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TOWSON

UNIVERSITY

WINTER 2017



TAKING THEIR
BEST SHOTS
 IN RIO

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MYSTICAL ARTS OF TIBET

Melodic chanting and Dungchen horns filled the University Union in October as the Tibetan Monks of Drepung Loseling Monastery created a sand mandala. A 600-year-old tradition, the mandala took about 27 hours to complete. Then the sand was swept up in a closing ceremony and shared with some in attendance or returned to the earth via a stream in the Glen.

According to the monks' website "... the act [of dissolution] is symbolic as it represents a healing blessing as the waters spread the message of compassion throughout the world for planetary healing."

BIG PICTURE





STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



“I was told I asked really good questions and was able to see the company’s needs.”

THE CLOSER

Lillian Hulbert had 20 minutes to make her pitch. It was all she needed to convince the judges to award her first prize in the annual sales competition of the College of Business and Economics. Not bad for someone who once had to drop a public speaking class because she couldn’t deliver a five-minute speech. “I was terrified then, but now feel like I’ve come full circle,” Hulbert adds. Hulbert beat 25 other students who were all tasked with selling customer relationship management software to a construction company. “I overprepared,” says the senior business administration and marketing major, explaining that she discussed the scenario with a family friend who works in the software business. “I didn’t know every detail,” she admits, but was still able to put herself in the customer’s shoes when she met with the “client.” “I was told I asked really good questions and was able to see the company’s needs,” she says. Students were judged by seasoned sales pros from top area companies. Judges evaluated their approach, how well they identified the buyer’s needs, their presentation of the product, how well they overcame the buyer’s objections, the close and their overall communication skills, enthusiasm and professionalism.

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“Towson University is an established presence—an anchor that has spurred the economic and intellectual vitality in the region for 150 years.”

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

As the largest university in Greater Baltimore, Towson University is committed to an even greater leadership role in the state and region. Across the nation, colleges and universities are serving as “anchor institutions” to help their communities thrive.

Towson University is an established presence—an anchor that has spurred the economic and intellectual vitality in the region for 150 years. One of our new priorities, BTU: Partnerships at Work for Greater Baltimore, places increased emphasis on strengthening our connections and engagement with the community and businesses.

In September, we announced a partnership with Margrave Strategies to develop a comprehensive analysis of how TU's mission and priorities can better connect and strengthen the community in which we reside. Guided by internal and external input, the firm is helping us better leverage and activate both the resources and demands of the institution and greater community to create vibrancy through development.

This fall, we completed the first phase of the initiative with Margrave Strategies, which is being assisted by a Philadelphia-based firm, U3 Advisors. A four-month anchor-scan analyzed market trends, development patterns and space needs as they align with university goals and priorities.

During TU's Economic Outlook Conference in November, we welcomed Ken Ulman, president of Margrave Strategies, and Omar Blaik, CEO of U3 Advisors. Invigorating discussions focused on TU's significance as an “economic engine” for its neighbors. Initial feedback confirms that Towson University, with the support of key partners, is positioned to help usher in transformational growth and prosperity for our region.

We are a large and dynamic university that takes great pride and care in our influence in the community. As we continue to show why “TU Matters to Maryland,” I thank you for your continued support. There is much to be proud of at Towson University and there are great things ahead!

Kim Schatzel
TOWSON UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

TOWSON

UNIVERSITY

WINTER 2017 ISSUE

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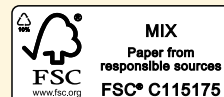
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Published three times a year by the Division of Marketing and Communications for Towson University's alumni, faculty, staff and friends. Please send comments and contributions to Towson, Marketing and Communications, Towson University, 8000 York Rd., Towson, MD 21252-0001. Telephone: 410-704-2230. Please send address changes to Alumni Relations, Towson University, 8000 York Rd., Towson, MD 21252-0001 or email alumni@towson.edu.

MHEC Fellows

FOUR NURSING FACULTY RECEIVE DISCRETIONARY AWARDS



From left: Mary Gergis, Briana Snyder, Hayley Mark and Hee Jun Kim

Four faculty members in CHP's Department of Nursing received a New Nursing Faculty Fellowship from the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

Hayley Mark, Briana Snyder, Mary Gergis and Hee Jun Kim were each awarded a \$20,000 fellowship over a three-year period. Use of the award is at the faculty member's discretion.

Mark, department chairperson, concentrates in community health nursing and preventative medicine. Snyder, an assistant professor, focuses on psychiatric and mental health nursing and dissociative disorders and intimate partner violence.

Gergis, an assistant professor, has expertise in palliative and end-of-life-care, and nurse-patient communication. Kim, an assistant professor, examines racial and ethnic differences in pain and health.

The fellowship program is part of the Nurse Support Program II funded through the Health Services Cost Review Commission. It was created to increase the educational capacity of nursing programs and the number of nursing faculty in Maryland nursing programs.

On Board

VICE PRESIDENTS OF INCLUSION AND INSTITUTIONAL EQUITY, AND UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT JOIN SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Two national searches brought Leah Cox and Brian DeFilippis to Towson University.

Cox became TU's inaugural vice president for Inclusion and Institutional Equity on Jan. 23, leading the university's diversity and compliance office and serving as a key adviser to the senior leadership team as a member of the President's Council.

Cox comes to TU from the University of Maryland where she served for the past six years as special assistant to the president and chief diversity officer, Title IX coordinator and campus ombudsman.

“This position culminates both my professional experiences as well as my passion for working with diverse populations, ADA, and Title IX,” Cox says. “I am excited to return to my native Baltimore and to be a part of President Schatzel's leadership team. I found Towson University to be a warm and welcoming place, and I look forward to rolling up my sleeves to collaborate with my colleagues.”

Cox earned a Ph.D. in from the University of Maryland, College Park, in 2010 with her dissertation, “Interactional Diversity and the Role of a Supportive Racial Climate.” She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from McDaniel College (formerly Western Maryland

College) and a Master of Science degree from the University of Arizona.

DeFilippis became vice president of University Advancement and executive vice president of the Towson University Foundation effective Jan. 16.

He comes to TU from the University of Maryland School of Medicine where he served as associate dean for development and chief development officer. DeFilippis led a 32-person fundraising team and directed the last four years of the capital campaign,



Leah Cox



Brian DeFilippis

“Transforming Medicine Beyond Imagination,” raising a record \$454.2 million.

“I'm honored and humbled to be chosen to join the Towson University community, one that I've admired for some time,” DeFilippis says. “Towson University is an institution that continues to grow in both stature and impact here in Maryland and beyond, and I look forward to turning that enthusiasm into a culture of philanthropy that helps advance the university to the next level.”

DeFilippis has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Elizabethtown College in Elizabeth, Pennsylvania, and a Master of Science degree from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Partners in Training Educators

COE AND HUSSMAN INSTITUTE DEVELOP VIDEOS

Kay Holman, associate professor of special education in the College of Education, has partnered with John Hussman and the Hussman Institute for Autism to help train educators who work with students with disabilities.

Holman's previous research revealed that while students with disabilities received one-on-one support in their schools, most of the professionals providing the assistance had limited to no training.

Now a grant from the Maryland State Department of Education, “Building Capacity for School-Based Professionals who Support Students with Disabilities,” will develop a

comprehensive online video series and follow-up training program to teach educators how to meet the needs of these students.

Holman's and Hussman's goal is to ensure that students with disabilities receive effective instructional, communicative, behavioral and social support so they can successfully engage in school and be better prepared for their futures.

“There is a great need for more training and support for professionals who are working one-on-one with students with disabilities in our schools,” Holman says.

“There is a great need for more training and support for professionals.”

The final video training modules will be accessible to anyone across the state. “Through this partnership we are creating a sustainable training program that will improve the skills and dispositions of professionals in this role and have a far-reaching impact across our state,” Holman adds.

STELLAR STATS



1 STEM LEADER |

Christina Romano, an education and outreach specialist for the TU Center for STEM Excellence, received the inaugural Outstanding Educator of the Year award last summer. The award recognizes her innovative science teaching, which engages Maryland's elementary, middle and high school students.



2 RIDING HIGH |

TU occupies No. 56 out of 386 U.S. public and private universities on *Washington Monthly's* 2016 Best Bang for the Buck – Northeast list.

3 DIVERSITY INITIATIVE |

To improve diversity and inclusion in faculty, TU joined the National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity. "We are firmly committed not only to recruiting more

diverse faculty, but also to giving all of our faculty the tools they need in order to succeed," says Timothy J. L. Chandler, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs.



4 PRIME REAL ESTATE |

Marshall and Carroll Halls became home to about 700 sophomore, junior and senior TU students in August. The new residence halls feature apartment-style accommodations with private bedrooms, shared bathrooms, a kitchen and living room. Each sustainable building is expected to achieve LEED Silver certification.



5 TUTORING |

Students from the Graduate Reading Program provided free one-on-one help for elementary school students during the TU Reading Clinic's tutoring session at the EpiCenter

Community Center in Edgewood, Maryland.



6 A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW |

Nathan McNew, TU assistant professor of mathematics, received a 2016 Project NExT (New Experiences in Teaching) fellowship from the Mathematics Association of America. The fellowship provides professional development for recent mathematics Ph.D.'s to improve teaching, engage in research and scholarship, and network with peers and mentors.



7 COLLEGE COPING |

Jonathan Mattanah, TU professor of psychology, published two books about the psychological adjustment challenges of college students: *College Student Psychological Adjustment: Theory, Methods, and Statistical Trends and*

College Student Psychological Adjustment: Exploring Relational Dynamics That Predict Success.

8 WOMEN TO WATCH |

The *Baltimore Sun* selected TU President Kim Schatzel and Jan Baum, CBE's director of entrepreneurship minor, as two of the 25 women who are compelling 2016 leaders, thinkers and doers in the area.

