

## University adopts new strategic plan

By Meghan Cunningham

**A** new strategic plan will guide The University of Toledo's priorities during the next five years as it approaches its 150th anniversary in 2022.

The plan, called The University of Toledo's Path to Excellence, was approved June 19 by the UT Board of Trustees.

Revised mission, vision and values guide the plan that is organized around five priorities, each with specific goals accompanied by outcomes, metrics and responsible individuals or departments to measure the progress toward achievement of the goal. The plan also includes a number of aspirational goals, including increasing UT's position into the U.S. News & World Report's top 100 public, national, research university ranking, which will continue beyond the five-year timeframe outlined in the document.

The new mission of the University: "The University of Toledo is a national, public, research university where students obtain a world-class education and become part of a diverse community of leaders committed to improving the human condition in the region and the world."

The revised vision is: "The University of Toledo will be a nationally ranked, public, research university with internationally recognized expertise and exceptional strength in discovery, teaching, clinical practice and service."

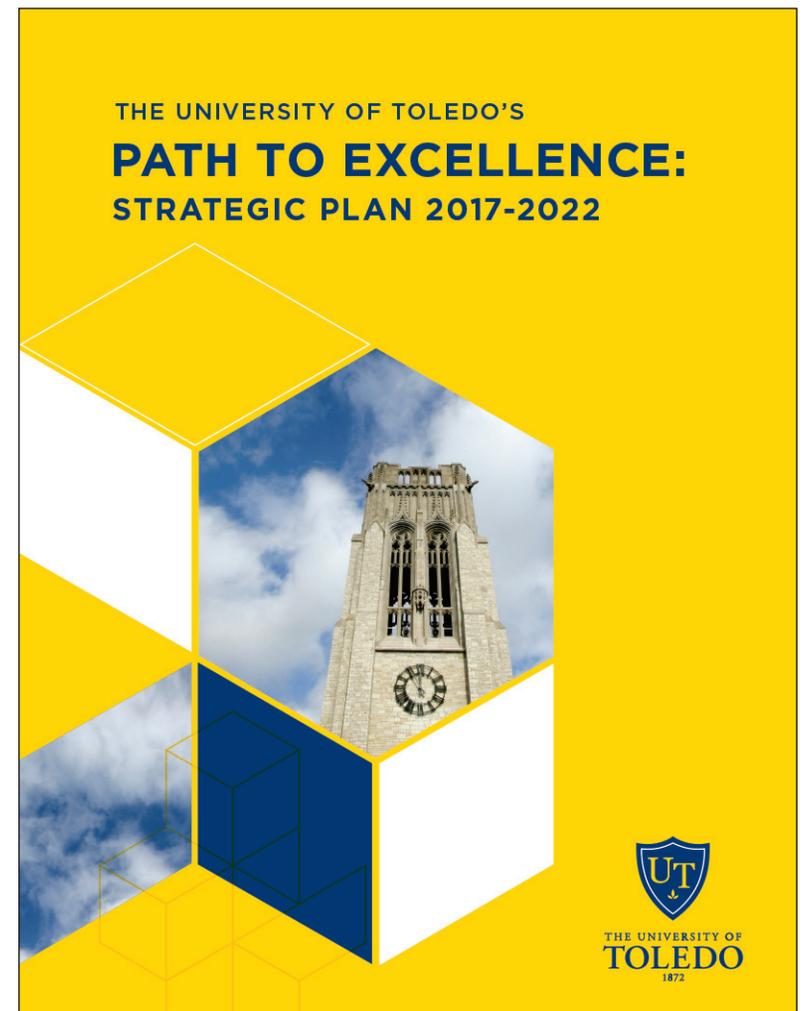
The new strategic plan also lists UT's values: excellence, student-centeredness, research and scholarship, professionalism and leadership, and diversity.

"Thank you to the many constituents who exchanged ideas and debated priorities as we worked together to set our path forward," UT President Sharon L. Gaber said. "This strategic plan outlines the strong future of The University of Toledo and details how we will grow and develop with the support of our dedicated faculty, staff, students, alumni and community."

"I am proud of the inclusive process that created this strategic plan. It will allow us to build on our strengths and address opportunities for improvement as we move UT toward excellence," said Dr. Andrew Hsu, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. "I look forward to the plan's implementation and the impact it will have on our future success."

The collaborative process to create the strategic plan included the input of hundreds of students, faculty, staff and the public who attended discussion sessions and provided feedback on drafts since the strategic planning process began in September 2016.

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## Kidding around



Photo by Rachel Nearhoof

Children attending UT's National Youth Sports Program fed goats during a field trip to Indian Creek Petting Zoo in Lambertville, Mich. Read more about the sports instruction and enrichment program on p. 7.

## UT athletics announces multi-year partnership with Nike

By Paul Helgren

**T**he University of Toledo Athletic Department has agreed to a multi-year exclusive partnership with Nike beginning July 1.

The six-year agreement will make Nike the official athletic footwear, apparel, accessory and equipment brand for all 16 of

Toledo's varsity sports through the 2022-23 season. Previously, UT's sports programs had separate agreements with various apparel brands.

"We are very pleased to be teaming up with Nike for all of our sports," said UT Vice President and Athletic Director Mike

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## New dean selected to lead UT Libraries

By Christine Billau

A librarian with more than 30 years of experience in academic libraries and museums will join The University of Toledo as the leader of University Libraries effective Aug. 1.



