

President voices support for liberal arts, welcomes input

By Jim Winkler

President Lloyd Jacobs told students attending the May 6 town hall meeting that he was delighted they were there to voice their concerns about the quality of education at UT, despite several contentious questions.

He noted to the approximately 12 students who turned out for the forum that education is “the single most important pathway to fulfillment, prosperity, good health and longevity.”

“Your input is very important,” he said. “Your concern about your education is very important. It is not inappropriate, and I’m delighted to receive it.”

Jacobs emphatically assured faculty members and students that he is firmly committed to strong liberal arts, humanities, social sciences and performing arts programs in the College of Arts and Sciences.

“I have no intention of eliminating, decimating or getting rid of any of the arts, performing arts, visual arts, political science, social sciences or any of them,” the UT president stressed during a town hall meeting on the Health Science Campus attended by some 125 faculty and staff members and students. “I have not espoused that. I don’t intend that.”

Jacobs said if he wanted to weaken the college, he could underfund its programs, but he has no plans for doing that and asked faculty members and students to closely watch the University’s budget process for the 2008-09 academic year to see his support. Senior administrators, Faculty Senate Executive Committee members and college deans met Thursday to review preliminary proposals for the upcoming academic year budget.

Jacobs’ remarks came after a dozen students gathered before the meeting to protest proposed department mergers and curricular changes in the University’s largest college. The students, who were interviewed by

several print and television reporters about their concerns, carried signs reading, “Don’t allow the curtain to fall on UT theatre,” “English is not a foreign language,” and “We want a well-rounded education.”

Meg Sciarini, an art and film student, said she was worried that merging departments would lead to cuts in faculty, while Evan Morrison, a junior majoring in history, said that students were not happy and wanted to establish a dialogue with the president.

Jacobs said he is keenly aware of the



Leah Mullen, a sophomore majoring in geography, asked President Lloyd Jacobs a question at last week’s town hall meeting.

importance of striking a balance between the humanities, the arts and the STEM disciplines of science, technology, engineering and mathematics at a time when the rapid expansion of the latter, driven in large part by state funding, threatens to make the rest of the disciplines feel left behind.

Proposals for merging departments “have not been finalized,” he underscored, adding that he and other administrators welcomed faculty and student recommendations and feedback. The proposed changes include combining the departments of Sociology and Economics, English and Foreign Languages, and Philosophy and History.

He explained that the central theme of his community address in April, when he unveiled his proposal to retool undergraduate education at UT, was the need for faculty and staff to see the University “through the eyes of the students,” which reflected his

continued on p. 2



Photo by Daniel Miller

HONORARY DOCTORATES: Dr. Nancy Cantor, chancellor and president of Syracuse University, and Chip Davis of Mannheim Steamroller received honorary doctorates in science and music, respectively, during UT’s commencement ceremony. There were 2,855 candidates for degrees from the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business Administration, Education, Engineering, Health Science and Human Service, Law, Nursing, Pharmacy and University College during recent ceremonies. Read Cantor’s commencement address on page 4.

Budget process moving forward as University stakeholders weigh in

By Tobin J. Klinger

After weeks of meetings and extensive preliminary discussions, the fiscal year 2009 budget is beginning to take shape. However, there is a great deal yet to be decided as senior leadership, deans and faculty begin to weigh in.

According to Dr. Scott Scarborough, senior vice president for finance and administration, the first draft of the proposed budget is essentially breakeven. It includes a \$2.5 million reduction in administrative costs, along with \$10.6 million in reallocations proposed during some 29 budget hearings, with no impact on academic programs.

“Thus far, we have had an extremely successful process,” said Scarborough, noting that the “10-5-5” exercise stimulated the conversations that were pivotal to identifying cost reductions and reallocation opportunities.

The “10-5-5” exercise asked deans, vice presidents and others to reduce their operating budgets by 10 percent, with 5 percent going into a central fund and 5 percent reinvested into strategic areas.

“These discussions have brought out some truly creative thinking, and present some real opportunities, many of which will be researched for future consideration,” Scarborough said.

There were approximately \$71 million in new requests made during the budget hearing process and, according to Scarborough, “We are now beginning the decision-making phase of the budget process, which will be informed by all of the University’s stakeholders.”

Last week, the University Responsibility Group — composed of representatives

continued on p. 8

**Look for the next issue
of UT News May 27**



Photo by Terry Fell

PUT IT THERE: Richard Stansley, chair of the Board of Trustees, right, shook hands with Bob Glover, blue-collar unit director for the Communication Workers of America (CWA) Local 4319 and auto mechanic 2 with Transit Services, after congratulating Lynn Gowing, CWA white-collar unit director and printing coordinator in the Marketing Office, on the union's new three-year contract as Trustee Tom Brady looked on. The Board approved the CWA contract and a three-year agreement with the UT Police Patrolman's Association April 30. Details were posted on myut.utoledo.edu.

Liberal arts

continued from p. 1

philosophy of "extreme student centeredness."

He cited the University's freeze on tuition during the last two years and efforts to develop more student-related shops and eateries along Dorr Street as examples of UT's new student-centered philosophy.

The newly renovated Memorial Field House will have 54 classrooms where many liberal arts and social science courses will be held, and the building will house many College of Arts and Sciences faculty offices, he said. The \$30 million renovation is being financed entirely with institutional funds.

