

Tower Talk

Sandra Koepke, editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I am serving my second "go-round" as president of UTRA, two words come to my mind: Thank you! A friend of mine likes to say "a thank you is always in order." Without the help of a lot of people, none of the many activities of UTRA could exist.

Thank you to the staff of the Alumni Association, Dan Saevig, Marcus Sneed, Sally Berglund, Shirley Grzecki, and their super volunteer, Cecelia Clarke. Without their efforts, we would not be able to carry out all of the programming that we do.

Thank you to Bobbie Raeder and Pam Rehkopf, co-chairs of the Program Committee. They have put together a variety of events that are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. Look them over and I am sure there is something there for each of us.

Thank you to William Logie, chair of the Benefits Committee. His committee has been working hard for more than a year to determine what our University retiree benefits are supposed to be and making sure that they are being offered to us. We soon will be sending out a brochure listing our retiree benefits. You also will find an article with information on campus parking and some future changes in health program benefits elsewhere in this newsletter.

Thank you to Sandy Koepke, chair of the Communications Committee and editor of Tower Talk. At least some of the time, this is a labor of love for her. How many times does she have to remind us our articles are overdue?

Please take the time to look at the other committee chairs and members that our listed on the inside back page of this issue of Tower Talk. You might want to thank them, too.

Last but not least, thank you to you, the members of UTRA. You have been very generous with your time, your talents and



your money. You are a great group. It is not surprising that we have been recognized for the second time in three years as the outstanding Affiliate of the Year by UT Alumni Association.

This fall, UTRA was invited to participate in the UT Homecoming Parade. Vice President Pamela Pullella and I got to ride in grand style in a 1965 light blue Cadillac Eldorado convertible provided by Al Haas, a retiree of the Cadillac Corp. We heard some interesting comments along the parade route when viewers saw the UTRA sign on the car. A number called out, "You look too young to be retired." It took me awhile to realize that the comments were directed at Pam. We also heard some say, "I plan to join you in one year" or "Join you in two years." The most interesting was a young man that called out, "I plan to join you in 30 years." I guess it's never too soon to look forward to retirement so you can join UTRA. With the continued dedication of UTRA members, I am confident the organization will be there to welcome him when he retires.

Keith Schlender,
UTRA President

JIM AND NANCY LAPP RECEIVE BLUE T AWARD

UTRA wants to congratulate Jim and Nancy Lapp who were honored at the Homecoming Gala Oct. 24 with the Alumni Association's Blue T award.

The Blue T award dates back to 1955 and recognizes outstanding support of the University and its official alumni organization.

Jim and Nancy are the first husband and wife to receive this prestigious award as a couple.

Their contributions are too numerous to mention, but... Jim served for two years as vice president and two years as president of the UT Retirees Association. During his tenure,



Jim and Nancy Lapp

UTRA was recognized twice as the Alumni Association's Affiliate of the Year.

Nancy was a charter member of Women and Philanthropy, an organization devoted to providing lasting assistance to the University. Nancy was an advisory board member and became the group's first lifetime member.

Last year, Nancy was recognized by the University at the community-wide National Philanthropy Day as UT's

choice for the Outstanding Community Volunteer Award. And as big supporters of The University of Toledo athletics, Rocky will tell you, the 2014 recipients of the Blue T award bleed blue and gold.

Congratulations to Jim and Nancy Lapp!



NEWS FROM COLUMBUS

By James Lapp

We had several notable guest speakers at the Sept. 16 meeting of the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER). They included, from the State Teachers Retirement System, Marla Bump, director of governmental relations, and Greg Nickell, director of health-care services; and from the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, Gordon Gatien, government relations officer, and Jason Davis, health-care educator.

Not much has been happening in the Ohio General Assembly as pertains to public pensions. That is probably a good thing. Two members of the House leaving at the end of December (because of term limits) are Speaker William Batchelder and Rep. Lynn Wachtmann. Wachtmann has been chair of the Ohio Retirement Study Council, which advises the state legislature on all matters pertaining to the five statewide retirement systems. While he has had his critics, he seems to have been good for the retirement systems, although often holding their feet to the fire. And Speaker Batchelder, a member of the House for almost 40 years, has been a huge supporter of the systems. Their successors will not have their background and knowledge; there will be a learning curve for them.

Better than expected investment returns over the year ending June 30, 2014, have decreased the funding period (the amount of time needed to pay off the unfunded liability) for the STRS pension fund from 40.2 years to 29.5 years. And the funded ratio has improved to 69.3 percent from 66.3 percent. The STRS Health-Care Fund is now up to a funding period of 50 years, and is well on its way to 60-plus years funding.

OPERS recently selected Extend Health Inc., a Towers Watson company, to administer the OPERS Medicare Connector. It is the nation's largest and longest standing

private Medicare exchange. The Connector will use Towers Watson's OneExchange to provide personalized help to retirees who qualify for Medicare Parts A and B to access plans on the individual Medicare market — Medicare supplement (Medigap), Medicare Advantage and Medicare Part D prescription drug plans. OPERS hopes to offer retirees increased flexibility, more choice, and an opportunity to save money while keeping the same or an even improved level of health-care coverage.

Retirees will receive a monthly allowance deposited into a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA). Money is deposited into the HRA on a pre-tax basis, i.e. the allowance is not taxed. Retirees will pay their premiums up front and then request reimbursement from their HRA. The allowance is based upon a retiree's service credit and age at the time they enrolled in health-care coverage with OPERS. Retirees must use the Medicare Connector to receive their health-care allowance. Retirees will transition to 2018 allowances ranging from 51 percent to 90 percent; however, current retirees with an allowance more than 75 percent will not drop below the 75 percent level. OPERS estimates that close to 98 percent of its current retirees will receive at least \$337 monthly, and they will receive inflation allowances of about 3 percent to 5 percent per year.

