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UT Jefferson Award champion named, heading to Washington, D.C.

By Samantha Watson

The Jefferson Award embodies public service and selflessness, two qualities displayed prominently in the 2012 champion for The University of Toledo — David Gosser.

Gosser, a fourth-year nursing student, dedicates most of his free time to helping those less fortunate. He identifies his Catholic faith as his biggest inspiration and uses it as his guide and motivation for his life of service.

"I have a responsibility to my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ to do whatever I can for all of us to reach our fullest potential in life," Gosser said. "For some of us, the basic needs of food and clothing are not even met, and those must first be addressed before we can think about things like selfactualization."

He has volunteered his time to help the homeless and others in need in the Toledo area, as well as raised money for countless organizations. He spent two of *continued on p. 2*



HAVING A BALL: UT nursing student David Gosser played with Gavin, a child he worked with through the Autism Treatment Center's Son-Rise Program last summer.

Honors College students to help in Nicaragua over spring break

By Casey Cheap

nstead of heading to the beach for spring break, 10 Jesup Scott Honors College students are going to Nicaragua to assist "dump dwellers."

Dump dwellers refers to people who build their houses on and live in garbage dumps, where they make a living collecting and re-selling recyclable items found in the mountain of trash.

"There are dumps literally the size of the UT campus," said Dr. Page Armstrong, director of the Honors College Living and

Learning Community. "Our primary goal is to get children out of the dump and into a primary or secondary education."



REACHING OUT: Jeanetta Mohlke-Hill posed for a photo with students at the Reina Sofia Elementary School during the Honors College's trip to Nicaragua last year.

This is the third year Armstrong and students from the Honors College will *continued on p. 3*



SHAKE, SHAKE, SHAKE: Rocksy the Rocket danced alongside students doing the Harlem Shake, an Internet video trend, last week on the steps of the Student Union.Watch the video at http://utole.do.shake.

Photo by Anthony Tscherne

LOOK FOR TH<u>E NEXT ISSUE OF UT NEWS MARCH 11</u>

FEB. 25, 2013

iCoaches help transform UT student experience

By Samantha Watson

The student-centered philosophy that underlies every University action does come with a price: effective training.

To create the most positive and memorable student experience, every staff and support team member deserves to be both instructed and empowered, said Dr. Kaye Patten-Wallace, senior vice president for the student experience.

"Each member of the UT community has opportunities to interact with students," she said. "That's why training that's both very specific and widely applicable is so important."

Under her direction, the Student Experience Steering Body is adopting a team approach to this training by utilizing service excellence champions called iCoaches — staff members across UT dedicated to transforming the student experience.

"These iCoaches are individuals who participate in one of our seven Student Experience Action Teams. They volunteered to assist with trainings based on specific 'Moments of Truth' identified in the University's 'Imagine 2017' strategic plan," said Tony Urbina, director of iCare University.

These iCoaches are starting with the training of two foundational principles:



TEAM SHOT: The iCoaches — staff members dedicated to transforming the student experience — posed for a photo in Ottawa House.

universal scripting and problem solving. Every frontline department will be trained on these basic yet important principles.

"It's one thing to have a plan in writing, and it's another thing to execute the plan. The iCoaches truly help to execute that plan," Urbina said.

The 25 iCoaches, he explained, provide training for individual departments, offices or programs; the training supports staff and student workers in those areas as they apply the "Moments of Truth" to best serve UT students. These iCoaches completed their training in January and are committed to the vision of a superior student experience.

The iCoaches also serve as service excellence designees for their adopted areas

and will report major concerns or issues to the Office for the Student Experience. Once a month they meet to discuss the progress being made.

For now, the main focus of the iCoaches is professionalism and problem solving, but down the road there will be different initiatives. Urbina said that what's most important is taking large concepts and breaking them down to make them easier to execute.

"We want to be a university that is known for distinctive service and for really treating people right," he said. "That's the culture that we want to continue to create."