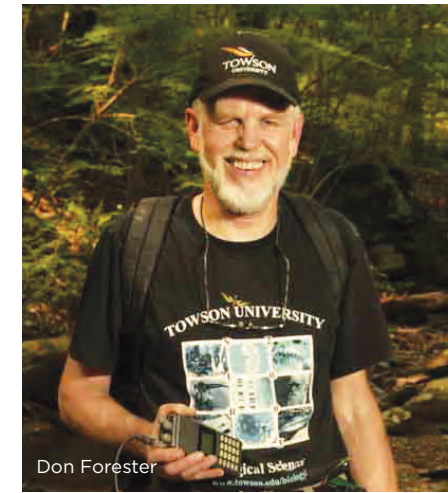


9 WELCOME PROYECTA MEXICO |

TU's Office of International Partnerships welcomed 30 undergraduate students from the University of Guadalajara in Mexico for a one-month intensive English language and U.S. culture program. The students, part of the 100,000 Strong in the Americas and Mexican Proyecta 100,000 programs, took courses, attended campus cultural meetings and toured surrounding cities from Oct. 30 through Nov. 26.

Where are they now?

RETIRED FACULTY JOIN TURFA



Don Forester

After some four decades, Don Forester left the classroom, but the "frogman" and professor emeritus of biological sciences never really left Towson University far behind.

He and about 60 former professors, instructors and librarians stay connected to TU as members of the Towson University Retired Faculty Association (TURFA). Since 2015, this voluntary, nonprofit association has kept retired tigers tied to the university long after they have stopped lecturing, grading finals or posting to Blackboard.

Forester was TURFA's first president and is now serving a one-year term as past-president. He calls it the "perfect venue to keep in touch with retired colleagues and to participate in programs and activities of our vibrant institution."

Members volunteer on campus within their respective departments or colleges, he adds. Working through TURFA, Carolyn Hill, professor emerita of English, organized a writing group so participants could receive feedback from their peers.

Forester coordinates courses and research at TU's Field Station, a 223-acre outdoor laboratory in northern Baltimore County and notes that he and many of his retired colleagues "continue to publish papers in [their] areas of expertise."

Retired faculty also meet for planetarium shows, athletic and cultural events, and receive discounted tickets to campus events among other benefits.

A Scholarship Committee hopes to fund grants for academic pursuits of members.

"I am proud of my contribution to the evolution and maturation of Towson University, and I look forward to maintaining my affiliation with the institution as long as I am on the green side of the grass," Forester says with a wink.

'A leader of contemporary American lyricism'

TU MUSIC PROFESSOR GARNERS PRAISE AS HIS COMPOSITIONS ARE PERFORMED BY MORE THAN 50 ORCHESTRAS WORLDWIDE

Classical music lovers—and new-music aficionados in particular—have long admired TU's Jonathan Leshnoff, one of the nation's most gifted and prolific young composers.

The professor of music in the College of Fine Arts and Communication, is the extraordinary talent behind some of the most innovative, transcendent music being performed today.

Leshnoff has produced a body of work that has already earned him a place in the pantheon of contemporary American composers—a remarkable achievement for a man in his early 40s.

His compositions, including four symphonies, 10 concertos and three oratorios, have been performed by more than 50 orchestras worldwide in hundreds of orchestral concerts. He's received commissions from Carnegie Hall and from orchestras in cities around the United States, including Atlanta, Baltimore, Dallas, Buffalo and Philadelphia.

During the 2016/17 season, Leshnoff's work will be performed by symphony orchestras and other musical ensembles throughout the United States.

Praise for Leshnoff has been unstinting. *The New York Times* has described him as "a leader of contemporary American lyricism." *The Washington Post* recognized him as one of the "gifted young composers" of this generation. *Strings* magazine has hailed his music as "distinct from anything else that's out there." The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO) named him one of the top 10 most performed living composers in the 2015/16 season.

In keeping with the spirit of Halloween, the Reading Symphony Orchestra, with the Baltimore Choral Arts Society and guest performer and BSO violist Peter Minkler, performed Leshnoff's "Dark Bells" on October 30. "The Fort Wayne Philharmonic originally commissioned "Dark Bells" for orchestra, choir

and viola," Leshnoff explains. "I was asked to compose a work that evoked the tales of Edgar Allan Poe.

"I'm very happy that 'Dark Bells' came to Baltimore," he adds. "The city is not only my home, but Poe's as well."

In October the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, under music director Robert Spano, released a recording of Leshnoff's Symphony No. 2, the fourth album of his work to date.

"Robert Spano has long been a supporter of new music," Leshnoff says. "He believed in my music enough to record it; he understands my music with remarkable clarity."



LESHNOFF'S LATEST RELEASE

The full-length all-Leshnoff CD of Symphony No. 2 and oratorio, "Zohar" was co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall and was given its New York premiere at Carnegie Hall on April 30, 2016. The choral parts of "Zohar" were performed by the 180-member Atlanta Symphony Choir, founded by Robert Shaw.



Jonathan Leshnoff

Leshnoff is a full-time teacher and scholar in addition to busy composer. A member of the Department of Music faculty since 2001, he's grateful to TU "for always being behind me and giving me room to grow." He says teaching orchestration here has given him the opportunity—and joy—of being able to ignite students' interest in the subject.

In 2013 Leshnoff received a University of Maryland Regents' Faculty Award in the category of scholarship, research or creative activity.

KICKOFF RETURN

SIMPSON TIES NCAA RECORD

SPORT SHORTS



3

ACES ALL |

Three members of TU's women's tennis team competed in the 2016 USTA/ITA Division I Atlantic Regional Championships in October at Old Dominion University. Juniors A.J. Gomer and Renate van Oorschodt played doubles and junior Nicole Shakhnazarova made the singles matches.

156

BANNER PERFORMANCE |

Senior punter Jake Ryder was one of 156 semifinalists for The National Football Foundation's 2016 William V. Campbell Trophy presented by Fidelity Investments. The award recognizes the best football scholar-athletes in the nation.

100

FLEET FEET |

TU running back Shane Simpson (No. 13, pictured above) tied the NCAA record with a 100-yard kickoff return for a touchdown against New Hampshire during the Homecoming game Oct. 22. He was also one of 17 players named to the STATS FCS Freshman Player of the Year Watch List.

48^{.98}

MAKING A SPLASH |

TU swimmer Jack Saunderson broke the pool record at UMBC with a time of 48.98 in the 100-yard butterfly, breaking the previous pool record of 49.04, set in 2009. He also captured the 200-yard event in 1:52.18.

RECORD SETTERS

FIVE FORMER TIGERS ENTER HALL OF FAME

Towson University welcomed five new members into its Athletics Hall of Fame in October.

Those recognized included record-setting volleyball setter Connie Blades Randolph '97, the late All-American quarterback Dan Dullea '74, legendary gymnastics coach Dick Filbert '71, All-American lacrosse faceoff record holder Mark Goers '95 and one of baseball's all-time leading hitters Jimmy Kittelberger '01.

Dullea, TU football's first All-American, set 26 program records. A four-year starter and three-year captain, he led the Tigers to their only unbeaten season in 1974. In the 1976 NCAA Division III National Football Championship, he rallied the Tigers from a 28-0 deficit with 12:42 left to tie the score, the greatest comeback in Tiger football history.

Filbert's coaching career spanned 28 consecutive winning seasons with a 491-149-2 record. His teams competed at the NCAA's highest level, winning the ECAC

Championship 14 out of 15 years and earned 13 NCAA Southeast Regional berths. In 1990, Filbert was co-winner of the National Coach of the Year award.

Goers dominated the faceoff zone, leading TU in faceoff percentage with a .702. He still owns the school single season record in faceoff percentage (166 of 214 for .778). That mark, set in 1994, remains the NCAA single-season record in faceoff percentage.

Kittelberger, who earned America East all-league first team honors in 2000 and 2001, set a Towson single-season record with 22 doubles in 2001 while batting .364 with a team-leading 63 runs scored. He still ranks among TU's career leaders with 41 doubles.

Randolph was a Big South Conference All-Conference second-team pick for two straight years. She was also selected to the Big South All-Tournament team twice, earning its MVP honors in 1993. In 1995, Randolph was TU's Female Senior Athlete of the Year.

BATTER UP

SCOTT PLAYS IN WORLD SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS



Kendyl Scott stepped into an international batter's box, starting off the first inning with a single against Uganda. The TU outfielder was playing for Great Britain in day two of the WBSC Women's World Softball Championships held in Surrey, Canada.

A rising junior for the Tigers, who earned a spot on the All-Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Softball Tournament team, Scott helped Great Britain finish 13th overall out of 31 teams in the international softball showcase.

Playing with controlled power and a graceful elegance, Scott sizzled by compiling a .388 batting average. Her relentless offensive barrage also featured a double and a triple. Defensively, Scott showcased her fantastic arm by compiling three outfield assists.

"Playing in Canada was something that will stay with me forever," Scott said. "We played our hearts out and showed the world that we deserve to be up there with the big countries."

A native of La Quinta, California, Scott was granted dual citizenship earlier this year—her father Peter is British. She participated in two tournaments in England, earning the best batter award in the London Cup after compiling a .727 average (8-for-11).

**ON THE
OUTSIDE
LOOKING IN**

WE ASKED Shannon McClain
about the psychological stress afflicting
students of color and other minorities
on U.S. college campuses.

**FACULTY
Q&A**

Shannon McClain, assistant professor in TU's Department of Psychology, teaches upper-division and graduate courses.

Her areas of expertise are multicultural issues in therapy, and treatment of mood and anxiety disorder in college students. She examines how social identities and culture impact psychosocial functioning, including mental health, learning and development. Within this area, her research has addressed cultural factors such as racial socialization, racial and ethnic identity, race-related stress, and impostor feelings.



WHY DO SO MANY RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES EXPERIENCE PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS ON PREDOMINANTLY WHITE CAMPUSES?

Transition to college is stressful for all students, but students of color on predominantly white campuses are coping with additional stressors, such as racial tensions involving peers or instructors and sometimes environmental isolation or stigmatization. Most commonly we're seeing racism occur in more subtle or unintentional behaviors called microaggressions—brief exchanges that send denigrating messages to persons from stigmatized groups.

CAN PERCEIVED BIAS LEAD TO MENTAL-HEALTH ISSUES?

Absolutely. Research suggests an association between perceived discrimination and diminished emotional and psychological well-being. Perceived bias can create or exacerbate psychological stress.

WHAT ARE IMPOSTOR FEELINGS?