Case

Beau Case comes to UT from the University of Michigan Library. During his 15 years at the University of Michigan, he served as head of the arts and humanities libraries and collections managing a \$7 million budget and as field librarian for classical studies.

Prior to the University of Michigan, Case worked at Ohio State University as associate professor and head of the Linguistics and West European Languages Library. He also worked in libraries at Indiana University and the University of California at Los Angeles.

“I am proud to welcome Beau Case to The University of Toledo as dean of University Libraries,” Dr. Andrew Hsu, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, said. “His experience and understanding of the University research enterprise and learning environment will advance and strengthen our commitment to integrating new and emerging technologies with traditional library resources and services.”

“This is a great time to join the UT community,” Case said. “I was so impressed by the optimism and excitement

I felt on campus during my interview and subsequent campus visits. I have had the chance to meet with longtime staff and faculty and with new administrators, and I was able to see both passion for tradition as well as for realizing a great future.”

Case has master’s degrees in library science and comparative literature from Indiana University and a bachelor’s degree in English from the University of California at Los Angeles.

He is a member of the editorial boards of Cambridge University Press; ProQuest; Collection Building; and Library Collections, Acquisitions and Technical Services.

UT University Libraries includes Carlson Library, Canaday Center for Special Collections and Mulford Health Science Library.

“Libraries are amazing at promoting and leveraging technology to enhance our collections and services,” Case said. “We have been very successful in harnessing changes in IT and publishing to create ubiquity of information access on our campuses and in our communities. We must now concentrate on transforming our work to become more relevant and impactful in research, teaching and learning. Libraries and their expert staff, services, collections and spaces not only support the university mission, but also can enhance that mission by finding new ways to connect and partner with faculty and students in the research process and learning environments.”

Case is familiar with OhioLINK institutions thanks to his time at Ohio State. He also regularly visits Ohio because this is where his wife’s family lives.

“It is a dream come true to have been selected for this position — everything aligns so nicely professionally and personally,” Case said.

Barbara Floyd, who had served as interim director, is retiring from the University after 31 years.

“We are grateful for Barbara’s three decades of dedicated service to the University and her leadership during the last two years as interim director,” Hsu said. “We wish her the best upon her well-deserved retirement.”

## President to represent conference on NCAA forum

By Meghan Cunningham

The University of Toledo President Sharon L. Gaber has been appointed to represent the Mid-American Conference on the NCAA Division I Presidential Forum.

The Presidential Forum, which consists of one president or chancellor from each of the 32 NCAA Division I Conferences, assists the NCAA Division I Board of Directors in accomplishing its strategic mission and helps ensure that the NCAA core value involving presidential leadership of intercollegiate athletics at the campus, conference and national level is achieved.

“I am honored to represent the Mid-American Conference as the Presidential Forum discusses and provides counsel on the issues facing the NCAA,” Gaber said. “Intercollegiate athletics play an important role in higher education, and I look forward to the opportunity to support our student-athletes and provide input on best practices for our campuses.”

Gaber replaces Western Michigan University President John M. Dunn, who is retiring, as the MAC representative on the Presidential Forum.



Photo by Daniel Miller

**MAC REPRESENTATIVE:** UT President Sharon L. Gaber, shown here congratulating Football Coach Jason Candle on UT’s victory in the 2015 Marmot Boca Raton Bowl, will represent the Mid-American Conference on the NCAA Division I Presidential Forum.

## AVP of human resources and talent development named

Wendy Davis has been named associate vice president of human resources and talent development.

She has been serving in that role on an interim basis since November. Her appointment will be effective July 1.

“Wendy’s strong leadership skills are an asset, and we are happy she will continue to oversee human resources,” said Larry Kelley, executive vice president for finance and administration, and chief financial officer.

In 2015, Davis came to the University with strong experience in human resource management for public employers in Ohio. Prior to UT, she worked in human resources for Lucas County Children Services and Ohio

Department of Rehabilitation and Correction — Toledo Correctional Institution.

“I have enjoyed working in the Human Resources and Talent Development Department and am thrilled to continue to do so,” Davis said.



Davis

Look for the next issue of UT News July 10

## University finalizing 2018 operating budget

By Meghan Cunningham

As it awaits a final budget from the state of Ohio, The University of Toledo has shifted the adoption of its 2018 operating budget until July 6.

At the request of UT leadership, the Board of Trustees during its regularly scheduled meeting June 19 adopted a one-month budget to bridge the gap between the end of the current fiscal year on June 30 and the adoption of the new budget.

Following approval of the state of Ohio biennium budget before July 1, UT will present its budget for the 2017-18 to the board at a special meeting scheduled for 8 a.m. on Thursday, July 6, in the Driscoll Alumni Center Schmackel Room.

“The state provides important funding sources for the University and given the

unforeseen state revenue issues and a number of provisions in the pending state budget that could affect UT, it is important that we have all the details before we present a fiscal year budget to our board,” said Larry Kelley, executive vice president for finance and administration, and chief financial officer. “It has been at least 12 years since we have seen this level of uncertainty stretching into mid-June.”

During the last 18 months, the University has made strides in reducing costs and generating new income, Kelley said. UT is positioned well to adopt an operating budget that puts the institution in line to meet opportunities and challenges in the coming year.

## Strategic plan

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Hsu led the process with the assistance of Dr. Sharon McDade, a consultant with vast experience in this field. Dr. Laurie Dinnebeil, Distinguished University Professor and chair of early childhood, physical and special education, and Dr. Anthony Quinn, associate professor of biological sciences and assistant dean for diversity and inclusion in the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, served as co-chairs of the strategic planning committee.

