

# Tower Talk

Karen Papadakis, editor

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is hard to believe that two years have passed since I became president of The University of Toledo Retirees Association (UTRA). I have been privileged to be surrounded by a very committed and reliable group of UT retirees from both the Main Campus and Health Science Campus.

The members of the UTRA Program Committee have implemented many programs for 2019-2020. Details are now available on the UT website. Our annual trip will be to Chicago in August.

If you would like to become involved in one of our committees (Benefits, Membership, Program [events], and/or Communications), feel free to contact anyone on the board.

While I am stepping down from the Office of President, I am certainly not leaving UTRA.

Serving on the Executive Board has given me the opportunity to meet many fellow UT retirees, and I have made many new friends. I look forward to maintaining these friendships, making new ones, and continuing to be involved with this wonderful association of retirees. I thank you for the opportunity to have served as your



president, and I hope you all continue to share my pride in UTRA!

Go Rockets!  
Sincerely,

*Donna Haar*

UTRA President  
2018-2019

## 'CHICAGO, CHICAGO, THAT TODDLIN' TOWN'

By Pat Russell and Shirley Joseph

Join fellow UTRA members on an exciting Diamond Tours luxury motor coach trip to Chicago for only \$489 per person (double occupancy) from Monday, Aug. 5 to Friday, Aug. 9, 2019.

Planned activities include the following: Guided tour of Chicago, a Skyline Cruise on Lake Michigan,

visits to the Museum of Science and Industry, 360 Chicago (formerly the John Hancock Observatory), the world famous Navy Pier, the Chicago Money Museum, and a Chicago area Casino.

Included are four nights of lodging, four breakfasts and four dinners. Free time will be scheduled

for shopping and/or sightseeing on your own.

For additional information and reservations contact Sarah Metzger (419) 530-2586.

To view pictures, video and further information, please visit [www.GroupTrips.com](http://www.GroupTrips.com) and search for University of Toledo.

## IN MEMORIAM – MILDRED (MILLIE) ALLRED

Dr. Mildred A. Allred, Toledo, former UTRA President and professor emerita of general studies, died Dec. 24 at age 95.

A UT alumna, she received bachelor and master of education degrees in 1958 and 1963, respectively. More than a decade later, she received a doctorate from Rutgers University.

After graduating from UT, she began teaching at UT's former Community and Technical College. She started as an instructor and was promoted to associate professor in 1969, and later to professor. During her career, she served on Faculty Senate, the American Association of University Professors Executive Committee, Student Affairs Committee, Faculty Affairs Committee, Academic Grievance Committee, and Academic Regulations Committee, among others.

In addition, Allred served on

the board and was chair of several committees of the University Women's Commission. She was a member of an advisory committee that conducted research leading to the establishment of the UT Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women.

She retired in 1986 and received emerita status. In 1987, Millie was one of the inaugural recipients of the University's Outstanding Woman Award.

Her involvement with the University continued as she volunteered with the ComTech Alumni Affiliate; she served as president of the group from 1991 to 1994. She also was president of the UT Retirees Association from 2008 to 2010, the first woman in that role, and was a former activities director for the group.

In addition to her service to UToledo, she was a leader in the Toledo Opera Guild, volunteered for

the German American Festival, and was a leader in activities of Toledo Sister Cities International and the Toledo-Szeged Committee.

"One of the things I loved about Millie was she was extremely hands-on," said Dan Saevig, UToledo associate vice president of alumni engagement. "She was the person who started those things and the person who really drove their success, a success that continues to this day. What really separated Millie from a lot of volunteers is that people instantly gravitated to her," Saevig said. "She would make you feel like a million dollars, and she would make you want to do more to make whatever was being planned be successful."

In 2011, Millie was honored by the UT Alumni Association as volunteer of the year. Her family suggests tributes to the UT Retirees' scholarship fund.

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## IN MEMORIAM – REEMT BAUMANN

Dr. Reemt R. Baumann, long-time UTRA Executive Board member and professor emeritus of educational research and measurement, died Oct. 9 at age 89.

He joined the faculty in the College of Education in 1966 and specialized in statistics, measurement and research procedures. Baumann was promoted to professor in 1973. He served as chair of the department from 1971 to 1976 and as director of the Division of Educational Foundations from 1976 to 1980.

In 1977, he received one of UT's Outstanding Teacher

Awards. Baumann also served on the Faculty Senate and the Graduate Council.

The Milwaukee native retired from the University in 1997.

During his many years on the UTRA Board he served in a number of positions, including Member-at-Large, UTRA Scholarship Committee chair, Historian, and Treasurer.

Memorials are suggested to the Education General Scholarship Fund through the UT Foundation; go to [give2ut.utoledo.edu](http://give2ut.utoledo.edu).