Jefferson Award

NEWS

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his spring breaks assisting those affected by Hurricane Katrina and serving the poor in Camden, N.J., the second poorest city in the United States.

Gosser was nominated by the Rev. James Bacik, who said that in his 50 years of working with college students, Gosser was one of the most dedicated to service.

With that nomination, Gosser was the awardee last September and was named the 2012 champion at a luncheon Feb. 13.

"There are so many others out there, many of them my friends, who are doing such incredible things and do not get the same thanks for their service," Gosser said. "But I understand that I have a role to play not only as a servant to others, but also as a role model. It is good that there is all this attention and recognition for this because, frankly, service needs to be in the spotlight in our world today."

Gosser is invited to the Jefferson Awards national organization's annual conference, which will take place in June in Washington, D.C. There he will have the chance to meet other champions and possibly be named a "top flight" honoree, which is a national champion.

A video about Gosser and his accomplishments can be seen at http://utole.do/ja.

To nominate someone for a Jefferson Award, visit utoledo.edu/jeffersonaward/ form.html.

"Everyone can do something; all God asks of us is that we do the best we can with what we have," Gosser said.

'The Relevant University' to air Feb. 26

By Meghan Cunningham

Tuesday, Feb. 26, at 7 p.m. on AM 760 WJR.

This month, Lawrence J. Burns, UT vice president for external affairs, explores the critical role of the arts not only in higher education, but also for every community and each individual.

- In this month's episode:
- Guna Nadarajan, dean of the University of Michigan Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design, discusses the importance of investment in the arts.
- Scott Myers, director of corporate sales and marketing for Broadway in Detroit, talks about how the Fisher Theatre introduces young people to Broadway.
- Dr. Brian Kennedy, director of the Toledo Museum of Art, shares the value of college art students having the opportunity to study on the museum's campus.
- And saxophonist Gunnar Mossblad, UT professor of music, chats about jazz studies and treats listeners to a short performance.

The University and Detroit's WJR Radio produce the monthly, hourlong program that explores the critical role higher education plays in our world.

Listen at www.utoledo.edu/ therelevantuniversity.



Photo by Iobin J. Klinger

JAMMING: Saxophonist Gunnar Mossblad was joined in the WJR studio by bass player Norm Damschroder and guitarist Jay Weik; Olman Piedra was on percussion. The four faculty members of the UT Department of Music performed during the recent taping of "The Relevant University."

NEWS

Doctoral candidate wins research award at international conference

By Casey Cheap

tephanie Fowler, a doctoral candidate in Sthe experimental psychology program, recently won a Junior Researcher Award for her outstanding work at an international placebo conference in Tübingen, Germany.

UT was represented at the conference, "Progress in Our Understanding of the Psychobiological and Neurobiological Mechanisms of the Placebo and Nocebo Responses," by Fowler, Dr. Andrew Geers, professor of psychology, and Jill Brown, a psychology doctoral candidate.

Fowler was among 60 applicants worldwide vying for scholarships to fund participation in the conference. She was one of eight students who won, and the only one from the United States to receive a researcher award.

"The award was given based on research I conducted in the laboratory," Fowler said. "We looked systematically at the variables that alter the effect placebos had during pain treatments. We want to know what makes a placebo most effective at reducing pain."

The scholarship paid for travel costs so Fowler could present her findings at the conference held in January.

"The top researchers in the placebo field in the world were all packed into one auditorium," Fowler said. "It was pretty amazing in that respect."

Fowler presented data collected about five years ago from about 100 participants

that took part in her awardwinning research in placebo analgesics. The project was supported by a research

> grant from the National Institutes of Health awarded to

Applicants who won the research award also had a five-minute question-andanswer session following their talks to the 250 conference attendees.

"I really had to think on my feet," Fowler said. "The question-and-answer session was pretty intense. I had to answer questions based on people's backgrounds. There was a diverse range of questions and backgrounds within the field at the conference.'

