

Researchers look to filter-feeding fish to develop new way of collecting harmful algae

By Tyrel Linkhorn

Researchers at The University of Toledo are using clues from nature to engineer a potential solution to address the annual algal blooms that foul Lake Erie and hundreds of other freshwater lakes across the world.

The innovative project could lead to a new type of filter that would allow scientists to actively screen large amounts of blue-green algae from the water before it's able to release cyanotoxins.

"I'm interested in the whole idea of biomimicry. There are lots of processes that biological organisms do really well — much more efficiently than we can," said Dr. Adam Schroeder, visiting assistant professor in the UToledo College of Engineering. "I want to take algae out of

the water. What examples do I have for solutions for separating a particle from the water?"

With help from a College of William and Mary biologist, Schroeder and Dr. Brian Trease, assistant professor of mechanical, industrial and manufacturing engineering, focused on the paddlefish, a prehistoric-looking freshwater fish that lumbers through lakes and rivers with its mouth agape to collect nutritious zooplankton.

"They're processing lots of water for minutes at a time to filter out food. We can take that concept and then expand it beyond what we see in biology," Schroeder said.

The research team's findings were recently published in the journal *Bioinspiration & Biomimetics*.

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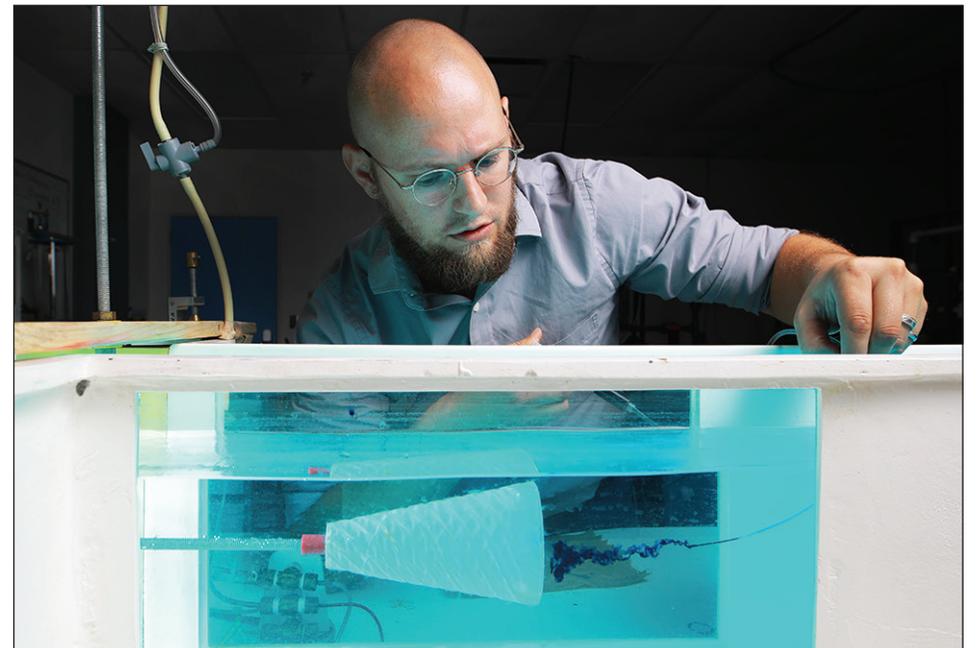


Photo by Daniel Miller

INNOVATIVE ENGINEERING: Dr. Adam Schroeder used dye to demonstrate how a filter inspired by the paddlefish works like a vortex to clean water. The conical cross-step filter could help collect algae from lakes.

UToledo psychologists to study how classical music might further PTSD treatment

By Tyrel Linkhorn

Researchers at The University of Toledo are teaming up with the Toledo Symphony Orchestra for an innovative project to examine whether classical music could be a useful addition in the treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder.

For some patients with PTSD, getting to a place in treatment where they are able to confront their emotions can be overwhelming.

"Our thinking is that music might provide an alternative way to aid patients in connecting with and expressing their emotions, enabling them to stay in these treatments and hopefully benefit more from them," said Dr. Matthew Tull, professor of psychology and one of the lead researchers on the project. "We're not looking at classical music as an alternative treatment for PTSD, but something that might

facilitate currently available empirically supported treatments for PTSD."

