

## UT gives 'Extreme' educational gift

By Matt Lockwood

**"I** don't even know what to say to you." Those were the words from a clearly emotional Jackie Frisch as Larry Burns, vice president for external affairs, was introduced at a news conference last week to announce The University of Toledo would provide her 11 boys with full tuition scholarships.

Many in Toledo have become familiar with the Frisch family's story following its selection for the ABC show "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition."

"We believe that our gift will not only serve this generation, but it is also the foundation for improving the quality of life for the next generation," Burns said.

Jackie and her husband, Aaron, a Toledo firefighter, have three biological children and have adopted five boys from an orphanage in Haiti and three more boys from here in Toledo.

Producers from the show approached the University about providing the gift a few weeks ago.

"I talked it over with Dr. [Lloyd] Jacobs and after about two minutes we decided to do it," Burns said. "We believe it was the right thing to do for a family that clearly values education and serving its community."

The gesture also should earn UT some national exposure when the episode is scheduled to air in November.

Burns and other UT administrators



Photo by Daniel Miller

**AT HOME:**The Frisch family posed for a photo with two local builders, left, who helped construct their new house for ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition."

were watching on monitors in a production trailer when Ty Pennington, the show's host, told the family about the scholarships.

"It was a very emotional scene that reaffirmed our decision," Burns said. "I'm not sure how they will edit the program, but it would be a great way to end it."

Two of the Frisch boys are 18 and at the news conference told Burns they would see him next year.

To take full advantage of the tuition scholarships, the Frisch boys will have to maintain a 3.0 grade point average at UT and file for available state and federal need-based funds.

The Frisch's ranch home in north Toledo was demolished and replaced with a more-than-4,000-square-foot, five-bedroom, five-bath home worth an estimated \$500,000.

## Retired Irish leader to visit University

By Jim Winkler

**E**arlier this year when Dr. Iognaid G. O'Muircheartaigh retired as president of the National University of Ireland in Galway, he vowed to continue to contribute to education.

He will do just that during a two-week stay in Toledo starting Wednesday, Sept. 24, as the University's third president emeritus in residence.

He will meet with trustees, senior administrators, faculty members, students and community groups.

O'Muircheartaigh was president of NUI for eight years, during which time



O'Muircheartaigh

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## Pharmacy College receives \$1 million gift for construction

By Charisse N. Montgomery

**T**he UT College of Pharmacy received a lead gift for its new building — a \$1 million donation from Discount Drug Mart Inc., an Ohio-owned and operated retail pharmacy.

The gift will provide \$200,000 in scholarship enhancements and build eight state-of-the-art laboratories for pharmacy students in the new 54,000-square-foot pharmacy building set to be completed on UT's Health Science Campus in 2010.

"Discount Drug Mart's generous gift will have a tremendous impact on pharmacy students and the future of pharmacy education in Ohio," said Dr. Johnnie L. Early II, dean of the College of Pharmacy.

"This contribution will help to enhance education and advance patient care at The

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Photo by Jack Meade

**PICNIC ON THE MALL:** Posing for a photo last week at the President's Backyard BBQ were, from left, seniors Lauren Miller, Linda Mierzwinski and Noelle Zalar. The event was held in conjunction with the opening celebration of the renovated Memorial Field House. See photos on page 4.

**Things you need to know ... p. 8**

# Director to read poem at Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

By Jon Strunk

Dr. Jim Ferris, Ability Center of Greater Toledo Endowed Chair in Disability Studies, will read his poem titled "Poems With Disabilities" Thursday, Sept. 25, at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.,

fessor of communication, said that while strides have been made over the last 50 years with the impetus generated from the disability rights movement, work done by disabled artists too often is viewed through



Ferris

Photo by Daniel Miller

as part of a larger event celebrating artistic accomplishment by people with disabilities.

"The arts are our highest expression of what it means to be human, and disability is a key part of what it means to be human," Ferris said. "Disability arts are part of the tapestry of human experience that has been left mostly unexplored."

Ferris, who directs the UT Disability Studies Program and is an associate pro-

the lens of pity rather than on its own terms.

The Kennedy Center event, which is presented by the disability arts organization VSA arts, may help to change that.

"It's important to dispel the mistaken idea that disability means incompetence," he said. "Crip artists are producing work that is as good if not better than anything else out there."