According to Geers, the award was very competitive.

"Graduate students from all over the globe applied for this award," Geers said. "Stephanie did an outstanding job in preparing for this high level of competition and ultimately in beating out her competitors."

In memoriam

Jeanne R. (Carver) Alleman Ciha, Toledo, died Feb. 16 at age 81. She was hired as a trainee in Pathology at MCO in 1979 and became an IV technician one year later. In 2000, she moved to the Lab Central Office and became a lab clinical technician, the position she retired from in 2008

Virginia J. (Grzechowiak) Timmons, Toledo, who volunteered at MCO through the Satellites Auxiliary, died Feb. 16 at age 88.

For breaking news, go to **utnews.utoledo.edu**



Geers between 2006 and 2010.

Administrator to present, learn at education conference

By Samantha Watson

his March, The University of Toledo's Angela Paprocki, assistant provost for student success, will present at a conference alongside other well-known speakers and educators, including Bill Gates, chair and co-founder of Microsoft.



The SXSWedu conference will take place Monday through Thursday, March 4-7, in Austin. Texas. It is a part of South by

Southwest.

Paprocki

which seeks to drive meaningful conversation and collaboration around promising practices and tools for improved learning.

Honors College

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go to Managua, the capital of Nicaragua.

The Honors College has been working with International Samaritan. The Ann Arbor-based philanthropic group works to raise awareness about dump dwellers and to improve conditions for those in the developing world, with a major focus in the Latin Central American countries.

There are 10,000 people living in the LaChureca Garbage Dump in Managua, according to the International Samaritan website.

Some of the efforts of human rights groups like International Samaritan have been apparent in recent years, as the Nicaraguan government has felt enough international pressure to begin cleaning up dumps

During their overseas trip, Armstrong said UT students will work with Reina Sofia Elementary School students, as they have done in the past. Two years ago, UT students helped the school build a nursery and last year a kitchen.

"We are trying to build a sustainable relationship with the school," Armstrong said. "This way they will know that every year a group of students will be visiting from UT."

Paprocki will present a session titled "More Diplomas: College Supports in the Digital Age" with Dr. Colleen Carmean, assistant chancellor at the University of Washington, and Jill Frankfort, co-founder of Persistence Plus. Persistence Plus is a platform that uses text messages to send academic "nudges" to students to remind them of important deadlines, including exam and project due dates.

"This is a really great way to encourage students to stay focused on their academic goals," Paprocki said. "I'm exploring the feasibility of integrating it here at UT."

Paprocki is committed to finding innovative strategies and solutions to engage and retain students by implementing similar platforms. Her goal is to leverage emerging technology to foster academic success, which is a part of what she will present at the conference.

She and her team have developed a virtual adaptive software lab, pioneered

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This year, honors students plan to teach the Nicaraguans how to build hydroponic systems so they can have a green, selfsustaining way to grow vegetables and raise fish. It will be a vitally important service, as LaChureca Garbage Dump lies near the toxic Lake Managua.

The systems will be built out of readily available pieces, scraps, old piping and other equipment that can be found in the dump. Students already have been briefed on how to make hydroponic systems sustainable and to show the Nicaraguans how the pipes and tanks should be put together.

Two area high school students will join the honors students on the trip. Armstrong said that in the future, she will look to get more local high schools involved.

"It has always been good to get students with different backgrounds involved," said Samantha Meiers, a senior in the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, who attended past trips to Nicaragua. "Because students in the Honors College are from all different majors and backgrounds, we all had to work together. We all have different skills, so not one person dominated the group. It was a very rewarding trip."

FEB. 25, 2013

NEWS

FORE! Edris Amin played a round of Engineering Putt-Putt last week in Nitschke Hall. Student organizations designed challenging miniature golf holes.

UT pays tribute to National Engineers Week



GAME ON: Joanne Beckwith successfully pulled a block from the life-size Jenga game in Palmer Hall last week as Nate Tapper watched.



