

TOWSON

UNIVERSITY ALUMNI MAGAZINE
WINTER 2014



A SEASON TO
REMEMBER



Forging New Paths

The trials of an overgrown and somewhat eroded path in the Glen turned into a happy trail after Towson students got to work last November. Led by Nicole Hartig (pictured here in blue gloves) and Eric Boone, volunteers from sports clubs, sororities, fraternities and other student groups cleared, grated and chipped a path between the Towers and Smith Hall. The cleanup was part of an ongoing effort to prevent erosion, weed out invasive species and restore the six acres of the Glen, a campus oasis that has been used for education, performances and recreation since the 1930s.



Photo by Aubrey Garwood

FEATURES

A SEASON TO REMEMBER 8

Tiger football reaches the FCS National Championship for the first time, racks up 13 wins and finishes the season ranked No. 2 in the FCS.

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Game On





Celebrating at the FCS Championship game.

“
I applaud our student-athletes and coaching staff who superbly represented Towson with the utmost respect and sportsmanship in the national arena.
”

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From accolades to a football championship game, the campus was roaring with excitement last fall. Towson University was once again named a *Kiplinger's* Top 100 Best Value and WTMD Radio was named one of *Baltimore Magazine's* "Reasons to Love Baltimore."

And after three straight winning seasons, the Towson football team made it to the NCAA FCS National Championship, a first in program history.

The spectacular 2013 football season energized students and alumni across the nation. More than 400 fans posted for a special alumni game-day tailgate, while another 2,500 Towson fans, the pom squad and the marching band traveled to Frisco, Texas. This included students who boarded six buses to make the nearly 1,400-mile journey so they could be in the stands. It is with great pride that I applaud our student-athletes and coaching staff who superbly represented Towson with the utmost respect and sportsmanship in the national arena.

Now that the Maryland legislative session is underway, our top legislative priority is to preserve the University System of Maryland's (and Towson's) operating budget.

While many other states are slashing funds, we are fortunate that our governor and the legislature continue to invest in higher education. The governor's FY2015 budget underscores his commitment to public higher education with more than \$1.25 billion allocated to the USM, with Towson's general fund appropriations totaling more than \$103 million.

Plans are also underway for FY2016 to fund a new science building along York Road rather than renovate Smith Hall.

As always I ask you to support Towson's priorities. As alumni, you understand the value of a Towson education and are the best people to reinforce the message to legislators about Towson's nationally recognized quality and significant return on investment for the State of Maryland.

I thank you for your interest in Towson and hope to see you at a campus event in the future.

MARAVENE LOESCHKE, PRESIDENT

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TOWSON

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The Associate

The College of Business and Economics celebrates the 10th anniversary of The Associate, a student competition modeled after TV's "The Apprentice." Local CEOs have played the role of Donald Trump, judging student business acumen and problem-solving skills on actual business cases. The winner lands a job with the CEO's company after graduation. ■

By the Numbers



The 2013 Associate competition

- 70 Participating students
- 45 Cases presented
- 40 Participating companies
- 19 Number of job offers as a direct result of participating
- 10 Years / Winners*
- 8 "Donalds"

* List of winners and their most recent employers:

2005	Amanda Knott , financial planner, Equity Planning, Inc.	2008	Amanda Gutin , account manager, Merkle	2011	Stacy Ruddy , digital services marketing assistant, Constellation Energy
	Reanna Tarleton Dempsey , customer experience director, Les Mills East Coast	2009	Lindsay Elder Baublitz , business valuation & M&A associate, SC&H Group	2012	Lauren Gribbon , assistant branch manager, PNC Bank
2006	Brandon Mabry , vice president, Bank of America	2010	Allison Murray , PetSmart business analyst, Mars Petcare	2013	Kristin Riess , retail bank development program associate, PNC Bank
2007	Nicholas Malone , branch manager, Enterprise				

Heard at Carnegie Hall

New York is but one venue for Leshnoff's "Monica Songs"



Jonathan Leshnoff

"Monica Songs," a new work by Jonathan Leshnoff, TU professor of music, made a five-city tour, culminating with a performance at New York's

Carnegie Hall last October.

The song cycle celebrates the life of Monica Langhammer, who died in 2003.

Commissioned by Sandra Hyslop (her mother), the Friends of Monica and the Carnegie Hall Corp, the work was performed by soprano Jessica Rivera and pianist Robert Spano.

"Monica was irrepressible and effervescent," says Leshnoff.

A Portland, Ore., native, she earned a B.A. in fine arts from Webster University, with special honors/awards in

A five-city tour ended with a performance at Carnegie Hall.

printmaking and poetry. Her last two professional positions were at the Margo-lin Hebrew Academy in Memphis, Tenn., and the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis.

Leshnoff pored over a box filled with Langhammer's letters, journals and art,

discovering a complex human being: witty and humorous, with existential doubts. "Monica wasn't defined by what she did for a living," he says.

With help from Rivera and her husband, Barry Shafer, Leshnoff chose verses from the Old Testament Book of Ruth as well as poems by Emily Dickinson and E.E. Cummings. The texts for the fifth and sixth songs were excerpted from correspondence between mother and daughter.

"Some of the songs came instantly and some took some sorting out," Leshnoff recalls.

The Washington Post has called Leshnoff a "gifted young composer." In January, his Guitar Concerto premiered at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall performed by the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. The work featured acclaimed guitarist and fellow Baltimorean Manuel Barrueco. ■

 NOTEBOOK

Whale Bones

Donald Morgan—an aspiring paleontologist—had a whale of time as an intern with the Calvert Marine Museum. The senior biology major unearthed a 25-foot baleen whale from a site in Stratford, Va. It's approximately 15 million years old and hails from the Miocene epoch.



Donald Morgan

"The major attraction piece in this dig was the skull, which was about six feet in length and took a long time to uncover," Morgan says.

The dig took most of the summer, from June to mid-August, but now work begins on determining the species. "We think it belongs to Cetotheriidae, the only living member of which is the recently discovered pygmy right whale," he explains.

Archeologists will spend months using dental tools to carefully pare away layers of matrix from the skull. "But it's definitely worth it," Morgan says. "The skull is actually out in the

exhibits hall, so if you go to the Calvert Marine Museum you can watch people working on the skull. We get a lot of little kids enthralled by watching. As a kid, I would have loved that!"

Fore Sure



Andrew Wiley did more than make par for the course. The TU senior and business major qualified for the National Collegiate Club Golf Association's fall championship, a two-day tournament held last November at Barefoot Resort in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Wiley, a member of TU's club team, qualified as an individual in events hosted by NCCGA for non-varsity collegiate golfers. According to its website, the NCCGA puts on weekend competitions in 18 regions from New England to California and "makes golf a reality for over 9,000 non-varsity college students at over 350 colleges across the country."

Pedal Power

Charlotte Ridgeway wouldn't call herself a cyclist. In fact, she didn't even own a bike before last summer. This not-so-small obstacle didn't stop her from joining more seasoned riders in a 4,000-mile trek across the country to raise awareness for cancer research.

In her ride from Baltimore to San Diego, Ridgeway, TU's Student Government Association president, raised \$4,700 for the Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults.

The ride was leisurely, with the experienced riders setting the pace, but never too fast for Ridgeway and others to keep up. The team would wake up by sunrise each day to begin a ride that often lasted until late in the afternoon.

"What struck me most during the whole ride were the incredible people we met along the way," Ridgeway. "They'd be out cheering for us, welcome us into their homes and feed us all dinner. Lots of times we ended up sleeping on their couches or in spare bedrooms."

Butterfly Drama

Butterflies may be free, but it takes work to maintain an environment where they can thrive.

Towson University students and members of the Lutherville Laboratory Environmental Club forged a scientific and dramatic collaboration last fall.

They wrote and performed an environmental play that showed how the butterfly meadow at Lutherville Elementary became overrun with unwanted vegetation. But with scientific know-how and some elbow grease, the area could be restored. The elementary students enjoyed acting out their roles as butterflies, weeds and seeds. Then, with some help from their college friends, worked at pulling weeds so the meadow would attract butterflies again, according to the online news site at Baltimore County Public Schools.

"The activity is a terrific example of how connecting the arts (in this case drama) to science can really make the topic come to life," says Deidre Austen,

Lutherville's science resource teacher. "Our partnership with Towson showcases community involvement and the value of giving pre-service teachers multiple experiences in schools prior to their formal internship period. Talk about a win-win situation!"

 NUGGETS

Veteran Friendly

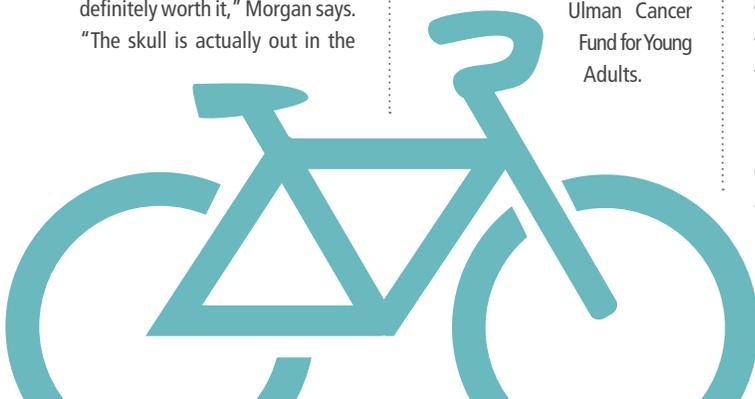
In its inaugural "Best Colleges for Veterans issue," *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Towson No. 17 in the North and the best among all schools in the University System of Maryland.

The honor comes on the heels of a citation from *G.I. Jobs* magazine, which has named TU a Military Friendly School for five consecutive years. Its list recognizes the top 15 percent of institutions in the nation that best support United States military service members, veterans and spouses as students.

Young Investors

Future equities traders and would-be Wall Street wonks got a taste of the financial world last fall.

Students from Thomas Johnson Elementary/Middle School in Baltimore, who were eager to learn about investing, visited the T. Rowe Price Finance Lab in the College of Business and Economics and played a stock market game.





Students playing the stock market game in CBE's T. Rowe Price Finance Lab

The fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth graders honed their stock market skills with the help of Sharon Smith, a library media specialist at Thomas Johnson, who previously came to the lab to learn the ropes.

Students could value and price complex securities and investments in real time.

"Two days a week they meet to find out how to use stocks, how to sell stocks, how to buy stocks, how to save money, how to make money, what money means," Smith explains.

When her students visited the lab, they could value and price complex securities and investments in real time.

"What really impressed me is throughout the entire hour there was not one student who wasn't on task at all times. That was a credit to the teacher and a credit to the school," says Debbie Batchelor, associate director of the Maryland Council on Economic Education.

Outstanding Mentor

Janet DeLany, TU's dean of graduate studies, won the American Occupational Therapy Association's 2014 Outstanding Mentor Award for demonstrating mentorship in collegial partnerships.

DeLany, who is a registered, licensed occupational therapist and an association fellow, has made critical contributions to key elements of best practices in

occupational therapy, including the Occupational Therapy Practice Framework. She has authored and co-authored articles and papers with significant implications for the profession, such as the AOTA Societal Statements.



Janet DeLany

Educator of the Year

Lester R. Potter, a senior lecturer in TU's Department of Mass Communication and Communication Studies, was named the 2013 Educator of the Year by the Maryland chapter of the Public Relations Society of America.

The award recognizes and honors undergraduate and graduate public relations/communications professors who are excellent instructors and education leaders in their schools and communities.

