As a Hispanic woman, I have a strong interest in increasing the participation of underrepresented groups in science, and I will continue providing hands-on experiences to migrant students in Ohio’s rural communities and other underrepresented students through the programs that The University of Toledo offers to Toledo Public Schools,” Alba-Rubio said.

She is especially passionate about serving as a role model to encourage girls to pursue careers in science. Alba-Rubio is gathering support from other successful women across northwest Ohio in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics to create a coloring book titled “Women Scientists Near You” to distribute to elementary schools throughout the region.

“The coloring book will feature stories of each of us to inspire girls to envision themselves on a similar path to success,” Alba-Rubio said. “Each ‘character’ in the book will visit schools to share her experiences and do experiments. The goal is to catch their curiosity and build their confidence. Becoming a scientist is within their reach. It’s an exciting career that can help change lives and create a better world.”
Students, your opinion matters. Freshmen and seniors have the opportunity to share their experiences on campus by participating in the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) College Student Report.

The survey is administered every other year and provides the University important data on the amount of time and effort students put into their studies and other educational activities, as well as how the institution uses its resources and organizes its curriculum to foster student learning.

“It is critical that we hear from students about their experiences so that we can make data-informed decisions to continue to strengthen the programs and services we provide to support their success,” said Dr. Phillip “Flapp” Cockrell, vice president for student affairs. “This survey is an important tool to take a look at what we’re doing here on the UT campus and to benchmark against our peers.”

To encourage participation, the Division of Student Affairs is offering the chance to win one of 10 University Bookstore Barnes & Noble gift cards worth $100 each for completing the survey, which takes about 15 minutes.

Freshmen and senior students eligible for the survey will receive their first invitation Tuesday, Feb. 19, with their unique code to take the survey. All responses will be kept confidential.

For questions about the survey, contact Dr. Mingyang Liu, survey statistician for Institutional Research, who serves as the NSSE campus project manager, at 419.530.1243 or mingyang.liu@utoledo.edu.

The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) is your chance to share your campus experiences and strengthen The University of Toledo! Freshmen and seniors: Check your UT email account for an invitation to take the 15-minute survey starting Tuesday, Feb. 19.

All students who complete the survey by Monday, April 29 are entered into a drawing for one of 10 UT Bookstore Barnes and Noble gift cards worth $100 each.

Your responses will be confidential.
UT to develop training tool to better care for patients who are homeless

By Tyrel Linkhorn

The University of Toledo is developing a virtual reality training to improve Ohio Medicaid providers’ cultural competency and reduce implicit bias as a way to better understand the patients they serve. The virtual reality training focuses on the barriers to health care faced by those without stable, permanent housing.

UT faculty from the College of Medicine and Life Sciences and the College of Health and Human Services will conduct interviews and observe interactions in an area homeless shelter to build a realistic portrait of the health-care struggles experienced by individuals who depend on urban homeless shelters for their housing.

From that data, faculty and staff from the College of Medicine and Life Sciences, the School of Population Health in the College of Health and Human Services, and the Jacobs Interprofessional Immersive Simulation Center will create an interactive experience that will electronically place clinicians into a model homeless shelter as fly-on-the-wall observers.

“There’s a lot of attention nowadays to how one’s background and social structure impact not only their health, but also how successful they are in using the health-care system,” said Dr. Lance Dworkin, professor and chair of the UT Department of Medicine, and the primary investigator for the project. “If we understand that, we can integrate that knowledge into the care we provide so it’s more effective.”

The University also is building a robust evaluation component into the program that will monitor physical biomarkers such as heart rate, blood pressure and respiratory rate while participants are engaged in the simulation. Using assessment software developed by Dr. Scott Pappada, UT assistant professor of anesthesiology and bioengineering, and a co-investigator on the project, researchers will collect data before and after the simulation to learn how the program affects clinicians and whether it helps them connect with individuals who are marginalized by society.

The project is funded by a $1.24 million grant from the Ohio Department of Medicaid.

UT’s work is part of a larger partnership between the Ohio Department of Medicaid and Ohio’s medical schools, administered by the Ohio Colleges of Medicine Government Resource Center. Like many projects managed by the center, the Medicaid equity simulation project is aimed at reducing health disparities, addressing the social determinants of health, and improving patient care and health outcomes for Ohio’s Medicaid population.

During the course of the homeless shelter simulation, health-care providers will see rudimentary sleeping quarters, dining and social areas, observe the interactions between guests and staff, and listen in on conversations gleaned from the real-life interviews.

