

Biochemist studies new point of attack against dangerous stomach bacteria with help from astronauts

By Christine Billau

Research at The University of Toledo could lead to new treatments for a type of bacteria that is in the stomach of half the world's population, causes ulcers, and is linked to the development of stomach cancer, one of the most common causes of cancer death worldwide.

And astronauts on the International Space Station played a key role in making the experiment possible.

A team of researchers led by Dr. Donald Ronning, professor in the UT Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, discovered a new point of attack for the bacterium called *Helicobacter pylori* by using neutrons to decipher how an important enzyme works in the bacterium's metabolism.

"There are no current drugs on the market that target this special enzyme

called MTAN found in the bacterium," Ronning said. "The enzyme synthesizes vitamin K2 and is essential for the bacterium to survive."

Most of the people who have an *H. pylori* bacterial infection are treated with general antibiotics that are 50 years old, and in some regions of the world 30 percent of the strains are resistant to those drugs.

"It's likely that inhibitors targeting this enzyme can lead to the development of medication specifically targeted to kill bad bacteria without harming useful bacteria or human cells in the gastrointestinal tract," Ronning said.

The research, which was supported by a NASA grant and done in collaboration with the Oak Ridge



Photo from NASA

IN ORBIT: NASA astronomer Reid Wiseman on the International Space Station held Dr. Donald Ronning's experiment before he activated it. For six months, the protein crystals circled Earth as they grew.

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UT slates events for Diversity Month

Last year, President Sharon L. Gaber declared The University of Toledo would shine a spotlight on diversity with a month filled with events.

"While we celebrate diversity every day on our campuses, it's important to set aside some time to schedule events and come together to discuss our differences. Our inclusiveness gives us strength," Gaber said.

Dr. Willie McKether, vice president for diversity and inclusion, echoed the president's sentiments: "Our inclusive campus values and celebrates diversity and uniqueness. We can all learn from our differences and each other.

"I hope to see students, faculty and staff in attendance at our events during Diversity Month. Everyone is invited and welcomed."

New this year is an Implicit Bias Speaker Series.

"Implicit bias refers to the unconscious attitudes we have about people that, left unchecked, can lead to prejudice and discrimination," Jennifer Pizio, associate director for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, said. "By learning about these biases and making the implicit explicit, we can

change our attitudes and help create a more diverse and inclusive environment."

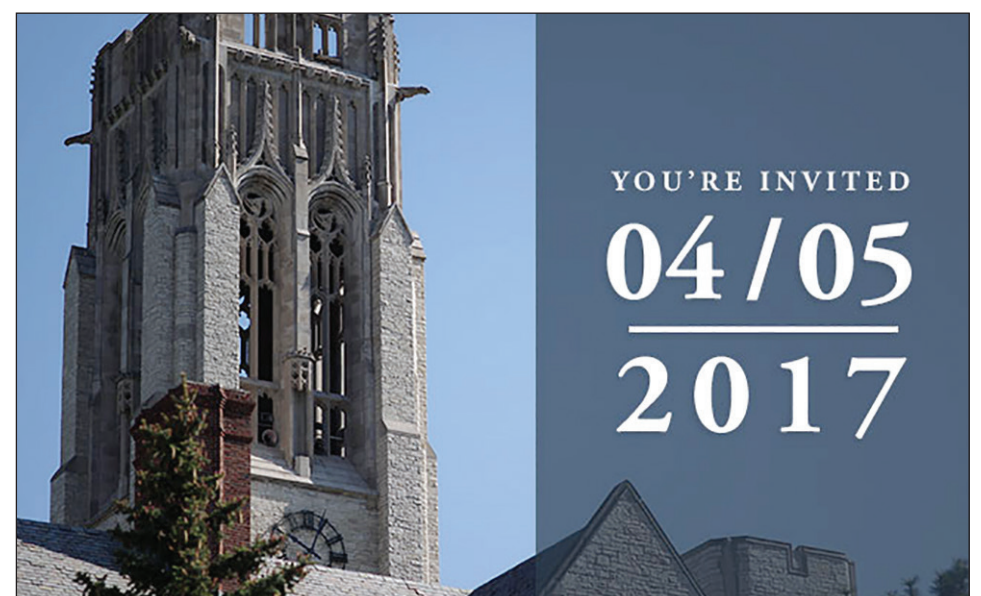
Ari Melber, MSNBC chief legal correspondent, will kick off the series Thursday, April 6. He will give a talk on "Bias in a Post-Truth Era" at 5 p.m. in Doermann Theater.

"There's nothing new about bias distorting our view of the world, but are polarized politics and selective information making bias worse? What can we learn from social science and legal training to combat our own biases? I'm hoping to tackle those questions in this program," Melber said.

Other topics and speakers in the series are:

- "Unconscious Bias and Its Impact on the Patient-Clinician Relationship" by Dr. Adil Haider, surgeon and Kessler Director of the Center for Surgery and Public Health at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Thursday, April 13, at 4 p.m. Collier Building Room 1000B.
- "Discrimination, Subtle Bias and Inequalities in the Workplace: In the Name of Meritocracy" by Dr. Leanne

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

*Wednesday, April 5, 2017, 3 p.m.
in the Thompson Student Union Auditorium, Main Campus*

Join Dr. Gaber, students, faculty and staff for an ice cream social immediately following the address.

UT to host series of events for Sexual Assault Awareness Month

By Christine Billau

As part of The University of Toledo's ongoing efforts to raise awareness about sexual violence, UT is marking Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April with a series of events across campus to help educate students on prevention.

Those include self-defense training, a "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" event, and a lecture by rape survivor and author Liz Seccuro.



Seccuro

Seccuro, a victim's advocate and the author of "Crash Into Me: A Survivor's Search for Justice," was gang-raped in 1984 during her freshman year at the University of Virginia. Seccuro will speak at UT Wednesday, April 19, at 6 p.m. in Doermann Theater.

