

## UToledo Student Interns on Capitol Hill Through Congressional Black Caucus Foundation

By Christine Billau

Emir Moore started his senior year at The University of Toledo in Washington, D.C., interning on Capitol Hill in the office of the youngest black woman elected to Congress.

“My capacity to make a change in the world is way higher than I thought,” said Moore, who studies business management and marketing at UToledo and serves as president of the Black Student Union. “The experience of being involved in such important work raised my glass ceiling, in a way. I hope this can be an inspiration for other students of color.”

Moore is one of 25 African-American college students across the country selected by the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation for its internship program sponsored by State Farm. He is the first UToledo student chosen to participate.

During fall semester, he worked in the office of Lauren Underwood, a freshman representative from Illinois and member of the Congressional Black Caucus, which is made up of 55 members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.

Based with the communications staff, Moore learned the intricacies of the federal legislative process and media relations.

“This is such an incredible learning experience, and we are so glad that Mr. Moore applied and was selected for this prestigious opportunity,” Diane Miller, chief of staff and associate vice president for government relations, said. “This internship gave him an up-close view of our federal government in action that very few get a chance to experience. I hope that his unique experience motivates other students to pursue meaningful experiential learning opportunities as well.”

In addition to meeting Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Elizabeth Warren and civil rights leader Rep. John Lewis of Georgia, Moore said the highlight of the internship was witnessing Underwood lead two of her bills toward passage in September – H.R. 3525, the U.S. Border Patrol Medical Screening Standards Act, and H.R. 3526, the Counter Terrorist Network Act.

“I’ve been exposed to aspects of how Washington works and found that you have to think fast and be flexible,” Moore said. “No two days this semester were alike. A work day might include a press conference in the morning and then guiding constituents on tours so they can witness proceedings on the House floor. On the day H.R. 3525 passed, I had the honor of accompanying two



ON THE HILL: UToledo senior Emir Moore was one of 25 African-American students in the nation selected by the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation for an internship.

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## NAACP Division Director to Speak at UToledo for Black History Month

Activist Tiffany Loftin, director of the NAACP Youth and College Division, will talk about advocacy and empowerment for communities of color when she visits The University of Toledo for Black History Month.



Loftin

She will speak Thursday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m. in Doermann Theatre.

For the NAACP, Loftin serves more than 700 youth councils and high school and college chapters fighting for civil rights. She is known for her passion for membership-based organizing at the local, state and national levels.

She believes her mission is to develop students into leaders who can stand up for what they believe in.

“My first value in this work is to make sure that our young people are treated as respectable young adults,” Loftin said during an interview with The Crisis Magazine. “Our young folks are more woke, taking more risks, and having more important conversations at a younger age that a lot of us didn’t have to have when we were young.”

“We are excited Tiffany Loftin is coming to campus to give our keynote address during Black History Month,” David Young, UToledo director of Toledo Excel and Special Projects, said. “She is a dynamic leader, and we expect her to fire up our students to get involved and make a difference in the fight for equality.”

In 2011, Loftin became the first person in her family to graduate from

college when she received dual degrees in American studies and political science from the University of California at Santa Cruz. She became president of the U.S. Student Association, the largest student-led organization in the nation that represents student governments and students, and coordinated campaigns addressing student loan debt and expanding financial aid for low-income and students of color.

She also worked for the AFL-CIO Labor Commission on Racial and Economic Justice and served as racial justice program coordinator for the Civil, Human and Women’s Rights Department, where she focused on creating dialogue and action addressing the racial and economic disparities impacting workers.

Prior to joining the NAACP last February, Loftin was senior program specialist in community advocacy and partnership engagement at the Center for Social Justice with the National Education Association. Her responsibilities included aligning the association’s priorities within the African-American and progressive communities and creating opportunities

to address racial and economic gaps that affect educators, students and communities.

When Loftin was 24 in 2013, President Barack Obama appointed her to serve on the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for African Americans in Higher Education.

In addition to Loftin’s free, public talk, the University will pay tribute to this year’s theme, “Celebrating Resilience,” with several events during Black History Month. Listed by date, events will include:

- **Monday, Feb. 3** – Back 2 Black Involvement Fair and Black History Month Kickoff, 7 to 9 p.m., Thompson Student Union Ingman Room. Stop by to learn about African-American organizations and how to become more involved on campus.
- **Tuesday, Feb. 4** – Black History Month Basketball Game, 7 p.m., Savage Arena. Catch the Toledo men’s basketball team playing Northern Illinois; during the game, student organizations, alumni and students who exemplify excellence will be recognized.

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# UToledo Law Scholar's New Book 'Originalism's Promise' Illuminates Constitution

By Christine Billau

In the midst of President Donald Trump's impeachment trial and heading into the 2020 presidential election, a constitutional law scholar at The University of Toledo released a new book providing the first natural law justification for an originalist interpretation of the American Constitution.

