

Day of Giving raises more than \$700,000 in second year

By Laurie B. Davis

The number of donors who participated in the second annual University of Toledo Day of Giving Oct. 16-17 more than doubled 2017's participation, with 3,156 donors giving this year.

Alumni and friends, faculty and staff members, and students came together to support Rocket Forward: You Launch Lives, contributing a total of \$717,375.

The goal of the 36-hour campaign was to create awareness of the impact of philanthropy at UT and to increase private support among UT students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends.

This year, activities took place on both Health Science Campus and Main Campus, including a carnival-style event on Centennial Mall with student organizations providing games and activities to raise money for the Student Activities Fund. President Sharon L. Gaber visited Health Science Campus for

selfies with nursing students and to spread the word about the Day of Giving campaign.

Gifts, designated for a wide variety of uses, were made to this second annual Day of Giving, during which, campaign advocates took to social media to encourage giving.

"We want to thank all of our University of Toledo students, alumni and friends who participated in Day of Giving 2018," said Cheryl Zwyer, senior associate vice president for development at The University of Toledo Foundation. "Every person's gift makes a difference. It is wonderful to see Rockets come together to support so many important programs across campus."

Contributions will help students launch college careers and complete their degrees through scholarships; help faculty continue



Photo by Daniel Miller

DOG OF STEEL: DeLane Johnson, a freshman majoring in biochemistry, gave a donation and met Moose at the dog-petting station during Day of Giving last week.

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UT research discovers link between refined dietary fiber, gut bacteria and liver cancer

By Tyrel Linkhorn

Many of the processed foods we find on grocery store shelves have been loaded up with highly refined soluble fibers such as inulin, a popular probiotic that recently received approval from the Food and Drug Administration to be marketed as health-promoting.

But a new study from The University of Toledo's College of Medicine and Life Sciences is raising serious questions about whether the risks of adding refined fiber to processed foods may significantly outweigh the benefits.

Dr. Matam Vijay-Kumar, director of the UT Microbiome Consortium and associate professor in the UT Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, and his research team recently investigated if a diet enriched with refined inulin might help combat obesity-associated complications in mice.

While the inulin-containing diet did stave off obesity in 40 percent of mice, many of those same mice went on to

develop liver cancer at the end of the six-month study.

"The findings shook us," Vijay-Kumar said, "but at the same time we recognized their potential importance and accepted the challenge of exploring how processed dietary soluble fiber was inducing liver cancer."

Although this study was performed in mice, it has potential implications for human health. It also suggests, researchers say, that enriching processed foods with refined, fermentable fiber should be approached with great caution.

"We fully appreciate that the fibers present in whole foods like fruits and vegetables are healthy," Vijay-Kumar said. "Because of that, fortifying or adding purified fiber to processed food sounds logical. However, our results suggest it may in fact be dangerous."

The findings were published in the Oct. 18 issue of *Cell*, one of the world's leading biological journals.



Photo by Daniel Miller

IN THE LAB: Dr. Vishal Singh, center, a Crohn's and Colitis Foundation Fellow at the University, recently authored a study published in the journal *Cell* that found a link between highly refined soluble fibers and liver cancer. He is pictured with fellow researchers Beng San Yeoh, left, a PhD student, and Dr. Matam Vijay-Kumar, director of the UT Microbiome Consortium and associate professor of physiology and pharmacology.

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Day of Giving

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research that impacts the northwest Ohio region and beyond; fund new drug therapies and medical advancements to improve patient care; and support many UT programs across campus.



SMILE: UT President Sharon L. Gaber posed for photos with nursing students, from left, Madisen Zaborowski, Kristin York and Kylee McBride during Day of Giving events on Health Science Campus.

Day of Giving 2018
3,156
 donors
\$717,375



PIE TIME: Kevin Balboa, a senior majoring in marketing and president of Campus Activities and Programming, gave a donation during Day of Giving for the honor of delivering a whipped cream pie to UT Police Chief Jeff Newton.

Photos by Daniel Miller



TOO COOL: Alex Zernechel, program manager for Greek life, braved the dunk tank for a good cause during Day of Giving. "It was crazy-cold, and I am definitely sick, but it was worth it to be able to continue to build that relationship with our students on campus," he said.



HANDY WORK: Daniella Gamboa Pabon received a wax cast of her hand from Dennis Handley of Ultrasound Special Events Inc. in Toledo. She gave a donation during Day of Giving for the moment.

A no-pain gain to combat hypertension: UT research finds way to mimic exercise's blood pressure lowering effects

By Tyrel Linkhorn

Couch potatoes, rejoice: There might be a way to get the blood pressure lowering benefits of exercise in pill form.