"This is a story of how a victim has endured the most horrible of acts, was re-victimized, and found the strength to embark on a journey of healing and victim advocacy," said Dr. Kasey Tucker-Gail, associate professor of criminal justice and director of the UT Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness. "I cannot think of a better story of empowerment for our campus and community. We are thankful to the YWCA Hope Center for co-sponsoring this event with the Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness and the UT Office of Marketing and Communications. I encourage everyone to come and hear Liz Seccuro's message."

UT sorority Alpha Chi Omega also is hosting a "Walk a Mile in Her

Shoes" event called #RedShoeChallenge Tuesday, April 18, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Centennial Mall.

During the event, which is sponsored by the UT Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness, men will be challenged by a colleague or friend to walk a mile in high heels. It costs \$5 to challenge and sponsor a man on campus. All proceeds go to the Bethany House in Toledo.

"This is an important event for men to stand up and say no more to the sexualized violence against women and support Bethany House, a local women's shelter," Tucker-Gail said. "For \$5, women can challenge a colleague, friend or faculty member to participate. I hope that we can support victims and promote healing as a community. Look out men of UT, you are about to be a part of #RedShoeChallenge!"

The UT Police Department will hold three self-defense classes for UT students during the month: Saturday, April 1, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Thompson Student Union Room 1512; Thursday, April 6, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the Honors Academic Village; and Monday, April 17, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Horton International House Multipurpose Room.

The UT Sexual Assault Education and Prevention Program also is hosting a series of events, including:

- Monday, April 3 — T-shirt making for the Clothesline Project, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Rocket Hall Room 1619. Women affected by violence and their family and friends can express themselves by creating T-shirts as part of their healing process. The shirts will be displayed as part of the Clothesline Project as testimony to the problem of violence against women. A counselor from the UT Counseling Center will be present to facilitate the process. The UT Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness is a co-sponsor.
- Saturday, April 8 — Take Back the Night, 6 to 10 p.m., Woodward High School, 701 E. Central Ave. The event that protests all forms of violence against women includes a resource fair at 6 p.m., rally at 7 p.m., women's march at 8 p.m., men's event 8 p.m. and women's speakout at 9 p.m. UT sponsors are the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women; Social Work Program; Student Social Work Organization; University Counseling Center; UT Feminist Alliance; Women's and Gender Studies Department; and the Women's Law Student Association.

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Biochemist

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National Laboratory in Tennessee and the Technical University of Munich in Germany, was recently published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. UT graduate student Mike Banco also participated in the study.

The first six months of Ronning's stomach bacteria experiment took place on the International Space Station, which orbits Earth approximately 16 times a day.

"We sent samples of the protein we were trying to inhibit on a SpaceX rocket up to the International Space Station's microgravity environment in 2014," Ronning said. "Astronauts activated the experiment and helped us grow the large, high-quality crystals of these proteins we needed in order to use a rare methodology called neutron diffraction."

When the proteins were returned to Earth on a SpaceX rocket, the largest

crystals were the size of a grain of rice or the width of a paperclip.

Ronning based his structural determination of the enlarged, crystallized proteins using neutron diffraction, which affords visualization of hydrogen atoms in the protein.

"The usual methods for determining three-dimensional structures of molecules, such as x-ray diffraction, don't allow us to see hydrogen atoms and their movements that are vital to the function of enzymes synthesizing vitamin K2," Ronning said. "Instead, we used neutron diffraction for our crystal structure analysis, which allows us to see the hydrogen atoms and shows us how they do their job in the protein. In the history of mankind, there have been 106 molecular structures solved using this technique. It's an expanding field."



Photo by Daniel Miller

Dr. Donald Ronning, left, and UT graduate student Mike Banco held NASA patches.

Based on the findings, it is now possible to develop molecules that are better at blocking the enzyme's reaction process.

"By seeing what the protein looks like in a 3D model and understanding how it

functions, we have a better idea of how to create a drug to prevent that function and would kill the bacteria causing the infection in the gastrointestinal tract," Ronning said.

Office of Research makes staffing changes, additions to provide more support for faculty

The UT Office of Research is striving to provide stronger support to faculty members in preparing and submitting grant proposals to external agencies.

This is consistent with President Sharon L. Gaber's goal to increase research funding at the University and to elevate UT's stature as a national public research institution.

Toward this goal, Dr. Rick Francis has been working with UT Chief Information and Chief Technology Officer Bill McCreary and a task force to evaluate different options to support customer-friendly pre-award, post-award, Institutional Review Board, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, and compliance system solutions. Given the high priority that the University is placing on this project, Francis has accepted the position of director of research advancement and information systems with a major responsibility to implement a new comprehensive electronic research administration system and web interfaces for researchers and other users.

He also will work closely with faculty directly and through representatives on the University Research Council in management of UT's Internal Grants Programs, externally sponsored limited submissions opportunities, research and compliance training, and implementation of the strategic plan for research.

Francis reports directly to Dr. Frank Calzonetti, vice president of research, who said, "As we grow our research enterprise, Rick's deep knowledge of research administration and University faculty scholarship needs is invaluable in development of new electronic and information systems to serve the faculty and University."

Anne Izzi, a former licensing associate in the Office of Technology Transfer, has accepted the position of director of sponsored programs and will devote her attention to overseeing

the grant submission and grant awarding process (including research contracts), and ensuring that UT is in compliance with federal research grant requirements. Izzi reports to Dr. Constance Schall, interim associate vice president for research.

"Ms. Izzi's legal background, and her experience in submitting winning grant proposals, provides UT with someone who will be responsive to the faculty and ensure that grant proposals, grant contracts and grant awards are processed expeditiously," Schall said.

