



PSA VOICE

February 2017

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO PROFESSIONAL STAFF ASSOCIATION



MESSAGE FROM THE VICE— CHAIR

As Vice-Chair of the Professional Staff Council, I am serving as PSA representative on the Strategic Planning Committee. Since September 2016, the Committee, which is comprised of faculty, staff, administrators, and students, has followed a rigorous timeline and devoted numerous hours to develop a Strategic Plan for The University of Toledo. I would be remiss if I did not mention how impressed I have been with the amount of work that individuals across campuses and the community are contributing to ensure that the Plan is inclusive, realistic, and will provide direction over the next five years to advance the mission of UT. At this stage, the Committee is refining the draft and examining institutional values. Leadership truly wants to capture the thoughts of all stakeholders to make the Plan viable. If you would like to offer feedback, please email strategicplanning@utoledo.edu. The final Strategic Plan is due this May 2017. **Go Rockets!**



Lori DeShetler, PhD

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

KATE ABU-ABSI

Kate is the Outreach & Retention Specialist for the School of Visual & Performing Arts

How long have you been a Rocket and in what capacity?

I have been at UT since the Fall of 1988 when I began my undergraduate degree in theatre. During my time as a student I met people who to this day are my best friends and had the privilege to study under amazing directors and professors. The Center for Performing Arts was seriously like a second home. After I graduated I was asked to teach part time and did that for several years until I was offered the position of director of the Arts Living Learning

JUBILEE OR ANNIVERSARY?

While an anniversary commemorates an exact date of an event, a jubilee often celebrates the special anniversary of an event or a special year in the lifetime of an activity.

For example, the Queen of England will be celebrating her Sapphire Jubilee this year, marking 65 years on the throne!





IN THE SPOTLIGHT *continued*

Community. For 10 years I directed the ALLC, which was a program for first year students majoring in or having a strong interest in the arts. They lived together on the 5th floor of Ottawa East and I was essentially their dean mother during their first year on campus. Through that job I met hundreds of amazing students and the bonds they made with one another were remarkable to watch. I've stayed in contact with most of them and now have the pleasure of being invited to their weddings and baby showers. It was really the greatest job ever. I'm currently the Outreach & Retention Specialist for the School of Visual & Performing Arts, which is really an expansion of the ALLC position.

How would you describe your job?

There are several different components to my job, but my main focus is forming a connection with first year students and I'm able to do that by teaching all of the sections of orientation for the SVPA. What students don't understand is that everyone struggles their first semester, but they're all so great at hiding it, they think they're the only one. What they need is someone to turn to and I see myself as a bridge. When students start out they face a number of different challenges; whether it's social, emotional, financial or academic and because I'm with them from day one, they come to me. The benefit from being here so long and working with so many different departments is that if I don't have an answer, I know who does.

What distinguishes UT from other workplaces?

Everyone I've worked with has the same goal, and that is to help students achieve their dream of graduating from the University of Toledo. From the ground up it's a team effort and there have been countless times that I've seen people go far above and beyond to make a difference in a student's life. Working with people who

ASPIRING TO LEADERSHIP

On Wednesday, January 25th, over 40 professional staff members attended the first Brown Bag seminar of the spring semester, "Realizing your Aspirations: Moving Into Administrative or Senior Positions." Internal experts and longtime UT faculty, staff, and administrators Penny Poplin Gosetti, Wafaa Hanna, Azadeh Parvin, and Colleen Taylor provided attendees with advice on how to "think big" in order to excel and move up the career ladder. The words of wisdom describing the advancement into leadership positions in higher education were based not only on personal experiences, but on research-based evidence as well.

Useful takeaways included

- Seek professional development, such as attending conferences or even a PSA brownbag seminar
- Be visible and engaged: get involved on-campus in committees to help make a difference and help people to know who you are (PSC elections are coming up later this spring)
- Find a mentor who is someone you aspire to be, and network with people you aspire to be
- Be optimistic: let your coworkers see you as a positive and helpful person
- Be confident in yourself and



Dr. Penny Poplin Gosetti encourages women to develop into leadership roles.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT *continued*

share my passion for student success is not only inspiring; it is a reminder to always give 110%.