Because students are the center of all UT does, the first strategic priority in the plan is **Student Success and Academic Excellence**. The plan outlines goals to improve student success, retention and degree completion, and to better prepare students for future academic studies and career success.

The plan prioritizes **Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities**, listing goals to achieve national recognition for five areas of research excellence, increase prominence for faculty researchers, and improve productivity.

The third priority is **Faculty, Staff and Alumni** with the goal to foster a culture of support and high job satisfaction, increase diversity, strengthen a sense of community and pride, and increase meaningful engagement with alumni and friends.

Building a strong financial foundation is the first goal in the **Fiscal Positioning**

and **Infrastructure** priority that also sets out to ensure adaptability and sustainability for academic programs, increases in revenue and operating efficiencies, and infrastructure improvements.

The final priority in the strategic plan is **Reputation and Engagement**. To strengthen this area, goals have been set to improve UT’s national and international reputation and improve ties at local and regional levels, unify the University’s branding and marketing, grow the UT health-care system, increase philanthropy, and promote Rocket athletics.

Each of the goals is accompanied by a measurable outcome. Each outcome starts with a 2016 baseline measurement and identifies a 2022 target. It also identifies the departments or individuals in the University who are responsible for achieving that goal. Success will be regularly monitored using a dashboard. Units across the University are being asked to create complementary strategic plans aligned with the Path to Excellence document to ensure everyone is working together to move the institution forward.

A copy of the plan can be downloaded at [utoledo.edu/strategicplan](http://utoledo.edu/strategicplan).

## Trustees approve agreements with AFSCME, CWA

By Meghan Cunningham

The University of Toledo Board of Trustees approved June 19 collective bargaining agreements with members of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Ohio Council 8 and AFSCME Local 241, and Communication Workers of America (CWA) Local 4319.

The agreements with AFSCME, which represents about 2,100 employees on the University’s Health Science Campus, were approved by members May 26. A three-year agreement will run through June 30, 2020, followed by a one-year agreement to run from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021.

The new contract includes a one-time payment of 1.5 percent of the employee’s salary in the first year, which does not affect their base salary, a 1 percent wage increase to their base salary the second year, and 2 percent base salary increases in years three and four.

The three-year agreement with CWA, which represents about 500 employees who

provide clerical, maintenance and custodial services primarily on UT’s Main Campus, was approved by membership June 13.

The contract, which is effective Jan. 1, 2017, through Dec. 30, 2019, includes a one-time payment of \$500 upon ratification and one-time payment of \$300 in October, which do not impact base salaries. In the second year of the contract, employees will receive a 1 percent wage increase to their base salaries and then a 2 percent base salary increase in year three.

The new agreements with both unions also update contract language to align benefits with University policy and extend the probation period for new employees.

“I want to thank the AFSCME and CWA leadership and their members for their commitment to this University, and we look forward to continued collaboration as we work together to move UT forward,” said Larry Kelley, executive vice president for finance and administration, and chief financial officer.

## 121 employees to participate in voluntary separation program

By Meghan Cunningham

A total of 121 University of Toledo employees are participating in the Voluntary Separation Incentive Program that will provide the institution more flexibility as it finalizes its operating budget for the 2017-18 academic year.

Of the approximately 230 faculty members and 250 staffers who met the requirements for the program, there were 121 employees who applied and were confirmed eligible to separate from the University as of June 30.

“These individuals provided great service to the institution throughout their careers, and we thank them both for their tenure with UT and their willingness to participate in this program to better position the institution’s finances in the coming years,” said Larry Kelley, executive vice president for finance and administration, and chief financial officer.

The employees will receive an incentive equivalent to one-half of their

base salary on a one-time basis in exchange for their voluntary separation from the University.

In the first year the University anticipates a savings of \$4.8 million from the voluntary separation program, which will grow to \$8.4 million the following year without the incentive payment. The voluntary separation program combined with the elimination of funding for positions that have been vacant for nine months or longer will result in total first-year savings estimated at \$9.3 million, Kelley said.

The Voluntary Separation Incentive Program was one of a number of budget initiatives to reduce costs and generate new revenue. UT also is experiencing growth in enrollment, adopting a new parking system, instituting fees for recreation center memberships (see p. 10), reducing cell phone stipends, and adopting a new winter break schedule.

## UT receives \$420,000 grant to help students through financial emergencies

By Christine Billau

The Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation & Affiliates has awarded The University of Toledo a two-year, \$420,000 grant to help low-income students who experience a financial emergency, such as an unexpected car repair or medical bill, focus on their studies and stay in college.

The Dash Emergency Grant allows UT to provide emergency grants for up to \$1,000 per student to help pay for unexpected costs within 48 hours of the approved application.

students who find themselves in extreme circumstances that otherwise could mean the end of college. We will work collaboratively with partners across campus to make sure students are aware of these resources.”

The UT Office of Multicultural and Student Success is hosting information sessions in July and August about how the application process works. The program will begin providing grants to students in fall 2017.

Since 2012, Great Lakes Higher



UT is one of 32 four-year colleges in six states to be awarded \$7.2 million in grant funding.

A student must meet income eligibility guidelines in order to receive a Dash Emergency Grant.

“Life is full of unexpected challenges, and this grant provides another tool for us to help students through those emergencies so we can keep them in the classroom and on the path to graduation,” UT President Sharon L. Gaber said.

Dr. Michele Soliz, UT assistant vice president for student success and inclusion, focuses on strategic retention initiatives and will serve as program director.