In addition, the office has hired Eva English as a grant writer. Armed with a master's degree in English and previous experience as a grant writer at Defiance College, English has immersed herself in her new position at UT working on grant proposals for faculty.

"Many UT faculty members have expressed to the Office of Research through its customer survey the importance of providing grant writing assistance," Calzonetti said. "This position is directed to providing such support, particularly for faculty early in their academic careers."

The Office of Research also has hired Dr. Kwaku Opoku as a new licensing associate in the Office of Technology Transfer. He holds a doctorate in molecular and cellular biology from the University of Washington and a bachelor of science degree in biomedical engineering from the University of Minnesota. He is working to market and license faculty inventions to industry.

"Dr. Opoku's strong background at a premier biomedical research university combined with his industry background at Medtronic Inc. is a perfect fit for UT as we aggressively market our technology to the commercial sector," said Stephen Snider, associate vice president of technology transfer and associate general counsel.

Distinguished University Professors named



Photo by Daniel Miller

The University of Toledo Board of Trustees voted to honor three faculty members at its March meeting with the most prestigious professorship title. Dr. Sarit Bhaduri in the Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering in the College of Engineering, Llewellyn Gibbons in the College of Law, and Dr. Bina Joe in the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology in the College of Medicine and Life Sciences were appointed to the rank of Distinguished University Professor. "This is the highest permanent honor the University can bestow on a faculty member," Dr. Andrew Hsu, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, said. "They distinguished themselves through their scholarly activities. They are all known internationally for their work, and their research activities are extremely important to helping UT build its reputation." Posing for a photo at the March 20 meeting were, from left, Gibbons, Hsu, Joe, President Sharon L. Gaber and Bhaduri.

In memoriam

Charles A. Balciulis, Chicago, died March 4 at age 87. He was a former head baseball coach, assistant football coach and instructor of physical education.

Ronald R. "Ron" Boerst, Toledo, a former Satellites Auxiliary member, died March 19 at age 95.

Richard H. Carl Jr., Toledo, a member of the UT Police Department from 1990 to 2007, died March 16 at age 54.

Janet M. Cornwell, Toledo, a UT employee for 20 years, died March 15 at age 71. She joined the staff as a custodian in 1992 and retired in 2010.

Vera Cramer, Toledo, a former food service employee at the University, died March 13 at age 94.

Gloria Poplawsky Dean, Rocky River, Ohio, professor emerita of business technologies, died March 2 at age 90. She joined the UT faculty as an instructor in 1968 and worked her way up to professor. She served as chair of the department for five years before retiring in 1988. Her UT service included the Community and Technical College's Operations Council, as well as Faculty Senate.

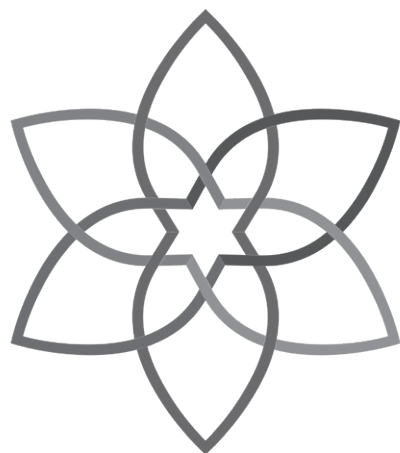
Dr. Harlan E. "Gene" Wysong, Nokomis, Fla., professor emeritus of counselor and human services education, died Feb. 9 at age 86. He joined the UT faculty as an associate professor in 1969 and was named full professor in 1974. Wysong served as department chair from 1984 until his retirement in 1986. He is survived by his wife, Virginia Humphreys Wysong, a former student services counselor in the College of Education.

New class to be inducted into Global Medical Missions Hall of Fame

The UT College of Medicine and Life Science's Global Medical Missions Hall of Fame will induct its 14th class of honorees Saturday, April 1.

The Galilee Medical Center, Dr. Donald C. Mullen and Dr. Vadrevu (V.K.) Raju will be honored during the program in Collier Building Room 1000 on UT's Health Science Campus beginning at 7:30 p.m.

"People to People Medicine" is the vision of the Galilee Medical Center, which is a national center of excellence and represents the highest ethical principles and humane values, reaching beyond the sectarian religious and ethnic hatreds that bloody most of the Middle East. Syria,



Galilee
Medical Center

racked by its own civil war, continues to maintain its decades old war with its southern neighbor, Israel, while actively supporting continuing terror against the Jewish state.

The Galilee Medical Center, an institution guided by its commitment to heal, has accepted the idealistic mission of responding to the medical needs of those who are sworn to its destruction and the destruction of Israel and its inhabitants. Located on the Israeli-Lebanese border, the center built Israel's first underground hospital in 2004, enabling provision of continuous and safe care of patients in time of war.

The Israeli hospital and its multi-religious and ethnic staff are a few kilometers from the northern border with Syria and accepts the war wounded and civilian personnel who are secretly spirited across the border from the devastating conflict in Syria seeking and receiving care.

For the past 30 years, Dr. Donald Mullen has devoted his life to working in developing countries around the world. Born in Charlotte, N.C., he graduated from the Citadel in 1957 and received a medical degree and completed his residency at Duke University in 1969. After 20 years as a successful cardiovascular surgeon in Charlotte and Milwaukee who performed

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Sexual Assault Awareness Month

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- Tuesday, April 11 — Speaker: Lizbeth Meredith, author of "Pieces of Me," 6 p.m., Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women, Tucker Hall Room 0168. She will discuss how her daughters were kidnapped by their father and taken to Greece and her struggle to get them back.
- Wednesday, April 12 — The Clothesline Project, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Centennial Mall (rain location: Thompson Student Union Trimble Lounge). View shirts created by women affected by violence and their family and friends. T-shirt colors show the form of abuse: white for those who died because of violence; yellow and beige for battered and assaulted women; red, pink and orange for survivors of rape and sexual assault; blue and green for survivors of incest and sexual abuse; purple for those who were attacked because of their sexual orientation; and black for women attacked for political reasons.
- Monday through Wednesday, April 17-19 — Red flag event, Centennial Mall. Red flags will be displayed to represent the 316 individuals who reported rape in the city of Toledo in 2016.
- Wednesday, April 26 — Denim Day. Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to wear jeans to raise awareness of rape and sexual assault. Stop by the Sexual Assault Education and Prevention Program's information table in the Thompson Student Union from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. to learn more about Denim Day. The UT Center for Student Advocacy and Wellness and the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women are co-sponsors.