The Toledo Symphony Orchestra and UToledo were recently awarded a two-year, \$80,000 grant through the American Orchestras' Future Fund to back the research.

In addition to playing recordings, researchers hope to bring Toledo Symphony Orchestra musicians directly into the clinic to examine if there's a difference in patients' reactions to live music.

"We are honored to be one of the 19 orchestras in the U.S. to receive this special grant," said Zak Vassar, president and chief executive officer of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra. "The Futures Fund grant opens many doors for us, and we couldn't be more excited to collaborate with The University of Toledo on a two-year project exploring the psychological effects of experiencing

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Photo by Daniel Miller

LISTEN TO THE MUSIC: Dr. Jason Rose, left, and Dr. Matthew Tull received a two-year, \$80,000 grant through the American Orchestras' Future Fund to study if classical music could be a useful addition in the treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder.

Parking permit rates change

As the University continues moving toward more equitable parking, a number of changes and new programs will be implemented for fall semester.

Among them are new rates for most members of the UToledo community. To provide you with advance notification, review the permit types and fees at utoledo.edu/parkingservices/whats-new. New rates go into effect in August.

When compared to current parking permit rates, these include an annual increase of \$15 for "A" permits, which are used by most full-time faculty and staff; this amounts to an increase of 58 cents per paycheck for individuals using payroll deduction.

Current permit-holders with payroll deduction will see this new deduction on their last paycheck in August and do not need to register for parking.

Individuals who pay one lump sum with a credit card, requiring annual parking registration, may register starting Monday, Aug. 5, at myparking.utoledo.edu.

Employees in collective bargaining units will continue to pay the parking rate specified in their contract.

Student parking permits will remain unchanged for 2019-20.

It is against University policy to pay a citation, pay a meter, or purchase a parking permit with a University P-card. Guest permits purchased by the department are to be charged to the departmental index and an account provided.

If you have questions about parking or registration, visit utoledo.edu/parkingservices or contact parking@utoledo.edu.

UToledo names director of cross country, track and field

By Katherine Jamtgaard

Andrea Grove-McDonough has been named the director of cross country and track and field at the University.

Grove-McDonough comes to Toledo following head coaching stints at North Carolina, Iowa State and Connecticut.

"We're excited to welcome Andrea Grove-McDonough as the new director of cross country and track and field," Vice President and Athletic Director Mike O'Brien said. "Andrea has been very successful at the highest level of intercollegiate competition. Her teams have excelled athletically and academically, and she has a proven track record in recruiting. I'm confident she will help our student-athletes achieve their full potential."

"My family and I are excited about the opportunity to lead the Toledo program," Grove-McDonough said. "The Rockets have a great history of success in their cross country program, and on the track in recent years, where they have won MAC Championships and been very competitive at the national level. I'm looking forward to getting started and taking the program to even greater heights."

As the director of cross country and track and field, Grove-McDonough will serve as the head coach for men's and women's cross country and as the head coach for women's track and field.

"Ultimately, I felt like Toledo was a place that not only wants to win, but wants to do it the right way," she said.

Grove-McDonough comes to Toledo after serving one year as the head men's and



Grove-McDonough

women's cross country coach and assistant men's and women's track and field coach at North Carolina. Prior to that, she was the head women's cross country coach and assistant track and field coach at Iowa State from 2013 to 2018, and held the same position at UConn from 2008 to 2013.

She was named Big 12 Conference Coach of the Year for cross country in 2013, 2014, 2016 and 2017, and was named Big East Conference Head Coach of the Year for cross country in 2012. In 2013, 2014 and 2017, she was named U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Midwest Region Head Coach of the Year for cross country. She also earned U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Northeast Region Assistant Coach of the Year honors for indoor track and field in 2012 and 2013.

In addition, Grove-McDonough has coached several individuals who excelled on the international stage. In 2018, she coached Cailie Logue to a USA Junior National Championship in the 3,000 and 5,000 meters. Grove-McDonough has coached three USA Junior National runners-up in the 3,000 meters and steeplechase, five U-20 World Championship qualifiers, two U-20 Pan Am qualifiers and two U-20 Pan Am medalists.