“I’m excited we received this highly competitive award,” Soliz said. “Lack of financial aid is a main reason for not completing a degree. These funds will help

Education Corporation & Affiliates has committed \$3 million to fund emergency grant programs at two-year colleges. This is the first time Great Lakes is providing Dash Emergency Grants to four-year colleges in Arkansas, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio and Wisconsin.

“We’re pleased to extend our emergency grant program to four-year colleges dedicated to helping low-income students overcome financial obstacles,” said Richard D. George, president and chief executive officer of Great Lakes. “In addition to helping more students progress to degree completion, we look forward to learning the nuances between programs at two-year and four-year colleges and sharing that knowledge with other institutions looking to establish emergency grant programs.”

## Student Food Pantry accepting donations

By Madison Vasko

Though it may not always be obvious, one in six Americans faces hunger daily. In Ohio, food insecurity, or the lack of access to enough food to support a household, is higher than the average rate in the United States.

UT is combating hunger with the Student Food Pantry, which provides a sustainable resource to those in need of temporary help.

“It’s essential to our students’ success that they focus on their academics more than where their next meal will be coming from. By eliminating their need to find food, the Student Food Pantry allows the students to focus more on how to be a successful college student with their academics,” said Daniel Boyle, student advocate and student involvement specialist for the Office of Student Advocacy and Support.

Boyle noted that in addition to perishable and nonperishable food items and toiletries,

monetary donations are accepted and appreciated.

“The pantry is 100 percent donations-based,” Boyle said. “The more donations that we receive, the better we can help serve those UT students that need an extra bit of support.”

The Student Food Pantry is located in Thompson Student Union Room 2504, across from the Commuter Lounge. Boyle explained the location provides visibility in an effort to battle any stigma that may have been associated with using the pantry.

“Since the move in February 2016, there have been nearly 900 individual visits to the Student Food Pantry by UT students,” Boyle said.

For more information on the pantry, including eligibility, donations and organizing a food drive, visit [utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/food-pantry](http://utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/food-pantry).



Boyle

Photo by Rachel Nearhoof

## In memoriam

**Rick “Glenn” Amstutz**, Toledo, who was a custodial worker at UT from 1997 until his retirement in 2007, died June 12 at age 61.

**Dr. William H. Clegg**, Toledo, professor emeritus of information systems and operations management, died June 7 at age 91. A UT alumnus, he received a master of business administration degree in 1973 and a doctorate in education in 1978. Clegg began teaching part time as an instructor in 1979. He retired after working 32 years at Owens-Illinois Inc., and then he became an associate professor of computer systems and production management in the College of Business in 1982. Clegg retired in 2000 and received the emeritus designation.

**Dr. Peter M. Lau**, Redmond, Wash., professor emeritus of pathology, died March 23 at age 84. He joined the MCO faculty as a professor in 1975. In 1994, he became a volunteer faculty member and was granted emeritus status when he retired in 2001. He also served as director of transfusion services.

**Marilyn M. (Buschmann) Lindemulder**, Fairfield, Calif., a former UT faculty member from 1997 to 2002, died May 22 at age 81. She received a bachelor of education degree from UT in 1958.

**Patricia F. (Martin) Mercurio**, Toledo, who worked for several years in UT’s Information Technology Department, died June 8 at age 67.

**Robert C. “Pete” Petersen**, Toledo, who was a staff nurse in the emergency room from 1991 to 2003, died June 7 at age 70.

**Richard Schroeder**, Perrysburg, a staff nurse first assistant from 2004 to 2005, died June 3 at age 67.

# UT receives record number of Top Spot Awards from Toledo-Lucas County Health Department

By Madison Vasko

The University of Toledo was recently honored with outstanding recognition for food service and training.

The Top Spot Award, given annually by the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department, recognizes exceptional food operation establishments based on a number of criteria, including food inspections and staff training.

UT Dining Services received a record-breaking 18 Top Spot Awards for locations that included Mulford Garden Café, Agave, Glass Bowl, Java City, Pizza Hut, Scott Park Concessions, Savage Arena, Starbucks, Subway, South Dining Hall and Croutons.

Mario Toussaint, senior director of operations for dining, retail and clinical nutrition, applied for the awards along with other Dining Services leaders. He stressed

that, although many businesses apply and are reviewed, very few make the cut and are recognized as top dining establishments.

“I could not be more proud of our frontline employees for delivering such great outcomes over the 2016 and 2017 survey seasons. Their hard work and devotion in keeping our campuses safe is nothing short of remarkable,” Toussaint said. “We are also very thankful for our partners within the Ohio Department of Health that help guide our journey.”

He added the University received 18 of the 65 awards.

“We received so many accolades that the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department also gave us an overall umbrella award covering the entire University,” Toussaint said.



**RECORD RECOGNITION:** Eric Zgodzinski, health commissioner with the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department, left, presented The University of Toledo a record-breaking 18 Top Spot Awards, which were accepted by Mario Toussaint.

## Seasonal shopping



Photo by Daniel Miller

Tyrene McCroskey, a custodial worker, checked out a couple summer shirts at the Satellites Auxiliary's linens and more sale last week in UT Medical Center's Four Seasons Bistro Atrium. A portion of the sale's proceeds will benefit campus scholarships.

