



International Conference at UToledo Targeting Human Trafficking Grows to Record Level

By Christine Billau

In the wake of high-profile sex trafficking charges against financier Jeffrey Epstein and singer R. Kelly, this dark world of modern-day slavery is under an intense spotlight and garnering global attention.

Survivors, researchers and advocates around the world are coming together this week for the 16th Annual International Human Trafficking and Social Justice Conference at The University of Toledo.

This year marks the largest event since the conference began at UToledo in 2004 and for the first time features an art exhibit in collaboration with the

UToledo Department of Art to raise critical consciousness for social justice.

“We are proud so many people want to learn about human trafficking,” said Dr. Celia Williamson, Distinguished University Professor and director of the UToledo Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute. “Our conference brings sex and labor trafficking out of the shadows and helps end abuse. More than ever before, we have the opportunity to educate, collaborate and save lives.”

The conference, which – to date – has welcomed presenters from 42 states and 30 countries, is Thursday and Friday,



INTERNATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING & SOCIAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE SEPT. 19-20, 2019

Sept. 19 and 20, in the Thompson Student Union on Main Campus.

UToledo’s Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute and the Lucas County Human Trafficking Coalition host the conference.

Williamson recently published a new book titled “A Seat at the Table:

The Courage to Care About Trafficking Victims,” which tells her life story and transition from at-risk for trafficking to a world-renown social worker and researcher, working directly with victims and revolutionizing global anti-trafficking efforts.

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Fun in the Sun



Photos by Daniel Miller

Jeremy Werner, a senior majoring in marketing, left, talked to President Sharon L. Gaber and Vice President for Student Affairs Phillip “Flapp” Cockrell at the President’s Backyard Barbecue on Centennial Mall. The Sept. 10 celebration was part of Rocket Week, a series of events leading up to the first home football game.



Caprice Frazier, a junior majoring in psychology, left, and Dynasty Larsuel, a junior majoring in nursing, picked up ears of corn at the President’s Backyard Barbecue.



Devon Schroeder, coach of the Rockettes, brought her daughter, Stella, to the pep rally to watch the dance team.

NSF Invests Nearly \$1 Million in New UToledo Program to Increase Access to Engineering Degree

By Christine Billau

The National Science Foundation awarded \$999,984 to The University of Toledo to operate an innovative program that supports academically talented and low-income students who want to pursue an engineering degree.

The program known as GEARSET – which stands for Greater Equity, Access and Readiness for Success in Engineering and Technology – creates an alternative pathway to a bachelor’s degree in engineering for first-year students who did not meet the College of Engineering’s requirements and were admitted into University College’s Department of Exploratory Studies.

“This population is generally more diverse in terms of both ethnicity and socioeconomic status than the demographic trends for engineering colleges across the country,” said program leader Dr. Lesley Berhan, associate professor in the UToledo Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, and associate dean for diversity, inclusion and community engagement.

“GEARSET will ultimately increase diversity in the College of Engineering – a priority for both the University and employers who hire our graduates,” said Dr. Mike Toole, dean of the UToledo College of Engineering.

“Our pursuit of inclusive excellence is a key part of our strategic plan, our core values, and what we do on a daily basis. This grant will enable us to provide a new pathway to a degree in engineering for deserving students, further enabling us to provide a diverse pipeline of talented engineers to the region.”

Students who meet the program’s admission criteria, which include testing into trigonometry and a minimum high school grade point average of 3.0, will meet regularly with engineering advisors and enroll in courses designed to introduce engineering principles, applications of mathematics and professional development, in addition to

other classes needed to meet the College of Engineering’s transfer requirements.

“By building a sense of belonging, developing the students’ engineering identity, and shortening the time to transfer colleges, we will foster a more inclusive environment in the College of Engineering that is more reflective of the community we serve and the University as a whole,” Berhan said.

As part of the five-year grant, two cohorts of low-income students also will receive a scholarship for up to seven semesters once they transfer into the College of Engineering. The scholarships, based on need, would average \$6,400 a year.

Berhan said GEARSET, which debuted as a pilot program with a total of 32 students at the start of the 2019-20 academic year, is designed to help students who may have had limited access to college and career counseling in high school.