UT employees may schedule graduate photos

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

Call Joanne Gray at 419.530.5157 to schedule an appointment before Wednesday, May 10. Photos will appear in an upcoming issue of the paper.



You are invited to
The University Women's Commission
Annual Spring Awards Luncheon

Featuring keynote speaker:
Dr. Amanda Bryant-Friedrich
and presentations to:
2017 Alice H. Skeens Outstanding Women
UWC Scholarship Presentations

Wednesday, April 12, 2017
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Savage Arena Grogan Room

Please RSVP by April 5

This event is free for members.
Your \$25 membership fee funds
Scholarships for women at the University of Toledo.

\$15 for non-members

For membership and RSVP, please visit
utoledo.edu/commissions/women

Bring a donation of new or gently used professional clothing for the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women's Kate's Closet and be entered to win a gorgeous designer wallet filled with cash and gift cards!

Questions? Marie.Janes@utoledo.edu



The University Women's Commission provides a support system for all women and serves as a network of alliances for all women on each of The University of Toledo campuses.

Global Medical Missions Hall of Fame

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Mullen

more than 3,000 open-heart procedures and many thousands of thoracic and vascular surgeries, he obtained a master of divinity at Princeton Theological Seminary and was ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA) in 1991.

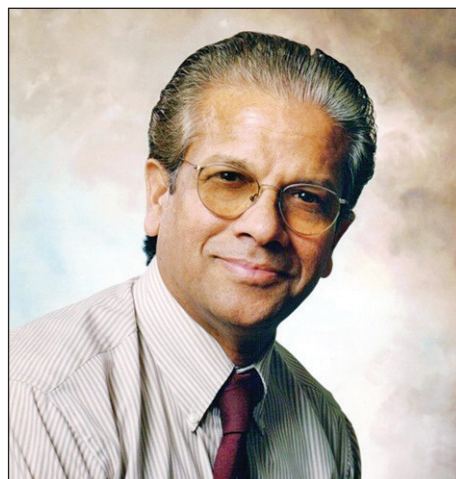
In 1980, Mullen received a call from the World Medical Mission to go to Tenwek Hospital in Kenya for a month, and his life has not been the same since. He made a radical change of direction in his life, working throughout the world as a dedicated medical missionary. He has worked for the Presbyterian Church (USA), Samaritans Purse International Relief, the Christian Medical and Dental Association, and as chairman of the board of the Philadelphia International Foundation. He has worked in three war zones; twice in Iraq and in Sudan and Rwanda, and in Africa, the Far East and the Middle East.

Mullen concluded his career as a parish associate in Highland, N.C., where he also was elected mayor. He recently published a book about his life, "A Radical Change of Direction; Memoir of the Spiritual Journey of a Surgeon."

For the past four decades, Dr. Vadrevu (V.K.) Raju has been on a crusade to eliminate avoidable blindness in parts of the world plagued by poverty and poor access to medical care. Born in India, he earned a medical degree from Andhra University and completed an ophthalmology residency and fellowship at the Royal Eye Group of Hospitals in London. He is board-certified in ophthalmology and is a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons and the American

College of Surgeons. He is a clinical professor at West Virginia University, the section chief of the Ophthalmology Department at Monongalia General Hospital, and runs a private practice.

Raju is the founder and medical director of the Eye Foundation of America. World-class state-of-the-art services are rendered through traveling eye camps and permanent brick-and-mortar hospitals built by the foundation, including the Goutami Eye Institute that Raju helped found in 2006. Since the inception of the Eye Foundation of America, these camps and institutes have facilitated more than 600 physician exchanges, trained more than 200 ophthalmologists, served 2 million patients, and performed 300,000 vision-saving surgeries in 21 countries operating on three guiding principles: service, teaching and research.



Raju

In children, the main focus of efforts by the Eye Foundation of America, the gift of sight results in 75 years of a full and productive life. No child will be denied treatment, and children from around the world can come to receive world-class services. Raju has said, "If blindness is preventable, then let us do it big."

In addition, Drs. Anne and Randall Ruch, will receive the Lawrence V. Conway Distinguished Lifetime Service Award, and the UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences Alumni Community Award will be given to Dr. David Grossman.

Since 1998, the Ruchs have led short-term mission trips to Guatemala after witnessing the deplorable conditions of



Drs. Randall and Anne Ruch

the people living in a garbage dump and promising them that they would make a difference in their community. Nine years later, SewHope, their nonprofit organization was formed that signifies the hope of Shannon E. Wilson, a young physician who had an abounding compassion for the people of Guatemala, who died in 2006 before her dreams could be fulfilled. SewHope provides health care, nutrition, education, spiritual growth and opportunity to marginalized people in one of the most neglected parts of the world. The couple's altruistic mission also led them to form a local nonprofit organization, Compassion Health Toledo, so they could address the health-care shortage in a medically underserved area of Toledo.