## Camp prep



Photo by Daniel Miller

Mayzie Clark, right, was among the 39 freshman from area high schools who learned how to dress for the operating room during the 20th annual CampMed. The two-day program provides a sampling of medical school through hands-on lessons, which include suturing wounds and making a cast. “CampMed gives students the opportunity to learn firsthand what it's like to be in the medical field before they even start high school,” said Courtney K. Combs, director of the UT and Ohio Area Health Education Center programs. CampMed is a scholarship program at no cost to the students, most of whom are first-generation college students and other underrepresented groups. The camp is sponsored by the UT Area Health Education Center program, which strives to improve the health of individuals and communities by developing the health-care workforce. First- and second-year UT medical students serve as camp counselors, and the campers also interact with physicians and faculty members.

# Walk this way: Discover downtown tours scheduled this summer

**G**rab comfortable shoes and step it up at lunch: Check out the new places featured in this summer's 33rd annual Discover Downtown Toledo Walking Tours.

The free, public tours will be held rain or shine every Thursday from July 6 through Aug. 24 from noon to 1 p.m.

Sponsored by the The University of Toledo Jack Ford Urban Affairs Center and the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, the tours will be:

- **JULY 6** — Fifth Third Building. See the view from Toledo's tallest skyscraper. Meet in the lobby of One Seagate on Summit Street. Photo ID required for access to upper floors.
- **JULY 13** — The Oliver House, 27 Broadway St. Built in 1859, this is the Glass City's oldest commercial

structure in continual use. Learn how the building has been adapted over the years. Meet in the parking lot.

- **JULY 20** — Adams Street and Uptown. Walk along Adams Street from 10th Street to 18th Street. Meet on the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library's north lawn at Adams and Michigan streets.
- **JULY 27** — Middlegrounds Metropark. See spectacular views of the city from Toledo's newest park. Meet in the main parking lot, 111 Ottawa St.
- **AUG. 3** — Westmoreland Historic Neighborhood. Experience one of Toledo's most elegant early 20th-century neighborhoods; it is a local and national historic district. Meet

on the center island at Mt Vernon and Grand avenues.

- **AUG. 10** — Collingwood Arts Center. One of the earliest homes of the Old West End grew into a religious complex and then into one of the city's premier arts centers. Meet at 2413 Blvd. Parking available at center.
- **AUG. 17** — Royal Hotel. The new owners will discuss their restoration plans for the building. Meet in front of 337 Broadway St.
- **AUG. 24** — Old Orchard Neighborhood. Discover how this area got its name, and learn about its streets, architecture and early residents. Meet at Kenwood Boulevard and Pemberton Drive; park near Kenwood.

"We wanted to expand our offerings and explore other popular areas of Toledo this summer," said Dr. Neil Reid, UT professor of geography and director of the Jack Ford Urban Affairs Center. "The Middlegrounds Metropark, Royal Hotel, Collingwood Arts Center, and the Old Orchard and Westmoreland neighborhoods are new tours."

He added the tours are led by guides who are passionate about the city and trained in Toledo history and architecture.

Participants will receive a copy of the award-winning "Discover Downtown Toledo Walking Tour Guidebook."

For more information, call the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library Local History and Genealogy Department at 419.259.5233.



Photos by Daniel Miller

**IN THE CITY:** One of this summer's new Discover Downtown Toledo Walking Tours is the Middlegrounds Metropark. Be there Thursday, July 27, to learn about the 28-acre urban green space that features a 1.5-mile path along the Maumee River.



**ON THE RIVERFRONT:** University Photographer Daniel Miller took this photo from the Middlegrounds Metropark.



**BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD:** Check out the homes in Westmoreland, which was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1986. Even if it's not a beautiful Thursday, Aug. 3, bring an umbrella for the free walking tour.

# National Youth Sports Program provides positive, safe environment for at-risk kids

By Madison Vasko

So many smiles, so much laughter, such determination — it’s easy to see local kids love The University of Toledo’s National Youth Sports Program (NYSP).

And they’re happy to talk about the summer camp that offers sports instruction and educational enrichment.

“Swimming and track are my favorites at NYSP,” Delmar Lightner, 13, said. “Swimming because of the diving board, and track because of the long jump.”

“I love the kids in my group who are nice,” Qarinn Hopings, 10, said. “The counselors are helpful and nice, too.”

“I like NYSP because I like track, and I get better and better every year,” Amarion Jordan, 12, said.

“I love NYSP because of basketball, the new drills, and because we won the championship game,” Miracle Buchanon, 15, said and beamed.

“What I like about NYSP are the different events — the talent show, going fishing, swimming and pool party, and ice cream,” Ariaahna Webb-Bragg, 11, said.