“Some students may have an interest in being an engineer, but may not have had the exposure or opportunities that others have in high school,” Berhan said. “Those students can still be great engineers. We have to rethink how we define potential and recognize that talent comes in all forms.”

The NSF grant starts Jan. 1 and can support scholarships for approximately 40 students, as well as curriculum, advising and programming for an estimated 150 additional students. The program is accepting all students, but only low-income students will be eligible for scholarships.

Berhan leads many diversity initiatives aimed at encouraging more students to pursue engineering careers, such as the annual Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day.

“The long-term benefits to the college and the community are incredible,” Berhan said. “We are working on several different fronts to improve math and science preparedness, access, and student success.”

Fall Enrollment Numbers Reflect Focus on Student Success

By Meghan Cunningham

For the seventh consecutive year, more students have returned to campus this fall semester for their second year of studies, once again confirming the University’s growing trend of student success.

The University of Toledo’s first-to-second-year retention rate is 76.4%, and the six-year graduate rate improved to a record high of 51.2% as a result of campus-wide increased efforts to support student success.

This year’s entering class has a record high academic profile with an average ACT score of 23.03 and average GPA of 3.48.

Total enrollment for fall semester 2019 is 19,782, according to official 15-day census numbers, which includes 15,568 undergraduate students and 4,214 graduate and professional students. UToledo had

20,304 students enrolled in fall semester 2018, of which 16,065 were undergraduates and 4,239 were graduate students.

“We’re proud to see our efforts to support students having such a positive impact on our retention and graduation rates. We’ve exceeded our Strategic Plan goal three years ahead of schedule,” UToledo President Sharon L. Gaber said. “Our goal now is to continue this positive trend while also refocusing our efforts to strategically grow enrollment so more students can benefit from the UToledo experience.”

This academic year UToledo focused on opportunities to expand programs in the health professions to meet both student and community demand.

The College of Nursing experienced a

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Drawing Inspiration



Photo by Mike Henningsen

Sunni Brown signed her book, “The Doodle Revolution,” for Lauren Bachman, a sophomore majoring in chemical engineering, following her Sept. 12 talk at the Toledo Museum of Art. Brown told the crowd doodling is an entryway to visual literacy: Spontaneous marks help you think. She said visual language is fun and helps you focus, it’s powerful and turns on channels that are asleep in your mind, and it improves organizational performance. The visit by the leader of the Doodle Revolution was part of the Jesup Scott Honors College Distinguished Lecture Series and sponsored by the University and the Toledo Museum of Art.

Study May Unlock New Diagnostic Tools for Fainting Disorder

By Tyrel Linkhorn

New research from The University of Toledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences strongly suggests postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome, or POTS, is an autoimmune disorder and may help pave the way for a simple blood test that could help physicians diagnose the condition.

POTS is characterized by large increases in heart rate and sometimes decreases in blood pressure when standing up. That can cause lightheadedness, heart palpitations and even loss of consciousness. In addition to fainting, POTS patients also regularly suffer from a litany of additional symptoms, including fatigue, pain, gastrointestinal issues, bleeding disorders, anxiety and brain fog.

About 3 million Americans are believed to be affected, but because of its wide-ranging and seemingly unrelated symptoms, POTS is notoriously difficult to identify.

“The trouble with diagnosing POTS is that it’s currently principally a clinical diagnosis. It’s based on history, the absence of other illness, as well as the finding of increase in heart rate when standing. There is no blood test right now to aid in the diagnosis. It can be an incredibly frustrating process for patients,” said Dr. Blair Grubb, Distinguished University Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics in the UToledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences and director of electrophysiology services at

The University of Toledo Medical Center.

In the largest study of POTS patients to date, published Sept. 9 in the *Journal of the American Heart Association*, Grubb and UToledo research collaborators found 89 percent of patients they examined had elevated levels of autoantibodies against the adrenergic alpha 1 receptor.

“People have suspected an autoimmune connection for years, and other small-scale studies have suggested it,” said Grubb, one of the world’s foremost experts in syncope and disorders of the autonomic nervous system. “We did a much larger cross-section of patients than has ever been done before and found that almost all of them tested positive for autoimmune antibodies. That’s a significant finding.”

