

UT NEWS

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UT president to deliver state of the University address April 18

By Meghan Cunningham

President Sharon L. Gaber will share The University of Toledo's positive momentum during her second state of the University address.

The speech will be Wednesday, April 18, at 3 p.m. in the Thompson Student Union Auditorium, followed by a reception. University students, faculty, staff, alumni and the public are invited to attend.

"We have so much to be proud of at UT, and I want each person in Toledo to celebrate the excellent University they have in their community," Gaber said. "This annual event is an opportunity to reflect on our accomplishments and look forward to the future."

The successes of UT students, faculty and staff, and the impact those achievements have on the broader Toledo region, are something everyone can rally around, Gaber said.

This will be Gaber's second state of the University address since being named president in July 2015.



Dr. Sharon L. Gaber, president of The University of Toledo, invites you to attend her State of the University address.

Wednesday, April 18
3 p.m.

Thompson Student Union
Auditorium

A reception with ice cream and healthy snacks will follow the program.

The Big Event



Photos by Daniel Miller



Photo by Mike Henningsen



It was a soggy Saturday, but that didn't dampen the spirits of UT students who participated in this year's Big Event. Among those pitching in were Josh Schott, left, and Chris Foy from Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, who cut back weeds, and Tessa Lee, left, and Kristina Sweet from Student Government, who picked up trash near Scott Park Campus.

Josh Ignatowski and Katie Weir replaced a tire on a two-wheeler at Toledo Bikes! — a nonprofit organization dedicated to recovering and recycling bicycles so others can ride. The Big Event is a way for students to show their appreciation and give back to the community by completing service projects around the city.

2018 Pacemaker Awards honor UT alumnus, outstanding business students

By Bob Mackowiak

The University of Toledo College of Business and Innovation and the Business Engagement and Leadership Council recognized both business and academic excellence during their 55th annual Pacemaker Awards April 13 at the Inverness Country Club.



Barry

The 2018 Business Pacemaker Award was presented to Alan H. Barry, a 1966 graduate of the UT College of Business,

who is a certified public accountant, retired president and chief operating officer of the Fortune 200 company Masco Corp., and a member of the UT Foundation's Board of Trustees.

Barry joined Brass Craft Manufacturing Co. in 1972 as controller and became president of the Masco division in 1988. In 1996, he became a group president of Masco, a manufacturer of home improvement and building products. He has broad business experience that includes finance, manufacturing, customer development, acquisitions and general operating management.

Barry currently serves on the board of directors of the H. W. Kaufman Financial Group. He is the retired director of Arch Aluminum & Glass Co. Inc., Scotts Miracle Gro Co., and IPS Corp. He also served as an executive board member of the Plumbing Manufacturing Institute from 1985 through 2000, and as chairman of the institute in 1994. In addition, Barry served on the executive board of the associate member division of the American Supply Association during 1995 and 1996.

Barry and his wife, Karen, a 1964 UT alumna, have a history of philanthropy at The University of Toledo. In 2014, the University

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New director appointed to lead Lake Erie Center

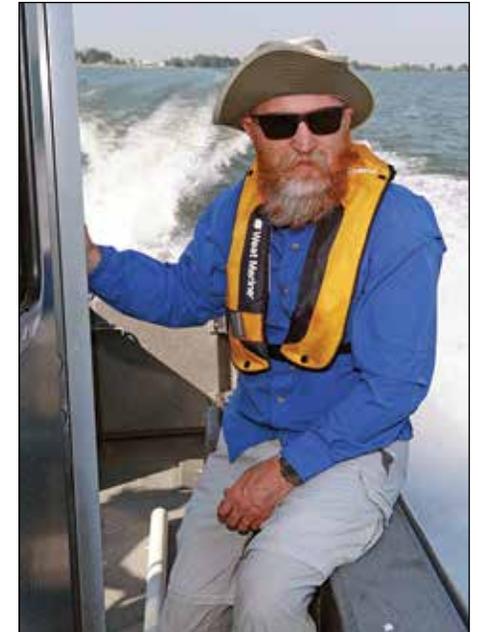
By Christine Billau

The University of Toledo named a new leader for the Lake Erie Center, a freshwater research and science education campus focused on finding solutions for water quality issues that face the Great Lakes, including harmful algal blooms, invasive species and pollutants.