Prior to becoming a coach, Grove-McDonough was a two-time national titlist, winning the 2008 Canadian Olympic Trials in the 10,000 meters. She ran professionally for 12 years and was a seven-time Canadian National Team member. Grove-McDonough was ranked first in Canada in the 10,000 meters in 2008 and was ranked second in the nation in the 5,000 meters in 2002, 2006 and 2007.

Grove-McDonough competed at the University of Minnesota as a distance runner, earning All-America honors in the 1,500 meters with a fifth-place finish at the 1996 NCAA Outdoor Championship. She earned Academic All-Big Ten honors in 1996.

A native of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, Grove-McDonough graduated from Minnesota in 2004 with a bachelor of arts degree in human resource development and business and industry education.

Grove-McDonough and her husband, Troy McDonough, former University of Montana All-America decathlete, have a son, Smith (9), and a daughter, Holden (3).

Summer tradition



Photos by Daniel Miller

It was a sun-filled day for Art on the Mall: Thousands visited Main Campus July 28 for The University of Toledo Alumni Association's 27th annual juried art fair. Keith Riley, above, checked out glass wind chimes at UToledo's signature summer event.

Doctoral student's research brings new insight to removing breastfeeding barriers

By Tyrel Linkhorn

A new study from The University of Toledo suggests providing more robust support for new mothers who experience stressful life events leading up to the baby's birth, such as a lost job or a critically ill family member, could improve breastfeeding rates.

Slightly more than half of U.S. mothers follow the American Academy of Pediatrics recommendation that their infants receive only breast milk for the first six months of their lives.



Dugat

Vickie Dugat wanted to better understand what barriers may exist for women — and identify efforts that might remove some.

"There's a lot of data that suggests it's beneficial for both mother and baby

to breastfeed for six months," said Dugat, a health education doctoral student in the UToledo College of Health and Human Services. "This is an issue that we need to talk about, and one that needs to be researched more deeply."

There are a variety of reasons why new mothers may either choose not to breastfeed or find themselves unable to do so. A lack of family and social support, embarrassment, personal preference, lactation problems, and work-related issues are commonly cited in studies of American breastfeeding practices.

As Dugat sifted through the existing literature, she noticed that little work had been done examining the association between prenatal stressful life events and exclusive breastfeeding.

With help from Dr. Joseph Dake, professor and chair of the UToledo School of Population Health, Dugat linked up with a pair of Ohio University researchers to dig into the issue.

Using a data set of nearly 44,000 U.S. mothers, researchers compared breastfeeding statistics for an infant's first three months with self-reported incidents of 13 major stressful events in the mother's life during the year prior to birth.

Included in that list were separations or divorce, homelessness, moving to a new address, bills that couldn't be paid, someone close to them suffering with a drug or alcohol problem, lost jobs, and the death or serious illness of someone close to them.

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Algae researchers to fan out across Lake Erie to collect water samples Aug. 7

By Christine Billau

Five years after a water crisis in Toledo left half a million residents without safe tap water for three days, environmental scientists from the U.S. and Canada will board research vessels and fan out across western Lake Erie to collect water samples at nearly 200 locations in four hours in a united effort to create a high-resolution picture of this summer's harmful algal bloom (HAB) and ultimately protect the public drinking water supply.

The second annual HABs Grab on Wednesday, Aug. 7, will bring together researchers from The University of Toledo, National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Association (NOAA) Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, Ohio State University, University of Michigan, Bowling Green State University, Wayne State University, Michigan Technological University, Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research and LimnoTech. The HABs Grab has nearly doubled in size this year with the addition of Canadian partners, including the University of Windsor, Environment Canada and Climate Change, and the Department of Fisheries Ontario.

A major goal is to estimate the mass of total microcystin toxin for one day during the peak of algal bloom season, as well

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Photo by Daniel Miller

SAMPLING WATER: Dr. Thomas Bridgeman, left, and Zachary Swan, a graduate student, examined a YSI EXO sonde, which is used to measure water quality parameters, including how much blue-green algae is present, temperature, clarity, oxygen levels, turbidity and pH.