“The big message here is how does one change clinical decision making based on what is learned about an individual in this environment,” said Dr. Shipra Singh, UT assistant professor of health education and public health, and a co-investigator on the project.

Singh, who is directing the scripts that will be used in the simulation, said those changes could be as simple as not forcing someone who has no access to reliable transportation to go to the back of the line if they’re late for an appointment, or understanding that immediate lifestyle changes may not be possible.

“You need to listen to the patient rather than just look at them and understand the cultural context they’re coming from and what really matters to them,” Singh said.

The program is expected to be ready to launch to Ohio Medicaid providers within The University of Toledo Medical Center in May and disseminated throughout the community by June.

Misheal Carter, a surgical technician at UT Medical Center, looked at perfumes at the Satellites Auxiliary’s sale on Valentine’s Day. Proceeds from the one-day event benefited patient care programs at the hospital.

Scents and sensibility
Late jazz faculty member to be celebrated with special concert Feb. 20

By Angela Riddel

UT students and faculty members will honor jazz pianist Tad Weed with a special concert.

“Tad Remembered” will be held Wednesday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m. in the Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall.

Weed, associate professor of music, lost his battle with cancer Aug. 22. He was 61. He joined the UT faculty as an assistant professor of jazz piano in 2011 and was promoted to associate professor with tenure in 2017. Weed taught jazz piano, arranging and improvisation, and was co-director of Vocalstra, a vocal jazz ensemble founded by legendary singer Jon Hendricks.

Leonard Feather acknowledged Weed’s career in “The Encyclopedia of Jazz.” Feather wrote, “…pianist Weed displays a very rare ability to cross over from dashing bop lines to rich impressions, he has all of the bases covered from funky blues to the border of the avant-garde.”

Transgender pianist to visit campus for evening of conversation, music Feb. 19

By Angela Riddel

Pianist Sara Davis Buechner is coming to town to perform with the Toledo Symphony Orchestra Friday and Saturday, Feb. 22 and 23. Before that, she will stop at the UT Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall to chat with students, faculty and community fans Tuesday, Feb. 19, at 7 p.m.

At this event — co-sponsored by the UT Department of Music, the UT Department of Women’s and Gender Studies, and the Toledo Symphony Orchestra — Buechner will share her experiences as a musician and the inspiring story of how her gender transformation impacted her career. A Steinway also will be on hand in case she feels moved to give a concert preview.

Buechner also will present a master class for students Tuesday, Feb. 19, at 3 p.m. in the Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall. Admission to the talk and the master class is free.

Noted for her musical command, cosmopolitan artistry and visionary independence, Buechner is lauded for her “intelligence, integrity and all-encompassing technical prowess” (The New York Times), “thoughtful artistry in the full service of music” (The Washington Post), and “astounding virtuosity” (The Philippine Star). Japan’s InTune Magazine summed up: “Buechner has no superior.”

Buechner has performed in every state and province of North America — as recitalist, chamber musician and soloist with top orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony and Philadelphia Orchestra; and in venues such as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center and the Hollywood Bowl. She has toured throughout Latin and South America and Europe; and she has a special following in Asia, where she has been a featured soloist with the Sydney Symphony, New Zealand Philharmonic, New Japan Philharmonic and Shanghai Philharmonic, among others.

Buechner has released numerous acclaimed recordings of rare piano music by composers such as Rudolf Friml (“a revelation” — The New York Times), Dana Suesse, Joseph Lamb, Joaquín Turina, Miklós Rózsa and Ferruccio Busoni. Stereophile magazine selected her Gershwin CD as Recording of the Month, and her interpretation of Hollywood piano concertos won Germany’s coveted Deutsches Schauplatten Preis. Most recently, her recorded traversal of the score to Carl Dreiser’s 1925 silent movie classic, “Master of the House,” is available on Criterion Collection DVD.

Buechner has been a featured soloist with numerous orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony and Philadelphia Orchestra. She has performed in venues such as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center and the Hollywood Bowl. She has toured throughout Latin and South America and Europe; and she has a special following in Asia, where she has been a featured soloist with the Sydney Symphony, New Zealand Philharmonic, New Japan Philharmonic and Shanghai Philharmonic, among others.

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She joined the faculty of Temple University’s Boyer College of Music and Dance in 2016, after previously teaching at the Manhattan School of Music, New York University and the University of British Columbia. She has presented master classes and workshops at major pedagogic venues worldwide, adjudicated international piano competitions, and is a contributing editor for Dover Publications International.