Hypertension researchers at The University of Toledo have shown that by increasing the body's supply of beta hydroxybutyrate, a chemical produced predominantly by the liver, it is possible to regulate high blood pressure without reducing sodium intake or increasing exercise.

"Our team found that high salt consumption lowered levels of circulating beta hydroxybutyrate. When we put beta hydroxybutyrate back in the system, normal blood pressure is restored," said Dr. Bina Joe, Distinguished University Professor and chair of UT's Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, and director of the Center for Hypertension and Precision Medicine. "We have an opportunity to control salt-sensitive hypertension without exercising."

The team's findings were published in the Oct. 16 issue of the life sciences journal *Cell Reports*.

Beta hydroxybutyrate is a ketone body produced in the liver from the metabolism of fatty acids. It had not been previously explored as a method for controlling blood pressure, but the UT researchers noted a number of intriguing connections between how the body produces beta hydroxybutyrate and environmental factors known to raise or lower blood pressure.

"As we searched through the literature, we saw beta hydroxybutyrate has been observed increasing with exercise or calorie restriction. Both of those activities also reduce blood pressure. The key piece of our discovery is we now know that beta hydroxybutyrate decreases with salt

consumption. This is a novel mechanism by which salt is tied to an increase in blood pressure," said Saroj Chakraborty, a fourth-year PhD student in the UT Department of Physiology and Pharmacology and the paper's lead author.

To test its hypothesis, the team led by Chakraborty and Joe developed a study in which they fed lab rats a chemical called 1,3-butanediol.

When that supplement reaches the liver, enzymes convert it to beta hydroxybutyrate. From there, it goes to the kidney, where it was shown to reduce inflammation commonly associated with hypertension — and significantly decrease blood pressure in the process.

"By fixing the kidney, it is indirectly contributing to the lowering of blood pressure. There could be many other organs that it is impacting," Joe said. "We are studying the heart, blood vessels, brain and other organ systems. But this paper says that this molecule, predominately made in the liver, goes to the kidney, fixes kidney damage, and controls your blood pressure."

Although the IRB Manager software is intuitive, faster and easy to use, the following two informational sessions are planned to assist users:

- Monday, Oct. 22, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the Research and Technology First-Floor Conference Room on Main Campus; and
- Wednesday, Oct. 24, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the Center for Creative Education Room 0111 on Health Science Campus.

Despite its name, IRB Manager allows for the full suite of compliance processes



Photo by Daniel Miller

RESEARCH NEWS: Saroj Chakraborty, left, and Dr. Bina Joe have discovered that by increasing the body's supply of beta hydroxybutyrate, a chemical produced predominantly by the liver, it is possible to regulate high blood pressure without reducing sodium intake or increasing exercise.

Joe noted that controlling function of the liver to regulate blood pressure is a new concept for researchers.

UT has received a provisional patent on the concept. Researchers in Joe's lab next want to compare the level of beta hydroxybutyrate in hypertensive patients against those without high blood pressure. Further studies also will determine how much 1,3-butanediol is needed to modulate blood pressure and whether it might cause any potential damage to other organs.

Once the team collects that data, the researchers hope to secure funding for a clinical trial.

While lowering blood pressure without hitting the gym might sound appealing to those averse to breaking a sweat, it also could prove beneficial to those who aren't able to exercise.

"There are certain patients who are not able to exercise for various reasons. This could prove to be a legitimate alternative for those individuals," Chakraborty said.

Use new software for research with human subjects beginning Oct. 29

Beginning Monday, Oct. 29, all new Institutional Review Board protocol applications should go through a new software system, IRB Manager, which is replacing Kualo Coeus.

The new software will be used for the entire lifecycle of research with human subjects — from the development and submission of protocol applications by researchers, to the review of the applications by the Institutional Review Board through approval, amendment, renewal and eventual closure.

to be handled in one system. After the rollout of IRB is complete, implementation for the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee and Institutional Biosafety Committee processes will begin.

"While the rollout of IRB Manager was set to begin in January, we recently learned that support for Kualo Coeus was ending in October," Dr. Rick Francis, director for research advancement and information systems, said. "Therefore, we accelerated the timeline and certainly appreciate the initial enthusiasm of those using this new

software system, which is easy to navigate and offers significant benefits."

More information about the software, including frequently asked questions, is available at utoledo.edu/research/rsp/irbmanager.html.

Additionally, IRB staff members may be contacted as questions arise, and system administrators Jamie Van Natta (jamienvannatta@utoledo.edu) and Francis (rick.francis@utoledo.edu) are available to answer questions about the implementation.

Center for Health and Successful Living recognized with community service award

By Tyrel Linkhorn

The University of Toledo's Center for Health and Successful Living has been honored with the Debra A. Green Community Service Award for its work providing advocacy and support services for breast cancer survivors and those battling the disease.