UT's arts and humanities programs also have been strengthened by the arrival of new faculty members. Of 18 new faculty members who recently joined the University, 10 professors and one instructor are in the College of Arts and Sciences.

In response to a question about the resolution passed last month by UT's Arts and Sciences Council saying it has "no confidence" in the leadership of College of Arts and Sciences Dean Y.T. Lee, Jacobs said he was concerned, but that the vote was "one input of data, not the entire picture."

The Board of Trustees has the ultimate authority over the University personnel matters and delegates much of its decision-making power to the president, and thence to provosts and other senior administrators who get feedback from many sources before making decisions, he explained. Main Cam-

pus Provost Rosemary Haggett is gathering more information, he said.

Dr. Lee Woldenberg, professor and chairman of radiology, said the arts help produce better engineers, better scientists and better physicians, and urged students to register their protests with state legislators to make sure they provide money to fund humanities programs at state universities.

Addressing the issue of deferred maintenance that has been mounting for years, Jacobs told a student who complained about leaks and other problems in the Center for Performing Arts that his administration inherited a backlog of maintenance problems and that "a lot of people are working very hard to get and stay ahead of maintenance problems."

"We are way behind and have real problems," the president said, "but please don't assume bad intentions or negligence on our part." The University recently spent \$100,000 to fix leaks and spruce up the facility.

About 25 roofs have been replaced or repaired in the last two years, and the University will continue "to fix roofs as quickly as possible," he added. He said he has spoken to Gov. Ted Strickland about the problem.

Jacobs said Eric Fingerhut, chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, will visit UT in the future to get an update on University initiatives.

Faculty Senate elects new officers, reps

By Jim Winkler

Dr. Jamie Barlowe, professor and interim chair of women's and gender studies and professor of English, was elected president of the UT Faculty Senate for the 2008-09 academic year at the first meeting of the legislative body following the merger of the senates of the Main and Health Science campuses.

She began her official duties May 4.

"The new University of Toledo Faculty Senate represents two very different campus cultures," Barlowe said. "Although the leadership of the Faculty Senates from the Main Campus and the Health Science Campus have worked together for two years to merge the senates, the faculty from the two campuses do not generally know each other. One of the questions we need to address as a Senate this year is how to merge these two cultures."

Also elected were John A. Barrett Jr., associate professor of law, president-elect, and Dr. Nick Piazza, professor of counseling and mental health, secretary. Barrett, who wrote the constitution for the newly merged senate, will be president for the 2009-10 academic year.

Dr. Harvey Wolff, professor of mathematics, was elected representative to the Ohio Board of Regents, and will represent the Senate and faculty at meetings of the OBOR Faculty Advisory Committee.

Karen Hoblet, assistant professor of nursing, and Dr. Lawrence Elmer, associate professor of neurology and Center for Neurological Disorders medical director, were elected Health Science Campus at-large rep-



Barlowe

Photo by Daniel Miller

representatives, and Dr. Mike Dowd, associate professor and chairman of economics, and Dr. Walter Olson, professor of mechanical, industrial and manufacturing engineering, were elected at-large representatives from Main Campus.

Outgoing Main Campus Faculty Senate Chair Barbara Floyd, director of the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections, was elected past president.

Barlowe and Barrett will represent the Senate at Board of Trustees meetings.

The newly elected officers and representatives comprise the body's executive committee and will serve one year in the posts.

The new Faculty Senate has 64 senators. Fourteen are from the College of Arts and Sciences, 14 from the College of Medicine, seven from the College of Engineering, seven from the College of Health Science and Human Service, six from the College of Business, four from the Judith Herb College of Education, four from the College of Nursing, and two each from the College of Pharmacy, College of Law, University Libraries and University College.

Pedestrian safety cited for traffic changes on Towerview East on Main Campus

By Kim Harvey

Those who enter the Main Campus using Towerview Boulevard East may have noticed significant changes.

Due to ongoing concerns regarding pedestrian safety, a fourth stop sign was to be installed at the intersection of Towerview East and the drive leading to parking areas by McMaster Hall, the Health and Human Services Building, and the East Parking Ramp and lot. This is the first intersection traffic encounters on Towerview East following entrance from West Bancroft Street.

The stop sign was to be installed over the weekend, depending on weather conditions. In the event of inclement weather, the stop sign and other changes will be implemented as outdoor conditions allow.

The stop sign will halt southbound, incoming traffic in lanes that facilitate right turns, straight procession and left turns.

"The intersection was unusual as a three-way stop," said Gary Jankowski, associate vice president for safety and health.

continued on p. 6

Blood distribution center to be on Health Science Campus

By Cynthia Nowak

You might say that UT was promoting the lifeblood of northwest Ohio with the sale of the former Medical University of Ohio Foundation building to the American Red Cross.

The structure and its six-acre site, located on the Health Science Campus near the southern boundary of the UT Science and Technology Corridor, will become a Red Cross regional blood distribution center, replacing the Red Cross's Western Lake Erie Region Blood Services headquarters near downtown Toledo.

The Red Cross, UT and Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (D., Ohio) have been working together on the project for at least two years, according to Donald Baker, chief executive officer, American Red Cross Blood Services' Western Lake Erie Region.

"Dr. Jacobs, Congresswoman Kaptur and their teams did a marvelous job of giving us various options for the new facility. They wanted to offer us something that would enable us to continue our life-saving mission," Baker said.