ALL ACCESS: Actor, stuntman, triathlete and professional inline skater Casey Pieretti, an amputee since 1985, talked about how his request for a pair of custom scuba fins in 2000 led to a new company. He and Bill Spracher. co-host of Discovery Channel's "Bionic Builders" and president and owner of Spracher Engineering Inc., founded Amp'dGear, which makes low-cost recreational devices for amputees. The two talked about working with sports gear companies and designing and manufacturing limbs and accessories for a variety of activities, including rock climbing and mountain biking. Their talk took place Thursday in Nitschke Hall Auditorium



Engineering Career Expo slated for Feb. 27

The UT Engineering Career Development Center will host the Spring 2013 Engineering Career Expo Wednesday, Feb. 27, on the first floor of Nitschke Hall from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Currently, there are 86 companies registered to attend the event, with additional companies expected to register.

The expo will be an opportunity for engineering students to meet with employers for networking and future employment.

"Many companies from across the United States participate in this event," said Dr. Vickie Kuntz, director of the Engineering Career Development Center. "Some big-name participants include Chrysler, Cooper Tire, DTE Energy, Eaton Corporation, First Energy, General Electric, General Mills, Honda of America, Johnson & Johnson, Marathon, Plastic Technologies Inc., SSOE Group and Whirlpool."

Past career expos have attracted more than 600 students, according to Kuntz. She said between 600 and 700 students and alumni are expected to participate at this expo.

Only UT College of Engineering students, grads and alumni are eligible to attend the event.

"The expo is only open to University of Toledo students who are in the College of Engineering. However, UT engineering graduates who have been in the work force for a few years and are looking for another position also are welcome," Kuntz said.

Students do not need to register prior to the event; there will be a check-in area starting at 12:15 p.m. the day of the expo.

Education conference

continued from p. 3

the use of a virtual reality platform to create a unique orientation experience, and implemented the use of an innovative software solution for idea management (a virtual suggestion box), all designed with one social media that students can use to communicate with the UT community.

"While I'm excited to be presenting, I'm also very eager to collaborate and learn from other professionals and policy leaders who are all committed to improving education," Paprocki said.

The sessions at the conference cover a wide array of topics, including assessment,

best practices, big data, emerging technology, learner analytics and pedagogy.

Paprocki also is excited to participate in a keynote discussion with the co-founder of Coursera and edX President on massive open online courses, a rapidly growing trend designed to offer large-scale participation through the Web.

"There are so many good things that could be of such value to us," Paprocki said. "I want to bring back as much as I possibly can so I can share it."

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ARTS

UT Juried Student Exhibition on display

Check out the 2013 UT Juried Student Exhibition in the Center for the Visual Arts Gallery on the Toledo Museum of Art Campus.

Works by current University students are featured in the exhibition, which was juried by artist Derek Coté, assistant professor of art at Wayne State University.

The free, public exhibit is on display through Friday, March 15. Gallery hours are Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

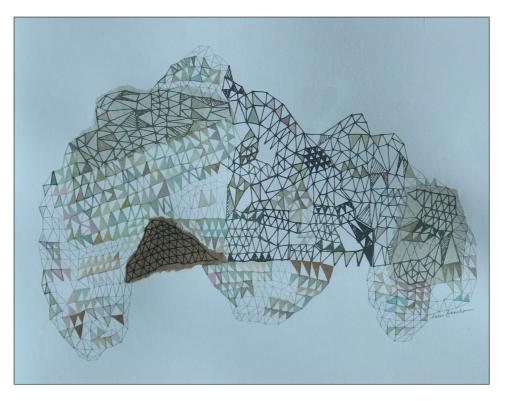
For more information, contact Ben Pond, lecturer of art and gallery director, at benjamin.pond@utoledo.edu or 419.530.8348.