Researchers

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Dealing with harmful algal blooms requires a multidisciplinary approach. Researchers at UToledo are studying the health impacts of harmful algal blooms, developing new ways of filtering cyanobacteria out of water, and actively monitoring blooms in Lake Erie.

Schroeder, who earned a doctorate in mechanical engineering from UToledo in 2018, brings a different perspective.

"Somebody without any knowledge of the problem might say why can't we just pick up the algae," he said. "So why can't we? It's nice to explore that idea — what would we need to do to get rid of the algae?"

Currently, environmental scientists gathering algal samples use conventional-looking nets that have a small canister at the end to collect algae. The trouble with using those nets to remove large amounts of algae, however, is that they can only gather so much before they clog.

When the paddlefish feeds, its mouth creates a vortex of swirling water that helps it collect food indefinitely without its biological filters clogging. Using that concept, Schroeder developed a conical cross-step filter that mimics the paddlefish while adding creative engineering solutions.

Lab tests showed their design is able to transport suspended particles roughly the same size as the predominant Lake Erie algae downstream toward the end of the filter and is resistant — though not immune — to clogging.

The researchers' next step is to develop a method for sequestering the particles after they exit the back of the filter. If they can do that and develop a method to remove what particles attach to the filter walls, it might be possible to create a filtering apparatus that can operate continuously in lake waters.

"We see this as a complementary solution. The real problem is that the algae

is there in the first place. We have to stop all these nutrients from getting in the water, but that's a really hard problem to solve and even harder to do it quickly," Schroeder said.

In the meantime, he believes it is worth examining other, out-of-the-box ideas that might contribute to making lakes and rivers healthier.

"You don't need to clean up the whole bloom, but maybe you need to keep a 500-meter radius clear of algae. That's something we might be able to do," Schroeder said.

University to participate in Toledo Pride Parade, Festival

Students, faculty, staff and alumni are invited to join The University of Toledo to march in the Toledo Pride Parade Saturday, Aug. 17.

“The University of Toledo has maintained a presence at pride parades and festivals in past years with our LGBTQA+ initiatives and our student organization Prism, formally known as Spectrum,” said Dr. Michele Soliz, UToledo assistant vice president for student success and inclusion.

“We invite everyone in the UToledo community to join us to celebrate our inclusive campus and city.”

UToledo community members are asked to meet at 11 a.m. to check in for the parade at the corner of Adams and Warren streets. Look for the rainbow UToledo shirts to find the University’s spot in the parade.

The parade will start at noon on Adams Street and head toward Promenade Park,

where the Pride Festival will take place until midnight.

“The Office for Diversity and Inclusion will sponsor several tables at the festival, which will feature food, vendors and family activities,” Soliz said. “Help us show our Rocket pride and Toledo Pride.”

Sign up to receive a free UToledo Pride T-shirt while supplies last: Go to webforms.utoledo.edu/form/91260524453.



ROCKET PRIDE: A group of UToledo students, employees and alumni participated in the 2018 Columbus Pride Festival. Rocky and Rocksy also were in the state capital for the parade.

PTSD treatment

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classical music. Through this collaboration, we are able to advance the state of the performing arts, not just in our community, but across the globe.”

The project’s first year will focus on experiments that examine the effects of bursts of classical music on targeted emotional experiences. Researchers will monitor those effects by testing for both psychological and physiological reactions.

In the second year, researchers will marry their laboratory findings with traditional treatment strategies in the clinic to see what extent classical music can help patients with PTSD.

“Music has such a great emotion-evoking quality about it. There is research on how music affects emotion, but there really hasn’t been much on the impact of classical music on individuals with PTSD. We believe this is an innovative project,” said Dr. Jason Rose, associate professor of psychology and the other lead researcher on the project.

The American Orchestras’ Future Funds program is supported by the Ann and Gordon Getty Foundation.

Lake Erie Center to host Farmers’ Market this summer

By Chase M. Foland

Stop by the Farmers’ Market at the Lake Erie Center and pick up some fresh produce, bread, handcrafted beauty products and more.

Local farmers will be at the center, 6200 Bayshore Road in Oregon, Friday, Aug. 9 and Sept. 6, from 3 to 6 p.m.

“We are looking forward to a wide selection of farmers, vendors and food trucks at our markets this summer,” said Rachel Lohner, education program leader at the Lake Erie Center.

