

Tower Talk

Barbara Floyd, editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am honored to serve as president of the University of Toledo Retirees Association and am especially delighted to lead the organization as we celebrate its 25th Anniversary. UTRA held its first official meeting on April 17, 1995, electing Jim Brunner as President. It was chartered under the auspices of the UToledo Alumni Association to "better facilitate communications between the University and its retirees and to promote programs benefitting its members." What a marvelous community it has become, now bringing together faculty and staff from both the University of Toledo and the former Medical College of Ohio.

What is most impressive to me about the organization is the number of activities and opportunities we offer to expand our minds, extend our friendships, and continue our lifelong journey of learning. One of the goals I have for my term as president is to create a chart, a calendar, and hopefully a link on the UTAA webpage that lists all the activities under the UTRA umbrella.

We have groups that meet regularly for meals, for bridge and card games, and to discuss books. We have monthly group programs, which this fall include a wine tasting at the new Center for Alumni and Donor Engagement.

At the holidays UTRA members will gather to celebrate the December season with a wonderful brunch at Heather Downs Country Club, and in June we will hold our annual luncheon meeting at Belmont Country Club. All are welcome to any and all activities, and by increasing



awareness of all these opportunities, I hope UTRA experiences significant growth in membership. I am also proud that even in retirement, UTRA members continue to support scholarships for students across both the Bancroft and the Health Science campuses. This year, we offered over \$8,000 in

student support. The source of the funding comes from UTRA members' gifts and a highly popular shoe sale on the Health Science campus.

In closing, I would be remiss if I did not recognize the leadership of Donna Haar as UTRA President these past two years. Her example of leadership while facing significant health challenges and personal loss clearly define her strength of character. Thank you Donna for maintaining that vision that began 25 years ago. I hope to see you at one of our upcoming functions!

Go Rockets!

Sincerely,

Curt Black
UTRA President

PRESIDENT GABER PROVIDES UPDATE TO RETIREES



President Sharon Gaber addresses UTRA members at June meeting.

By Barbara Floyd

University of Toledo President Sharon L. Gaber told the UTRA annual meeting attendees that the University is making great strides in achieving the goals and objectives of its strategic plan, and is moving faster than expected on many fronts.

At the annual meeting

lunch on June 12, the president informed members on upticks in national rankings for some UToledo programs, improvements in GPAs for entering freshmen, increases in faculty research awards, and achievements by UToledo sports teams.

"Two years ago, we

Continued on Page 6

UTRA MEMBERS CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR COMMUNITY

Editor's note: In the last issue, I asked UTRA members who are contributing to our community in unique ways to tell us about their work. Our first article is by Andy Jorgensen, a new member-at-large of UTRA's board. If you would like to tell us about how you continue after retirement to make a difference, please contact me at barbara.floyd@utoledo.edu.

Presenting Facts About Global Climate Disruption

By Andy Jorgensen

The birth of my first grandchild in February 2008 caused me to focus my interest in environmental chemistry on the problem of climate change. The challenges which she and others of her generation will face as they live in a warmer, wetter, and more disrupted world helped me to decide to use a sabbatical leave to educate people about how to understand and respond to climate change.

Reports about climate change and its effects are reported in the media almost daily. One difficulty with discussing climate change is that despite reliable data, it is difficult for the general public to place that information in context. What does it mean that almost 40 billion tons of carbon dioxide are released by humans each year, an amount which has been increasing

for decades? A major component of my efforts was to create educational materials that connect the data at a personal level so the public could understand the facts and respond meaningfully.

In my lectures on the topic, I use various means to make climate comprehensible. One method is to compare recent world temperature increases to a child with a fever. A two degree increase in temperature is similar to a child's fever in that it could become serious if left untreated.

Another tactic is to relate greenhouse gas emissions to individuals in various countries rather than worldwide. For example, although China has greater total emissions than the U.S., after accounting for its population, our emissions per person are far greater than any other major country.

Using another personal connection, I chart the large increases in atmospheric carbon dioxide over the lifetime of my family members. As a final note I describe the predicted effects in temperature and sea level, which we expect to see in the year 2100, within the lifetimes of our grandchildren.

These are my motivations and methods for educating the public about a problem that is already serious and potentially catastrophic.

Since 2009, I have given over 200 presentations to classes, teachers, professional organizations, and religious groups. I estimate the number of people exceeds 10,000.

In recent years I have used "clickers" to gauge the audience's views before and after my talk. I believe facts can change minds if presented understandably and with sources. For the over 5,000 listeners who used clickers, about one-sixth changed their mind during the talk to indicate that climate change was a "major issue," bringing the total number indicating this view to over 75 percent.

About 75 percent (4,000 individuals) also indicated they would commit to change their behavior in order to reduce their impact.

Because facts can clearly make a difference, I am committed to speaking to as many groups as possible about the severity of the problems which face us if significant changes are not made in the near future. I close my talks with photos of my now two grandchildren and a reminder that they – and other young people – are counting on our action.

I would be happy to speak to any groups to which UTRA members belong. You can contact me at andy.jorgensen@utoledo.edu, or 419-344-0768.



Andy Jorgensen speaks on global climate disruption.