"It's That We're Disappointed," mixed media, by Taylor Dennis Pasquale, recipient of Best of Show



"Frozen," gelatin silver print, by Caitlyn Witt





"Woodblock," porcelain, by Tara Bycznski

"A Hill," mixed media, by Lisa Franko, recipient of the Raphael Award for Excellence in Drawing



"Self-Portrait as St. Sebastian," watercolor and ink, by Eric Broz

"The King," mixed media, by Angelina Zarate, recipient of the Inga Reynolds Award for work on paper

UT rowing team cruises

By Samantha Watson

he University of Toledo's rowing team is making waves, bringing home medals and setting records in its second semester as a UT program.

At the team's first competition of the spring semester, the Hammer Ergatta Feb. 9 at Cleveland State University, UT brought home two medals and six top five finishes. Many of the athletes set new personal best times

The ergatta is the indoor analog of a boat race or regatta; competitions are conducted on ergometer rowing machines connected to computers that display the time and progress of each rower. The race

spanned 1.25 miles, which is considered a sprint distance.

Freshman Emily Wilson brought home a silver medal in the Women's Open Novice event, and sophomore Jayde Carney won another silver medal in the Men's Lightweight Novice event.

The team members hope to continue these successes as they head to the Lake Lanier Rowing Club in Gainesville, Ga., for spring break.

Students interested in joining or learning more about the rowing team may visit utcrew.com or email Brian Ashenfelter, head coach, at rowingclub@utoledo.edu.



Carney

Nominations sought for Rathbun **Outreach and Engagement Award**

ominations are being accepted for the Medith Rathbun Outreach and Engagement Excellence Award.

Take a few minutes to recognize a deserving colleague who has distinguished himself or herself through exceptional community outreach and excellence in community-engaged scholarship, whether in research, teaching or professional service.

Each recipient of the Edith Rathbun Outreach and Engagement Excellence Award will receive a \$750 award. Up to two awardees will be chosen.

The award was endowed through a generous and growing gift from Edith Rathbun and further gifts from campus and community donors. It recognizes outstanding outreach and engagement scholarship in any field, discipline or area at UT. Full-time

faculty members in all colleges are eligible to receive the award.

The deadline to submit nominations is Tuesday, April 2.

The one-page nomination form is available at http://utole.do/rathbunnom.

Winners will be recognized at the UT Outstanding Awards Reception, which will take place Monday, April 22, at 4 p.m. in the Student Union Ingman Room.

The selection committee is composed of faculty members who served on the scholarship of engagement subcommittee of UT's former Council on Outreach and Engagement, and former award recipients.

For more information, contact Penny Thiessen in the Office of Research and Innovation at penny.thiessen@utoledo.edu or 419.530.6171.

Photographer/author to speak Feb. 28

nternationally known photographer and author Rosamond Purcell will discuss her work Thursday, Feb. 28, at noon in the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections in Carlson Library.

The Massachusetts-based "doyenne of decay" has written or illustrated 17 books, including two with Stephen J. Gould, and is known for her photographic documentation of natural history collections housed in such far-flung places as the University of Leiden in the Netherlands.

In addition, Purcell has had more than 50 solo exhibitions of her photography.

Last fall, artwork by Purcell and Michael Witmore was featured in the exhibition titled "Very Like a Whale: Seeming is Believing in Shakespeare," which was on display at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C.

"Purcell's photographic works take us into the world of decay; they remark on the nature of transitional states of being. They are beautiful in the extreme," said Barbara Miner, UT associate professor of art.

"She is able to magically capture the ephemeral aspects of preciousness, and we are left wanting to be explorers of the discarded and overlooked too. She bridges a scientist's inquisitive, data-collecting mind with an artist's sensibilities perfectly."

Purcell's free, public talk is sponsored by the UT Department of Art and the Friends of the Libraries.

For more information, contact Miner at barbara.miner@utoledo.edu or 419.530.8315, or David Remaklus at david.remaklus@utoledo.edu or 419.530.4030.



