



PSA VOICE

March 2017



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO PROFESSIONAL STAFF ASSOCIATION

MESSAGE FROM THE SICK BANK LEAVE CHAIR

The importance of the PSA Sick Leave Bank cannot be overstated enough. Established in 1998, the University of Toledo Professional Staff Association's Sick Leave Bank has proven to be a very worthwhile effort. This Sick Leave Bank provides help for all members who have exhausted their own vacation and sick hours due to a personal catastrophic illness or injury. Beginning in 2010, the Sick Leave Bank was expanded to also include Professional Staff on the Health Science Campus. During the month of March, the Sick Leave Bank is holding their annual Open Enrollment. Full-time PSA employees may make a one-time donation of 16 hours; part-time PSA employees may donate 8 hours. Please consider joining the Sick Leave Bank and helping your coworkers who may need assistance now or in the future. This is one bank from which we truly hope you will *never* need to make a withdrawal! For links to more information, the current member list and the donation form, please go to the [PSA-SLB website](http://www.utoledo.edu/org/psa/sickleavebanknew.html) at:

<http://www.utoledo.edu/org/psa/sickleavebanknew.html> . **Go Rockets!**



Deb Sobczak



2016 WendyCity Productions

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Samantha Bluske

Samantha is the Assistant Men's and Women's Cross Country/Track and Field Coach in UT's Athletics Department

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

I have been at UT in September 2014 when I was hired as the Assistant Cross Country/Track and Field Coach. In January 2015, I decided to become a student again part-time while I was working and earned my Master's degree in Recreation and Leisure Studies in May 2016.

How would you describe your job?

Continued on next page...

Did You Know?

to those who have donated, we sincerely thank you for your generosity

Since its inception in 1998 the PSA-SLB has provided **over 4,100 hours to 11 of our colleagues!**



IN THE SPOTLIGHT *continued*

My job as an assistant coach is very unique since cross country/track and field is the only sport that competes year round. On a daily basis, I am not just a coach with a stopwatch yelling out splits, I am a recruiter, a teacher, a shoulder to cry on, a listener, a motivator and at times a running buddy. Building relationships is probably the most important part of my job because as a former student-athlete myself, I know first-hand the impact that a coach can have on a student's life. Being a coach is a very rewarding career from the time I start recruiting a 17 year old to the day they graduate from UT, the student grows drastically as a leader, individual and athlete so it's fun to be a part of the transition and critical as well.

What distinguishes UT from other workplaces?

The people I work with on a daily basis including the other coaches in the department and administration. I think it is pretty unique to have the Athletic Director of a DI school give you a fist bump every time you pass in the hall—it's the little gestures like that that make you feel at home. As a young coach, I have a lot to learn so having other coaches, administrators and faculty to interact with and learn from has made my experience so much more valuable. I also love the group of student-athletes that I work with on a daily basis. They are proud of Toledo and what it means to be a Rocket. When each of them made the decision to run for UT, they had the option of going to big name schools but they believed in UT and wanted to be a part of a program where they could have a lasting impact.

What resources from UT are your "must-haves" to perform your job?

A group of student-athletes who are proud to be Rockets and are driven to become not only champions in athletics but also in the classroom. The support staff

Continued on next page...

PHARMACY CAMP DEADLINE MARCH 31, 2017

Do you have a high-school junior (Class of 2018) at home who demonstrates strong academic skills and an interest in pharmacy or the pharmaceutical sciences?

If the answer is yes, then you will be excited to learn that UT's College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is offering a unique opportunity to explore careers in pharmacy and the pharmaceutical sciences. The hands-on learning experiences include CSI: Toledo, Student Shadowing, Career Speaker, Compounding Lab, UT Interprofessional Immersive Simulation Center, Amway Lab Day, Toledo Zoo Field Trip, and more!

The **Pharmacy Summer Camp** is sponsored by Walgreens and supported by Rite Aid, and the **Shimadzu Pharmaceutical Science Camp** is sponsored by Shimadzu and supported by Amway.