NEWS FROM COLUMBUS

James Lapp, Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees Representative

At its June meeting, the STRS Board approved health care premiums for 2020 along with several plan design changes. The approved premiums reflect favorable claims experience, which will result in 92 percent of enrollees having premiums equal to or less than their current premiums. Others will see only slight increases. This is the fifth year in a row that premiums for the Aetna Medicare Plan – the plan with the highest number of STRS enrollees – have not increased. A complete list of premiums is posted on the STRS website (strsoh.org). Other changes approved for 2020 include: extending the Medicare Part B partial reimbursement of \$29.90 per month for one year; increasing the prescription drug maximum out-of-pocket limit to \$6,350 (from \$5,100) for the Medicare plans; modifying specialty drug coinsurance for Medicare enrollees; adding a 24-hour nurse hotline to the Medical Mutual Basic Plan for non-Medicare enrollees; and requiring that all transplants be performed at Organ Transplant Centers for Excellence (which are at Ohio State and the Cleveland Clinic).

STRS reported a total investment return for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 of 7.13 percent, down from a return of 9.57 percent in fiscal 2018 and 14.29 percent in fiscal 2017. The 2019 return was slightly below the assumed rate of return of 7.45 percent. Total investment assets increased by \$1.1 billion during fiscal 2019 and ended at approximately \$78.9 billion.

As with all pension funds, STRS continues to be challenged by changing demographic and economic factors. The ratio of active members to beneficiaries has dropped to about 1.1 to 1, compared to twenty years ago when the ratio of active members to beneficiaries was 1.8 to 1. The pronounced growth in the number of benefit recipients means STRS has a negative cash flow (the system needs to earn nearly 6 percent on investment returns each year to make up this difference.) The economic environment has reduced risk-free rates of return over the past 20-30 years, so investments must take greater risk. The current investment asset mix is 35 percent in real estate, 30 percent in domestic

equities, 17 percent in non-U.S. equities, and 7 percent each in fixed income and alternatives. There are 115 members on the STRS investment team, including 90 investors. Seventy percent of its assets are managed internally, the other 30 percent are managed externally. The externally managed assets would include investments in such things as high yield bonds, emerging markets debt, and private equity – areas that need a lot of specialized knowledge and research where it would not be cost effective to manage internally.

At its April meeting, the OPERS Board approved new asset allocation targets for the Defined Benefit (DB) plan. Those targets include 40 percent in public stocks, 25 percent for bonds, 30 percent for alternatives (which include real estate, hedge funds and private equity), and 5 percent for risk parity. This new allocation reduces hedge funds from 8 percent to 5 percent, eliminates the investment class called global tactical assets, increases private equity and U.S. treasuries by 2 percent, and the non-U.S. equity sub-asset class will grow by 1 percentage point. First quarter investment performance was up. The Health Care Fund was up 9 percent, giving it a 5.1 percent annual return over the last five years. The DB plan returned 7.1 percent net of fees and is ranked in the 12th percentile compared with peers over the past five years. To calculate its unfunded liabilities, remember that OPERS is using 7.2 percent as its assumed rate of return. So, while a return of 7.1 seems good, it is actually a negative return when it comes to unfunded liabilities, which have increased to 27 years, not very far below the state-mandated 30-year period. I think it is also interesting to note that OPERS is paying benefits based on life expectancies from the 1940s for most current retirees, even though life expectancy has increased by about 18 years.

In May, the OPERS Board approved the 2020 plan for health care. The Board's decisions related to out-of-pocket expenses and subsidies for pre-Medicare retirees. Participants in the OPERS pre-Medicare and Medicare Secondary health plan are expected to see increases in medical and prescription

drug deductibles. Total cost amounts will be limited by the annual maximum out-of-pocket limit as defined by the Affordable Care Act. The base allowance for Connector participants will remain at \$450. OPERS will send out the complete plan design prior to the 2020 open enrollment period. The Board's goal is to continue providing health care coverage to retirees. But with rising health care costs and predictions of lower investment growth over the next two decades, and with no new funding for health care, it is clear that action must be taken to reduce costs. The trustees have indicated a preference to move those on OPERS-sponsored pre-Medicare coverage to an open-market structure with a \$600 base monthly allowance that retirees could use toward the cost of their individual plan. Should a decision be made to go in this direction, it would not occur until January 1, 2022 at the earliest. If OPERS goes this way, a vendor would be selected to assist members with choosing a plan on the open market.

Based on the Consumer Price Index, OPERS members who retired on or after January 7, 2013, will be receiving a cost-of-living adjustment of 1.4 percent in 2020. Those members who retired before that date will continue to receive a 3 percent COLA.

In early summer OPERS released its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFP) for the year ended December 13, 2018. Some of the facts in this report:

- OPERS had a net position of \$94.1 billion at the end of 2018.
- The system's funded status at year-end was 78 percent.
- Health care expenses in 2018 were \$0.9 billion, down from \$1.0 billion a year earlier.
- The OPERS defined benefit investment portfolio returned a loss of 2.99 percent for the year; the health care portfolio lost 5.76 percent; the defined contribution portfolio had a loss of 6.65 percent.
- In 2018, member and employer contributions in all pension plans totaled \$3.5 billion.
- Of the 303,920 active members in the system, 94 percent have chosen the

Continued on Page 8

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The results of the 2019-2020 election are in. Meet our new representatives:

Curt Black, president. Curt is an emeritus professor in the College of Pharmacy and served as a department chair and associate dean in the college. He was also the co-chair of the Faculty-Staff component of the UT40 capital campaign in the mid-1990s. During his time at UToledo, he received the Outstanding Teacher Award and served on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, and the boards of the Toledo Campus Ministry, Sigma Xi, and the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.

Chris Spengler, vice president. After 40 years as a UToledo employee, Chris retired in 2017 as director of Advancement Relations. Chris also served for 20 years as executive secretary to four University presidents. She has been active in many organizations over the years and is currently serving as the treasurer of Women & Philanthropy. She is a past state president of the Association of Administrative Professionals and has served on numerous association boards in various officer roles during her career.