“We feel these markets are important because they give us a chance to interact with the community and educate the public about the research that occurs at the Lake Erie Center,” she added.

Due to the rough growing season, the first market scheduled in July was canceled.

“We also value the markets as a way to partner with local farmers and show that we appreciate the efforts they devote to feeding us and protecting our environment at the same time,” Lohner said.

For more information or to join the Lake Erie Center Farmers’ Market as a vendor, call 419.530.8360 or email lakeeriecenter@utoledo.edu.

BUYING LOCAL: Dr. Thomas Bridgeman, director of the UToledo Lake Erie Center and professor of ecology, picked up some kettle corn and vegetables at the Farmers’ Market last summer at the Lake Erie Center.



Toledo football picked to win MAC West Division

By Chris Cullum

The University of Toledo football team has been picked to win the West Division of the Mid-American Conference by the members of the league's media contingent.

The preseason poll was released last month at the conference's annual football media day held at Ford Field in Detroit.

"I think it gives us some validation here in late July that our hard work is paying off," said Head Coach Jason Candle. "But where you start doesn't have any indication of where you'll finish. The goal is to be one of the last teams standing and make it back here to Ford Field in December. That being said, it's good that our players have that validation for the hard work they've put in during the off-season."

The Rockets received 15 first-place votes and 127 total points in the poll, while also receiving seven votes to win the 2019 MAC Championship, second only to Ohio (13 votes). Toledo's 127 points were more than MAC West foes Western Michigan (112) and Northern Illinois (103). The Bobcats led all MAC teams with 144 points in the poll, and Miami (107) and Buffalo (100) rounded out the top three in the MAC East. Other teams receiving MAC title votes were WMU (two), NIU, (one), and Central Michigan (one).

Toledo is coming off a 7-6 season in 2018, which marked its ninth consecutive year of attaining bowl eligibility and ninth straight year with a record above .500.



Photo by Daniel Miller

GO ROCKETS! Toledo has been picked to win the West Division of the Mid-American Conference by the league's media.

The Rockets return 14 starters (seven offensive, five defensive, two special teams) and 50 letterwinners from last season's team. Among those returning this season are 2018 All-MAC honorees Reggie Gilliam (tight end) and Bryce Harris (center), leading rusher Bryant Koback, and senior defensive leaders Kahlil Robinson and Jordan Fisher.

Toledo will open its 2019 campaign with a visit to SEC foe Kentucky Saturday, Aug. 31, before returning to the Glass Bowl Saturday, Sept. 14, for the home opener against Murray State.

Full-time UToledo employees and retirees may purchase tickets at half-price. UToledo students are admitted to home games free with ID.

To purchase season tickets, single-game tickets or away-game tickets, stop by the UToledo Athletic Ticket Office, located in the Sullivan Athletic Complex at Savage Arena, go to utrockets.com, or call 419.530.GOLD (4653).

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Discounted Adobe subscriptions now available

By Christine Wasserman

The University has partnered with Adobe Inc. to offer discounted Adobe Creative Cloud subscriptions for personal use to current UToledo students, faculty and staff.

A one-year subscription to Adobe Creative Cloud will cost \$75 annually, and it is renewable before it expires. This cost is significantly less than the standard retail price and includes all Adobe applications — including Acrobat, Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator and many more — and 100 gigabytes of cloud storage.

“We’re pleased to offer this to our campus community because we know it’s of significant value and will be useful to many individuals who rely on these software applications,” said Bill McCreary,

vice president and chief information and technology officer.

More information about available desktop products and Creative Cloud suite mobile products are available at adobe.com.

To take advantage of this discounted subscription through UToledo, visit software.utoledo.edu. This offer is available only to currently enrolled students and employed faculty and staff.

If you have any questions about this offer or would like information about purchasing a corporate departmental subscription, contact the IT Help Desk at 419.530.2400 on Main Campus or 419.383.2400 on Health Science and Scott Park campuses.

Satellites to hold shoe sale to raise scholarship funds

It’s coming back: The 43-hour shoe sale will start at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 14, and run through 2 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16, in the UToledo Medical Center’s Four Seasons Bistro Atrium.