Dr. Tom Bridgeman, algae researcher and UT professor of ecology, will serve as director effective May 14. A welcome reception will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 9, at the Lake Erie Center.

"It is an honor to be appointed the director of a center that has done so much toward improving our ecological understanding of western Lake Erie and its watershed, not just in an academic sense, but in ways that translate into policies for protecting the lake, its fisheries and our drinking water supplies," Bridgeman said.

"Dr. Bridgeman is one of the leading researchers studying harmful algae blooms, and his insights and leadership as the new director will be important in continuing to move the Lake Erie Center forward, and in solidifying its key contributions toward solving the problems threatening Lake Erie and the Great Lakes in general," said Dr. Karen Bjorkman, dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics; Distinguished University Professor of



Bridgeman

Astronomy; and Helen Luedtke Brooks Endowed Professor of Astronomy.

Bridgeman plans to continue to build relationships with state and national funding agencies to grow the Lake Erie Center's research programs, which consist of faculty, staff and student researchers, and connect water treatment plant operators, legislative policymakers and the public with UT water quality expertise.

Bridgeman also plans to make the Lake Erie Center the hub of the UT Water

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Opioid Summit



Photos by Daniel Miller

Dr. Mark Hurst, medical director of the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, spoke last week at an Opioid Summit hosted by The University of Toledo. He talked about strategic priorities to address the opioid epidemic, as well as funding opportunities and resources available through the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. The event brought together UT researchers, physicians and community partners with state leaders to advance collaborations that can help address the crisis affecting Ohio.



University Women's Commission honors employees, gives scholarships to students

Three UT employees were recognized for exceptional achievement and dedication to the campus community at the 32nd annual Outstanding Women's Award ceremony.

More than 60 attended the University Women's Commission program, which was held April 11 in the Savage Arena Joe Grogan Room.

Kelly Andrews, senior associate athletic director who is chair of the University Women's Commission, told the crowd that since 1987, the organization has honored 173 UT faculty and staff members, and awarded \$87,000 in scholarships.

Keynote speaker Sherry Stanfa-Stanley, director of foundation and development communications with the UT Foundation, talked about how challenging yourself to go outside your comfort zone can be empowering. The 1983 UT alumna and 2017 Alice H. Skeens Outstanding Woman Award winner is the author of "Finding My Badass Self: A Year of Truths and Dares," which just received a silver medal in the humor category of the 2018 Independent Publisher Book Awards (IPPYs).

The recipients of the Dr. Alice H. Skeens Outstanding Woman Award were:

- Melissa Gleckler, educational technologist with UT Online in University College. She has worked at the University for 11 years. Gleckler won the Ohio Academic Advising Association Excellence Award in 2017, and has presented about advising and learning assessment at national conferences. She is a founding member of the Toledo Academic Advising Association. The UT alumna received a bachelor of arts degree in

communication in 1996, a master of liberal studies degree in 2009, and is working on a PhD.

"She had a wonderful rapport with her students. Her office was next door to mine, and the walls were quite thin. I could hear laughter, sometimes tears and consolation, and lots of encouragement," one nominator wrote. "Melissa is a proud UT alumna. I have always admired her pursuit of self-improvement and further education. She continuously sought opportunities to add a credential or skill and is pursuing a PhD focused on educational media and technology, with research interests in how course aesthetics and technical design affect the learning experience. As an adjunct instructor, she took pride in enhancing her courses with the latest technology and was passionate about updating the content and course material every semester."

- Dr. Revathy Kumar, professor of educational psychology in the Judith Herb College of Education. She joined the UT faculty in 2001. Her research focuses on social and cultural processes involved in constructing a sense of self and identity among adolescents in culturally diverse societies. Of particular interest are the roles of teachers, teacher-education programs, schools, communities and families in facilitating minority and immigrant adolescents' development, learning and motivation. Her work has been published in education and psychology journals.



Photos by Daniel Miller

Recipients of the 2018 Dr. Alice H. Skeens Outstanding Woman Award were, from left, Melissa Gleckler, Dr. Revathy Kumar and Dr. Michele Soliz.