Carol Okenka, secretary. Carol retired from the Health Science campus where she was a radiologic technologist with

certifications in radiography and MRIs. She has been active with the MCO Retiree group and UTRA since the merger. For the past nine years, Carol has overseen the shoe sale scholarship fundraiser, and she serves on the board of the UTMC Satellites Auxiliary.

Cecelia Clarke, member at large. Since retiring from the College of Pharmacy in 2001, Cecelia became a life member of UTRA. She served on the UTRA Steering Committee in 2002-2004 and helped to establish the UTRA Scholarship. Since 2012 she has volunteered in the Alumni Office and maintains UTRA membership records. In 2013 she received The University of Toledo Alumni Association Volunteer of the Year Award.

Andy Jorgensen, member at large. Andy retired as professor emeritus from UToledo in 2017 after 29 years as a faculty member in the Department of Chemistry and an administrator in Academic Affairs. The issue of his interest for much of his recent research is climate change. He worked on the topic for several groups in Washington D.C. during sabbaticals, and he has given many presentations on the topic. He received the Outstanding Teacher Award and Edith Rathbun Award

during his career.

Pat Russell, member at large. Pat retired from the American Language Institute in 2009 where she taught international students English as a Second Language. During her 32 years at UToledo, she represented the University in numerous presentations at international, national, regional, and district organizations, including ESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) and NAFSA (National Association of Foreign Student Affairs). She is an active participant in UTRA and the UToledo Alumni Association, and co-chairs UTRA's program committee.

Thea Sawicki, member at large. Thea joined the faculty in the Department of Microbiology at MCO in 1977 and served as an associate dean and vice-chancellor for graduate studies before becoming vice-provost for university accreditation, program review and health science affairs.

At retirement, she was appointed professor emerita. Thea is active in community volunteering, including in Women & Philanthropy, on the health science campus and with the Salvation Army.

UToledo Retirees Association Executive Board 2019-2020

Officers

Curtis Black
President
419-536-1438
curt.black@hotmail.com

Chris Spengler
Vice President
419-351-9936
chris.spengler@utoledo.edu

Carol Okenka
Secretary
419-893-5840
cbokenka@sbcglobal.net

Brenda McKinley
Treasurer
UTRA Scholarship Chair
419-215-5087
brenda.mckinley@utoledo.edu

Members-At-Large

Barbara Floyd
Historian
Tower Talk Newsletter Editor
419-536-9747
barbara.floyd@utoledo.edu

Cecelia Clarke
419-350-8446
ctclarke@aol.com

Andy Jorgensen
419-344-0768
andy.jorgensen@utoledo.edu

Pat Russell
Program Committee Co-chair
419-882-3980
patyatesrussell@bex.net

Dorothea Sawicki
419-531-2439
dorothea.sawicki@utoledo.edu

Additional Board Members

Augusta Askari
Past President
419-531-7559
aaskari@bex.net

Donna Haar
Immediate Past President
419-843-6791
dhaar67@gmail.com

James Lapp

Past President
OCHER Committee Chair
419-841-2107
jlapp@bex.net

George Murnen
Past President
419-536-7965
gmurnen@bex.net

Shirley Joseph
Program Committee Co-chair
shirley.joseph@utoledo.edu
419-536-3166

Pamula Pullella
Past President
419-882-1018
emerald@bex.net

Kathleen Sbrocchi
Membership Committee Chair
419-471-1142
ksbrocchi@yahoo.com

Keith Schlender
Past President
HSC Scholarship Committee
Chair
419-865-1331

keith.schlender@utoledo.edu

Judith Wilkinson
Nominating Committee Chair
Benefits Committee Chair
419-882-5707
judith.wilkinson@utoledo.edu

Alumni Office Liaisons

Daniel Saevig
Associate Vice President for
Alumni and
Annual Engagement
419-530-4008
daniel.saevig@utoledo.edu

Shirley Grzecki
Event Coordinator
419-530-2604
shirley.grzecki@utoledo.edu

William Pierce
Senior Director of Alumni
Engagement
Division of Advancement
william.pierce@utoledo.edu
419-530-5350

UTRA SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

Brenda McKinley, Chair

The UTRA Scholarship Committee asks for your help to make University of Toledo-enrolled descendants aware of our scholarships and encourage them to apply during the online application period for the 2020/2021 academic year.

It is vital that UTRA members act as messengers about the scholarship availability. The UTRA scholarship criteria are: students must be full-time, second semester freshman, sophomores, juniors or seniors majoring in any academic discipline; students must be direct descendants of UToledo faculty/staff retirees who are dues-paying members of UTRA or direct descendants of deceased retirees who were active members at the time of their death; students must have a minimum 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 grading system; and they must demonstrate satisfactory performance in campus and/or community activities.

Watch for more information in the future on when the scholarship applications will be accepted online.

For the 2019/2020 academic year, the committee selected two exceptional students to each receive a \$1,000 UTRA scholarship: Isabel Abu-Absi and Benjamin Mihaly.

Isabel Abu-Absi is a UTRA scholarship recipient for the second time. She is a senior and plans to graduate in Fall 2019. Isabel is an English major with a double minor in Arabic and Peace and Justice Studies. She

has been active in the International Students Association from 2016 to the present time, serving as its secretary in 2016-2017, and a counselor and coordinator of the International Youth Academy in the Summer 2017.

She has been a President's List student since Spring 2018, a Shapiro Writing Contest award winner, and a Conrad Award winner (which rewards the craft of good writing). She has had the privilege to study abroad at the University of Ghana in Accra.

As the result of the influence her teachers have had on her life, she plans to teach and help young people appreciate and get excited about all that language and literature can do.