Potter, an MBA who is also all but dissertation (ABD) for a doctorate in Instructional Technology, teaches public relations and communications courses and has been faculty adviser for Towson's student chapter of the PRSA for the last 10 years.

He is also involved with the International Association of Business Communicators, Kappa Delta Pi and the Association of Educators in Journalism and Mass Communication.



Lester Potter

"I dearly love what I do here at Towson. As an instructor in the mass communication department PR track, everything I do is to help my students have a successful and happy career in communication and public relations," he says.

Education Summit

Technology in education dominated discussions when Towson University hosted a Teacher Education Summit in October.

"Whether we like it or not, [students] are growing up in a digital world."

—State Superintendent of Schools Lillian Lowery

Educators, business people and legislators spent the day examining how to make teacher preparation and student education more effective and efficient while adapting to the challenges of technology.

"Whether we like it or not, [students] are growing up in a digital world," said State Superintendent of Schools Lillian Lowery.

While not necessarily negative, it is forcing educators to reconsider everything from curriculum to method to relationships with students.

The challenge for teachers is pedagogical, says TU President Maravene Loeschke. Evolving technology disrupts the way teachers think teaching should work, and that forces new adaptations.

"We are fully intending to lead the national conversation about what kind of changes we're going to make in teacher preparation," she notes. But, she adds, what's much more important is that the summit focused on how everyone will work together to give Maryland's students the best education possible.

SPORT SHORTS

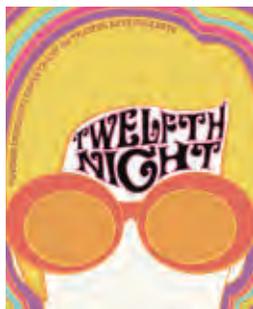
High Marks

Towson University student-athletes earned an 85 percent Graduation Success Rate (GSR), surpassing the 81 percent national average among Division I programs, according to a report released by the NCAA. Four women's teams—golf, gymnastics, soccer and tennis—recorded perfect scores.



Celebrating 50 Years OF THE THEATRE MAJOR

In 2003 the Department of Theatre Arts was accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre.



Twelfth Night

Towson University's Department of Theatre Arts marked the 50th anniversary of its theatre major with an October production of William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*. It was the same play performed at TU in 1963, when theatre as a major was officially offered.

Under the Lights

Many talented Towson students have gone on to excel on stage and screen.

Graduates include two Tony Award winners—John Glover '66 for acting and Judith Dolan '70 for costume design.

Other notables are Dwight Schulze '69, perhaps best known as "Howling Mad" Murdock of the original cast of "The A Team," actor/director Charles "Roc" Dutton '78, actor Bruce Nelson '89, lighting designer and co-chair of Yale's design department Stephen Strawbridge '78, and actor and voice of the Crypt Keeper John Kassir '81.



Comedian Amy Schumer '03 stars in Comedy Central's "Inside Amy Schumer." She returned to campus on March 6 for a performance of her "unapologetic sense of humor" in Stephens Hall.



Amy Schumer

Stage and screen star John Glover.

Founding Father

Dr. C. Richard Gillespie founded the theatre major. Long a familiar face on campus,

the professor of 37 years first came to Towson in 1961, when Towson technically had a theatre but no academic program.

Gillespie, who taught a wide range of courses in acting, directing, playwriting and theatre history, remedied that in 1963. Today the department offers undergraduate and graduate programs to more than 150 students.



One of the Glen Players at the makeup mirror in 1966.

Actors and their Companies

During the State Normal School years, the Normal and Pestalozzi Literary Societies held theatrical productions. Then the Muffers produced plays from 1928 through 1947, followed by The Glen Players.

In the 1980s, a student company formed to address social issues evolved into the Catalyst Theatre. The Flying Tongues and Action Theatre also originated at Towson before becoming independent theatre groups.

Today students use the 24-Hour PlaySlam and the Towson Theatre lab to exhibit plays and performances.

What's New

Executive Director

Charlotte Exner, dean of the College of Health Professions for 16 years, will become executive director of the Hussman Center and Strategic Initiatives beginning July 1.

In her new position, Exner will focus on expanding student experiences, research activities, grants, contracts and external relationships at the Hussman Center for Adults with Autism, part of CHP's Institute for Well-Being.



"It is a privilege to have a role in contributing more directly to the excellent work already underway, advancing our impact in areas important for adults on the autism spectrum through research and other activities, and supporting Towson's role in key community health-related needs," Exner says.

A national search began last fall for a new dean of the College of Health Professions with plans to fill the position by July 1.

Read On

Towson University's Reading Clinic helped Latino elementary school pupils and their Spanish-speaking parents in Baltimore's Armistead Gardens neighborhood last summer.

The clientele for the campus-based clinic, which each summer deploys TU graduate students to a Baltimore City public school for a free, month-long program, presented some new challenges, says Gilda Martinez-Alba, associate professor of educational technology and literacy, and Reading Clinic director.

"The Latino students typically speak both Spanish and English, but their parents speak only Spanish," Martinez-Alba explains.

So the clinic hired a Spanish-speaking translator to help parents who were "eager to learn how they can help their sons and daughters succeed in school," she adds.

Martinez-Alba says this Summer Reading Clinic garnered praise from

all concerned. "Our graduate students like working in the community, the children are making progress, and their teachers and parents are pleased," she says.

"When you're working with people in their own neighborhoods, they're more invested and responsive."

PRIDE Award



Sharon Jones-Eversley, TU assistant professor of family studies, received the distinguished PRIDE Award by the National Institutes of Health.

PRIDE (Program to Increase Diversity Among Individuals Engaged in Health-Related Research) extends a two-year, all-expense-paid award to junior faculty of color for research and career advancement.

Jones-Eversley's work focuses on cardiovascular health disparities in African-Americans, both individually and as a community.

"African-Americans' chronic stress, poor diets, physical inactivity, geographic locations (i.e., dense urban dwellings) and hypertension result in them dying from cardiovascular disease younger and sicker than any other racial or ethnic group in this country," she says.

She also has a personal interest in the disease—her father and

husband both died at age 40 from cardiovascular-related illnesses.

Maryland Teacher of the Year

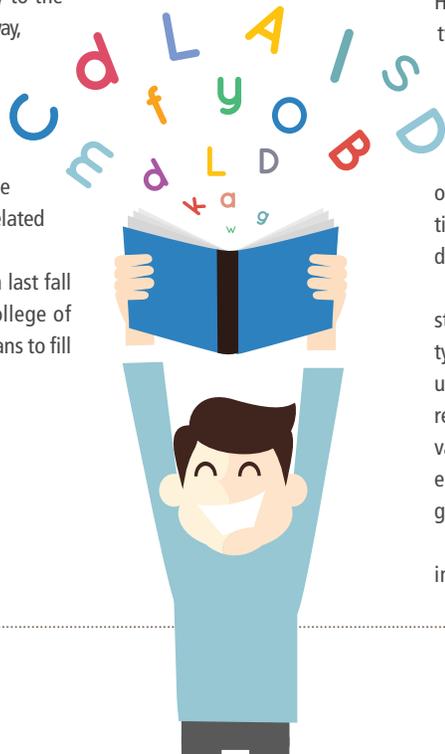
Sean McComb is not only Maryland's Teacher of the Year, he is also one of four finalists for National Teacher of the Year. An adjunct instructor in TU's College of Education and an English teacher at Patapsco High School & Center for the Arts in Dundalk, he has also coached tennis and track at Patapsco.

A Baltimore County Teacher of the Year, the state honor was a surprise announced at a gala in October. McComb thanked his family and



colleagues and praised the AVID Program he coordinates at Patapsco. "It's the little program that could," he told the audience, describing the Advancement Via Individual Determination program that offers education and support to promising yet underserved students.

"He is an energetic instructor, making certain his students set goals, commit to those targets, succeed, and move forward toward college or career," said Lillian Lowery, state superintendent of schools, in a release.



A SEASON TO REMEMBER

By Ginny Cook / Photos by Kanji Takeno



Tiger football reaches
the FCS National
Championship for the
first time, racks up
13 wins and
finishes the season
ranked **No. 2**

OK. We're bragging.

As Towson's alumni magazine, we have the right to applaud the football team's stellar season.

But we're not the only ones touting the Tigers' accomplishments—13 wins and a berth in the FCS Championship game.

The Eastern College Athletic Conference named the Tigers the 2013 ECAC Division I Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) Team of the Year.

Voters unanimously elected the players and Coach Rob Ambrose '93 as the winners of the Lambert Meadowlands Award presented to the top FCS team in the East.

National and local media chimed in. "As the Tigers rise, their school looks on and revels" screamed a front-page headline above the fold in *The Baltimore Sun* on Jan. 4. On the same day its sports section also published a front-page story asking, "Who Are These Guys?"

The *City Paper* in its Power Rankings noted that "rarely have we seen the swelling of Tiger Pride as we did during the recent run. Roar!"

Players racked up individual accolades with five Tigers named to The Sports Network's three All-America teams. Junior running back Terrance West and senior tackle Eric Pike were All-America first-team selections; sophomore fullback Emmanuel Holder and senior cornerback Jordan Love were named to the second team while senior linebacker Telvion Clark earned third-team honors.

Head coach Rob Ambrose '93 and the team race onto Minnegan Field at the home opener Sept. 14.





Left- With seconds left in the game, Connor Frazier scores for the win, sending the Tigers to the championship.

Monte Gaddis runs down the field after picking off a pass.

was recovered by senior defensive tackle Arnold Farmer. Quarterback Peter Athens took the Tigers down the field, capped off by a 21-yard touchdown pass to junior Spencer Wilkins.

Oct. 19 Towson 44 / Albany 17

In the second quarter sophomore Donnell Lewis picked off a pass and returned it for a touchdown to give the Tigers a 17-7 lead that they never relinquished.

Oct. 26 Towson 48 / Richmond 32

With 1:45 left in the first half, sophomore safety Christian Carpenter picked off a pass and returned it 34 yards for the touchdown to make it 27-12.

Nov. 16 Towson 15 / William and Mary 9

Coming off a devastating 32-31 home loss to Delaware, Towson was down 9-7 in the third quarter. The momentum changed when offensive guard Anthony Davis forced a fumble that was recovered by freshman wide receiver Andre Dessenberg. Towson eventually scored a touchdown with a two-point conversion to win.

Nov. 23 Towson 28 / James Madison 17

The Tigers scored 21 unanswered points in the first half including a 35-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Peter Athens to Connor Frazier.

Dec. 7 Towson 48 / Fordham 28

The game was tied at 21-21 going into the second half and Towson's top two receivers, Spencer Wilkins and Leon



Terrance West, a Walter Payton Award finalist who was invited to the NFL combine, was a catalyst for the offense. He was the ECAC Division I FCS Offensive Player of the Year, rushed for an FCS single season record 2,509 yards, and set the FCS single season record with 42 touchdowns.

Clark, Holder, Love, Pike, West and cornerback Tye Smith were also named to the FCS-All America team by the *College Sports Journal*.

Pike, the Tigers' most decorated offensive lineman in the 45-year history of the program, holds the Towson record for most consecutive career starts at 49. He was also selected to the Walter Camp and American Football Coaches Association teams and had All-CAA honors.

While it's impossible to mention every player who earned plaudits or highlight all the action, here are some key plays from the Tiger wins that made 2013 a season to remember.

Aug. 29 Towson 33 / Connecticut 18

With the game tied at 7-7, sophomore defensive tackle Jon Desir intercepted a pass. Then senior running back Sterlin Phifer ran for 24 yards, crossing the goal line on the next play to give the Tigers a lead they never relinquished. Towson went on to defeat an FBS team for the first time in school history.