What resources are a “must have” to perform your job?

My former students! There are no better spokespeople for the University of Toledo than the students themselves and I turn to them time and again for help. They talk to prospective students, volunteer for events I’m working on, mentor new students and motivate second existing students. I can talk until I’m blue in the face about how great UT is, but hearing it from a current student means so much more.

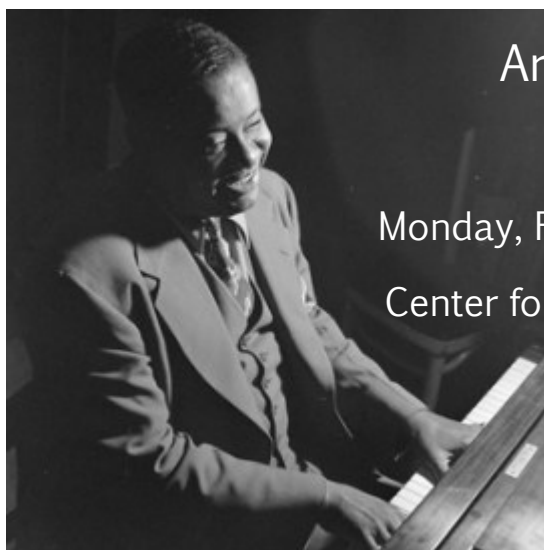
What is your favorite thing about UT?

I know I sound like a broken record, but the students are by far my favorite part of UT. From the moment I meet them and their parents on a campus visit, all the way until they graduate, I get to be a part of their journey. I watch them transform into young adults who then go onto do great things. Could anything be better than that?

Can you tell us something about yourself that most people don’t know or would be surprised to learn?

I am very much a homebody. I’ve lived in Toledo my whole life and wasn’t even on a plane until I was 30 years old. My perfect night is being with my two kids, cooking something with a ridiculous amount of butter and garlic and watching a few episodes of Parks & Rec and being in bed by 8:30pm. I’m a wild woman!

Continued on next page...



Art Tatum Memorial Jazz Scholarship Concert

Monday, February 20, 2017 @ 7:00pm

Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall

Admission: \$15

\$10 students & seniors

SERVICE WITH A SMILE

Members of the **Bridge Club**, a UT student organization that makes sandwiches for the hungry, display the results of the collection drive hosted by the Professional Staff Council last November. The donations helped the club to cut 25% of their costs for the semester! The collection drive also provided items for the community organization **Food for Thought**, with whom the club works. The club packs lunches on Friday nights for distribution downtown on Saturday mornings to those without a house, and every other week 100 lunches are packed right here on campus in Bowman-Oddy! If you would like to get more involved with **Food for Thought**, you can visit their website www.feedtoledo.org or email them at volunteer@feedtoledo.org. More service opportunities will be announced throughout the year, and are a wonderful way for our Professional Staff members to give back to UT and the community.



Have a suggestion for our next newsletter? Ever considered nominating someone for the Spotlight feature? Did you attend a PSA or UT event and have pictures to share? Let us know with a simple email to utpsc@utoledo.edu

IN THE SPOTLIGHT *continued*

Silver Anniversary Question

What has made me most proud of being a UT Rocket over the past 25+ years is that I am once again a student; I'm finally pursuing my masters degree in Liberal Studies. I'm in my second semester and so far I'm loving my classes and wow—it feels good to be challenged! I had to get past my self-doubt before I could recognize that I have what it takes to do this, but all along the way many people kept encouraging me. I'm where I belong.