Benjamin Mihaly is a first-time UTRA scholarship recipient. He is a sophomore in the 2019/2020 academic year and is pursuing a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Throughout high school, he was active on the robotics team, and in November 2017, as the leader, he helped his team win first prize in the regional BEST Robotics Competition.

Benjamin has taken the interest generated by an alternative energy class and turned it into extracurricular activity.

He participates in the Building Ohio's Sustainable Energy Future scholarship program and has done research about sustainable energy that was presented to the Ohio Congress at the Choose Ohio First conference in

mid-February. He has a passion for the German language and has been studying it for nine years with the goal of becoming fluent. After graduation, he sees himself working in the automotive industry, perhaps for Rolls-Royce in Germany.

Congratulations to these two 2019/2020 scholarship recipients, and UTRA wishes them a productive and inspiring academic year.

We would like to be able to assist additional deserving young scholars, and one way to do so is to increase contributions to the UTRA scholarship endowment fund. If you did not give to the UTRA scholarship fund during the Day of Giving in October, please consider contributing before the year's end.

Remember that a scholarship can help a student meet financial needs and give them opportunities that they otherwise may not have. Your donation can make a difference!

The committee chair also would like to thank the committee members who offer their valuable advice and insights.

Current committee members are Jim Lapp, Keith Schlender, and Samir Abu-Absi. The UTRA Scholarship Committee is also supported by the great team of professionals in the Office of Alumni Engagement. Thanks to all, and GO ROCKETS!

HSC SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Keith Schlender, Chair

This past academic year the Health Science Scholarship Fund was able to award \$1,500 scholarships to students in each of the four HSC colleges. The recipients in the College of Graduate Studies, College of Medicine and Life Sciences, College of Nursing, and the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences were featured in the Spring 2019 issue of Tower Talk.

The scholarships are funded by income from our endowment, contributions from health science campus retirees, and the hos-

pital cafeteria shoe sale fundraisers.

In August we completed another very successful sale, and thanks to the many volunteers who kept the sale open for more than 40 continuous hours, our endowment is now \$60,000.

The Scholarship Committee is pleased that for the 2019-2020 academic year we will again be able to award scholarships to doctoral or master's students in each of the four HSC colleges.

PRESIDENT GABER SPEAKS AT UTRA ANNUAL MEETING

Continued from Page 1

put together a strategic plan," President Gaber said, "and we update the plan every year. We continue to work on reputation and rankings." She noted a few programs that had greatly increased their spot in the important *U.S. News and World Report* rankings, particularly the master's degree program in nursing, which jumped up 48 spots from last year. She also noted that the UToledo College of Law moved up 11 spots in the rankings, and the incoming class of freshmen entering the University has an all-time average high GPA of 3.45.

"Students who could go anywhere are going to UToledo," she added. The University also has improved its six-year graduation rate from 41 percent four years ago to over 50 percent. "We have already achieved goals that were not expected to be met for three years from now," Gaber said.

Gaber also touted the success of several of UToledo's sports teams, including the softball team that recently won the MAC tournament and was in the NCAA championships. She also noted that student athletes had an average GPA this spring of 3.3, the highest ever, showing that student athletes are also

strong academically.

In addition to the achievements of students, Gaber noted that faculty research awards have increased 21 percent, with the total amount of research awards received by faculty at \$47 million. Faculty researcher articles are featured in publications worldwide, another point of pride for the institution.

The University is also contributing in significant ways to the community, most recently by hosting a summit on the opioid crisis that was attended by more than 300 people. The focus of the event was on what can be done to assist those who are suffering from addiction.

The president ended her remarks by urging retirees to think about how each of them can attract new students to the University, asking that UTRA members take the message that the University of Toledo is "a beautiful place, with much going on. This alumni association affiliate is very important—UTRA is the best affiliate to tell the University's story," Gaber added.

Judith Wilkinson, chair of UTRA's nominating committee, announced the results of this year's officer elections. Curt Black is the new president; Chris Spengler, vice president; Carol Okenka, secretary;



Dr. Sharon L. Gaber, President of UToledo, applauds Curt Black for his remarks.

and Brenda McKinley, treasurer. New board members elected are Dorothea Sawicki, Andy Jorgensen, Cecelia Clarke, and Pat Russell.

In his remarks, incoming president Curt Black made note that next April is the 25th anniversary of UTRA. He said that as president, he is "standing on the shoulders of people who made real contributions to the University" and he will "strive to maintain this high level of success in his term."

Some 61 UTRA members and guests attended the annual lunch, held at the Belmont Country Club in Perrysburg.



UTRA Executive Board members pose with President Sharon L. Gaber at the group's Annual Meeting.

UTRA MEMBERS ENJOY BUS TRIP TO THE 'WINDY CITY'



From August 5-9, UTRA members and their guests took a bus trip to Chicago. The trip included lodging and food, visits to the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry and Navy Pier, and a cruise along Lake Michigan. Photos show the group outside their bus and the space exploration exhibit at the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry. Immediate Past President Donna Haar (at left) is shown at the museum pointing at a photo of her second cousin, Gene Kranz, who was the director of NASA's Apollo missions.



VISIT TO MAUMEE VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



UTRA members visited the Maumee Valley Historical Society on May 16, where curator and historical garment expert Kathy Dowd presented a lecture on 19th-century clothing. In particular, the talk focused on the garments women in the late 1800s wore under their often-elaborate dresses.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Kathy Sbrocchi, Chair

The Membership Committee would like to welcome all recent and new retirees from both the Main and Health Science campuses. UTRA offers several opportunities throughout the year to interact with former fellow retirees and to meet new friends.