Impostor feelings are particularly relevant for those who experience academic success—good students. The problem is that they don't internalize their success; they feel



like intellectual frauds. This concept was originally applied to white professional women in the workplace. There's new research examining how impostor feelings are affecting students of color.

WHY DOES COLLEGE PRESENT MORE ADJUSTMENT CHALLENGES FOR BLACK MEN?

First of all, black males are grossly underrepresented at four-year institutions. Being in an environment where not many people look like you can decrease your sense of belonging. Black men are more likely to perceive discrimination and report more difficult relations with earlier schooling, and these experiences can have implications for college. A study we recently published suggests black males experience heightened mistrust of their professors.

ARE ASIAN STUDENTS—OFTEN STEREOTYPED AS "MODEL MINORITIES"—HURT BY THESE HIGH EXPECTATIONS?

There's a misconception that positive stereotypes are harmless; psychological research is debunking that. My colleagues and I found that among African American, Latino and Asian American students, Asian Americans reported the highest level of impostor feelings. Higher levels of impostor feelings are linked to increased anxiety and depressive symptoms. The "model minority" stereotype can be a real burden for some students.

HOW IS A MUSLIM STUDENT'S SITUATION COMPARABLE TO OR DIFFERENT FROM OTHER MINORITIES?

We've seen a rise in Islamophobia since 9/11. Every stigmatized group has its own stressors, above and beyond what other students experience. Those who are visibly Muslim, such as women who wear the hijab, may face verbal and physical threats based more on religious affiliation than race or ethnicity.

WHAT PROBLEMS DO LGBT STUDENTS CONFRONT?

LGBT students are living in a world where same-sex marriage is legal, but they're still stigmatized. These students continue to experience subtle or outright slights based on sexual identity. And, depending on where they live, they can still be fired because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. The biggest strides are needed on behalf of transgender individuals—there's a great lack of understanding and empathy.

HOW CAN EDUCATORS IDENTIFY STUDENTS WHO NEED HELP ADJUSTING TO THE ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL DEMANDS OF COLLEGE?

If a student is doing poorly in my class, I don't assume it's lack of motivation. I look for changes in mood or behavior, whether the student seems isolated or is performing worse academically. Taking time to reach out, being curious and forming a connection is really important.

TU's Center for Student Diversity fosters inclusion, collaboration and relationship building. Its units include: African American Student Development; Asian Pacific Islander/Latino Student Development; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Student Development; Student Success Programs; Women's Resources and Campus Ministries.

ARE THERE PROGRAMS THAT HAVE HELPED TO ALLEVIATE THE STRESS THESE STUDENTS FACE EVERY DAY?

There has been exciting research on some campuses where psychologists use special interventions to improve the experience for students of color. They're called "stealthy interventions" because the students aren't singled out as needing special help—they're given to everyone. On one campus, psychologists attempted to alleviate students' isolation by bringing in older peers to normalize concerns about belonging in a college environment. This simple intervention had a significant impact for first-generation students of color, in particular.

HOW CAN RACIAL/ETHNIC MINORITIES SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER?

Students of color need to have a space where they feel less isolated and can meet others who share their on- and off-campus experience. Friendships or participation in organizations such as TU's Center for Student Diversity or the Black Student Union can help these students feel valued and respected.

WHEN STUDENTS HAVE A SUPPORTIVE AND ENCOURAGING ON-CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT, ARE THEY LESS EQUIPPED TO DEAL WITH THE HARSH REALITIES OF THE OFF-CAMPUS WORLD?

I don't think that's the case. There's evidence that a supportive campus environment increases the odds that students will graduate, and that in itself is especially critical for students of color. Often their families have prepared them for what they may face in the off-campus world. They learn the tools in the context of a loving and supportive environment, and they're prepared to deal with discrimination later on. ■

CYBER SOPHISTICATE

BY RAY FELDMANN '77
PHOTOS BY KANJI TAKENO

Stephen Orr '02, the NSA visiting professor at the U.S. Naval Academy, teaches midshipmen to hack and defend against hacking

Stephen Orr '02, on sabbatical from the National Security Agency, is teaching at the Naval Academy for three years.

Stephen Orr IV, Ph.D., casually paces back and forth in front of the classroom. The large clock on the sterile white wall reads a few minutes before nine in the morning. It would be early at a civilian college, but most of the 19 freshmen—or plebes—in this United States Naval Academy class have been awake for nearly four hours.

As Orr '02 speaks, one student lays his head on his desk. Another unsuccessfully tries to stay awake. Some Naval Academy professors are known for demanding that weary students stand when it appears they're about to fall asleep. Orr doesn't buy that approach.

"I know what a tough day they have here," he observes sympathetically, "how early they have to wake up and how late they're up studying. So I cut them some slack."

Despite Orr's somewhat laid back approach, the subject matter he's teaching is about as serious as it gets for these plebes: SY 110—fundamentals of cybersecurity.

"What is a cyberattack?" Orr asks out of nowhere, and suddenly all eyes are on the youthful 36-year-old. "The Department of Defense keeps battle plans for defending against ISIS on a server. What pillars would they have to infiltrate to access those plans?"

CRASHING HIS FIRST COMPUTER

Growing up in rural Frederick County as the oldest of four children, Orr never imagined that one day he'd be teaching future naval leaders the six phases of a cyberattack, footprinting or "digital litter"—the trail of personal online information.

"I really thought it was going to be business," Orr recalls when asked about what career he imagined for himself while a student in middle school and then at Walkersville High School. "And then computers really took off. It was about 1986 when the first Nintendo came out. I was fascinated how you could have this controller and you could control this virtual thing on the screen."

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Orr was so intrigued, he decided one day to take a friend's \$150 Nintendo apart.

"I actually opened up a Nintendo to see what was inside of it," he laughs, "but later I couldn't put the screws back in. Fortunately for me, my friend's parents were able to put it back together, and I don't think my parents ever found out about it!"



While still a senior in high school, Orr was able to parlay that burgeoning interest in computers—his parents had bought him an early Texas Instruments model—into a part-time job at Lockheed Martin. When it was time to choose a college, Towson University's Greater Baltimore location and strong business programs made his decision an easy one.

Orr spent four "absolutely fantastic" years at TU, including several classes where his professors sparked his interest in problem-solving and critical thinking.

"They would say to us 'Here's a problem, here's one way to solve it, go figure out how to solve it,'" he says. "That really pushed me and got me into the critical thinking, innovative, entrepreneurial mindset that I thought a computer scientist needed to have."

While a senior at Towson University, Orr said he was fortunate to have one particular professor who later became a mentor.

"Professor Mike Levine was phenomenal," Orr recalls, "in that not only was he a good professor, he spent time with me, discussed things with me, and was willing to go the extra mile. I related to him the most and he really has had a lasting impact on me.

"He also helped me learn how to balance the part-time work at Lockheed Martin, which was about 20 hours a week, and still go to classes, which was fantastic," he adds. "It

"In the past the 'bad guys' would have had to go up against the greatest military the world has ever known. Now, all they need is a keyboard with a connection to cause pain or impact our way of life."

—Stephen Orr '02

was a lot of work, which unfortunately didn't leave a lot of time for activities or a social life. But it was a fantastic experience."

During his senior year at TU, a curiosity about cybersecurity led Orr to transition from his job at Lockheed Martin to another well-known defense contractor, Northrop Grumman in Columbia. (Along the way, he would go on to earn a master's degree from Johns Hopkins and a doctorate in computer science from Nova Southeastern University.)

"And as great as that experience at Northrop Grumman was, I realized I wanted to do more in the area of cyber operations," Orr said. "So I put in an application to the National Security Agency, and I've been there going on 13 years."

While Orr admittedly loves his work at "the agency," which of course he is not allowed to discuss, he also recently experienced a strong desire to contribute to the nation's security in a slightly different way.

His wish to "give back" led him to the banks of the Severn River in Annapolis, where

he serves as a civilian instructor at one of the nation's premier military colleges, the U.S. Naval Academy (USNA). He will teach there for three years while officially on sabbatical from "the agency."

"My experience at the agency has been phenomenal," Orr says. "The leadership there, the way it is structured, and the many opportunities that exist to learn new things. It's a hierarchy, but it's also a meritocracy. If you want to go above and beyond, you have the opportunity to go above and beyond.

"I always thought I wanted to teach someday," he adds. "Teaching at the Naval Academy is an opportunity for me to give back in return for what so many people have given to me along the way. So it's a win-win."

SAFEGUARDING THE NATION'S INTERESTS AT HOME AND ABROAD

Orr opens the door and steps into Michelson Hall, one of the academy's picturesque academic buildings which primarily houses computer science and chemistry classes. Dressed impeccably in tan khakis, blue oxford dress shirt, red tie and a navy-blue blazer, he blends almost inconspicuously with dozens of male and female midshipmen who are hurrying to class in their black "working" uniforms and pristine white hats (known as "covers").

Arriving in his classroom on the second floor of Michelson, Orr chats amicably with the 14 men and five women in the room, most of whom are working on their laptops, pulling up class notes or their latest home-

work assignment. Unlike many college freshmen, the midshipmen in Orr's cyber reconnaissance class are definitely not checking social media sites.

They've heard Orr's somber warnings and take them seriously, at least while sitting in his classroom.

"I don't have a Facebook account," Orr tells these impressionable 17- and 18-year-olds. "There is a reason for that. That 'digital litter' that's out there, is it being truly protected or are we just giving it away? And how can that be used against us?"

Midshipman here, and their counterparts at the Military Academy at West Point and Air Force Academy in Colorado, come to Annapolis to learn about warfare, national defense, and safeguarding our nation's interests at home and abroad. What they learn from Orr barely existed when he was a college freshman at TU in the late 1990s.

"If you look back at the traditional domains of warfare in the military," Orr tells his freshmen students, "you have air, land, sea and space. We are separated in each of these domains but within the Internet we are interconnected, so there is a persistence in that we are always 'on.' If you are a part of this interconnected 'thing,' there must be persistent defense and/or persistent offense."

The rise of cyber operations, cyber warfare, and asymmetric warfare lowers the barrier of entry for either rogue states, nation states, or just nefarious actors to have a true impact on this interconnected nation state that we are, he explains. In Orr's classroom you could hear a pin drop.