The award was presented Oct. 14 at Medical Mutual of Ohio's 25th annual Hattitude cancer awareness brunch.

"Medical Mutual takes great pride in recognizing those who support breast cancer survivors," said Christine Taylor, community affairs manager at Medical Mutual. "The University of Toledo's Center for Health and Successful Living is a deserving recipient of this award thanks to their dedication to bringing breast cancer survivors together for social, emotional and spiritual encouragement."

Dr. Amy Thompson and Dr. Timothy Jordan, co-directors of the Center for Health and Successful Living, accepted the award. Thompson and Jordan are both professors in the UT College of Health and Human Services.

"This is a hugely important award for us," Thompson, interim associate vice provost of faculty affairs, said. "Our nomination came from breast cancer survivors. It's wonderful to have the people

we serve want to recognize the services and resources our center provides that have helped them."

The Center for Health and Successful Living was established in 2013 to create a community resource hub for individuals living with breast cancer and other chronic diseases. The center puts a particular focus on helping those who are vulnerable, marginalized, at-risk and under-served.

Among the services the center offers breast cancer survivors are nutrition and health and wellness counseling; smoking cessation; physical and occupational therapy; and customized exercise programs.

The center works in partnership with The University of Toledo's Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center and several academic programs to blend educational experiences for students, research opportunities for faculty members, volunteer opportunities for survivors, and service opportunities for members of the community to provide customized services for breast cancer survivors.

"Our center is unique in that it is interdisciplinary and student-run. We have students from exercise science, recreational therapy, public health, social work counseling and other areas of study working together to provide comprehensive services



HONORED: Dr. Amy Thompson, left, and Dr. Timothy Jordan, co-directors of the UT Center for Health and Successful Living, accepted the Debra A. Green Community Service Award on behalf of the center from Christina Williams of 13 ABC News, left, and Christine Taylor, community affairs manager for Medical Mutual. The award was presented at Medical Mutual of Ohio's 25th annual Hattitude cancer awareness brunch.

to breast cancer survivors," Thompson said. "We're honored Medical Mutual has recognized the center for its all-around approach to serving the community."

Since its inception, the Center for Health and Successful Living has educated nearly 5,000 community members and

arranged mammograms and clinical breast exams for 800 women.

The Debra A. Green Community Service Award is named for retired Medical Mutual Vice President Debra Green, who became an advocate and breast cancer awareness champion after her diagnosis more than 20 years ago.

UT research

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There are two basic types of naturally occurring dietary fiber, soluble and insoluble. Soluble fibers are fermented by gut bacteria into short-chain fatty acids. Insoluble fibers pass through the digestive system unchanged.

While both types are beneficial, the concern raised in the study relates to how gut bacteria break down the highly refined fiber that is added to some processed foods as a dietary supplement.

Dr. Vishal Singh, a Crohn's and Colitis Foundation Fellow at The University of Toledo and lead author of the paper, said refined fiber is a new addition to our diets and we are in the very early stages of understanding the risks and benefits it may present.

"Soluble fibers added to processed foods are not part of a natural meal," Singh said. "The inulin used in this study is from chicory root, which is not a food

we would normally eat. In addition, during the extraction and processing of the fiber, it goes through a chemical process. We don't know how the body responds to these processed fibers."

Chicory root is used as a source of inulin to fortify fiber in processed foods.

The mice that developed liver cancer in this study had altered and elevated gut bacteria, a condition known as dysbiosis. Intriguingly, the researchers observed no evidence of liver cancer in inulin-fed mice that were treated with broad-spectrum antibiotics to deplete gut bacteria.

The UT team collaborated with researchers at Georgia State University who performed a similar study in germ-free mice that completely lack gut bacteria. The absence of liver cancer in those mice further confirmed the contributory role of gut bacteria.

The bacteria collectively known as gut microbiota degrade and digest soluble fibers via fermentation. To inhibit that fermentation process, the UT researchers fed mice beta acids derived from *Humulus lupulus* — a plant more commonly known for producing the hops that go into beer to prevent spoilage from fermentation.

"Strikingly, feeding beta-acids to inulin-fed mice averted liver cancer, which further reinforce our hypothesis that gut bacterial dysmetabolism primarily driving liver cancer in these mice," Singh said.

Researchers also found they could halt the development of liver cancer by intervening to replace inulin with the insoluble fiber cellulose.

"Cellulose could not be fermented by gut bacteria present in mice or humans. This finding again highlights the link between bacterial fermentation of soluble fiber and liver cancer development in these mice,"

said Beng San Yeoh, a graduate student in Vijay-Kumar's lab and another lead author of this study.

Researchers said their findings suggest the need for more studies that look at human consumption of the type of refined fiber found in processed foods.