There are currently 140,000 OPERS members (including spouses) who are eligible for Medicare. Approximately 6,000 of these retirees do not have free Medicare Part A coverage. Under a new plan for this group, OPERS will reimburse 100 percent of the retirees' Medicare Part A premium when the retiree enrolls in Medicare Part A and selects a plan through the Connector.

Starting in 2015, the allowance for OPERS retiree spouses younger than age 65 will start to drop until 2018, when there will be no allowance. Eligible spouses will continue to have access to the OPERS retiree health plan (at full cost) through at least 2020. Beginning in 2016, eligible retiree spouses older than age 65 will have access to the Medicare Connector, but starting in 2018 will receive no allowance for health-care coverage.

The Medicare Connector will begin operation in January 2016, with open enrollment starting in October 2015. Retirees who will be using the Medical Connector will receive further communications and will be provided the opportunity to participate in educational seminars. In the meantime, OPERS retirees can become better prepared by doing research on their own. Two good Internet sites to check out are medicare.gov and insurance.ohio.gov. The Ohio Department of Insurance site provides, among many other resources, links to sample company premiums for Medicare supplement insurance plans and Part D prescription drug plans (click on the Medicare Services tab). Public Employee Retirees Inc. (PERI) also is providing information and updates to prepare its membership for the coming Connector. If you are not yet a member of PERI, this would be a good time to join.

Further information on OCHER is available on its website, housed on the Bowling Green State University website at bgsu.edu/ocher. Sorry about the orange and brown, but they're doing it for free.

TWO UTRA SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED FOR 2014-15

By James Lapp

The UTRA Scholarship is awarded annually to UT students who are direct descendants of a UT faculty/staff retiree who is also a dues-paying UTRA member. Class standing, GPA and performance in campus and/or community activities are among the factors considered in determining the scholarship award.

The UTRA Scholarship Committee has selected two outstanding students to receive UTRA scholarships for the 2014-15 academic year.

Kayla Murnen is the recipient of a \$1,000 UTRA scholarship. She is a junior in the College of Business and Innovation with a dual major in marketing and supply chain management. She maintains a 3.2 GPA.



Keith Schlender, left, Kayla Murnen and Jim Lapp

George retired from the College of Engineering (civil engineering) and Pat from the Records Office. Kayla is following in the footsteps of her brother, Matt, and sister, Heather, as a recipient of the UTRA scholarship.

Kayla graduated from Central Catholic High School, where she was on the varsity golf team for four years (and captain her senior year), played powder puff football, served as editor of the yearbook, and belonged to the Environmental Club.

She works part-time at Menards. She volunteers for Habitat for Humanity and the Gospel Rescue Mission. She also participates in the Race for the Cure and the March of Dimes Walk. Kayla attends as many Rocket athletic events as she can, and in her spare time tries to spend as much time as possible out of doors, running and playing other sports.

Kristen Marciniak is the recipient of a \$500 UTRA scholarship for this academic year. She is a sophomore in the College of Business and Innovation, and plans to major in accounting. Her GPA is 3.2.

Kristen is the daughter of Mary and Rick Marciniak. Mary is a relatively new UTRA member, having retired from Health Science Campus, where she most recently was a CT/MRI senior technologist.

Kristen is a 2013 graduate of St. Ursula Academy. During her time there, she spent four years competing on the swim team and was involved with Women in Medicine.

On Main Campus, she is a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority, and has participated in numerous activities, including Relay for Life and Philanthropy is Literacy.

In addition to her studies, Kristen works at Netty's, and also as a community assistant for Edge 1120, which is a new

student living community (to be opened for residency in fall 2015), located at the corner of Westwood Avenue and Dorr Street.



Keith Schlender, left, Kristen Marciniak and Jim Lapp

Kristen and Kayla were honored at the annual UTRA holiday brunch Dec. 7 at the Inverness Club.

As a UTRA member, your child or grandchild

could be our next scholarship recipient. For scholarship information and applications, contact Sally Berglund in the Alumni Office at 419.530.2586.

UTRA is able to award this scholarship to deserving students such as Kayla and Kristen because of the generosity of our donors. As we thank those who have made donations in the past, we encourage all members to consider making the UTRA Scholarship Fund a part of their charitable giving. Gifts of any amount are always appreciated, and if you wish, can be made to honor or remember a noteworthy person in your life. Please contact the Alumni Office (419.530.2586) for information on how you can contribute to the UTRA Scholarship Fund.

HEALTH SCIENCE CAMPUS SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

By Keith K. Schlender

One of the major goals of the Health Science Campus (HSC) retirees is to recognize outstanding students by providing them scholarship support. Funding for the scholarships comes from three sources: income from the HSC Retiree Scholarship Endowment, fundraising activity such as the hospital shoe sales, and contributions from HSC retirees.

This fall, we were able to grant \$1,000 scholarships in each of the four colleges on HSC — Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Nursing, Medicine and Life Sciences, and Graduate Studies.

The recipient of the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is Aparna Raghavan. Aparna, a PhD student in medicinal and biological chemistry, has an outstanding academic record in her field of study, alternative therapeutics for ischemic stroke. She has several presentations and published articles on her research. Not only is Aparna a dedicated student in the classroom and laboratory, but she also is an enthusiastic participant in many extracurricular activities. Recently, she served as the conference chair of the Mid-Atlantic Graduate Student Symposium in Medicinal Chemistry held at UT. The conference is held annually as a forum to share graduate research and features talks by eminent scientists. This year, it had more than 100 attendees, including those from various universities around the Midwest region. Aparna

also serves as the graduate student representative on the Human Diversity Committee and the Curriculum Committee of the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. She has represented the college in the Council of Biomedical Graduate Students and helped organize year-round activities for graduate students while holding this position. She has volunteered to help organize student orientations and college tours. She has written as a student blogger for the college website and is now a columnist for *The Independent Collegian*, the UT student newspaper. She was also a member of the executive panel for the Indian Students Cultural Organization, which helps incoming students from India settle in and organizes several cultural events to keep the Indian tradition alive.