The new headquarters will continue to

serve as a hub for the collection and distribution of blood products to 23 hospitals in 11 counties in addition to serving as a regional training facility.

"We were looking for a site that would be reasonably close to our donor center on Executive Parkway," Baker said, adding that the new location will allow about 200 jobs to remain in Toledo. "That's one of the most productive donor centers in the Red Cross system and it will remain open."

Kaptur, who secured federal funding for a portion of the project's approximate \$7 million costs, said, "We are all very excited about the Red Cross moving to The University of Toledo Health Science Campus. It really adds a jewel to our medical crown here in Toledo. It was a long run, but in the end all the pieces really fell into place, making it a perfect fit and benefiting everyone, from the environment to the local work force."

The original 15,000-square-foot building is undergoing renovations that include a 17,000-square-foot addition. An opening date of early 2009 is planned.

"The new Red Cross blood services



Photo by Jack Meade

BREAKING GROUND: Digging in for the new blood distribution center on the Health Science Campus were, from left, Lucas County Commissioner Pete Gerken, Toledo Mayor Carty Finkbeiner, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, President Lloyd Jacobs and Donald Baker of the American Red Cross.

headquarters is a great example of a partnership that is keeping a vital service in the Toledo area," said UT President Lloyd Jacobs.

"I'm proud that UT was able to help facilitate a project that fits in so closely with our own mission of improving the human condition."

UT medical student wins honors at state conference

By Jim Winkler

Bernice Rumala, a UT medical student, won two awards at the Ohio Academy of Family Physicians' 2008 Ohio Family Medicine Symposium on Research and Education that was held last month in Newark.

She won a first-place award in the education poster category and earned honors with the best overall poster presentation.

Her first poster, "Through the Looking Glass: Mirroring of Professionalism for Medical Students in the Medical Education Environment," examined medical student perceptions of faculty and staff professionalism. The project addressed the need for professionalism to be demonstrated by faculty and staff members associated with medical education. It also presented an inaugural survey to evaluate medical-student perception of professionalism among faculty and staff, and offered recommendations from a medical-student perspective on improving professionalism in medical education.

She has been invited to give an educational workshop on the topic to physicians later this year at a conference in Baltimore. Co-collaborators are Dr. Patricia Hogue, UT assistant dean for diversity, recruitment and retention and chair of the Physician Assistant Studies Program, and Dr. Lawson Wulsin, professor of psychiatry and family medicine at the University of Cincinnati College of



HONORED: UT medical student Bernice Rumala posed for a photo with the first-place award she won in the education poster category at the Ohio Academy of Family Physicians' 2008 Ohio Family Medicine Symposium on Research and Education.

Medicine and training director of the Family Medicine Psychiatry Residency Program.

Rumala's second poster, "Recruitment of Underrepresented Minority Students to Medical School: Minority Medical Student Organizations, An Untapped Resource," was selected as the top poster presentation at the symposium. She competed against practic-

ing family physicians, residents, fellow students and other health-care professionals to earn the honor.

"I initiated this project to outline how minority medical student organizations, such as the Student National Medical Association, can be used as a recruitment strategy to increase diversity in the physician work

force," Rumala said. "The project was initiated as a result of my passion to bring more diversity to the College of Medicine, during a time when there were less than 5 percent underrepresented minority matriculants in a class of 145. The initiatives have proven to be successful."

The annual symposium provides family physicians, residents and medical students a forum to share best practices, hear presentations on original research, and network with peers and colleagues. Presentations are focused on improving the teaching and research skills of medical students, residents, community preceptors and faculty.

Rumala and Dr. Frederick Cason, UT assistant professor of surgery, published a paper with the same title as the poster that appeared in the September issue of the Journal of the National Medical Association. Rumala said she is grateful for the support of WilliAnn Moore, her community adviser and Toledo NAACP president; faculty adviser Hogue; and members of the College of Medicine African-American Recruitment and Retention Committee.

The Ohio Academy of Family Physicians is a statewide, professional association with more than 4,400 members, including practicing physicians, family medicine residents and medical students.

Dr. Nancy Cantor's speech for The University of Toledo commencement

Saturday, May 3

Glass Bowl Stadium on Main Campus

Congratulations to the class of 2008! It's wonderful to celebrate with you, and it's so good to be here — in a place my family and I visited frequently during our 15 years in Ann Arbor.

Indeed, I have many ties here, ties to people — my former colleague, Lloyd Jacobs, now president of your fine university; Provost Haggett, whom I knew at the National Science Foundation; and my dear friend and mentee — if I might claim a bit of influence on her — Carol Bresnahan, a distinguished faculty member here and soon to be provost at the College of New Jersey.

My connections at Toledo are to both *people* and *places*, critical in my life, and remembered with great joy and warmth — numerous trips with my children to watch the Toledo Mud Hens (when they played in the old stadium), to the zoo and the museum, to restaurants and more.

And that is part of my theme today. Cherish the *people and places* that constitute who you are as you leave this home, this place that you have made your own.

Graduation is a two-pronged celebration — on one hand, we are celebrating your accomplishments to date, that is, your “place” now, but of course, we are also anticipating the new place that you will be making for yourself in the world.

Indeed, so much of our lives resemble this dialectic between our current state — *the place we have* — and our future possibilities — *the place we will make*. And the path we take between having a place and making a place is built so importantly around the *people* — teachers, colleagues, friends, family, heroes and heroines, even foes — who shape our experiences along the way.