PROFESSIONAL STAFF ASSOCIATION

PROFESSIONAL STAFF COUNCIL

ANONYMOUS FEEDBACK



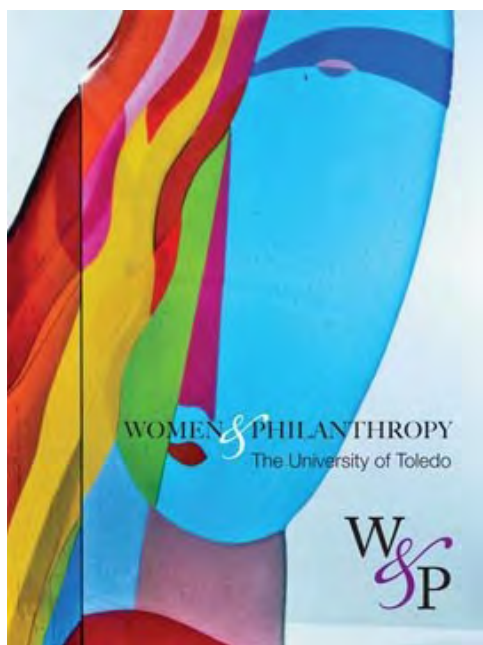
PROFESSIONAL STAFF ASSOCIATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

PSA

ADVOCACY | COMMUNICATIONS | ELECTIONS | MEMBERSHIP

COMMITTEES

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT | SCHOLARSHIP | SICK LEAVE BANK



W & P GRANT DEADLINE

Wednesday, February 15, is the deadline to submit an application for a grant from Women & Philanthropy at The University of Toledo. UT staff, faculty, and students from all campuses are eligible to apply. The grant application will be reviewed by a committee and recipients will be announced in May.

\$75K has been allocated for 2017 UT projects and programs. Information and applications are available here: **APPLICATION**

JESUP SCOTT HONORS COLLEGE DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

ALEX SHEEN

FOUNDER, *Because I Said I Would*

Alex Sheen is the founder of because I said I would, a social movement and nonprofit dedicated to bettering humanity through promises made and kept. Sparked by the loss of his father, Alex and his organization send "promise cards" to anyone anywhere in the world at no cost. Alex is someone who truly honors commitment. He once walked over 240 miles across the entire state of Ohio in 10 days to fulfill a promise. In just two years, because I said I would has sent over 3.15 million promise cards to over 153 different countries. The promises written on these cards have made headlines around the world.

His charitable projects and awareness campaigns have been featured on ABC World News with Diane Sawyer, CNN, The Today Show, NPR, The Los Angeles Times and many other programs.



Date: Thursday, February 16, 2017

Time: 7 P.M.

Location: Doermann Theater

Order Tickets (FREE)



DO YOU HAVE A GREAT BUSINESS IDEA?

The University of Toledo faculty, staff, students and alumni* are invited to participate in a business innovation competition detailing your unique business idea.

THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND INNOVATION AT UT
IS PROVIDING PRIZE MONEY OF:



\$10,000
sponsored by O-I



\$5,000
sponsored by Chuck and
Ann Hodge Business Plan
Competition Fund



\$2,000
sponsored by PNC Bank

Honorable Mention \$500
sponsored by PNC Bank

Innovation

You'll find the application instructions for this competition utilizing Lean Launch Pad concepts at utoledo.edu/business.

- There is one free workshop for those planning to enter the competition. It will be offered on **Monday, February 6, 2017**, from noon to 1:00 p.m. in the PNC Entrepreneurship Lab, room 3100, Savage & Associates Business Complex.
- Entries must be submitted by **Monday, February 27, 2017**.
- Finalists will be announced on **Friday, March 24, 2017**.
- Finalists will make an oral presentation about their business using the business model canvas** on **Thursday, April 13, 2017**, between noon and 5:30 p.m. in the PNC Entrepreneurship Lab, room 3100, Savage & Associates Business Complex.
- Winners will be announced **Thursday, April 20, 2017**.



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
AND INNOVATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

This competition reflects UT's belief in innovative thinking and is intended to stimulate a creative culture of growth in all areas of the University. UT College of Business and Innovation is conducting the business model plan competition.

OTIP reserves the right to not provide a particular cash award if no qualified proposal is received. In addition, to cash prizes, selected winners may receive assistance in areas such as intellectual property and business consultation.