"Dr. Kumar has started examining the role of mindfulness cultivation among pre-service teachers for enhancing awareness and focusing attention on personal implicit and explicit biases toward poor and minority students. The program of research is both important and relevant because increasing demographic heterogeneity in our country has raised concerns regarding our teachers' capacity to face the challenging task of teaching culturally diverse students," one nominator wrote. "She has chosen to develop a line of research particularly aimed at improving undergraduate teacher education at UT and, as responses to her articles indicate, recognized as useful across the nation for constructing teacher education programs that prepare teachers to be effective in the diverse classrooms they will enter."

- Dr. Michele Soliz, assistant vice president for student success and inclusion in the Division of Student Affairs. During her 17 years at the University, she has worked in the Office of the Provost and served as dean of students. She was chair of the 2017 UT Community Charitable Campaign, which raised \$128,934 for nearly 220 nonprofit area organizations. The UT alumna received a master of education degree and a PhD in

higher education in 2002 and 2012, respectively.

"Michele has an unbridled passion for helping the students she comes into contact with on campus, as well as those in the community. Her determination and wholehearted desire to help others was apparent to me since the first time we worked together," one nominator wrote. "She has been a committee member of the Latino Youth Summit and Multicultural Emerging Scholars Program since their inception. She is active in the UT Latino Alumni Affiliate, serves as a mentor to African-American female students in the Talented and Aspiring Women Leaders Program, and teaches the course Managing Diversity in the Workplace. Her hours of charitable work confirm she is not only socially conscious, but also invested in the betterment of the world around her."

The University Women's Commission also presented \$1,000 scholarships to four students. Receiving awards based on academic achievement, support of women's and gender issues, and campus involvement were Jessica Avery, a senior majoring in history; Hailey Cox, a junior majoring in biology; Shaquira Jackson, a junior majoring in theatre; and Celine Schreidah, a senior majoring in biochemistry.



Winners of the University Women's Commission \$1,000 scholarship were, from left, Celine Schreidah, Jessica Avery, Shaquira Jackson and Hailey Cox.



**UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
BIODESIGN CHALLENGE
RECEPTION
AND
PRESENTATIONS**

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 25TH
6:00 - 8:00 PM
TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART
GLASS PAVILION
GLASSALON
2444 MONROE STREET**

The Biodesign Challenge offers art and design students the opportunity to envision future applications of biotechnology in a competition that highlights student work. Classrooms of participating schools are connected with a team of biologists and experts to guide the students as they develop their ideas.

At the University of Toledo, Art students, Bioengineering students, Environmental Science students, and Honors students will break into teams to tackle real and pressing biological issues with Biotechnology solutions. Student teams will research, iterate, prototype, and defend solutions to these issues in a competition at the end of the semester at the Toledo Museum of Art Glass Pavilion. A wide range of people from the community who are experts in art, design, and biology will judge the competition.

The winning student team will join the instructors for a trip to MoMA in New York in June of 2018 for an international competition against 29 other schools. The students will be competing for prizes offered by the Biodesign Challenge, as well as prizes from organizations who support the challenge.

Native American drum group to perform April 23

SouthEastern WaterSpider will return to campus for a concert Monday, April 23, at 6 p.m. in Thompson Student Union Room 2584.

The free performance by the Eastern Woodland Native American drum group is part of the University's celebration of Diversity Month.

"We are happy to welcome back SouthEastern WaterSpider," Dr. Michele Soliz, assistant vice president for student success and inclusion, said. "The group's performance of traditional music spotlights

their heritage and is educational and entertaining."

The group will play traditional Eastern Woodland songs that have been approved by their elders as genuinely Eastern and indigenous.

Diversity Month is presented by the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and the Office of Multicultural Student Success.

For more information, contact the Office of Multicultural Student Success at 419.530.2261.

UT Student Filmmakers Showcase set for April 20

By Angela Riddel

The Department of Theatre and Film will present a public screening of its film students' best work in the 2018 UT Student Filmmakers Showcase Friday, April 20, at 7:30 p.m. in the Center for Performing Arts Center Theatre.

The event is a sensory experience filled with artistry and variety, a film lover's annual favorite. Chosen in juried competition, the 19 entries scheduled to be shown include film, video and animation shorts created as part of the curriculum.

The UT Film Curators Club and the UT Department of Theatre and Film co-host the event.

The Film Curators Club will provide free concessions during the screening and host a speakeasy-themed after-party following the showcase. All are welcome.