## Poems With Disabilities

By Dr. Jim Ferris

I'm sorry — this space is reserved for poems with disabilities. I know it's one of the best spaces in the book, but the Poems with Disabilities Act requires us to make all reasonable accommodations for poems that aren't normal. There is a nice space just a few pages over — in fact (don't tell anyone) I think it's better than this one, I myself prefer it. Actually I don't see any of those poems right now myself, but you never know when one might show up, so we have to keep this space open. You can't always tell just from looking at them, either. Sometimes they'll look just like a regular poem when they roll in — you're reading along and suddenly everything changes, the world tilts a little, angle of vision jumps, focus shifts. You remember your aunt died of cancer at just your age and maybe yesterday's twinge means something after all. Your sloppy, fragile heart beats a little faster and then you know. You just know. And the poem is right where it belongs.

## Irish leader

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he earned a reputation as an outstanding fundraiser, political liaison and consensus-builder among faculty and staff, and helped propel the 153-year-old university into one of the best in Europe, with world-class research centers in biomedical sciences and regenerative medicine, information technology and human rights, and state-of-the-art, student-centered teaching, research, sport and recreational facilities. And the university has earned a reputation as one of the best places in Ireland at which to be a student. He was a faculty member for 37 years at the 14,500-student university.

"I am extremely delighted that Dr. O'Muircheartaigh is visiting us," President Lloyd Jacobs said. "His insights into how a university relates to its surrounding region,

the role universities can play in the new knowledge-based economy, and how universities can become more student-centered are particularly relevant for faculty and staff at The University of Toledo."

Ireland, part of the European Union since 1972, now has one of the strongest economies in Europe, thanks to embracing the global economy, developing strong ties between business and education, and benefiting from an educated work force and links to top-notch universities.

UT's other presidents emeritus in residence were Drs. David Adamany, former Temple University president, and Dr. Carol Cartwright, longtime Kent State University president who is now Bowling Green State University interim president.

## Construction on UTMC heart center affects traffic patterns

By Kim Harvey

Construction on the Heart and Vascular Center at The University of Toledo Medical Center is altering traffic patterns on Health Science Campus.

As of Friday morning, traffic that usually enters through the west entrance near the emergency department was being re-routed to the east entrance. The emergency entrance will remain open during the projected six months of construction.

"The west entrance is heavily used by our patients and visitors, so traffic may be a bit congested at times," said Richard Sheets, project manager in the Physical Plant.

"We've posted yellow and blue signs that will direct traffic accordingly."

Construction of the Heart and Vascular Center will take place on the first floor of UTMC's northwest corner. "We're erecting a construction barrier between the patient registration area and the construction area to keep noise at a minimum," Sheets said. "But with any construction site, a certain amount of noise is to be expected."

The Heart and Vascular Center will be an \$8.5 million, 20,000-square-foot facility housing new cardiovascular labs, a cardiac rehabilitation clinic and physician offices.

## President emeritus headed to Zayed University in United Arab Emirates

By Jon Strunk

Dr. Daniel M. Johnson, UT president emeritus and Distinguished University Professor of Public Policy and Economic Development, has been selected as provost, chief operating officer and chief academic officer of Zayed University in the United Arab Emirates.

Zayed University was established in 1998 by the federal government of the United Arab Emirates as an English-medium university based on the U.S. educational model, with campuses in Abu Dhabi and Dubai led by a single administration.

Johnson will assume his new post in October after he and his wife, Elaine, move to the United Arab Emirates.

"Dr. Johnson will oversee the operations of the university, the academic programs, the campuses in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, the work of the deans, and ensure ZU's outstanding faculty are employing the best practices in our various programs," said Dr. Sulaiman Al Jassim, vice president of Zayed University. "His significant leadership experience will be a great asset in facilitating and maintaining a productive, professional environment that will maximize the learning opportunities for students."

Zayed University, which recently received initial accreditation from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, started the search for the new provost earlier this year.



Johnson

Johnson served as president of The University of Toledo from 2001 to 2006. During that time, he developed strong ties with the metropolitan region, increased funding for research, launched an effective capital campaign, laid the foundation for the UT Science and Technology Corridor, and initiated the successful merger between the University and the Medical University of Ohio to create the third

largest university in the state.

UT President Lloyd Jacobs said the loss to the University and northwest Ohio would be Zayed University's gain.

"Dan has been such a driving force for this University and for northwest Ohio; he leaves having helped create a tremendous foundation from which the University, the city and the region will build. Dan and Elaine will be greatly missed in the Toledo community, but I am excited for their new opportunity."

"Dubai and Abu Dhabi are among the most creative and dynamic cities in the world in a country that is strategically located between the East and the West," Johnson said. "I'm excited by the challenging mission of the university and the opportunity to help bring the best in U.S. higher education to this important region of the world."

He added, "I am deeply gratified by the confidence that has been placed in me by the leadership of UAE's Ministry of Higher Education and Research."