The Satellites Auxiliary and the UToledo Retirees Association in conjunction with Outside the Box Shoes will present the popular event.

“Our employees love the convenience of being able to shop for good work shoes at the hospital,” Lynn Brand, president of the Satellites, said. “That’s why we have two shoe sales each year.”

Brand names will include Clarks, Klogs, Skechers, Merrell, Jambu, New Balance, Dansko, Kamik, Grey’s Anatomy Softwalk and more.

Cash, credit cards and payroll deduction will be accepted.



Profits will benefit the auxiliary’s and association’s campus scholarships.

The Satellites Auxiliary promotes education, research and service programs; provides support of patient programs in accordance with the needs and approval of administration; conducts fundraising events; and offers volunteer services.

For more information on the shoe sale, contact Brand at lynn.brand@utoledo.edu.

Breastfeeding

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Their findings, published in the journal *Breastfeeding Medicine*, found a clear connection between higher numbers of stressful life events and lower rates of exclusive breastfeeding for three months.

Of the U.S. mothers included in their data set, 52 percent of those who did not report any major stressful life events in the year prior to giving birth were more likely to breastfeed exclusively for three months. Among women who experienced three or more stressful life events, that dropped to just 32 percent.

While the findings were consistent across most demographic groups, the association between stressful life events and shorter duration of breastfeeding was most pronounced for women younger than age 30.

“The implication is it might be possible to create policies or programs to educate lactation consultants and physicians on which population may need a little bit more assistance when it comes to breastfeeding and handling stressful life events,” said Dugat, who was lead author on the study. “We could also potentially improve breastfeeding practices with efforts that minimize exposure to stressful life events.”

Originally from Florida, Dugat completed her undergraduate work at the University of Florida and earned a master’s in public health from Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta.

She chose UToledo for her doctoral work after meeting Dake at a conference

and learning the flexibility she’d have in her research here.

“Something that we pride ourselves in is that we do not assign our doctoral students to a particular faculty member when they come in,” Dake said. “There are benefits to that, but our program is geared a little more toward allowing them to explore and shift their research interests, as long as it’s under the oversight of a faculty member who can be a good mentor to them.”

For Dugat, who is passionate about improving the health of mothers and infants, that freedom to pursue her interests was crucial in selecting a doctoral program.

“I absolutely love that. With other Ph.D. programs, sometimes you have to do the research that faculty are already doing,” Dugat said. “Having that flexibility and the ability to be creative in my research is what attracted me here.”

Thanks to the relationship Dake has built with Ohio University through the Ohio Alliance for Innovation in Population Health, he was able to make a connection for Dugat with researchers who had similar areas of interest.

“We really try to push the idea that if you love what you do, you spend time on it and you’re passionate at what you do, you’re going to be a better professional, and you’re going to be more successful in it,” Dake said.

Field of dreams



Photo by Daniel Miller

Workers from Vasco Asphalt in Massillon, Ohio, installed turf for the women’s new soccer field in the center of the track on Main Campus. The Rockets will make their debut at their new home location Thursday, Aug. 29, at 7 p.m. when they face the University of Illinois at Chicago. Tickets are \$5 and \$3 for 18 and younger; UToledo employees can purchase tickets at half price; UToledo students are admitted free with ID. Go to utrockets.com or call 419.530.GOLD (4653).

In memoriam



Perry

Dr. Richard R. Perry, professor emeritus and longtime administrator who helped shape the University, died July 20 at age 93. His passion for his alma mater was evident: He worked on campus for more than 50 years. One of the University's most enduring figures, Perry recorded several firsts; he was the first: special assistant to the president, director of admissions, director of placement and director of alumni relations. In addition, he was the first person in Ohio to organize a college or university office of institutional research. In 1964, he received the University's first doctor of education

degree in higher education, which also made him the first person to receive three degrees — bachelor of education (1948), master of arts degree (1950) and doctor of education — at UToledo. He joined the staff in 1949 as personnel assistant and became director of admissions, placement director and director of alumni relations in 1952; director of admissions and records in 1960; director of institutional research and administrative planning in 1970; assistant vice president for academic affairs in 1971; and associate vice president for academic affairs in 1973. As a faculty member, he joined the College of Education as an instructor in 1949 and was promoted to assistant professor in 1953, associate professor in 1964, and professor in 1968. A prolific author, Perry wrote numerous publications on institutional research, as well as the administration of higher education. His service to the campus community included chairing the Commencement Committee for two decades and overseeing the inauguration of two UToledo presidents. Perry was president of the University chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi in 1981. He was a lifetime member of the University Alumni Association, and a member of the University Presidents Club,