Sept. 7 Towson 49 / Holy Cross 7

When Holy Cross reached the Towson 13, Tiger junior safety Thomas Bradley intercepted a pass, going 90 yards to give Towson a 28-7 lead.

Sept. 14 Towson 49 / Delaware State 7

At the home opener Towson missed a field goal in the second quarter. Three plays later, senior linebacker Monte Gaddis picked off a pass, returning it to the three-yard line. Two plays later, Terrance West scored. The rout was on.

Sept. 21 Towson 35 / North Carolina Central 17

Leading 14-10 at the half, Towson upped its running game in the second half, going 67 yards in four plays. After a 27-yard pass to junior Brian Dowling, West did the rest with a 22-yard touchdown run to increase the Tigers' lead to 21-10, and give them the momentum to beat a feisty NC Central team.

Sept. 28 Towson 35 / Stony Brook 21

With Stony Brook ahead 21-17 at the end of the third quarter, senior D.J. Soven, who had struggled in the first few games, nailed a career-high 51-yard field goal to cut the lead to 21-20. It was the lift the team needed, before freshman Darius Victor sealed the victory with a 31-yard touchdown run.

Oct. 5 Towson 44 / New Hampshire 28

New Hampshire led 20-3 in the first quarter before Towson battled back to 20-17. Then Tigers' senior linebacker Telvion Clark forced a fumble that



A special graduation ceremony honored seniors on the football team Dec. 18. The student-athletes crouching in the front row are Ryan Mays and Sterlin Phifer. Pictured in the back row, left to right are Eric Schuster, Anthony Davis, Eric Pike, Arnold Farmer, Doug Shaw and Randall Harris.

Kinnard, were sidelined with injuries. Andre Dessenberg came through with his first career touchdown reception for the go-ahead score. Towson scored two more touchdowns and never looked back.

Dec. 13 Towson 49 / Eastern Illinois 39

The Tigers were down 14-0 on a snowy field in Charleston, Ill., when Terrance West gave the Tigers a 21-14 lead with 4:39 left in the second quarter on a 63-yard run. He finished with 354 yards (an FCS single-game rushing record) on 39 carries in the snow, including five touchdowns.

**Dec. 21 NCAA FCS semifinal
Towson 35 / Eastern Washington 31**

Trailing with less than six minutes remaining, reserve quarterback, sophomore Connor Frazier led a stirring comeback, making the score 31-28. With just 19 seconds left, Eastern Washington stuffed West at the one-yard line for no gain. On the next play, Frazier carried the ball into the end zone for the biggest win in program history.

With the win, the Tigers advanced to the NCAA FCS championship game on Jan. 4 in Frisco, Texas. That game ended with North Dakota State scoring 35 points to Towson's 7.

We congratulate the Tigers for their first-ever appearance in the FCS championship game and a record-making season. ■

Ginny Cook is the editor of the magazine.

Mat Schlissel '92, Dan O'Connell and others in Athletic Media Relations contributed to this story.



Towson students display lots of spirit despite a 28-hour bus ride to get to the game in Texas.



Photos by DeCarlo Brown

ROAD WARRIORS

A 56-hour bus ride was the only way to travel for some Tiger fans

This was no magic carpet ride.

This was a nearly 1,400-mile journey on a bus. It took 28 straight hours each way, save for brief breaks at interstate rest areas and in Crossville, Tenn., and Lonoke, Ark., to change drivers.

But for Tiger football fans, this trip was gridiron heaven. They'd make it to Frisco, Texas, in time to watch their team compete in the FCS Championship game against the North Dakota State Bison.

"I couldn't stop smiling," says Heather Sorensen '95, director of event and operations in the College of Fine Arts and Communication. "I was so excited to be with the students."

Sorensen chaperoned one of six buses that transported TU students from Towson to Texas. Their journey began in a frenzy as snow blanketed the Baltimore area in the pre-dawn hours of Jan. 3 and chaperones texted frantically about road conditions. But TU crews led by Paul Thomas, director of landscape services, eased their fears, clearing paths and lots so buses could arrive and students could park.

Once underway, Sorensen's bus rocked with a Shrek sing-along, a rendition of "Wagon Wheel" by Darius Rucker and choruses of "500 Miles" at the appropriate mile-marker.

Bus riders also whiled away the hours watching football movies where heroic underdogs beat the odds. Think "Rudy" and "Friday Night Lights."

"As we got closer students sang the TU fight song," Sorensen says. "Closer still and

the buses pulled into a rest area so Tiger fans could brush their teeth and change into 'Frisco-bound' T-shirts."

Reality hit when they finally rolled up to the stadium and encountered "Dakota town." Herds of Bison campers, Bison banners and Bison fans dominated the landscape.

"It was definitely a different environment than what I am used to," notes Drew Voight, a TU information technology major. "Even though we were outnumbered by Bison fans, the student section made sure that everyone around knew that Towson was at the game."

In the end, the Tigers lost 35-7, but the score, the outcome, didn't matter. "I was still excited to be at the championship game and knew that our football team gave it their all," Voight says.

Sorensen, a TU football season-ticket holder for the first time, says, "The Tigers gave me what I was looking for—a way to connect to the community that was not isolated to arts events."

These fans had become part of the Tigers' Cinderella story and will be back in the stands next year. "The atmosphere is the best part of watching a Tigers game," says Voight.

Less than 12 hours after they arrived in Frisco, the Towson gang was on the road again for the 28-hour ride home.

"I thought they would be grumpy," Sorensen says. But whether singing the ESPN theme song on the bus mic or getting a thank-you tweet from the football team, she says, "It was a joyful experience the entire time." ■

—Ginny Cook

Everyone Deserves A HOME

Andre Cooper '87 and The Children's Home
step in when children have no place to call home.

By Ginny Cook / Photos by Kanji Takeno



All children should have a place to hang their hats; someone to tuck them in at night.

But Andre Cooper '87, CEO of The Children's Home, knows the darker side of childhood.

Families disintegrate. Kids are abused or neglected. And all too often there is no warm bed or responsible relative or adult for children to turn to.

Cooper runs The Children's Home, a 44-acre campus in Catonsville, Md.—a refuge for children ages 13 to 21 traumatized by violence or left to fend for themselves.

“We offer a safe environment where the kids know people care,” Cooper says. “It’s like a neighborhood, a place they can call home for a while.”

Here on a sprawling expanse of green lawns with huge shade trees are the facilities, people and programs that give kids a chance to rebuild their lives.

Six residential cottages—three each for girls and boys—provide private



bedrooms and communal lounges outfitted with flat-screen TVs, foosball tables and computer stations.

An inpatient diagnostic center offers a 90-day crisis intervention program for girls 13 to 19 years old, complete with a certified school onsite.

There's also a separate building with a gym and an outdoor Olympic-size swimming pool, as well as picnic areas and enough open space to host visits by a therapeutic riding program.

The home also provides foster care at a Baltimore City location and offers a variety of job placement and transitional programs which support youth under its care.

Adolescent realities

On a gorgeous October afternoon, the Children's Home comes alive as the residents begin returning from school—many attend Catonsville High a few blocks away.

The weather is perfect for a pick-up soccer game, and some kids start kicking a ball around the lawn.

Inside one of the boys' cottages, two young men are seated in front of computers, while another removes papers from his backpack, ready to begin his English homework. In another building, girls are decorating pumpkins for Halloween or chatting with staff members. Some are eager to share what they are doing; others are more reticent with strangers in their midst.

These scenes, while perhaps reminiscent of an upscale boarding school, fail to illustrate the pain and trauma these kids have been through. That is invisible.

"They are definitely here for a reason," Cooper stresses.

He recalls one child who continued to take food from trash cans despite having daily meals in the dining hall and access to a mini kitchen stocked with a microwave oven and snacks.

.....

"We offer a safe environment where the kids know people care."

.....

—Andre Cooper '87

(Photo above) The 44-acre campus in Catonsville is where children find a safe environment and people who care.

(Above left) Major improvements include two new residential cottages, an inpatient unit and renovations to an outdoor swimming pool.

Flocking TOGETHER

Towson students paint birdhouses for The Children's Home gala

You might call it the art of caring.

Students in TU's chapter of the National Art Education Association lent a helping hand—with paintbrush attached—to The Children's Home last October.

The facility, which offers shelter and therapeutic programs to abused and neglected youth aged 13 to 21, needed help building and painting 200 bird houses—the party favors for a gala celebrating the home's 150th anniversary on Oct. 25.

"The gala's theme is 'Everyone deserves a home'," says TU senior Christine Long, NAEA chapter co-president, explaining the reason the facility chose birdhouses as gifts. "We were happy to help and also staffed an art booth at the gala," she adds.

About a dozen young women, mostly art education majors, gathered in an art room at the Center for the Arts building on Oct. 17. Seated at two long tables, they nailed the wooden birdhouses together—there were two different types—and then took brush in hand.

The project took far longer to complete than anticipated. Long says, "Most of us took birdhouses home to paint them or painted them between classes."

—Ginny Cook



TU senior Christine Long was among the dozen student volunteers who painted bird houses, which The Children's Homes used as favors for its 150th Anniversary Gala last fall.

Cooper explains, "He'd grown up on the streets, had never had a stable home. Taking food was how he knew to survive.

"I've been doing this since the '80s and it never gets easier," he adds. "In fact, it gets harder because you become more connected to the kids—more sensitive than desensitized."

Cooper and his wife raised three children, now adults, and he wants to provide for these kids just as he did for his own.

He fields dozens of calls each week, not just from the social services agencies that place children, but personal calls from Children's Home "alumni" who just want to stay in touch or former residents looking for second chances.

One young man, who called recently, had gotten into a minor scrape with the law and now wanted to come back to live at The Children's Home.

Cooper was cautious but forgiving. "We never like to look at our kids as 'bad,' because we know their behaviors are a result of what's happened or been done to them," he points out.

And while he says crime or unacceptable behavior is never condoned, "we really look at the antecedent for the behavior before we inflict more judgment or punishment. We give them chances to come back."

But he sadly admits "Sometimes the anger and resentment, the pain and trauma are too deep for them to identify with anything outside of that."

A growing need

Cooper has been providing health services to those in need since he graduated from Towson with a psychology degree in 1987. He started working with mentally ill adults, but soon switched to coordinating diagnostic treatment services for adolescents at the Woodbourne Center in Northeast Baltimore. Eventually he became its vice president of programs.

By 2000, he began his tenure at The Children's Home. During his 13 years



Two young men return from school and go online at a computer station in one of the boys' cottages.

.....

“We never like to look at our kids as ‘bad,’ because we know their behaviors are a result of what’s happened or been done to them.”

—Andre Cooper '87

.....

there he has overseen major capital projects including the construction of two new residential cottages, the diagnostic center and a \$275,000 renovation of the swimming pool. He is quick to credit a supportive staff and dedicated Board of Directors for assisting him.

Recently Cooper brought his expertise in adolescent issues to the TU campus, teaching a course in family studies and having TU students intern at The Children's Home. Last fall, students in

TU's National Art Education Association chapter volunteered to paint favors for the home's 150th anniversary gala. (See sidebar.)

The Children's Home was started in 1863 for

children of German descent orphaned by the Civil War. By 1924, the home moved from Baltimore City to its rural location and its mission evolved into a long- and short-term residential care facility.

“Our main goal,” Cooper explains, “is to move children back to their original family, a relative or a foster family.”

Despite that, the need for on-site care is greater than ever. The website of the National Center for Homeless Education reports that from 2010-12 Maryland had a 7 percent increase in homeless youth.

Cooper calls it “generational homelessness.” Children who grew up in group homes are now having children who also end up in group or foster homes.