## HOW DO UTRA MEMBERS CONTRIBUTE TO OUR COMMUNITY?

By Barbara Floyd

As faculty and staff of the University of Toledo, all of us contributed to making our community a better place by educating and assisting UT's students. But that dedication to community service has not ended with retirement for many UTRA members.

*Tower Talk* would like to begin a regular feature that documents how our members have continued their commitment to making the world a

better place after retirement.

Are you volunteering for a local organization that makes a difference?

Are you using your expertise as a board member for a non-profit? Perhaps you have started your own organization that is filling a need in our community, or created an endowment that will live on as a legacy. If so, we want to feature your work in upcoming issues of *Tower Talk*.

Let us show others that UTRA members continue to make a difference. Send your information about ways both big and small that you engaged in the community and helped to improve our world (be that in Toledo or anywhere else).

Send your information to UTRA board member Barbara Floyd via email at [Barbara.floyd@utoledo.edu](mailto:Barbara.floyd@utoledo.edu). She will follow up with you. Thanks in advance for your help with this effort.

# HEALTH SCIENCE CAMPUS SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

Keith K. Schlender

Each year, proceeds from the Health Science Scholarship Fund are used to award scholarships to students in the colleges located on the Health Science Campus (HSC). Funding for the scholarships comes from three sources: income from the HSC Retiree Scholarship Endowment, contributions from HSC retirees and fund-raising activity such as the hospital shoe sales. This year, we were able to grant \$1,500 scholarships in each of the four colleges on the HSC: Graduate Studies, Medicine and Life Sciences, Nursing, and Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

The recipient from the College of Graduate Studies is Gayatri Subramanian. Gayatri is a fourth-year student in the Doctor of Biomedical Science Degree program. She is doing her dissertation research in the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology under the mentorship of Dr. Saurabh Chattopadhyaya.

Gayatri has successfully completed her qualifying examination and is now focusing on her dissertation project on the mechanistic evaluation of a novel Interferon Stimulated Gene (ISG) in viral infections. She recently received a Student Travel Award to attend the annual meeting of the American Society for Virology where she was selected to give an oral presentation of her research.

Dr. Chattopadhyaya noted, "Gayatri is a highly motivated, hardworking individual who is always setting her bar higher." In addition to her outstanding academic achievements, Gayatri was active on the Council of Biomedical Graduate Students, serving one year as a council member, one year as secretary, and one year as president.

The recipient from the College of Medicine and Life Sciences is third-year medical student Kent Kern. Kent

is a native of Toledo, a graduate of St. Johns Jesuit High School, and Miami University. Kent was a four-year member of the Miami football team, two years as team captain, and three times named to the All Mid-American Conference Academic Team.

As an undergraduate, he was able to manage the rigors of a premed curriculum, football, and time to volunteer for several community organizations. As a medical student, Kent has continued to be both outstanding in the classroom and in the community. Kent states, "As one born and raised in Toledo, it is a personal goal of mine to serve my community. I have benefited in countless ways from my experiences with various non-profit organizations, and have always been amazed at the multitude of people, with various unique capabilities, who band together to achieve a common goal. I believe that I have much to offer these organizations through use of my knowledge and leadership skills, and that it is now my time to pay it forward."

Kent has volunteered extensively in the Community Care Clinic, a free clinic run by UT medical and health professions students. The mission of the clinic is to provide free and quality health care to the underserved and to raise healthcare awareness in the Toledo community. He also has volunteered for both the Toledo Compassion Clinic and Universal Health Aid, both organizations that provide health care for the underserved.

The recipient from the College of Nursing is Hui Ling Chen. Hui Ling is a student in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing to Doctor of Nursing Practice (BSN/DPN) program with a Family Nurse Practitioner concentration.

She is originally from Taiwan and has been in the United States for 13 years.

Hui Ling obtained her associate degree in nursing from Owens Community College, and she was the recipient of the Dean of Nursing award when she received her RN to BSN degree from the University of Toledo. Currently employed by Flower Hospital, Hui Ling was nominated for the hospital's Nursing Excellence Award in 2016. Hui Ling was selected as one of the participants for 2018 Midwest Nursing Research Society seminar, focusing on "Cancer Patients and Family Caregivers as a Unit of Care – An Integrative Literature Review."

Hui Ling did part of her clinicals at the Community Care Clinic. She is very determined to be a dependable nurse, whom her patients can rely on for their health care. She is confident in what she does as a nurse and appreciates the opportunity to be part of other people's lives and improve their wellbeing during a vulnerable time.

Currently, she works on the inpatient oncology floor and has the desire to specialize her interest in this population. Her evidence-based doctoral project will be focusing on the oncology population and their family caregivers.