Tickets to the showcase are \$10 for general admission and \$5 for UT employees, students and alumni, and for seniors 60 and older, kids and members of the military.

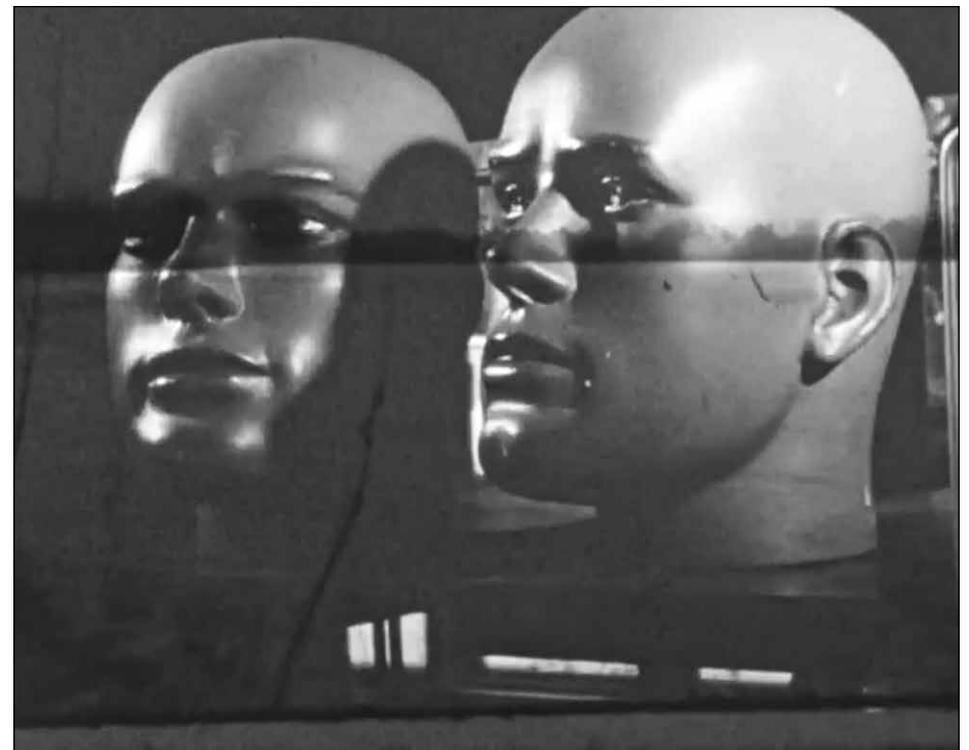
Advance tickets are available through the UT Center for Performing Arts Box at 419.530.2787 or online at utoledo.tix.com.

SOUTHEASTERN WATERSPIDER

EASTERN WOODLAND
NATIVE AMERICAN DRUM GROUP



MONDAY, APRIL 23RD
6:00 PM
STUDENT UNION 2584
FREE & OPEN TO PUBLIC
PARKING IN LOT 13



STILL LIFE: This image is from the stop-motion animation film titled "Artificial" by Conner McGovern, a UT senior majoring in film. "Artificial" is one of 19 works that will be screened during the UT Student Filmmakers Showcase.



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TOLEDO

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utoledo.edu/successcoach/advising-offices.html

or call 419.530.1250.

UT Equestrian Team raises money for human trafficking victims



Jazmyn Thomas petted Montana after riding the horse last week on Main Campus. She gave a donation during Horses for Humanity, an event hosted by the UT Equestrian Team to raise funds to help victims of human trafficking. More than \$350 was collected for the Lucas County Human Trafficking Coalition.

Buttercup was one of the bunnies from the Duke Petting Farm of Temperance, Mich., at the fundraising event. hosted by the UT Equestrian Team.



Photos by Daniel Miller

Photos by Joe English

Makyleigh Hubbard rode Maggie during Horses for Humanity with the help of Nicole Archer, co-president of the UT Equestrian Team.



Luna Ngur, 17-month-old daughter of Amanda and Terwase Ngur, walked toward one of the goats at the petting zoo. Amanda is a graphic designer in the Marketing and Communications Office, and Terwase is a UT alumnus.



Kellogg the rooster and Daisy the calf from the Duke Petting Farm of Temperance, Mich., also were at the event.