The \$1 million question

When asked about challenges, Cooper is quick to mention funding and futures.

“We are always operating programs with a per diem that is less than is actually needed to care for these children, especially with the extras we provide,” he says.

The pool is a prime example. While a fundraising campaign covered the renovation costs, money is needed every year to open, run and then winterize it. Those funds do not come from the state, nor does money to fund a the riding program

where children ride horses and learn to care for the animals. “Those are extras we provide because we know it is needed for the children,” Cooper says.

But the million-dollar question he poses, is “Where do kids go once they age out at 21?”

Brandon, who lived at the Children's Home from age 14 to 19, successfully transitioned to independent living, attending a community college and landing a job.

“He checks in a couple of times a year and shows all of us he has the resiliency and ability to survive,” Cooper says.

But not everyone leaves with the same survival skills, so Cooper's long-range plan is to renovate a small house on the property for former residents to use as a drop-in center. He envisions them coming home for a visit, being able to take a shower and having a meal.

Every child deserves a home. Cooper wants to ensure that once they move out they can always go home again. ■

Ginny Cook is the editor of *Towson*.

The 16-bed inpatient diagnostic center provides crisis intervention for girls, including individual and group therapy, and psychological testing.



HELP ON THE
HOOOF



BY JAN LUCAS • PHOTOS BY KANJI TAKENO

Jacqueline Wilson '81, '87 M.S.,
partners people with horses
in an unusual—and effective—
occupational therapy practice.



The therapy barn at Best Intentions Farm commands a view that could be framed and hung on a wall.

But this bucolic setting in Carroll County, Md., is more clinical than country, playing an important role in one alumna's mission to change lives.



Jacki Wilson and assistant at Best Intentions Farm.

Here Jacqueline Golden Wilson '81, '87 M.S., clinical professor of occupational therapy, teams human clients with horses in her practice, reConnect. She and Linda Oland, the farm's proprietor, co-founded the nonprofit organization three years ago to offer equine-assisted occupational therapy.

Wilson is quick to point out that their clients don't ride the horses. "Therapists have employed horseback riding for years," she says. "But it occurred to me that horses could also serve as an intervention tool in occupational therapy, which focuses on helping clients to better function in their daily activities.

"Linda's the horse person, and I'm the people person," explains Wilson, who is also director of the Occupational Therapy Center at Towson's Institute for Well-Being. The farm's five horses—all rescued—are used in a variety of other activities, including riding lessons and children's pony parties.

Wilson emphasizes that the horses have no special training as therapy animals. "Their only role is to be themselves," she says.

On this overcast October morning, Wilson and Oland are awaiting the arrival of 20 first-year occupational therapy students, one of two groups enrolled in Analysis of Occupational Performance (OCTH 217).

Already inside the barn are a stolid little gelding with a loosely braided tail and a restless chestnut mare whose eyes are obscured by a screen-like mask. A pair of tomcats patrols the picnic tables set up for

the students who crowd into the space for a lesson in equine-assisted therapy.

Wilson offers preliminary advice to the group, including a warning about the need to keep tender human toes away from hooves. “Horses are herd animals,” she continues as the unbridled animals amble around the space, closing in to eyeball the newcomers before veering off in another direction. “You are now part of their herd. They want to feel safe, to belong. Horses are very alert to the mood of other members of the group,” she adds. “When you calm them, you calm yourselves.”

She then divides the group into two teams for a timed exercise that involves active listening, empathy, coordination and a host of other skills crucial to becoming an effective occupational therapist.

Wilson points the students toward an array of materials assembled at the side of the barn—poles, tires and five-gallon buckets—and instructs them to create an obstacle. The team will then work together to move a horse over it.

The students nod confidently: *Got it.*

They immediately haul all of the materials to the center of the floor and arrange them into a low wall, then set about trying to achieve the second objective. But the animals are uncooperative, repeatedly avoiding the obstacle despite the patting, tugging and cajoling of 10 anxious humans.

“Getting a horse to go somewhere isn’t that hard if you’re really **direct and clear.** Clients need clear instructions, too.”

—Kelsey McGonigle, OT student

“Nobody ever really hears the directions,” Wilson says behind one hand as the team begins to grow frustrated. “They used all of the materials when a single pole would have created an obstacle.”

She’ll later share that with the team, but for now Wilson hovers near, critiquing their efforts, praising teamwork and creative solutions, asking questions, offering suggestions. There are many teachable moments, even when both horses relieve themselves on the barn floor.

Oland responds with a bucket, pitchfork and spray disinfectant, tidying up while Wilson provides a brief discourse on horses’ digestive tracts and their need for frequent elimination. She takes advantage of the timeout to address the topic of human body functions and the need for privacy.

Through trial and error—and with Wilson’s steady encouragement—the team finally succeeds in maneuvering the gelding over the obstacle.



Photos above from top to bottom: A masked mare teaches students to avoid assumptions. / Linda Oland is reConnect’s “horse person.”



Photos above from top to bottom: Kelsey McGonigle enjoys a human-horse encounter. / Maneuvering the gelding over an obstacle.

“I’ve discovered that equine-assisted therapy is twice as effective as treating clients in a clinical setting.”

—Jacqueline Wilson ’81/’87 M.S.

When their cheering subsides, Wilson explains that perceptions often cloud our understanding of a situation. She removes the mare’s mask to reveal an empty eye socket, explaining that blindness prevented the animal from responding when approached from the left. “It’s not that she was being difficult,” she continues. “She *couldn’t* see you.”

The takeaway for would-be occupational therapists: What seems real isn’t always what’s really happening.

Students comprise only one group Wilson has introduced to reConnect. This equine-assisted therapy offers a track for clients with autism, anxiety disorders, learning disabilities, head injuries or other diagnoses. Another track is designed for those wishing to hone their communication, leadership, listening, time-management or teamwork skills. Clients include individuals, couples, families and groups.

The results have been encouraging. “I’ve discovered that equine-assisted therapy is twice as effective as treating clients in a clinical setting,” says Wilson, who also has a private practice in nearby Upperco, Md. “As herd animals, horses can help people to function more effectively in their own social groups.”

Wilson says former clients have spread the word about reConnect, adding that she also receives referrals from psychologists, teachers and nonprofit social-service organizations. “Linda and I are the only ones doing this in Central Maryland,” she says. “And I think we’re making a difference.”

Kelsey McGonigle, a first-year OT student from Rising Sun, Md., says she and her classmates looked forward to their visit to Best Intentions Farm. “We knew there would be horses, but we didn’t know what we would be expected to do,” she adds.

McGonigle says her interaction with the one-eyed horse helped her understand that she shouldn’t make assumptions about clients or patients, and that adaptation may be needed to provide intervention.

“Listening is really important,” she adds. “My team made the exercise more complicated than it needed to be because we didn’t listen carefully enough.

“I learned that getting a horse to go somewhere isn’t that hard if you’re really direct and clear. Clients need clear instructions, too.”

Working with horses helped her better appreciate human needs, she says, adding, “I chose occupational therapy because I want to be part of the process of someone’s getting better.” ■

Jan Lucas is associate director of publications in University Marketing and Communications.

Caring ON CAMPUS



If Jacki Wilson ’81/’87 M.S. is not down on the farm teaming up horses and humans, she’s at TU’s new Institute for Well-Being directing its Occupational Therapy Center. Here she focuses on providing cutting-edge educational experiences for future occupational therapists and outreach programs to individuals and groups.

“Occupational therapy is a creative field,” Wilson notes. “You need to be open-minded and willing to try new things. Equine-assisted occupational therapy may seem odd, but it works. When our students visit the farm and experience it, they’re amazed. Their perspective shifts.”

Wilson, who is also clinical assistant professor of occupational therapy, says the center’s integrated approach augments classroom teaching with hands-on fieldwork. Students become skilled in creating interventions, collaborating on assignments, conducting assessments and implementing programs

in a community setting. She has 22 students involved in this Level I fieldwork. Five are placed through community programs and 30 more perform evaluations. She’ll work with 90 to 100 students over the course of a term.

Outreach programs include a Stroke Survivor Support Group, children’s sensorimotor groups, a Happy Handwriting Program, pediatric evaluations (to address sensory, motor and cognitive needs), and a Driver Readiness Program that helps teens develop the life skills they’ll need to drive safely. The center’s Studio One team, which includes professionals from several disciplines, enables clients with a variety of diagnoses and developmental delays to participate in everyday activities.

“We’re continually developing and improving services that enhance clients’ quality of life,” Wilson says. “Our students leave prepared and committed to changing lives.”

—Jan Lucas



Towson
UTeach

Towson
UTeach

ATTRACTING TEACHERS

BY JAN LUCAS / PHOTOS BY KANJI TAKENO

Towson UTeach pulls college students into public school classrooms.



(Above) With a bit of help and encouragement, sixth graders learned to make working electromagnets from simple kits.

(Left) UTeach rookies Kathleen Ho and Emily Braden are discovering the joys—and challenges—of teaching science early in their academic careers.

One D cell battery, a circuit board, some wire, a switch, a rivet and 25 washers.

The sixth-grade science class at Ridgely Middle School hunkers over the makings of kid-size electromagnets. They've just seen a video of a scrap-yard crane hoisting and dropping huge clumps of metal, so they know what makes electromagnets different from other magnets: They can be switched on and off.

Now Emily Braden, a TU sophomore and UTeach rookie, wants to know what risks their lab experiment might entail. It's a question scientists should pose before embarking on any project, no matter how safe it seems.

"Burns?" one pupil suggests. Possibly, Braden concedes.

Another asks whether the school has life-support capabilities, setting off a mini-explosion of giggles. As Braden and Uteach partner Kathleen Ho reassure the boy, a woman at the back of the room looks up from her keyboard and smiles.

"You never know what they're going to say," says Christine Roland, a Towson UTeach master teacher who's been observing the lesson. "It makes teaching science so much fun."



“We’re giving them a chance to fall in—or out—of love with teaching.”

Christine Roland

Towson UTeach master teacher

Learning science is fun, too. The six teams quickly assemble their electromagnets in consultation with Braden and Ho, who’s in a supporting role today. Eager hands flip switches and begin tallying the number of washers they can dangle from the tip of each wire-wrapped rivet. “We have four!” someone shouts, only to be upstaged moments later by “We have five! “Hey, we have eight!”

It’s exactly what Roland and her Towson UTeach colleagues want to hear.

UTeach, a collaboration involving TU’s College of Education and Fisher College of Science and Mathematics, offers science and math majors a low-pressure, commitment-free way to explore teaching in their first year of college. David Vanko, dean of the Fisher College, lists the fundamental

The Fundamentals of Towson UTeach

Towson UTeach gives students the opportunity to explore teaching secondary mathematics and science in middle school and high school.

The program also

- aims to interest more science and math majors in becoming high school teachers.
- gives students experience in a field-intensive program beginning with their first semester, and continuing throughout their program.
- has students learn from specially hired master teachers—exemplary, experienced and inspirational high school science and math teachers.
- offers students the chance to take specialized education courses focused on science and math.
- is the first UTeach program in Maryland, and one of 35 UTeach programs nationwide.
- is supported by the Maryland State Department of Education with Race to the Top funds and by the National Math and Science Initiative.

principles of Towson UTeach. (See sidebar above.)

It’s one of several forward-thinking initiatives championed by Nancy S. Grasmick, former Maryland state superintendent of schools, in her role as presidential scholar at TU. (See sidebar at right.)

“We’re giving them a chance to fall in—or out—of love with teaching,” says Roland, one of two master teachers working with the program’s 86 undergraduates. “Some will decide it’s not for them—and that’s fine,” she continues. “What matters more is that others will discover their ‘inner teacher’ and decide to pursue teaching careers.”