## College of Arts and Sciences roundtable participants named, interviewed

By Tobin J. Klinger

While the Learning Alliance is still approximately one month away from commencing the facilitated roundtable discussions regarding the College of Arts and Sciences, work is under way in preparation for what University leaders are calling a "transformative exercise" for the institution.

Dr. Rosemary Haggett, Main Campus provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, last week announced the names of 33 roundtable participants, includ-

ing faculty representatives from the College of Arts and Sciences and across campus, administrators, community members and a student. A list of members is available at [myut.utoledo.edu](http://myut.utoledo.edu).

According to Haggett, preliminary interviews with the participants are the first step of the process and have begun, as representatives from the Learning Alliance visited Sept. 15-17.

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## Dept. of Energy grant to help researchers create biofuels more efficiently

By Jon Strunk

Dr. Sasidhar Varanasi, professor of chemical engineering, and Dr. Patricia Relue, associate professor of bioengineering, are the recipients of a \$500,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to improve the efficiency of the production of ethanol from biomass to create more environmentally friendly fuels.

Using a multi-step process, Varanasi and Relue are creating the ethanol for biofuels out of poplar wood, switchgrass and corn stover, the leftover stalks and leaves that remain once the corn has been harvested.

"Unlike corn starch, biomass hydrolysis leads mainly to two different kinds of sugars: glucose and xylose," Varanasi explained. "Glucose is very easy to convert into ethanol simply by using native yeast. This grant is to further our work in developing a method to also convert xylose and generate more ethanol from the same amount of biomass."

Varanasi said he and Relue have

developed a catalyst that will allow the native yeast to ferment both sugars, which, depending on the biomass, will increase ethanol production by 30 percent or more.

"Others have tried genetically engineering yeast to enable it to convert both sugars; however, these engineered yeasts are patented and not widely available," Varanasi said. "Our process will allow us to use unmodified, native yeast."

Varanasi has been conducting biofuel research at UT for three years and has partnered with SuGanit Systems, a company housed in UT's Alternative Energy Incubator. Three different patents have been licensed to Suganet in that time.

"The efficiency of creating ethanol is key for cellulosic ethanol to be a cost-effective replacement for gasoline," Varanasi said, "and the research we're doing at UT is an important part of perfecting that efficiency."

## Pharmacy

*continued from p. 1*



Photo by Terry Fell

**CHECK IT OUT:** Announcing Discount Drug Mart's \$1 million gift last week were, from left, Diana Boodjeh-Burke, daughter of Parviz Boodjeh, founder, chairman and CEO of Discount Drug Mart; Tom McConnell, chief financial officer of Discount Drug Mart; and Dr. Johnnie Early, dean of the College of Pharmacy.

University of Toledo," President Lloyd Jacobs said. "Discount Drug Mart's support of medical research and training strengthens the University's impact on local health care and will foster greater synergy among the health science disciplines."

Comprised of 68 retail stores throughout Ohio, Discount Drug Mart ranks eighth in retail sales among retail drug store chains

nationwide. Parviz Boodjeh, founder, chairman and CEO of Discount Drug Mart, completed his bachelor of science degree in pharmacy at the University in 1954. In 1969, he founded Discount Drug Mart.

The College of Pharmacy has posted more than a 90 percent on-time graduation rate and a 100 percent placement rate for its graduates.

# English lecturer to hold book signing Sept. 25 at UT Bookstore

By Jacob Corkins

Dr. Deborah M. Coulter-Harris, lecturer in the UT Department of English, will read excerpts from her new books and sign copies Thursday, Sept. 25, at noon in the Student Union Bookstore on Main Campus.

*Stone Keeper, A Collection of Poetry and Plays* and *Writers Crossing Boundaries: Writing the Real World* are her first major collections of poetry and plays, and writing theory, respectively. *Stone Keeper* includes her play loosely based on the war in Iraq, "The Hanging Gardens of Babylon." Both books were published by Linus Publications Inc. in 2008.

In *Writers Crossing Boundaries: Writing the Real World*, Coulter-Harris has drawn upon a variety of professional experiences to create a logical process for teaching students research and analysis in writing.

The book details her personal development as a professional writer and how improving writing skills helped her throughout her career in the corporate world, the military, the media and in the CIA.

*Writers Crossing Boundaries* contains a 12-step pyramid designed by Coulter-Harris as a guide for research and analysis, with writing samples taken from her professional



Coulter-Harris and her new books

Photo by Daniel Miller

career. The book also includes a reader with writing prompts for use in the classroom.