Two reminders — then — never sit too comfortably in the place you are (even as you celebrate getting there), and never forget that there are people who will define how you get to the next stop.

Before we think about you, we should take a moment to think about the ground on which we stand: not only this stadium and the campus of this great metropolitan university, but also this city and this region that have been a frontier and a crossroads and today become a crossroads for your lives.

This was the ancient home of Mound Builders who constructed more than 10,000 works of earth and stone. This was an indigenous trade route that ran for hundreds of miles. It was covered with forests and water, and it was home to native people

proud of their land.¹ When the vast Black Swamp was drained, and great canals and railroads were built, Toledo grew from 1,000 people to more than 50,000 in only 40 years.²

It became a center of industry and commerce and a seedbed for artists, dreamers, innovators and crusaders. The automated glass-blowing machine was invented here. So was the first modern roller coaster.³ Residents of Toledo, many of them white, admired and promoted the work of the great African-American poet Paul Laurence Dunbar long before he became nationally known and decades before a line from his poem, “Sympathy,” would become famous around the world: “I know why the caged bird sings.”⁴

Men and women far ahead of their times worked for social justice. Samuel “Golden Rule” Jones was a manufacturer who believed in profit sharing and paying a “living wage.” After he was elected mayor in 1897, he opened free kindergartens and instituted an eight-hour day for city workers.⁵ Josina Lott, who believed that every child could learn, opened her own school when she realized in the 1930s that children with disabilities were being turned away from public schools. She went on to establish in Toledo one of the nation’s first sheltered workshops for developmentally disabled adults.⁶

Over the years, the people of this city have overcome great odds in their struggles for excellence and for fair play, creating great institutions like this university, the Toledo Museum of Art and the Toledo Blade newspaper. Today it serves us well to remember their determination and courage and to take strength from their example, because all of us, no matter where we live, are again on the frontier, facing an era we are just beginning to understand.

An earthquake of change in culture, technology and the economy is under way, affecting the lives, hopes and plans of every one of us and bringing with it unprecedented opportunities if we are willing to grab them, to be thoughtful about change.

The parallels between Toledo’s history and that of Syracuse — my home — are plentiful. Both are places that grew quickly through the hard work of pioneers. My favorite description of early Syracuse comes from a visitor in 1820, who said, “it was so desolate it would make an owl weep to fly over it.”⁷ Then, at a time when America had no trained civil engineers, a group of amateurs — some of them former judges



Photo by Daniel Miller

Cantor at commencement

and surveyors — set to work with “unwearied zeal”⁸ and built the Erie Canal that Thomas Jefferson had called “nothing short of madness.”⁹ The rest is history.

Today both cities stand on the shoulders of risk-takers who banded together to make things happen and create opportunity while defying great odds and the conventional wisdom of their day. Now, once again, Toledo and Syracuse face great obstacles in a landscape of global competition as harsh and foreboding in its own way as it was in the 19th century.

So what do we do to drain the next Black Swamp, to build the equivalent of the next Erie Canal? There is good news and a caution here.

The good news is that precisely all the hard work you’ve done to prepare for today is just what you’ll need to make your next place for yourself and for all of us. Universities — and their graduates — are at the very epicenter of the revitalization of America’s older industrial cities. They and

you will anchor the vital work to be done.

You’re also at the center of the best hopes for our knowledge-based economy. You have the entrepreneurial spirit — that unwearied zeal to make things happen. Over the last few years, you’ve lived in a diverse community of scholars, and you’ve experienced living and working in a global context, inundated with information, where connections are instantaneous and sharing is critical. You’re capable of doing the hard work — *social work* — required to open up opportunity, to make sure that a modern-day band of pioneers — as inclusive and creative as possible — gets working to build a new place for us all.

That’s precisely what The University of Toledo has prepared you to do. You have the flexibility to keep your balance in a world where change is the norm, where it is critical to stay nimble.

That’s the good news. The caution — and there always is one — is this: Just as it took struggle and unwearied zeal to build

the great canals that connected this region to the world, “connectivity” alone, even in our facile cyber world, “does not guarantee communication,” to paraphrase Vartan Gregorian, president of the Carnegie Corporation. Or as Henry David Thoreau once wrote, “We are in great haste to construct a magnetic telegraph from Maine to Texas, but Maine and Texas, it may be, have nothing important to communicate.”¹⁰

So, you have the tools — the wiring or infrastructure so to speak — to build the next great network of connections. Just make sure it’s used to forge the best and strongest communications, the kind that carry meaning through a sea of information overload.

In fact, there’s a certain irony to our world of fast-paced change and free-flowing information. For the same information and technology that empowers us also creates so much change and uncertainty that we can feel a bit immobilized. In such a climate, how can we maintain a sense of control, make thoughtful decisions, and keep our eyes on the ball? Can we follow the lead of the Mud Hens, who are doing even better in *their new place* at Fifth Third Field?

Here is where the social psychologist in me screams out — *do it with others!* When the *place* around us is full of shifting ground, we need the right *people* to give us stability. We need cooperation over competition; empathy rather than individuality; common cause, not just self-help.