"In the past the 'bad guys' would have had to go up against the greatest military the world has ever known. Now, all they need is a keyboard with a connection to cause pain or impact our way of life," he says. "It can be a 16-year-old kid or a nation state. Anybody or everybody is a target.



"Protecting data is of critical importance," he adds. "We must demand that of those we do business with. We need to become far more vigilant and protective."

In addition to his freshman-level intro to cybersecurity class with these plebes, Orr teaches a senior-level cyber operations course with a focus on "offensive" operations—how to infiltrate or attack computer systems. In fact, the midshipmen have even hacked a drone and turned it off in mid-flight.

He is also an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland.

"The midshipmen here are hungry and motivated, they have goals set, and they already know what they want to do and who they want to be. Teaching these young men and women here is inspiring."

At the end of each day in Annapolis, Orr drives back to his home in rural Howard County, which he shares with his wife and two children (6 and 2). He met his wife quite unconventionally while on assignment in Augusta, Georgia, when a doctor's office receptionist spotted him arriving for a routine appointment and said aloud in front of a packed waiting room, "Oh my

goodness, you've got to meet my sister."

While the doctor looked on disapprovingly, Orr sheepishly accepted the sister's phone number, called, and made a date. The two hit it off, married one year later and recently celebrated their seventh anniversary.

"It was a textbook happy ending," Orr jokes. "The receptionist got to keep her job and I got a lovely wife!"

When Orr completes his sabbatical teaching assignment at USNA, he will return to "the agency," although in a slightly different role.

"I will be going back for the mission. I've actually transitioned from operator to

leadership, so I think I will continue in that leadership role in the cyber operations aspect of our mission. It's only going to increase in importance; it's only going to be more vital to the nation's security."

For now, Orr is intent on helping midshipmen protect the fleet from cyber intrusions. He understands and wants to impart that cybersecurity is a huge risk for them as future naval commanders and as everyday citizens.

Regardless of major, every midshipmen, must learn the importance of protecting data in Orr's introductory classes. His upper-level courses require students to complete a research topic on phishing or hacking drones or some other cyber warfare tactic.

Not a bad gig for guy who once had trouble reassembling some screws in a Nintendo console. ■

Ray Feldmann '77 is the senior director of communications and media relations in the Division of Marketing and Communications.

[THE]

VIEWFINDERS

Patrick Smith '09 and Matthew Hazlett '14 take their best shots during a “dream-come-true” assignment at the Rio Olympics

BY DARYL LEE HALE '16
PHOTOS BY PATRICK SMITH '09

The Olympic Aquatic Center was always loud, filled with shouting. Lots of shouting. Even after U.S. swimmer Michael Phelps won gold, the noise didn't subside.

Matthew Hazlett '14 worked through it. He sat in the stands, editing photographs of Phelps' victory on his laptop. If anything, the energy surrounding him made the deadlines more pressing.

In the Olympic Stadium, as Usain Bolt prepped to run the 100-meter semifinal, the crowd was silent. But when the Jamaican thunderbolt crossed the finish line, victorious, the fans erupted into cheers.

Patrick Smith '09 worked through it, watching history in the making from behind a camera lens.

Hazlett and Smith worked on the Getty Images team for the 2016 Summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro—Hazlett as a photo editor and Smith as a photographer.

For both, it was their first time covering the Olympics.

“Combatting the energy of the stadium with staying focused on delivering the product

quickly was difficult at first,” Hazlett recalls. An editor's duties include cropping, color correcting and captioning photos, in addition to shooting press conferences.

It wasn't long before he got the hang of it. The team worked 16- to 17-hour days, covering sports from basketball and gymnastics to more obscure events like women's air rifle and table tennis.

The long days paid off. One of Hazlett's photos appeared on what seemed like every website homepage and Facebook news feed when U.S. swimmer Ryan Lochte made headlines for his controversial behavior in Rio.

“It was cool to see an image that I took have that much circulation,” Hazlett says, despite being critical of his photo. (It's boring, he declares. “[Lochte's] just sitting at a table.”)

The 28 days Hazlett spent in Rio held many firsts for the freelance photographer. It was his first time out of North America—an interesting experience in a location that drew controversy before the Olympics even began.

There are huge class differences in Brazil, which meant “you would see parts of Rio that looked like you could be in the middle of any



Documenting what could possibly be Bolt's last-ever medal ceremony was a special moment for Patrick Smith '09.



“[Photographers] all see things in a **unique** way.”
—Matt Hazlett '14



Patrick Smith '09 sits among the throngs of photographers.



Matt Hazlett '14 takes a break from editing photos.

major U.S. city and other parts where it was nothing like I'd ever seen before,” he explains. Passing by the favelas, the urban slums of Rio, offered a stark contrast to the tourist areas that the photography team visited, such as the beaches of Copacabana, the Christ the Redeemer statue and Sugarloaf Mountain.

Both Hazlett and Smith felt safe, and separate, from any threats.

“Anytime you needed anything, everyone was willing to help,” Hazlett says. “It’s a very welcoming country.”

Those working the Olympics even had their own lane on the highways to expedite travel and prevent danger posed by thieves approaching taxi cabs—an all-too-real threat in Rio.

And having “street smarts” from living in Baltimore helped, Smith quips.

For Hazlett, the Olympics also presented his first time covering such a wide array of sports and his first time working with so many world-class photographers from around the globe.

“[Photographers] all see things in a unique way,” Hazlett, 24, explains. “Being young and new to the field, a lot of the photographers I worked with, I’d never even met before.”

It was a special comfort, then, when his schedule lined up with Smith’s.

The two collaborated one-on-one for beach volleyball, an event that entailed long days because the final match often began at 11:30 p.m.

Editing Smith’s pictures made the day more bearable. The duo had worked together on a weekly basis back in the States.

“I knew the images he shot and what he was looking for,” Hazlett explains. “And [Smith] is just a great shooter, so that made it easy to edit his pictures.”

A seasoned, award-winning staff photographer for Getty Images, Smith has covered events around the globe, winning numerous accolades, including a first-place from The White House News Photographers Association in 2016. Still, the Olympic Games are a class all their own, Smith says.

“You hope that you can cover one, if not as many as you possibly can, during your career,” he explains.

The competition is as rigorous among the photographers as it is the athletes, Smith says.

“We all want to have the big moment for ourselves,” he notes.

And while he feels he did not walk away with the definitive image of the 2016 Olympics (that honor, he believes, belongs to Getty photographer Cameron Spencer’s viral image of Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt), bearing witness to such monumental moments made the experience a success. One event he especially recalls is Bolt’s gold medal ceremony.

“I was covering what could possibly be [Bolt’s] last-ever medal ceremony, kissing the last gold medal that he may ever win if he doesn’t compete again,” Smith explains. “As a photographer, sometimes specific moments triumph a graphic picture. Just documenting that moment is special.”

So is having a fellow Towson and *Towerlight* alum by his side, he says.

“It was cool to know that [Hazlett and I] were on similar paths in college, and here we are working one of the largest sporting events in the world together,” Smith says. “It was pretty incredible.” ■

Darryl Lee Hale '16, a former editorial assistant for the magazine, is the educational and social media outreach director of the American Breast Cancer Foundation.

Among the many images captured by TU photographers were a water polo match, a favela, a volleyball match and the iconic statue of Christ that dominates the Rio skyline.



The competition is as **rigorous** among the photographers as it is the athletes.



MEASURE FOR MEASURE

Business grad goes the distance at the National Institute of Standards and Technology

BY DAN SAWYER '80
PHOTOS BY
FRAN WEBBER/NIST

Whether they're made of leather or metal, people have been using tape measures for a long time. The first spring-loaded metal tape measure was invented and patented in England in 1829. Alvin Fellows of New Haven, Connecticut, made improvements to that design, including the locking mechanism that stops the tape from retracting until you want it to, and received a patent on July 14, 1868, a date that is now celebrated by tape measure enthusiasts like myself as National Tape Measure Day. Tape measures are indispensable tools. We use them to build houses, to tailor clothes

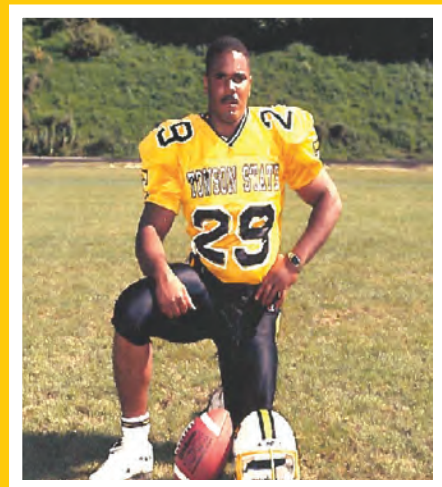
and to ensure fairness in trade and sports, pretty much any situation where we need to know the length of something. Many years ago as a high-school football running back, I cared about every yard I could gain; my dreams of playing in college, and with any luck the NFL, depended on it. First downs and touchdowns are determined by precisely marked yard lines and often decided by mere inches, so it was important to me and my teammates that the referees' measurements were accurate.

I went on to play college football at Towson University, but pursuing a rigorous academic degree while playing football was beyond my ability. After getting a degree in business administration and completing my college football career, I enrolled in University of Maryland to study mechanical engineering and went on to get a master's at The Johns Hopkins University.

Anyway, length is still a big part of my life these days, but the units are meters, which is the international unit for length.

As leader of the Dimensional Metrology Group at National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), one of my jobs is to ensure the accuracy of tape measures. In 2011, my group calibrated the tape that was used to measure the length of the 2012 Olympic marathon in London. This is important because the winners of this event are decided based solely on how fast they can complete a

Sawyer in his TU football days, who says, "That mustache set the standard for awesomeness."



Dan Sawyer in the tape tunnel of National Institute of Standards and Technology Tape Tunnel
Credit: F. Webber/NIST

Distributors send their tapes to NIST to have their accuracy checked against our high accuracy reference laser measuring system



Sawyer calibrates tapes by looking at their graduations or hash marks through a microscope. Credit: F. Webber/NIST

course of known length. In addition to being featured on the front of a box of breakfast cereal and the pride that comes from performing better than the competition, athletes who win medals and set world records can reap significant benefits, including lucrative endorsement deals.