As a proud transgender woman, Buechner appears as a speaker and performer at LGBTQ events and has contributed interviews and articles about her experience to numerous media outlets worldwide.

Special delivery

The UT Department of Theatre and Film will screen “Jour De Fête” (“Celebration Day”) Friday, Feb. 22, at 7:30 p.m. in the Center for Performing Arts Room 1039. The 86-minute comedy stars Jacques Tati as an inept mailman in a French village. The 1949 movie, which will be shown from 16-millimeter film, marks Tati’s feature directorial debut. Tickets — $12 for general admission and $8 for students, UT employees and alumni, military members, and seniors 60 and older — include popcorn and soft drink. Get tickets at utoledo.tix.com or by calling the Center for Performing Arts Box Office at 419.530.ARTS (2787).
‘Street Certified’ theme of Black Student Union Fashion Show Feb. 22

By Bailey Sparks

On Friday, Feb. 22, the Black Student Union will host its 50th annual fashion show. “Street Certified” is this year’s theme.

The doors will open at 6 p.m., and the show will run from 7 to 10 p.m. in the Thompson Student Union Auditorium.

The event will be hosted by Ladies Love Launy, with music by DJ Uncle Duane.

“I want people to recognize the fashion show as being one of the longest-running UT traditions, put on by one of the longest-running student organizations that isn’t Greek-affiliated,” said Isis Walker, president of the Black Student Union.

“The fashion show is just as important because it highlights the creativity and hard work of many students. And we give out a scholarship, so it directly aids in the retention of black students at UT.”

The show is part of UT’s Black History Month celebration. All proceeds will go toward scholarships to support African-American students.

There are a limited number of free tickets for UT students. The cost for the public is $10 at the door, with VIP tickets for $20.

HR launches new Cornerstone talent management system

On Feb. 14, Human Resources officially launched Cornerstone, a new online talent management system that will help improve efficiencies throughout the recruitment, hiring and onboarding process.

“On behalf of the entire Human Resources team, I want to thank the many individuals across multiple departments who were patient, provided guidance, and worked long hours to help us launch Cornerstone,” said Wendy Davis, associate vice president and chief human resource officer.

It collectively took hundreds of hours to start this new tool, and the University hopes to continue refining and expanding Cornerstone’s functionality in coming months to ensure a great user experience, she added.

Cornerstone has replaced PeopleAdmin at UT and is being used to hire new employees and manage internal position changes. Banner will continue being used to complete changes to current positions, including pay raises, labor distribution, and extension of work dates.

“Cornerstone has many benefits. It’s more user-friendly, intuitive, and better engages job applicants, as well as UT staff who are instrumental in screening, hiring and onboarding top candidates for positions across all of our campuses,” said David Gaus, director for compensation, human resource information systems and project management.

“It’s a very efficient platform to attract top talent, archive résumés, and manage all the other HR-associated documents using iCloud-based solutions,” he added.

To assist business managers, department administrators, hiring managers and administrative support staff with transitioning to Cornerstone, open labs are being offered daily through Tuesday, Feb. 26, from 9 to 10 a.m. in Human Resources on Scott Park Campus.

For more information about this computer-based training, or if you need support using Cornerstone in the coming months, contact hrsupport@utoledo.edu.

Front and center

The name of the Center for Alumni and Donor Engagement was added last week. UT Foundation, Development, Alumni Engagement and Special Events offices moved to 4510 Dorr Street, thanks to a generous gift from Welltower Inc. All office phone numbers remain the same.
The UT Charitable Campaign breakfast originally slated for Jan. 31 and postponed due to inclement weather has been rescheduled for Friday, April 5, from 8 to 9 a.m. in the Savage Arena Grogan Room.

All faculty, staff and retirees who contributed to the 2018 community campaign (formerly known as the United Way campaign) will receive an email invitation to the complimentary breakfast buffet this week. Donors planning to attend the breakfast April 5 are asked to use the link provided in the email to RSVP online. Reservations are due by Wednesday, March 27.

Hosted by President Sharon L. Gaber, the breakfast enables donors to celebrate, as well as to pick up their thank-you gift—a sturdy UT tote bag.

Thanks to hundreds of UT employees and retirees, the University once again exceeded its annual community campaign goal, pledging more than $131,000. The funds support more than 220 charities represented by four foundations: Community Health Charities of Ohio, Northwest Ohio Community Shares, EarthShare Ohio and United Way of Greater Toledo.