Now, I must admit that I always assumed that it was the academics who got that message and that you would find in the business world a more dog-eat-dog exist-

ence — something for which we might not have fully prepared you in our universities, where we stress interdisciplinary, collaborative, integrative thinking. But my egocentric academic naiveté was shattered recently when I took part in IBM’s global innovation outlook conferences in which large corporations complement their particular strengths by collaborating with others (even arch competitors) to build networks of shared knowledge for innovation. More and more, this is an open-source world, and collaboration is the name of the game. We need to rethink the American myth of the self-made woman or man; our ever-changing world requires an open mind, a willingness to take risks, and a large dose of sharing and interdependence.

Fortunately, you’re ready for that world and its networks, ready for open-source lives, 24-7. After all, you’ve mastered Facebook and YouTube, right? But I have one plea: Really think about the others around you. Just because you can see them or read about them instantaneously halfway across the globe, don’t assume you really know them. Don’t assume that you even know those living right around the corner. All of us, while superficially connected, are separated also by culture, religion, race, ethnicity, class and in so many other ways less easily named. Empathy is hard work, as hard as anything you have so brilliantly accomplished at this great university.

Universities can create opportunities to engage in “difficult dialogues”¹¹ across the divisive fault lines of our world. So can communities and churches and political parties, through inter-group dialogues, and

so can we, in the many opportunities that arise in our daily lives. If we really listen to each other, we will be able to see constructive alternatives to fixed ideas about seemingly insoluble problems. Such exchanges between us require a diversity of people and ideas: In the university. In the workplace. In our neighborhoods. In our culture. And in our politics.

It is critical not to get complacent, not to get self-satisfied, thinking that all you need is *you*. Better, if you pardon a reach back to my generation, *all you need is love*. As Johnnetta Cole, president emerita of Bennett College for Women and Spelman College, once said, “You cannot fully understand your own life without knowing and thinking beyond your life, your own neighborhood and even your own nation.”¹² You are standing on the shoulders of giants, and you, too, are needed as a pioneer.

The notion of being a pioneer — of forging something new — needs some updating in our brave new world. And it will mean different things to each of us.

For me, it means understanding the obligations of my position as the first woman chancellor at Syracuse, for example. It means *not* taking that as a personal achievement, but remembering that I am standing on the shoulders of countless others who struggled for justice and fair play. It also means accepting the responsibility to look out for others and somehow open the way for them.

For me, it also means remembering exactly how I got here — the profound influence, for example, that growing up in the ‘60s had on me. The energy, and yes, perhaps a bit of headstrong risk-taking that came with the optimism of the women’s movement, the civil rights movement and the peace movement, even as the events surrounding Vietnam sadly divided the country, and too often led us to forget the hardships faced by our soldiers as they returned home scarred by war. A memory we should not forget today.

It means feeding off of the powerful memories I have of riding the New York City subway 45 minutes each way to school. Rush hour in a New York City subway — lots of faces, people, cultures,

all coming at you, and if you are little like me, you either run for cover — where? — or you learn to join it with gusto. Join it with gusto, but watch yourself and find some others to lean on as you go!

For you, being a pioneer, building that new home, that place for the future, will evoke different memories and imply different paths than mine. But it will surely involve something like a new subway ride.

In many ways, you have completed one long, frantic, hectic but exhilarating ride, and you deserve a great sense of completion today — you did it, you’re done, you made it home. And yet, the force of today is really about all that is ahead — that next ride! On the way, what’s essential is to weather change well, to profit from new opportunities, and to be — yourself — an agent of thoughtful, constructive change. You are ready, and now is *your* time. Congratulations!

¹Clark Waggoner, *History of the City of Toledo and Lucas County, Ohio* (New York: Munsell & Co.), 1879. Chapter One. Available online at <http://www.heritagepursuit.com/Lucas/LucasOhioChap1.htm>.

²Early history of Lucas County and Toledo from the Ohio Historical Society’s History of Central Ohio. Available online at <http://www.ohiohistorycentral.org/entry.php?rec=808>.

³Timothy Messer-Kruse, “The Real Inventor of the Roller Coaster,” An Exhibit at Toledo’s Attic, Feb. 28, 2000. Available online at <http://www.toledosattic.org/details.asp?did=34>.

⁴From the University of Dayton’s Paul Laurence Dunbar Web site at <http://www.dunbar-site.org/gallery/Sympathy.asp>.

⁵“Toledo,” from the Ohio Historical Society’s History of Central Ohio. Available online at <http://www.ohiohistorycentral.org/entry.php?rec=808>.

⁶Mary Koslovsky, description of a 2004 exhibit for Toledo’s Attic drawn from the Josina Lott archives of the Canaday Center of The University of Toledo. Available online at <http://toledosattic.org/details.asp?did=17>.

⁷Cited by Peter L. Bernstein, *Wedding of the Waters: The Erie Canal and the Making of a Great Nation* (New York: W.W. Norton & Co. Inc., 2005) 361.

⁸Ibid., 258-9.

⁹Ibid., 23.

¹⁰Vartan Gregorian, “The Pursuit of Knowledge: Grounding Technology in Both Science and Significance,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Dec. 9, 2005, B5.

¹¹Ford Foundation call for proposals: “Difficult Dialogues Initiative: Promoting Pluralism and Academic Freedom on Campus,” July 2005.

¹²Johnnetta B. Cole, Commencement Address, Grinnell College, 1990.



Photo by Daniel Miller

A graduate waved to family during the ceremony in the Glass Bowl.