The scholarship for the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is shared by two students: Pranav Patel and Alexander Wisner.

Pranav Patel is a Pharm D graduate from the University of Toledo and is currently pursuing an MS in Health Outcomes and Socioeconomic Sciences.

He is presently involved in multiple projects aimed at answering questions on comparative effectiveness. He has presented six poster presentations at professional conferences. Pranav has given many presentations to UT pharmacy students, pharmacists, and various  
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# UTRA SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

By Brenda McKinley

Last October, UTRA participated in the UT Day of Giving fundraiser, and we were delighted with the success! UTRA received 23 gifts totaling more than \$4,000. These gifts will increase the endowment fund and allow UTRA to provide more scholarship funds to deserving students like Morgan Dembowski, Regan Simon and Maggie Nigro, the 2018/2019 UTRA Scholarship recipients.

Two of those recipients, Morgan and Regan, along with their guests, attended the UTRA Holiday Brunch held at Heather Downs Country Club on Dec. 9, 2018. Morgan and Regan both addressed the gathering; it was gratifying for the Scholarship Committee and membership in attendance to get to listen to and to meet them.

While we were honoring the 2018/2019 scholarship recipients at the UTRA Holiday Brunch, we also were accepting electronic applications for the 2019/2020 Academic Year. The

electronic application deadline was Feb. 1, 2019, and UTRA accepted paper applications through May 1, 2019. Looking to the future, we ask that if you know of any deserving student(s) that fulfill the following criteria, you encourage them to submit an online application.

The 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 UT faculty/staff retirees who are dues-paying members of The University of Toledo Retirees Association 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.

The scholarship funds may be applied to tuition and related expenses,

including room and board, lab fees, and books. The scholarship may be renewed but applicants must reapply.

Paper applications were mailed to UTRA membership in February 2019. If you did not receive the form in February, contact Brenda McKinley at [brenda.mckinley@utoledo.edu](mailto:brenda.mckinley@utoledo.edu) to make sure UTRA has your correct address on file.

We look forward to the opportunity to assist additional deserving students in the coming year.

Speaking of assistance, I would be remiss if I didn't give recognition to the scholarship committee members Jim Lapp, Keith Schlender, and Samir Abu-Absi for their efforts. Thanks, also, to UTRA President Donna Haar and Vice President Curt Black, the outstanding UTRA Executive Board, and the great team of professionals in the Office of Alumni Engagement who support UTRA. Thanks to all. GO ROCKETS!

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## HEALTH SCIENCE CAMPUS SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

UToledo health care providers. Pranav has been an active member of the University of Toledo Graduate Student Association (UT-GSA). He was a member of the steering committee for the Annual Midwest Graduate Research Symposium organized by the UT-GSA.

Alex Wisner is a PhD student in the Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. He received his master's degree in Pharmacology from UToledo and is currently working on his PhD in Experimental Therapeutics.

His research, using in vivo zebrafish models, has required

him to develop a range of skills in zebrafish husbandry and various research methods. Mastering these skills provides him with the unique opportunity to show excellence in a systems approach to research.

Additionally, Alex has collaborated with multiple faculty within the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and at Bowling Green State University to provide them with zebrafish for experiments, and he has helped troubleshoot experimental problems.

The Health Science Scholarship Committee has members from each of the four colleges on the Health Science Campus.

The committee members would like to acknowledge the committee service of Dr. Peter White. Dr. White was one of the initial faculty of the Medical College of Ohio.

He joined MCO as an Associate Professor of Medicine and was one of the founders of the Department of Medicine.

Over his career, be it MCO, MUO, or UTMC, Dr. White distinguished himself as an outstanding teacher, clinician, scholar, and human being. He was a mentor and colleague to many of us.

He has asked to step down from the committee, and we wish him well.

# NEWS FROM COLUMBUS

By James Lapp

STRS Ohio's new actuary, Cheiron, Inc., released its annual pension valuation report for the year ending June 30, 2018. The valuation for the health care fund was changed from a January 1 calendar-year basis to a July 1 fiscal-year basis, so this valuation period's results are for the six-month period since the last valuation was conducted.

The report noted that the pension plan's funded ratio improved slightly to 75.5 percent from 75.1 percent last year. STRS Ohio's unfunded actuarial liability decreased slightly to \$23.79 billion, down from \$23.91 billion last year. The funding period — the amount of time needed until assets match actuarial liabilities — also improved, decreasing to 17.8 years from 18.4 years last year.

Investment returns for the 2018 fiscal year topped 9.5 percent and helped account for part of the funding improvement. STRS Ohio's Defined Benefit and Combined Plans paid about \$7.1 billion in benefits during the fiscal year. Total covered payroll increased by 3.2 percent during the fiscal year, slightly ahead of the system's 3 percent payroll growth assumption.