"Young writers think there's only one way to write, but they don't realize that [writing] is used in more than just creative writing and basic research; it is used in literary and political analysis, business writing and journalism, in almost every career choice employment," Coulter-Harris said.

While waiting to find a publisher for

her books, Coulter-Harris was working in her office one day last April when the phone rang with good news.

"A publisher called me and the man asked, 'Do you have any books you want published?' I said, 'As a matter of fact, I have two,'" Coulter-Harris said.

She also received word that both books are being examined by the bookstore Barnes & Noble for possible nationwide distribution.

"When stuff like this happens, I don't question it, I just give it up to fate," Coulter-Harris said.

Works included in *Stone Keeper* are "The Hanging Gardens of Babylon"; "Charmed Like a Snake, I'm Sure," a fictional drama about the CIA during the 9/11 crisis; "Freed From the Plough and Other Innocent Tales"; and the "Dirt Road," her first poetry collection.

Coulter-Harris said "Charmed Like a Snake, I'm Sure" is "a traditional play about fictional characters and events between July and Christmas 2001 at the Central Intelligence Agency, when Dr. Mysteria tries to uncover the reason her superiors are editing out Osama Bin Laden's location from her reports. The mystery has a surprise ending, after which Dr. Mysteria is ordered to follow a dangerous mission."

Coulter-Harris also had published another poetry collection, "Dirt Road," while spending time in Dublin, Ireland, acting at the Abbey and Gates theatres with award-winning actor Gabriel Byrne, as well as

writing and performing on a weekly radio show for Ireland's national news RTÉ.

Completing her PhD in British literature with a minor in linguistics from UT in 1995, Coulter-Harris also has an MS in business and human relations from Abilene Christian University and received her BA in English from Fitchburg State College. She is an honors graduate in the Russian language from the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, Calif., and a graduate of the Career Analyst Program at the Sherman Kent School of Analysis at the CIA.

At UT, Coulter-Harris has coordinated the Shapiro Essay Revision Contest, as well as performed in UT theatre productions as Olive in "The Women of Lockerbie" in 2005 and as Lady Isabella Bird and Joyce in "Top Girls" in 2007.

She said that the University and the leadership in the English Department have been very inspiring. "The English Department here is just fantastic, and I love working here," Coulter-Harris said. "Dr. Sara Lundquist [associate professor and chair of English] exemplifies what a leader should be, and Dr. Barbara Schneider, director of the composition program, is also fabulous and has been most welcoming to me."

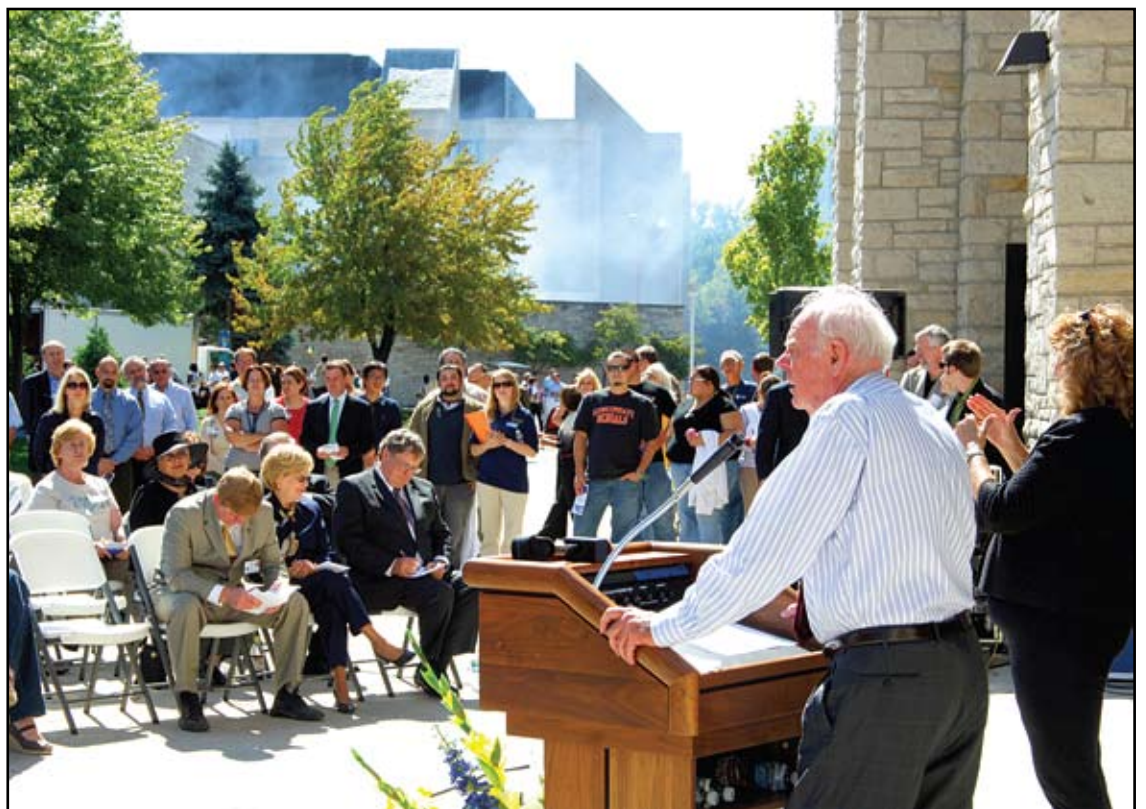
"I'm a writer, it's what I do," Coulter-Harris said, adding that she plans to write sequels to her play, "Charmed Like a Snake, I'm Sure," and a screenplay in hopes that they will be turned into a movie.