None of the 55 patients who participated in the study had another recognized autoimmune disorder. Fifty-two were female, with an average age of 30.

Researchers screened the patients’ blood for autoantibodies against nine receptors. A handful of patients showed elevated levels against all nine. But it was the prevalence of adrenergic A1 subtype receptor autoantibodies that make their findings so intriguing.

“I think that we have identified a biomarker. We now might have the ability to diagnosis this, or at least have an inkling. Like other autoimmune disease, we can take a blood sample and detect if there are increased levels of autoantibodies present. According to our results,

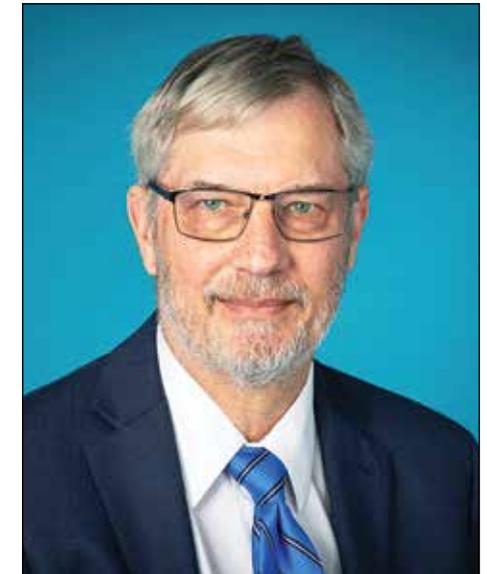


Gunning

autoantibodies against this particular receptor should be present in about 90% of patients with POTS,” Dr. William Gunning, professor of pathology in the UToledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences, and the paper’s lead author, said.

Gunning and Grubb say much more research is needed. However, this study adds significantly to the evidence that POTS is an autoimmune disorder – and it shows it may be possible to give physicians unfamiliar with the condition an easy way to test for it.

“What this does is prove the concept,” Grubb said. “Other studies had used very expensive research tests. What we used are the same kind of testing methods



Grubb

that would be used by regular hospitals. We wanted to do something that would potentially be a test applicable to the general population, not just a research test.”

While Gunning and Grubb caution they’re still investigating the precise methods by which POTS is established, their study does raise the possibility that existing immune modulating medications could be a viable therapeutic method for some patients.

The study was supported by funding from the Dysautonomia Advocacy Foundation, the Life as a Zebra Foundation, and the Virginia Lounsbury Foundation.

Fall Enrollment

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10% increase in undergraduate enrollment with the largest cohort of students pursuing a bachelor’s degree in nursing. UToledo added faculty in order to accept more students into the program and launched a new competency-based education RN

to BSN program, which is the first of its kind among Ohio institutions. This new online program provides the flexibility for working nurses to advance their careers through self-paced learning that’s personalized, accessible and convenient.

The College of Medicine and Life Sciences grew its graduate programs and recruited a highly qualified class of M.D. students with more than 5,400 applicants for 175 spots. The new class of medical students had an average MCAT score that

places it in the top 20% nationally.

Toledo recently hired a new director for the Pre-Health Advising Center, Tess Newlove, to continue efforts to support success for students interested in health professional programs.

New Chemistry Lab to be Dedicated in Honor of Water Quality Leader, UToledo alum Sept. 19

By Christine Billau

The University of Toledo is honoring a successful alumna who inspired generations of students to pursue careers in chemistry and focused her life's work on improving water quality and the preservation of safe drinking water around the globe.



McClelland

A dedication ceremony for the new Dr. Nina McClelland Laboratory for Water Chemistry and Environmental Analysis in The University of Toledo College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics will take place Thursday, Sept. 19, at 3:30 p.m. in Bowman-Oddy Laboratories Room 2059.

The namesake of the new chemistry lab will attend the event.

"We are proud to recognize Dr. McClelland's important contributions to science and to The University of Toledo," UToledo President Sharon L. Gaber said. "Water quality is a critical area of research

at our University, and this new lab will benefit our scientists and students in their search for solutions to protect public health and the environment."