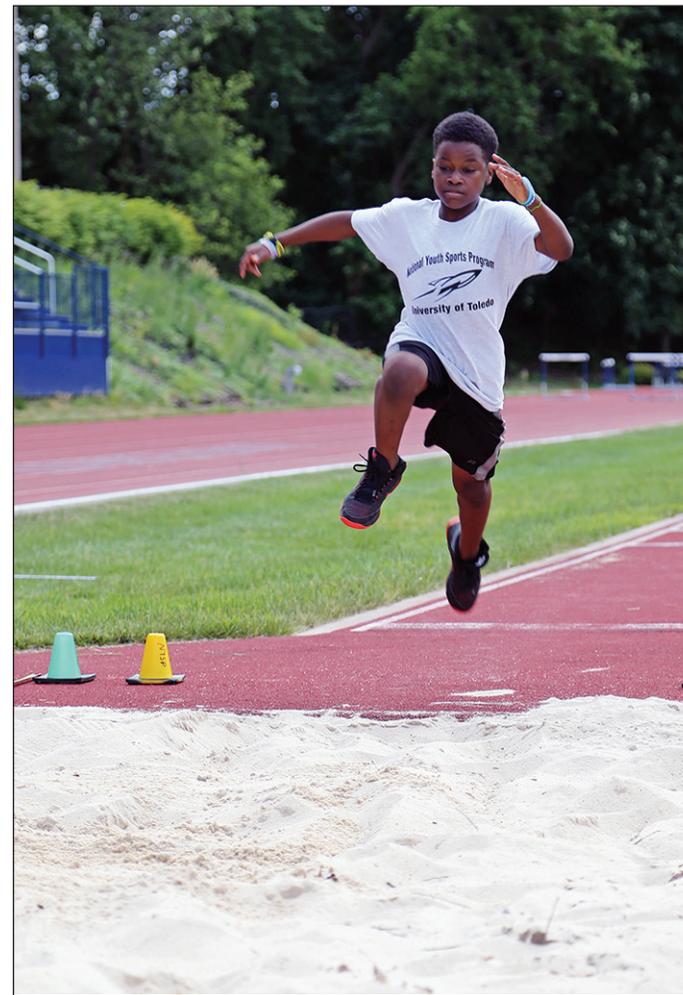
Approximately 150 Toledo youths attended the program this year.

“We offer a safe and nurturing environment for children ages 9 to 16 to enjoy a variety of age-appropriate recreational and educational activities such as swimming, track, giant foosball, origami making, fishing, soccer, basketball, parachute games, theme days and more,” said Dr. Ruthie Kucharewski, professor and chair in the School of Exercise and Rehabilitation Sciences, and NYSP director. “Many children do not have the opportunity to attend other programs or activities in the city, and our program on campus provides bus service, a free hot lunch, a free medical physical, a free T-shirt, and mentorship from adults from the community and campus, UT student-athletes and UT recreation therapy majors who enjoy working with children.”

Starting in 1968, UT was one of the first universities in the country to offer the federally funded program sponsored by the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

Kucharewski said even after federal funding for the program was cut, UT continued to operate the camp through fundraising, in-kind donations, and commitment

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Photos by Rachel Nearhoof

**FLYING HIGH:** A camper soared through the air during the long jump on the track.

**CLOSE ENCOUNTERS:**

UT football player Nate Jeppesen, a counselor with the National Youth Sports Program, met a giraffe during a field trip to Indian Creek Petting Zoo in Lambertville, Mich.



**SMILE:** UT President Sharon L. Gaber, right, posed for a photo with this year’s National Youth Sports Program participants and counselors.

# Public invited to CDC chemist's talk at UT on exposure to algal bloom toxins

By Christine Billau

The University of Toledo Water Task Force is hosting a free, public event about algal bloom toxins and the impact they can have on people.



Hamelin

Environmental Health in Atlanta, will give a talk titled "Monitoring and Measuring Human Exposure to Algal Toxins" from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Center for Creative

Elizabeth Hamelin, analytical chemist for the Division of Laboratory Sciences in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for

Instruction Room 1200 on Health Science Campus.

Hamelin develops analytical methods to detect human exposure to toxins and poisons.

"Elizabeth Hamelin is a collaborator on microcystin research projects at UT, and her visit to campus is a great opportunity for the community to learn how scientists are examining what safe limits are for the public," Dr. David Kennedy, assistant professor in the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine in the UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences, said.

Kennedy's UT team is studying effects of algal bloom toxins on the liver using mice as a model.

"Microcystin is a toxin that specifically targets the liver, a vital organ that needs to be healthy in order to process the food you eat," Kennedy said. "We are re-evaluating

the level of microcystin exposure being called safe, whether it's swallowed while swimming at the beach or through the tap should toxic algae contaminate the public water supply."

The UT Water Task Force, which is comprised of faculty and researchers in diverse fields spanning the University's colleges, UT Medical Center and UT Lake Erie Center, serves as a resource for government officials and the public looking for expertise on investigating the causes and effects of algal blooms, the health of Lake Erie, and the health of the communities depending on its water. The task force includes experts in economics, engineering, environmental sciences, chemistry and biochemistry, geography and planning, and medical microbiology and immunology.

Water quality is a major research focus at UT. With \$12.5 million in active grants

underway, UT experts are studying algal blooms, invasive species such as Asian carp, and pollutants. Researchers are looking for pathways to restore our greatest natural resource for future generations to ensure communities continue to have access to safe drinking water.

Researchers and students help to protect the public drinking water supply for the greater Toledo area throughout summer algal bloom season by conducting water sampling to alert water treatment plant operators of any toxins heading toward the water intake. UT's 28-foot research vessel and early warning buoy enable the University to partner with the city of Toledo and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to monitor the health of the lake and provide real-time data.



## Closer look

UT alumnus Fred Espenak, right, checked out Ritter Observatory's 1-meter reflecting telescope with Dr. Mike Cushing, associate professor of astronomy and director of Ritter Planetarium. Espenak, a retired NASA astrophysicist, returned to campus June 15 and gave a talk to preview the Aug. 21 total solar eclipse. More than 150 attended his presentation to hear about the sensational sky show that stars the moon passing between the sun and Earth. Espenak has visited seven continents for 27 total eclipses. Two photos by the man known as Mr. Eclipse appear on the U.S. Postal Service's stamp to commemorate the Aug. 21 celestial spectacle. It is the first American stamp that uses thermochromic ink; with the touch of a finger, the image changes from the total solar eclipse to the full moon. His talk was funded by the Helen Luedtke Brooks Endowed Professorship in Astronomy.