Grossman graduated in 1974 from the former Medical College of Ohio and completed an internship, residency and fellowship there in 1978. He began his medical career as a member of the medical



Grossman

staff at Toledo and St. Vincent's hospitals and in an internal medicine group practice. In 1989, he began his public career working for the city of Toledo's Board of Health, was Toledo's health commissioner and then medical director. Grossman was instrumental in the merger of the county and city health departments, and in 2000, he became the health commissioner of the combined Toledo-Lucas County Health Department, a position that he held for 16 years. Grossman was successful in the passage of the statewide smoking ban, and in 2007, he was awarded the Public Health Guardian Award by the Association of Ohio Health Commissioners, which gives recognition to outstanding and significant activities resulting in a positive impact on public health for his work on the smoking ban hearings.

In conjunction with the induction, the College of Medicine Students for Medical Missions will host a symposium, "Together, We Are the Change in Medicine," Saturday, April 1, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Health Education Building 110. Speakers will include Mullen, Raju and the Ruchs.

Dr. Lawrence V. Conway, UT professor emeritus of finance, founded the Global Medical Missions Hall of Fame in 2004 to honor individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to advancing the medical well-being of people around the world. In 2006, the Global Medical Missions Hall of Fame became affiliated with the UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences. The hall of fame can be seen in the lobby of the Jacobs Interprofessional Immersive Simulation Center.

RSVPs are requested for the free, public event: Call 419.530.2586 or 1.800.235.6766, or email medmissionhof@utoledo.edu.

Canaday Center's spring lectures look at historic preservation, communities

How do efforts to preserve historic homes affect the communities where these homes are located?

Two upcoming lectures will attempt to answer this question from the perspective of someone who has worked for 45 years in the historic preservation field, and someone who has personally committed to preserving one historic home.



Haimerl

The talks are being held in conjunction with the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections' exhibit, "House and Home: The Intersection of Domestic Architecture and Social History, 1870-1970."

Dr. Ted Ligibel, director of the Historic Preservation Program at Eastern Michigan University, will present a lecture titled "From Frontier to Mid-Century Modern: 45 Years of Historic Preservation in Northwest Ohio," Wednesday, March 29, at 3:30 p.m. in the Canaday Center.

Ligibel's career in historic preservation began in 1974 in Toledo as a grassroots preservationist. As an associate in UT's Urban Affairs Center, he led students in efforts to inventory Toledo's neighborhoods and prepare nominations for the National Register of Historic Places.

In 1991, Ligibel joined the EMU faculty, and he became director of its graduate Historic Preservation Program in 1999. He is the co-author of "Historic Preservation: An Introduction to its History, Principles, and Practice," published in 2009, which has become the national best-selling textbook in the field.

Ligibel will discuss his long career in this field, and successful and unsuccessful efforts to save historic homes and communities in northwest Ohio.

Author Amy Haimerl will talk about her experience in preserving a home in Detroit that she chronicled in her book "Detroit Hustle: A Memoir of Love, Life, and Home" (Running Press, 2016) Monday,



Photo by Rachel Nearhoof

HOME SWEET HOME: The lectures are part of the Canaday Center's exhibit titled "House and Home: The Intersection of Domestic Architecture and Social History, 1870-1970," which is on display through May 5.

April 10, at 3:30 p.m. in the Canaday Center.

Haimerl purchased her home — a 1914 Georgian Revival located in what was once one of Detroit's premier neighborhoods — for \$35,000. The home had no plumbing, no heat and no electricity. She and her husband believed it could be renovated for less than \$100,000. Years later, after overcoming many roadblocks and weathering Detroit's municipal bankruptcy, the couple has invested more than \$300,000 in saving their home.

Her book is more than just a story of one couple's effort to save a home. It is also a story of finding their place in a thriving community.

Haimerl is an adjunct professor of journalism at Michigan State University and a freelance journalist who writes on aspects of business and finance. Not only did she live through Detroit's bankruptcy, but she helped to cover the story for Crain's Detroit Business.

She will sign copies of her book at the lecture. Her talk is part of University

Libraries' celebration of National Library Week.

"House and Home: The Intersection of Domestic Architecture and Social History, 1870-1970," is an exhibit on display in the Canaday Center through May 5. Viewing hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information on the free, public exhibit or lectures, contact Barbara Floyd, director of the Canaday Center and interim director of University Libraries, at 419.530.2170.

Theatre students bring creativity, imagination to 'The Internationalist'

By Angela Riddell

The UT Department of Theatre and Film will present "The Internationalist" by playwright Anne Washburn, Friday through Sunday, March 31-April 2 and April 7-9, at the Center for Performing Arts Center Theatre.

Performance times are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

Lowell, an American on a business trip, is met at the airport by a beautiful colleague. They spend the night together, and he thinks he's in one of those great American movies where you go to a foreign land and there's romance and adventure and the experience changes you. The next day at the office, he discovers he's not in one of those movies; he's in one of those foreign films where nothing is as it seems, where there is no moral to the story, and, most importantly, no subtitles.

Washburn places Lowell — jet-lagged and unable to speak the local language — in the middle of a fictitious country on a business trip to a company with dubious interests. Caitlyn Tella, the director of the UT production, said the fictitious country and language provide student actors with the opportunity to use their imagination to create their own meaning in these interactions.

"Even though there are parts of the play that are spoken in a foreign language, the audience will follow what is happening along the lines of their own imaginative logic," Tella said. "With the literal meaning of words moved off into the background, when normally they would be front and center, body language and other visuals move into the foreground to establish the scene's meaning. There is a tension between what can be understood clearly and what can't be grasped."

She added, "It plays with your expectations. You can expect the unexpected — it sounds cliché, but it's really a prominent idea in the play: The idea that what we think we

know isn't the full picture, and as well-intentioned as we may be, there is always an element of delusion to our actions."

The play comically touches on truthful communication, status in the workplace, and globalization of the workplace. People who have found themselves at times working or traveling abroad, in a culture very different from their own, will recognize the often humorously confusing dynamics at work in this world.

Tella said she sees the play in the style of film noir, a feature that carries over into the look and feel of the sound and lighting. The play opens with a song with lyrics that are part of the script, but with music composed by UT music student Stephen Caldwell. It recalls the Rat Pack era of the 1940s, but with updated elements as well.