*Alumni can participate as a member of a team involving current UT faculty, staff or students.
** For more information, please visit businessmodelgeneration.com/canvas or leancanvas.com



OHIO DEFERRED
COMPENSATION

OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES DEFERRED COMPENSATION PROGRAM

A Representative from the Ohio Deferred Compensation program will be on both Main Campus and Health Science Campus the week of February 20th.

Registration email coming soon!

Have Lunch with the VP for Diversity



Join the
discussion
every other
Thursday.

Go to utoledo.edu/diversity/events.html
for upcoming dates.

No registration or reservations necessary!

Student Union Room 3016

12:30—1:30 pm

February 16, 2017

March 2, 2017



Dr. Willie McKether, UT's vice president for diversity and inclusion, will host "Lunch with the VP" every other Thursday. Joining him will be your senior vice president for student affairs, Dr. Kaye Patten. This is your opportunity to talk with Dr. McKether and Dr. Kaye in an open, intimate setting about topics surrounding diversity at UT.

Bring your lunch, your ideas, your concerns and your open mind!

Twitter: @UTDiversity
Facebook: @utoledodiversityinclusion
Instagram: @utdiversity
utoledo.edu/diversity



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TOLEDO
1872

diversity@utoledo.edu



3 ANNUAL TOLEDO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



3114 LAGRANGE STREET, TOLEDO, OHIO

February 4, 11, 18 – All Saturdays

Tickets are \$10 per screening

\$20 Double Feature

Ohio Theatre and Event Center

<http://ohiotheatretoledo.org/event/tiff/>

Saturday, February 11, 2017

5:00 p.m. – *Dhanak* (2015, India, 1h 46min)

Film Trailer

Special Performance by Kazenodaichi Taiko Ensemble after film

8:00 p.m. – *Hunt for the Wilderpeople* (2016, New Zealand, 1hr 41min)

Film Trailer

Saturday, February 18, 2017

5:00 p.m. – *Who is Dayani Cristal?* (2013, Mexico, USA, 1hr 25min)

Film Trailer

Special Performance by El Corozon de Mexico Ballet Folklorico after film

8:00 p.m. – *Ixcanul* (2015, Guatemala, 1hr 33min)

Film Trailer





Apply to be an Orientation Leader!

The University of Toledo

Office of New Student Orientation Programs

Questions? Contact us!
Rocket Hall 1750

419-530-1267
newstudentorientation@utoledo.edu



@TOL_EDO



Facebook.com/UToledoOrientation



UT_Orientation

Do you have leadership potential?

Do you have UT spirit?

If you answered yes to these questions...

we want you to apply!

Applications for this upcoming year will open

January 25th and are due March 1st.

utoledo.edu/orientation/oteam

NOMINATE A WORTHY STUDENT

Do you work with or know a student who is

- Filled with UT Spirit?
- An energetic leader?
- A team player and organized?
- Positive & professional?

You can nominate that student to become a member of the Office of New Student Orientation Programs as a Student Orientation Leader. Writing a letter of recommendation to accompany the nomination form is highly encouraged!

Nominations Due:

Friday, February 17 at 5:00 pm.

Click the Word icon for the form.



Microsoft Word Document

SHARE THE PSA SCHOLARSHIP & CONSIDER RECOMMENDING A STUDENT TODAY

Students, academic advisors, faculty, and staff, please help us spread the word about UT's Professional Staff Association Scholarship. The Professional Staff Association Scholarship application is open and awarded yearly in May for the following academic year. We are always taking online donations for the PSA Scholarship. Anyone can donate via the **Donate Now** link set up on the bottom of the PSA home page.

Students may find our **PSA Scholarship Application online** via the PSA website under the Scholarship link and via the **Scholarship Search Engine** on the UT Financial Aid website .

All scholarship questions should be addressed to Deb Krohn, PSA Scholarship Chair. Please call or email at your convenience.