The recipient of the scholarship in the College of Nursing is Kati E. Hughes. Kati is a student in the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program. She began in fall 2013 and has achieved a grade point average of 3.88. Kati received her bachelor of science in nursing from Spring Arbor University, Spring Arbor, Mich., where she graduated at the top of her class. She has been a practicing RN for 16 years. Her first position was at Womack Army Medical Center, Ft. Bragg, N.C., in obstetrics and she currently works in obstetrics at St. Joseph Hospital in Ann Arbor, Mich. She has volunteered at the Bread Basket, a homeless shelter in her hometown of Tecumseh, Mich. During the 2013-2014 academic year, she served as a graduate research assistant for Dr. Kathy Sink in the College of Nursing. At the Sigma Theta Tau 2014 Program's "Bridging Nursing Leadership and Research," she presented "Water Effect on Human Metabolism" as a result of her work with Dr. Sink. Her clinical dissertation will focus on the Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS). The project is a joint effort together with St. Joseph Hospital to implement an evidenced-based educational program as part of discharge teaching for new parents. The overall goal would be the enactment of legislation in the state of Michigan requiring primary care providers and birth centers to address SBS with all parents to reduce the incidence of the syndrome. After completing the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, Kati plans to focus her practice on caring for children with mental illness.

The recipient of the scholarship in the College of Medicine and Life Sciences for the second time is Christopher Traner. Chris is a third-year medical student originally from Strongsville, Ohio. He is a cum laude graduate from Miami University with a bachelor's degree in biochemistry, economics and zoology. On campus, Chris is involved in many activities. He serves as the college ambassador for Medical Student Council, and together with a fourth-year student launched a medical school mentorship program for pre-health professional undergraduates at both The University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University. That program is now in its third year of existence and has around 70 medical student-undergraduate pairs participating. Additionally, he was a lead tour guide for the April 2013 Liaison Committee on Medical Education accreditation site visit. He was the 2013-2014 director of medical procedures for the Community Care Clinic (CCC), which operates free health clinics at the Mildred Bayer Clinic for the Homeless and at the Cedar Creek Church South Campus. He helped

to develop lesson plans for teaching pre-clinical students medical skills and implement inventive simulations to serve the students of the clinic. As part of his year on the CCC executive board, he presented a poster on the topic of teaching vital sign measurement to first-year medical and physician assistant students at the 2014 American Medical Student Association's National Conference in New Orleans. Currently, he is working on a research project in the Department of Surgery with Dr. Jorge Ortiz on the usefulness of post-transplant kidney biopsies for diagnostic purposes in patients taking immunosuppressive therapy. To help future medical students, Chris has mentored premedical students through the Medical College Admissions Test process, as well as created effective study plans for the test. He has assisted the college Admissions Committee by hosting meet-and-greet events the evening before medical school applicants are interviewed, and he serves as a tour guide the day applicants are interviewed. He serves as a tutor for the Anatomy and Immunology and Infection courses through the Academic Enrichment Center. His main interest is pursuing a career in academic medicine. Chris is undecided regarding his plans for residency, but is considering surgery, neurology, cardiology and gastroenterology. In his "spare time," Chris likes playing the saxophone, reading, and spending time with his fiancé. They are getting married in October 2015, and he reports that he has "loved nearly every minute of his UT medical school experience."

The scholarship for the College of Graduate Studies is Padmapriya (Priya) Sekar. Priya entered the PhD program in biomedical sciences in 2010. In the classroom, Priya quickly distinguished herself. She often asked questions that confirmed she was not only keeping pace with the lecture material, but also was assimilating the information into the big picture scientifically. Within the lab environment, Priya is extremely hard-working and eager to address new topics. Her dissertation project on host-pathogen interactions required her to learn new cutting-edge techniques. As these techniques had not been previously used in her mentor's laboratory, Priya showed great initiative and inventiveness in developing the technology. These techniques have allowed her to directly observe and study the host-pathogen interactions of the causative agent of Lyme disease. She has several manuscripts on her research submitted or in preparation. In addition to her academic accomplishments, Priya also has been a "good citizen" in graduate school. She has been elected to the Council of Biomedical Graduate Students for the past two years. She has served as both secretary of the council and the representative for the Infection, Immunity and Transplantation Program. Priya also is a member and major force behind TH3 — Graduate Student Peer Development Group, which provides a forum for students to discuss and further their scientific careers.

Each of these recipients are clearly deserving of the scholarship support we were able to provide them.

Our goal for the 2015-2016 academic year is to again grant four \$1,000 scholarships.

BOOK BUDDIES

By Kathy Sbrocchi

UTRA invites you to join the Book Buddies on the first Wednesday of every month.

Each month, a new novel is selected by the group and discussed. It's a great way to meet other members and to share your insights.

In December, we discussed *The Butler* by Wil Haygood. On Jan. 7, the novel will be *The First Phone Call From Heaven* by Mitch Albom. The book for February 4 will be *Zeitoun* by Dave Eggers.

Remember to mark your calendars for our UTRA Book Buddies meetings on the first Wednesday of every month from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the restaurant of the Radisson Hotel on UT's Health Science Campus. Please feel free to invite others to join us.

If you have a book suggestion and would be willing to serve as a discussion leader in the future, your participation is appreciated.

For more information on Book Buddies, contact Kathy Sbrocchi at 419.471.1142 or e-mail ksbrocchi@yahoo.com.

CARDS AND GAMES

By George Kertz

Are you free on Tuesday afternoons, specifically the second Tuesday of each month.

That is when UTRA members meet for an afternoon of cards and table games. It is an opportunity for fun and for socializing with fellow retirees.

Most popular are euchre and bridge games, but table games are available for those interested. Bring a friend or two and join in the entertainment. Bring your favorite table game if you wish.