In "Originalism's Promise: A Natural Law Account of the American Constitution" published by Cambridge University Press, Lee Strang, John W. Stoepler Professor of Law and Values in the UToledo College of Law, provides a summary of the history of constitutional interpretation in the United States and writes a thorough and detailed description of how originalism operates in practice.

"This book provides an argument for how Americans should interpret the Constitution and offers a way out of the bitterness exemplified by the confirmation hearings for Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh," Strang said. "Faithfulness to the Constitution's original meaning is supported by sound reasons, reasons that help all Americans achieve their own human flourishing."

The College of Law is celebrating the book's release with a book launch that features a lecture by Strang Wednesday, Jan. 29, at noon in the Law Center McQuade Auditorium. The free, public event will be followed by a book signing.

Strang, who was a visiting fellow at the James Madison Program at Princeton University during the 2018-19 academic year, has published dozens of articles in the fields of constitutional law and interpretation; property law; and religion and the First Amendment.

"In this presidential election year, my goal is to inform Americans as they debate the Supreme Court's future," Strang said. "Originalism's Promise" is the product of more than 20 years of thinking through two common American commitments. First, Americans strive to be faithful to our Constitution. Second, and following the Declaration of Independence, many Americans are committed to some version of natural law. Together, these commitments suggest that Americans of all stripes should utilize originalism to interpret our common Constitution."

The UToledo College of Law awarded Strang the Faculty Scholarship Award in 2019 for "Originalism's Promise." He was the recipient of The University of Toledo Outstanding Faculty Research and Scholarship Award in 2017.

In 2015, Strang served as a visiting scholar at the Georgetown Center for the Constitution.

Strang said the inspiration for writing the book stems from his experiences as a younger person attending political events with his parents, his education as a law student, and how vigorously Americans disagree about how to interpret the Constitution.

"I listened as politicians and activists argued that the Constitution supported their positions, so this book grew out of an attempt to identify how Americans can ascertain which claims are correct," Strang said. "Also, as a student taking constitutional law classes, we did not study the Constitution's text, structure and



Strang

history. I remember we rarely read or paid attention to Supreme Court opinions. This book both criticizes and supports aspects of that educational approach."

## MLK Scholarship Recipients Recognized



Photo by Ambershaun Byrd

President Sharon L. Gaber posed for a photo with students receiving The University of Toledo's 2020 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship at the MLK Unity Celebration last week. They were, from left, Tayana White, junior majoring in women's and gender studies; Emir Moore, senior majoring in marketing and management; Juwaan McGee, junior majoring in communications; Mariah Hutchins, senior majoring in exercise science; Kourtnee Dallas-Robinson, sophomore majoring in business; and Josephine Aduba, junior majoring in nursing. The University established the scholarship in 1969 shortly after the death of the civil rights leader. Thanks to Paramount Advantage, the scholarship has been funded for more than two decades. Approximately 1,100 were in Savage Arena Jan. 20 to celebrate the theme "Dream, Believe, Do" at the 19th annual event organized by the University and the city of Toledo.



## Under New Leadership, University Counseling Center Expanding Hours

Here to help – that’s the University Counseling Center, which is offering expanded hours two days a week spring semester.



Sullivan

“We are ready to help students and want to be more accessible for them,” Dr. LaTasha Sullivan, director of the University Counseling Center, said. “We started to stay open longer one day late fall semester, and it was well-received. So we’ll be here longer two days starting spring semester.”

The University Counseling Center will be open from 8:15 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays and from 8:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday.

For free, confidential mental health services, students may schedule appointments by calling 419.530.2426. If

it is afterhours, the weekend, or a holiday, call that number and select option one to be connected to a support counselor.

“It is our goal to empower students so they have the tools to help them reach their educational goals at UToledo,” Sullivan said. “We are Rockets caring for Rockets.”

Sullivan was named director of the University Counseling Center in October. She joined the center as a clinical counselor in February 2019 and served as interim associate director from June until her appointment.

“Dr. LaTasha Sullivan has already made a difference at the University Counseling Center,” Dr. Sammy Spann, associate vice president and dean of students, said. “Offering drop-in hours during the last week of classes and finals helped students cope during what can be a stressful time.”

In addition to Sullivan, the center has been bolstered by several new hires, Spann said.

Dr. William Covert is the new associate director of the Counseling Center, and three clinicians joined the staff: Amanda Jones, Cassandra Haas and Whitney Dillard.

And counseling services now are being offered on Health Science Campus. Jackie Van Zile is the new student wellness counselor and works in the Academic Enrichment Center. Schedule an appointment by emailing Van Zile at jacquelyn.vanzile@utoledo.edu or go online to jackie-vanzile.youcanbook.me.

“Our experienced staff is excited to

help students make the most of their time at the University,” Sullivan said. “We offer mental health services to help make that possible.”