## HISTORIC RETURN:

The UT community celebrated the return of the Memorial Field House last week. Bob Nichols, former coach of the men's basketball team, spoke during the program, which included a balloon release and unfurling the American flag. Students, faculty and staff had a chance to check out the building's \$27 million, 145,000-square-foot renovation. The Field House will open for classes in January.



Photos by Jackie Meade



# Celebrate right to read at Banned Books Vigil Sept. 25 in Honors Program Student Lounge

By Shannon Wermer

“Closing Books Closes Possibilities” is this year’s theme for the 11th annual UT Banned Books Vigil, which will take place Thursday, Sept. 25, on The University of Toledo’s Main Campus.

UT faculty members, students and librarians, a local author and newspaper editor will give short presentations from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Honors Program Student Lounge in Sullivan Hall Room 2010.

“The theme of shutting off intellectual inquiry by denying access to books simply and powerfully reflects the purpose of the American Library Association’s Banned Books Week, which began in 1982,” said Dr. Paulette D. Kilmer, UT associate professor of communication.

“The ALA and dozens of other organizations have united to sponsor Banned Books Week to remind people that although most take it for granted, reading is the bedrock of democracy,” Kilmer said. “If we cannot read freely, we cannot think freely.”

In the fourth week of September every year, the American Library Association, the Book Sellers of America and hundreds of other sponsors of Banned Books Week have inspired citizens across the nation to plan events celebrating the power of books to change minds and make a difference.

“Our event is called a vigil because when we started we conducted a 24-hour read-a-thon at Thackeray’s Books,” Kilmer said. “Thackeray’s no longer exists, but the need to be vigilant, to be watchful, remains compelling. The battle for the First Amendment is never won.”

Topics and speakers for the daylong vigil will be:

- 9 a.m. — Welcome from Dr. James Benjamin, professor and chair of communication, and Dr. Marcia Suter, associate professor and director of library services;
- 9:30 a.m. — “Banned Poetry” by Dr. Sara Lundquist, associate professor and chair of English;
- 10 a.m. — “Nazi Germany” by Dr. Larry Wilcox, professor of history;
- 10:30 a.m. — “The Power of the Pen(Itentiary): Imprisoned Writers Around the World” by Dr. Mark Denham, associate professor of political science;
- 11 a.m. — “Anti-Intellectualism and the Ban” by Dr. Ben Pryor, associate professor and chair of philosophy and co-director of the Law and Social Thought Program;
- 11:30 a.m. — “Banned and Censored Rock ‘n’ Roll and the Ohio Connection” by



Photo by Terry Fell

Brian Hickam, assistant professor of general libraries;

- Noon — “We Are Strangers” by Warren Woodberry, Toledo author;
- 12:30 p.m. — “Banning Porn: Censorship or Emancipation?” by Dr. Renee Heberle, associate professor of political science;
- 1 p.m. — “Beyond 1984: Government Censorship, Distortion and Double Speak” by Dr. Carter Wilson, professor of political science;
- 1:30 p.m. — “And You Thought It Only Took Two to Tango: Banning Books for Homosexual Content?” by Dr. Sharon Barnes, associate professor of interdisciplinary studies;
- 2 p.m. — “Devils in America (Still): Arthur Miller’s *The Crucible*” by Dr. Glenn Sheldon, assistant professor of interdisciplinary and special programs;
- 2:30 p.m. — “Jeopardy!” to be hosted by Hickam;
- 3 p.m. — Keynote presentation, “John Steinbeck and the Vietnam War” by Dr. Tom Barden, director of the UT Honors Program and professor of English;
- 4 p.m. — Dr. K and the Independent Collegian Players present “Literary Indictment” with Josh Martin, managing editor, as the judge; Dave Hohanadel, editor, as the prosecutor; Kevin Galambos, director of photography; Jason Mack, sports editor; and Kilmer;

- 4:30 p.m. — “When Censorship Goes Soft: The Case of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn and the Publication of *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*” by Dr. Larry J. Connin, adviser for the Honors Program;
- 5 p.m. — “I’m With the Banned” by Michael S. Miller, editor of *The Toledo Free Press* and UT alumnus;
- 5:30 p.m. — “George Carlin — Dirty Words or Dirty Minds?” by Dr. Richard Knecht, professor of communication, and Dr. David Tucker, associate professor of communication.

