National Lab Day at UToledo to Fuel Region’s Engagement With Preeminent Scientists, World-Class Facilities

By Christine Billau

For the first time, The University of Toledo will host National Lab Day to connect students and researchers with scientists from U.S. Department of Energy national laboratories and explore opportunities for additional partnerships.

The event to enhance northwest Ohio’s collaborations to make discoveries, find innovative solutions, and create groundbreaking technology will take place Thursday and Friday, Oct. 10 and 11, on the University’s Main Campus.

“We are proud to welcome to our campus the country’s preeminent scientists from world-class facilities across the country,” UToledo President Sharon L. Gaber said. “This event presents an extraordinary opportunity for our students and scientists. We appreciate the Department of Energy recognizing UToledo’s momentum in advancing science and selecting us to host National Lab Day.”

A kickoff ceremony will be held at 8:45 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 10, in Nitschke Auditorium and feature Gaber, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur and Chris Fall, director of the Department of Energy’s Office of Science.

“From manufacturing the first Jeeps for the U.S. government at the onset of World War II, to the founding of America’s largest solar company – First Solar – Toledo has a long and storied history as a world leader in manufacturing, national security, and cutting-edge research and development,” Kaptur said. “That is why Toledo is the perfect place to host an event like National Lab Day. Partnership is at the core of the success of our national labs, and National Lab Day will help facilitate important and long-lasting partnerships that bring students and faculty together with the National Lab directors.”

The Department of Energy maintains 17 national labs that tackle the critical scientific and national security challenges of our time – from combating climate change to discovering the origins of our universe – and possess unique instruments and facilities, many of which are found nowhere else in the world.

Toledo native and director of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Mike Witherell, who grew up just blocks from the University, is a key organizer of the event.

“The University of Toledo is experiencing tremendous growth in its research enterprise,” Witherell said. “As a resource for the nation, the Department of Energy national laboratories are a resource for the University as it innovates and drives economic growth for Toledo, the northwest Ohio region, the state and the nation. My colleagues from the labs and I are delighted to join with the University

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Scary-Good Time

Running back Shakif Seymour led the way for quarterback Mitchell Guadagni to score a touchdown in Toledo’s 31-24 win over Western Michigan Saturday in the Glass Bowl. More than 22,000 fans were at the Homecoming game, which was another thriller coming down to the last play. Players sported replica jerseys to pay tribute to the 1969 Toledo team that went 11-0 and started the Rockets’ 35-0 winning streak that continued in 1970 and 1971.

Women’s Basketball Coach Tricia Cullop and former Rocket and NFL quarterback Bruce Gradkowski were among the UToledo luminaries in the Edward C. and Helen G. Schmakel Homecoming Parade.

UToledo fans were ready for Rocky’s Haunted Homecoming with spirited celebrations.

Photos by Daniel Miller
UT Alerts Now Delivered to Campus Computers, Phones

By Meghan Cunningham

In the event of a serious emergency on campus, alerts can now be delivered directly to your computer monitor and office phone displays.

In addition to the UT Alert text, email and social media messages, new upgrades allow The University of Toledo to activate pop-up messages on computers and new office phones connected to the UToledo network. University devices connected wirelessly also will receive the notifications.

“In an emergency situation, we want to communicate with you what we know quickly to keep you safe. This new technology integration provides us that opportunity,” UToledo Police Chief and Director of Public Safety Jeff Newton said. “A UT Alert text message has become the way people expect to hear from us in an emergency, and we like the repetition this upgrade provides to also reach you on your computer and your office phone to be sure you get the message.”

Along with the upgrades to the platforms that receive the UT Alert message, UToledo has gone to an opt-out design for the UT Alert system. Previously, users had to opt in and provide their cell phone contact information to receive the texts. Now cell phone information from Banner can be connected to the UT Alert system. All students currently enrolled have been signed up for UT Alert.

“It is important that all students and staff make sure that their local contact information in our Banner systems is up-to-date so we are sending any alerts to your current cell phone,” Newton said. “You don’t want to miss emergency messages.”

Students are asked to update their contact information in Banner by selecting the Update Addresses & Phones link in the myUT portal. Employees, staff and others are in the process of being automated and should continue to opt in to receive UT Alerts.