“While we were disappointed that bitterly cold temperatures necessitated rescheduling the breakfast, we hope providing a new date this far in advance will enable many more donors the chance to attend the breakfast,” said Dr. Willie McKether, vice president for diversity and inclusion, and chair of the 2018 UT Charitable Campaign.

Donors who are unable to attend the breakfast may pick up their thank-you gift on either Main Campus or Health Science Campus. A notification of dates, times and locations will be sent to them shortly after the breakfast.
Memorial service set for retired University administrator

Friends of Dr. William McMillen are invited to remember the longtime University employee Thursday, Feb. 28, from 3 to 5 p.m. at Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S. Reynolds Road, Perrysburg.

The celebration of life and sharing of memories will begin at 3:30 p.m. McMillen, who worked at MCO/MUO/UT from 1982 until his retirement in 2012, died Nov. 23 at age 71.

The Perrysburg resident most recently served as interim provost and executive vice president for academic affairs in 2010 and delayed his retirement to take the post permanently in 2011.

He was vice president for government relations for both UT and MUO from 2005 to 2006; he played a pivotal role in navigating the legislative process that led to the merger of the two institutions. In addition, he oversaw the legislation in the state general assembly that changed the name from the Medical College of Ohio to the Medical University of Ohio.

McMillen held a variety of senior-level positions at MCO involving government relations, fundraising, communications and affirmative action while serving four presidents. In addition, he was secretary of the MCO Board of Trustees for 10 years and received a community-based MCO Board of Trustees for 10 years.

The Perrysburg resident most recently served as interim provost and executive vice president for academic affairs in 2010 and delayed his retirement to take the post permanently in 2011.

He was vice president for government relations for both UT and MUO from 2005 to 2006; he played a pivotal role in navigating the legislative process that led to the merger of the two institutions. In addition, he oversaw the legislation in the state general assembly that changed the name from the Medical College of Ohio to the Medical University of Ohio.

McMillen held a variety of senior-level positions at MCO involving government relations, fundraising, communications and affirmative action while serving four presidents.

In addition, he was secretary of the MCO Board of Trustees for 10 years and received a community-based appointment in the Department of Psychiatry in 1994.

At UT, he worked on initiatives in strategic planning, sustainability, economic development, and relations with the Ohio Board of Regents. McMillen also led efforts for a successful accreditation visit from the Higher Learning Commission.

Ever the writer, McMillen penned a play, “First Do No Harm,” which premiered in 2018 through the Toledo Repertoire Theatre’s Toledo Voices.

He also wrote fiction and nonfiction, including the books “From Campus to Capitol” (2010) and “Sticks” (2000). And he wrote a government relations column, “The Party Line,” for The Chronicle of Higher Education under the pseudonym Peter Oner.

The family suggests tributes to the UT College of Arts and Letters General Scholarship Fund through the UT Foundation; go to give2ut.utoledo.edu.

In memoriam

Dr. Mary Girgis-Hanna, Toledo, who taught sociology courses from 1997 to 2000, died Feb. 7 at age 83. A UT alumna, she received a PhD in special education in 1997.

Doris L. (Sing) Hedler, Toledo, who worked at the University from 1980 until her retirement in 1987, died Jan. 20 at age 100. She was an academic advisor in University College and a director of the Institutional Health Care Management Program, which she helped launch. Hedler was an advocate for the establishment of the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women and served as an interim coordinator at the center.

A UT alumna, Hedler received a bachelor of education degree in 1940 and a master of education degree in 1979.

Gregory L. Kreps, Maumee, a respiratory therapist at MCO/MUO/UTMC from 1974 until his retirement in 2008, died Feb. 11 at age 70.

Concert

continued from p. 7

Weed’s discography contains more than 30 recordings that feature his playing, arrangements and compositions. He toured with Anita O’Day and Carmen McRae; for more than a decade, he was the music director for Paul Anka. The list of artists he performed with included Chaka Khan, Jack Jones, Betty Carter, Wynton Marsalis, Frank Morgan and David (Fathead) Newman.

The concert will feature a host of performers: the UT Student Jazz Combo and UT music alumni, including Matt and Atla DeChamplain, Will Bennett, the group Talking Ear, Estar Cohen, Travis Aukerman, Ben Maloney and Dan Palmer.

UT music faculty also will perform: Norm Damschroder, Ellie Martin, Dr. Olman E. Piedra and Jay Weik.