Located in the University Health Center, which is across from the Horton International House, the Counseling Center is the institution’s primary facility for free, confidential personal counseling, psychotherapy, and psychological outreach and consultation services. The center offers screenings and crisis intervention, as well as individual, couples and group counseling services.

“We are looking forward to breathing new life into the University Counseling Center by hosting workshops, offering process groups, and relaunching Acronym, a support group for LGBTQA+ students,” Sullivan said.

And for those who need a little puppy love, Audrey the therapy dog again will be receiving visitors Wednesdays from noon to 1 p.m. at the center. The canine certified by the Alliance of Therapy Dogs belongs to Debbie Andrews, director of graduate enrollment management in the College of Graduate Studies.

“Students and employees love to visit with Audrey,” Sullivan said. “We are glad to continue to offer the chance to see Audrey; she brightens the day for so many.”

For more information about the University Counseling Center, visit [utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/counseling](http://utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/counseling) or call 419.530.2426.

## Jan. 31 Deadline for Enrolling, Waiving Student Health Plan

By Christine Wasserman

Undergraduate and graduate students are reminded the University provides easy access to a full line of high-quality healthcare services conveniently located on UToledo campuses, in addition to a healthcare plan that covers all or part of those services.

Spring semester open enrollment for the Student Health Plan, administered by Payer Fusion, runs until 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 31. Students not covered by their parent’s or employer’s insurance, or those who do not have coverage through the open marketplace at [healthcare.gov](http://healthcare.gov), should visit the Student Health Plan website at [utoledo.edu/depts/hr/benefits/student](http://utoledo.edu/depts/hr/benefits/student) for more information.

Student reminders:

- If you waived healthcare coverage through the Student Health Plan for fall semester but would like this coverage for spring semester, you may enroll by Jan. 31.
- If you had coverage through the Student Health Plan for fall and also want coverage for spring, you must re-enroll because fall semester coverage ended Dec. 31.
- If you are a student mandated to have healthcare coverage (student-athletes, international students with J-1 visas, and those enrolled in health-related programs) and did not waive coverage for fall semester: You automatically will be enrolled in the Student Health Plan and assessed the fee. However, you may waive this coverage by providing documentation of comparable coverage; your student account will then be credited this fee. If you do not waive this coverage by Jan. 31, you are ineligible for reimbursement. Note: Mandated students who waived coverage for fall do not need to take any additional action.

“We’re proud to offer students the Student Health Plan, which features a zero deductible when using our student health centers, doctors and mental health counseling,” said LeAnna Glick, student insurance program administrator. “Students also can fill generic prescriptions at our on-campus pharmacies for only a \$5 co-pay.”

Additionally, dental and vision coverage are available through the University, as well as coverage for a student’s spouse and/or children.

To enroll in the Student Health Plan for spring (or waive mandated coverage if you did not already waive it for fall), log in to the myUT portal and select the Health Plan - Enroll or Waive link in the Toolkit, under My Registration Steps, and complete the necessary steps by Jan. 31.

Students with questions or who need help to enroll may contact [studenthealthinsurance@utoledo.edu](mailto:studenthealthinsurance@utoledo.edu) or 419.530.3474.

## Capitol Hill

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young constituents and their mothers. They were survivors of gun violence.”

“Emir is an emerging leader and remarkable intern. His tenacity and positive attitude have helped create an office culture of always striving for the best for our constituents,” said Andrea Harris, chief of staff in the Office of Congresswoman Lauren Underwood (IL-14). “During his time in our office, he was resourceful and dedicated to serving the Illinois 14th District.”

After Moore graduates from the College of Business and Innovation in the spring, he plans to continue his education through UToledo’s MBA Program and enhance his civic engagement.

“The friendships I’ve developed with fellow Congressional Black Caucus interns and the experiences we’ve shared are invaluable,” Moore said. “Congresswoman Underwood inspired me and challenged me to grow outside my comfort zone. If I continue to work hard, stay focused and remain determined in my passion for economic development and entrepreneurship, I can be a successful servant leader in my community.”



**NATIONAL VIEW:** Emir Moore posed for a photo with Lauren Underwood, a freshman representative from Illinois and member of the Congressional Black Caucus. Moore was an intern in Underwood’s office during fall semester.



# Toledo to Host National Girls & Women in Sports Day Feb. 1

By Brian DeBenedictis

The University of Toledo will host the fifth annual National Girls & Women in Sports Day Saturday, Feb. 1, as the women's basketball team entertains Kent State at 2 p.m. in Savage Arena.

National Girls & Women in Sports Day inspires girls and women to play and be active to realize their full power. The confidence, strength and character gained through sports participation are the very tools girls and women need to become strong leaders in sports and life, according to the National Girls & Women in Sports Day Coalition.

The day will showcase Toledo's current female student-athletes, staff and coaches and thank them for their work.