Door prizes from UT offices and local merchants will be given every half hour, and light refreshments will be served.

Sponsors who contributed door prizes and food include Barry’s Bagels, Bassett’s Health Foods, Curb’s Candles, Dunkin’ Doughnuts, Glacity Theater Collective, People Called Women, the Westgate Rite Aid Pharmacy, The Toledo Free Press, UT Applied Organizational Technology, UT Career Services, UT Bookstore, UT-MCO Credit Union, UT Starbucks, and the UT Theatre and Film Department.

Hickam and Dr. Linda Smith, senior lecturer of the UT Honors Program, helped Kilmer coordinate the event.

For more information, contact Kilmer at 419.530.4672 or paulette.kilmer@utoledo.edu.

## More recycling to start on Health Science Campus

By Jacob Corkins

The University of Toledo Recycling Department has purchased a new vehicle and ordered more bins to expand the recycling efforts on Health Science Campus.

The improved recycling program on Health Science Campus is slated to begin Oct. 1 and will include bins for glass, aluminum and paper, just like on Main Campus.

A \$41,982 grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources made purchasing the new bins possible, along with a new recycling vehicle.

“The old truck had a lot of problems; the new one is a big improvement and nice to use,” said Jeremy Sterling, recycling and moving supervisor, who added the new vehicle is “road-worthy and reliable.”

Diana Ganues, director of environmental services, said the vehicle will be used for recycling pickup for both campuses, as well as helping to move items between offices.

As for the new containers, they soon will be placed on Health Science Campus and will be preceded by an advertising push to promote awareness about recycling and the location of the new receptacles, Ganues said.

The department also has made a commitment to promote recycling during football games; Ganues said placing and labeling recycling bins around the Glass Bowl will be a priority.

## Arts and Sciences

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“We are thrilled to have this effort under way,” Haggett said. “We are hopeful that these facilitated discussions can be a transformative exercise, not only for the college but for the whole University. The College of Arts and Sciences has an integral role in the education of all our students, regardless of major, and in the University meeting its mission. That means what’s good for Arts and Sciences is good for the University.”

The first facilitated roundtable discussion is set to occur Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 21 and 22.

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Don’t forget to bookmark UToday  
at [myut.utoledo.edu](http://myut.utoledo.edu).

# UT research suggests new way of programmed cell death

By Jim Winkler

A team of UT College of Medicine researchers has uncovered preliminary evidence of a new signaling pathway that controls cell death in a highly lethal form of brain tumor called glioblastoma that is very difficult to treat.

Their findings about the process, which they call methuosis, appeared in the June issue of a major cancer research journal, *Molecular Cancer Research*.

The joint lead authors of the paper are Dr. Jean Overmeyer, research associate professor of biochemistry and cancer biology, and Aparna Kaul, predoctoral student in the biomedical sciences graduate program. Dr. Erin E. Johnson, a 2005 PhD graduate of the former Medical College of Ohio who is now a fellow at the Harvard School of Public Health, and Dr. William A. Maltese, professor and chairman of biochemistry and cancer biology, are co-author and corresponding author, respectively.

Cells in the body die by the millions every day. The process, called apoptosis, is part of a genetic program that controls the body's natural defense against cancer; cells that accumulate irreparable genetic damage kill themselves off so they do not develop into tumors and to make room for new ones.

But sometimes the process gets out of whack. If too many cells die too soon, the result can be a neurodegenerative illness like Parkinson's or Alzheimer's diseases. If cells with mutations live too long, they can become malignant cancer cells.

One way to treat cancer is to reactivate the apoptosis death program. This is typically done with radiation or chemotherapy.

However, some tumors like glioblastoma carry genetic mutations that make them very resistant to apoptosis, which has prompted researchers to search for different death pathways that might be exploited, leading to the identification of alternative death programs like necrosis and autophagy.

The new studies by the UT team indicate that methuosis may be still another unique process by which cells die.