Unlike traditional secondary teacher-education programs, most UTeach participants begin by teaching elementary-school pupils, then move gradually through middle school until they’re teaching high-school students—all under the watchful gaze of UTeach master and men-

tor teachers at partner schools. Roland explains that the vertical perspective gives rookies time to mature as educators and appreciate how children learn at varying grade levels.

UTeach students pursue bachelor’s degrees in STEM disciplines while honing the teaching, lesson-planning and classroom-management skills needed for state certification. The program’s master teachers—both with extensive secondary-school teaching backgrounds—instruct, advise, question and provide support throughout the process.

Roland notes that although would-be teachers are expected to master their subjects, “becoming a teacher also requires a lot of reflection and identity-building.” She and fellow master teacher Dolores Bonincontri monitor academic progress as well as personal and professional growth at each step along the way.

Emily Braden, who taught the electro-magnet lesson at Ridgely Middle School, exemplifies the kind of student UTeach aims to recruit.

A chemistry major from Mount Airy, Md., Braden transferred to TU after a year of community college. She says UTeach played a role in her decision to pursue her B.S. degree at Towson, adding that the idea of “teaching tryouts” appealed to her.

With Roland’s expert guidance, Braden, Ho and their Ridgely Middle mentor teacher identified an appropriate topic, developed a lesson plan and decided how best to teach it to sixth graders.

Once she’d stood before a real class—with real kids—Braden says she began to imagine a career in science teaching. “It’s different, being a teacher and seeing firsthand how everything works,” she says of her tryout.

After Braden dismisses the class, Christine Roland heads for Cromwell Valley Elementary Regional Magnet School of Technology, where UTeach interns Leah Hensler and Jordyn Britton are introducing a fifth-grade science class to engineering with a lesson dubbed “Let’s Build a Wall!”

During their previous visit, Hensler and Britton—both freshmen—used a short PowerPoint presentation to introduce a premise and spur discussion. Why is the

Great Wall of China still standing after all this time? Could mortar have had something to do with it? The UTeach duo supervised as teams mixed four sample batches of mortar, using the recipes and materials provided. Then each team made four small mortar-and-cardboard “sandwiches” for testing.

At today’s lesson, Roland observes as the fifth graders shake the sandwiches to see which of the four stuck together best. Each team has been instructed to pick a winner through observation, then defend the claim. Hensler and Britton thread their way between tables to monitor the testing. Once decisions have been reached, teams mix their chosen mortar and build a two-inch wall from crushed rock. The kids tackle the project eagerly, offering heated opinions about design, then pitching in to slather mortar on the jagged limestone chunks.

The UTeach rookies visit each team, offering encouragement and sharing the smartphone photos they’ve taken around the room. Within minutes eight tiny walls begin to rise from cardboard bases.

The results don’t much resemble the formidable Great Wall, but that’s not the point, says Roland. “It’s about process,” she emphasizes. “The lesson plan merges the engineer’s process with the scientist’s

process. It shows where the two need to overlap in order to create a functional structure.”

When Hensler and Britton return to Cromwell Valley in a couple weeks, they’ll use a miniature wrecking ball to put the walls to the ultimate test. “Some may be prettier than others,” Roland says, “but they’ll be looking for the strongest.”

The lesson ends with a chorus of “Thank you!” and the bustle of small bodies headed for the door. As the class files out, the UTeach rookies and their master teacher smile at one another—and with the Cromwell Valley teachers who’ve been watching intently. The second installment of “Let’s Build a Wall!” has been delivered successfully.

En route to the parking lot, Christine Roland explains that Towson UTeach rookies receive one credit for this time-consuming—sometimes grueling—field experience. “It involves a terrific amount of preparation,” she adds. “But for the best of them, the ones we hope will become science and mathematics teachers, I think it’s a labor of love.” ■

Jan Lucas is associate director of publications in University Marketing and Communications.



Nancy Grasmick champions the need for science and math teachers.

UTeach Makes the Grade

As UTeach rookies inspire area children, Nancy Grasmick looks beyond the classroom to the program’s potential impact on Maryland—and the nation. Grasmick, a TU alumna and former state superintendent of schools, now serves as presidential scholar for innovation in teacher and leader education.

“I heard about UTeach when I was state superintendent,” she says. “So many jobs were requiring science or mathematics backgrounds, and Maryland was producing one physics teacher per year.”

Grasmick sat on the National Academy of Science task force—the only preK-12 member—that studied U.S. competitiveness in the global marketplace. “The statistics were stunning,” she recalls. “There was no doubt that the United States was losing out to China and India.” The task force’s subsequent recommendation to Congress called for more STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) teachers at the preK-12 level. “I was a big believer after that,” Grasmick adds. She says her appointment to a

national mathematics and science board only strengthened that conviction.

UTeach, founded in 1997 at the University of Texas at Austin, offered “teaching-tryouts” as part of its innovative approach to address the crisis. “I saw UTeach as a way for Maryland to develop the specialized teachers we so desperately needed.” Grasmick says. “They would be committed from the outset and have deep expertise in STEM disciplines.”

She also knew that TU, which graduates the largest number of

teachers in the state, was a perfect UTeach candidate. “We submitted an outstanding proposal, which was funded,” she notes with pride, adding that her alma mater was the first Maryland university to gain UTeach affiliation.

Now, midway through the program’s second year, Grasmick is thrilled to see increasing number of science and math majors signing on. “Our UTeach students are our ambassadors,” she says. “They’re spreading the word.”

—Jan Lucas



“Get involved in advancing the university’s mission.”

As I write this, the holidays are approaching, a festive season when we all plan to spend time with friends and family. But true holiday spirit—taking time to be thankful for all we have and giving to those who are less fortunate—continues throughout the year at the Alumni Association.

We strive to support Towson graduates through programs, benefits and services, and get them involved in advancing the university’s mission. One example is the fundraiser held at the Atlanta Braves Stadium to benefit the men’s baseball team. John Schuerholz ‘62, president of the Atlanta Braves, was our gracious host, contributing to a successful event. We owe him a hearty “thank you.”

We also work with students, not only providing support during their academic years, but also showing them involvement doesn’t end after graduation.

Since the summer, the Alumni Association has produced an exciting new initiative—the creation of Alumni Alliances, which provide more opportunities for alumni to meet with one another and stay connected to Towson. The Towson Black Alumni Alliance (TBAA) is the first alliance, and we thank the founding members of TBAA for creating a template for this process. Other alliances being organized are Southern California, Towson Crew, and Jewish Alumni.

Remember, you will always be a part of the growing Towson 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

FROM OUR ALUMNI PRESIDENT

HALL OF PRESIDENTS



President
Maravene Loeschke



Earle T. Hawkins
1947-1969



James L. Fisher
1969-1978



Hoke L. Smith
1979-2001



Robert L. Caret
2003-2011

Presidential Portrait

Painting of Dr. Maravene Loeschke
now hangs in Hall of Presidents

The Alumni Association continued its tradition, commissioning a portrait of Towson University’s 13th president, Maravene Loeschke ‘69, ‘71. The painting was unveiled Nov. 19 and will take its place among the other leaders of the university in the Hall of Presidents.

The Hall of Presidents, located on the third floor of the Administration Building, was established as a permanent tribute to the history of Towson University’s leadership. In addition to Dr. Loeschke are the portraits of Earle T. Hawkins, who served from 1947-1969, James L. Fisher, who served from 1969-1978, Hoke L. Smith, who served from 1979-2001 and Robert L. Caret, who served from 2003-2011.

Homecoming

From Tiger Taps and 'Tizers to football

The annual Young Alumni Social kicked off Homecoming festivities. About 50 recent graduates gathered at Max's Taphouse in Baltimore for networking, cuisine and cocktails.

Despite a smattering of rain, alumni, friends and families came to celebrate Homecoming and Towson football. We are proud of our Tigers despite a 45-35 loss to Villanova. Lot 21's tailgating spaces were sold out, so reserve your spaces for next year beginning in July by emailing alumni@towson.edu. The 2014 Homecoming celebration will be held Nov. 1.



- 1 Young alumni enjoying the evening at Max's Taphouse
- 2 Alumni enjoying the tailgate.
- 3 Janice (Board) Hoytt '81, Hank Lloyd, Amanda Lloyd, TU sophomore, and Anita Coleman Lloyd '81
- 4 5 Alumni at the Auburn Pavilion
- 6 Oluwaseun Durojaye, President Maravene Loeschke '69/'71 and David Raymond

➔ [MORE EVENTS ONLINE
magazine.towson.edu](http://magazine.towson.edu)

Remembering

The annual fundraiser for Honor Elizabeth Wainio '95

On Oct. 26, family, friends and patrons gathered at the Ropewalk Tavern in Federal Hill to remember Honor Elizabeth Wainio '95, who perished on Flight 93 in Shanksville, Pa., on Sept. 11, 2001. More than \$25,000 was raised this year to fund the scholarship in her name. A special thank you to Esther Heymann '72, Ben Wainio, Sarah Wainio, Linda and Marc '95 McFaul, proprietors of Ropewalk Tavern and the members of the Alumni Association Community Relations and Outreach Committee who made this event possible.

Linda McFaul and Deniene Davis

1



Marc McFaul '95, Mark Davis and Marc Muher

2



Kyle Clanton, Amanda Emdad and Sarah Wainio

3



Laurie Lane, Esther Heymann '72, Bethanne Kashkett and Kenny Kashkett

4



Michele Baldwin '95, Daniel Ronayne and Marc McFaul '95

5



Bill Stetka '77 and Ed McDonald '78

6



Barb Shifflett Kenneally '79 and Erika Moore '93/'00

7

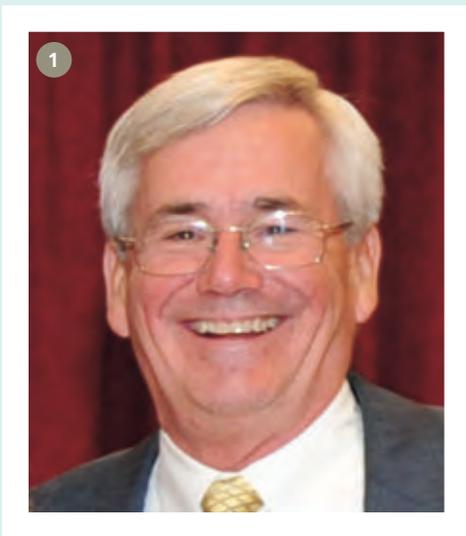


** To make a gift to the Honor Elizabeth Wainio '95 Communications Memorial Scholarship Endowment, please visit www.towson.edu/supportTU.*

Top Volunteers

The 2013 Volunteer Recognition Reception

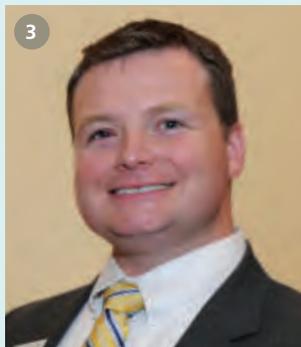
The Alumni Association toasted its most outstanding Towson University volunteers, faculty and staff on Oct. 19 at the West Village Commons Ballroom.