The sports of soccer, volleyball, swimming and diving, golf, cross country, and track and field will be represented at the event, along with cheer and dance, on the Savage Arena concourse from 12:30 to 2 p.m., prior to the start of the women's basketball game. Those teams will have their own station where they will host an activity and interact with fans.

There also will be videos and photos highlighting all nine Toledo women sports teams, as well as cheer and dance, throughout the game to recognize their accomplishments in the community, in the classroom, and in their respective sports.

In addition, children have the chance to assist with anthem buddies, starting lineup, game ball presentation and guest



in-game host. A link to sign up for one of these activities can be found on the Toledo Rockets' website at [https://utrockets.com/sb\\_output.aspx?form=86](https://utrockets.com/sb_output.aspx?form=86). Children also can play in a bounce house behind section 102 from pre-game until the end of halftime.

Full-time UToledo employees and retirees may purchase two tickets at half-price. Additional tickets may be purchased

at the full price. UToledo students are admitted to home games free with ID.

Tickets are on sale and can be purchased online at [utrockets.com](http://utrockets.com), by calling 419.530.GOLD (4653), or stopping by the UToledo Athletic Ticket Office, located in the Sullivan Athletic Complex at Savage Arena. Groups of 15 or more may purchase general admission tickets for

half off, only \$7.50, prior to game day by contacting the ticket office.

For more information about the National Girls & Women in Sports Day, contact Adam Simpson, coordinator of marketing, sales and fan experience, at [adam.simpson@utoledo.edu](mailto:adam.simpson@utoledo.edu) or 419.530.2482.

**This Week**  
**IN THE 419**

<b>MEN'S BASKETBALL</b> <b>JANUARY 28</b> KENT STATE   7 P.M. MILITARY APPRECIATION	<b>WOMEN'S BASKETBALL</b> <b>JANUARY 29</b> EASTERN MICHIGAN   7 P.M. 70'S & WINE NIGHT	<b>WOMEN'S BASKETBALL</b> <b>FEBRUARY 1</b> KENT STATE   2 P.M. NGWIS & CHEER CLINIC
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**FULL TIME UTOLEDO EMPLOYEES RECEIVE 1/2 PRICE TICKETS**  
**UTOLEDO STUDENTS RECEIVE FREE ADMISSION WITH ROCKET ID**

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## Forum to Spotlight Service Learning Opportunities in Classroom, Lab

“Creating and Supporting Community-Engaged Learning” will be discussed at the next Future of Higher Education Forum Friday, Jan. 31.

Dr. Todd Crail, associate lecturer in the Department of Environmental Sciences, and Dr. Mohamed Samir Hefzy, professor of mechanical engineering and director of the mechanical and industrial engineering graduate programs, will be the speakers at the event, which will take place from 10:30 a.m. to noon in Carlson Library Room 1005.

The two will discuss community-engaged learning – the practice of connecting students and faculty members with activities that address community-identified needs in a mutually beneficial partnership. “This partnership deepens students’ academic and civic learning,” Crail said.

“We will talk about how to get a course designated as service learning,” Hefzy said.

An ecologist and naturalist, Crail has fostered undergraduate student

engagement through field experiences both on campus and with the local conservation community to solve environmental issues. His project-based learning through informal classroom environments is designed to maximize students’ experiences.

Since joining the University in 1987, Hefzy has supervised more than 130 undergraduate senior design projects as part of his community engagement and service learning.

The Future of Higher Education Forums are sponsored by the Office of the Provost.

Forums are held monthly throughout the academic year. Visit the Office of the Provost website at [utoledo.edu/offices/provost/future-of-higher-education-forum](http://utoledo.edu/offices/provost/future-of-higher-education-forum) to see upcoming topics, as well as to view past forums.

For more information, contact Dr. Amy Thompson, vice provost for faculty affairs and professor of public health, at [amy.thompson4@utoledo.edu](mailto:amy.thompson4@utoledo.edu).

### FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION FORUMS

## CREATING AND SUPPORTING COMMUNITY-ENGAGED LEARNING

Sponsored by the Office of the Provost

**Friday, Jan. 31, 2020**  
**10:30 a.m. – noon**

MAIN CAMPUS  
CARLSON LIBRARY ROOM 1005

#### Speakers:



**Todd Crail, Ph.D.**  
UToledo associate lecturer of environmental sciences



**Mohamed Samir Hefzy, Ph.D., PE, ASME Fellow**  
UToledo professor of MIME and bioengineering

For more information and live-streaming links, visit [utoledo.edu/offices/provost/future-of-higher-education-forum](http://utoledo.edu/offices/provost/future-of-higher-education-forum).



FUELING TOMORROWS

AA 726

## Graduate Students Encouraged to Apply for Fellowships, Scholarships

Friday, Feb. 14, is the deadline for UToledo graduate students to apply for fellowships and scholarships.