UT communication student honored by Society of Professional Journalists

By Jessica A. Guice

Madison Humphrey, a senior majoring in media communication, has received regional recognition from the Society of Professional Journalists.

The student producer and reporter for UT:10 news placed as one of the top three finalists in region four after submitting her work for the 2017 Mark of Excellence Award competition for general TV reporting.

The Mark of Excellence Award honors the best students in print, radio, television and online collegiate journalism.

Humphrey's winning story is called "Voices of DACA"; the feature piece highlights how President Trump's decision to rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program would impact local dreamers. It can be seen on her YouTube channel.

She looks forward to competing on a national level in Baltimore at the Excellence in Journalism 2018 Conference in September.

"Winning a Society for Professional Journalists Mark of Excellence Award has been a dream of mine since my very first day at UT, and it still feels almost too good to be true," Humphrey said. "More important than the award itself is the gratification of knowing I'm producing high-quality content that is making an impact in my community and upholding the incredibly high standards of the Society of Professional Journalists."

As a transfer student, the moment she stepped into the UT Communication Department, she knew it was the right program for her.

"I remember seeing all of the awards UT:10 has won and clips of the newscast on the



Humphrey

department TV, and I instantly knew I wanted to be a part of such a prestigious program," she said.

Humphrey said her success would not be possible without the help of her mentors in the Communication Department.

"My absolute favorite part of UT is how individualized my education is," she said. "The media communication faculty and staff have really gone out of their way to work with me one on one and help me become the absolute best reporter I can be."

Humphrey, who will graduate in December, just landed a summer internship with ABC Newsline 9 WAOW-TV in Wausau, Wis.

"I'll be contributing stories as a reporter, gaining on-air, live experience, and working on becoming a better journalist," she said.

Powerful messages

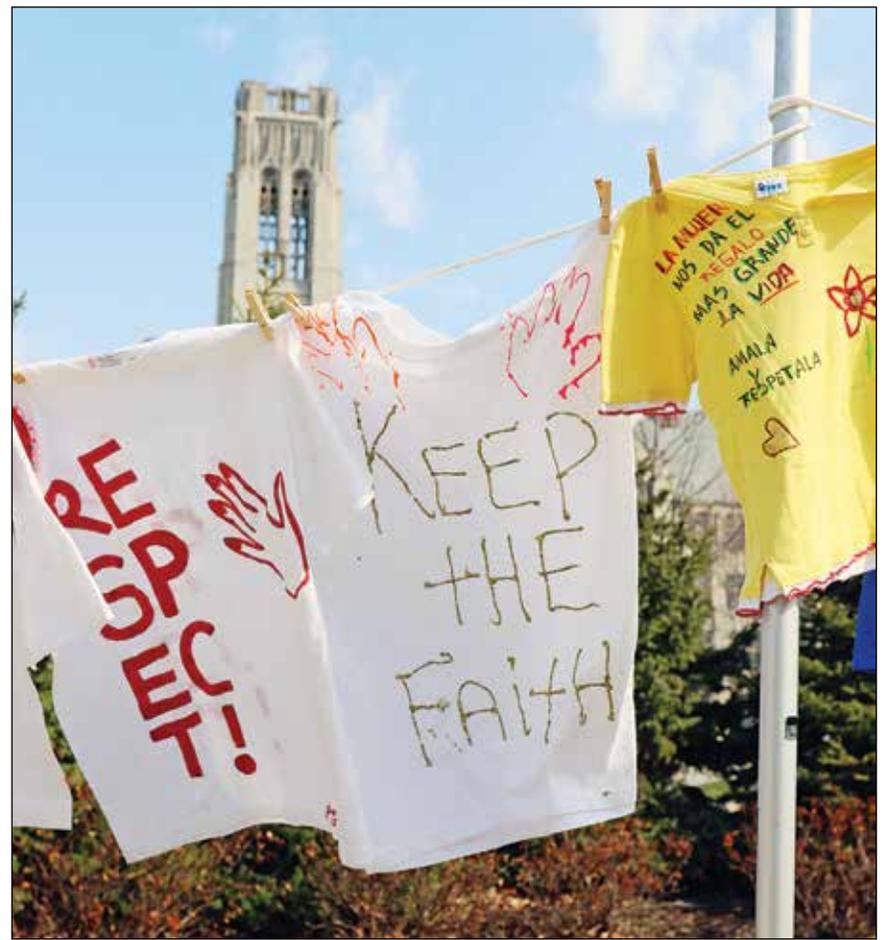


Photo by Sam Smolenski

The Clothesline Project was on display April 12 on Centennial Mall. Hosted by the UT Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness, the event is an avenue for those affected by sexual violence to express their emotions through writings and drawings on a symbolic T-shirt. The shirt is hung on a clothesline to be viewed by others as testimony to the issue of sexual violence. The display was one of the events on campus for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Giving