2017 Camp Dates

Pharmacy Camp One: Sunday, June 11—Wednesday, June 14, 2017

Pharmacy Camp Two: Sunday, June 18—Wednesday, June 21, 2017

Shimadzu Camp: Sunday, June 18—Wednesday, June 21, 2017

2017 Camp Application Timeline

Completed Application: 5:00 pm on March 31, 2017

Grade Verification: postmarked by March 31, 2017

Acceptance Status: Available online on April 14, 2017

Camp Reservation Confirmation, Paperwork & Fee due: May 26, 2017

For more details, visit: <https://www.utoledo.edu/pharmacy/prospective/summercamp/index.html>





IN THE SPOTLIGHT *continued*

The support staff including our athletic trainers, academic advisors, nutritionist, and strength coaches are essential when building a team. On a day to day basis, we have an outgoing and knowledgeable group of individuals who help make the athletic department run smoothly and I couldn't survive without them.

What is your favorite thing about UT?

The campus in general. When I bring potential student-athletes on an official visit to campus, I can't wait to tour them around campus. We do a majority of our recruiting in the fall months so Centennial Mall is an easy sell to anyone who steps foot on campus.

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

I still run competitively, qualified for the 2016 Marathon Olympic Trials and finished 2016 as a top-25 US marathoner. Currently my life consists of running (a lot—anywhere from 100-125 miles/week), eating (Toledo is great for this) and coaching. After I graduated college in 2014, a lot of people told me that if I chose to coach, I would have to give up on my own running career so it has been my motivation to prove those people wrong.

Silver Anniversary Question

Where will you be in 25 years?

Having a family is extremely important to me so hopefully in 25 years, I will be able to say that I've raised a family while balancing a career in collegiate athletics. Running is a part of who I am so in 25 years, I envision myself fully involved in the sport/coaching in some capacity for a very long time.

LEARNING MORE ABOUT FINANCIAL PLANNING

Responses to the PSA's professional development survey indicated a need for financial planning, and the PSA invited Brent Tabler, Northwest Ohio's account executive with Ohio Deferred Compensation, to speak with members of UT's Health Science Campus and Main Campus on Tuesday February 28th. Attendees at this session learned a little bit about the importance of supplemental retirement plans which can be utilized in addition to OPERS or the alternative plans, 403(b). Ohio Deferred Compensation is for Ohio public employees including UT employees!

Some of the key features of the Ohio Deferred Compensation include:

- Less fees than other retirement plans
- Wide variety of investment options
- Tools to help you figure out how much you need to retire to live the life you want
- Their licensed account representatives are salaried, not commissioned

Brent Tabler is Northwest Ohio's account executive, and he is frequently in Toledo and on UT's campus. If you have questions or want to explore the program, please contact him:

Brent Tabler ChFC®, CRC® | Account Executive
 Ohio Deferred Compensation
 W 614-579-9817 | F 614-222-9457
tablerb@nationwide.com
Ohio457.org
 Service Center: 877-644-6457



OHIO DEFERRED COMPENSATION

OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES DEFERRED COMPENSATION PROGRAM

STAFF REVIEWS STRATEGIC PLAN AND PROVIDES FEEDBACK ON MARCH 1, 2017

Lead by co-chairs Dr. Anthony Quinn and Dr. Laurie Dinnebeil, staff members from Main Campus and Health Science Campus gathered on March 1, 2017 to hear an updated progress report on the University's strategic plan and to offer their input. Participants were split into groups to review individual parts of the plan and provide feedback. Sessions were also held for faculty, students, and the public.



Staff members gathered in groups to give feedback.

Those who were unable to attend one of the sessions are encouraged to view the presentation: <http://www.utoledo.edu/strategicplan/pdfs/strategic-sharing.pdf>. Your feedback is also encouraged and you may share that by emailing strategicplanning@utoledo.edu with the subject line: Strategic Planning Feedback. More information can be found at the Strategic Plan website: <http://www.utoledo.edu/strategicplan/>



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

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PROFESSIONAL STAFF ASSOCIATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

PSA

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PSA members gather for lunchtime Zumba!



Anyone can Zumba—just follow along.



Trying Latin dance moves is part of the fun!

ZUMBA RAISES SPIRITS AND HEART RATES!

A big shout-out to everyone who came to sweat and have fun on **February 16th**. There are more class options over the noon hour so be sure to check out the revised RocketEX schedule below and look for more PSA sponsored events in the near future!