Photo by Daniel Miller

## College of Law’s graduate certificates in compliance re-launched as online program

Starting fall semester, The University of Toledo College of Law’s Graduate Certificates in Compliance Program will be available as an online, part-time program, allowing students to learn about compliance and law in a more flexible manner.

Bringing each graduate certificate in compliance online means the program is more accessible to working professionals or those wanting to launch a career in compliance, according to Kirsten Winek, director of communications, special programs and financial aid in the College of Law.

“The online course work is asynchronous, meaning that it can be completed even if one travels for work, can only study in the evenings, or has a variable schedule,” she said. “Adding to this accessibility is the fact that course work can be completed in 10 to 12 months on a part-time basis.”

The program allows students to choose one of three graduate certificates in compliance — higher education compliance, health-care compliance and general compliance — that range between 15 to 17 credits. However, regardless of program, all students take a 14-credit core of foundational compliance course work in areas such as ethics; organizational governance; statutory and regulatory interpretation; privacy and data security; compliance education; and auditing, investigating and reporting.

Agnieszka McPeak, assistant professor of law, teaches Privacy and Data Security. “Individuals and companies interact with technology daily, and my goal in teaching privacy

and data security is to show how this topic affects our personal and professional existence,” she explained. “We therefore cover the practical and technical background as well as the legal and business dimensions of privacy and data security, drawing on real-world, current examples and our own personal experiences.”

The remaining credits include course work specialized to each certificate, such as higher education law, health-care law, or a faculty-supervised research project for students enrolled in the certificate in general compliance.

Working professionals enrolled in the program have found the course work valuable and can fit the program into a busy schedule. “My course load has been manageable each semester, and I have had great opportunities to learn not only from the professors, but also from the other students within the course,” said student and UT Residence Life Area Coordinator Brad Ledingham.

Christine Wile, a student who is an administrative assistant in admissions in the UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences, added, “I found the program to be a win-win for individuals looking for an edge to advance professionally and academically. The courses are relevant and applicable in today’s complex work environments because the law professors and professionals in the compliance field teaching the classes are at the cutting edge of today’s issues.”

For more information on this program, contact Winek at [kirsten.winek@utoledo.edu](mailto:kirsten.winek@utoledo.edu).

## Honoré



Law Professor Benjamin Davis traveled to Paris this month for the International Chamber of Commerce’s Online Dispute Resolution Conference. While there, Davis led a panel on online dispute resolution for consumer disputes that looked comparatively at the approaches used in the European Union and Latin America. He also was honored by the conference organizers as a pioneer in online dispute resolution.

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# Sign up for Student Recreation Center, Morse Fitness Center memberships

As previously announced, membership plans for UT recreation and fitness facilities will change beginning July 1, when memberships will be available for purchase.

The employee, retiree, alumni, community and family memberships provide access to the Student Recreation Center on Main Campus and the Morse Fitness Center on Health Science Campus.

Memberships can be purchased annually or by semester. The new annual rates are:

Faculty, staff, retirees and spouses*	\$240
Family membership for UT employees and retirees	\$390
Alumni and spouses of UT graduates	\$300
Alumni family membership	\$450
Community member	\$390
Community family membership	\$630

Throughout the year, family hours for minors will be expanded to 9 p.m. daily. All RocketEx group classes will continue to be offered to members at no additional cost.

Full-time employees can sign up for an annual membership with payroll deduction using the myUT portal. Go to Other HR Information in the left-hand column of the Employee tab and click on Rec Center Access to specify a plan.

The sign-up period for payroll deduction is July 1 to Aug. 6. All current memberships will be honored through the sign-up period.

All other employees, retirees, alumni and community members can purchase memberships starting July 1 in

\*Does not apply to faculty who have membership provided for as part of an existing collective bargaining agreement.

person at either the Student Recreation Center or Morse Fitness Center.

Faculty who are part of an existing collective bargaining agreement are required to complete an annual digital waiver beginning July 1 at the Student Recreation Center or Morse Fitness Center.

The new membership plans are among the budget initiatives adopted by the University to reduce costs and generate new income.

For more information on memberships rates, hours and programs, go to [utrecenter.com](http://utrecenter.com) or contact the Office of Recreational Services at 419.530.3700.

## Nike

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O'Brien. "Nike is one of the most recognizable and innovative brands in the world, so we feel this partnership will be very beneficial for our program. Partnering with Nike will also create a consistent brand for our Athletic Department. Many of our student-athletes have told me that they are very excited to be wearing the swoosh on their uniforms, shoes and other apparel."

"Nike is proud to partner with The University of Toledo Athletic Department," said Kit Morris, Nike senior director of college sports marketing. "We look forward to outfitting Rocket student-athletes with the best in Nike footwear, uniform and apparel innovation."

UT will begin rolling out Nike-branded apparel for football and other sports over the upcoming weeks. Rocky's Locker, the official apparel store of Rocket Athletics located in Savage Arena, also will be featuring new Nike apparel.

"Nike is an incredible athletic brand with strong appeal to our players and fans," said Football Coach Jason Candle. "Our players are thrilled to be wearing Nike footwear and uniforms this fall. I'm looking forward to a tremendous partnership with Nike and Toledo football in the years to come."

"I'm excited about making the switch to Nike," said Cody Thompson, senior football player. "I've always been a Nike guy growing up. They're the alpha dog of the sports world. I can't wait!"