A few benefits of being a member include: educational programs and trips,

discounts to athletics, invitations to art and other events on campus, and discounted membership to UToledo's rec centers. If for some reason you are not receiving our emails announcing current events please verify your email with the Alumni office.

If you know a retiree who did not receive a complimentary first year

membership or you have a question regarding the status of your membership, please contact the Alumni office at 419-530-2586. UTRA membership fees are \$20 per year or \$200 for a lifetime membership.

If you are interested in serving on one of our committees please contact Kathy Sbrocchi at ksbrocchi@yahoo.com.

WELCOME NEW RETIREES AND LIFETIME MEMBERS

NEW RETIREES:

Dr. Abdollah Afjeh
Dr. Mansoor Alam
Terrell Allen
Dianne Anaya
Dr. Dalynn Badenhop
Shirley Baker
Dr. Carlos Baptista
Dr. Jamie Barlowe
Mary Barnt
Nancy Bartaldo
Michelle Bartkowiak
Christine Bauer
Miriam Beckerman
Dr. MaryAnn Bell
Teresa Bettinger
Linda Bilby
Toni Blochowski
Sherry Blosser
Lisa Brackett
Carolyn Brandt
Candy Browne
Glenn Burch
Dr. Pannee Burckel
Lynette Burner
Michael Caruso
Rita Catchings
Dianne Chambless
Lynne Chapman
W. Douglas Coleman

Debra Cooper
Candace Couturier
Lynne Demko
Freddie Douglas
Nanette Drew
Amy Dugan
Dawn Durivage
Kim Dusseau
Dr. Johnnie Earley
Ann Ruth Easterwood
Deborah Engstrom
Patricia Evans
Steven Federman
Dr. Ronald Fournier
Miroslaw Gacek
Dr. Angeline Gilis
Dr. Johan Gottgens
Nancy Hintz
Nadine Hoffmann
Patricia Hollopeter
Dr. Ruth Hottell
Aileen Hunt
James Jennings
Deborah Jones
Dr. Jerzy Kamburowski
Thomas Kehres
Bruce Kennedy
Joyce Kenner
Daniel Klett
Sharon Kling

Vanessa Kreft
Marybeth Kurtz
Cynthia Lang
Dr. Henry Ledgard
Linda Lee
Wendy Leiby
Amy Lett
Sharon Simpson Luce
Robert Mackowiak
Dr. William Maltese
Dr. Michelle Masterson
Michele Matuszewski
Dianne Mauter
Darryl McBrayer
Dr. Margaret McFadden
Pamela Monroe
Dr. Robert Mrak
Cheryl Mulinix
Dr. Anand Mutgi
Dr. Ganapathy Narayanan
Karen Niner
Dr. Charles Odenthal
Dr. Dan Olson
David O'Neil
Susan Parks
Carol Parsil
Susan Peschel
Dr. Mark Pickett
Jane-Ella Pitney
Henrietta Powell

Katherine Preston
Jennifer Rahe
Dr. Brian Randolph
Lowell Reany
John Rogacki
Carol Rominski
Dr. Charles Rop
Janet Ruskiewicz
Tony Sanchez
Denise Scarlato
Dr. Sharon Schnarre
Susan Shible
Dr. Constance Shriner
Michael Spiros
Donald Stierman
Maureen Strall
Daniel Toczynski
Margaret Traband
Dr. David Tucker
Susan VanCamp
Jeanette Vershum
Sue White
G. John Wilder
Dr. Marilynne Wood
Dr. Donna Woodson

NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS:

Barbara Floyd
Philip Peter

NEWS FROM COLUMBUS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

defined benefit plan, 3.5 percent the defined contribution plan and 2.5 percent the hybrid plan.

- The average pension of new retirees was \$2,281.
- Of the 212,937 retirees in OPERS, 89.3 percent remained Ohio residents as of Dec. 31, 2018.
- Last year, OPERS made \$5.5 billion in pension benefit payments to

Ohio residents.

Both the CAFR and the Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFP) are available on the OPERS website (opers.org).

At the May 2019 meeting of the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER), officers were elected for the 2019-20 year. Officers elected were: President, Steve Howe (UC); Vice

President, Jerry Feezel (KSU); Secretary, Michele Hobbs (OSU); Treasurer, Jim Lapp (UT). OCHER meetings for the 2019-20 year will be held in Columbus on September 17, 2019, November 19, 2019, March 17, 2020, and May 19, 2020. Anyone interested in learning more about our OCHER meetings is welcome to contact me at jlapp@bex.net or 419.360.0229

JOIN A UTRA GROUP THAT MEETS MONTHLY

BOOK BUDDIES

The UTRA book club, "Book Buddies" meets the first Wednesday of each month from 2-3:30pm. The group meets in the cafeteria in the Center for Alumni and Donor Engagement, located at 4510 Dorr St., adjacent to Welltower, Inc. Parking is available in the visitor parking spaces in front of the building.

Anyone who loves to read is welcome to join the group. Each month a different member selects a novel and helps lead the discussion. It is a great opportunity to meet new people. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Sbrocchi at ksbrocchi@yahoo.com or Jan Whitaker at janwhitaker@aol.com

UPCOMING BOOKS

11/6/19 What the Eyes Don't See: A Story of Crisis... Mona Hanna Attisha

12/4/19 Callings, The Purpose and Passion of Work Dave Isay

University Enacts New Policy Regarding Retiree reemployment

In late May, UToledo President Sharon L. Gaber signed into effect a new policy restricting the reemployment of faculty and staff who retired from the University.