1 SPIRIT OF THE UNIVERSITY AWARD
Bill Stetka '77



2 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD
Patrick Dieguez '07



3 UNIVERSITY ALUMNI VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD
Patrick Young '10



4 ATHLETIC ALUMNI VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD
Ray Stinar



5 FACULTY ALUMNI VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD
James C. Hull



6 STAFF ALUMNI VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD
Susan White

Saluting Scholars

Alumni Association hosts scholarship luncheon

A full house greeted Keith Ewancio '94, Alumni Association vice president, who spoke at the first Alumni Association scholarship luncheon on Oct. 22 in the Minnegan Room. He was joined by Jessica Stansbury '06/'09, who told scholarship recipients, family and friends about how the generosity of others via a scholarship had a positive impact on her studies and career.

David Rubin and Anne Rubin

1

Keith Ewancio '94/'07 and
Jessica Stansbury '06/'09

2

The scholarship and
grant recipients of 2013

3

Paula Marple '79, Lauren
Marple and Jim Marple

4

Holly Battaglia, Riley Battaglia,
Chris Battaglia '88

5



2013 Scholarship and Grant Recipients

Alumni Association Scholarship

Megan Knoblock
Jessica Mineart
Anne Rubin
Michelle Vanagas

Distinguished Scholar Award

Rebecca Ellison
Allison Holocker
Lyndsie Ludwig
Scott Winter

Ronald L. Peterson Scholarship

Riley Battaglia
Lauren Marple

Graduate Fellowship

Ibrahim Dabo
Alexandra Greenwood '07
Nicholas Reed

Community Grant

Gina Kaplanis '04
Deb Lonsdale

Professional Development Grant

Sheri Berberian '01, '03
Joanne Flanagan '12
Michelle Huggins '95
Katherine Rabon '09
Magan Ruthke '02, '08

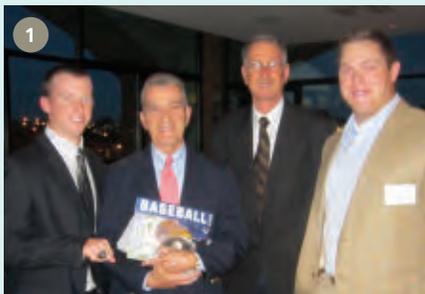


* To donate to the Alumni Association scholarship and grant programs, please email alumni@towson.edu for information or www.towson.edu.

Baseball Support

Alumni in Atlanta turn out for the TU team

On Nov. 8, Alumni Association President Lance Johnson '93, Foundation President Molly Shock '75 and head baseball coach Mike Gottlieb '80 travelled to the Atlanta Braves Stadium. They spent the evening with Atlanta-area alumni in support of TU baseball and raised more than \$7,000 for TU's baseball team. A special thank you to John Schuerholz '62, president of the Atlanta Braves, for hosting us, and to Michael Rossetti '77 for being our Georgia advocate.



1 Zack Fisher, John Schuerholz '62, Mike Gottlieb '80 and Andrew Parker

2 Mike Gottlieb '80, John Schuerholz '62, Michael Rossetti '77 and Lance Johnson '93

3 Terri Wren, Vincent Rossetti and Michael Rossetti '77

4 Dorthey West-Daniels '81, Jonathan Pedersen '98 and Michael Cather '93

5 Molly Shock '75, Eric Lent '91 and Karen Lent

6 John Schuerholz '62, Frank Wren and Lance Johnson '93

Lunch and Learn

Edenwald reception

Alumni from the Maryland State Teachers College, Towson State College and Towson University gathered on Nov. 21 for the annual luncheon at Edenwald, a retirement community. Guest speakers included Ray Lorion, dean of the College of Education, who updated alumni about TU's STEM efforts in science, technology, engineering and math. Then Felicity Knox '94, library associate and archivist, gave a historical presentation regarding the 100 years of construction on campus that began in 1913.

1
Carolyn Eckes '57,
Jean Singman '45 and
Elizabeth McGeehan '97



2
Dorothy Wyatt '50 and
Mary Davis-Betz '50



3
Quinton "QD" Thompson '42



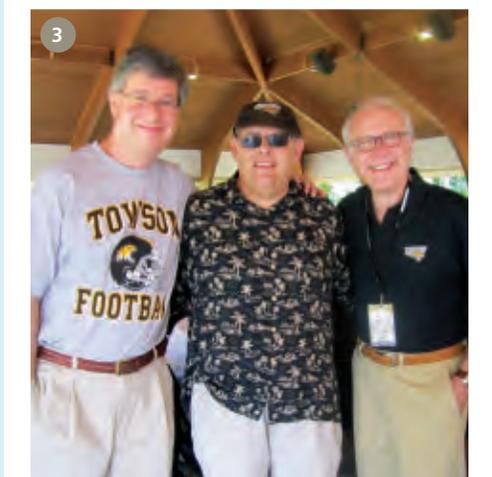
4
Rita Goldstein '54,
Carolyn Eckes '57 and
Pat Edwards '51



Before the Coin Toss

The Alumni Hospitality Area is a hit with football fans

More than 2,000 alumni, parents, students and friends joined us at the Alumni Hospitality Area at the Auburn Pavilion to celebrate another successful season of Tiger football. We'll continue the tradition during Saturday home lacrosse games in 2014. Light fare and a cash bar are available an hour and a half before the game.



1 Shirley McCue, Barb Saver and Todd Saver

2 Ray '77, Grace, Christine and Connor Feldmann

3 Jonathan Oleisky '92, Vince Fiduccia '91 and Gary Rubin '69

4 Jeri Bielas and family

5 6 Towson fans before the game

Season's Greetings

The Alumni Association holiday party

The Alumni Association celebrated the holiday season on Dec. 6 at the historic Auburn House. We welcomed past and present alumni board members, TU administrators, corporate partners and other volunteers who have assisted us throughout the year. Guests were requested to donate \$20.13 in honor of a successful 2013 and to support the Towson University Alumni Association Professional Development Grant.



1
Christine Brewer '06, Lance Johnson '93, Fran Bond '55/'60 and Keith Ewancio '94/'07

2
University Advancement Vice President Gary Rubin '69, President Maravene Loeschke '69/'71 and Leonard Raley '78

3
Brittany Miller '10, Jenna Mills '09, Olivia Orth and Margaret Paulson '11

4
Steve Willett '79 and Associate Vice President of Alumni Relations Lori Armstrong and Colt Hanlin.



* If you would like to make a donation to the Alumni Association Professional Development Grant, please email alumni@towson.edu.



“Towson is very fortunate to have many wonderful donors.”

FROM THE FOUNDATION BOARD PRESIDENT

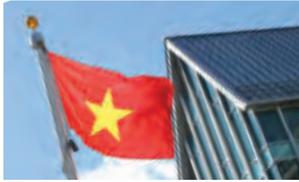
The Towson University Foundation Board of Directors is charged with the great honor of stewarding the gifts which are made to Towson University. It is a responsibility which we take very seriously.

Towson is very fortunate to have many wonderful donors: alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends. There are many ways in which you may participate in the mission of helping Towson students to achieve their goals of an affordable, accessible quality education. You may donate to a scholarship, athletics, study abroad, arts, academic programs or community engagement programs.

I am passionate about the funding of a college education and have established a scholarship to help students to achieve their goals without having to mortgage their futures. In this edition of the alumni magazine, you will meet some of the people who are helping to make Towson the terrific school that it is and how you can become part of the success story.

I hope that you will consider making a gift to Towson this year. Your support is vital to the continued success of Towson and its mission: to educate students. You can make a difference. Thank you.

Molly Shock '75
Foundation Board President



FLYING FLAGS

International Walkway Update

The International Walkway celebrates the diversity of Towson, encourages study abroad opportunities, enhances campus beautification and makes a significant impact on Towson students.

This presidential initiative has raised more than \$60,000 for students such as Ryan Muffi, a psychology major, who studied in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Muffi says, “It was the best experience I’ve had at Towson so far. The courses granted me invaluable knowledge that I will continue to apply in my life and career for years to come, and gave me more insight into understanding and interacting with people from different backgrounds.”

A \$5,000 gift to the International Walkway directs \$3,000 to study abroad experiences and underwrites the cost of a flag and flagpole. To date, donors have sponsored flags for 22 of the 80 home countries of students attending Towson University.

While gifts of any amount will support study abroad initiatives, donors who contribute \$5,000 are recognized with a name plate affixed to an illuminated flagpole along the International Walkway.

For more information on how you can become a part of this important initiative, contact the development office at **1-866-301-3375** or towsonfund@towson.edu.



Presidential Ambassadors

Student leaders forge connections with university supporters

Towson University’s best and brightest student leaders are members of the Presidential Ambassadors, a University Advancement program that supports the university’s strategic plan by connecting students with key constituents at events and other advancement activities.

“The 27 Presidential Ambassadors add energy to events,” says Lauren Averell ’10, TU special events coordinator and a Presidential Ambassadors adviser. “Guests always come up to me and say how wonderful the students are and how delightful their conversations have been. We want our guests and supporters to meet the students and see how their gifts have an impact on them.”

The experience is equally beneficial for the student ambassadors. “I’ve had

a blast meeting faculty and staff from all over campus and meeting all the Towson alumni who support and love students,” says Becca Nappi, a junior mass communication major. She also enjoys telling students in her residence hall about the many people who help Towson students to succeed.

Michael Thompkins, a senior mass communication and psychology major, also enjoys making connections. “I was able to hear about their interests at Towson and find out how they got to be where they are today. These professionals and leaders in the community were taking an honest interest in my Towson experience and cared about my future as a professional by giving me advice and even offering to connect me with other leaders.” ■

Devoted to Teaching

World-famous author James Patterson funds eight scholarships for education majors

One of the world's most successful mystery writers has penned a real thriller for Towson University.

James Patterson, the prolific author of more than 67 *New York Times* bestsellers such as *Kiss the Girls* and *Beach Road*, has provided eight scholarships of \$6,000 to freshmen who want to be teachers.

Towson is the most recent recipient of his generosity. In the last 10 years, Patterson has worked to instill the joy of reading in young people. His scholarships, along with his readkiddoread.com website and his book donations to schools, are intended



James Patterson

The inaugural Towson University James Patterson Scholars are Morgan Engelhardt, Madeline Pendergast, Tyler Puryear, Amanda Stagege, Lark Stawas, Samantha Thon, Isabella Thornett and Erin Vogan. They were chosen last fall from candidates with financial need who achieved a strong academic record in high school and plan to be education majors with a focus on developing reading skills.

“Only our most qualified students were invited to apply,” says Raymond

Lorion, dean of the College of Education. “We will work with them continuously throughout their four years of study so that each one will bring distinction to Mr. Patterson through the academic success of the generations of students they will serve.”

Patterson intends to continue to fund their studies as long as the recipients meet Towson's standards and stay on the teaching track.

“We are honored that Towson University was selected as one of the handful of institutions in the country for the James Patterson scholarships,” TU President Maravene Loeschke says. “This generous gift not only elevates the student academic experience in our College of Education, but it also speaks volumes about Towson's national reputation for teacher preparation and the top-notch opportunities we can provide to Towson students.”

According to Bookscan, Patterson has sold more books than any other author: an estimated 275 million copies worldwide. Patterson is also the current bestselling author in the young adult and middle grade categories.

The 66-year old Manhattan College and Vanderbilt alumnus has seen eight of his books turned into films, and one served as the basis for a television series, “Women's Murder Club,” on ABC. ■

“These future teachers are already having a tangible impact on their community.”

— James Patterson

to pass on his passion for books and reading and to support those who do the same.

Patterson, whose mother was a teacher, has established education scholarships at 20 institutions, including Vanderbilt University and University of Wisconsin. Towson caught his attention because of its history of excellence in teacher preparation. The university trains more teachers for Maryland's top-ranked school system than any other institution.