Nursing is in the blood of UT faculty member

By Jim Winkler

Dr. Tracy Szirony, UT associate professor of nursing, followed in the footsteps of her grandmother and aunt when she focused on a career in nursing.

Szirony's grandmother, Mary Imogene Cox Harmon, who died earlier this year at the age of 102, worked as a nurse in southwest Ohio for more than four decades, and the two shared a bond through nursing for many years.

And her aunt, Patricia Harmon, was nursing director of the former MCO Hospital from 1977 to 1990, when she retired. She lives in Sylvania Township.

Szirony said her grandmother, who grew up in Mason, Ohio, near Cincinnati, and whose nickname was "Beanie," never pressed her to enter nursing, but instead lived her life as a nurse and became a strong role model.

"I never had a career decision to make," Szirony said. "I knew what I wanted to do — be a nurse. I remember as a young child, listening to her tell stories about caring for patients and working with the doctors. I have pictures of her work in her whites — her cap and uniform."

Beanie's nursing career began when she was 20 and borrowed \$160 from a physician in Mason to attend the Bethesda Hospital School of Nursing in Cincinnati. She was 23 when she earned a nursing diploma.

In the almost half-century of nursing that followed, Harmon remained driven and dedicated to her job. And as might be expected, she passed down her favorite stories to her granddaughter.

She married Pete Harmon in 1934 and they moved to Monroe, Ohio, where they raised three daughters. Szirony pointed out



Photo by Jack or Jim?

Dr. Tracy Szirony, UT associate professor of nursing, holds a photo of her grandmother, Mary Imogene Cox Harmon, and her 1925 State of Ohio Medical Board nursing certificate.

her grandmother had three children and a career at a time when most women didn't think they could dream of having both.

"Beanie was the unofficial visiting nurse for the town," Szirony explained. "Many times, she was the first person called before they called the doctor. Beanie set up a doctor's office in her home until he was able to establish his practice in another building. She also assisted him in emergencies and even delivered a baby when he was out of town."

The family moved to Middletown, Ohio, and during World War II, Harmon worked part time at Middletown Hospital and helped run her husband's grocery store.

After Pete died in 1956, she sold the grocery store and became the evening-shift nursing supervisor at Middletown Hospital.

"She basically ran the hospital," Szirony recalled. "Everyone knew her, the physicians respected her judgment, and the staff relied on her. She bowled on the hospital team and continued bowling into her 80s."

While showing care for her patients, Harmon remained close to her family.

Szirony cherishes her grandmother's 1928 nursing diploma, a clipping from the now-defunct Cincinnati Daily Times-Star announcing her grandmother's graduation, and the letter her grandmother received

from the state nursing board informing her she had passed the licensure exam.

When Szirony was a nursing student at UT, she found she had a knack for the challenges that her grandmother and other nurses face, loving the hands-on nature of the profession. She earned a bachelor of science degree in nursing from UT in 1986 and worked seven years on various nursing units at the former MCO Hospital. She earned a master's degree in nursing in 1991 from the former Medical College of Ohio and a PhD in health education in 2001 from UT.

Today, she teaches nursing courses on gerontology and the care of the dying patient and the family to undergraduate students and adult health students enrolled in the master of science in nursing program.

Living in southwest Ohio most of her life, Beanie was a devoted fan of the Cincinnati Reds and in 2006 threw a ceremonial first pitch at a Mud Hens baseball game.

In later years, she moved to Delta to be closer to her extended family and also traveled extensively.

Beanie's grandson, Bryan Pyles, is UT College of Medicine associate vice president for finance and strategic planning.

Szirony said the important thread that goes through her family is that nursing is a wonderful, rewarding profession, and she has advice for anyone interested in a nursing career.

"The profession of nursing offers so many opportunities to provide a service to society," she said. "The possibilities are endless. You cannot even imagine the multitude of roles that nurses can have. It is such a rewarding career."

Towerview East

continued from p. 2

"It's been an ongoing plan to make some kind of change to enhance safety. We've had several near misses with pedestrians in the crosswalks, and we've gotten many complaints from our students.

"Ultimately, we'd like to install a traffic light here, but that's going to take a little more time."

The four-way stop is one of several changes to be implemented. Additional plans call for the installation of a speed bump across the three lanes of incoming traffic to slow vehicles about 60 feet preceding the new stop sign.

"Often, traffic was coming in too fast to account for the number of pedestrians in the crosswalks," Jankowski noted. "Using the

speed bumps with the stop sign will make the area safer for everyone involved.

"The speed bumps are not permanent structures," he added. "They can be installed during warm weather and removed for the winter months."

Northbound, outgoing traffic will not be affected by the speed bumps.

A change also affects traffic exiting the parking lot near the East Parking Ramp. Vehicles leaving the parking area are limited to right turns or proceeding straight into parking areas west of Towerview. There will no longer be a left turn lane.

"Our studies showed the majority of traffic coming out of the parking lot was going northbound toward Bancroft Street,"

Jankowski said. "We don't anticipate that eliminating the left turn will cause significant problems."

A crosswalk also is planned for the lot by the parking garage.

Philip Welch, a doctoral student in the College of Health Science and Human Service, hails the changes. He is a member of a small group called Students To Optimize Pedestrian Safety (STOP) that campaigned for modifications at the intersection.

"Most of us cross that intersection frequently and have personally felt at risk there," Welch said.