The location is the Radisson Hotel on UT's Health Science Campus; the exact room will be posted in the hotel lobby. The time is from 2 to 4 p.m.

If you have any questions regarding the Tuesday afternoon events, contact the UT Alumni Office or email George Kertz at gekertz@utoledo.edu.



BENEFITS COMMITTEE REPORT

By William Logie

By now, retirees of OPERS have received numerous communications about the changes to our 2015 Healthcare. Most notably will be the implementation of the Medicare Connector and the three-year reduction to the Medicare Premium reimbursement to the individual member. Of more immediate concern is the notice from Humana and ProMedica that effective January 1, 2015 ProMedica Hospitals will be treated as "out of network" which could result in increased out-of-pocket expenses for you if you use one of ProMedica's hospitals or services. While it has been stated that if you use a ProMedica Physician, that will not be treated as "out of network" you should verify this with your healthcare provider. As a reminder, Humana also lists UTRC Hospital as "out of network", but through negotiated agreements by UTRA and hospital administration, you will be treated as "in Network" for your visit/services.

Your Benefits Committee will continue to monitor the Humana issue and we are optimistic it may be resolved before this newsletter mailing. However, please verify before you schedule a hospital visit after January 1st and use the OPERS web-site to stay connected and current on these important healthcare changes. Also, in Jim Lapp's report on the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees' recent meeting, he is providing a detailed summary of the Connector changes. We are also in discussion with the BGSU Retirees Association about a joint sponsorship of an OPERS program in our area regarding the details of the Connector.

At this writing, the Alumni office is sending a letter to you about free parking privileges on all campuses. The letter will include instructions for enrolling your vehicle and the various instructions on where to safely park.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

By Roberta Raeder

After a cold, hard winter, the retirees welcomed spring with a class on container gardening at Hoen's Nursery and a walking tour of the Toledo Botanical Garden. It was still cool, but the sun was shining and everyone enjoyed being outside.

Also in May, we did a bus trip to New York City, Philadelphia and Atlantic City. I was amazed at how much we saw, the 9/11 Memorial, the Liberty Bell, the Flight 93 memorial, plus whirlwind tours of both cities. In addition, we had a free day with beautiful weather to tour the Boardwalk and walk the beach in Atlantic City. Pat even won money at the Trump Casino, which I'm certain played a major role in his bankruptcy.

We had our annual meeting with a delicious meal at the Belmont Country Club in June followed in July by an evening picnic and Mud Hens game.

In August, we returned to the Croswell Opera House in Adrian for a wonderful performance of the musical "Sweet Charity" preceded by lunch at the Stable restaurant in Blissfield.

The next day, some of us left on a bus trip to Mackinaw City, where once again we were blessed with wonderful

weather when it counted. Keith introduced all of us to blackberry wine by letting us taste Shirley's when she wasn't looking. I think several bottles made it back to Toledo along with several boxes of fudge, both in our stomachs and suitcases. I'm surprised the bus wasn't brushing the ground on the return trip.

In September, we got back to serious business when Tom Walton gave a great program on the Edmund Fitzgerald, great preparation for our visit to the National Museum of the Great Lakes in November.

We celebrated fall by touring historic Woodlawn Cemetery in October. The trees were near peak color and the weather was perfect. The docents gave a history of the cemetery and some of the famous Toledoans buried there. We were disappointed with the lack of walking, but many people discovered another Toledo treasure worth a return visit.

We ended the year with our traditional festive holiday brunch at the Inverness Club, where we again collected stuffed animals for children at UT Medical Center.

We have several interesting events coming in the new year, so keep your eyes open for emails or snail mail.

As always, we are very appreciative for all the help we receive from Sally, Shirley, Cecelia and Marcus in the Alumni Office.



Tom Walton spoke on the loss of the Edmund Fitzgerald.



MACKINAC ISLAND BUS TRIP



ATLANTIC CITY, PHILADELPHIA, NEW YORK BUS TRIP



TOUR OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE GREAT LAKES



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Saturday, Feb. 7, Lunch with Golden Alumni Society before Lady Rockets Game, cost: TBD
- Tuesday, Feb. 17, L. Paul Hood, Jr., Dir. Of Planned Giving, UT Foundation, will speak on “An Estate Planner Reflects Back and Looks Forward” in the Driscoll Alumni Center Schmakel Room at 1 p.m., no charge, reservations required
- Thursday, March 12, Dr. Carlos Baptista, UT professor of neurosciences, will give a talk on “Posing for Eternity: The Art and Science of Plastination,” followed by a catered lunch and tours of the Plastination Museum and Laboratory, cost: TBD.
- Tuesday, April 7, Antiques Road Show in the Driscoll Alumni Center Schmakel Room at 1 p.m., no charge, reservations required
- Wednesday, April 15, joint meeting with BGSU retirees featuring a talk by Mary Bilyeu, Blade food editor, Brandywine Country Club at 11 a.m. social hour, speaker and lunch at noon, cost: \$17.25 per person.
- Sunday, April 26, Free concert by present and retired faculty of school of music, Doerman Theater, Time: TBA
- May 19 – 21, bus trip to Dayton area, Cost: \$349/ per person double occupancy
- Wednesday, June 10, UTRA Annual Meeting, Belmont Country Club at noon, cost: \$20 per person
- Friday, June 19, Mud Hens game preceded by all-American picnic buffet, 7 p.m. cost: TBD
- Thursday July 16, tour of Lange Tree Farm near Swanton, transportation available for those not able to tour on foot. A picnic lunch prepared by Donna Lange will follow tour, cost: TBD
- August, possible bus tour, destination: TBD

LUNCH BUNCH DATES

Brunch 10:30 a.m. Lunch 1 p.m.

- Jan.15, The Seafood Restaurant, 5504 Alexis Road
- Feb.19, Swig Restaurant, 219 Louisiana Ave., Perrysburg
- March 19, Rick’s City Diner, 5333 Monroe St., brunch
- April 16, Owens Community College Culinary Art Center
- May 21, Claddaugh Pub at Franklin Park, 5001 Monroe St.