The new policy, number 3364-25-61, affects those retirees not currently employed by the University. The policy states that retirees who are re-hired by the institution may not be employed for more than 12 months, with any lengthier time of reemployment at the discretion of the University.

Also, those rehired in the same or similar position will receive fewer hours and a pay lower than his or her salary at the time of retirement. The only exception to this reduction in hours and pay is if the position is covered by collective bargaining agreements or contractual agreements that govern research grants.

Persons hired into a different position from that which they retired from will be paid at a rate "consistent with the assigned duties to be performed and within the pay range for the job classification."

The policy also clarifies under what conditions retirees will be considered for re-hire. These include: the person has specialized knowledge which needs to be transferred to other employees; to manage a function while a search is in process; to "maintain current capability during or in anticipation of an organizational redesign or restructuring;" to complete a project or grant; or to manage staffing needs due to changes in enrollment.

The policy allows for faculty to be rehired in temporary positions without eligibility for tenure, and states that rehired faculty are eligible for research funds and participation in grant projects if allowed by the rules of the grant.

For more information on this new policy, please access the University's policy website at: <http://www.utoledo.edu/policies>.

The responsible agents for implementing the policy are the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Associate Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer.

BREAKFAST GROUP

The UTRA breakfast group meets the first Tuesday of each month at Denny's, 6290 W. Central Ave., at 9:30 a.m., with one exception. Instead of breakfast on the first Tuesday in December, the group will meet at Red Lobster on Monroe Street for a luncheon at noon.

If you plan to attend the luncheon on December 8, 2019, please RSVP to Marge Dell at 419-346-5780. All UTRA members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

CARDS AND GAMES

The UTRA Cards and Games group meets every second Tuesday of the month from 2-4 p.m. in the cafeteria at The University of Toledo Foundation offices in the Center for Alumni and Donor Engagement, 4510 Dorr St. There is free parking adjacent

to the hotel. Enter through the main hotel doors, turn to your right, and the room is past the bar at the back of the restaurant area.

For more information, contact Sandy Koepke at 419-865-9621, or email at sandra.koepke@utoledo.edu.

LUNCH BUNCH

Below is the schedule for the UTRA Lunch Bunch for the rest of the year.

Unfortunately, the group will disband after the December lunch.

November 21, 2019, 1 p.m.
Rosie's, 605 McCord Road,

Toledo
419-866-5007

December 19, 2019, 1 p.m.
Hot Sizzling Wok
2333 W. Laskey Road,
Toledo
419-475-0065

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Pat Russell and Shirley Joseph, co-chairs

The Program Committee has planned two popular events for the remainder of the calendar year.

On October 29 from 4-6 p.m., local wine expert Jim Sautter will present another wine tasting and lecture in the Center for Alumni and Donor Engagement on Dorr Street.

A similar program presented last year sold out quickly, so members are encouraged to reserve their seat early for the program.

Food samples will be offered along with the samples of wine and information on wine appreciation.

The annual Christmas

Brunch at the Heather Downs Country Club will be held in December at a date to be announced.

This popular event provides an opportunity for UTRA members to reconnect with old friends and celebrate the upcoming holidays. The brunch is served buffet-style.

The details and registration information for all UTRA programs are distributed to members via emails from the Alumni Association. If you do not receive information about the programs, contact the Alumni Association to ensure that UTRA has your correct email address.

IN MEMORIAM: Dr. Richard R. Perry

Dr. Richard R. Perry, a past president of UTRA, professor emeritus, and longtime administrator who helped shape the University, died July 20 at age 93. His passion for his alma mater was evident in his more than 50 years as a UToledo faculty member and administrator.

One of the University's most enduring figures, Perry recorded several firsts, including: special assistant to the president, director of admissions, director of placement and director of alumni relations. In addition, he was the first person in Ohio to organize a college or university office of institutional research.

In 1964, he received the University's first doctor of education degree in higher education, which also made him the first UToledo alum to receive three degrees — bachelor of education (1948), master of arts degree (1950) and doctor of education.

Perry joined the staff in 1949 as personnel assistant and became director of admissions, placement director and director of alumni relations in 1952; director of admissions and records in 1960; director of institutional research and administrative planning in 1970; assistant vice president for academic affairs in 1971; and associate vice president for academic affairs in 1973.

As a faculty member, he joined the College of Education as an instructor in 1949 and was promoted to assistant

professor in 1953, associate professor in 1964, and professor in 1968. A prolific author, Perry wrote numerous publications on institutional research, as well as the administration of higher education. His service to the campus community included chairing the Commencement Committee for two decades and overseeing the inauguration of two presidents. He also directed doctoral dissertations and chaired several doctoral committees.

Perry was president of the University chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi in 1981. He was a lifetime member of the Alumni Association, and a member of the Presidents Club, Rocket Club and Lannon Society. He retired from the University in 1990 but continued to teach and advise students for another 16 years.

Throughout his career, Perry was active in professional organizations. He played a role in creating several, including the Association for College Admission Counselors, the National Office of the Association for Institutional Research and the Midwest Regional Assembly of the College Entrance Examination Board.

Dr. Perry served on the board of trustees for Davis College, Defiance College, and Western New England College. In 1970, he was one of seven named to the first board of trustees of the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library.

Perry graduated from Toledo Public Schools in 1943, and then enlisted in the U.S. Army and was honorably discharged with the rank of sergeant in 1946. The World War II veteran received a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star.

In 2015, he received the Soldier's Medal for his bravery during an ammunition explosion on April 6, 1945, in Germany. Perry was with the 63rd Infantry Division when he carried two of his comrades to safety and removed unexploded ammunition before a grenade went off and he was injured. He also received a Bronze Star for valor for helping fellow soldiers repair communication lines under fire near Hottviller, France, in 1945.