"One of the reasons I like this play," Tella said, "is that it's a huge challenge and a huge reward for the students to make a fictional foreign language real, to invent the world of this imaginary country and workplace, to create mannerisms and a cultural identity that is at once strange and yet very familiar. I think they pulled it off."

Cast members are Victoria Zajac as Sara; Carter Makiewicz as Lowell; Kurt Elfering as Nicol; Wonhee Kim as Irene and anonymous woman; Alexis Johnson as James; and Justin Petty as Simon and Paul.

Tickets are \$8 for students and children; \$10 for UT faculty, staff and alumni, and military members and seniors; and \$15 for the general public. Call 419.530.ARTS (2787) or order online at utoledo.tix.com. Tickets also will be available at the door.



Photo by Daniel Miller

HOOKING UP: Lowell (Carter Makiewicz) flirts with Sara (Victoria Zajac) during a rehearsal scene from the UT production of "The Internationalist."

Spring Festival of New Music Concert Series this week

The UT Department of Music will celebrate its 40th Annual Spring Festival of New Music, Wednesday, March 29, through Saturday, April 1.

The festival is a series of concerts focusing on contemporary living composers. This year's guest composer is Jake Runestad, whose work will be featured at some of the concerts. He also will conduct the UT High School Honor Choir on the last concert of the series.

In addition, the festival also will feature a collaboration of the National Arab Orchestra's Takht Ensemble.

Listed by date, events will be:

- Wednesday, March 29 — "America the Beautiful" with the National Arab Orchestra's Takht Ensemble, the UT Jazz Organ Trio and Vocalist Dr. Ellie Martin, 7 p.m., Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall. The

concert will include a mix of Arab music, American jazz and other musical styles. It will be a rare opportunity to hear traditional Arab pieces blended with improvisational, instrumental and vocal jazz. Admission: \$10-\$15; tickets available at the door or in advance through the Center for Performing Arts Box Office, utoledo.tix.com or 419.530.ARTS (2787).

- Thursday, March 30 — UT Student and Faculty Chamber Ensemble, 7 p.m., Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall. Winners of the 2017 Craig's Keyboards/UT Student Composer Contest will be announced. The concert also will feature the UT Faculty Woodwind Quintet performing a work by Samuel Adler. Admission: Free.

- Friday, March 31 — UT Concert Chorale, at 7 p.m., Doermann Theater. The UT Concert Chorale will perform the music of guest composer Runestad. Admission: \$5-\$10; tickets available at the door or in advance through the Center for Performing Arts Box Office, utoledo.tix.com or 419.530.ARTS (2787).
- Saturday, April 1 — UT High School Honor Choir with guest composer Runestad, 7 p.m., Doermann Theater. The best singers from area high schools will perform in concert with the UT Concert Chorale, under the baton of guest composer Runestad. A highlight of the concert will be the performance of a song co-created by Runestad and the high school students.



Runestad

Conservation and the liberal arts

By Samuel Duling

A liberal arts education is characterized by the cultivation of one's love of learning. To accomplish this, exposure to a broad array of disciplines is necessary for undergraduate students. In that spirit, I participated in the Jesup Scott Honors College's first biology and conservation study tour of the Galapagos Islands with Dean Heidi Appel.

As a political science and economics student, I was the only non-STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) major in the class. The wide-ranging intellectual interests of the students in attendance made for academically stimulating conversation and myriad opportunities to challenge one's perspective. From my experience, I have learned yet another way to think critically about contemporary issues on both local and global scales.

After four flights, our class landed on San Cristobal, the easternmost island with a human population. We began our excursions

in short order by visiting the Charles Darwin Foundation's interpretation center, hiking along Frigatebird Hill and Española, and snorkeling around Kicker Rock. My first impression of the Galapagos was the apparent interspecies congeniality; even the species without symbiotic relationships did not seem to mind close proximity with one another. For example, a baby sea lion gnawed on a marine iguana's tail without any avarice, to our surprise. With regard to the human population, citizens were left without a choice but to get along with the other inhabitants of the island. This explains the staircases and park benches commandeered by sea lions.

On Isabela, we hiked up to the crater of an active volcano to observe the old lava flow site as well as the flora and fauna of the Galapagos highlands. It was quite a moving experience to witness the still-steaming seat of the power that continues to create the archipelago. Along this hike,

we observed countless guava trees that were introduced to the Galapagos by humankind and have since proven to be a formidable invasive species (the trees and humans, that is). Another example of irreversible ecological damage is the introduction of the blackberry: The plant responsible for the jam on our toast every morning was spread by birds that unwittingly scattered the harmful plant incessantly.

During the final days of our study tour, we snorkeled around the lava tunnels off of Santa Cruz and visited the giant tortoise incubation center. Decades-old tortoises lived in enclosures next to newly hatched babies, a promising vision of the future of the island's tortoise population. Tragically, when pirates governed the islands centuries ago, these creatures were slaughtered en masse and eaten. At one point, the roads were marked by their stolen shells. Today, the tortoises represent only one facet of the Charles Darwin Foundation's ambitious

efforts to preserve the population of species endemic to the Galapagos. Thanks to the foundation's programs, we saw innumerable species while swimming in the lava tunnels, including white tip reef sharks, giant Pacific green turtles and spotted eagle rays.

My time in the birthplace of modern conceptions of evolutionary theory has inspired further exploration of how scholars of the humanities, like myself, can contribute to the conservation of Earth. I am very grateful for this opportunity presented by Dean Appel, and hope that future UT honors students of all disciplines will try new ways to explore the liberal arts.

Duling is a senior majoring in political science and economics in the College of Arts and Letters and the Jesup Scott Honors College.