Photo by Sam Smolenski

Students gave donations during a blood drive held by the American Red Cross on Main Campus last week.

On the force



Photo by Daniel Miller

UT Police Chief Jeff Newton, center, posed for a photo April 12 with Dallas Kwapich, left, and Gary Perlinski II, who were sworn in as new officers. Both Kwapich and Perlinski are completing bachelor's degrees in criminal justice at the University.

Pacemaker Awards

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named a new accounting lab in the College of Business and Innovation for Alan Barry. At the time the lab was established, it was the first one nationwide to have a certified management accountant license, in which students could access for free the review material from Wiley, a leading provider of educational programs for professionals and students who are preparing for the certified management accountant exam.

The couple also endowed the Alan and Karen Barry Scholarship Fund, which provides support for full-time UT business accounting students based on both merit and needs.

Alan Barry, a native of Toledo, is an active member of the UT Alumni Association's Phoenix chapter, is involved in UT's Blue Key organization, and serves on the executive committee for the children's charity Variety.

In 2017, the Barrys donated a \$1 million gift to establish an endowment that supports the Alan H. and Karen A. Barry Endowed Professorship in Accounting at The University of Toledo.

"Recipients of the Pacemaker Award over the past five decades read as a who's who of current and legendary business leaders in the Toledo region," said Dr. Hassan

HassabElnaby, interim dean of the UT College of Business and Innovation, "and Alan Barry certainly belongs in that impressive roster. The Pacemaker Award is the College of Business and Innovation's highest honor, recognizing individuals for outstanding achievement in business, as well as contributions to the community and the University.

"We are also pleased to recognize the excellence of students from each of our departments through the Student Pacemaker Awards," Hassan HassabElnaby said.

Student Pacemaker Awards are presented to UT College of Business and Innovation graduate and undergraduate students for their outstanding academic achievement, University and community service, and leadership.

The 2018 student Pacemakers were: Master of Business Administration — Aanchal Senapati and Mitchell Howard; Master of Science in Accountancy — Tyler Hecht; Accounting — Martin Linthicum and Sarah Avina; Finance — Alex Odenweller and Brianne Michel; Information Operations Technology Management — Brandon Stewart and Lindsey Wittenauer; Management — Kathleen Kurman and Jenna Jeffers; Marketing and International Business — Haley Orr and Amanda Martin; and Dean's Recipient — Julia Foley.

Director

continued from p. 2

Task Force, which is composed of faculty and researchers in diverse fields spanning the University and 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, business, pharmacy, law, chemistry and biochemistry, geography and planning, and medical microbiology and immunology.

"I would like to help this diverse group find a cohesive voice to communicate their research to the public under the banner of the Lake Erie Center," Bridgeman said.

Water quality is a major research focus at UT. With more than \$14 million in active grants underway, 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.

"I'm excited about pursuing some new ideas that will increase our research and education collaborations across UT and with other universities in the region so that the Lake Erie Center becomes the core facility for anyone who wants to conduct research involving Lake Erie," Bridgeman said. "For anyone who loves water and loves Lake Erie, I would like them to feel that the Lake Erie Center is their center. It's a place where they can be involved, send their kids to summer science camp, or meet and organize for improving the lake. For area students, I want them to know that UT offers unparalleled opportunities for them to learn about the environment, studying our Great Lake and its tributaries."

Dr. Tim Fisher, geology professor and chair of the UT Department of Environmental Sciences, has been serving as interim director of the Lake Erie Center.

"I want to thank Dr. Fisher for his dedication and willingness to serve in this capacity for the past 18 months," Bjorkman said.