"Our study is going against the conventional wisdom of what people think, that fiber is good, no matter how they get it," Vijay-Kumar said. "We do not want to promote that fiber is bad. Rather, we highlight that fortifying processed foods with refined soluble fiber may not be safe or advisable to certain individuals with gut bacterial overgrowth or dysbiosis, whose abnormal fermentation of this fiber could increase the susceptibility to liver cancer."

The study was supported by the National Cancer Institute of the National Institute of Health.

Women & Philanthropy donates books to 40 TPS second-grade classrooms

By Christine Billau

Women & Philanthropy and the Judith Herb College of Education at The University of Toledo donated more than 1,300 new books to Toledo Public Schools.

The books were distributed to 40 second-grade classrooms at 21 TPS schools.

Marcy McMahon, the chair of Women & Philanthropy, and Dr. Romules Durant, TPS superintendent, presented the books to representatives from each school Oct. 18 at Old Orchard Elementary School.

“Second grade is a critical year for learning to read,” said Dr. Thea Sawicki, chair of the Holiday Project for Women & Philanthropy and professor in the UT Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology. “We are proud to support every school by providing elementary classroom teachers with additional resources to promote early literacy and allow elementary students to gain greater reading skills.”

This is the second year that fundraising for the Encouraging Early Literacy Holiday Project allowed Women & Philanthropy and the Judith Herb College of Education to donate more than 1,000 new books to TPS second-grade classrooms.

Last year, the organizations donated approximately 1,000 books to 33 second-

grade classrooms at 19 TPS schools.

This year’s donation covers the remaining classrooms and completes the goal of donating books to start a library in every second-grade classroom at TPS.

“The gift of a book and its potential impact on a young learner’s life cannot be overstated and should not go unrecognized,” Dr. Raymond Witte, dean of the UT Judith Herb College of Education, said. “It is with great pride that we recognize our association with Women & Philanthropy and their mission to better the lives of children in the Toledo region.”

“The Toledo Public Schools is grateful for the continued support of Women & Philanthropy at The University of Toledo,” Durant said. “Our mission is to create

college and career-ready students, and that begins with early literacy. Last year, our students received 1,000 books to be distributed in 33 classrooms, which was incredible in and of itself. This year, we are receiving an even larger donation of

1,300 books for 40 classrooms. We are very thankful for the partnership and also their commitment to helping us deliver on our mission.”



Photo by Christine Billau

PAGE-TURNERS: Second-grade students at Old Orchard Elementary School were excited to receive new books from Women & Philanthropy at The University of Toledo and the UT Judith Herb College of Education.



All in good fun

The University of Toledo President Sharon L. Gaber laughed as she was the subject of the 10th Toledo Grand Illusions Sauté to benefit Ohio Cancer Research. Gaber was roasted by Joseph H. Zerbey, former UT trustee and former president and general manager for The Blade, left, as well as Larry Kelley, UT executive vice president for finance and administration, and her children, Allison and Jennifer Gaber in person, and Peter Gaber via a video message. The event was a fundraiser for Ohio Cancer Research, which is dedicated to the cure and prevention of cancer and makes an important impact by providing seed money to support basic research. Dr. Cynthia Smas, associate professor in the UT Department of Cancer Biology, was recognized with the organization’s Discover Award. Early in her career, Smas received a \$50,000 grant from Ohio Cancer Research for her work in prostate and liver cancer research, which helped to generate \$1.4 million in future research support throughout her career.

Photo by Daniel Miller

Public health grad student gets real-world experience volunteering at refugee camp

By Tyrel Linkhorn

James Papadimos had been to Greece before, but he was not prepared for what would confront him when he arrived in Samos, a small island in the Aegean Sea that has become a temporary home to thousands of refugees who have fled their home countries because of war, political instability or persecution.

A master of public health student at The University of Toledo, Papadimos flew halfway across the world in August to volunteer his time and public health knowledge in one of Europe's busiest reception centers for migrants and asylum seekers.

"When I arrived, what I saw was surreal," Papadimos said. "There are so many people there. The conditions were deplorable at best. It was tough to see."

The camp at Samos functions as a receiving area where new arrivals are identified and vetted as they hope to gain asylum. But with authorities struggling to find accommodations on the Greek mainland, many refugees stay at the overcrowded camp for long periods of time.

In July, the United Nations Refugee Agency reported there were 2,600 people at Samos — the most recent figure available.

And new arrivals come daily to the island, which sits just a mile from Turkey. Samos is the second busiest receiving center among Greece's Aegean islands this year, according to the UN. Together, all of Greece's Aegean islands averaged nearly 900 arrivals per week from the beginning of August to mid-September, according to the UN. The refugee aid agency said Syrians and Iraqis come in the largest numbers.

As of mid-September, more than 18,000 refugees and migrants were residing on the Aegean islands, the UN said, with roughly 600 a week receiving authorization to move to the mainland.