STOP formed in January and members met with University officials a few times to discuss the problem. Welch also presented

results of an observational study he conducted on a typical weekday from 12:30 to 1 p.m.

"In that half-hour, I counted about 800 vehicles coming in and out of the University and about 300 pedestrians walking through the intersection," Welch said. "I have a photo of a car coming as a person was crossing — they're about four feet apart."

He said STOP is satisfied with the changes, but would eventually like to see a stoplight at the intersection.

"This is not a new issue," Welch said, noting that heavy pedestrian-motor vehicle traffic is a problem on many college campuses. "STOP is just the first student group that's gotten behind this effort to change traffic control at this intersection."

Medical student assumes post with national ultramarathon organization

By Kim Harvey

Radiation oncology medical physics student and ultrarunner Nadeem Khan has added another achievement to his resumé: assistant team manager of the Association of Canadian Ultramarathoners.

Khan, 29, a master's student, is the youngest person to hold such a position.

An avid international ultramarathoner, Khan's responsibilities include securing race gear, compiling and registering runners' race times, contacting sponsors and completing forms necessary for funding, traveling with the team to world championships, and supporting the athletes during their stays in host countries.

Ultrarunning is a sport that tests athletes' endurance to nearly superhuman levels. Once the starting gun sounds, Khan and competitors run for 24 hours with little respite from fatigue, blisters or muscle cramps. In comparison, traditional marathons complete a 26.2-mile course. Khan has trotted for 112 miles during a 24-hour period — more than four times the distance of one marathon.

"I've found that I like pushing myself to the limit," said Khan, a Canadian citizen who will complete his master's degree in August. "I've probably learned more about myself doing ultramarathons than with anything else in my life."

Khan began running as a child, entering cross-country and track events around age



Photo by Jack Meade

CHECKING IN: Nadeem Khan, a master's student in radiation oncology, left, talked with his adviser, Dr. E. Ishmael Parsai, professor and director of the Medical Physics Program in the Department of Radiation Oncology.

10 with the encouragement of his family, which continues to support his endeavors.

His duties with the Association of Canadian Ultramarathoners may extend to international advocacy, as ultrarunning vies for a Commonwealth Games and consideration as an Olympic sport. Khan is being considered for committee membership in the

International Association of Ultrarunners, which meets in Italy this fall. The organization regulates international ultrarunning and sanctions events longer than the traditional marathon.

In the meantime, Khan is approaching the finish line of his training in radiation oncology medical physics. Once he completes

UT's program, he will be an experienced physicist. He'll create patients' treatment plans, perform special procedures using radiation therapy, institute quality control and safety measures on equipment, and utilize options such as brachytherapy, iodine treatments, prostate seed implants, and intraoperative and stereotactic radiosurgeries.

He continues to train for upcoming ultramarathons, logging about 50 miles each week.

"I'm nobody without the support around me," Khan insisted. "The people here in the clinic are always asking how training is going and when races are coming up.

"Dreams can be achieved through hard work and determination."

Khan isn't certain where he's headed once he completes his master's degree. He would prefer to stay in the United States, but no plans have been finalized.

"I've lived in so many different countries," he said, noting his birth in India, upbringing in Saudi Arabia and eventual emigration to Canada. "Of all the places I've been, Toledo and UT have become a home away from home. The Radiation Oncology Department is my second family.

"I will always have a warm place for UTMC in my heart and cherish the wonderful memories and friendships I've made at this amazing place."

Radiation oncology students present research at chapter meeting

By Kim Harvey

Four graduate students in UT's College of Medicine represented their institution well at the American Association of Physicists in Medicine's Ohio River Valley Chapter meeting last month.

UT students authored four of 10 papers presented during the conference. The students — Timothy Carroll, Jun Kang, Nadeem Khan and Brandon Merz — train under the guidance of Dr. E. Ishmael Parsai, professor and chief of medical physics and director of the Radiation Oncology Physics Graduate Program.

The titles of the papers are: "Monte Carlo Neutron Shielding Evaluation of Treatment Vaults Built in to NCRP 49 or

NCRP 151 Recommendations" by Carroll; "New Generation Portal Imager Based on Thin-Film Cadmium Telluride for Clinical High Energy X-Ray Beams" by Kang; "Concurrent Delivery of Interstitial ThermoBrachytherapy (Hyperthermia and Brachytherapy) in the Treatment of Cancer" by Khan; and "Comparison of Modalities for the Treatment of Superficial Cancers" by Merz.

"The students received high marks and were recognized for the level of scientific rigor in their papers," Parsai said. "They were stellar representatives for UT's Department of Radiation Oncology."

May 16 deadline for Outstanding Staff Awards nominations

Submit nominations to Rubye Johnson, College of Law, Mail Stop 507.

The nomination form is online at <http://utpsa.utoledo.edu/>.

UTNEWS

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

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ENROLLMENT SERVICES, MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS: Lawrence J. Burns
SENIOR DIRECTOR OF UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS: Tobin J. Klingler
EDITOR: Vicki L. Kroll
ASSOCIATE EDITOR: Cynthia Nowak
GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Liz Allen
PHOTOGRAPHERS: Terry Fell, Jack Meade, Daniel Miller
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS: Liene Dekere, Kim Harvey, Matt Lockwood, Jon Strunk, Shannon Wermer, Jim Winkler
EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS: Laurie Flowers, Joanne Gray
DISTRIBUTION ASSISTANT: Brett Novak

Read UT news at www.utnews.utoledo.edu and myut.utoledo.edu.