- June 18, Cocina de Carlos, 27072 Carronade Dr., Perrysburg
 - Aug. 20, Original Pancake House, 3310 W. Central Ave., brunch
 - Sept. 17, Byblos, 1050 S. Reynolds Road
 - Oct.15, American Table Family Restaurant, 580 Craig Dr., Perrysburg
- Contact Bobbie Raeder at rootig@bex.net if you would like to be included on a monthly reminder email list.

CARDS AND GAMES

Second Tuesday of each month from 2 to 4 p.m. on Health Science Campus in the Radisson Hotel restaurant, ample parking in front of hotel. For additional information, contact George Kertz at gkertz@utoledo.edu.

UTRA BOOK BUDDIES

First Wednesday of each month from 2 to 3:30 p.m. on Health Science Campus in the Radisson Hotel restaurant, ample parking in front of hotel. For additional information, contact Kathy Sbrocchi at ksbrocchi@yahoo.com.

IN MEMORIAM

Marianne W. Alderman, Sylvania, former CEO of the UT Federal Credit Union, died Oct. 20 at age 85. She worked at the credit union from 1975 until her retirement in 1992, overseeing the merger of the UT and MCO credit unions.

Dr. Melvern A. Ayers, Perrysburg, died July 27 at age 83. He joined MCO in 1968 as an associate clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology. One year later, Ayers was named associate professor and acting chair of the department and held those positions until 1974, when he was appointed associate clinical professor. He held the volunteer appointment for 10 years.

Leona E. Bacon, Roswell, N.M., who had taught at the University, died June 6 at age 74.

Michael J. Barron, Sylvania, who formerly taught in the History Department, died May 25 at age 78.

Joan L. Baumann, Toledo, a former employee who worked in the UT Registrar’s Office, died Oct. 2 at age 87.

Patricia Beebe, Maumee, a nurse at MCO from 1976 until her retirement in 1992, died Nov. 26 at age 84.

Luann D. “Lou” Behnen, Holland, died Aug. 10 at age 59. She joined the University staff as a custodian in 1992 and later that year became a clerical specialist in the Office of Residence Life. She retired in May.

Rose T. Biscard, Toledo, a 26-year member of the Satellites Auxiliary who volunteered in the hospital gift shop, died June 27 at age 89.

Dr. Nadim Bitar, Bingham Farm, Mich., professor emeritus of sociology, died Aug. 25 at age 90. He joined the UT faculty in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology as an associate professor in 1969. The native of Lebanon had a reputation for his scholarly work focusing on revolutionary ideology and advocating the possibility for the unification of Arab countries. Bitar was the author of several books, including *The Revolutionary Nature of Political Catastrophes* and *The Revolutionary Ideology*. In 1977, he received one of the University’s Outstanding Teacher Awards.

Mary Pat Boatfield, Hallsville, Mo., who was a supervisor and instructor in the Division of Laboratory Animal Medicine at MCO from 1978 to 1985, died June 18 at age 64. She received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education from UT in 1974 and 1987, respectively.

Morton Bobowick, Toledo, who taught tax law and estate planning in the College of Law, died July 25 at age 71.

Dr. John Boening, Maumee, who taught at UT for 37 years, died June 18 at age 72. He joined the English Department as an instructor in 1969 and was promoted to assistant professor in 1971, associate professor in 1975 and professor in 1980. Boening served as department chair from 1991 to 1997. The New York City native had an international reputation as a comparative literature scholar. He wrote a 10-volume compilation titled *The*

Reception of Classical German Literature in England, 1760-1860: A Documentary History From Conetmporary Periodicals (1977) and was working on a book on the German poet Rainer Maria Rilke’s art criticism. Boening was on the Arts and Sciences Council, a Senior Fellow of the UT Humanities Institute and a member of the Honor Society Phi Kappa Phi. He headed the UT/Toledo Museum of Art Committee that led to museum teachers becoming University faculty members. And he served on various fellowship selection and review panels for the National Endowment for the Humanities and for the Ohio Humanities Council. When Boening retired in 2006, he was named professor emeritus.

Mary C. (Henneman) Carr, Swanton, a former cook in the Student Union, died Sept. 14 at age 66.

Gerald T. “Gerry” Carter, Toledo, former math and computer programming instructor, died Oct. 9 at age 78.

Dr. Robert F. Cooke, Harbor Springs, Mich., died July 30 at age 93. He was a clinical associate professor of orthopedic surgery at MCO from 1969 to 1977, and clinical assistant professor from 1977 to 1982 and from 1984 to 1988. He served as acting chair of the Orthopedic Surgery Department from 1982 to 1983. Cooke was a clinical associate professor from 1988 to 1995 and clinical professor from 1996 to 2013. He received a bachelor’s degree in biology from UT in 1943.

Samantha Cozad, a security officer on Health Science Campus, died Nov. 4 at age 20. The Toledo resident had worked at the University since May 2013. She was taking classes and was majoring in criminal justice at UT.

Dr. Robert Ehrlich, New York City, a former MCO faculty member, died Nov. 8 at age 76. H. joined the college in 1977 as an assistant professor in the Department of Pediatrics and was named an associate professor three years later. In 1985, he began a joint appointment after being named an associate professor in the Department of Anesthesiology. Ehrlich was director of the Pediatric Cardiology Division when he resigned in 1988. He also served as director of the Poison Control Center.

John David Frechette, Naples, Fla., who served on the MCO Foundation Board of Trustees from 1998 to 2003, died July 29 at age 71.

Alfred E. Gabrys, Toledo, a former volunteer with the Satellites Auxiliary, died Nov. 17 at age 83. He was a member of the advisory board and served as the vice president for finances, and also was an ambassador.