With so much riding on winning, it's easy to see why you would want the length of the course to be as accurate as possible.

One of the most important functions of tape measures, and one you may find surprising, is to ensure fairness in millions of dollars' worth of oil transactions that take place throughout the United States every year. Oil distributors use a special measuring tape called an oil gauging tape to check the level of those very large tanks of oil you see along the highway or at sea ports. Just like you might use a dipstick to check the level of oil in your car, distributors dip these tapes into their tanks, some of which are 80 meters in diameter and can hold 100,000 cubic meters of oil, to measure the volume before and after the oil is dispersed into an oil tanker or other transfer vessel. The difference between the levels is used to determine the number of barrels transferred and the cost of the transaction.

In this business, inaccurate tape measures can cost the distributor or customer hundreds of thousands of dollars in losses, so being accurate is really important.

Many of these distributors send their tapes to NIST to have their accuracy checked against our high accuracy reference laser

One of the most important functions of tape measures is to ensure fairness in millions of dollars' worth of oil transactions that take place throughout the United States every year.

measuring system, which is among the most accurate tape measuring systems in the world. Using this system, we can measure a meter with an uncertainty of +/-300 nanometers, or 3 parts in 10^7 .

Just for some perspective, a human hair is anywhere from 80,000 to 187,000 nanometers in diameter.

Although NIST calibrates oil gauging tapes and special tapes that are used for events like the Olympics, we don't calibrate every tape measure that you find in your local hardware store. The accuracy of most of those tapes are still traceable to NIST labs, though. That's because many of the manufacturers of tape measures send their master length standards to NIST for calibration. They use their NIST-calibrated masters to make the tens of millions of tapes that are bought and sold throughout the world every year.

Of course, because you lose accuracy when you transfer measurements from one tape to another, tape measure manufacturers want their master standards to be as accurate as possible. If we're working with a tape that has very clean, very sharp graduation markings,

like one of these master length standards have, we can calibrate them with an uncertainty of about 5 parts in 10^7 , or +/-500 nanometers per meter.

The tape measures themselves are manufactured with varying degrees of quality, but as per NIST Handbook 44 (PDF), a six-foot-long tape used for commerce must be accurate to within 1/32 of an inch.

As anyone who's ever tried to build anything knows, our friend the humble tape measure is a useful tool. We use it to ensure fairness in trade and allow people to produce and purchase all kinds of important products every day. A tape measure is a lot like I like to think I was during my years on the football field: small, powerful and effective. Unlike me, though, a tape measure won't knock you down if you get in its way. ■

Dan Sawyer '80, a mechanical engineer, leads NIST's Dimensional Metrology group. In his spare time, he enjoys building model airplanes and playing piano.

This article originally appeared in the NIST Taking Measure blog on July 14, 2016.



Lance Johnson '93

It's been an exciting and transitional year for the Alumni Association Board of Directors. We are evolving into an organization that will improve its efforts to advance and engage you, our alumni, while continuing to support the mission of Towson University.

Thanks to all of you who completed the alumni survey. Your opinion matters to us, and your responses were an integral part of the evaluation of what we will do in the future. In fact, you will see changes in the coming months.

Last fall was filled with events that recognized alums and brought them together to celebrate. A few include: the rally at the University of South Florida before the

TU football game, the annual Volunteer Recognition and Young Alumni Awards, the New York City Reception, the Boordy Vineyard event, and the Alumni Association/Student Government/Corporate Internship Partners reception.

If you missed the opportunity to attend these events, please join us for future ones. It's never too late to reconnect or get involved.

Remember, you will always be a part of the growing Towson University alumni network, and

we want you to stay connected to your alma mater. The Alumni Association will help you do this, and we look forward to hearing about your accomplishments and successes.

Lance Johnson '93

PRESIDENT, TU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

“Thanks to all of you who completed the alumni survey. Your opinion matters to us.”



SURVEY SAYS

Highlights from the survey of TU alumni

Last spring's survey of all Towson University alumni revealed some interesting information about how the university engages with them.

Here's what we learned:

- Most of our alumni had a good or excellent experience as students at Towson University, and speak well of us.
- Our alumni like how, and how often, we communicate with them.
- Our alumni would like to know more about what's happening in their respective major departments and colleges.
- Our alumni would like a better idea of the services and benefits we provide.
- Our alumni are busy or too far away to come to events, but still want to be invited.
- Our alumni give to TU with our students in mind, and want to know how we use their gifts, how they can support current Tigers, and how their gifts support rigorous academics.
- What's most important to our alumni is being proud of and connected to TU, and they want a better impression of how we make those connections, prepare students for careers, and maintain academic excellence. This is where the value of their TU degree lies.

As a result of this input and recommended strategies from a task force, the TU Alumni Association is forming a new strategic plan, a revised organizational structure and will elect new officers in spring 2017. In addition, the TU Office of Alumni Relations is revising its staffing and resource allocation.

The alumni office recognizes that TU graduates play a significant role in advancing the university through reputation enhancement, philanthropic support or other meaningful ways.

We invite you to visit campus, attend events or email us at alumni@towson.edu to stay connected to TU.

JOINING IN

Alumni reception in Harford County

On June 16 President Kim Schatzel welcomed alumni at Towson University in Northeastern Maryland to the Harford County campus.



1 Lance Johnson '93 and President Kim Schatzel | 2 Deborah Cruise, VP for Student Development at Harford Community College and Dennis Golladay, former president of Harford Community College

BEATLES AT BOORDY

Winery event features a salute to the Fab Four

More than 120 alumni from 1972 to 2016, many of them young alumni, gathered at Boordy Vineyards on Aug. 27 to hear the Mahoney Brothers perform "Long Live The Beatles."



1 Laura Slep '15, Linda Slep, Bill Slep, Tom Slep '14 and Cameron McPherson '14 | 2 Devin Wilson, Valerie Raynor '15 and Dotty '86 and Mike Raynor | 3 Theresa Liberto and Cathy Mattingly '89 | 4 Arika Ullman, Alyssa Wright '14, Nick Hofmeister and Dena Fowler '16

FLORIDA FOOTBALL

Tigers take on the University of South Florida

More than 300 alumni from Florida and beyond, including former Tiger football players, convened in Tampa for a Friday pep rally. The next day, Sept. 3, fans watched the Tigers take on the USF Bulls at the Tampa Bay Buccaneers Stadium.



1 Scott Lenz '00, Natalie Harris Lenz '98 and Laura and Allan Hitzler | 2 (Left to right bottom row) Ross Cappuzzo '86, Bob Spero '78, Football Coach Rob Ambrose, Gordy Combs '72 and Dan Crowley '01 (middle row) Nicholas Wallace '10, Aaron Bates '94, Rudy Willem '81, Bob Skalstad '77 and Clay Christian '92 (top row) Chris Ginakes '89, Scott Lenz '00, Jeff Kihn '85, John Yingling '71, H. John Meja '84 | 3 Aaron Bates '94 and Chuck Lightening '92 | 4 John Yingling '74, Steve Willett '79, John Gilliss '74 and Jeff Riddle '75

ORANGE AND BLACK

TU loves the Orioles

Alumni gathered in the Bullpen Picnic Area at Camden Yards on Sept. 19 when the TU Alumni Association hosted a picnic before the Orioles took on the Red Sox.



1 Hazel Johnson '89, Kacie O'Bannon and Alena Smith-Martin '02 | 2 Sloane Jennings '12 and Chris Engler '06 | 3 Robert Betz '99, Marie Betz '88, Susan Bartley '75, Donald Bartley and Yvonne Herndon '79 | 4 Chas Marald, Sara Wolfe '13, Jessica Wolfe and Laura Slep '15

FLIGHT 93 HERO

Honor Elizabeth Wainio '95 honored at Ropewalk Tavern

On Oct. 1, family and friends gathered at the Ropewalk Tavern to remember Honor Elizabeth Wainio '94, who perished on Flight 93 during the terrorist attacks of 9/11. The Wainio family joined recipients of the communications scholarship established in her memory. This event raised more than \$17,000 for the endowment.



1 Linda McFaul, Wendy Muher, Amy Shuster, Holly Dalton and Jason Sohmer
2 Esther Heymann '72, Taylor Lutz '14 and Ben Wainio
3 Keith Ewanico '94/'07, Christine Johnson '06 and Stephanie Johnson '95

HONORING OUR BEST

The 2016 Alumni Volunteer Recognition Reception

The TU Alumni Association celebrated its most outstanding alumni, faculty and staff volunteers Oct. 20 at a reception in the University Union.



1 Left to Right Judith '65 and Louis H. Richardson Kistner, the first couple to receive the Athletic Alumni Volunteer Service Award; Myrna Cardin '65, Spirit of the University Award; Felicity Knox '94 and Louise J. Miller '10, Staff Alumni Volunteer Service Award; Chris A'Hern '94, Alumni Association Volunteer Service Award; Shohreh A. Kaynama '76, Faculty Alumni Volunteer Service Award; Steven L. Arbaugh '78, University Alumni Volunteer Service Award

A WRITER'S TALE

Author Roland Smith visits TU

Award-winning author Roland Smith (*Cryptid Hunters*, *I.Q.* and *Storm Runners*) has enthralled young readers for decades. On Nov. 4, he regaled students at Rodgers Forge Elementary, discussed writing techniques with aspiring student and faculty authors at Cook Library and spent the afternoon with Middle River Middle School students, one of TU's first professional development schools. The day concluded with a presentation at the Auburn House Pavilion.



1 Middle River Middle School students welcome author Roland Smith
2 Students had lots of questions for Smith
3 Smith with two of his biggest fans, Trey and Brooke Rozankowski

TOASTING RECENT GRADS

The Young Alumni Awards Banquet

The TU Alumni Association celebrated TU graduates under the age of 32 at the 2016 Young Alumni Awards Banquet, held Oct. 7 in West Village Commons.



1 Left to Right Anthony P. Basel, D.O. '09, Young Service Alumni Award; Jess and Mildred Fisher College of Science and Mathematics; Junaed A. Siddiqui '13, Young Entrepreneur Award, Graduate and Continuing Studies; Molly Brady Jefferson '13, Outstanding Recent Graduate, College of Education; Andrew Baker '10, Young Entrepreneur Award, College of Business and Economics; Van D. Brooks '12, Young Philanthropic Alumni Award, College of Fine Arts and Communication; Lawrence M. Hamm Jr. '07, Distinguished Young Alumni Award, College of Fine Arts and Communication; Reema Riaz '15, Outstanding Recent Graduate, College of Liberal Arts.