Samuel Duling stood in front of Sierra Negra, a volcano crater on Isabela.



Samuel Duling took these photos of a giant tortoise; a lady bug, which was introduced to the Galapagos Islands to eliminate a harmful infestation of the cottony cushion scale; and a sea lion sleeping on a bench.



2017 MAC Tournament Champions visit Toledo City Council

By Brian DeBenedictis

The 2017 Mid-American Conference Tournament Champion Toledo women's basketball team were guests of Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson and the Toledo City Council March 21 at One Government Center.

Head Coach Tricia Cullop and the Rockets were honored with a resolution from Hicks-Hudson in Council Chambers. A handful of council members also made remarks about UT's championship run, and

the entire Toledo City Council took photos with the group.

Prior to the council meeting, UT spent time with Hicks-Hudson and had the opportunity to take a tour of her 22nd floor office.

Earlier in the day, the Governor's Northwest Ohio Regional Liaison Lu Cooke presented the Rockets with a proclamation from Gov. John Kasich marking their first MAC Tournament title since 2001 and eighth in program history.

Toledo, which finished the year with a 25-9 overall record, earned the Mid-American Conference's automatic bid to the "Big Dance" after winning the MAC Tournament in Cleveland. The Midnight Blue and Gold defeated Akron, 65-37, in the first round, MAC East Division champion Kent State, 67-63, in the quarterfinals, defending MAC Tournament champion Buffalo, 72-65, in the semifinals and Northern Illinois, 82-71, in the finals.



The MAC Champions and UT Vice President and Athletic Director Mike O'Brien posed for a photo with Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson in her office at One Government Center.



The team also received a proclamation marking its MAC Tournament title and met members of Toledo City Council.



Show time

Former UT running back Kareem Hunt sprinted while working out last week in the Fetterman Training Center for a number of NFL scouts. Hunt, who is Toledo's all-time leading rusher with 4,945 yards, was one of 20 players who participated in UT's Pro Day.

Photo by Daniel Miller

Football coach signs contract extension through 2021

By Paul Helgren

The University of Toledo and Head Football Coach Jason Candle have agreed to a contract extension through the 2021 season.



Candle

Candle led the Rockets to a 9-4 record and an appearance in the Raycom Media Camellia Bowl in his first full season as Toledo's head coach in 2016. He took over the head coaching position at the end of the 2015 regular season, leading UT to a 32-17

victory over No. 24 Temple in the Marmot Boca Raton Bowl. Before assuming the head coaching position, Candle had been an assistant at Toledo for seven years, the last four as the program's offensive coordinator.

"We are very pleased to announce the extension of Jason Candle's contract through the 2021 season," Vice President and Athletic Director Mike O'Brien said. "Jason has played a very important part of the success of our football program over the last eight years, first as an assistant coach and now as head coach. He is a tremendous leader and teacher of young men, and has a great desire to elevate our football program to even greater heights. We look forward to his leadership for many years to come."

"I'm very appreciative of the support and confidence that President Gaber and Mike O'Brien have in me and my staff," Candle said. "Our program is built on a strong foundation of success, and we are focused on bringing a Mid-American Conference Championship to this great University."

Candle, a native of Salem, Ohio, began his coaching career at his alma mater, Mount Union, in 2003. He was a part of four NCAA Division III national championships with the Purple Raiders, two as a player and two as an assistant coach.

He joined Toledo in 2009 as a receivers coach and moved into the offensive coordinator position in 2012. Under Candle's guidance as offensive coordinator, the Rocket offense was prolific. In 2014, UT led the MAC in just about every major offensive category, including scoring (36.6), total offense (490.5) and rushing offense (256.4), en route to a 9-4 record and a victory over Arkansas State in the GoDaddy Bowl. In 2015, the Rockets were 10-2 and ranked third in the MAC in scoring (35.0) and total offense (460.9).

Candle was named one of the top recruiters in the nation by Rivals in 2010. He was named the Mid-American Conference "Recruiter of the Year" by Scout.com in 2011 and 2012. In 2014, Candle was one of only two MAC assistant coaches to be named by Rivals as being among the top recruiters in the Group of Five football conferences.

Since taking over as head coach, Candle's recruiting success has continued. Despite having just weeks to put together a staff at the conclusion of the 2015 season, Toledo's 2016 class was ranked No. 2 in the MAC by ESPN. This past February, the 2017 Rocket recruiting class was rated No. 1 in the MAC by every major recruiting service.



**ASIAN AMERICAN
& PACIFIC ISLANDER
HERITAGE MONTH
APRIL 2017**

OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

For a list of events go to
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DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
Office of Multicultural Student Success



Songfest 2017

ROCKETS
Re-loaded

CELEBRATING 80 YEARS OF SONGFEST

Saturday, April 1, 2017 | 5 p.m.
Savage Arena

THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
1872

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UTNEWS

UT News is published for faculty, staff and students by the University Marketing and Communications Office weekly during the academic year and periodically during the summer. Copies are mailed to employees and placed in newsstands on 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 Marketing and Communications Office, Vicki Kroll. Email: vicki.kroll@utoledo.edu. Fax: 419.530.4618. Phone: 419.530.2248. Mailing address: University Marketing and Communications Office, Mail Stop 949, The University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606-3390.

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Cutting it fine



Snipping the ribbon at the new Freshens that opened last week in the College of Engineering complex were, from left, Dr. Steve LeBlanc, interim dean of the College of Engineering; President Sharon L. Gaber; Dr. Kaye M. Patten, senior vice president for student affairs; and Jason Toth, associate vice president for facilities and construction. Watching were UT dining team members, from left, Nicole Bridges, Monic Austin, Chris Musselman, Gary Casteel, Paul Meister and the Freshens mascot. A chain promoting healthy options, Freshens serves salads, sandwiches, rice bowls, crepes and smoothies.