Rocket Club and Lannon Society. Perry also directed doctoral dissertations and was chair of several doctoral committees. He retired from the University in 1990, but Perry continued to teach and advise students for 16 years. The UToledo alumnus helped found the Association for College Admission Counselors, the National Office of the Association for Institutional Research and the Midwest Regional Assembly of the College Entrance Examination Board. Perry served on the board of trustees for Davis College, Defiance College and Western New England College. In 1970, he was one of seven named to the the first board of trustees of the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library. After graduating from Toledo Public Schools in 1943, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and was honorably discharged with the rank of sergeant in 1946. The World War II veteran received a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star. In 2015, he received the Soldier's Medal for his bravery following an ammunition explosion April 6, 1945, in Germany. Perry was with the 63rd Infantry Division when he carried two of his comrades to safety and removed unexploded ammunition before a grenade went off and he was injured. During that ceremony, he also received a Bronze Star for valor for helping fellow soldiers repair communication lines under fire near Hottviller, France, in 1945. In 2016, Perry received the French Legion of Honor, the highest award that can be bestowed by the French government. A longtime UToledo benefactor, Perry established seven endowments at the University and the Foundation to assist students and programs, and he lobbied for the establishment of the Veterans Memorial Plaza on Main Campus. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Rondelli Perry, professor emerita of music.

Richard L. "Dick" Berry, Naples, Fla., who served on the former MCO/MUO Foundation Board of Trustees in the 1980s, died July 15 at age 92. He also was a member of the University Athletic Board.

Online tool puts employee info in one place

By Christine Wasserman

A new employee self-service dashboard is available that enables faculty and staff to explore their department's organizational structure, and see sick and vacation time accruals, earning details, benefit plans, and tax forms using only one link.

Additionally, supervisors can access up-to-date information about each of their team members, such as their job descriptions, leave balances, emergency contacts and more.

"We're continually looking at ways to improve the UToledo experience for our employees," said Wendy Davis, associate vice president and chief human resources officer. "This new dashboard enables faculty and staff to access much of their employment and tax information from the University without having to click multiple links on our web portal."

"It puts everything right at your fingertips with just one tool," said David Gaus, director of compensation, human resources information system and project management. "That means you don't need to search the myUT portal to perform several employment-related tasks, ultimately saving you time."

To access the new self-service dashboard 24/7, visit the myUT portal and follow these steps:

- Select "LOGIN" in the upper right-hand corner and sign in with your utad and password. If you need help logging in because you forgot your username or password, contact the Information Technology Help Desk at ithelpdesk@utoledo.edu, or call 419.530.2400 (Main and Scott Park campuses) or 419.383.2400 (Health Science Campus).
- In the Employee tab (or Associate tab for Foundation employees), in the My Toolkit section at the top left, use the Employee Self-Service Dashboard link under the Employee Dashboard — New header.

For your convenience, the myUT portal still contains the current links under the My Toolkit section so you may access your information as you have in the past. However, by using the new self-service dashboard, you can find all of this information in one location instead of using different links for different tasks.

While the tool is easy to use, information about the new dashboard is available at utoledo.edu/depts/hr/employeeselfservicetraining.html.

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 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 UToledo community are welcome. Send information by campus mail to #190, 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 190, The University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606-3390.

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Hot Chicken Blvd set to open this week in Gateway

Spice it up: Hot Chicken Blvd promises to bring the heat when it opens Monday, Aug. 5, in the Gateway on the southwest corner of UToledo's Main Campus at Dorr Street and Secor Road.

Owner Jun Park decided to replace Rice Blvd with a restaurant that serves fried chicken, wings, tenderloins, waffles, salad and fries.

"Hot Chicken Blvd will have something for everyone," Park said. "Make no mistake: This chicken will be hot."

Heat levels listed on the menu include two that come with a warning: "Extremely hot" and "Holy!"