The lab features state-of-the-art equipment, including novel extraction and microextraction technology and high-resolution mass spectrometry, tandem mass spectrometry, and an advanced imaging system.

McClelland, UToledo dean emerita, retired from the University in 2011 after serving as dean of the UToledo College of Arts and Sciences, as well as working in the Provost's Office. She began at UToledo in 2003 as an adjunct professor in the Department of Chemistry.

McClelland served as chair of the Board of Directors for the American Chemical Society, the world's largest scientific organization. She also served as chair, president and chief executive officer during her more than 30 years with NSF International, an independent, not-for-profit organization dedicated to certifying products and writing standards for food, water and consumer goods.

She has served on several major committees, including the National Institute of Standards and Technology in the U.S. Department of Commerce, the National Drinking Water Advisory Council in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Committee on Water Treatment Chemicals in the National Academy of Sciences' National Research Council.

McClelland earned bachelor and master of science degrees from UToledo in 1951 and 1963, respectively. She received her doctoral degree in environmental chemistry from the University of Michigan in 1968. UToledo awarded her an honorary doctorate in science in 2003.

Laugh It Up



Photo by Daniel Miller

UToledo President Sharon L. Gaber shared a laugh during a barbecue on Health Science Campus. The event was one of many to celebrate Rocket Week leading up to UToledo's first home football game of the season.

Moving Discussion



Photo by Mykenya Thompson

Ilya Somin, professor of law at George Mason University, talked about the importance of free movement within and beyond the United States as part of The University of Toledo College of Law's Stranahan Lecture series. He gave his talk, "Free to Move: Foot Voting and Political Freedom," Sept. 12 in the Law Center McQuade Auditorium.

Career Services Preparing Record Numbers for Bright Futures

A big investment in people, programs and renovations has translated to ginormous returns for Career Services.

The numbers tell the story:

- Attendance at Career Services' events skyrocketed from 606 in academic year 2017-18 to 2,565 in 2018-19.
- Users of the Virtual Career Center more than doubled from 3,700 to 9,303 during that time frame.
- Student appointments increased from 593 in 2017-18 to 1,016 in 2018-19.

It's no wonder statistics are up:

Career Services looks so inviting. Located in Thompson Student Union Room 1533, the bright hallway features widescreen monitors advertising jobs and internships. And the windows have been a game-changer for the center.

"Students are constantly looking in our windows and seeing activity going on," Shelly Drouillard, director of Career Services, said. "We have career ambassadors that we launched last fall, and those are peer-to-peer interactions. So when students see other students in here having fun and engaging, oftentimes that's the impetus to make them come in to see what's going on."

And there's a lot going on.

Two career consultants hired last year meet with students to discuss their majors and job prospects, and help them prepare resumés and polish their interview skills. Career peer ambassadors assist students who stop by. And a student browsing Handshake, the online interactive job database, hits a button on the monitor in the hallway and pops in to pick up a printout.

"Managing your career really isn't a one-time event, but a process, and we can help you through that process. It's never too early or too late to start," Tom Avery, career consultant, said.

"We love it when freshmen come see us because we can help them build that career-ready mindset early," he said. "And it allows them plenty of time to gain experience that will be of great benefit down the road as employers are really looking for experience outside of

the classroom when recruiting graduates."

"We have staff who genuinely care about helping UToledo students and alumni," Christine Albright, career consultant, said. "We are knowledgeable about the newest trends in career development and can provide a wealth of information to help students and alumni become successful."

Positioning students to network with thriving graduates also started last year with Rocket Connect. The free online mentoring platform helps students and alumni who have questions about career paths, businesses, additional education and more.

In its first year, 653 students and 710 alumni signed up for Rocket Connect.

Jimmy Russell signed up for that networking program as a student last year – and as a UToledo graduate this year.

"Career Services assisted me in getting the position as a disability rights advocate at the Ability Center of Greater Toledo," said Russell, who received a bachelor of arts degree in political science and communication in May. "I discovered the job on Handshake, and I practiced my presentation I had to give during the interview and received feedback to better prepare."