CAMEOS

Electronic Media & Film Reunion

The TU Alumni Association partnered with former EMF chairs Barry Moore and Greg Faller along with current chair Michael Angelella, who met with alumni and students Oct. 21 at the Auburn pavilion to network and share ideas.



1 Peter Lev, Michael Angelella, Sara Judd '09 and Christopher Judd '09 | 2 Barry Moore, Timothy Ratajczak '94 and Steve Yeager | 3 Rebecca Butcher '15, Greg Faller and Dave Reiss | 4 Isaiah Gibson '14, Sherman Williams '14 and Josh Roberts '13

18 YEARS OF SUPPORT

The TU Alumni Association Scholarship and Grant Luncheon

The Nov. 1 luncheon continued the tradition, which began in 1998, of the TU Alumni Association awarding scholarships to children and grandchildren of TU alumni.



1 The 2016 recipients of scholarships and grants

NETWORKING

Chinese alumni gather at inaugural reception

The TU Alumni Association and the International Student and Scholar Office partnered with Bob Zhang '95 in this Nov. 12 inaugural event to bring together Chinese alumni, faculty, staff and students. They enjoyed the Chinese Folk Pottery exhibit in the Asian Arts Gallery in the College of Fine Arts and Communication.



1 Ed McDonald '78, Maggie Li and Bob Zhang '07 | 2 Wendy Ng '09, Vivian Yamoah and Pei Ge '15 | 3 Jinxia Xiong, Maggie Reitz '79/'88 and Xiaoming (Sarah) Liu | 4 Brian Du '01 and Wenliang Tao '94

A LANDMARK CELEBRATION

Class of 1956 celebrates 60 years since graduation

The Class of 1956 celebrated its 60th reunion Aug. 5 at a luncheon with a presentation by Felicity Knox '94, library associate, Special Collections and Archives.



1 The members of the Class of 1956

HOMECOMING 2016

A RACE, TAILGATING AND FOOTBALL BRING ALL HOME TO TU

A 5K wove through TU's 329-acre campus to start the Homecoming festivities. A high-spirited day of food, fun and football followed at the Alumni Tailgating Festival with close to 50 alumni groups celebrating in the Lower Practice Field. Then the crowds cheered for the Tigers despite a 21-7 loss to the University of New Hampshire Wildcats.



1 Runningback Deshaun Wethington | 2 Runners take off at the starting point during the second Tiger Trot 5K and Fun Run | 3 Winners of the 5K race | 4 The Braswell Group at the Alumni Tailgating Festival



1 Sigma Gamma Rho alumnae | 2 Towson teachers | 3 Towson Black Alumni Alliance | 4 Rampolla Group | 5 Defensive end D'Sean Cummings lunges for a tackle. | 6 Omega Psi Psi with President Kim Schatzel | 7 The Towerlight group

ALUMNI NEWS

START SPREADING THE NEWS

Alumni party in NYC

Nearly 50 alumni and guests joined President Kim Schatzel and TU Alumni Association President Lance Johnson '93 on Nov. 10 in the Big Apple. Mark your calendar for Nov. 9 in 2017.



1 Lance Johnson '93, Katie McCulloh '03 and Katherine McPhail '06 | 2 Alison Saltz '94, Christine Cox '04 and Obste Korme '03 | 3 Joe Valentine '94, Charlie Cononie '13, Regina Gilligan '94 and Joe Genovese '94 | 4 Megan Flannery '13, Mara Schneider '14, Drew Evangelista '13 and President Kim Schatzel

CAREER BUILDING

Finding jobs and internships

The TU Alumni Association, SGA, the Career Center and TU's corporate internship partners met Oct. 13 in the Auburn Pavilion to provide opportunities for career growth and internships to TU students.



1 SGA members enjoy the chance to network with alumni. | 2 Student leaders come together to meet alumni and corporate partners. | 3 Mary Crowe and Patrick Mascio | 4 Elise Kleinwaks and Omnia Shedid



“Your support last fiscal year raised nearly \$9 million.”

I cannot thank you enough for choosing Towson University when making your philanthropic decisions. Your support last fiscal year raised nearly \$9 million. Thanks to your generosity, we exceeded our goal to raise \$1.5 million in scholarship support, tipping the scales at \$2.5 million. With 54 percent of TU students needing financial aid, your gifts greatly benefit their education.

We are proud to report that we accomplished more last year than raising money. We also raised our alumni and student giving rates. More than 6,600 alumni donated to TU, an increase of 1,700 alumni donors from the previous year and the highest year-to-year increase in the past 18 years.

Our students had a phenomenal 800 percent giving increase last year, and our student philanthropy program received the Silver Circle of Excellence Award by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education for our Gold and Black Giving

Back campaign. Seventy percent of student participants in the Gold and Black Giving Back campaign have continued to give as alumni.

In March, the Presidential Ambassadors, who help lead our student philanthropy program, were awarded the Outstanding Emerging Organization award from CASE-Affiliated Student Advancement Programs. Towson University students and young alumni are integral to helping us build a culture of philanthropy, and we are fortunate to have their support.

I look forward to what we can accomplish this fiscal year, and I again extend my gratitude to you for continuing to give and advance Towson University.

Michael C. Cather '93
ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

Recognizing Educational Leadership

THE DR. RONALD S. THOMAS EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD SUPPORTS TEACHER DEVELOPMENT

“I am tremendously optimistic about the future of educational leadership in America’s schools,” says Ronald Thomas ’67/’71, associate director of TU’s Center for Leadership in Education.

Thomas is doing more than talking about his leadership optimism—he’s investing in it through the Dr. Ronald S. Thomas Educational Leadership Award. For the next five years, one graduate student per year in educational leadership will receive \$5,000.

The money will support a requirement of the program, an internship with a project that challenges students to take their leadership to the next level. Thomas

has seen some amazing projects, but he has also seen projects stall because students lacked funding to carry out their initiatives.

Thomas thrives on seeing his students succeed. “The ability to help them develop their leadership potential, to give them some insight into the leaders they might become, feeds my energy and keeps me going,” he says.

His passion for teaching has come full circle at Towson University. Thomas spent his career as a teacher or administrator in Maryland public schools. He ended his public school career as an assistant superintendent for educational accountability for Baltimore County before returning to TU in 2001 to teach full time.

As a first-generation college student, TU was the only college he and his family could afford. Now, 50 years after earning his undergraduate degree, Thomas chose to commemorate the occasion with his award. “I hope this gift will encourage leadership students to continue working to increase teacher and student



Ronald Thomas '67/'71

learning at their schools after their graduation,” he says. “Their creative ideas will take educational leadership far beyond what I was able to do in my career.”

To support the Dr. Ronald S. Thomas Educational Leadership Award, visit towson.edu/educationalleadershipaward.

Stroke Rehabilitation: There's an App for That

THE AETNA FOUNDATION SUPPORTS AN APP TO HELP STROKE SURVIVORS REHABILITATE

The ubiquitous smartphone is becoming a therapeutic device for stroke survivors, thanks to a team of TU professors in computer and information sciences, and occupational therapy who developed the ARMStroke app.

The app is a rehabilitation tool used with stroke survivors who need upper arm and shoulder exercises. It not only monitors their progress, but also sends information to health care providers.

Professors Katherine Tang and Heidi Feng of the Department



of Computer and Information Sciences, along with Professor Sonia Lawson of the Department of Occupational Therapy and Occupational Science are the innovators behind this technology. Their project began with seed funding from TU's School of Emerging Technologies.

Grant support from the Aetna Foundation, which aims to improve community access to quality health care, helped the team test and refine

the app. "The project aligns well with our program strategy by testing a potentially scalable technology in a vulnerable population," says Alyse Sabina, the Aetna Foundation's national program director. "We are hopeful that this work will strengthen the evidence base regarding digital health technology and its application in underserved communities."

The *Daily Record* recognized the ARMStroke team as a 2016 Innovator of the Year. The team hopes the honor will educate the public about their app's potential, encouraging more users and supporters of their project. Additional support would mean they can recruit more users, perform additional data collection and analysis, and modify the application to be used by others, such as children with physical disabilities and patients with traumatic brain injuries.

To support the ARMStroke team, visit www.towson.edu/GiveToARMStroke.



The team of (left to right) Heidi Feng, Katherine Tang and Sonia Lawson was cited by the *Daily Record* as a 2016 Innovator of the Year for its ARMStroke app.

Smart Tech: Beyond Limitations

MID-ATLANTIC CIO FORUM GRANT HELPS FIND SOLUTIONS FOR PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS



Max Lasko wears a flex sensor prototype, an assistive device, on his wrist.

Meet Max Lasko. He has spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), a life-threatening genetic disease that affects how the brain and muscles communicate.

Amanda Jozkowski met him when he was just a few months old. The professor of occupational therapy and occupational science knew she wanted to help Max become more independent.

While his movements and communication are limited by SMA, he is as cognitively aware and as intelligent as his peers. Jozkowski recognized that Max and children like him need smart tech systems and devices they can wear to help them communicate, get around in wheelchairs and control their environments.

To design, assess and develop this technology, she created the SMA Tiger Research Team, a collaboration among professors and graduate students from the departments of Computer and Information Sciences, and Speech-Language Pathology,

along with initial financial support from the General Endowment for the Jess and Mildred Fisher College of Science and Mathematics.

The next step was obtaining additional funding from the Mid-Atlantic CIO Forum, which issues grants for information technology projects. The board unanimously approved a multi-year grant for the SMA Tiger Research Team. Calling it "a great project to support," David Powell, CIO Forum grants facilitator, adds, "We hope that the technology can be used for other similar cases."