Wellness Fair to take place April 20

By Jessica A. Guice

Finals are approaching, causing increased stress levels for UT students. To battle the stress, Juice House and the Alpha Omega chapter of Chi Sigma Iota are hosting the 2018 Wellness Fair.

The Wellness Fair will take place Friday, April 20, from 4 to 6 p.m. in Health and Human Services Building Room 1711.

The purpose of this event is to promote wellness within the student community. It also will educate people on the meaning of wellness and how it can be restored.

"We hope to enlighten people's views of what wellness is, besides just physical and nutritional wellness," said Clark Ausloos, UT student and licensed professional counselor. "Wellness is multifaceted and encompasses mental

health, spirituality, financial health, social health and occupational health, as well."

During the event, participants will learn about acupuncture, Reiki, sound therapy, meditation and Tai Chi.

In addition, vendors will provide chair massages and free samples of fresh juice and essential oils.

"Wellness impacts everyone. We hope to expand the notion that wellness is only about your diet and nutrition," Ausloos said. "With final exams coming up, we hope this offers a way for students to decrease stress and foster their own self-care."

For more information and to register for the free event, visit wellnessfair2018.eventbrite.com. Registrations are requested by Wednesday, April 18.

THE ALPHA OMEGA CHAPTER OF
CHI SIGMA IOTA AND JUICE HOUSE
PRESENT

The 2018
WELLNESS FAIR

MASSAGE

JUICE SAMPLES!

REIKI

TAI CHI

FRIDAY, APRIL 20th
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Health and Human Services Building, Room 1711 (1st Floor)
The University of Toledo

Feeling stressed out? Want better ways to cope with stress? Come experience new ways to restore wellness in your life! Learn about massage, acupuncture, Tai Chi, Reiki, Sound Therapy, Meditation, Mindfulness, Nutrition, Mental Health and Fitness. This is not a lecture experience! Walk around and explore what the Toledo area and our UT campus have to offer.

To Get Your Free Ticket/ Read More Information:
wellnessfair2018.eventbrite.com

Rocket Wellness Coalition dedicated to helping campus community members

By Anna Brogan-Knight

According to the National Wellness Institute, wellness is a conscious, self-directed and evolving process of achieving full potential. The University of Toledo is committed to prioritizing the health and well-being of its campus community by offering a variety of prevention-based programming and outreach.

In order to better serve faculty, staff, students and the UT community at large, wellness staff are busy identifying, coordinating and creating wellness programming and presenting those opportunities as part of Rocket Wellness.

Rocket Wellness, formerly staff and corporate wellness programming, has transitioned to a more comprehensive umbrella for students, faculty, staff and community members to access wellness information and opportunities.

Rocket Wellness utilizes an approach that highlights dimensions of wellness. This approach broadens the discussion of wellness from strictly physical to include emotional, environmental, social, spiritual, emotional, occupational, intellectual and financial wellness.

“Wellness is constantly evolving, and UT recognizes that it is an integral

component to student success and employee engagement,” Wendy Davis, associate vice president and chief human resources officer, said. “Providing robust wellness opportunities can’t be achieved as a sole department, and many programs overlap for both populations. It makes strategic sense to bring resources together and increase synergies among campus services that support a culture of health and well-being.”

The Rocket Wellness Coalition was created to meet the evolving wellness needs campus-wide, while avoiding duplication of services. The coalition strives to support the well-being of the campus community through awareness, education, policies and services. The Rocket Wellness Coalition consists of individuals representing groups or departments that have the opportunity to positively influence the health and well-being of students and employees. For a complete list of coalition members, go to utoledo.edu/offices/rocketwellness/coalition.html.

For more information on Rocket Wellness programming or the Rocket Wellness Coalition, visit utoledo.edu/offices/rocketwellness.

Dana Cancer Center to host program for managing life with cancer

To help patients and their families handle the many challenges faced after a cancer diagnosis, the Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center at The University of Toledo Medical Center is hosting a program called “Managing Life With Cancer: It’s OK Not to be OK.”

The program will take place Thursday, April 19, at 6 p.m. in the cancer center on Health Science Campus to provide cancer patients, caregivers and health-care providers information about the resources available.

“A diagnosis of cancer complicates life for the individual, as well as her family

members and caregivers,” said Katie Racz, UTMC social worker. “In addition to choosing medical treatment, you may experience physical side effects, absence from work, emotional distress, financial concerns and family issues.”