UToledo also is protected by Rave Guardian. Campus police encourage you to download the free mobile app to put safety services at your fingertips. The app has a safety timer and panic button to immediately contact police in an emergency and uses your GPS location to get help to you faster.

Acting as an active bystander, app users also can report crimes and other suspicious activity directly to UToledo Police through the app. It is customized to allow users to send tips anonymously and includes a directory of support service contacts.

The app, which is available to download for Android or iPhone, also allows trusted friends or “guardians” to receive the same information as the police. New safety initiatives this year include additional cameras in the parking garages and two new electric vehicles as part of the Night Watch safe ride service. To request Night Watch, call 419.530.3024 and a team will be dispatched to your location to assist in getting you to your desired location.

As a reminder, campus police encourage you to dial 911 in the event of a serious crime in progress or a medical or fire emergency on campus.

Continue to call University Police directly at 419.530.2600 for non-emergency police services.

UT Medical Center employees should continue to call Health Science Campus Security at 419.383.2600 for assistance with hospital codes.

Read more about the UT Alert system at utoledo.edu/publicsafety/utalert.

National Lab Day

National Lab Day to explore the many exciting possibilities for engagement.”

Participants in National Lab Day 2019 at UToledo will meet laboratory directors and researchers; explore funding and fellowship opportunities; discover facilities open to academic and industry scientists; and learn about student internships and postdoctoral fellowships.

UToledo scientists will lead panel discussions with national laboratory scientists on a variety of topics, including:

- The Land-Water Interface: The Great Lakes Region and the World;
- Sustainability and Life Cycle Assessment;
- Structural Biology, Imaging and Spectroscopy;
- Astrophysics;
- Exposure Science – ‘Omics’ Applications for Human Health;
- Materials and Manufacturing; and
- Photovoltaics.

Registration, which is open for the academic and commercial research community, is required. Visit utoledo.edu/research/national-lab-day to register.

As part of National Lab Day, about 100 high school seniors will be on campus Friday, Oct. 11, to learn about career paths in STEM, meet national laboratory scientists, and learn about each of the national laboratories.
The University of Toledo is part of a regional team of scientists awarded a $408,371 grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to test a new, compact, lightweight, hand-held tool that rapidly measures algal bloom toxin levels and to integrate the device with current monitoring systems.

The three-year grant is one of 12 totaling $10.2 million that NOAA announced it is allocating across the country to protect marine resources, public health and coastal economies from exposure to harmful algal blooms (HABs).

“Through the National Centers for Ocean Science, NOAA is funding the latest scientific research to support environmental managers trying to cope with increasing and recurring toxic algae that continue to affect environmental and human health and coastal economies,” said Dr. Steven Thur, director of NOAA’s National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science. “Improved understanding of these coastal HAB threats will lead to better bloom observation and prediction, and help to mitigate effects along the U.S. coast.”

Dr. Tom Bridgeman, director of the UToledo Lake Erie Center and professor of ecology, said the device could provide water treatment plant managers, beach managers and others along Lake Erie and around the world with rapid measurements of algal toxins in order to make timely decisions about treating water or beach use during the algal bloom season.

“If the new technology proves to be reliable, it would provide a significant advance in public safety,” Bridgeman said. “Instead of sending a water sample off to a laboratory and waiting a few days for an answer, a beach manager, charter captain or water treatment professional could use the device to get an accurate measurement of toxin levels right on the spot.

“An additional advantage is that no special skills or training are needed to use the device. This project is about testing the device against the current standard lab methods of measuring toxin, determining whether non-experts can produce reliable measurements with it, and then getting it into the hands of people who can make the best use of it.”

UToledo’s partners in the grant include Bowling Green State University, Ohio State University, University of Michigan Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research, LimnoTech Inc., MBIO Diagnostics Inc., NOAA and National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science.

According to the award, the project, which has a total anticipated funding of $876,843, will pilot use of a commercially available, rapid, portable system capable of quantitative detection of cyanobacterial toxins, cylindrospermopsins and microcystins. This system will be integrated into existing monitoring programs that engage recreational beach managers, water treatment plant operators, charter boat captains and state environmental scientists. The researchers will analyze and determine the system’s accuracy.