Patrons will be able choose from a variety of chicken sandwiches, including Southern, Hawaiian, mac and cheese, or build their own on a brioche bun or waffle.

Diners can select from several dipping sauces to go with their tenderloins and wings: chili mayo, ranch, teriyaki, tangy mustard, barbecue, and Korean hot and sweet.

Or stop by for waffles — including Nutella banana, strawberry and chocolate chip — topped with whipped cream.

"We think the University community will like this menu," Park said. "We are excited to open and serve up some hot chicken and waffles."

Hours will be Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

For more information on Hot Chicken Blvd, go to hotchickenblvd.com or call 419.690.4882.

Annual medical student white coat ceremony to take place Aug. 9

By Tyrel Linkhorn

The University of Toledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences will welcome a new class of medical students with an official white coat ceremony Friday, Aug. 9, at 10 a.m. in Nitschke Auditorium.

The white coat ceremony, held during the week of orientation, is a long-established tradition for first-year medical students that emphasizes the principles of their chosen profession and prepares them for the journey to become medical professionals.

This year, 175 students will take part.

"This ceremony underscores the foundation of the medical profession for first-year medical students," said Dr. Christopher Cooper, executive vice president for clinical affairs and dean of the College of Medicine and Life Sciences. "The white coat serves as a symbol of their entry into medical school. It reiterates their commitment to professionalism, educational excellence, and their service to others through medical care."

In addition to the presentation of a white coat, the event will include a welcome from Cooper, a keynote address on humanism in medicine, and a recitation of the Medical Student Pledge of Ethics.

A livestream of the event is available online at [youtube.com/watch?v=wdmLRTE67Uk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wdmLRTE67Uk).

In addition to first-year medical students, UToledo also has white coat ceremonies for students in a number of other programs.

- The College of Medicine and Life Sciences will host white coat ceremonies for students in the Physician Assistant Program Friday, Aug. 23, and students in the Biomedical Sciences Program Thursday, Sept. 5.
- The College of Nursing will hold a white coat ceremony for incoming undergraduate and graduate students Wednesday, Sept. 4.
- The College of Health and Human Services will hold a white coat ceremony for first-year physical therapy and respiratory care students in their junior year, which is the first year of their professional program, Friday, Aug. 30.
- The College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences will hold a white coat ceremony for students in both the Doctor of Pharmacy Program and Pharmaceutical Sciences Program Thursday, Aug. 22.



Algae researchers

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as to characterize the different forms of microcystin and the genes that produce them.

"Collaboration is critical in our efforts to understand a harmful algal bloom as large as Lake Erie's — the lake is simply too large for one organization to handle," said Dr. Thomas Bridgeman, director of the UToledo Lake Erie Center and professor of ecology. "This massive one-day sampling event allows us to not only analyze the current bloom, but focus on unraveling the mystery of why some algal blooms are highly toxic, while others are less so."

Bridgeman, who has studied algae in the Great Lakes for nearly two decades, and his research team at UToledo collect samples and track cyanobacteria throughout Lake Erie's western basin once a week every summer during algal bloom season.

"Harmful algal blooms are an international issue," Bridgeman said. "The ultimate solution is to prevent blooms from growing in the first place by preventing water pollution. In the meantime, discovering what triggers a bloom to start producing toxins would be a large step toward protecting people, pets and wildlife."

HABs Grab is funded by NOAA's ECOHAB research program.

"The main goal of the project is to develop a bloom toxicity forecast, and the HABs Grab provides data to estimate toxin mass in the lake," said Dr. Justin Chaffin, leader of the HABs Grab project who is based at Ohio State University's Stone Laboratory. Chaffin earned his Ph.D. in biology from UToledo in 2013 while studying in Bridgeman's lab. He also earned his master's degree from UToledo in 2009.

"This coordinated effort will assist in improving the accuracy of microcystin toxin

concentrations in HAB forecast products," Deborah Lee, director of the NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, said. "It is a true testament to collaboration and coordination across institutional and international boundaries."

The Lake Erie Center is UToledo's freshwater research and science education campus focused on finding solutions to water quality issues that face the Great Lakes, including harmful algal blooms, invasive species and pollutants.