Edith A. Gholston, Clarksburg, W.Va., died Oct. 30 at age 92. She received a master of education degree in 1972 and later worked as a supervisor of student teachers.

Dr. Marvin E. Gottlieb, Toledo and Cleveland, a faculty member at MCO for nearly three decades, died Oct. 10 at age 80. He joined the faculty as an assistant professor of psychiatry in 1968 and was promoted to associate professor in 1970. Gottlieb served as acting

chair in 1972 and 1973. In 1988, he was promoted to professor of clinical psychiatry with tenure. When he retired in 1996, Gottlieb was awarded professor emeritus status.

Joseph P. Granata, Toledo, former instructor who taught engineering courses, died Nov. 22 at age 83.

Frances “Frankie” Green, Toledo, who was a member of the Satellites Auxiliary, died July 20 at age 92.

Dr. Robert W. Hamilton, Kernersville, N.C., who was a faculty member at MCO for a decade, died April 27 at age 76. He was professor of medicine and chief of the Division of Nephrology from 1989 to 1995. For two years, he served as director of curricular review. Hamilton retired in 1999 and one year later was named professor emeritus.

Paul W. Hankins, Toledo, facilitator at the Northwest Ohio Center for Labor-Management Cooperation from 1989 until his retirement in 2003, died May 26 at age 84.

Trazon Harris, Toledo, a custodial worker at UT since 1992, died July 20 at age 51. She took classes at the University.

Catherine M. Heintschel, Toledo, a MCO/MUO employee, died June 24 at age 68.

Christopher R. Helm, Toledo, who worked at UT 23 years, died Nov. 27 at age 73. He joined the University in 1968 as an administrative assistant in Personnel Services. In 1970, Helm was named employment supervisor and then employment manager in 1974. Six years later, he was promoted to manager of the office. He retired in 1991. Helm was an alumnus of the University; he received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education in 1964 and 1967, respectively. He was a lifetime member of the UT Alumni Association and the UT Retirees Association, and he served on the board of the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women for nine years.

John “Jack” A. Honsberger, Perrysburg, who joined MCO as an employee in 1999 and worked at the University until 2010, died May 20 at age 84. He also was a volunteer with the Satellites Auxiliary.

Kimberly A. (Pacer) Horn, Monroe, Mich., a nurse at MCO/MUO/UTMC from 1991 to 2012, died July 25 at age 48.

Dr. Peggy Hull Smith, Toledo, a faculty member in the Psychology Department for 28 years, died Aug. 14 at age 77. The UT alumna received bachelor of arts, master of arts and doctoral degrees in 1976, 1980 and 1983, respectively. She worked as a research assistant in the Psychology Department from 1976 to 1979. She was named an instructor in 1979, served as a visiting assistant professor in 1983, and was promoted to assistant professor in 1984 and associate professor in 1992. Hull Smith’s research focused on infant memory and learning. In 1993, she was named a Master Teacher in the College of Arts and Sciences. She served as a faculty adviser for Psi Chi National Honor Society in Psychology, and was a member of the

NEW RETIREES

Patricia Baldwin
Sandra Ballard
Mark Bartkowiak
Patricia Bayus
Donna Belkofer
Cathy Benninghoff
Nadine Binkowski
Dawn Blausey
Lisa Bonamigo
James Brazeau
Elidia Cervantes
Linda Chany
Carol Cowell
Donald Cowell
Marcia Culling
David Dierks
Robert Dilworth Jr.

Mary Dwyer
Roberta Edgcombe
Henrietta Edmonds
Carol Fairchild
John Fredericks
Jill Goldberg
Margaret Gregory
Claudette Harris-Holmes
Lisa Hasselschwert
Pamela Hennen
Herdia Hodges
Paula Holt
Colleen Hood
Paul Hubaker
Candace Hughes
Wendy Johnson

Mary Kern
Valerie King
Joseph Klep
Joanna Koenigseker
Mark Kosmyna
Alan Kossov
Janice Kusowski
Mary Lavoy
Thomas Llewert
Rose Limongi
Theresa Marshall
Jeffrey McAnall
Kenneth McKenzie
Linda McPherson
Barbara Monger
Katharine Mueller
Patrice Myers

Kathleen Petrignani
Nancy Pietras
Vickie Piriczky
Patricia Pulcini
Kathleen Ray
Sandra Rhoades
Debra Schaefer
Debra Schneider
Kathleen Schwenker
Debra Startzman
Maria Stevens
Carolyn Stillwill
Janet Struble
Odessa Tall
Norma Tomlinson
Janice Whitaker
Kathy Zember

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Carolyn Baumgartner
William Gray
Rebecca Hatcher
Betty Ann Masiulaniec
Joseph Sommerville

American Psychological Society, International Society on Infant Studies and the Jean Piaget Society.

Colleen E. (Duncan) Kajfasz, Toledo, a loan processor at the UT Federal Credit Union, died Sept. 16, at age 55. She worked at the credit union for more than 20 years.

Dr. Samuel L. Karr, Louisville, Ky., died Oct. 3 at age 86. He was a clinical associate professor of medicine from 1970 to 1972, and later a clinical assistant professor.

Dr. Marvin L. Michael Kay, Oberlin, Ohio, professor emeritus of history, died May 31 at age 86. He joined the UT faculty as an associate professor in 1971 and retired in 1992. He was chair of the UT Faculty Committee for Peace and Justice.

Nancy S. Kemper, Toledo, who worked in Carlson Library 15 years, died Nov. 5 at age 93. She joined the staff as a clerk in 1966, was promoted to clerk 2 in 1968, and clerk 3 in 1969. One year later, she became a library assistant and in 1975 a bibliographic assistant. In 1976, Kemper was named library media tech assistant 2, the position she held when she retired from the University in 1981.