It appears that methuosis starts with a signal transmitted by the active form of the Ras oncoprotein, a cancer gene. Normally active Ras stimulates cell growth, but in glioblastoma it does the opposite, causing cell death. Signaling events downstream from Ras, which the researchers are working to define, trigger the formation of macropinosomes, which are large vesicles that carry extracellular fluid into the cell via a process called macropinocytosis. As long as the Ras signal continues to be transmitted, the macropinosomes accumulate and become progressively larger and eventually fill up the entire cell, causing the cell to rup-



Photo by Jack Meade

Aparna Kaul, left, Dr. William A. Maltese and Dr. Jean Overmeyer posed for a photo in front of a poster that outlines their research findings.

ture and disintegrate. This is very different from the process of apoptosis, where the cell shrinks.

The UT scientists have not studied the process in animals, so they don't know what would be the fate of the cell fragments. Most likely, they would be engulfed by macrophages and other inflammatory cells, similar to what happens to apoptotic cells, a process called phagocytosis.

"The cancer cells basically drink themselves to death by internalizing fluid," Maltese explained. "Macropinocytosis, sometimes called 'cell drinking,' has a normal function in cells of the immune system, where this process is used to sample antigens in the environment. In the case of the glioblastoma cells, macropinocytosis has not been previously described as a normal process. For some reason that we don't yet understand, activated forms of the Ras protein can trigger this process in an extreme way, ultimately resulting in the death of the tumor cell. Hence, the name methuosis, which means 'the process of drinking to intoxication.'"

Identifying and regulating signaling pathways of cell death may lead to new discoveries and more targeted cancer therapies, according to Maltese.

"Our study raises the possibility that if we can understand the signals that trigger this new form of cell death, we may uncover new molecular targets for therapy of these devastating tumors, which are hard to treat because they are resistant to drugs that cause cell death by apoptosis."

The research was supported by a four-year grant that Maltese received last sum-

mer from the National Cancer Institute.

"All of our experiments have been done in cultured cells," Maltese noted. "Therefore, we must be cautious not to overstate the significance of our results until we can replicate these findings in an animal model. Even then, we must identify small molecules that can mimic the effects of



This cover image was taken in the UT Advanced Microscopy and Imaging Center on Health Science Campus.

Ras, before a therapy based on stimulating methuosis will be practical."

The image selected by the journal for its June cover is a picture of a cell undergoing methuosis taken with the multiphoton confocal microscope in the UT Advanced Microscopy and Imaging Center on Health Science Campus.



#### OFFICIAL DEDICATION:

Jennifer Rockwood, director of the First-Year Experience Program, spoke last week at the official unveiling of the diversity mural, "Recovering Hidden Pasts: Public Portraiture," in Rocket Hall on Main Campus. She was chair of the committee that was charged with making the mural a reality. UT alumnus Andrew Maurer designed the mural, which reflects the University's mission statement to emphasize "human diversity, respect for individuals and freedom of expression."

Photo by Daniel Miller

## UT student accepted to four juried art shows

By Jacob Corkins

As a young artist, it is hard to be accepted into a juried art show, but the talent of Helen Grubb, University of Toledo student majoring in printmaking with a minor in drawing, has turned more than a few heads.

This summer, Grubb decided on a whim to apply to numerous art shows, not really expecting to hear anything. But she was surprised when she was accepted into four of them.

"I was kind of shocked and very happy," said Grubb, who will have four separate pieces in art shows at the Hoyt Mid-Atlantic Juried Exhibition 2008, New Castle, Pa.; Simply Drawn: An Exhibition of Monochromatic Drawings, Kennesaw, Ga.; 2008 Juried All-Media Exhibition, Palos Verdes, Calif.; and the 73rd Annual National Juried Art Exhibition, Cooperstown, N.Y.

With a background in printmaking, drawing and painting, Grubb chose to practice monotype, a combination of the three that seems to create a unique impression on both paper and its admirers.

The blend of abstract colors, patterns from print and sketching molds the paintings into beautiful insights of human emotion. The distinct style allows Grubb to fully express the complexity of light and control.

"My artwork deals a lot with the ideas of order and control. It's a constant struggle or balancing act. I'm intrigued by messes; they're uncontrolled and a person's mess shows a lot about them," Grubb said.

She added that it was in part being at UT that allowed her talent to flourish. "Working



Photo by Daniel Miller

**ART ZONE:** Helen Grubb posed for a photo in her work area at the Center for the Visual Arts.

at the Center for the Visual Arts is important because it's small; the individual attention I received helped me grow as an artist."