The STRS Health Care Fund balance as of July 1, 2018, was \$3.72 billion, an increase from \$3.69 billion on January 1, 2018. The valuation showed that benefit payouts for the 12-month period ending June 30, 2018, totaled about \$517 million, an average of about \$1.4 million per day. The funded ratio of the plan is 176 percent.

As of June 30, 2018, STRS had 216 benefit recipients who are age 100 or older. The oldest STRS service retiree is a 108-year-old who began teaching in 1930 and retired in 1975.

The retiree who has been receiving benefits the longest is a 105-year-old recipient who retired in 1969 at age 56 after 35 years of service. STRS has

been paying this retired educator for 49 years.

Preliminary reports indicate that OPERS' two main investment funds declined in the year ending Dec. 31, 2018 as financial markets suffered a downturn during the fourth quarter. The Defined Benefit Fund earned a negative 2.67 percent return, and the Health Care Fund earned a negative 5.31 percent return for the year, according to initial, unaudited return information.

The loss of assets in the Defined Benefit Fund will have the effect of reducing OPERS' funding level from 81 to 77 percent. The amortization period is expected to increase from 18 to 28 years. Also, beginning in the 2018 calendar year, OPERS lowered its assumed actuarial rate of return from 7.5 percent to 7.2 percent for the Defined Benefit fund, and from 6.5 to 6.0 percent for the Health Care Fund.

Thanks to a health plan design change (switching those 65+ to the OPERS Medicare Connector), the system is spending less for this group. However, costs for pre-Medicare coverage continue to increase sharply. The per-member, per-year expense for those in the OPERS pre-Medicare plan has increased 38 percent over the past seven years. Fewer members are enrolled but the percentage of participants with chronic illnesses is high, causing costs to increase.

Combining actuarial estimates of lower investment growth over the next two decades with the fact that OPERS no longer allocates any part of employer contributions to the Health Care Fund, means OPERS must re-examine the health care program. It is likely that the evaluation will begin with pre-Medicare options.

The National Institute on Retirement Security quantifies the economic impact of pension payments in the United States overall and in each of the 50 states individually and the

District of Columbia. By estimating the employment, output, value added and tax impacts of pension benefit expenditures at the national and state levels, the analyses continually show how important expenditures made with retiree pension benefits are to the national, state and local economies.

Pensionomics 2018: Measuring the Economic Impact of Defined Benefit Pension Expenditures found that nationwide, retiree spending of pension benefits in 2016 (the most recent figures available) generated \$1.2 trillion in total economic output, supporting some 7.5 million jobs across the United States.

Pension spending also contributed \$202.6 billion to federal, state and local government funds through taxes paid on retirees' pension benefits and their spending.

Specific to Ohio, the study results found that 469,649 residents of the state received \$15 billion in pension benefits from state and local pension plans in 2016. The average pension benefit received was \$31,861 per year.

Expenditures from those benefits supported 144,658 jobs in the state that paid \$6.3 billion in wages and salaries. Ohio's pensions also supported \$20.7 billion in total economic impact and \$3.7 billion in federal, state and local tax revenues (taxes paid by retirees and beneficiaries on pensions totaled \$1.1, while taxes attributable to direct, indirect and induced impacts accounted for \$2.6 billion in tax revenue).

Defined benefit pension expenditures have large multiplier effects. Each dollar paid out in pension benefits furthered \$1.38 in total economic activity in the state as retiree spending rippled through the state economy.

Each dollar contributed by Ohio taxpayers to these plans boosted \$6.12 in total economic activity in the state.

## UTRA HOLIDAY BRUNCH — December 9, 2018



For the third year, the UTRA Holiday Brunch was held at Heather Downs Country Club. Once again, UTRA members and guests enjoyed each other's company and shared a wonderful brunch in this lovely setting. UTRA Scholarship awards were announced and presented to two of the three recipients who were able to attend. Morgan Dembowski and Regan Simon, pictured above, were the scholarship recipients who attended. Members also donated stuffed toys for a collection to be given to children at The University of Toledo Medical Center.

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## TOLEDO MUSEUM OF ART TOUR — January 3, 2019



This well-attended docent-led tour focused on the Frans Hals Family Portrait Exhibition. The tour was arranged for UTRA members by former UToledo faculty member, Dr. David Guip. The exhibition was devoted to the family portraiture of Frans Hals (1582-1666), one of the foremost painters of the Dutch Golden Age. The Toledo Museum of Art and the Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium in Brussels organized the exhibition to celebrate the Toledo Museum of Art's 2011 acquisition of Frans Hals' Van Campen Family Portrait in a Landscape, as well as the recent conservation of Brussels' Three Children of the Van Campen Family portrait.