"Students should stop by Career Services because it is a one-stop employment shop. Any help a person could possibly need with getting ready for post-graduate employment, Career



Photo by Daniel Miller

HERE TO HELP: Shelly Drouillard, director of Career Services, right, talked about resumé branding with Bailey Loughlin, a graduate student pursuing a master's degree in higher education, left, and Ashlen Torio, a senior majoring in operations and supply chain management, in the updated office in Thompson Student Union Room 1533.

Services can provide it," Russell said.

"The staff there are a joy to talk to and are extremely passionate about helping students reach their full potential."

Russell was one of many who signed the career success blackboard in the center.

"It's always an exciting day to speak to a recently hired student as they sign our career success board," Davlon Miller, assistant director of career development, said. "It tells the story of not only the student's success, but also the success of our office and The University of Toledo."

Celine Schreidah also picked up the chalk and shared her success. She graduated in May with a bachelor of science degree in biochemistry and is a first-year medical student at Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons.

"The one-on-one interview practice was wonderful, and it allowed me to gain confidence in my interviewing skills,"

Schreidah said. "I also was introduced to Big Interview, which is UToledo's free interview preparation resource that is linked directly to the myUT portal. This allowed for a variety of interview types and scenarios, and I highly recommend it to anyone interviewing for a job position or graduate and professional schooling."

Career Services also can help with dressing for success with the Professional Menswear Closet and referrals to the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women's Kate's Closet. In addition, the center has partnered with JCPenney on events where students and recent graduates received 40% off business attire. More than 1,000 attended these special sales.

"Students' professional development should begin when they first start taking classes," Josh Vail, student employment specialist, said. "We invite students, alumni and campus community members to stop by to meet our career development team."

New Course Evaluation Fall Pilot Program Launching

Student success is the goal behind a new course evaluation program that can be taken for a test drive this fall.

Monday, Sept. 30, is the deadline for colleges, departments and programs to sign up for the pilot program.

"This new online process is designed to improve the quality of the course evaluation questions used and reflect the University's commitment to student success," said Dr. Karen Bjorkman, interim provost and executive vice president for academic affairs.

Last year, the Office of the Provost established a committee to review course evaluation processes.

"We were charged with developing and testing a common core of course evaluation questions and exploring a standardized method for deploying class evaluations to students," said Dr. Amy Thompson, vice provost of faculty affairs and professor of public health.

Thompson and Dr. Christine Fox, professor of educational statistics and research methods, were assisted on this project by Dr. Svetlana Beltyukova, professor of educational statistics and research methods.

They created 12 core course evaluation questions that were tested

spring and summer semesters. Nearly 4,000 students answered the questions, and faculty and student feedback on the evaluation process was collected.

A voluntary soft launch of the course evaluation program is taking place this fall, with full implementation planned starting summer 2020.

"Colleges, departments and programs may still add specific questions regarding their areas," Thompson said.

The course evaluation will be an online process through a new software from Campus Labs. The link for students to complete the questions will be on all Blackboard course sites, and an email with a link to the evaluation will be sent to students enrolled in classes. All responses will be anonymous.

Faculty members will be able to review the course evaluations one week after grades have been submitted.

Colleges, departments and programs interested in the fall pilot program should contact Elissa Falcone in the Office of the Provost at elissa.falcone@utoledo.edu by Sept. 30.

For more information on this initiative, contact Thompson at amy.thompson4@utoledo.edu.

Forum to Focus on Helping Students in Crisis

"Rapid Response Training: Being Prepared to Assist Students in Crisis" will be discussed at the first Future of Higher Education Forum this academic year.

The program will be held Friday, Sept. 20, from 10:30 a.m. to noon in Carlson Library Room 1005.

"This session will help faculty members learn how to recognize the signs of a student who is struggling - in and outside the classroom," Dr. Amy Thompson, vice provost of faculty affairs and professor of public health, said. "We want to make sure our faculty members are ready to help and know about available resources."

Thompson will speak at the forum along with:

- Dr. Lisa Pescara-Kovach, associate professor of educational psychology and director of the Center for Education in Targeted Violence and Suicide;
- Katrina Nottke, assistant director of Title IX and compliance;
- Danielle Rominski, assistant director of the Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness;

- Dr. Sammy Spann, associate vice provost for student affairs and dean of students; and
- Dr. LaTasha Sullivan, interim associate director of the University Counseling Center.