Francis “Frank” J. Kollarits Jr., Whitehouse, associate professor emeritus of bioengineering, died May 12 at age 75. He was an assistant professor of radiology, physicist and biomedical engineer at MCO from 1976 to 1980. Kollarits joined the UT faculty as an associate professor of electrical engineering in 1981 and continued as an adjunct professor of radiology at MCO. In 1996, he started the Bioengineering Division in the College of Engineering. Contributions are suggested to the UT Foundation for a Parkinson’s and Movement Disorder Research and Education Fund.

Patricia E. “Patsy” Kropp, Toledo, who helped establish the Satellites Auxiliary at the former Medical College of Ohio, died Nov. 28 at age 79. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Kenneth Kropp, a urologist, who was recruited to join the MCO faculty in 1971. Once in Toledo, Patsy became involved with early volunteer efforts for the new college and served as president of the Women’s Association. MCO President Marion Anderson asked Kropp to unite several volunteer groups on campus, and she helped found the Satellites Auxiliary and served as president of the organization. Later in life, she was a foster mom for newborns. Kropp also wrote five books, including a children’s story titled *Three Bears and a Rabbit*.

Shelley S. Lehnert, Whitehouse, a clerical specialist in Rehabilitative Service Administration at UT Medical Center from 2006 to 2009, died May 6 at age 56. She is survived by Chuck Lehnert, UT vice president for corporate relations.

Dr. William M. “Bill” Leons, Brattleboro, Vt., who taught anthropology for 35 years, died June 2 at age 78. He joined UT as an assistant professor in 1975 and was named professor emeritus when he retired in 2010. Leons

served as adviser to the Vietnamese Student Association for several years and was adviser to the Latin American Studies Program from 1979 to 1985. While attending college in the early 1960s, the civil rights activist joined the Freedom Riders in Jackson, Miss.**Frances E. “Fran” (Trumbull) Link**, Toledo, a former volunteer with the Satellites Auxiliary, died Nov. 16 at age 89. She was a member of the advisory board and served as recording secretary.

Robert K. “Bob” Longley, Toledo, who was the tennis coach from 1979 to 1985, died Sept. 25 at age 91.

Benjamin F. Marsh, Maumee, who was a former chair and member of the MCO Board of Trustees, died May 19 at age 87. He served from 1981 to 1990.

Richard “Dick” Matthews, Medina, Ohio, a former UT employee, died Aug. 17 at age 88.

Jody Matzinger, Toledo, who worked at the University 21 years, died Sept. 19 at age 66. She was hired as a secretary and worked in the Medical Director’s Office at MCO in 1987. In 1990, she became a technical typist in the Heart Station, where one year later she became a records technician 2. Matzinger then worked as a registration specialist in the Registration Department until her retirement in 2008.

Freddie Mae Miller, Toledo, a longtime MCO employee, died Aug. 30 at age 86. She started working in the Blood Bank Department at Maumee Valley Hospital in 1950 and continued when it became the Medical College of Ohio. Miller collaborated with Dr. Peter Lao, who directed blood services at the American Red Cross in Toledo and taught at MCO, to develop a method to separate blood so that patients would receive only red blood cells, not plasma, which may contain harmful antibodies. She retired as blood bank supervisor in 1984.

Barbara (Brahier) McCauley, Toledo, died Sept. 15 at age 69. She established the library at Corpus Christi University Parish and served as its director for 10 years. McCauley also attended UT.

Joseph J. Monto II, Toledo, a member of the Satellites Auxiliary, died May 27 at age 79. The auxiliary board member was a greeter at the George Isaac Minimally Invasive Surgery Center and a laundry delivery volunteer. He is survived by his wife, Shirley, a University retiree.

Dr. Ruth A. Myers, Toledo, who taught at the University for three decades, died May 5 at age 80. She joined the UT faculty as an instructor in psychology in 1963 and was named assistant professor of psychology in 1965. She later was named adjunct associate professor.

Dr. Udayan Nandkeolyar, Toledo, professor and chair of the Information Operations Technology Management Department in the College of Business and Innovation, died Oct. 15 at age 61. He joined the faculty as an assistant professor in 1988. His research

focused on supply chain management, enterprise resource planning and logistics.

Constance A. Netter, Toledo, a volunteer with the Satellites Auxiliary who worked in the hospital gift shop, died July 5 at age 85. The UT alumna received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education in 1950 and 1957, respectively, and was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha.

Annabelle B. Orendorff, Perrysburg, a maintenance clerk and typist in Plant Operation. from 1977until her retirement in 1992, died May 18 at age 82.

Nancy C. (Freeborn) Peluso, Toledo, a clinic manager in family practice from 2005 to 2008, died May 31 at age 58.

Christopher J. Pio, Toledo, former UT employee, died Sept. 13 at age 28.

Ruth Pio, Toledo, an adjunct instructor in the MCO School of Nursing from 1986 to 1991, died Nov. 25 at age 82. She received a master of science degree in nursing from MCO in 1992.

Flora (Huff) Benton Poad, Oregon, died Aug. 18 at age 92. She was a library assistant and taught in the UT Library Sciences Department. The UT alumna received a master’s degree in library science in 1964.

Violet R. Pochadt, Toledo, a secretary in the College of Education from 1974 until her retirement in 1989, died Nov. 19.

JoAnn Redfern, Toledo, a cashier in the UT Bursar’s Office from 1991 until her retirement in 2001, died Oct. 29 at age 75.

Leonard “Lenny” Rhodes, Monclova, died Oct. 18 at age 87. He was a star basketball player for the Toledo Rockets, lettering from 1947 to 1950. Rhodes scored 811 points for UT, but was known for his defensive prowess. He played semi-pro basketball and suited up with the Harlem Globetrotters for one year. In 1987, he was inducted into the Varsity ‘T’ Hall of Fame. Rhodes was a former trustee of the UT Alumni Association. Tributes are suggested to the Rocket Fund through the UT Foundation.

Gloria A. Roach, Toledo, a cashier and account clerk in the UT Finance Department from 1972 to 1983, died July 3 at age 86.