With the grant, the team has "conducted a needs assessment; developed a list of desired outcomes such as usability, durability and customizability; explored different types of fabrication materials, switches and computer components; and tested out set-ups for mounting sensors to Max's body,



Max and the SMA Tiger Research Team; (left to right) Amanda Jozkowski, Molly Lichtenwalner, Sheng Miao, Heidi Feng and Katherine Tang

**SUPPORT
THE SMA TIGER
RESEARCH TEAM**

[www.towson.edu/
GiveToSMATigerResearch](http://www.towson.edu/GiveToSMATigerResearch)

his wheelchair and around his home," Jozkowski explains.

They are closer to developing products that can be used by other children. With additional support, the team hopes to explore the benefits of 3-D printing and off-the-shelf technologies in creating affordable, usable products.

Max's parents, Yahnatana and Kristen Lasko, are beyond grateful for the forum's grant. "Thank you so much for choosing to invest in Max and the many other children who have so much to say but rely on extra technology to help them say it," they note. "Projects like this give us hope and help to shape a brighter future for these children and for everyone!"

Wrapped in Style

NEIL ZUROWSKI'S GIFTS HONOR THE MEMORY OF HIS WIFE, DONNA, ADDING FLAIR TO TU'S MARCHING BAND AND THEATRE DEPARTMENT

When Neil Zurowski's wife, Donna Zurowski, died from cancer last year, he and his family chose to honor her memory with a gift of style.

From decorating the plain trucks of TU's Marching Band to contributing to the Department of Theatre Arts, the gifts are a fitting tribute to a woman who was a talented designer and seamstress.

Donna made her own dresses, including her wedding gown and evening gowns. "She was always stylish and beautiful, and she had a special connection with designs and fabrics," Neil recalls. (He wrote of his wife's passion in his poem, "Rummaging.") Donna took costume classes at TU, which strengthened her love for design.

Now her husband has donated her sewing machine, equipment and supplies to TU's Costume Shop, enabling students to learn about the craft she adored. He has also supported experiential learning in the theatre department. "These gifts create a legacy of learning about design and being a seamstress by allowing students to attend workshops, hold workshops and learn more about design and theatre," says Neil, who has plans for future gifts.

Perhaps the most visible and stylish impact is the transformation of the TU Marching Band's white trailers and box truck.

The Zurowski family enjoyed attending the band's events and performances, including the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in 2009, when Nick Zurowski '11, their son, was a member of the band. When Nick recalled that Band Director John Miliauskas wanted to dress up the band's plain white trailers and box truck, the family inquired about wrapping them.

The vehicles are now adorned with massive photos of the band and the TU logo, along with Donna's initials, DMZ, and "In Memory of Donna Zurowski." Neil sees the direct, tangible benefits of his gifts and fondly remembers working with Miliauskas and TU designers on the wrapping design.

Miliauskas is thrilled with the results, "Our vehicles look so classy and impressively represent TU. I am very grateful and humbled by the Zurowskis' gesture," he says.

See Neil Zurowski's poem online, magazine.towson.edu



Nick Zurowski '11 and Neil Zurowski

Hidden Waters Reception



(Top) left to right: Nancy and Thomas Maronick, James and Ellen Clerkin, DeSales Lacy and David McAvoy

(Bottom) Elesha and Matthew Bridgers

University System of Maryland Chancellor Robert Caret and his wife Elizabeth Zoltan opened their home to Towson University donors on Oct. 26. Guests, who were members of the Founders Society, Tower Light Society and Golden Tiger Society of 20 or more years, mingled throughout the beautifully decorated mansion and enjoyed piano music performed by TU student, Roberta Villeda.

During the speaking program, Caret recognized TU's growing national rankings. President Kim Schatzel discussed her presidential priority of building a culture of philanthropy and boasted that TU students are "leading the charge with increasing their giving 800 percent last year." Next, she announced a Campaign Feasibility Study that will prepare TU for the largest capital campaign in its history.

Interim Vice President Michael Cather reported on last year's fundraising totals and accolades. He provided examples of donor impact, including a 15-year recap of the Elizabeth Wainio Memorial Communications Scholarship Endowment. Created in memory of Honor Elizabeth Wainio '95, a passenger on United Airlines Flight 93 on 9/11, the scholarship has amassed over \$418,000 in donations with more than \$83,000 awarded to 29 students. "This is just one example of the strength of the TU community and the impact your support can have," Cather says.

JOHN SCHUERHOLZ '62 will be inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in July.



BEFORE 1960

RITA HUNDLEY '55 EDEC reunited with three of her former students from the first class she taught after graduating from then Maryland State Teachers College. "They were like my babies," Hundley told the *Towson Times*, after reconnecting with Barbara Davis, Johnette Benson and Ellie Lewis 60 years later. Hundley went on to teach for more than 30 years with Baltimore County Public Schools, retiring in 2000.

FRANCES BOND '55/'60 received the Mother Generosa McCafferty Distinguished Alumna Award in October from the Catholic High School of Baltimore, its highest honor. Bond, treasurer of the TU Alumni Association, was recognized for her individual achievements, contributions to the field of education, service to her community and loyalty to Catholic High.

1960

JOHN SCHUERHOLZ '62, vice chairman of the Atlanta Braves, was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame, a unanimous selection of a 16-member group that included Hall of Fame members, major league executives, media members and baseball historians. In 1981, he was general manager of the Kansas City Royals, leading the team to a World Series title in 1985. He then took the same position with the Atlanta Braves in 1991 and led them to 14 straight division titles, six National League pennants and a World Series title in 1995.

JAYNE ASTLE '62 and her former TU roommates, **PHYLLIS BEARDMORE '62** and **JOANN SCOTT '62**, placed in the top three of the 70 and over category at the Seaside 10 Mile Run & 5K Halloween Bash in Ocean City, Maryland, where they also received a prize for their "Grand Mummy" costumes. The three have remained friends through their many years of teaching.

BOB HIERONIMUS '65 ART and co-author Laura Cortner, wrote *The Secret Life of Lady Liberty: Goddess in the New World*, published by Destiny Books of Inner Traditions International. The book is a symbolic exploration of female strength with its theme being the need to elect more women to positions of power.

1970

JANET DELL KURTZ '74 ENGL and **DAVID FARNHAM '74 PHIL** who were "college sweethearts" as TU students but later lost touch, reunited after 42 years and married in December 2016.

ANNA VITALE LYBROOK '79 ACCT a CPA and shareholder of Stoy, Malone, & Co., was appointed treasurer of the Brigance Brigade Foundation that equips, encourages and empowers people living with ALS.

FRAN SOISTMAN '79 executive vice president of Aetna and president of the company's government services segment, became chair of TU's Board of Visitors in September.

1980

ANDREA BURGOYNE '83 MUSC has been appointed executive director of the Children's Chorus of Maryland.

ROBERT BARON '85 was promoted to associate commissioner for property and casualty at the Maryland Insurance Commission. He will oversee the review of rates and forms filed by insurance carriers as well as the investigation of complaints from consumers. He started with the Insurance Administration in 2000.

MIKE ROWE '85, TV host and presenter of "Somebody's Gotta Do It," visited WBAL Radio to discuss his appearance at the Lyric Opera House in September.

TRACY BRANDYS '87 was promoted to senior vice president, market manager and director of sales for CBS Radio in its Baltimore market. She will oversee all Baltimore station operations including sales, programming, events, digital, marketing and promotions, engineering, finance and administration. The four stations include WJZ 1300 AM / 105.7 FM, WLIF 101.9 FM and WWMX 106.5 FM, as well as the CBS RADIO Up Close Performance Studio.

FRANCIS DONOVAN '88 GEOG, a former colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps, was promoted to brigadier general, becoming commander of the 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade in the Kingdom of Bahrain in June. He joined the Marines in 1986 as an infantry officer, and served in a variety of operations including Desert Shield and Desert Storm. His education continued at the Amphibious Warfare School, the Marine Corps Command

CLASS NOTES

BOB HIERONIMUS '65

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ANDREA BURGOYNE '83

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MIKE ROWE '85

TV host, visited WBAL Radio in September.



FRANCIS DONOVAN '88

was promoted to brigadier general in the U.S. Marine Corps.

ALUMNI PROFILE

Jeffrey Ash '96



DEVELOPING A BLUEPRINT

FIRST ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AT UM NURSING SCHOOL HAS DESIGNS ON INNOVATION

Jeffrey Ash '96 is on a mission. As the first associate dean for diversity and inclusion at the University of Maryland School of Nursing, he wants to make the school a better place to learn and work.

Ash, who earned a Doctor of Education degree in urban educational leadership from Morgan State University, works with colleagues across the University of Maryland, Baltimore, campus to promote and execute diversity and inclusion initiatives. He also serves as the primary adviser to the school's senior academic leadership and senior administrative team.

"I want to ensure that we demonstrate 'inclusive excellence' in every aspect of our educational and workplace experience," Ash says. "I believe that every transaction and interaction matters and I would like for my office to be the hub of transactions involving the confluence of diverse people, processes and innovation for our school."

Ash has discovered advantages in being the first person to serve in this position at the nursing school. "I have found it intriguing

to be able to build and create the blueprint for this position and my office from my own lens."

Yet he also knows that others often perceive the new office or person as solely responsible for creating an inclusive environment. "So changing that mindset while building relationships, building trust and culture change takes time," he explains.

Without a "blueprint" for the job, Ash says he uses the nursing school's values and strategic plan as a guide. "Goal setting and planning is always designed to align with the direction and strategy that our university has developed," he notes.

"We all matter here at [the nursing school]," he says. "We all count. We are a community. If we can create this type of capital in our environment, we create the space to collaborate, innovate and problem-solve at a really high level." ■

—HEIDI STASIEWSKI

and Staff College of the U.S. Army War College, where he earned a Masters of Strategic Studies. Upon completing the Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program, he spent two years as director, Expeditionary Warfare School, Quantico, Virginia.

DENNIS KANE '89 is president and CEO of KANE Construction, which won the NAIOP Best Interiors Award for its Qiagen Sciences renovation project.

MERRILL FRIEDMAN '89 PSYC, senior director of disability policy engagement at Anthem, Inc. and vice president of advocacy for Amerigroup, was appointed to the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities by President Obama.

1990

CYNTHIA MASKOL '94 joined the national law firm, Wilson Elser, as a partner in its Baltimore office. She is a former assistant general counsel for a large insurer and an experienced trial attorney who previously worked with Wilson Elser from 2009 to 2014.