In 2016, Perry received the French Legion of Honor, the highest military award bestowed by the French government.

A longtime University of Toledo benefactor, Perry established seven endowments to assist students and programs, and he lobbied for the establishment of the Veterans Memorial Plaza on Main Campus.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara Rondelli Perry, professor emerita of music; two daughters; a stepdaughter; and grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his first wife Margaret Papp Perry, an assistant professor of library administration at The University of Toledo.

IN MEMORIAM

Stanley E. Adamski, Orange City, Fla., a former mathematics instructor, died March 20 at age 68.

Doris M. Addie, Toledo, died Feb. 16 at age 80. She was a seasonal employee at the university in 2000, and then she worked as a custodian from 2001 to 2005.

Anna M. (Housley) Andrew, Perrysburg, a

nurse at MCO from 1974 until her retirement in 1991, died April 21 at age 89. Her husband, Raymond G. Andrew, a longtime member of the Rocket Club and avid Toledo fan, died April 18 at age 91.

Dr. Jack Araj, Sautee Nacoochee, Ga., an early faculty member at MCO, died Dec. 15 at age 96. He was appointed chief of radiology at Maumee Valley Hospital and

was named an associate professor at MCO. Araj helped organize the Radiology Department and its research.

Kymberly A. Bauder-Callis, Toledo, who was a nurse at MCO/MUO in 2004 and 2005, died July 6 at age 57.

Dr. Robert F. Baugh, Lambertville, Mich., died Feb. 2 at age 87. He was a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

IN MEMORIAM

Continued from Page 10

community-based faculty member in the Department of Family Medicine at MCO from 1985 until the mid-1990s.

Coann Marie (Clyde) Brown, Lambertville, Mich., who was a staff nurse at University Medical Center from 2008 to 2016, died April 13 at age 64. She worked in senior behavioral health, the rehabilitative care unit, and surgery orthopaedics. Brown received an associate of applied science degree in nursing from the University in 1999.

Dr. Frank R. Bruening, Marblehead, Ohio, a clinical instructor in obstetrics/gynecology from 1996 to 2000, died April 20 at age 76.

Dr. David H. Davis, Toledo, professor of political science, died May 1 at age 77. He joined the faculty in 1989. He taught courses on public administration, environment, personnel, organizational behavior, management of nonprofit organizations, and public policy. In addition, Davis served as director of the Master of Public Administration Program from 1989 to 1992. He was the author of five books on environmental policy. He retired from the University in 2014.

Charles “Chuck” Dersher, Toledo, died April 5 at age 83. He was an instructor and director at WGTE-TV when the station was located on campus.

Phyllis K. (Pietraszak) Fraszewski, Toledo, who worked at the University from 1996 to 1999, died April 11 at age 89.

Dr. Mark D. Gallagher, Toledo, died May 17 at age 62. He was a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Medicine from 1990 to 2018. He received a bachelor of science degree in biology in 1979 and a doctor of medicine degree from MCO in 1984.

Dr. Mary Girgis-Hanna, Toledo, who taught sociology courses from 1997 to 2000, died Feb. 7 at age 83. A UT alumna, she received a PhD in special education in 1997.

Jacquelyn I. “Jackie” (Fuerst) Graulich, Lafayette, Calif., who worked at the

University for more than 20 years, died March 4 at age 89. She began as a clerk and typist in 1972 and retired as a records management officer in 1994.

James Richard Hays, Sylvania, a UToledo football star who returned to his alma mater to work, died Jan. 24 at age 89. He was a three-year starter at running back and defensive back from 1948 to 1950. His record for average yards per carry for a season — 7.73 on 74 carries in 1950 — stood for 64 years until it was broken in 2014. Hays received a master of education degree in 1960 from the University. In 1951, he served as the assistant freshman football coach. He also was the interim coach of the women’s cross country team in 1984. Hays returned to UToledo as an assistant to the athletic director from 1984 to 1988.

Doris L. (Sing) Hedler, Toledo, who worked at the University from 1980 until her retirement in 1987, died Jan. 20 at age 100. She was an academic advisor in University College and a director of the Institutional Health Care Management Program, which she helped launch. Hedler was an advocate for the establishment of the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women and served as an interim coordinator at the center. A UToledo alumna, Hedler received a bachelor of education degree in 1940 and a master of education degree in 1979.

Cynthia T. (James) Hernandez, Toledo, a custodial worker at MCO/MUO/UTMC from 2005 to 2009, died Jan. 3 at age 66.

Lonnie Lee Hill, Toledo, a custodial worker at the University from 1992 until his retirement in 2002, died June 12 at age 80.

Larry G. Hollstein, Curtice, Ohio, who worked at the University for nearly three decades, died March 13 at age 78. He joined the staff in 1968 and was a stationary engineer in the Physical Plant until he retired in 1996.

Dr. Hal R. Jenks Jr., Saline, Mich., who was a visiting assistant professor of health and human services from 1997 to 2002,

died March 29 at age 77.

Ruth E. Jones, Toledo, a laundry technician at MCO who retired in 1990, died June 23 at age 80.

Carol A. (Mauter) Joyce, Monclova, Ohio, a staff nurse in radiation therapy at MCO/MUO/UTMC from 1974 until her retirement in 2001, died April 7 at age 80. She received a bachelor of science degree in nursing in 1986.

Munawwar J. “Meena” Khan, Toledo, died April 10 at age 77. She was an instructor of library administration from 1976 to 1980, when she was named an assistant professor. She also served as head librarian in the Learning Resource Center at Scott Park. A UToledo alumna, Khan received a bachelor of arts degree in education and history in 1970.