Prospective students are eligible for University Fellowships. This competitive award is for new Ph.D. students who have exceptional academic records and are registering for the first time fall semester 2020. This fellowship is the highest award given by the College of Graduate Studies and may be renewed for support a total of four years.

New and prospective students pursuing master's and doctoral degrees may apply to be Graduate Dean's Scholars and Fellows. These individuals act as ambassadors for the College of Graduate Studies and support its efforts to promote diversity and inclusion in its programs.

The Helen M. Fields Memorial Achievement Award will be presented to a current graduate student with an excellent academic record in English or education.

The Robert N. Whiteford Memorial Scholarship is given to a current graduate student to assist in research for a thesis, project or dissertation, and further professional development.

Learn more about these awards and others on the College of Graduate Studies' website at [utoledo.edu/graduate/scholarships](http://utoledo.edu/graduate/scholarships).

For more information, email the College of Graduate Studies at [cogs@utoledo.edu](mailto:cogs@utoledo.edu).

## APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

### 2020 – 2021 GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- University Fellowships
- Graduate Dean's Scholars and Fellows
- Helen M. Fields Memorial Scholarship
- Robert N. Whiteford Memorial Scholarship

**APPLY ONLINE BEFORE FEBRUARY 14, 2020**  
**UTOLEDO.EDU/GRADUATE/SCHOLARSHIPS**

Questions: [COGS@utoledo.edu](mailto:COGS@utoledo.edu)



# Using Visual Literacy in the Classroom

By Alison Mejias Santoro

*Visual literacy is not just about art ...*

We've all heard the old adage, "A picture is worth a thousand words." Learning to read those pictures gives us advantages in both work and life. The University of Toledo and Toledo Museum of Art's Visual Literacy Initiative is paving the way for what it means to speak visual.

Visual literacy is defined as being able to read, comprehend and use visual images effectively. The initiative provides faculty with visual literacy tools to prepare students for tomorrow. To date, the initiative has advanced student learning across all disciplines by launching visual literacy modules for UToledo faculty to use with their students.

"Visual literacy is not just about art. It's about understanding the world around us through observation, critical thinking, perspective and collaboration in a vast world of images and visual stimulation. To communicate successfully in our increasingly image-saturated culture, we must also learn to read, understand and critique images – to become literate in visual language," Dr. Heidi M. Appel, dean of the Jesup Scott Honors College, said.

The ability to speak visual will be important in all fields of study and employment whether it's to read and design schematics, visualize problems and solutions, see data, diagnose patients, interpret clinical images, and communicate information.

Dr. Arun Nadarajah, UToledo professor of bioengineering, said, "Visual literacy is a way to engage students to begin the process of deep learning and creative thinking."

There are new University of Toledo courses that focus exclusively on visual literacy in the College of Medicine and Life Sciences, the Honors College, and the College of Arts and Letters.

All faculty now can include visual literacy in their courses using modules to support instruction while achieving student learning outcomes. The modules are made to be easily adaptable and span across all disciplines.

Dan McInnis, assistant lecturer in the Jesup Scott Honors College, said, "We're all visual learners. These modules are a great way to infuse our already vital subject areas with more active learning strategies that increase visual literacy. The visual literacy modules and exercises assist me as a faculty member to deliver specific skill sets to students, giving them conduits to stronger visual understanding."

One module from the initiative titled Infographic Creation and Interpretation



Photo courtesy of Toledo Museum of Art

**VIEW FINDERS:** UToledo students visited the Toledo Museum of Art for a visual literacy exercise called Back to Back Drawing.

"is designed to meet student learning outcomes and provide students with an understanding of the use of infographics for communicating complex ideas efficiently and effectively." Students also have shared their experience with this module. One student said, "This module taught me that we process pictures faster than words, so by having a picture represent information, people want to share." Another student said, "Infographics should be an aid to help us tell a story." Not only did this module teach students how to interpret and read infographics, it taught them how to create their own infographics. A student reflected on his experience: "The module put the 'common sense' of visual interpretation into words. It helped me understand why we need concise, accurate and appealing infographics beyond 'they look nice and are easy to understand.'"

Another student said, "I feel more confident when analyzing an infographic. I look at its content, the structure of the image, how clear it is, if it's simple, how did they emphasize on the problem. For the design, I pay attention to the colors, if it's attractive, how easy it is for me to digest and retain the information provided."