Clark D. Ausloos, a doctoral candidate in The University of Toledo’s Counselor Education Program, is one of 20 students in the country selected for the National Board for Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program.

As a Fellow, Ausloos will receive $20,000 from the National Board for Certified Counselors Foundation and training to support his education and facilitate his clinical service to underserved minority populations.

Ausloos is slated to propose his dissertation this fall and defend in spring 2020. He received a master’s degree in counselor education, with both school counseling and clinical mental health counseling endorsements, from UToledo in 2016.

His clinical and research interests focus on school and clinical counseling for underserved, unrepresented, nondominant identities, including sexual (or affective) orientation, gender identity and expression, clients of varying social class, and persons of varying ability and disability statuses.

“As someone who personally identifies within the LGBTQIA+ communities, I have personally experienced discrimination and marginalization in my life,” Ausloos said. “This fueled my passion for working with these communities, specifically youth.”

He and research partners, Lena Salpietro and Madeline Clark, were recently published in the Journal of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues in Counseling. Their July article examines the counseling relationship and outcomes with cisgender counselors and transgender clients.

Ausloos has worked as an instructor for both graduate and undergraduate courses, including clinical and school internships, individual and group assessment, career counseling and development, substance abuse treatment techniques, and foundations of human mental health.

“The UToledo doctoral program in counselor education is a rigorous program that allows students to increase competency in teaching, research, counseling, supervision, leadership and advocacy – which is why I love it,” Ausloos said.
Events Planned at UToledo for Muslim Heritage Month

It’s October and time to celebrate Muslim Heritage Month.

“Muslim Heritage Month is a time for all of us, regardless of our beliefs and practices, to remember who we are and where we come from,” said Rida Naqvi, co-president of the Muslim Student Association. “We hope that this month brings the opportunity for each of us at The University of Toledo to come together and welcome different ideas and traditions.”

Listed by date, events facilitated through the Office of Multicultural Student Success and the Muslim Student Association include:

- **Monday, Oct. 7** – Muslim Student Association Bonfire, 7 p.m., the Flatlands. Have some sweet treats and meet members.
- **Friday, Oct. 18** – Public Jumma Prayer, time to be announced, Thompson Student Union Ingman Room. Observe Friday prayer and learn more about Muslim religious beliefs and practices.
- **Thursday, Oct. 24** – Volleyball Tournament, 6 to 9 p.m., Health Education Center Court Three. Dig it – and get to know UToledo Muslim community members.
- **Monday, Oct. 28** – Interfaith Panel, 6 p.m., Thompson Student Union Room 2592. Join an interfaith dialogue and learn about different beliefs.

“We look forward to joining with the campus community as we celebrate our Muslim Heritage and learn more about each other,” Naqvi, who is majoring in biology, said.

For more information, call the Office of Multicultural Student Success at 419.530.2261.
Installation at UToledo Draws Attention to Domestic Violence Awareness Month

The starkly beautiful tables draped with black cloths and purple runners with violet centerpieces and white place settings tell somber stories:

- Janae Wilson was stabbed by her partner with a kitchen knife during an argument in their Toledo apartment in 2009. The 24-year-old died four days later.
- Maria Vera took her two children to visit their father who was just released from prison. At her mother-in-law’s house with her children in the next room, Vera was stabbed repeatedly with a screwdriver by her estranged husband. After being on life support for two weeks, the Norwalk, Ohio, resident died at age 22 in 2011.
- Amber Nichole Jones and her 3-year-old son, Jorgie, were shot and killed by her ex-boyfriend Oct. 16, 2012, in Bowling Green, Ohio. The 26-year-old was buried with her son in her arms.

The Empty Place at the Table installation will be on display in seven dining facilities at The University of Toledo during October for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

“This installation is grounded in awareness and remembering individuals lost to domestic violence in northwest Ohio,” Vicky Kulicke, director of Title IX and compliance, said. “It raises awareness quietly through powerful stories of real girls and women from our community lost to domestic violence. The empty place at the table demonstrates there will always be an emptiness in the families and community of the victims.”