Photo by Rachel Nearhoof

Solid strategy



Photo by Daniel Miller

Gary Pinkel, former UT head football coach from 1991 to 2000 who had a career record of 73-37-3 and was named the 1995 Mid-American Conference Coach of the Year; recalled with fondness his years at the University when he gave the keynote address at the KeyBank Global Leaders Forum. He shared his ideas on team building, leadership and making no excuses, which he also applied as head football coach at the University of Missouri. More than 400 area business professionals and UT students attended the March 23 event, presented by the UT College of Business and Innovation in Savage Arena.

Ride on



Photo by Daniel Miller

A mass ride took place March 21 to herald the return of Rocket Wheels, the bike sharing program that offers students and employees an alternative to trekking across campus. Signing up for the program designed by Facilities and Construction takes only seconds and can be done at bikeshare.utoledo.edu. Those with a valid UT ID need their username and password to enroll.

Diversity Month

continued from p. 1

Son Hing, associate chair of psychology at the University of Guelph in Ontario, Tuesday, April 18, at 5 p.m. Thompson Student Union Room 2584.

- “Unconscious Racial Bias in Health Care and in Medical School Admission” by Dr. Quinn Capers IV, associate dean for admissions at Ohio State University College of Medicine, Wednesday, April 26, at 4 p.m. Health Education Building Room 110.

In an effort to take the pulse of the campus diversity and inclusiveness climate, McKether said the annual diversity assessment survey will be conducted from Monday, April 17, through Saturday, April 22. Students, faculty and staff will receive an email with a link to take the survey.

Diversity Month is hosted by the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, the Division of Student Affairs, and the Office Multicultural Student Success.

Listed by date, other events include:

- Monday, April 3 — Gay? Fine By Me Tie Dye, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thompson Student Union steps (rain location: Thompson Student Union Trimble Lounge). — Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage

Month Kickoff, noon, Thompon Student Union steps (rain location: Thompson Student Union Trimble Lounge).

- Tuesday, April 4 — Diversity and Dialogue, 6 p.m., Thompson Student Union Ingman Room.
- Thursday, April 6 — Jewish-Christian-Muslim Dialogue: “When Scripture Can’t Be True: Stretching and Breaking Reverence for the Book in Abrahamic Tradition,” 7 p.m., Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall. Speaker: Dr. Jonathan A.C. Brown, Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Chair of Islamic Civilization and director of the Alwaleed bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding at Georgetown University. — Maayan Keret, former international model and now author, will discuss media, technology, women, and the cultural and environmental factors that impact the female body image, 7 p.m., Memorial Field House Room 1140. — Spectrum Drag and Talent Show, 8 p.m., Rocky’s Attic.
- Saturday, April 8 — African People’s Association African Night, 6 p.m., Thompson Student Union Auditorium. Tickets are \$10 and \$15 for

VIP in advance; and \$15 at the door.

- Sunday, April 9 — Beyond the Afikomen: A Passover Survival Kit, Toledo Hillel House, 2012 Brookdale Drive, Toledo. Stop by for snacks.
- Monday, April 10 — Screening of “Gender Revolution: A Journey With Katie Couric,” 5 p.m., Memorial Field House Room 1050. A panel discussion will follow the film.
- Tuesday, April 11 — Asian American and Pacific Islander Tea Party, noon to 2 p.m., Thompson Student Union Trimble Lounge.
- Thursday, April 13 — Diversity Celebration, 8 p.m., Thompson Student Union Ingman Room.
- Friday, April 14 — Solo Success Workshop, “How to Thrive in the Academy When You’re the Only _____ in Your Department,” 9 a.m. to noon, Thompson Student Union Room 2592. Dr. Rosemarie Roberts of Connecticut University will facilitate the program. Check-in will begin at 8:30 a.m. with luncheon at noon. Register at utoledo.edu/diversity/events. — Shabbat Dinner, 5:30 p.m., Toledo Hillel House.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
2017
Diversity
MONTH

WE all SHOULD know That DIVERSITY makes for a rich taPestry, AND WE MUST understand That all the threads of the taPestry, are EQUAL in Value no Matter what Their color.
— Maya Angelou

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
Office of Multicultural Student Success

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OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

- Tuesday, April 18 — Asian American and Pacific Islander Film Screening, “Ip Man,” 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thompson Student Union Room 3018.
- Thursday, April 20 — Holi Toledo, UT’s fourth annual celebration of the Indian holiday Holi, 3 p.m., field south of Memorial Field House.
- Friday, April 21 — Shabbat 101, 5 p.m., Rocky’s Attic.

- Thursday, April 27 — Rock in the Red Zone, 7 p.m., Toledo Hillel House.
- Saturday, April 29 — Toledo Sister Cities International Festival, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Savage Arena. Admission: \$5 in advance, \$7 at the door. Info: toledosistercities.org.

For more information on these events, go to utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/omss.

IMPLICIT BIAS SERIES

Implicit bias refers to the unconscious attitudes we have about people that can lead to prejudice and discrimination. By learning about these biases and making the implicit explicit, we can change our attitudes and help create a more diverse and inclusive environment. Join us to hear more!

- THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2017 | 5 P.M.
Doermann Theater, Main Campus
Ari Meher, JD
Bias in a Post-Truth Era
- THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2017 | 4 P.M.
Howard L. Collier Building, room 1000B
Health Science Campus
Adil Haider, MD, MPH
Unconscious Bias and its Impact on the Patient-Clinician Relationship
- TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2017 | 5 P.M.
Thompson Student Union, room 2584, Main Campus
Leanne Son Hing, PhD
Discrimination, Subtle Bias and Inequalities in the Workplace: In the Name of Meritocracy
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2017 | 4 P.M.
Health Education Building, room 110
Health Science Campus
Quinn Capers IV, MD
Unconscious Racial Bias in Health Care and in Medical School Admission

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