## WINE 101 — September 18, 2018



For a cost of \$15 per person, UTRA members were treated to the expertise of Jim Sautter of Sautter's Markets in Sylvania and Waterville. Jim is a sommelier, a trained wine professional who specializes in all aspects of wine, including how to pair wine with food. For this tasting, he selected wines from France, California, Spain, and South America, as well as foods to pair with the wine. This educational wine tasting event also provided the early history of wine, current trends and entertaining stories.

## HEALTHY LIVING FOR YOUR BRAIN AND BODY — February 20, 2019



Lynn Ritter, at left, education coordinator at the Alzheimer Association's Northwest Ohio Chapter gave a talk about the health of the brain and body and how they are connected. Science is able to provide insights into how to make lifestyle choices that may help you keep your brain and body healthy as you age. She provided hands-on tools to help develop a plan for healthy aging.

# JOIN A UTRA GROUP THAT MEETS MONTHLY

## CARDS AND GAMES

Hey! Do you like playing cards? I'll let you in on a fact — there's a card game going on every 2nd Tuesday of the month from 2-4 p.m. Where? The players meet at the 31Hundred restaurant located at the Radisson Hotel on the UT Health Science Campus. There is plenty of free parking, so come join us. Enter through the main hotel doors; once inside the lobby, go to the right through the double glass doors, pass the bar, and go back to the restaurant area.



Meet some old friends; make some new friends. Invite others to come play euchre, bridge, or make this your usual spot to play a few hands of your favorite card game or whatever game you like to play. The space is comfortable with a nice view. For more information or if you have a question, please contact Sandy Koepke at 419.865.9621 or send an email to Sandra.Koepke@utoledo.edu.

## BREAKFAST GROUP

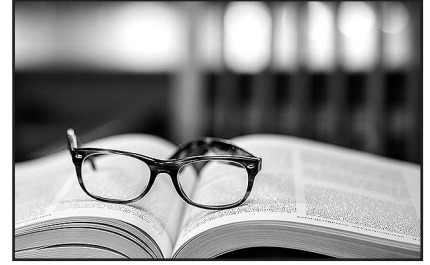
Our breakfast group meets the first Tuesday of each month at Denny's, 6290 W. Central Ave., at 9:30 a.m. with one exception. Traditionally, instead of breakfast on the first Tuesday in December, the

group will meet at Red Lobster on Monroe Street for a luncheon at noon. If you plan to attend the luncheon Dec. 8, 2019, please RSVP to Marge Dell at 419.346.5780. All are welcome, come join us!



## BOOK BUDDIES BOOK CLUB

The UTRA book club, "Book Buddies" meets the first Wednesday of each month from 2 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. The group normally meets at 31Hundred Restaurant inside the Radisson Hotel located on the UT Health Science Campus. There is free and convenient parking. This may change so please verify location when you are sent the monthly email reminder.



Anyone who loves to read is welcome to join our 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

## UPCOMING BOOKS FOR 2019

- 6/05 — *Life, On the Line: A Chef's Story...*, by Grant Achatz
- 7/03 — *Clara and Mr. Tiffany*, by Susan Vreeland
- 8/07 — *In the Heart of the Sea*, by Nathaniel Philbrick
- 9/04 — *Educated*, by Tara Westover
- 10/02 — *Mrs. Sherlock Holmes*, by Brad Ricca
- 11/06 — *What the Eyes Don't See: A Story of Crisis...*, by Mona Hanna Attisha
- 12/04 — *Callings: The Purpose and Passion of Work*, by Dave Isay

## LUNCH BUNCH

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| Schedule for May – December 2019  | 6742 Sylvania Ave., Sylvania, 419.882.3465   |
| The Lunch Bunch group meets the third Thursday of each month.                             | September 19, 2019, Max & Erma's, 1 p.m.<br>1391 Arrowhead at Dussel, Maumee, 419.887.1682 |
| May 16, 2019, Manhattan's Pub 'n Cheer, 1 p.m.<br>1516 Adams St., 419.243.6675            | October 17, 2019, Benchmark, 1 p.m.<br>6130 Levis Commons, Perrysburg, 419.873.6590        |
| June 20, 2019, Briarfield Cafe, Brunch 10 a.m.<br>3220 Briarfield, Maumee, 419.865.7260   | November 21, 2019, Rosie's, 1 p.m.<br>605 McCord Rd., Springfield, 419.866.5007            |
| July 18, 2019, Saba's Bistro, 1 p.m.<br>1705 Tollgate (Holiday Inn), Maumee, 419.283.4864 | December 19, 2019, Hot Sizzling Wok, 1 p.m.<br>2333 W. Laskey Rd., Toledo, 419.475.0065    |
| August 15, 2019, Classic Cafe, 1 p.m.   |  |



# UTRA COMMITTEES REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

## UTRA BENEFITS COMMITTEE

By Judith Wilkinson

Members of the UTRA Benefits Committee are Judith Wilkinson, Chair, James Lapp, and Keith Schlender.