RocketEx Lunchtime Classes

Spring 2017: January 9 - April 28

Student Recreation Center (Main Campus)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
12:30-1 pm Turbo Kick Olivia S. (FS)	12:15-12:45 pm Zumba Kate (FS)	12:30-1 pm Rocket Cycle Olivia S. (CR)	12:15-12:45 pm Zumba Kate (FS)	12-1 pm Yoga Melissa (FS)

CR - Cycling room
FS- Fitness Studio

Morse Fitness Center (Health Science Campus)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
11:30 am-12 pm Rocket Drumming Vicki	12:10-12:50 pm Gentle Flow Yoga Suzanne	12-12:30pm TRX Jocelyn	11:30-12:20 pm Gentle Flow Yoga Suzanne	12pm-12:45 pm Rocket Cycle Olivia S.

Schedule subject to change. Follow us on Twitter for class cancellations!



DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
Office of Recreational Services

UTRecCenter.com
419.530.3700 (SRC)
419.383.5370 (Morse)
[@UtoledoSRC](https://twitter.com/UtoledoSRC)



Diane Hymore Exemplar of Excellence Award

Nominations due March 31, 2017

**Nominate a
worthy staff
member who**

- displays an outstanding commitment to service that includes service to our students, to fellow members of the UT community and to the ideals of the University itself



For judging criteria, nomination form, and information

<http://www.utoledo.edu/offices/provost/awards/hymoreexcellenceaward.html>



SHARE THE PSA SCHOLARSHIP & CONSIDER RECOMMENDING A STUDENT TODAY

DEADLINE FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS IS FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2017

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.

ALICE H. SKEENS OUTSTANDING WOMAN AWARD APPLICATION

DEADLINE MARCH 15, 2017

The [University Women's Commission](#) is now accepting applications for its annual The University of Toledo Outstanding Women Awards. All women involved in the University community may be nominated. Past award winners are ineligible. **Consider nominating a worthy PSA Staff Member today!**

Nominees are evaluated on the following criteria:

- Exceptional contribution and achievement
- Involvement in the University community
- Positive attitude toward responsibilities
- Active support of women's issues
- Longevity (minimum of five years)



Each nomination must include the [completed nomination form](#) and a letter of recommendation from the nominator addressing why s/he believes the nominee is outstanding. The achievements are more important than the number of nominations received. Recipients are recognized at the Annual Spring Awards Luncheon April 12, 2017, 11:30—1:00 pm., Savage Arena Grogan Room.

2017 OUTSTANDING STAFF AWARD NOMINATIONS DUE MARCH 16, 2017



THE DETAILS

Nominations will be accepted from faculty, physicians, staff, students, patients, and community members

Eligible nominees must be full-time or part-time (20 hrs) regular employees and have at least two years of service at the University.

THE QUALIFICATIONS

The selection committee will consider: career accomplishments and outstanding contributions on the job, commitment to improvement and innovation, and leadership and loyalty to the University of Toledo community.

Award recipients honored on Tuesday, April 18, at 1:00pm

[HTTPS://WWW.UTOLEDO.EDU/DEPTS/HR/EMPLOYEE-ENGAGEMENT/WEBFORMS/OUTSTANDING_STAFF_NOMINATION_FORM.HTML](https://www.utoledo.edu/depts/hr/employee-engagement/webforms/outstanding_staff_nomination_form.html)

Lancelot Thompson Award Applications are Open!

The Lancelot C. A. Thompson Service to Students Award recognizes an individual who exemplifies what it means to be student-focused in their duties and who excels in providing service to students at The University of Toledo. This award is in recognition of Dr. Thompson's motto, "Students First."

The award was first presented during the 1993-94 academic year.

Any full-time employee, faculty, and staff of The University of Toledo are eligible for this award.

Past recipients are not eligible.

To nominate a full-time employee, faculty, or staff member for this award,

[visit https://orgsync.com/102331/forms/248548](https://orgsync.com/102331/forms/248548).

The nomination form closes on **Tuesday, March 21, 2017, at 11:59 pm.**

The winner of this award will be **announced at Songfest on Saturday, April 1, 2017.**

LANCELOT C.A. THOMPSON

Service to Students
Award



Nominate a faculty
or staff member
who has worked
selflessly to
enhance the
student experience.

"Students First"

WINNER TO BE ANNOUNCED AT SONGFEST ON APRIL 1, 2017

ABOUT DR. LANCELOT C. A. THOMPSON

Dr. Lancelot C. A. Thompson, a Jamaican native, was the first full-time African American faculty member at The University of Toledo. His focus on the student experience saw him promoted to Vice President of Student Affairs where he worked to serve the student body and left a legacy we all strive to uphold.