Papadimos, who did his undergraduate work at Ohio State University before returning to his hometown for his graduate education, has long focused on humanitarian issues. While at Ohio State, he formed a student organization to raise money for mosquito nets to fight malaria in Africa. At UT, Papadimos helped organize the donation of refreshed patient simulators to the University of Athens Medical School.

As he followed news of the refugee crisis, he was struck by how Greece — a country dealing with significant financial strain — had taken in so many refugees.

"When I heard about this as someone who wants to be a physician, someone who wants to care for humanity and just a proud Greek-American, I wanted to go over to help," he said.

During his three-week stint on Samos, Papadimos helped local physician Dr. Manos

Logothetis conduct medical and wellness checks and vaccinate children, as well as taught English and distributed food. But his education in public health proved crucial when an outbreak of tuberculosis and hepatitis A tore through the camp. Papadimos conducted a needs assessment and located the source of the outbreak, which was contained.

"It was firsthand experience," he said. "You feel like you'll never get that as a student, but I did. I got legitimate field experience, and my public health knowledge helped me tremendously. I've had excellent teachers here. They're fantastic."

Papadimos intends to apply to medical school after completing his master's degree and continue his humanitarian work.

"That will be part of my life as a physician. I'm here to help as many people as I can," he said. "If I'm so fortunate to be able to be a medical student, to be a physician, I'll do all I can to give back and utilize the skills I'm taught to help people."



THERE TO HELP: James Papadimos, UT master of public health student, held a baby, Amir, in Samos. He traveled to the small island in the Aegean Sea in August to help provide medical care to refugees. He took the above photos at the refugee camp.

TRICKS, TREATS AND DUNKS

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Sorority celebrates 90 years on campus

By Bailey Sparks

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. was founded at Howard University Jan. 15, 1908, and is the oldest Greek letter organization established by African-American women.

Since then, it has become an international service organization, hosting graduate and undergraduate chapters in the United States, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Liberia, the Bahamas, Bermuda, Canada, Dubai, Germany, Japan and South Korea.

On Dec. 10, 1928, the Alpha Lambda Chapter was established at The University of Toledo.

Fast-forward to Oct. 7: More than 100 guests attended the chapter's 90th anniversary celebration in Toledo.

"We are honored to be part of the oldest Greek letter organization founded by African-American women," said Cheryl Wallace, graduate advisor of the Alpha Lambda Chapter and UT alumna who received a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1984. "Our event was well-represented by members who have more than 50 years of service within the organization, and former chapter members traveled from Los Angeles, Atlanta and Houston to help us celebrate."

Dignitaries in attendance included Dr. Sharon L. Gaber, president of The University of Toledo; Catherine

Crosby, chief of staff to Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz; and Toledo City Councilman Larry Sykes.

Proclamations were provided by Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur and the Lucas County Commissioners.

"Alpha Kappa Alpha prides itself on being grounded in academic excellence and service to everyone," said Wallace, who retired after 25 years in the pharmaceutical industry at Sanofi and is a fitness trainer at Essence Mind and Body Studio in Maumee. "Supported by the University Wellness Coalition, the Alpha Lambda Chapter spearheads health education initiatives, grounded in topics such as health, wellness, the arts and economic well-being."

Gaber read a proclamation at the anniversary event and thanked the chapter for 90 years of service to the Toledo area.



Photo by Kristina Johnson

SPECIAL PROCLAMATION: UT President Sharon L. Gaber, center, presented a proclamation in honor of the 90th anniversary of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc.'s Alpha Lambda Chapter to, from left, Morgannia Dawson, president of the Zeta Alpha Omega Chapter; Cheryl Wallace, graduate advisor of the Alpha Lambda Chapter; Marisa DuPree, president of the Alpha Lambda Chapter; and Carrie Clark, regional director of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc.

"The University expresses its sincere appreciation as we celebrate your successful programming efforts alongside your members," Gaber said.

The UT proclamation stated Oct. 7 shall be known as Alpha Lambda Chapter's Day of Service on campus.

Wonder Woman Challenge issued

Break out the metal cuffs and red, white and blue attire: The Wonder Woman Challenge will take place Wednesday, Oct. 31.

Ms. Magazine's 45th anniversary cover inspired the idea. It features an illustration of the compassionate warrior with god-like strength with the words "Resisting Persisting."

Linda Curtis, secretary 2 in the Department of Women's and Gender Studies, was showing a poster of that special issue cover to her friend, Jeannie Stambaugh, secretary 2 in the Department of Economics.

"We decided that saying, 'Resisting Persisting,' really represented us well, and we came up with the idea of dressing up as Wonder Woman on Halloween," Curtis said.

"We were being silly, having some fun, and focusing on the positive while doing our jobs," Stambaugh said.