Plans are to meet on an annual basis with UToledo's HR Benefits Manager to stay current on the University's policies regarding retirees and to determine the information new retirees receive from their office about UTRA; to participate in any offered university-wide benefits fair; to work to expand benefits for retirees; to create an updated benefits document on the UToledo Alumni web page; to send an email blast to members when new benefits are added; and to consider an APP to take a picture of a UTRA membership card for easy availability/access to benefits.

Any UTRA member interested in serving on the Benefits Committee can contact Judith Wilkinson via email at [Judith.Wilkinson@utoledo.edu](mailto:Judith.Wilkinson@utoledo.edu).

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## UTRA PROGRAM COMMITTEE: UPCOMING EVENTS

By Pat Russell and Shirley Joseph

The UTRA Program Committee has upcoming events planned which include:

- Tour of the historic Libbey Home in April.
- Trip to the Wolcott Heritage Center May 16 with a lecture on "Victorian Clothing and Underpinnings."
- Annual meeting in June at Belmont Country Club.
- Tour of the Great Lakes Museum is planned for July.

Since the Alumni Office moved from the Driscoll Alumni Center to the new Center for Alumni and Donor Engagement, Driscoll rooms are no longer available for UTRA activities.

Please check your email/mail regularly for future UTRA events, dates and places; and when required, registration. Our committee always welcomes your comments and input on future activities.

## UTRA NOMINATING COMMITTEE

By Judith Wilkinson

Donna Haar appointed the following members to serve on the UTRA Nominating Committee at the January 9, 2019, UTRA Board Meeting: Judith Wilkinson, Chair, Jim Lapp, Keith Schlender, Karen Papadakis, Shirley Joseph and Donna Haar. The Nominating Committee met several times within the months of January and February.

A slate of potential candidates for UTRA officers and members-at-large was submitted to the UTRA Executive Board for approval at the March 13, 2019, Board meeting.

Voting members of UTRA will receive their ballot in the mail in mid-April with a return deadline of May 17. A lot of time, effort and thought went into identifying a good mix of candidates for the 2019-2020 Executive Board officers and members-at-large and completion of the process tasks.

Come join us at the UTRA Annual Meeting, which will be held at the Belmont Country Club on Wednesday, June 12, where the results of the election will be announced.

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

By Kathy Sbrocchi

The Membership Committee would like to welcome all recent and new retirees from both the Main and Health Science Campuses. UTRA offers many opportunities throughout the year to interact with former fellow retirees and to meet new friends. Other benefits are also offered.

If you are not receiving our emails announcing current events, please verify your email with the Alumni office as that office also works with updating the UT retirees information. 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.

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## WELCOME NEW RETIREES AND LIFETIME MEMBERS

### NEW RETIREES:

Jeannie H. Brockmyer  
Glenn Burch  
Mary Beth Kurtz  
Darlene Stickles  
Dianne Wisniewski

### NEW LIFE MEMBERS:

Linda Bode  
Elizabeth S. Hagen  
Saleh Jabarin  
Bruce Kwiatkowski  
Cynthia Soncrant

# IN MEMORIAM

**Michael J. “Sonny” Ahern III**, Toledo, joined the faculty in 1974 as an assistant professor of business education and later moved to the Finance Department in the College of Business. Ahern retired in 1993 and was named professor emeritus, died July 18 at age 79.

**Mildred A. Allred**, Toledo, died Dec. 24 at age 95. (Please see article within this newsletter)

**Katherine G. “Kae” Ames**, Toledo, medical transcriptionist at MCO until her retirement. In 2000, at age 77, she graduated from UT with a bachelor’s degree in adult liberal studies. Died June 28 at age 95.

**Marcia H. (Schoch) Baltzell**, Temperance, Mich., clerk in Registration at UT from 1982 until she retired in 1990, died Jan. 9 at age 88.

**Reemt R. Baumann**, Toledo, died Oct. 9 at age 89. (Please see obit within this newsletter)

**Norman Blume**, Mission Hills, Calif., professor emeritus of political science. He joined UT as an assistant professor in 1956 and was promoted to the rank of full professor in Political Science. He retired in 1983, died Oct. 21 at age 94.