An added treat will be a special video encore of Weed performing with UT music student Isabella Weik.

Songs to be performed include “The Road Leads,” music by Weed with lyrics by Cohen; “Cowboy Poetry Life” by Weed; “Just One of Those Things” by Cole Porter; and “When You Wish Upon a Star” by Cliff Edwards.

This performance is the 2019 Art Tatum Memorial Scholarship Concert. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the scholarship program.

Tickets are $15 for general admission; $10 for UT employees, alumni, senior citizens, and veterans and members of the military; and $5 for students and children. Tickets are available at the door, but purchasing them in advance is recommended. They are available online at uttix.com or by calling the Center for Performing Arts Box Office at 419.530.2248.

During the concert, parking is free in the lot across from the Center for Performing Arts.

The University of Toledo is committed to a policy of equal opportunity in education, employment, membership and contracts, and no differentiation will be made based on race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, veteran status or the presence of a disability. The University will take affirmative action as required by federal or state law.
Rockets raise highest total for cancer research since 2013

By Brian DeBenedictis

The Toledo women’s basketball program made another special contribution to The University of Toledo Medical Center’s Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center, Susan G. Komen Northwest Ohio, and UT Center for Health and Successful Living at its 13th annual “Rockets For the Cure” game Feb. 2.

The Rockets raised $16,224 for cancer research, signifying their highest total since 2013. It also marked the 10th straight year they collected at least $10,000.

And Toledo beat Bowling Green, 76-56.

Chrys Peterson, former WTOL news anchor, was the guest emcee for the 11th consecutive year. She encouraged the 4,757 fans in attendance to take part in a silent auction and informed them about Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Most in the crowd wore pink, including many who donned “Rockets for the Cure” T-shirts.

The pink Nike jerseys that UT players wore were made specially for the game against archrival Bowling Green. Five of the jerseys that were auctioned off went for at least $700, including a high of $3,000 for senior Kaayla McIntyre’s uniform.

New hydrotherapy center in Larimer Athletic Complex will help promote health, recovery of student-athletes

By Paul Helgren

The University of Toledo Athletic Department recently dedicated the Hotmer Family Hydrotherapy Center in the Larimer Athletic Complex.

Longtime UT athletics supporter Paul Hotmer made a substantial gift toward the completion of the center, which will help promote recovery time for Rocket student-athletes.

“We are very grateful to Paul Hotmer and his family for their very generous gift to help us build the new hydrotherapy center,” said UT Vice President and Athletic Director Mike O’Brien. “Paul has been a tremendous supporter of Rocket athletics for many years. His contributions continue to have a very positive effect on the experience of our student-athletes.”

Toledo Head Football Coach Jason Candle added, “The Hotmer Hydrotherapy Center is a tremendous asset and a major step forward for the Toledo football program. We are very grateful to Paul Hotmer and his family for investing in the future of the Toledo football program.”

The Hotmer Family Hydrotherapy Center features two in-ground therapy pools that each contain 1,500 gallons of water. One is a combination therapy pool that can be used as either a hot pool or a cold pool. The second is used strictly as a cold pool. They are similar to the Hydroworx pools that were installed in the Sports Medicine Center in the Sullivan Athletic Complex when Savage Arena was renovated in 2008.

Cold plunge therapy is used to enhance muscle recovery by reducing metabolic rate, inflammation, circulation, muscle spasms and pain. With cold therapy, vasoconstriction also takes effect, narrowing the blood vessels and resulting in reduced swelling. In a polar plunge pool, the water is kept at a therapeutic 50 degrees to help control joint inflammation and to stimulate the release of endorphins. Science also shows that the cold water causes the release of cytokines and other body chemicals that help boost immunity.

Thermal plunge pool therapy heats muscle and tissue to increase circulation and restore blood flow to the body. The warmth of the water promotes a transient reduction in joint stiffness, pain and muscle spasms. It also can help to reduce inflammation. The typical temperature of a hot pool ranges from 94 to 104 degrees to relax tight muscles and stimulate the release of endorphins.

Also in the center is the Hydroworx 350 Underwater Treadmill. This is a sports model that is taller and longer than a standard unit. Water can be adjusted to attain depths ranging from one to 56 inches. It has a 750-gallon reservoir tank that filters and recycles water between uses. The treadmill utilizes water’s buoyancy, resistance and hydrostatic pressure to aid injured athletes back to functional activity.
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