Kulicke said the stories are on loan from the Silent Witness Project at the Bethany House, a long-term shelter in northwest Ohio for victims and their children who are escaping domestic violence. The project also is made possible through the generosity of UToledo Dining.

Maya Mineoi, graduate assistant in the Title IX Office, was moved by the installation.

“We share meals with people we love. I’m reminded of the reality that many people are sitting down to a meal today without their child, parent or friend,” Mineoi said. “I hope that we can honor these families by practicing healthy accountability and respect within our relationships.”

In 1993, the installation was created following several domestic violence murders in Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania. It serves as a reminder of the devastating results of domestic violence and helps ensure victims are remembered.

UToledo community members can see the tables and read the stories in dining locations in the Thompson Student Union, Ottawa House East, North Engineering Building and Carlson Library on Main Campus, and at the Four Seasons Bistro at The University of Toledo Medical Center on Health Science Campus.

For more information on the installation, contact the Title IX Office at 419.530.4191 or go to utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/saepp.
Oct. 9 Deadline to Apply for Graduation to be Included in Commencement Program

Attention graduating students: Do you want your name in the commencement program? Apply for graduation by Wednesday, Oct. 9.

Students who have not yet applied for graduation and plan to participate in the fall commencement ceremony need to complete the online application through the myUT portal.

Candidates who apply to graduate after Oct. 9 will not have their names appear in the commencement program.

While completing the online graduation application, you will be asked to enter your name as you want it to appear on your diploma, as well as in the commencement program, using your legal last name.

If you are earning more than one degree, complete a separate application for each degree.

An online application must be completed in order to graduate even if a student does not intend to participate in commencement.

Students who have already applied will have their names in the program.

Instructions to aid students in completing the application or viewing previously submitted applications may be found at utoledo.edu/offices/registrar/graduation.html.

Questions may be directed to graduation@utoledo.edu.

Annual Security and Fire Safety Report Available

By Christine Wasserman

The University of Toledo’s 2019 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report has been completed and is available online at utoledo.edu/offices/internalaudit/clery-act/annual-security-and-fire-safety-reports.html.

The report includes information about crime prevention, emergency procedures, incident reporting and crime statistics, both on and adjacent to the University’s campuses.

Additionally, in compliance with the Clery Act, the annual report includes reported campus crime statistics for the past three years, as well as information about campus safety and the University’s security policies. UToledo’s previous Security and Fire Safety Reports – for 2014 through 2018 – are publicly available and may be accessed at utoledo.edu/offices/internalaudit/clery-act/annual-security-and-fire-safety-reports.html.

“Our No. 1 goal is keeping our students, faculty, staff, patients and visitors safe,” said Elliott Nickeson, Clery Act compliance officer, who compiles the report. “Ensuring everyone’s safety on campus requires ongoing collaboration among campus community members, as well as external partners such as law enforcement officers, emergency responders and block-watch leaders.”

If an emergency or crime-related incident occurs, every member of the campus community should know what to do, Nickeson stated.

Students and staff are strongly encouraged to download RaveGuardian, a free smart mobile app that offers a panic button to immediately contact police and a GPS feature that shows your location. The app also enables you to communicate with UToledo Police via text messaging and provides a directory of on- and off-campus safety resources. Go to utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/saapp/mobileapps.html.

“Publishing our annual Security and Fire Safety Report is one more way the University can educate students and others about the importance of safety, how carefully we’re monitoring reported occurrences, and specifically what we’re doing to continually improve our efforts to keep everyone safe on campus,” Nickeson said.

So Cool

Megan Stoops, a student majoring in psychology, added lime to her shaved ice at the Kona Ice truck that was on Centennial Mall Oct. 1 for Eat the Streets, an event for Homecoming week.

Photo by Cameron Norton
Employee Good Idea Initiative Announced

UToledo employees: Have an idea on how to improve something at the University? How UToledo can retain students or maybe save some money? Submit your suggestions to the Good Idea Initiative.

This new program will reward and recognize employees’ ideas that make an impact in either promoting student success through increasing graduation, retention or enrollment; or increased efficiency, process improvements or cost savings/avoidance.