The visual literacy modules are made available through the visual literacy webpage at [utoledo.edu/honors/visual-literacy/modules.html](http://utoledo.edu/honors/visual-literacy/modules.html) or Blackboard. To access the visual literacy modules and exercises through Blackboard, use the

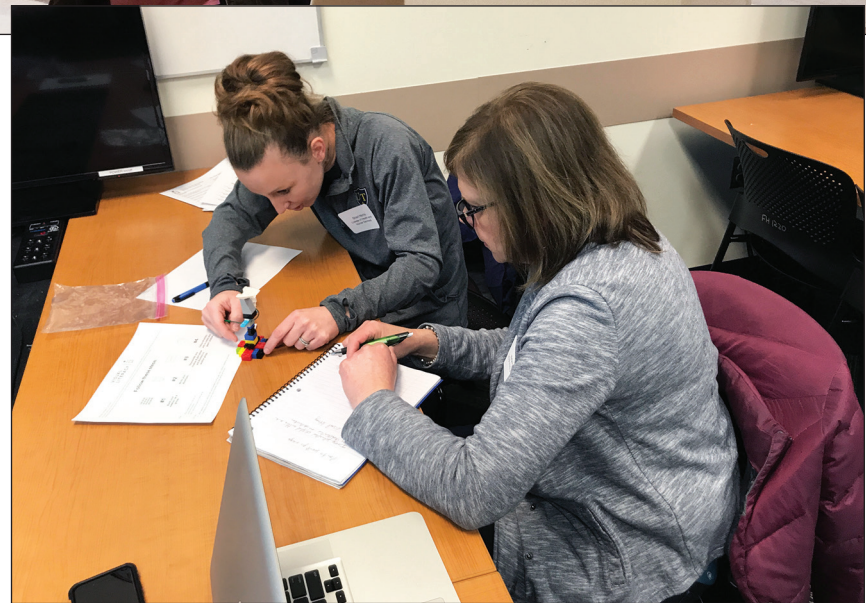


Photo by Dan McInnis

**VISUALLY SPEAKING:** Shari Norte, assistant lecturer in the School of Exercise Rehabilitation Sciences, left, and Mirta Parodi, senior lecturer of Spanish, participated in a visual literacy activity that challenged teams to build something with Legos and write instructions so others could replicate the same object.

Faculty Support tab on the top of your Blackboard page to find Other Resources and select the Visual Literacy link. Visual Literacy will then show up as one of your organizations below your courses. You'll find instructions on how to use the modules and exercises there.

Campus community members are invited to explore visual literacy modules and exercises during open houses:

- Friday, Jan. 31, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in Nitschke Hall Room 5013;
- Friday, Feb. 28, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Center for the Visual Arts Conference Room on the University's Toledo Museum of Art Campus.

- Friday, April 24, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in MacKinnon Hall Room 1370.

An extended workshop also is planned for Friday, March 27, from noon to 3 p.m. in Toledo Museum of Art Room 128.

To inquire more information about the Visual Literacy Initiative and its campus-wide efforts, visit [utoledo.edu/honors/visual-literacy](http://utoledo.edu/honors/visual-literacy) or contact [visualliteracy@utoledo.edu](mailto:visualliteracy@utoledo.edu).

*Mejias Santoro is an academic and adult programs coordinator at the Toledo Museum of Art.*



## IN MEMORIAM



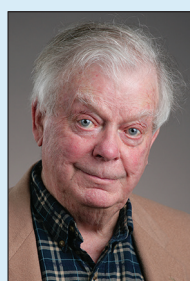
Askari

**Dr. Amir Askari**, Toledo, professor emeritus of pharmacology, died Jan. 15 at age 89. He joined the MCO faculty as professor and chair of pharmacology and experimental therapeutics in 1975. Askari was chair of the department until 1997 and later served as chair of physiology at UToledo. His internationally known research studied, at the molecular level, how the heart muscle works in health and disease. In addition to decades-long support from the National Institutes of Health, Askari was the lead investigator on a project titled "Control Mechanisms of Cardiac Proteins and Enzymes," which received funding for more than 20 years from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

**Dr. Judith "Judy" Cohen Saffran**, Queens, N.Y., a scientist who conducted research at MCO until her retirement in 1997, died Jan. 14 at age 96. She was a member of a team investigating the binding of hormones to cell proteins, and finished her career as lead scientist in the clinical laboratory.

**Georgene M. Shock**, Toledo, who worked at MCO/MUO/UTMC until her retirement in 2006, died Dec. 14 at age 82. She also was a volunteer with the Satellites Auxiliary.

**James A. Tipton**, Blissfield, Mich., who served as board president of The University of Toledo Federal Credit Union, died Jan. 19 at age 88.



Wenthe

**Dr. Henry C. Wenthe**, Toledo, Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Mathematics who was internationally known for his research, died Jan. 20 at age 83. The New York City native received a Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1966 and taught at Tufts University before joining the UToledo Mathematics Department as an assistant professor in 1971. He was promoted to associate professor in 1974 and professor in 1977. Wenthe's research focused on mathematical problems arising from the physics of liquid drops and soap films; it was a topic he knew well and that made him well-known in the world of mathematics. In 1984, he discovered a counter-example to a conjecture dating back to the early 1800s that the only closed, compact constant mean curvature surface was the sphere. Wenthe used a sphere with a hole in it — a torus or