KEITH EWANCIO '94/'07, a human resources specialist for the Social Security Administration (SSA), received the 2016 Diversity and Inclusion Champion Honor Award, which recognizes his work in pursuing diversity and inclusion within the SSA's workforce.

ADA CLARK-EDWARDS '95, a veteran prosecutor for the Prince George's County State's Attorney's Office, was appointed to the Prince George's County District Court by Gov. Larry Hogan in July.

DENNIS M. ROBINSON JR. '97 PSYC was appointed by Gov. Larry Hogan to the Baltimore County Circuit Court. An attorney at Whiteford, Taylor and Preston since 2006, he became a partner in 2011. His practice focused on product liability and business litigation.

KELLY BLAIR '98 was named to *Slate's* Top 10 List for her book jacket design of *Tomorrow Will Be Different*.

2000

DAVID SHAPIRO '04 and his wife, Monique, announce the birth of their son, Elijah, in September.

ASHLEY ADAMS AYCOCK '06 and her friends **CHERI FEENY '88** and **COURTNEY HOLMSTROM '05** founded LEO Wives Have Your 6, a charity to help Maryland Law Enforcement families during times of need and to boost morale of Maryland law enforcement officers. **DIANE ANNOLFO '89** has also recently joined the organization.

BRISA DE ANGULO '08 founder and CEO of the A Breeze of Hope Foundation, will be named one of Together for Girls' 16 Global Heroes for 2017, which highlights and celebrates leaders to end violence against boys and girls around the world.

IN MEMORIAM

ALUMNI

Wilhelmina E. Oldfield '32
September 30, 2016

Louise Myery Riffle '34
November 11, 2016

Carolyn Rogers Marshall '39
October 23, 2016

Alma L. Smith '42
October 9, 2016

Audrey Pramschuer Listerman '42
September 25, 2016

Evelyn Davis Wright '43
July 31, 2016

Bessie Crohnhardt Lippy '44
August 19, 2016

Virginia Cacace Svec '49
August 25, 2016

Shirley Snyderman Klein '51
September 12, 2016

Donald L. Kastner '52
September 7, 2016

Franklin N. Hlavac '52
September 22, 2016

George G. Remmers '52
August 8, 2016

Robert T. Stevens III '52
September 5, 2016

Charles S. White Sr. '53
October 26, 2016

Leonard Paul '54
October 7, 2016

Louise Huffer Stup '54
September 27, 2016

William P. Ellis '54
June 25, 2016

Jeanne Cooley Greene '55
November 20, 2016

Rose A. Brown '55
September 22, 2016

June B. Dorn '56
November 9, 2016

Carolyn Upton Miller '56
September 4, 2016

June E. Glisan '56
September 1, 2016

Iris Rayfield Moskowitz '57
October 10, 2016

John A. Butler '57
August 9, 2016

Joyce E. Adkins '57
January 7, 2016

William J. Stewart '60
August 24, 2016

Carolyn Tate Dixon '61
August 16, 2016

Louis P. Dipietro '61
October 12, 2016

Joyce Dorshow Smiley '62
October 14, 2016

Louis F. Chaffman '62
October 21, 2016

Barbara Belt Schenking '63
October 28, 2016

Frances Jordan Johnson '70
February 22, 2016

Sally G. Palmbaum '70
September 29, 2016

Bruce A. Hart '71
March 22, 2016

Jack Mizansky '71
September 14, 2016

William R. Dunkerton '71
September 22, 2016

Bernard J. Keene '72
August 6, 2016

Joretta P. Allwine '73
October 20, 2016

Eugene Couser '74
April 15, 2016

Linda Clark Dorer '75
September 1, 2016

Otto Ingram Jr. '75
September 28, 2016

Agnes Herrman Zeller '76
September 20, 2016

Leonhard Skorobatsch '76
August 22, 2016

Odell I. Gibbs '76
November 11, 2016

Regina Heckel Dolan '76
March 5, 2016

Concetta Stern Fantom '78
November 26, 2016

Mary Beth Walker '78
October 5, 2016

Daniel J. Timmel '79
September 27, 2016

Frances Kirsh '81
January 25, 2016

Theodore J. Zabora '81
November 9, 2016

Alicia J. Bynum '82
October 15, 2016

Grace D. Stafford '82
December 4, 2016

Winnie Balzer Flattery '83
November 21, 2016

Lee Andrew Arbaugh '84
October 25, 2016

Miriam K. Miller '84
September 29, 2016

Ann F. Rudd '85
November 11, 2016

Lynn Alcott Scoville '85
October 12, 2016

Scott Adelman '86
October 22, 2016

Karen Fitze '88
October 23, 2016

Risa Bush Halpren '88
October 25, 2016

Lauren May Harris '89
September 23, 2016

Mary Ann Welzant '89
November 3, 2016

Janusz Ochota '90
August 22, 2016

Arthur A. Anderson Jr. '93
November 13, 2016

Florence A. McCaffrey '93
March 8, 2016

Christian Carter Cannella '01
October 24, 2016

Teresa M. L. Minnick '01
April 30, 2016

Peggy Sange '03
October 18, 2016

STUDENTS/ FACULTY/ STAFF

Arthur L. Buist
October 12, 2016

Elaine R. Feeny
August 8, 2016

Georgia O'Daniel-Baker
Professor Emeritus
September 17, 2016

Paul J. Parker
October 16, 2016

Virginia C. Southard
August 16, 2016

CLASS NOTES

JENNIFER DODSON '09, chief creative strategist for Adashmore Creative, a marketing and advertising agency in Lutherville, Maryland, was named one of *The Daily Record's* 2016 leading women, which honors women under 40 for their career accomplishments.

2010

ANDREW BROWN '05/'13 MFA had his exhibit "Baltimore, Munich and a Chinese Restaurant" displayed last June at Charleston City Hall in South Carolina. His abstract paintings and drawings challenge the viewer's perception through the use of illusionistic elements. His work is an interpretation of space, surface and experience.

STEVEN NOVOTNY '11, is a contract specialist with the U.S. Department of Defense. He graduated from the Defense Civilian Leader Program, which is for high-achieving Department of Defense personnel and is used to cultivate leadership skills and place graduates on the fast track for leadership and supervisory positions.

GIULIA FIORA '11/'17 and **ERIC LYNCH '11** married on June 25, 2016, at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Towson, Maryland.

ASHLEY MONTAGUE '11 BUAD joined Brotman Financial Group in Timonium, Maryland, as an investment operations associate. She is responsible for managing the reconciliation and performance reporting of client accounts, as well as client online access.

DEVLIN LIGHTY '12 Au.D. joined the Oswego Health practice in New York, where the audiologist is providing hearing and balance services for clients using the newest technology.

KATIE DELL '12 participated in Miami University's Earth Expeditions global field course last summer where she studied coral reef ecology and the conservation of marine systems along the Great Barrier Reef in Australia. She is a Baltimore County Public Schools science teacher in Randallstown, Maryland, and is pursuing her master's degree at Miami University.

KARA MCGONIGLE '12, a recruiter for the Emerson Group, was named to the *South Jersey Biz* magazine's "Twenty Under 40." The list recognizes young professionals who "are already changing the face of our business community."

MELINDA WEBER '15 ENGL joined TU's Division of Marketing and Communications as an operator and receptionist. She has also been working as a teacher at the Celebree Learning Center.

CLASS NOTES

SEND US YOUR NEWS!

We'd like to hear from you about what's happening in your personal and professional life.

SEND MAIL TO:

Alumni Relations, Towson University,
8000 York Rd. Towson, MD 21252-0001

EMAIL:

alumni@towson.edu

ALUMNI PROFILE

Susan
Gebhardt '78



CYNTHIA MASKOL '94

joined the law firm
Wilson Elser as
a partner in its
Baltimore office.

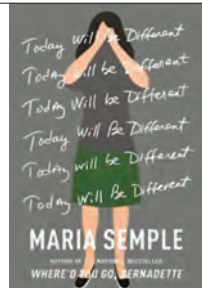


ADA CLARK- EDWARDS '95

was appointed
to the Prince
George's County
District Court
in July by Gov.
Larry Hogan.

KELLY BLAIR '98

was named to
Slate's Top 10
List for her book
jacket design.



A FIERCE COMPETITOR

HALL OF FAME SWIMMER REPRESENTS TEAM USA
IN WORLD TRIATHLON CHAMPIONSHIPS

"Get back in the pool where you belong."

Those words spurred Susan Gebhardt '78 to leave the TU field hockey team and return to competitive swimming, something she had done since age six.

Then TU swimming and tennis coach John McCleary uttered the advice that pushed Gebhardt to become the athlete she is today.

"I cried my way through the first week of practices," she recalls. "Coach George Kropp asked me to give him one month to turn me into a competitive collegiate swimmer. Coach Ray Riordan asked me to practice with the men's team so he could make me a champion swimmer."

Both coaches kept their promises. They molded Gebhardt into a fierce competitor who was worthy of being inducted into TU's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1994.

Fast forward almost 40 years and Gebhardt still uses the discipline, determination and confidence she learned during her years as a TU swimmer. She began competing in 5K races, half marathons, marathons and now triathlons where she showcases all of her athletic abilities.

"In 2015, I qualified for and competed in the annual Triathlon National Championship in Milwaukee," she says. "My finishing time was good enough to qualify for the World Triathlon Championships in Mexico, representing Team USA in September in Cozumel. It was exhilarating walking through the center of town in the Parade of Nations with athletes from 56 other countries."

Next year, she will represent Team USA in the Ironman World Championship in Kona, Hawaii.

A physical education teacher and now an assistant principal in Harford County, Gebhardt and her husband have raised six children.

Her advice to TU students and alumni? "Be curious ... resist complacency and 'just getting by,' pursue activities that inspire you, know your limits ... treasure and thank those who support your dreams, and give back along the way." ■

—HEIDI STASIOSKI

“It is a pleasure
and a privilege
to continue my
education.”

Joshua Ikotun, Class of 2017, received
the Kenneth Moreland and Renee
Moreland Accounting Scholarship.
This scholarship has helped him
afford his senior year as an
accounting major.



To help students further their education,
go to towson.edu/giving or contact the
Development Office at 1-866-301-3375.