“I was impressed by Towson's College of Education and their commitment to urban education, specifically the Towson Reading Clinic, which provides affordable reading intervention in Baltimore,” Patterson says. “These future teachers are already having a tangible impact in their community, and I wanted to help them.”

Outstanding Commitment

Hussman, Stinars honored by Maryland's Association of Fundraising Professionals

Three Towson University supporters received accolades from the Maryland chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals at its National Philanthropy Day in November.

John P. Hussman, a benefactor to the Hussman Center for Adults with Autism, was named the Maryland Outstanding Philanthropist of the Year. Ray Stinar, retired associate dean of the College of Health Professions, and his wife, Pam Stinar, were two of the 2013 Unsung Heroes.

The Stinars have dedicated nearly 200 hours since 2009 to helping raise support for the College of Health Professions' Institute for Well-Being, along with the Wellness Center and the Hussman Center.

"[It's meaningful] seeing your dreams and thoughts come true," Ray Stinar says.

Hussman and his wife, Terri, have donated more than \$1 million to support the Hussman Center for Adults with Autism. It's a passion that's personal for the couple, whose adult son is on the autism spectrum.

"I think we can only hope to change the world when we take on the challenges of others as if they were our own," says Hussman in his acceptance speech.

The Hussmans work to foster inclusive education for special needs children, aid the homeless, and eradicate or ease disease all over the world. Their initiatives with the Carter Center prompted a personal video greeting from President Jimmy Carter.

"John and Terri's grant-making has shed light on issues that are

so often overlooked," says the former president. "They inspire others to help people who live in poor and remote communities around the world with little or no access to health care."

Towson University President Maravene Loeschke presented Hussman with his award. "John Hussman is a tireless advocate

“

"John and Terri's grant-making has shed light on issues that are so often overlooked."

— Former President Jimmy Carter

for human rights and for all things that are right," she says. "He is a man whose works tie together research and practice, knowledge and action. He thrives on service, giving and the integrity of the human condition. We are honored to have John and Terri as major donors of their resources, their time and their wisdom to our passion, the Center for Adults with Autism which bears their name." ■

To view the video introduction for Hussman at the Maryland chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals National Philanthropy Day, visit http://dbmcommunications.com/apf_hussman_25OCT13.html.

TOWSONOPOLY TOURNAMENT AND GALA

Event benefits Towson UTeach program

The Fourth Annual Towsonopoly Tournament and Gala found alumni and friends gathering at the West Village Commons Nov. 9. The event raised more than \$81,000 for the Towson UTeach program, an initiative of the Towson University College of Education and the Jess and Mildred Fisher College of Science and Mathematics that takes an innovative approach in preparing science and math teachers. The evening featured dinner, a silent auction, casino games and the main attraction—the Towsonopoly Tournament. Robert Kimmons proved to be the top tycoon and walked away with bragging rights and 100,000 Marriott Rewards points.



Robert Kimmons (above) won the tournament. (Left) Guests enjoy the game.



Check out more photos from the event at www.towson.edu/eventphotos.

Senior Brooke Bianchetti

GiveCorps internship jumpstarts a path to philanthropy



Brooke Bianchetti

Since summer 2013, Brooke Bianchetti, a mass communication and art + design major, has served as a bridge between GiveCorps, a company that provides an online platform for crowdfunding, and the TU Office of Development. As a GiveCorps marketing intern, Bianchetti has helped raise funds for TU programs including the baseball team, the Honors College and the Hackerman Academy.

Why did you choose Towson?

I was originally a biology major with plans to go into the medical field. One of my high school teachers recommended Towson's biology program as one of the top in Maryland. The day I toured Towson, I knew I belonged here. I fell in love with the beautiful campus, school spirit, involved students and activities within walking distance. Not to mention, a Towson education is affordable—it's the best deal around!

What activities are you involved in on campus?

I am the vice president of the leadership honors society, Omicron Delta Kappa; treasurer of the Professional Association for Design; and a member of Delta Delta Delta.

What does philanthropy mean to you as a student?

Supporting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital for the past three years as a member of Tri Delta, I already understood the importance of philanthropy; however, it was not until I started interning at GiveCorps that I understood the impact of philanthropy at Towson. My internship opened my eyes to the importance of giving back to the university to continue funding student scholarships and programs.

Philanthropy is about giving back to your roots and passion, and, for me, I consider Towson University to be both. Towson has allowed me to develop as a student, leader and career-focused individual. Why not give back to the university that has shaped me into the person I am today? There are so many wonderful university programs that could really take off if they received additional funding. Alumni and students, who are able to give, should support their Towson roots by giving back, even if it means simply skipping the purchase of your morning coffee to give \$5 to a TU scholarship or program. We can continue to make Towson University great by becoming philanthropists, and GiveCorps allows us to do just that! ■

To learn more about how you can make an impact at TU through GiveCorps, visit www.towson.edu/givecorps.

CELEBRATING PHILANTHROPY

Donors recognized at Hidden Waters

More than 180 Towson supporters gathered at Hidden Waters on Oct. 23 for the President's Recognition Celebration. Co-hosted by USM Chancellor William "Brit" Kirwan, Patricia Kirwan, President Maravene Loeschke and Dr. C. Richard Gillespie, the exclusive event honored members of the Golden Tiger Society, who have given to the Towson University Foundation for 20 or more consecutive years; the Founders Society, who demonstrate commitment to Towson's ambitions and confidence in its mission through their annual leadership gifts; and the Tower Light Society, who have included the university in their estate plans.



(Top) William "Brit" Kirwin, Fran Bond '55/'60, George Friedman and Karen Blair (Bottom) President Maravene Loeschke '69/'71 and Edwin Hirschmann

For more photos from the event, visit <http://www.towson.edu/eventphotos>.

Before 1960

FRANCES BOND '55/'60 M.ED. is the producer and child development specialist for the Baltimore County Public Schools *Educated Parenting* video series. The program airs on the BCPC Educational Channel and on the BCPS website.

1960

BONNIE SCHNEIDER PALMER '66 celebrates her 48th year of teaching in Maryland public schools this year. This also marks her second year as a National Commission on Teaching & America's Future-sponsored consultant content specialist for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics programs in Howard County Public Schools.

DENNIS PATTON '68 GEOG/SOSC

retired last May after 12 years as program director for the Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments. He assisted local governments in Eastern North Carolina with planning services and development grants. Patton will continue to serve as a grant consultant for the agency, helping small towns with community development. He lives with his wife Jane in Greenville, N.C.

1970

KATHERINE VORWERCK HUYNH '71 BIOL retired last summer after 42 years as a paraeducator in Baltimore City Public Schools.

JOHN C. TYDINGS JR. '71 ENGL published what he calls "a pop-philosophy treatise," *The Cure-All*, with Midnight Marquee Press.

BLAINE TAYLOR '72 HIST latest books are *Mrs. Adolf Hitler: The Eva Braun Photographs 1912-45* and *Dallas Fifty Years on the Murder of John F. Kennedy*. The book on Braun is a pictorial biography of a Catholic convent-bred woman who became Hitler's mistress and wife. The Kennedy book reveals new evidence, eye witness accounts and secret documentation. Taylor has published many books about World War II, including *Hitler's Engineers*, *Fritz Todt* and *Albert Speer - Master Builders of the Third Reich*.

WILLIAM OWINGS '73 and his wife celebrated the publication of their 12th textbook in October with the second edition of *American Public Education: Building a Common Foundation*. They also recently completed education lectures in Turkey and the Netherlands.



TRACY MILLER '93 M.S.

Tracy Miller '93 M.S, a transfer advising program manager in Academic Advising, is the first member of Towson University's staff to receive the President's Award for Distinguished Service to the University.

Miller accepted the award—an engraved bowl and \$2,500—from President Maravene Loeschke '69/'71 at the president's annual address last September.

The Distinguished Service Award recognizes an exemplary member of the staff who has made a significant contribution to the university during 20 or more years of experience in his or her profession, with at least 15 years of that service at Towson.

Loeschke described Miller as "devoted to ensuring a quality student experience. Her every action embodies service, excellence, dedication and love for Towson University and its students."

Miller has worked at TU for 35 years, acquiring a breadth of experience that spans the Executive, Student Affairs and Academic Affairs divisions. Now her job focuses on

Devoted to Students

Distinguished Service Award recognizes impact on transfer students, veterans and more

transfer students, ensuring they make a successful transition to Towson.

An adviser and advocate for Towson's student veterans, she served on the Veterans Concerns Committee, which spearheaded the creation of Towson's Veterans Center.

The parent of two sons and the proud grandmother of a granddaughter, Miller became a Gold Star mother in 2004 when her younger son, Marine Cpl. Nicholas Ziolkowski, was killed in Iraq. She established a scholarship in his name to help to fund student-veterans at Towson.

"I've been fortunate to have been able to take advantage of so much that Towson offers," Miller says. "That includes campus daycare and elementary school for my sons and graduate school for me, as well as wonderful, caring colleagues and the opportunity to serve—and learn from—generations of TU students.

"Towson has given me so much," she adds. "I've tried to give back." ■

—Jan Lucas

MICHAEL HILTON '74 BUAD left the mortgage banking business after 27 years to become the head coach for women's lacrosse at Urbana University in Ohio.

EMERSON L. DORSEY JR. '76 ECON was named a "2013 Top-Rated Lawyer in Real Estate Law" by American Lawyer Media and LexisNexis Martindale-Hubbell. He chairs the business, corporate and tax department at the Baltimore law firm of Tydings & Rosenberg.

STAN SILVERMAN '78/'81 M.S. published *Shadows and Echoes*, an autobiography inspired by the loss of his father. The book was featured at the American Association of School Librarians' 2013 Combined Book Exhibit. Silverman, a retired psychotherapist, lives in Baltimore.

VALERIE HAWKINS '78/'88 M.ED., Project Lead the Way/Gateway to Technology Educator-Magnet Coordinator, Baltimore County Public Schools, received *Women of Color Magazine's* K-12 Promotion of Education award at the

18th Annual Women of Color Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Conference in Dallas. Hawkins teaches at Southwest Academy Magnet School of Science and Engineering in Baltimore.

1980

NANCY TRIMBLE-OLIVER '80, president and owner of Staff Quest, Inc., received a Top 100 Minority Business Enterprise Award, which recognizes outstanding women and minority business owners in the Mid-Atlantic region.

ELEANOR HERMAN '81 coauthored the book *King Peggy: An American Secretary, Her Royal Destiny, and the Inspiring Story of How She Changed an African Village* with Peggienle Bartels. The book was honored as the 2013 One Maryland, One Book selection.

JUDITH HALL SIMON '81 published the book, *Before the Door Closes: A Daughter's Journey with Her Alcoholic Father*. The book is endorsed by Robert J. Ackerman, editor of *Counselor Magazine: The Magazine for Addiction Professionals*.

STELLA LOUISE ADAMS '82 published her debut novel, *Heavy Is the Rain*. The book is a coming-of-age story set in 1940s South Carolina and Baltimore.

CHARLES E. BOTELER JR. '82 MCOM was named director of sales and business development for Flatdog Media, Inc., a publishing company based in Frederick, Md. Flatdog Media provides a variety of resources for the surveying and mapping community, including *Professional Surveyor Magazine*.

1990

ALLAN BLADES '92 GEOG was named business development director for Axis Geospatial in Easton, Md. He has more than 20 years of experience in photogrammetry, remote sensing and geographic information systems.

KELLY GEOGHAN '93 volunteered in a medical clinic in Port au Prince, Haiti, where she treated survivors of the 2010 earthquake. Geoghan is a Baltimore County-based foot and ankle surgeon and aesthetic podiatry specialist.