bulging doughnut shape — and proved the torus could be stretched, possibly intersecting itself to create a new example of a theoretical soap bubble satisfying the required condition of constant mean curvature. And he did that without a computer. His breakthrough led to the construction of the Wenthe Tori, a family of constant mean curvature surfaces. More than three decades later, researchers are still studying the ramifications of Wenthe's discovery. Bursting that longstanding mathematical belief led to speaking engagements around the globe at prestigious schools and conferences, including addressing the International Congress of Mathematicians. In 1985, Wenthe was one of the first UToledo faculty members to receive the University's Outstanding Research Award. That same year he also took home the Sigma Xi Award for Outstanding Research. Wenthe, whose work was funded by the National Science Foundation, was named a Distinguished University Professor in 1989; that appointment was regularly renewed. He taught a variety of mathematics courses to undergraduate and graduate students until his retirement in 2009. He was a referee for several academic journals and reviewed grants for the National Science Foundation. Wenthe was a member of the Ohio Gamma Chapter of Pi Mu Epsilon National Mathematics Honor Society and in 2010 received the Delta X UToledo Chapter Award for outstanding achievement and service in promoting mathematical interest. In 2013, he became an inaugural Fellow of the American Mathematical Society.

**Rosemary "Rose" Woodson**, Toledo, who was a volunteer with the Satellites Auxiliary, died Jan. 14 at age 68.

**Bessie Louise Wright**, Toledo, who worked in food service at the University, died Jan. 18 at age 85.



Xie

**Dr. Zijian Xie**, Saline, Mich., died Jan. 27 at age 59. He received his doctorate in pharmacology from MCO in 1990. As a professor of physiology, pharmacology and medicine at his alma mater, Xie's laboratory became internationally recognized for work elucidating the mechanism of several pathways and their association with renal, heart and vascular disease, and cancer. He also served as co-director of the M.D./Ph.D. Program before leaving the University in 2013. Xie was an adjunct professor of physiology and pharmacology from 2014 to 2018.

## Feedback Wanted

**FREE SUSHI**

Thursday, Jan. 30  
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Located at Oath Pizza, in the Thompson Student Union Food Court

UToledo Dining Services has partnered with Sushic Asian Fusion Cuisine to host a Sushi Demo Day Thursday, Jan. 30, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Students and employees are encouraged to stop by Oath Pizza, located in the Thompson Student Union Food Court, for free samples and take a quick survey on the potential new vendor. To learn more, visit Sushic Asian Fusion Cuisine's website at [sushicllc.com](http://sushicllc.com).

## UTOLEDONNEWS

UToledo News is published for faculty, staff and students by the University Marketing and Communications Office weekly during the academic year and periodically during the summer. Copies are mailed to employees and placed in newsstands on Main, Health Science, Scott Park and Toledo Museum of Art campuses. UToledo News strives to present accurate, fair and timely communication of interest to employees. Story ideas and comments from the UToledo community are welcome. Send information by campus mail to #190, University Marketing and Communications Office, Vicki Kroll. Email: [vicki.kroll@utoledo.edu](mailto:vicki.kroll@utoledo.edu). Fax: 419.530.4618. Phone: 419.530.2248. Mailing address: University Marketing and Communications Office, Mail Stop 190, The University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606-3390.

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Read UToledo news at [news.utoledo.edu](http://news.utoledo.edu) and [myut.utoledo.edu](http://myut.utoledo.edu).