Stranahan Hall, Room 1022A/Mail Stop 103
phone: 419.530.2549 fax: 419.530.5353
email: **deborah.krohn@utoledo.edu**

All UT students who have sophomore standing (30 earned hours and a 2.5 cumulative GPA by the time of application are eligible and encouraged to apply.

A completed PSA Scholarship application includes the following:

- completed student application,
- 500-word personal essay describing how the student plans to use his/her scholarship should he/she be awarded,
- 3 personal/professional references,
- and 1 letter of recommendation from a UT PSA employee. **See member list** on our PSA website .

This year's Scholarship application deadline is Friday, March 31st, 2017 at 5PM. Students may mail or email (as 1 document (PDF) their completed applications to Deborah Krohn.

PSA ZUMBA LUNCH BREAK ZUMBA®



WHEN: Thursday, February 16th

TIME: 12:15—12:45 pm

*Please arrive by 12:10

WHERE: UT Rec Center, Main Campus

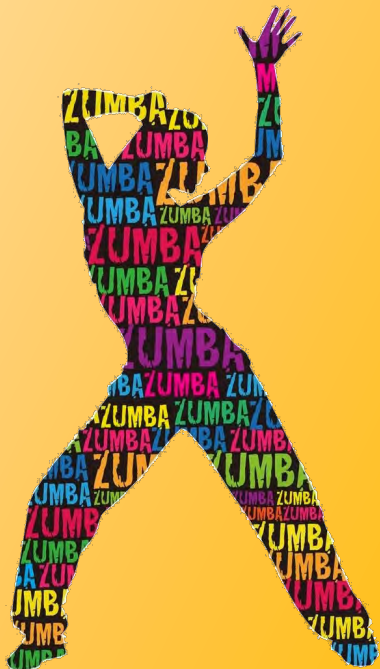
WHAT: *NEW* 30 minute RocketEX class

Join the PSA and Zumba with us! Zumba is an aerobic fitness program featuring movements inspired by various styles of Latin American dance and set to primarily Latin American dance music and pop. Check out Zumba on YouTube.

REGISTRATION LINK

BEFORE ATTENDING:

As a UT employee, your membership to the Rec Center is *FREE*. You can sign up by visiting your MyUT employee tab. Do this before attending. You will also need to bring your Rocket Card to swipe for entry to the Rec Center.



ROCKETHON

miracle network dance marathon

REQUESTS THE PLEASURE OF
YOUR COMPANY AT THE ANNUAL

Miracle Banquet

Wednesday, February 15, 2017
Half past five in the afternoon

University of Toledo - Main Campus
Student Union Ingman Room

Silent Auction - Dinner - Cash Bar
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Clinton Longenecker

All proceeds benefit
Mercy Children's Hospital

Single Ticket: \$25
Table of Eight: \$160

RockeTHON is the University of Toledo's largest student-run philanthropic organization. Every year dedicated students rally together and raise money for the children at Mercy Children's Hospital. Individual fundraising and fundraising events happen all year and end in a final fundraising push and celebration in April when thousands of students join together in a 13-hour dance marathon filled with games, inflatables, competitions and hearing about the impact the money makes from the Miracles Families themselves. Since being founded in 2001, RockeTHON has raised nearly one million dollars FTK! (for the kids)

[CLICK HERE TO
PURCHASE TICKETS](#)

DO YOU KNOW AN ACADEMIC ADVISER WHO...

HAS AWESOME INTERPERSONAL SKILLS?

EDUCATES AND EMPOWERS YOU TO
MAKE INFORMED ACADEMIC DECISIONS?

HELPS YOU PRIORITIZE SO YOU
CAN ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS?

POINTS YOU TO THE RIGHT RESOURCES
WHEN YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?

2017 OUTSTANDING ADVISER AWARDS

UT wants to give kudos to these stellar advisers.
Nominate yours today at <http://utole.do/adviseraward>
**Nominations must be submitted by 5 p.m.
on Friday, Feb. 17, for consideration.**

RECOGNIZING OUR BEST IN ACADEMIC ADVISING FOR 30 YEARS
Previous honorees are not eligible. See a complete list of honorees online.



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