**Maria H. Contreras**, Toledo, taught Spanish at UT from 2008 until May 2018, died Aug. 7 at age 57.

**Lawrence V. Conway**, UT professor emeritus of finance and dean emeritus, in 1975 he joined the University as dean of the College of Business Administration. Conway wrote many books on finance and investing. Conway founded the Global Medical Missions Hall of Fame in 2004 to honor individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to advancing the medical well-being of people world-wide. The hall of fame

can be seen in the lobby of the Jacobs Interprofessional Immersive Simulation Center. He retired from UT in 1994, died Dec. 16 at age 96.

**Annie P. Davis-Watson**, Toledo, custodial worker at MCO from 1978 until her retirement in 1990, died Sept. 10 at age 91.

**Dewitt C. Davison**, Toledo, joined the University as an assistant professor of education in 1967 and was promoted to associate professor of educational psychology in 1973, died Oct. 24 at age 86.

**Ralph Dobelbower**, Aurora, N.Y., joined the MCO faculty in 1980. He retired in 2005 and was named professor emeritus of radiation oncology at that time. He was internationally recognized as a pioneer in the field of gastrointestinal cancer, especially for his work in the development of innovative treatment techniques for pancreatic cancer. Died Nov. 23 at age 78.

**Penelope (Penny) S. (Willis) Drain**, Maumee, administrative assistant who worked with the president from 1971 until she retired in 2004, died Sept. 29 at age 75.

**Mats A. Fernstrom**, Toledo, biomedical research assistant at MCO/MUO/UT from 1996 until he retired in 2011, died July 7 at age 71.

**Marcia G. (Guttenberg) Friedman**, Sylvania, Ohio, administrative assistant in the Admissions Office for 20 years, retiring in the 1980s, died Sept. 14, at age 91.

**Joyce E. Fulkerson**, Toledo, nurse and surgical technician at MCO/MUO/UTMC from 1965 until her death, died Nov. 5 at age 71.

**Dean M. Giolando**, Toledo, professor of chemistry. He joined the UT faculty

as an assistant professor in 1988, received tenure and was promoted to associate professor in 1994 and was named professor in 2001. His research focused on inorganic organometallic chemistry. Died Jan. 2 at age 61.

**Daniel J. Hanson**, Toledo, clinical professor emeritus of pathology and an adjunct professor of pharmacy. He started his volunteer faculty appointment at MCO in 1971. Died Nov. 2 at age 90.

**Elaine Hester**, Toledo, a nurse at MCO from 1981 to 1991, died Sept. 2 at age 64.

**Rosemary L. (Reas) Kahle**, Perrysburg, assistant professor of nursing; she helped develop a nursing skills lab. She was a faculty member at MCO from 1976, retired in 1995, died Nov. 16 at age 84.

**Robin M. Kennedy**, Toledo, associate professor emeritus of law, joined the College of Law faculty in 1973 as a visiting assistant professor and director of the Mental Health Law Clinic. In 1977 he was promoted associate professor. He retired in 2013, died Oct. 10 at age 73.

**Ilana J. Iwens Kennell**, Bowling Green, Ohio, taught piano in the Department of Music from 1990 until she retired in 2010. In 2003, she was named the Northwest Ohio District Teacher of the Year by the Ohio Music Teachers Association, which two years later, along with the Music Teachers National Association, recognized her as a Nationally Certified College Teacher of the Year. She recorded contemporary chamber music and she performed on NPR, died Oct. 3 at age 66.

**Patricia C. (Schinner) Kunst**, Elsmere, Ky., worked in several departments at the University from 1995 to 2006,

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# IN MEMORIAM

Continued from Page 10

**Calvin Lawshe**, Maumee, Ohio. He joined the faculty as an instructor in the Business Technology Department in 1974. Three years later, he was named assistant professor, in 1987 chair. Lawshe was named assistant to the vice president for academic affairs in 1994. In 2000, he was appointed interim vice president for student services, and continued as assistant to the president for community relations. He retired in 2002 and taught until 2003, died Sept. 5 at age 71.

**Donna L. "Donnie" Linear**, Toledo, a paralegal for Student Legal Services on campus for more than two decades, died Oct. 16 at age 64.

**Dolores A. (Gogolewski) Lucitte**, Temperance, Mich., data processor in the College of Business for two decades, retiring in 2002, died Sept. 1 at age 77.

**Margaret R. "Marge" Mangas**, Toledo, section supervisor in the MCO Hematology and Pathology Department, she was hired in 1970 and worked for more than two decades, died Dec. 27, 2018 at age 89.

**John L. Mason**, Waterville, Ohio, joined UT as an assistant professor of marketing in 1960. Four years later, Mason was named assistant dean of the College of Business and was appointed dean in 1966. He left UT in 1974 and returned to teach as a visiting professor of marketing in 1987. Died Sept. 3, 2018 at age 87.