The University of Toledo is committed to a policy of equal opportunity in education, employment, membership and contracts, and no differentiation will be made based on race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, veteran status or the presence of a disability. The University will take affirmative action as required by federal or state law.

Check out UToday

Don't forget to bookmark UToday at myut.utoledo.edu.

Stranahan Hall slated to open for summer classes following flood

By Matt Lockwood

Stranahan Hall on Main Campus is expected to open for summer classes following flooding that occurred last week.

An 8-inch water main burst underground late in the evening Monday, May 5, resulting in the flooding of Stranahan Hall, which houses the College of Business Administration.

The pipe ruptured in the construction area of the Stranahan Hall expansion project near Bancroft Street after work hours. Engineers are trying to determine the cause of the problem.

The flooding damaged electrical gear and telephone wiring in the basement of

Stranahan, causing a power outage on the north side of Main Campus. Power was restored quickly to most of the buildings that were affected; however, Stranahan Hall, Gillham Hall and Ritter Planetarium were without normal power for a couple days.

Disaster cleanup crews spent several days pumping water out of Stranahan's basement and worked throughout the week to clean and disinfect the building and its equipment.

An assessment of the damage is ongoing, but it is expected to cost between \$250,000 and \$450,000, depending on what equipment can be salvaged.

Budget

continued from p. 1

from President Lloyd Jacobs' senior leadership team, the full senior leadership team, representatives from the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, and the University's standing Finance and Strategy Committee — reviewed the budget. The input of those groups now will go to the Strategic Planning Steering Committee for consideration, with a goal of a draft budget going to the Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees June 2, and a final budget under consideration by the full Board June 16.

The approximately \$740 million budget, \$267 million of which represents the UT Medical Center, and \$472 million of which represents the academic enterprise, has grown slightly, thanks to an anticipated increase of \$8 million in the state share of instruction dollars. However, Scarborough cautions that increased costs are surpassing projected revenue increases.

Among the increasing expenses are higher salaries and benefits in the coming year, higher interest rates the University pays for loans, and added costs for utilities and maintenance.

"When we open the renovated Memorial Field House, it will come with significant operational costs," Scarborough said. "With this fantastic new facility on line, we will need to allocate nearly \$2 million for utilities, maintenance and custodial support."

Scarborough acknowledges there are significant challenges on the academic side of the budget, and he notes that the clinical enterprise remains financially sound.

"UTMC has successfully increased its operating margin and has continued to grow its clinical enterprise," Scarborough said. "In fact, the first draft of the budget includes \$8 million in hospital support for academics, mostly in the College of Medicine."

In memoriam

Lola French, Toledo, a cashier in the Finance Department from 1982 until her retirement in 1993, died May 1 at age 83.

Mary (Wright) Hartsfield, Toledo, who worked at UT's library for almost 30 years, died April 29 at age 90. She joined the University in 1953 as chief catalog librarian, retaining that title when she became associate professor of library administration in 1973. She retired in 1981 as professor emerita.

Barbara M. Surprise, Toledo, who worked more than 20 years in Telecommunications at the former MCO, died April 29 at age 85. Following her 1989 retirement, she worked as an operator several more years.

George "Bill" Woodworth, Oregon, Ohio, who worked at UT 13 years, died April 23 at age 82. He was hired as a locksmith in the Physical Plant in 1974 and was promoted to locksmith 2 in 1980. He retired from the University in 1987.



Photo by Daniel Miller

ENGINEERING RETIREMENT: Dr. Steve Kramer, professor of mechanical, industrial and manufacturing engineering and director of undergraduate studies in mechanical and industrial engineering, left, talked with Dr. Mike Dowd, associate professor and chair of economics, at the academic awards banquet last month. After 35 years at UT, Kramer is retiring. Since joining the faculty in 1973, Kramer developed several courses, including computer-aided design of mechanisms, automotive repair, robotics and professional development in engineering. He also established the first Pi Tau Sigma Mechanical Engineering Honor Society chapter at UT and started the UT student chapter of the Society of Women Engineers and served as its faculty adviser from 1975 to 1985. Kramer received UT's Outstanding Teacher Award in 1984, Outstanding Adviser Award in 1994 and Honors Professor of the Year Award in 2000. In 1998, he and two others received a U.S. patent for a knee mechanism designed to help amputees. "My wife and I will be visiting grandkids in California and Florida," Kramer said. "Then I'm going on to my fourth career — tutoring inner-city kids in math starting next year."



Photo by Jack Meade

TIME TO FLY: Scott Haas, Center for Creative Instruction (CCI) database and systems administrator, and Sherry Andrews, CCI director, shared some funny stories at a retirement reception for Haas last month. Haas, who witnessed revolutionary changes in information technology during his career; joined the former Medical College of Ohio in 1978 and played a key role in launching MCO's site on the Web in 1993. A certified instructor in windsurfing, Haas plans to spend most of his time working at his windsurfing and kiting equipment and sales shop in Monclova.

UT employees may schedule graduate photos

UT faculty and staff or members of their families who will graduate from the University in May or June can contact the University Communications Office if they wish to have a photo taken and published in UT News.

Call Joanne Gray at 419.530.2675 to schedule an appointment by Friday, May 23. Photos will appear in an upcoming issue of the paper.