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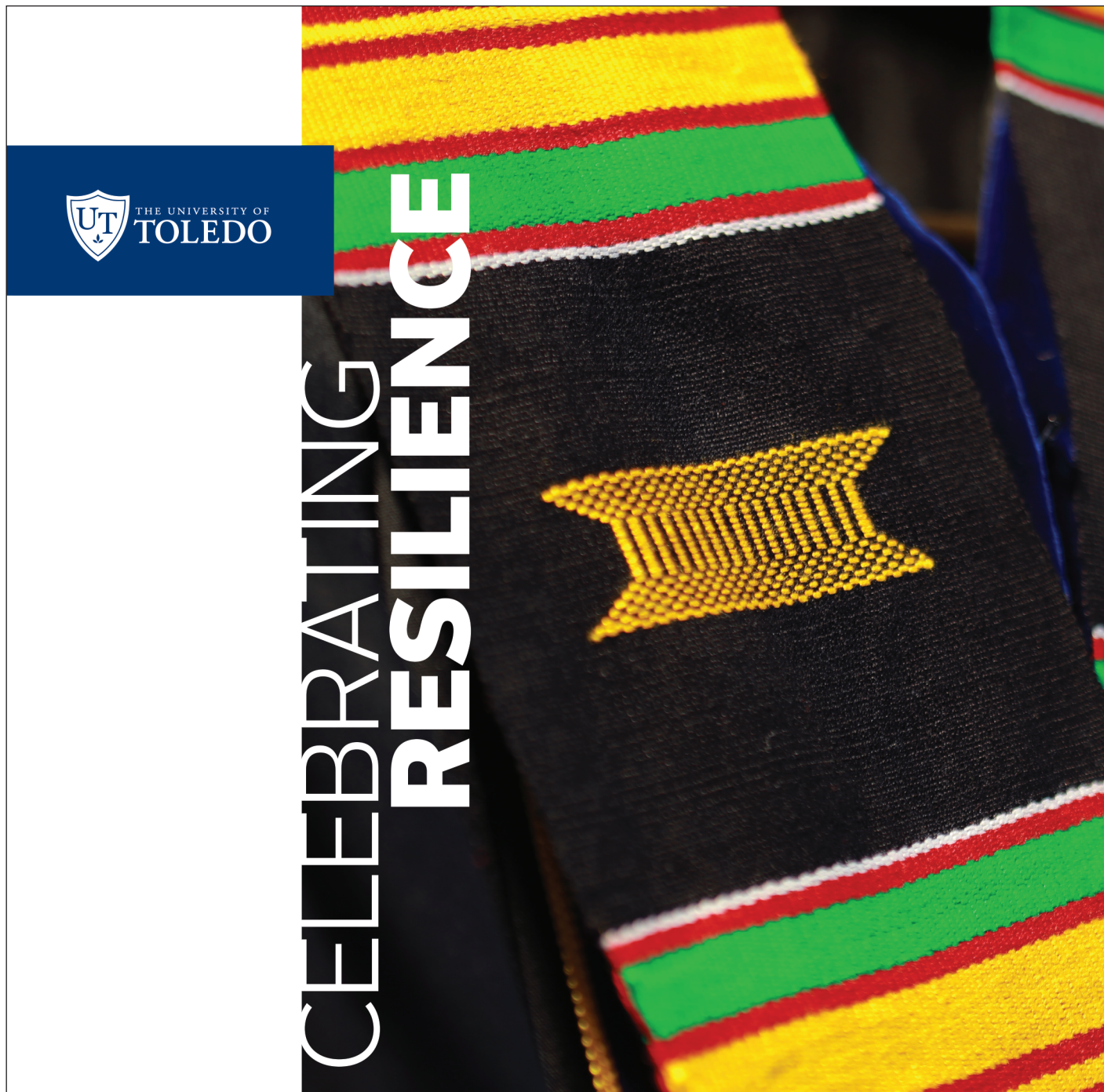


## Black History Month

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- **Saturday, Feb. 8** - "Reclaiming Our Narrative: Ending the Epidemic," 4 p.m., Collier Building Room 1000 on Health Science Campus. International HIV activist Hydeia Broadbent will speak in honor of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. The free, public program is presented by the Ann Wayson Locher Memorial Fund for HIV Care and the UToledo Office of Diversity and Inclusion.
- **Wednesday, Feb. 12** - African-American Initiatives Spring Film Screening, 5 p.m., Thompson Student Union Room 2500. Watch a movie about black history and culture, and discuss it.
- **Tuesday, Feb. 18** - Black Career Night, 6 p.m., Thompson Student Union Ingman Room. This event sponsored by the Black Student Union will bring together local community members who will talk about their businesses and organizations and allow students to network and learn about career opportunities.
- **Wednesday, Feb. 19** - Black Wellness Bash, noon to 2 p.m., Thompson Student Union Ingman Room. This event is designed to raise awareness about the importance of mental health and wellness.
- **Thursday, Feb. 20** - Black Love Is Raw, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Thompson Student Union. The Association for the Advancement of African-American Women and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. will offer a safe space to discuss love and healthy relationships.
- **Friday, Feb. 21** - Black Student Union Fashion Show, 7 p.m., Thompson Student Union Auditorium. Ticket prices to be announced. Proceeds from the 51st annual event go to a student scholarship that aids in the retention of black students.
- **Tuesday, Feb. 25** - "Honing in on Triple Negative Breast Cancer: Improving Health Outcomes for Women of African Ancestry Using Precision Medicine," 5:30 p.m., Health Education Building Room 105 on Health Science Campus. The free, public forum is hosted by the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women.
- **Saturday, Feb. 29** - Ujima Day of Service, 10:30 a.m. Volunteers will meet in Thompson Student Union Room 2500 for breakfast and then volunteer at the MLK Kitchen for the Poor, the Ronald McDonald House and the Beach House Family Shelter. Ujima is one of the seven principles of Kwanza and stands for collective work and responsibility. "Ujima means to build and maintain our community together and to make our brother's and sister's problems our problems and to solve them together," Young said.

For more information and to RSVP for these events, email the Office of Multicultural Student Success at [omss@utoledo.edu](mailto:omss@utoledo.edu).



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

FEBRUARY 1 - FEBRUARY 29

Visit [utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/omss](http://utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/omss) for a list of events.

Presented by the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the Office of Multicultural Student Success



FUELING TOMORROWS

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