Donald J. Ross, Summerville, S.C., who was a security officer at UT in 1995 and 1996, died Aug. 5 at age 67.

H. Alan Rudolph, Holland, a former local executive who taught marketing and sales, died May 24 at age 80.

Betty Mae Runkle, Perrysburg, died May 14 at age 90. In 1961, she began working as a billing clerk in the Maumee Valley Hospital, which later became MCO. She was accounting clerical supervisor when she retired in 1984.

Sheila R. Sauter, Holland, director of admitting at MCO from 1991 to 1993, died Aug. 2 at age 64.

Dr. Edward R. Savolaine, Westerville, Ohio, a faculty member at MCO for more than two decades, died Nov. 10 at age 76. He was hired as an assistant professor in the Department

of Radiology, and was promoted to associate professor in 1980 and professor in 1989. Savolaine received a joint appointment as an associate professor in neurological surgery in 1986 and was promoted to professor in the Department of Neurosciences in 1999. He received tenure in 1994 and was named professor emeritus when he retired in 2000.

David M. Showalter, Temperance, Mich., a former instructor who taught management classes, died Oct. 3 at age 87.

Gregory B. Siegel, Perrysburg, a pharmacist at UT Medical Center from 1999 until his retirement in June, died Aug. 23 at age 62. He received pharmacy and law degrees from UT in 1979 and 1984, respectively, and was a member of the University’s Institutional Review Board. Contributions in his honor can be made to the UT College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences through the UT Foundation.

Raleigh Ashbrook Slawson, Toledo, a library technician from 1982 to 1985, died Aug. 31 at age 99. He is survived by his daughter, Eva Slawson, patient registration specialist at UT Medical Center.

Maryl Slee, Perrysburg, a telephone operator at MCO from 1979 to 1992, died May 19 at age 85.

Jeanne H. (Heesen) Smith, Toledo, a typist in the College of Education from 1982 until her retirement in 1992, died Sept. 28 at age 90.

Robert S. Sullivant, Toledo, former UT administrator and professor emeritus of political science, died Sept. 25 at age 89. He came to the University in 1973 to serve as executive vice president. As the second ranking administrator, he oversaw alumni, public information, development, community services and government relations. He also was the chair of UT’s Fiscal Resources and

Planning Board. In 1988, Sullivant retired and returned to the classroom to teach. An authority on the nationalities in the former Soviet Union and on the Soviet Communist Party, he was the author of Soviet Politics and the Ukraine, 1919-1957.

Samuel P. Szor, Toledo, who taught music at the University during the 1960s, died Oct. 24 at age 84. He joined the UT faculty in 1963 as an assistant professor and conductor. Szor was director of the University Band and Concert Bands. In 1969, he was named associate director of student activities. In the early 1970s, he left UT to teach for Toledo Public Schools. The local legend became known as “Mr. Music” for conducting the Music Under the Stars concerts at the Toledo Zoo and for leading the Toledo Choral Society for decades. In addition, Szor played the bassoon in the Toledo Symphony Orchestra for years, and later conducted the symphony’s Casual Concerts for 10 years. He also was the conductor of the Perrysburg Symphony Orchestra for 20 years.

Patricia A. Tucker, Maumee, a data entry operator in the Quality Management Department at MCO from 1974 until her retirement in 2001, died Oct. 19 at age 68.

John P. Williamson, Northwood, longtime chair and CEO of Toledo Edison Co., died Oct. 26 at age 92. To celebrate the centennial of light in 1979, the company gave the University the Toledo Edison Memorial Fountain, which is located in front of the Student Union. A quote by Williamson is on a plaque on the fountain: “As Thomas E. Edison brought the light of electricity to mankind, this university brings the light of knowledge to its scholars.”

Dr. Calman Winegarden, Toledo, a UT faculty member for 27 years, died Nov. 16 at age 95. He joined the University in 1962 as an

instructor in the Department of Economics and worked his way up to professor. His research focused on economics and demography. Winegarden was a member of the UT chapter of the American Association of University Professors. When he retired in 1989, he was named research professor emeritus.

Mary T. Wolfe, Perrysburg, UT benefactor and advocate for the arts, died Oct. 23 at age 82. She and her husband, Frederic “Fritz,” gave the lead gift of \$1.5 million for the research laboratories for the College of Pharmacy and the departments of Biological Sciences and Chemistry. Dedicated in 1998, Wolfe Hall is adjacent to Bowman-Oddy Laboratories on Main Campus. To honor the couple’s \$2.5 million gift to support diabetes research, the new home for the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences on Health Science Campus was named the Frederic and Mary Wolfe Center when it opened in 2011. She also served on the UT Visual Arts Committee, which was responsible for integrating the arts on campus. Mary is survived by Frederic and daughters, Elizabeth Wolfe, Frederica Wolfe and Christine Wolfe Nichols.

Dr. William W. “Bill” Wolfe, Sylvania, a former faculty member who taught education and business classes, died Nov. 24 at age 67. The UT alumnus received a bachelor’s degree in 1976, a master of science degree in education in 1976, and a doctorate in health and physical education in 1994.

Laurene E. Zaporozhetz, Huber Heights, Ohio, a former dean of University Libraries, died Nov. 15 at age 63. She served as dean from 1999 to 2001.

REMEMBER WHEN...

By Mary Ann Heinrichs

Remember when the first medical students were enrolled at the Medical College in 1969?

Remember when every college had a ‘tailgating’ Homecoming tent?

Remember that in 1957 Channel 30 broadcast from University Hall?

Remember when classes for nursery school students were housed in Snyder Memorial?

Remember uncomfortably sitting on bleachers in the Field House during sporting events? Seats replaced them after 25 years of use.

Remember when women were trained to be military nurses at the University in conjunction with Toledo hospitals? More than 300 graduated from the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps Program during WWII.

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