Racz will discuss support services available at the Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center and in the community to help patients and their families manage the social, emotional and spiritual aspects of living with cancer.

The program is free and open to the public, but registration is requested by calling 419.383.5243.

UT employees may schedule graduate photos

Faculty and staff or members of their families who will graduate from UT this semester may contact the University Marketing and Communications Office if they wish to have a photo taken and published in UT News.

Contact Kelsi Rooks at kelsi.rooks@utoledo.edu or 419.530.2299 to schedule an appointment before Friday, May 4.

Photos will appear in the paper after commencement.

In memoriam

Frank G. Kohlhofer Sr., Swanton, a maintenance worker at MCO from 1979 until his retirement in 2004, died April 5 at age 65.

Rodger D. Kokensparger, Toledo, who worked at the University for more than two decades, died April 6 at age 68. He joined MCO in 1979 and retired as a manager in facilities maintenance in 2005.

Ollie Jean Means, Toledo, who worked at MCO for 28 years, died April 4 at age 78. She retired as central supply clerk in 1986.

UT NEWS

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UT Chapter of Student Veterans of America to host flag retirement ceremony

By Jessica A. Guice

The Student Veterans of America UT Chapter will host a flag retirement ceremony Thursday, April 19, at 11 a.m. on the steps outside the Thompson Student Union.

The purpose of this event is to educate people on the history of the flag, the proper way to dispose of a flag that is no longer suitable for display, and preside over the retirement of several American flags.

“Many people know that burning the flag is a step in the process, said Cadet Erica Loroff, president of the UT chapter of Student Veterans of America. “However, many do not know that you have to divide up the colors on the flag and burn them separately.”

Attending this event is a way of showing respect and honor to those who have volunteered and sacrificed for the United States.

“We are a group of students from all different backgrounds that come from around the world to achieve our educational goals,” Loroff said. “This event will be a testament to the student body, faculty, and administration that we honor, respect and, ultimately, thank those who have volunteered to serve and given the ultimate sacrifice to our country.”



Members of the UT Chapter of Student Veterans of America look forward to educating students, faculty, staff and area residents about the ceremonial folding of the flag and showing them what each fold represents.

“It is a great opportunity to reflect during the ceremony about all that is great about our country and how much has been sacrificed to remain free to this day,” Loroff said.

For more information on this free, public event, email utoledosva@gmail.com.

High school sophomore brings touch of home to UTMC patients

Patients undergoing chemotherapy at the Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center at The University of Toledo were surprised earlier this month with gifts of fleece blankets from 15-year-old Mae Kennedy of Toledo.

“Two years ago, my grandmother was a cancer patient, and she complained of the scratchy hospital blankets at the hospital that smelled of medicine,” Kennedy said.

Following her grandmother’s death last year, Kennedy wanted to replace those scratchy blankets with new fleece lap blankets.

Kennedy, who is a sophomore at Central Catholic High School, created an organization, A Touch of Home, for a National Honor Society project. She buys the fleece fabric and makes blankets to sell. The remaining fabric and any money she has left is used to make more blankets to give away.

Since beginning the project in December, Kennedy has sold more than 25 blankets.

April 3 was the first day that Kennedy distributed the blankets at UTMC, where her mother, Melissa Kennedy, is respiratory therapist.



WARM-HEARTED: Mae Kennedy gave one of the blankets she made for her project, A Touch of Home, to Fremont resident Cathy Warwick, a patient at the Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center.



Hot time

Tausha Sharples, a family therapist at the Kobacker Center, standing with Rocky, won the 2018 Chili Cook-Off Championship on Health Science Campus last month. Cheryl Liebich, administrative secretary in Food and Nutrition Services, took second place. Judges for this year’s event were, from left, Dr. Michael Ellis, chief medical officer; President Sharon L. Gaber; Dan Barbee, chief executive officer of UT Medical Center; and Allen Siefert, chief administrative officer of outpatient integrated clinic operations.

Photo by Daniel Miller



Student Appreciation Day

Join us for fun, food and games!

1 - 3 p.m.
Monday, April 23

Centennial Mall, Main Campus
Rain location: Thompson Student Union Auditorium



DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO



SA 1041 0215