"Writing Exercise" by Rosamond Purcell

NEWS

Geriatric Medicine Symposium slated for March 1

"Health, Wellness and Aging With Disabilities or Chronic Illness" will be the topic of UT's 17th annual Geriatric Medicine Symposium, which will take place Friday, March 1, from 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn in Perrysburg, Ohio.

With advances in medical care, technology and rehabilitation, people with disabilities or chronic illness are living longer. Research has shown, however, that the changes and problems associated with aging often occur 10 to 20 years earlier in life than in the lives of those without disabilities or chronic disease.

These changes pose significant challenges for health-care professionals and will be addressed at the symposium.

Topics to be covered will include aging after a spinal cord injury; promoting neuroplasticity through occupation while aging after a brain injury; treating an aged patient who has mental illness; aging with chronic illness; intellectual and other developmental disabilities; the role of exercise in health aging with diabetes; and getting older with HIV. Speakers will include Dr. Alina Rais of the UT Department of Geriatric Psychiatry, and Lynne Chapman of UT Department of Rehabilitation Services.

Also scheduled to give presentations are Rick Black of HCR ManorCare in Toledo, Dr. Robert Brandt Jr. of Wright State Physicians Family Practice, Dr. Thomas Gross of the Department of Veteran's Affairs Toledo Community Based Outpatient Clinic, Dr. Gregory Neumunaitis of the MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland and Dr. Carl Tyler of the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine.



The symposium will be presented by The University of Toledo's Center for Successful Aging, the Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, and the Center for Continuing Medical Education, as well as the Ohio Geriatric Medicine Society.

TRICS SOCIETY (OGS

Fees are \$60 for UT faculty and staff, \$60 for Ohio Geriatric Society members, \$25 for UT students and residents, and \$80 for other geriatric health-care professionals. Early registrations are requested: Go to cme.utoledo.edu. If space is available, registrations will be taken at the event.

UT Federal Credit Union offers undergraduate scholarships for members

By Casey Cheap

The University of Toledo Federal Credit Union is giving 2013 high school graduates or any current college student the opportunity to win \$5,000 in college scholarships for the 2013-14 academic year.

To qualify, applicants must be a member of the UT Federal Credit Union in good standing, be a current college student or a high school student expected to graduate in 2013, and plan to pursue an undergraduate education at least part time. Previous winners of scholarship funds from the credit union are not eligible.

The application can be printed from uoftfcu.com through the scholarship information link in the left menu.

Applicants must complete an essay of no more than 750 words to answer the question: "Personal financial education is important. How can The University of Toledo Federal Credit Union help you become financially stable?"

According to Kara Mominee, marketing manager for the UT Federal Credit Union, all essays will be judged by the board of directors on originality, attention to detail, and specific examples.

The application and essay should be sent to: Scholarship Selection Committee,



UT Federal Credit Union, 5248 Hill Ave., Toledo, OH 43615.

The deadline to enter the contest is Friday, March 8; winners will be announced during the credit union's annual meeting Friday, April 19.

Mominee said the number of scholarships granted within the \$5,000 limit will depend on the number of students who apply.

The UT Federal Credit Union is located in Student Union Room 3019 on Main Campus and in Mulford Library Room 013E on Health Science Campus. The main office is at 5248 Hill Ave.



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FEB. 25, 2013

ARTS

Movie made by UT grads to premiere March 5

"Playing Nightly," a documentary on area professional musicians, will premiere Tuesday, March 5, at the Maumee Indoor Theater, 601 Conant St., Maumee.

There'll be screenings at 7:15 and 8:45 p.m.

UT theatre alumni Jason Hamilton and Mike Malone produced the film that explores the stories and songs of professional musicians in the Glass City: Jeff Stewart, Johnny Rodriguez, John Barile, Bobby May and Kyle White.

Watch the trailer at http://utole.do/ playingnightly.

The screenings are free; a \$5 donation is suggested.

Reserve tickets at leatafilms.com.