“At The University of Toledo, we strive to be a student-centered university,” UToledo President Sharon L. Gaber said. “Building on that effort, I am proud to announce UToledo’s Good Idea Initiative, an opportunity for employees to suggest their creative ideas and innovations that will make UToledo more student-centered and more resourceful.

“I know every employee possesses a unique perspective on areas where we could be doing better. This gives them the opportunity to share those ideas and get rewarded,” she said.

Ideas can be submitted at u Toledo.edu/offices/president/idea through Friday, Oct. 18.

A selection committee will review the suggestions and pick the best and most implementable ideas from both categories. Winners will be announced before Thanksgiving.

Awards will include an employee’s choice of a small stipend or a catered lunch for the winner and up to nine additional co-workers.

Puppy Love

Alexis Alvarado, a junior majoring in political science, visited Audrey, a therapy dog, Sept. 27 during The University of Toledo Counseling Center open house. The 1-year-old golden retriever-Labrador mix certified by the Alliance of Therapy Dogs belongs to Debbie Andrews, director of graduate enrollment management in the College of Graduate Studies. If you missed the open house, Audrey will be on campus Wednesdays in the College of Graduate Studies in University Hall Room 3240 and at the Counseling Center from noon to 1 p.m. Students and employees are welcome to stop by the Counseling Center for support; it is located in the University Health Center, across from the Horton International House on Main Campus.

IN MEMORIAM

Neil Frankenhauser, Toledo, who taught art classes at the University, died Sept. 18 at age 79.

William J. O’Keefe, Toledo, a former adjunct faculty member in the College of Pharmacy, died Sept. 25 at age 81.

Sylvester “Sonny” Smith, Toledo, who served as president of the Varsity T Club for 25 years, died Sept. 29 at age 86. He played for the Rockets on the football and baseball fields from 1951 to 1955, when he graduated with a bachelor’s degree in education. He later served as president of the Varsity T Club; during his 25-year tenure, club membership grew, a pavilion was added to campus celebrating the achievements of past athletes, and an endowment fund was created to honor and memorialize athletes and coaches. Smith was inducted into the Varsity T Hall of Fame in 2002 and four years later received the Varsity T Club Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his dedicated service.

Michael D. Wilkins, Blacklick, Ohio, who was executive director of the MCO Foundation from 1995 to 2001, died Sept. 25 at age 50. A UToledo alumnus, he received a bachelor’s degree in business administration majoring in accounting in 1990 and a master of business administration degree in administration in 1997.
Day of Giving College Events and Giving Stations

**Tuesday, Oct. 15**

**Day of Giving Fall Festival — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Centennial Mall**
- Student organizations will host booths with games.
- The Rocket Marching Band and UToledo cheerleaders will perform.
- President Sharon L. Gaber will greet students from noon to 12:30 p.m.
- The festival also will offer a dog-petting station, corn hole games, a basketball contest, pie in the face, wax hands, pumpkin bowling and pumpkin golf.

**College of Business and Innovation — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Stranahan Hall**
- Giving station with ice cream.

**Judith Herb College of Education — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Gillham Hall**
- Giving station with popcorn.

**College of Health and Human Services — 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Wednesday, Oct. 16, 8 to 10:30 a.m. in the Health and Human Services Building Atrium**
- Giving station with popcorn, other snacks and prizes.

**Jesp Scott Honors College — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside MacKinnon Hall**
- Giving station with snacks.

**College of Law — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Law Center Patio**
- Fall Fest hosted by the Student Bar Association: Donate to decorate mini-pumpkins; play corn hole, ring toss and horseshoes; and eat kettle corn, caramel apples and cider.

**University College — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Wednesday, Oct. 16, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in Rocket Hall**
- Giving station with popcorn, snacks, and a chance to spin the wheel to win prizes with a donation.

**The University of Toledo Medical Center — starting at 9 a.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 15 and 16, in the Four Seasons Bistro**
- Giving station in the cafeteria.

**Colleges of Nursing; Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences; and Medicine and Life Sciences — 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Collier Building Lobby**
- College of Nursing will host a Day of Giving party with a giving station, snacks, a pumpkin decorating contest, music and entertainment. President Sharon L. Gaber and Health Science Campus deans will be on hand for Day of Giving selfie photos with students, faculty and staff.