Judith L. (Settles) Katafiasz, Toledo, died March 27 at age 60. She was a clerical specialist and word-processing specialist in Rehabilitation Services and the Physical Therapy Department at MCO from 1991 to 2001.

Dr. David S. Kawakami, Toledo, a faculty member who taught Japanese from 1994 to 2002 at the University, died March 12 at age 92.

Daniel W. Kozak, Toledo, died March 27 at age 79. He was operations supervisor at MCO from 1977 until his retirement in 1990.

Richard J. Kozbial, Kalamazoo, Mich., a faculty member in the Judith Herb College of Education from 1994 to 2002, died April 9 at age 85. An alum, he received a bachelor’s degree in sociology in 1957 and a master of education degree in curriculum and instruction in 1976.

Gregory L. Kreps, Maumee, a respiratory therapist at MCO/MUO/UTMC from 1974 until his retirement in 2008, died Feb. 11 at age 70.

Dr. Larry W. Krill, Sylvania, a longtime volunteer faculty member, died Jan. 24 at age 56. He was an associate professor of internal medicine from 2007 to 2013, and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TOLEDO
1872

Office of Alumni Engagement
Center for Alumni and Donor Engagement
The University of Toledo Foundation
4510 Dorr St.
Toledo, OH 43615-4040

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Toledo, OH
Permit No. 161

UTRA Tower Talk

IN MEMORIAM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

he served as a clinical associate professor of internal medicine at MCO/MUO/UToledo from 1994 to 2007 and from 2013 to 2019.

Sally A. (Bassett) Malhoit, Toledo, a former instructor, died April 16 at age 88.

Phillip L. Marquart, Sandusky, Ohio, who was an adjunct instructor who taught business classes at the University, died June 19 at age 84.

James L. Mason, Toledo, professor emeritus of music, died April 2 at age 84. He joined the University as an assistant professor in 1969. He taught bassoon, saxophone and jazz courses, and he directed the jazz band. In addition, Mason was a member of the University Woodwind Quintet and Faculty Jazz Combo. For 26 years, he performed as the principal bassoonist with the Toledo Symphony Orchestra. In addition, Mason was the principal bassoonist for the Toledo Opera, the Toledo Concert Band for Music Under the Stars, and the Toledo Choral Society Orchestra. He also performed and recorded with the Detroit Symphony. Mason is survived by his wife, Frances Renzi, professor emeritus of music.

Anthony A. Morano, Sylvania, professor emeritus of law, died March 12 at age 85. He joined the faculty in 1964 as an assistant professor of law. In 1967, he was promoted to associate professor and later to professor. He taught classes on evidence, torts, contracts, trial practice, and trusts and estates. In 1970, Morano was honored with one of the University's Outstanding Teacher Awards. He was a member of Faculty Senate and was a chair of the University Committee on Aca-

demical Personnel. Morano retired in 1993.

Jeannette M. Ostman, Grove City, Ohio, who was a nurse at Maumee Valley Hospital and later MCO from 1950 until her retirement in 1978, died May 5 at age 95.

Charles F. "Denne" Pease, Toledo, a faculty member in the Department of Music for 30 years, died May 14 at age 83. He joined the University in 1964 as an oboe instructor. Pease played with the Faculty Woodwind Quintet and the Toledo Woodwind Trio. In addition, he was the principal oboist with the Toledo Symphony Orchestra from 1962 to 1985, and performed with the Toledo Opera and Music Under the Stars.

Dr. Donald B. Pribor, Toledo, a faculty member for nearly 50 years, died May 15 at age 86. He came to campus as an assistant professor of biology in 1965 and was promoted to associate professor in 1972 and to professor in 1975. His early years were dedicated to research on red blood cells and cryobiology. During the 1970s, Pribor started teaching introductory biology courses for non-science majors and found his passion. He integrated the natural sciences with the social sciences and the humanities for his classes, which students dubbed "Priborology." He retired from the University in 2012.

Edith (Bondy) Rathbun, Toledo, a local philanthropist and longtime supporter of the university, died March 7 at age 103. She endowed several scholarships at the University, including one named in her honor, and she gave a donation to establish the Edith Rathbun Outreach and Engagement Excellence Award, which is given annually to an employee for his or

her exceptional outreach in community-engaged scholarship in research, teaching or professional service.

Roger D. Schantz, Murrells Inlet, S.C., who taught business technology at the former Community and Technical College, died March 6 at age 82. In 1967, he started working on campus as a teacher and coordinator for the Data Processing Program. As an assistant professor of business technology and director of the Data Processing Program, he received an Outstanding Teacher Awards in 1971. Schantz served on the University's computer committee, was chair of the curriculum and instruction committee, and was a member of the College Council and Faculty Senate.

H. Wells Singleton, Sunrise, Fla., a faculty member in the College of Education for a decade, died Feb. 12 at age 76. He joined the University as an assistant professor of secondary education in 1975 and was promoted to associate professor and professor.

Marjorie (McLean) Szor, Toledo, died June 19 at age 88. She was a nursing instructor in the Community and Technical College. From 1988 to 1998, Szor was a clinical nurse specialist at MCO. She received a master of arts degree in Latin in 1972.

Edith G. Williams, Toledo, a nurse, died Jan. 21 at age 92. She worked at Maumee Valley Hospital from 1951 to 1952, was rehired in 1957, and worked at MCO until her retirement in 1986.

Heather A. Williams, Westland, Mich., an instructor who taught mathematics from 2002 until 2016, died March 21 at age 51.