**Dominic R. Mattoni**, Perrysburg, Ohio, a custodial worker at UT from 2004 to 2011, died Sept. 7, 2018 at age 61.

**Rebeckah (Rebecca) McGraw**, Toledo, aide at the daycare center and later a dialysis technician during the 1970s and 1980s. Died Jan. 21 at age 67.

**William McMillen**, Perrysburg, Ohio, worked at MCO/MUO/UT from 1982 until he retired in 2012. He most recently served as interim provost and executive vice president for academic

affairs in 2010 and delayed his retirement to take the post permanently in 2011. McMillen was vice president for government relations for both UT and MUO from 2005 to 2006; he played a pivotal role in navigating the legislative process that led to the merger of the two institutions. Died Nov. 23, 2018 at age 71.

**John E. Meadows**, Holland, Ohio, former UT instructor taught Spanish at his alma mater from 2008 to 2011. Died Dec. 31, 2018 at age 46.

**Dean L. Meinke**, Newport, Mich., professor emeritus of educational psychology, he joined the UT faculty as an associate professor in 1968 and was promoted to professor in 1972. Meinke was a licensed psychologist in Ohio. Died Sept. 5, 2018 at age 85.

**Julie A. (James) Murden**, Toledo, heart transplant administrator and data control technician at MUO from 1988 until she retired in 2001, died Oct. 2, 2018 at age 70.

**Rita E. (Pratt) Neyhart**, Perrysburg, nurse at MCO for more than two decades until her retirement, died Oct. 12 at age 75.

**Barbara J. Padgett**, Toledo, secretary at MCO from 1979 to 1990, died Oct. 15, 2018 at age 63.

**Elizabeth A. "Beth" (Vasko) Powers**, Oregon, Ohio, baker with Aramark at UT for 31 years, died Aug. 12, 2018 at age 59.

**James L. Routson**, Oregon, former instructor of mathematics, died Dec. 2, 2018 at age 79.

**Deborah Kovac Rump**, Maumee, taught in the College of Law 15 years, died July 30, 2018 at age 59.

**Richard W. Saxe**, Toledo, Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Educational Administration and Supervision, he joined the College of Education faculty as an associate

professor in 1966. Saxe was promoted to professor and assistant dean of research and development in the college in 1968. He retired in 1993. Died Sept. 11 at age 95.

**Daniel C. "Dan" Seemann**, Sylvania, Ohio, professor emeritus of counselor education, he served as the first director of student activities from 1967 to 1976. After receiving his doctorate in 1979, Seemann became a faculty member, and taught for several years. Died Sept. 3, 2018 at age 88.

**Willard (Bill) W. Smith**, Toledo, UT's chief business officer for 28 years. He began his longtime association with UT as a lecturer of political science in 1954. Smith was hired as director of administration and assistant professor of political science in 1961. Three years later, he was named vice president-treasurer and served in that position until 1975 when he became vice president for business affairs. During his tenure, the University transformed from a municipal institution with just a few buildings into a state school with more than 40 buildings on three campuses. He in 1989, died Dec. 2, 2018 at age 91.

**Sharon M. (Schon) Spencer**, Toledo, secretary at UT from 1997 until her retirement in 2010, died Oct. 8, 2018 at age 72.

**Joseph A. Stobinski**, Oregon, he taught graphic arts at his alma mater for more than three decades, died Jan. 2, at age 95.

**Robert D. Stutz**, Toledo, in 1961 he graduated from UT, he later returned to his alma mater as an instructor and taught accounting. Died Jan. 19 at age 81.

**Deanna J. Thomas**, Toledo, former UT employee, died Nov. 25, 2018 at age 78.

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## UTRA Tower Talk

### IN MEMORIAM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

**Mildred "Millie" Tipton**, Blissfield, Mich., joined the staff in the College of Arts and Sciences as a clerk in 1975. She was honored by the University Women's Commission with an Outstanding Woman Award in 1989. Tipton retired in 1997, died Dec. 15 at age 81.

**Lawrence Turner**, Toledo, former University employee who retired in 1985, died Aug. 22 at age 85.

**Tad Weed**, Ypsilanti, Mich., associate professor in the Department of Music. He joined the UT faculty as an assistant professor of jazz piano in 2011 and was promoted to associate professor with tenure in 2017. Weed taught jazz piano, arranging and improvisation, and was co-director of Vocalstra, a vocal jazz ensemble founded by Jon Hendricks. Died Aug. 22 at age 61.

**Gregory J. Wingate**, Toledo, former painter at UT, died Aug. 27 at age 54.

**Joann M. Winters**, Toledo, clerk in the Finance Department from 1968 until 1979. She returned to the UT as a cashier in the Finance Department from 1982 until her retirement in 1994, died Dec. 29 at age 89.