Grubb also has worked as a medical illustrator for her father, Dr. Blair P. Grubb, professor of medicine and director of the

Electrophysiology Program at UT Medical Center. She said drawing anatomy is completely different from her usual work in that it is so structured and needs to be precise.

In order to be successful as an artist, she said, you need to put your work out to be

juried. "Art isn't the easiest career field to get into; you need to be able to work hard and have a lot of self-motivation."

Grubb is looking to apply to graduate schools while working on her next body of work and graduation in spring.



Photo by Daniel Miller

**LET IT RAIN:** Dr. Patrick J. Lawrence, associate professor of geography and planning, talked about UT's new quick-draining, native vegetation demonstration rain garden during a dedication ceremony last week. Located between Parking Lot 10 north of the Glass Bowl and the Ottawa River on Main Campus, the garden will collect and filter storm water runoff from a 30,000-square-foot area and help prevent it from draining directly into the river, Lawrence said.

## 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](mailto: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.

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Read UT news at [www.utnews.utoledo.edu](http://www.utnews.utoledo.edu) and [myut.utoledo.edu](http://myut.utoledo.edu).

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## Things you need to know ...

Below are some important facts that may impact your work life at The University of Toledo. Visit [myUT.utoledo.edu](http://myUT.utoledo.edu) for additional details.

- Open enrollment for health-care benefits will begin Wednesday, Oct. 15. Human Resources will be mailing appropriate forms to your home.
- If you have moved during the last year, you need to make sure that your current address is on file with Human Resources. Updates can be made at [myUT.utoledo.edu](http://myUT.utoledo.edu) by clicking "self-service."
- Informational sessions regarding health-care benefits are being scheduled. Look for details in UT News and UToday.

## Race to benefit Victory Center

The Student Academy of the American Academy of Physician Assistants (SAAAPA) at UT and practicing northwest Ohio physician assistants are sponsoring the Second Annual Race for Victory — 5K run/3K walk Saturday, Oct. 4, at 10 a.m. at Swan Creek Preserve Metropark.

This is one of many events UT students are planning for National Physician Assistants Week, Oct. 6-12, to help raise awareness of the physician assistant profession. SAAAPA member Kim Hebler is the event chair and is being assisted by committee chairs Betsy Szykowski, Maggi Bulla, Eric Romp and Laurie Lynch.

Hebler said all net proceeds from the event will benefit the Victory Center, a local organization that supports and educates cancer patients and their families by providing programs and services in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan. Programs and services include massage therapy, healing touch, yoga classes and support groups. Cancer patients and their families are able to participate in and benefit from these

programs at no cost as a result of individual donations, grants and fundraising events.

"SAAAPA is looking to surpass the success of last year's race with many more participants and is anticipating generous donations to such a valuable organization in our community," Hebler said.

Last year, more than 100 people participated in the Race for Victory, which raised \$2,500, she said.

Pre-registration for the Race for Victory is available online at the UT-SAAAPA Web site at [http://hsc.utoledo.edu/depts/stuaff/stulif/saaapa/2008race\\_for\\_victory](http://hsc.utoledo.edu/depts/stuaff/stulif/saaapa/2008race_for_victory) until Oct. 2. Monetary donations also will be accepted online and on race day.

Local businesses have donated prizes and gift certificates that will be awarded to the overall race winner and winners from each age/gender group. In addition, door prizes will be given away during the awards ceremony.

For more information, contact Hebler at 508.922.8064.

## In memoriam

**Julia Brooks LaRue Orwig**, Ottawa Hills, who served on the board of the former MUO Foundation from 1999 to 2007 and the UT Foundation for another year, died Sept. 13 at age 57.

**William F. Prebe**, Sylvania, who taught business economics at UT for many years, later as an associate professor; died Sept. 12 at age 86. In 1971, he was the Edwin R. Hodge graduate lecture speaker in the College of Business Administration. A longtime employee of Dana Corp., where he was promoted to economist in 1969, he also taught international business at BGSU. He earned his bachelor of business administration degree from UT in 1949 and did graduate work in marketing as well as attended the UT College of Law.



## THE MOTOR CITY MEETS THE GLASS CITY

Live Broadcast at  
The University of Toledo  
**Paul W. Smith Show**  
From Detroit's WJR 760 AM  
**Friday, October 3**  
6-9 a.m.  
Memorial Field House



The early bird gets the worm. So get up early for this event and join us in a special location — the newly renovated Memorial Field House — for some entertainment, special guests, giveaways and free breakfast as the Motor City meets the Glass City.



## ROCK-IT BACK TO UT FOR HOMECOMING

Several events are planned to psyche up for Toledo's football game against Ball State Saturday, Oct. 4.

Look in next week's issue of UT News for more information.