The two shared the concept with other secretaries in the College of Arts and Letters, and they accepted the challenge.

"Jeannie and I felt that the Wonder Woman Challenge would be a lighthearted way to showcase how much uncompensated work women still do — both at work and at home," Curtis said. "It is unfortunate that we still need to be 'wonder women,' but we do, and we are.

"And despite the sexist costuming, Wonder Woman is a strong and powerful figure. We thought we'd take the opportunity to remind women and the community that we recognize, value and celebrate each other and the work we do."

"This whole thing was about having a little fun and reminding ourselves that we do a lot, and we should recognize our strength and support each other as the 'wonder women' we are," Stambaugh added.

When Dr. Sharon Barnes, professor and chair of women's and gender studies, heard about the challenge, she suggested including faculty and students, too.

"The wonder women on the staff in our offices had this idea, and they ran with it," Barnes said. "Personally, I'm not a

fan of the sexually objectifying costume, but I like that she's a strong, powerful woman doing good in the world.

"I've been seeing a lot of students who are survivors, men and women, who are feeling the hurt of the public backlash against Dr. [Christine Blasey] Ford in the wake of the confirmation of Judge [Brett] Kavanaugh. I thought the lighthearted nature of the challenge might remind us to have some fun while doing our work," Barnes said. "As Alice Walker teaches, 'Resistance is the secret of joy!'"

Those who accept the challenge are invited to stop by the Women's and Gender Studies Office in University Hall Room

WONDER WOMAN CHALLENGE

"PEACE STRENGTH WISDOM WONDER. Wonder Woman remains a dynamic symbol of women's potential, the possibilities of feminism and the hopes of humanity" (*Ms. Magazine*).



4260 on Halloween and have their photo taken by the poster.

For more information, contact Curtis at linda.curtis@utoledo.edu or 419.530.2233.

Chinese Kung Fu, folk music and dance performance Oct. 30

By Cathy Zimmer

The Wulin Hanyun Kung Fu Troupe will visit The University of Toledo Tuesday, Oct. 30.

Masters from the Shaolin Martial Academy will perform Shaolin Kung Fu and folk music at 7 p.m. in Doermann Theatre.

“The Shaolin Martial Academy performed at the opening and closing ceremonies of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games,” said Xinren Yu of the Confucius Institute. “Far away from central China, teachers and students will give a special performance of Chinese Kung Fu, traditional dance and folk music.”

This show will present a story about a child learning martial arts. The main themes of the performance are seeking in nature, studying in Shaolin, and passing on Chinese martial arts skills, according to Yu.

“Shaolin Kung Fu is one of the oldest, largest and most famous styles of martial arts; it originated and developed in the Shaolin temple in Songshan,” he said. “There are well-known sayings that ‘All martial arts under heaven originated from Shaolin’ and ‘Shaolin Kung Fu is the best under heaven.’”

Performers are from Songshan Shaolin Wushu College, Zhengzhou University, Henan University and Henan Normal University.

“The UT Confucius Institute is delighted to bring this phenomenal performance to our community in celebrating its 10th anniversary,” Yu said.

Tickets are on sale in Snyder Memorial Building Room 1000. Student, faculty and staff tickets are \$10; general tickets are \$15.



Tuesday, October 30th, 7:00 - 9:00 pm
at the University of Toledo Doermann Theater

400 tickets available at the Snyder Memorial building, Room 1000

Cash and checks only will be accepted. Discounts are available for groups of 10 and more.

The event is sponsored by China’s Hanban in Beijing and Confucius Institute Headquarters. It is organized by the Education Department of Henan Province

and is co-hosted by the UT Confucius Institute.

The Confucius Institute serves northwest Ohio by providing education in Chinese language and culture, and it supports the development of China-related scholarly research and academic programs.

It also offers opportunities for cultural exchanges between China and the United States.

For more information, contact Yu at 419.530.4483 or xinren.yu@utoledo.edu.

Online, blended learning to be discussed at forum Oct. 31

“The Future of Online and Blended Learning” will be the topic of the Future of Higher Education Forum Wednesday, Oct. 31.

The program will be held from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. in Health and Human Services Building Rooms 1711A and B.

Dr. Claire Stuve, curriculum developer and technology researcher in University College, and Dr. Ruthie Kucharewski, professor and chair in the School of Exercise and Rehabilitation Sciences, will lead the session.

They will discuss integrative technology to deliver online and blended

learning, as well as emphasize meeting Quality Matters standards.

“Delivering engaging classes in an innovative way for our students is of utmost importance,” said Dr. Amy Thompson, interim associate vice provost of faculty affairs and professor of public health. “We encourage faculty members to attend this forum so they — and their students — can benefit from the expertise offered by Dr. Stuve and Dr. Kucharewski.”