"Toledo women's basketball has been with Nike since 2008. We greatly value the quality Nike provides in their shoes, apparel and basketballs," said Women's Basketball Coach Tricia Cullop. "I'm

excited to see our entire athletic department partner with Nike as it unifies our Toledo brand. Not only do our players and coaches appreciate wearing Nike apparel and shoes, but it is also of great value on the recruiting trail. Recruits do pay attention to what you wear, as many players grow up relying on the quality of Nike's products and have a wish to continue wearing it in the future."

Men's Basketball Coach Tod Kowalczyk said, "I am extremely proud of the 15-year relationship I have had with Nike college basketball. Nike is by far the leader in their industry and always has the best product. I can assure you, our players and coaches would not want anything but Nike. We are a proud Nike basketball program."

"We're very excited to be partnering with Nike. They are the premier apparel and footwear company in the sports world," said Track/Cross Country Coach Linh Nguyen. "This partnership shows a continued commitment to being the very best at The University of Toledo. The cross country and track program couldn't be happier to outfit our student-athletes in the world's most recognizable brand."

Nike Inc., based near Beaverton, Ore., is the world's leading designer, marketer and distributor of authentic athletic footwear, apparel, equipment and accessories for a wide variety of sports and fitness activities. Wholly owned Nike Inc. subsidiary brands include Converse, which designs, markets and distributes athletic lifestyle footwear, apparel and accessories; and Hurley, which designs, markets and distributes surf and youth lifestyle footwear, apparel and accessories.

## UTNEWS

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## Making a difference



Photo by Daniel Miller

The UT Medical Center Emergency Department collected the most stuffed animals for the Volunteer Services Office and won a pizza party. Posing for a photo were, standing from left, Val Abbott, lead technical typist; Kevin Kraus, staff nurse; Dr. Walid Mahmoud, clinical assistant professor of emergency medicine; and Candus Huggins, nursing assistant; and, seated from left, Tamara Gregory, registration specialist; Nancy Maenle, paramedic; and Deanna Montanaro, nursing director in the Emergency Department. It was the second year in a row the Emergency Department collected the most stuffed animals; last year they donated 264, and this year 317. Volunteers put UT ribbons on the animals that will be given to patients at the hospital. Stuffed animals may be donated anytime; stop by the UTMC Volunteer Services Office in Dowling Hall Room 0075 or call 419.383.3835.

## Coding boot camp at UT starts July 3

By Christine Billau

This summer The University of Toledo will host a five-week coding boot camp for people interested in learning how to write software and pursue a career in creating web-sites, mobile apps and video games.

The program hosted by Code City, a group of technology entrepreneurs in Toledo, will run from Monday, July 3, through Sunday, Aug. 6, in UT's Launchpad Incubation in the Nitschke Technology Commercialization Complex.

Participants will spend 30 hours per week during nights and weekends taking an online class to learn how to code.

The Toledo program, which is San Francisco-based Hack Reactor's pilot course in the Midwest, costs \$250, and the registration deadline is Monday, July 3.

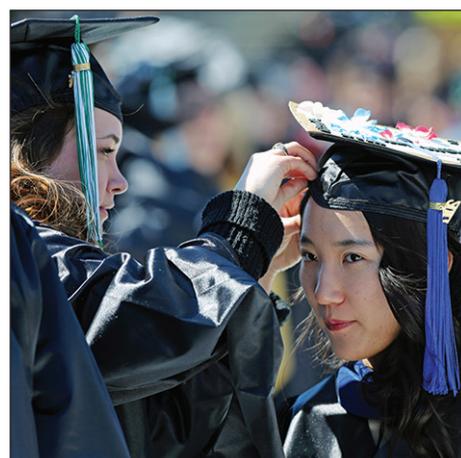
"This could be a fantastic opportunity for people in Toledo who want to become coders," said Nate Walke, co-founder of Code City. "At a time when we're seeing an exponential change in the tech sphere with self-driving cars, smart houses and automated everything, people who want to help build those things can learn how to do just that. They can literally build the future."

The first part of the Hack Reactor course covers JavaScript fundamentals. The rest of the curriculum covers computer science fundamentals, higher order functions, recursion, and how to build a basic web application.

For more information and to register, go to [codecity.co/hack-reactor-remote-2](http://codecity.co/hack-reactor-remote-2).



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## National Youth Sports Program

continued from p. 7

from the University to provide some funding and facilities.

This summer, youths enjoyed a wide variety of enriching activities, including the Hometown Heroes series, which brought in local speakers. UT Women's Basketball Coach Tricia Cullop; Toledo fire fighters; Jordan Strack, WTOL sports and news broadcaster; and Scott High School Principal Carnell Smith talked to the campers.

"The first week went better than I could have imagined. Seeing the campers enjoy the activities planned and connecting with their group leaders is an amazing experience. The kids truly look forward to coming to camp each day," said Claire Copa, project liaison for NYSP. "The camp finished up strong this year

with several other activities — a talent show, pool party, and field trips to Indian Creek Petting Zoo and Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs at Olander Park."

Copa cited recreational therapy as one of her favorite parts of the NYSP experience, since many of the campers would not have access to it otherwise. She spoke about the importance of teaching children not only how to be physically healthy, but to develop emotional health as well.

For more information on NYSP, visit [utoledo.edu/hhs/clinics/nysp](http://utoledo.edu/hhs/clinics/nysp).

To give a gift to the National Youth Sports Program Fund, contact the UT Foundation at 419.530.7730 or go to [give2ut.utoledo.edu](http://give2ut.utoledo.edu) and search NYSP.



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