"We want our students to succeed, and that means we have to look out for them," Thompson said. "This forum is designed to help faculty members know what to look for if they think a student is having difficulty coping."

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

Forums will be held on the third Friday of the month throughout the academic year. Visit utoledo.edu/offices/provost/future-of-higher-education-forum to see upcoming topics, as well as to view past forums.



FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION FORUMS

**Friday, Sept. 20
10:30 a.m. – noon**

**Rapid response training:
being prepared to assist
students in crisis**

MAIN CAMPUS
CARLSON LIBRARY ROOM 1005



**SHOW YOUR SCHOOL SPIRIT:
Wear Midnight Blue and Gold on Rocket Thursdays!**

IN MEMORIAM



Cave

Dr. Alfred A. Cave, Toledo, who served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for 16 years and professor emeritus of history, died Sept. 8 at age 84. He joined UToledo in 1973 as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and professor of history. During his tenure as dean, the college established the Writing Center, the Master of Liberal Studies Program, exceptional merit awards for faculty performance, and a baccalaureate nursing program in collaboration with the

Medical College of Ohio. Cave also founded the Humanities Institute and worked to expand the Honors Program by recruiting gifted students. Research funding for the college increased tenfold under his leadership, and ground was broken in 1975 for the Center for Performing Arts. In 1990, the native of Albuquerque, N.M., returned full time to teaching and conducting research. Cave made substantial contributions to Colonial North American history. His books and scholarly articles greatly influenced the view of interactions between colonists and Native Americans in 17th-century North America. Cave wrote about Native American and English witchcraft, and on the European view of the New World. His 1996 book, "The Pequot War," was hailed as the definitive work on New England's first armed conflict between English colonists and Native Americans. He also was a recognized authority on Jacksonian America. In 1997, he received one of the University's Outstanding Researcher Awards. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, Cave received a summer fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities. In 1990, he was awarded an honorary doctorate of letters from Salford University in England. He retired from the University in 2007. Cave was honored in 2012 by the Ohio Academy of History with its Distinguished Historian Award and in 2015 by the University of Florida with its Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Dr. Carmen R. Gillespie, Lewisburg, Pa., a former faculty member in the Department of English Language and Literature from 2002 to 2007, died Aug. 30 at age 54. She joined the faculty as an associate professor; two years later, she added director of the Arts Living and Learning Community to her title. From 2004 to 2007, Gillespie was a Senior Fellow with the Humanities Institute. She served on the Arts and Sciences Council and the Arts and Sciences Diversity Task Force. Her memberships included the Toni Morrison Society and the Association of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars.

Patricia A. (Reamsnyder) Toepfer, Toledo, a former nurse at MCO, died Sept. 6 at age 92.

Dr. Arthur S. Winsor, Rancho Bernardo, Calif., a faculty member in the Department of Music for more than 40 years, died Aug. 22 at age 89. He joined the University in 1958 as an instructor. The pianist was promoted to associate professor in 1968 and professor in 1976. For 10 years, Winsor served as chair of the department. In 1962, he founded the Madrigal Singers and was conductor of the group for 10 years. A member of the American Musicological Society, Winsor was assistant director and accompanist of the Toledo Concert Chorale and played piano for the Toledo Opera Association.

Sept. 30 Deadline for Enrolling, Waiving Student Health Plan Coverage

By Christine Wasserman

UToledo strives to provide undergraduate and graduate students with easy access to a full line of high-quality healthcare services that are conveniently located on campus, in addition to a healthcare plan that covers those services.

The University recommends all students maintain healthcare coverage by:

- Remaining on their employer's or parent's health insurance plan;
- Choosing coverage offered by UToledo that is administered through Payer Fusion; or
- Selecting a plan through the open marketplace at healthcare.gov.

Open enrollment for fall semester runs through Monday, Sept. 30. The deadline to waive for mandated students is also Sept. 30.