In 2017 and 2018, Stuve won Blackboard Catalyst Awards, which recognize faculty who have gone above and beyond in using technology in innovative ways from impacting the student experience

to building exemplary courses. At UT, her responsibilities include creating a research-based curriculum that incorporates emerging technologies and evaluating data on new and redeveloped courses. Her research interests focus on using technology to foster engagement and applying the principles of good course design.

Kucharewski was the 2016 recipient of the DiAnne Masztak Award for supporting online learning in a distinguished fashion and for her commitment to online teaching. She also earned the online Master Teacher certification in 2016. Kucharewski is an online course reviewer for Quality Matters, an independent organization that reviews

web courses based on a series of quality indicators and provides feedback to colleges and universities. In 2017, she became a Quality Matters Master Reviewer for online learning courses.

The Future of Higher Education Forums are coordinated by the Office of the Provost in collaboration with the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the University Teaching Center.

Register for this month’s program and read more about the Future of Higher Education Forums, including how to submit proposals for upcoming events, at utoledo.edu/offices/provost/future-of-higher-education-forum.

In memoriam



Baumann

Dr. Reemt R. Baumann, Toledo, professor emeritus of educational research and measurement, died Oct. 9 at age 89. He joined the faculty in the College of Education in 1966 and specialized in statistics, measurement and research procedures. Baumann was promoted to professor in 1973. He served as chair of the department from 1971 to 1976 and as director of the Division of Educational Foundations from 1976 to 1980. In 1977, he received one of UT's Outstanding Teacher Awards. Baumann

also served on the Faculty Senate and the Graduate Council. The Milwaukee native retired from the University in 1997. Memorials are suggested to the Education General Scholarship Fund through the UT Foundation; go to give2ut.utoledo.edu.

Penelope (Penny) S. (Willis) Drain, Maumee, who worked at MCO for more than three decades, died Sept. 29 at age 75. She was an administrative assistant who worked with the president from 1971 until her retirement in 2004.



Kennedy

Robin M. Kennedy, Toledo, associate professor emeritus of law, died Oct. 10 at age 73. He joined the College of Law faculty in 1973 as a visiting assistant professor and director of the Mental Health Law Clinic. He was promoted to assistant professor and then to associate professor in 1977. Kennedy received tenure in 1979. He specialized in clinical legal education and taught family law and administrative law. In 2013, he retired and received the emeritus designation. He continued to teach part time

until his death. Tributes are suggested to the Robin M. Kennedy Memorial Fund in the UT College of Law; go to give2ut.utoledo.edu.

Rita E. (Pratt) Neyhart, Perrysburg, a nurse at MCO for more than two decades until her retirement, died Oct. 12. She was 75. The UT alumna received a master of science degree in nursing in 1997.



Orlowski

Retired Lt. Col. Thomas J. Orlowski, Smithfield, Va., died Oct. 5 at age 76. In 2017, the University dedicated the Lt. Col. Thomas J. Orlowski '65 Veterans Lounge in the renovated Carlson Library. A \$20,000 donation from the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes in Orlowski's honor supported the creation of the lounge. Orlowski graduated from UT in 1965 with a degree in English literature, and he also was a middle linebacker for the football team. He joined the Army later that year, and his 20-year military career included

assignments in the 1st Infantry Division in Vietnam, 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized), HQ U.S. Army Europe, HQ U.S. Continental Army Command and the Office of the Adjutant General of the Army. For his service in Vietnam, Orlowski was awarded the Purple Heart, Silver Star, Bronze Star for Valor with two Oak Leaf Clusters, and Air Medal, according to the coalition.

American Red Cross needs blood donors

By Chase M. Foland

Hurricane Michael is the second large-scale relief effort the American Red Cross is responding to in less than a month.

Severe weather forces the cancellation of blood drives and decreases donor turnout in the affected areas, which results in thousands of blood donations going uncollected, according to Angie O'Brien, account representative with the American Red Cross.

The University of Toledo Medical Center is answering the call for help and will host an American Red Cross blood drive Wednesday, Oct. 24, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Morse Center, located on the third floor of Dowling Hall.

"Hurricane Michael's impact will be felt for weeks to come," O'Brien said.

"We are counting on sponsors like The University of Toledo in unaffected areas to ensure we have enough blood products to support patient needs."

Along with the Oct. 24 blood drive, UT will host several blood drives over the next six weeks.

"Every drop counts," O'Brien said. "Our goal is to fill all available appointment slots and make sure those who schedule in advance keep their appointments or reschedule for another time if there is a conflict."

To schedule an appointment, visit redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor code **UTMED**. Or call **1.800.RED.CROSS** (733.2767) for further information and scheduling.



UTNEWS

UT News is published for faculty, staff and students by the University Marketing and Communications Office weekly during the academic year and periodically during the summer. Copies are mailed to employees and placed in newsstands on the Main, Health Science, Scott Park and Toledo Museum of Art campuses. UT News strives to present accurate, fair and timely communication of interest to employees. Story ideas and comments from the UT community are welcome. Send information by campus mail to #949, University Marketing and Communications Office, Vicki Kroll. Email: vicki.kroll@utoledo.edu. Fax: 419.530.4618. Phone: 419.530.2248. Mailing address: University Marketing and Communications Office, Mail Stop 949, The University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606-3390.

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Director named to national disability board

By Bailey Sparks

Enjie Hall, UT director of campus accessibility and student disability services, has been appointed to a three-year term on the Association of Higher Education and Disability Board of Directors.

The Association of Higher Education and Disability is the leading professional membership organization for individuals committed to equity for persons with disabilities in higher education.

Hall, who joined the University in 2015, also serves as the Americans with Disabilities Act compliance officer. She works to ensure the provision of accommodations for students with disabilities, as well as coordinating physical/environmental, technological and programmatic access for individuals with disabilities in the campus community.

“It is an honor to be appointed to serve on the Association of Higher Education and Disability Board of Directors,” Hall said. “The work of a disability services



Hall

office plays a critical role in providing access, leading to the opportunity for

full participation in the higher education experience.

“I am excited for the opportunity to contribute to the execution of the association’s strategic plan by supporting objectives such as informing, defining and leading the conversation around disability in higher education; engaging in outreach initiatives; and promoting the value of the disability experience. Serving on the board will allow me to highlight the excellent work we are doing at UT to advance accessibility for disabled individuals.”

She has always aspired to a career serving in the helping profession. As a blind professional, she is passionate about showcasing the strength and talents that people contribute as there are so many misconceptions surrounding persons with disabilities.

“For me, it is all about serving the students,” Hall said. “I have had the privilege of working with more than 1,500

students, and there is no greater reward than witnessing the transformation of students when they first affiliate with Student Disability Services, then launch into using resources, break through barriers, and finally emerge as graduates. Access and accommodations enable students to reach their full potential.”

She has worked in the field of disability services for more than a decade and has been involved with advocacy work on behalf of people with disabilities in the community for almost 20 years. Hall has been involved with the Association of Higher Education and Disability in a variety of initiatives related to social justice and leadership. She has presented on issues relating to disability services locally and nationally, and is one of four instructors for the association’s Start Academy for New/er Professionals. She also is a member of the University Committee on Diversity and inclusion.

Poring over notes



Photo by Daniel Miller

Austin Williams looked over his notes between classes by the Toledo Edison Memorial Fountain in front of the Thompson Student Union.



Photo by Daniel Miller

SHOT OF PREVENTION: President Sharon L. Gaber, Dan Barbee, chief executive officer of UT Medical Center, center, and Dr. Christopher Cooper, executive vice president of clinical affairs and dean of the College of Medicine and Life Sciences, received influenza vaccines last week on Health Science Campus. Administering the shots were UT nursing students, from left, Zachary Douglas, Stephanie Ruzzin and Taiwo Akinwole.

Influenza vaccine schedule

The University provides free influenza immunization for students and employees.

Walk-in clinics will be held on Health Science and Main campuses in October and November. Nurses and nursing students will administer the vaccines.

Save time and register at influenza.utoledo.edu before going to a clinic.

Clinics will take place:

- Tuesday, Oct. 23 — Health Education Building Lobby from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Pinnacle Lounge from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 24 — Collier Building Lobby from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Main Campus Medical Center from 10 a.m. to noon.
- Thursday, Oct. 25 — Health Education Building Lobby from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Main Campus Medical Center from 10 a.m. to noon.
- Friday, Oct. 26 — Pinnacle Lounge from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 30 — Main Campus Medical Center from 10 a.m. to noon.
- Wednesday, Oct. 31 — Stranahan Hall Lobby from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 1 — Savage Arena Lobby from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 7 — Health and Human Services Building Lobby from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 8 — Thompson Student Union Lobby from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

** IMPORTANT REMINDER **

WHO: ALL UT EMPLOYEES

WHAT: 2019 OPEN ENROLLMENT

WHEN: Opens—Monday, Oct. 1
Closes—Wednesday, Oct. 31 at 11:59 p.m.

WHY: All employees *are strongly encouraged* to complete the open enrollment process during October to ensure correct coverage!

HOW: Log in to your account on the myUT portal.

- In the Employee tab under “MY TOOLKIT,” (top left of your screen) scroll down to “Benefits information” and click on “2019 Open Enrollment.”

For more info:

- Visit utoledo.edu/depts/hr/benefits
- Call 419.530.4747, or
- Email benefits@utoledo.edu.