"There are many benefits to the Student Health Plan, including a zero-deductible for using UToledo doctors, including specialists and mental health professionals," said LeAnna Glick, student insurance program administrator. "Students covered by this plan also can get their generic prescriptions filled at our on-campus outpatient pharmacies for a co-pay of only \$5."

Additionally, UToledo students can enroll for dental and vision coverage, as well as coverage for their spouse and/or dependents.

"There are certain students who are mandated to have healthcare coverage, including student-athletes; international students holding J-1 visas; and students in health-related programs, such as medicine, nursing and pharmacy students, and those in allied healthcare programs," Glick noted.

They're automatically enrolled in the Student Health Plan, but may waive it by providing proof of coverage by another plan no later than Monday, Sept. 30, so their student account isn't charged for this coverage, she added.

Students choosing to enroll in the Student Health Plan (or waive coverage if they are a mandated student) should log in to the myUT portal and select the Health Plan - Enroll or Waive link in the Toolkit, under My Registration Steps, and complete the necessary steps by the Sept. 30 deadline.

For more details about the Student Health Plan, as well as on-campus health and wellness services, visit utoledo.edu/depts/hr/benefits/student.

If you have any questions or need assistance, contact studenthealthinsurance@utoledo.edu or 419.530.3474.

UTOLEDONNEWS

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International Conference

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At this year's conference, Williamson will unveil her new, free human trafficking risk assessment tool (HTRISK) that she developed with support from the Ohio Children's Trust Fund, as well as release the findings from her study of 400 Ohio youth. That presentation will be Friday, Sept. 20, at 9 a.m. in the Thompson Student Union Ingman Room. Watch the livestream at toledoalumni.org/membership/affiliates/2019-human-trafficking.html.

"With limited time, money and resources, advocates need to know which youth are at the highest risk for sex trafficking and then do their best to prevent it," Williamson said.

On Wednesday, Sept. 18, from 9 to 10 a.m., 475 high school students from the area will gather in the Thompson Student Union Auditorium for Human Trafficking 101, where they also will learn about dating violence and participate in a poetry slam.

For a full schedule of presentations, visit traffickingconference.com.

New this year, the UToledo Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute and the College of Arts and Letters partnered together for an art exhibit titled "Faces of Trafficking," which features people from the greater Toledo community who are leading the fight to end trafficking.

"It is an opportunity to bring to life the people impacted by human trafficking and to provide a path for the community to join the fight," Barbara Miner, professor and chair of the UToledo Department of Art, said.

The tall black-and-white photography installation called "The Pillars" features people on the front lines in the war against trafficking.

"These are warriors holding up the ceiling of hope," Miner said. "Using an arresting, striking style, we're showcasing people like Celia Williamson as well as medical and law enforcement professionals among others who work under the radar and often go unnoticed, but who are working tirelessly to protect people suffering through contemporary slavery."

Artwork created by current and former art students in response to trafficking stories and the global issue also will be on display.

The free, public exhibit can be seen from Thursday, Sept. 19, through Friday, Dec. 6, at the UToledo Center for the Visual Arts on the University's Toledo Museum of Art Campus. Gallery hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

The UToledo Center for the Visual Arts also is featuring a special project, "A Thousand Hands, A Million Stars," a collaboration uniting visual art, poetry, music and dance produced by former UToledo faculty member Denise Ritter Bernardini.



FACES OF TRAFFICKING

Faces of Trafficking, a partnership between the Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute and the College of Arts and Letters, features people from the greater Toledo community who are leading the fight to end trafficking, bringing the issue out of darkness. It is an opportunity to bring to life the people impacted by human trafficking, and to provide a path for the community to join the fight.

Survivor artwork and student response pieces to trafficking stories will be on display.

Faces of Trafficking is free and open to the public.

Sept. 19 - Dec. 6

THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO CENTER FOR THE VISUAL ARTS
620 ART MUSEUM DRIVE, TOLEDO, OHIO

utoledo.edu/hhs/facesoftrafficking

Also featured: collaborative project,
A Thousand Hands, A Million Stars

This performance piece features survivors' stories related to their journeys in, through and out of human trafficking via poetry, music and visual art. Learn more at athousandhandsamillionstars.com.


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