MICHELLE HARVIN HUGGINS '94 PSYC joined the board of directors for the Chesapeake Human Resources Association. Huggins is personnel administrator for the Maryland Department of Transportation's Office of Human Resources.

DAVID SVEC '95 is the principal and co-founder of Veris Group LLC, a cybersecurity consultancy and third-party assessment organization based in Vienna, Va. He previously served as a consultant at Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc. and as an analyst with the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

AILEEN M. ESKILDSEN '96 ACCT was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Legacy School, a nonprofit educational facility for students with language-based learning disabilities in Eldersburg, Md. Eskildsen is a director and professional development coordinator at Ellin & Tucker, Chartered, an accounting and consulting firm.

ELIZABETH WOLF CLARK '97 BUAD was honored by the Eastern chapter of APPA, a national educational facilities leadership organization. She received both the President's Award and the Rising Star Award. Clark is also Eastern APPA's vice president for annual meetings.

IN MEMORIAM

alumni

Geraldine Gold Schultz '32
July 10, 2013

Rebecca Gilbert Craig '34
November 24, 2012

Jennie Willen Himelfarb '34
December 1, 2013

Carmen Rosenberg Cullen '38
November 4, 2013

Eileen Bautz Schmidt '43
September 9, 2013

Mildred Slagle Alexander '44
October 18, 2013

Marguerite Albert Ruppertsberger '44
October 24, 2013

Alice Leighton Schmidt '44
August 23, 2013

Helen C. Howard '45
October 21, 2013

Esther Spath Lightbody '45
August 8, 2013

Charlotte Koontz Smith '45
October 5, 2013

Jean Bennett Perry '48
September 2, 2013

Jean Doyle Goedeke '51
October 14, 2013

Harry H. Boublitz '53
September 28, 2013

Janice Annan Floyd '54
September 22, 2013

Marie Owens Kunlo '54
July 19, 2013

James M. Sanders, Jr. '54
November 9, 2013

S. Richard Wallace '55
February 25, 2013

Lucille E. Livingston '56
November 20, 2013

Mildred Beckwith Bosies '58
October 11, 2013

Ruth Goemmer Byus '59
July 7, 2013

Ruth Marshall Dillow '62
October 17, 2013

Francis E. Shortall Jr. '62
May 12, 2013

J. Richard Stack '62
October 28, 2013

Joyce Cooper Callaghan '64
August 10, 2013

Elyse Rodman Mashbaum '66
July 14, 2013

Mary E. Marousek '67
August 1, 2013

Naomi S. Moses '67
September 2, 2013

Geraldine Brandimore Anderson '69
August 17, 2013

Emalynne Myers Bearden '70
July 3, 2013

Desmond L. Daugherty '70
August 10, 2013

William B. Gibson '70
August 13, 2013

Sylvia B. Michelson '70
October 26, 2013

Mary Malone Paynter '70
July 28, 2013

Betty Lenz Hallmark '71
August 4, 2013

Sandra Flohr Paglialonga '71
August 17, 2013

Elva Knox Pitt '71
July 7, 2013

Robert Schweitzer '71
July 7, 2013

Alice A. Trawinski '71
November 23, 2013

John F. Liedlich '72
December 4, 2013

Hazel Blackburn Loper '72
August 1, 2013

Ursula M. Anselmo '73
October 17, 2013

Thomas V. Appler '73
September 29, 2013

Thomas J. Barkley '74
November 14, 2013

Shana Rosenfeld Lubin Heppner '74
April 24, 2013

Blair K. Melvin '74
November 22, 2013

Frances B. Segafoose '74
August 13, 2013

Elizabeth Jacobs Buechner '75
April 3, 2013

Timothy W. Reed '75
November 24, 2013

Bonnie Porter Boyle '76
August 12, 2013

Bernadine Lyn Gerst '76
July 15, 2013

Debra L. Y. Lee Lederer '76
September 25, 2013

Frank W. Wheeler '76
September 2, 2013

William J. Callaghan Jr. '78
September 11, 2013

Robert W. Pedlow '78
September 19, 2013

Jeanne A. Phelps '78
August 30, 2013

Charles W. Strasdauskas '78
January 14, 2013

Charles R. Riegger Jr. '81
July 9, 2013

**Marianne Leimkuhler
Barron '83**
August 13, 2013

Anita Hisley Madsen '83
July 13, 2013

Stephanie S. Vakoutis '83
October 6, 2013

Pamela L. Rice '87
October 10, 2013

Jenny Adams Schnick '89
February 27, 2013

Robin Y. Kane '90
October 31, 2012

Christina Vaughn '90
October 7, 2013

Janice E. Szczerba '91
September 24, 2012

Jan E. Hylan '93
November 5, 2013

Matthew M. O'Reilly '93
October 28, 2013

Michael C. Starr '94
July 29, 2013

Corinne M. Shelley '95
October 19, 2013

Michele S. Rausch '96
October 13, 2013

Jonathan Rojewski '96
August 9, 2013

Tracy E. Garringer '97
September 27, 2013

Peggy M. Brownley '02
July 2, 2013

Bruce H. Catt '03
October 9, 2013

John Byron Edwards '03
September 5, 2013

Sue K. Smatt '04
October 29, 2013

Karolina A. Derezinska '06
June 29, 2013

Peter I. McGee '06
October 11, 2013

Cynthia G. Scheffler '11
July 12, 2013

**Katelin Elizabeth River
McMullin '13**
November 28, 2013

students

Patrick Dieringer
September 18, 2013

Gregory Thomas
August 31, 2013

Gilad Nissim
November 16, 2013

staff/ faculty

Marilyn Barry
August 13, 2013

Peter A. Bintz
September 21, 2013

William R. Brown Jr.
August 19, 2013

Karen Dugger
November 11, 2013

Andrea Hagen
June 6, 2013

George Kropp
October 6, 2013

Linda R. Mahin
August 6, 2013

Phyllis B. Brotman,

founder of Image Dynamics and a member of Towson University's Board of Visitors, died Dec. 6, 2013.

An obituary in *The Sun* called her "one of the most respected and influential women in Baltimore." Her many accomplishments include being the first woman president of The Center Club, successfully lobbying for the creation of Maryland Public Television and running numerous political campaigns.

Brotman began her tenure on TU's Board of Visitors in 1983, serving as vice chair from 2005 to 2007. Towson awarded her an honorary degree in 2007. She became an emeritus member in 2009.

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



Valerie Hawkins '78/'88 M.Ed.

received *Women of Color Magazine's* K-12 Promotion of Education award.

**Michael Hilton
'74 BUAD** is the head coach for women's lacrosse at Urban University in Ohio.



Nancy Trimble-Oliver '80 received a Top 100 Minority Business Enterprise Award.

DAVID M. CURRY '97 MAT, an attorney with Farrell Fritz law firm, was selected as a 2013 New York Metro Rising Star for his work in real estate.

VICKI HESS '98 HRD published her fourth book, *6 Shortcuts to Employee Engagement: Lead & Succeed in a Do-More-with-Less World*. Hess is also one of fewer than 250 women in the world to be recognized as a Certified Speaking Professional.

JEFFREY M. LAWSON '98 ACCT was appointed to the TU Accounting Advisory Board.

KRIS KLOCK '99 became a realtor at Coldwell Banker's Towson office in September.

2000

KRISTINA LAMB DIN '00 is the resident costume designer and business manager at Chesapeake Shakespeare Company. She has 13 years of experience with theaters in the D.C. metro area, including the Baltimore Opera Company. Lambdin's costumes have received several awards.

TAI C. SHADRICK '03 CCMM became an associate at Spilman, Thomas & Battle law firm in Charleston, W.V. She is a general defense litigator.

BRIDGET WEININGER '03 CCMM is the new director of meetings and conventions marketing at Visit Baltimore. She will develop and implement marketing and promotional campaigns and programs to position Baltimore as a premier meetings and conventions destination.

Brian Stelter '07

is the new host of CNN's "Reliable Sources."



Angie Hong '12

worked with a children's home in Uganda.

JILLIAN BARBER '04, a teacher and dance director at Annapolis High School, was named Maryland's dance teacher of the year by the Maryland Alliance for Health and Physical Education.

ARIC WANVEER '04 PHIL is cofounder, managing partner and chief executive officer at Zero Gravity Creations, a glass and metalworking company based in Baltimore. Wanveer and his partner have created the first reusable light bulb, earning Zero Gravity a spot as one of five finalists in the Philips Innovation Fellows Competition. Zero Gravity also creates innovative glass and metal fusion faucets, furniture and sculptures.

IDA CHEINMAN '05 was elected president of the Maryland chapter of the Society for Marketing Professional Services. She will lead the board in advocating for, educating and connecting leaders in the building industry. Cheinman is principal and creative director of Substance151, Benefit LLC.

CHRISTINA DABULSKIS '05 ELED married Stephen Cohen on May 24 in Ellicott City, Md.

SCOTT W. MCLAIN '07 is a sergeant first class in the Maryland Army National Guard who is serving in Afghanistan. He has had two previous combat tours—Afghanistan, 2003-2004, and Iraq, 2007-2008. He and his wife Angela have an 8-year-old son, Collin, and a 5-year-old daughter, Gabriella.

BRIAN STELTER '07 is the new host of CNN's "Reliable Sources," a Sunday morning news show that focuses on top stories and news analysis. He will also be the network's senior media correspondent.

CARLY ACKERMAN VERB '07 and **JOSH A. VERB '04** were recently married and live in Pennsylvania.

BEN WOOD '07 and **JENNA SIEVERTS '09** were married on September 28 in Hampstead, Md., and now live in Abingdon, Md.

MATT LAUMANN '08 was promoted to cultural programs manager at Stevenson University. He will coordinate the university's art galleries and promote programs in art, theatre and music.

MELISSA OTTERBEIN '09 competed in the Ironman 70.3 World Championships. She dedicated her race toward advocating for women's inclusion in the Tour de France.

MATT ROCKMORE '10 celebrated one year as a team member at Wegmans Food Markets Inc.

AMY HEFTER '11 published the third volume in her photography book series *Tattooed Campus: Towson University*. She plans to release the final volume of *Tattooed Campus* in early 2014. Her mother, **WENDY HEFTER '85**, serves as her editor.

ANGIE HONG '12 was in Uganda, working to bring a children's home up to standards. She was thrilled to receive donations from the TU Alumni Association, which included shoes, clothes, backpacks and bags. Hong was also tasked with a project in Malangata, Papua New Guinea, where she says she will need architectural and business skills.

PATRICIA KIRCHNER '12 ACCT was promoted to senior in the tax department of Ellin & Tucker, a certified public accounting and business consulting firm.

LAURA ANTHONY '13 DFST was one of 12 students nationwide to participate in the 2013 summer session of the School-to-Work program at the Video Relay Service Interpreting Institute in Salt Lake City. The institute trains American Sign Language interpreters and interpreter educators.



MATTHEW WINNER '05

Game On

Librarian who juggles books and technology wins national award

Matthew Winner '05 just can't unplug. The elementary school librarian is wired on video games, eReaders and Web chats, and now he's hooked his students as well. His tech-savvy teaching methods have earned Winner a 2013 Mover & Shaker award from *Library Journal*.

Winner's incorporation of everything from Wii gaming to Skype chats into his classroom led coworkers at Ducketts Lane Elementary in Howard County to nominate him for the award after they noticed students making significant progress.

"The experience is a bit surreal," says Winner of the award. The educator of nine years started out as a classroom teacher, but jumped at an offer to serve as Library Media Specialist. "LMS is the ideal teaching position," he says, noting that it allows him to interact with students in every grade and to experiment with new technologies.

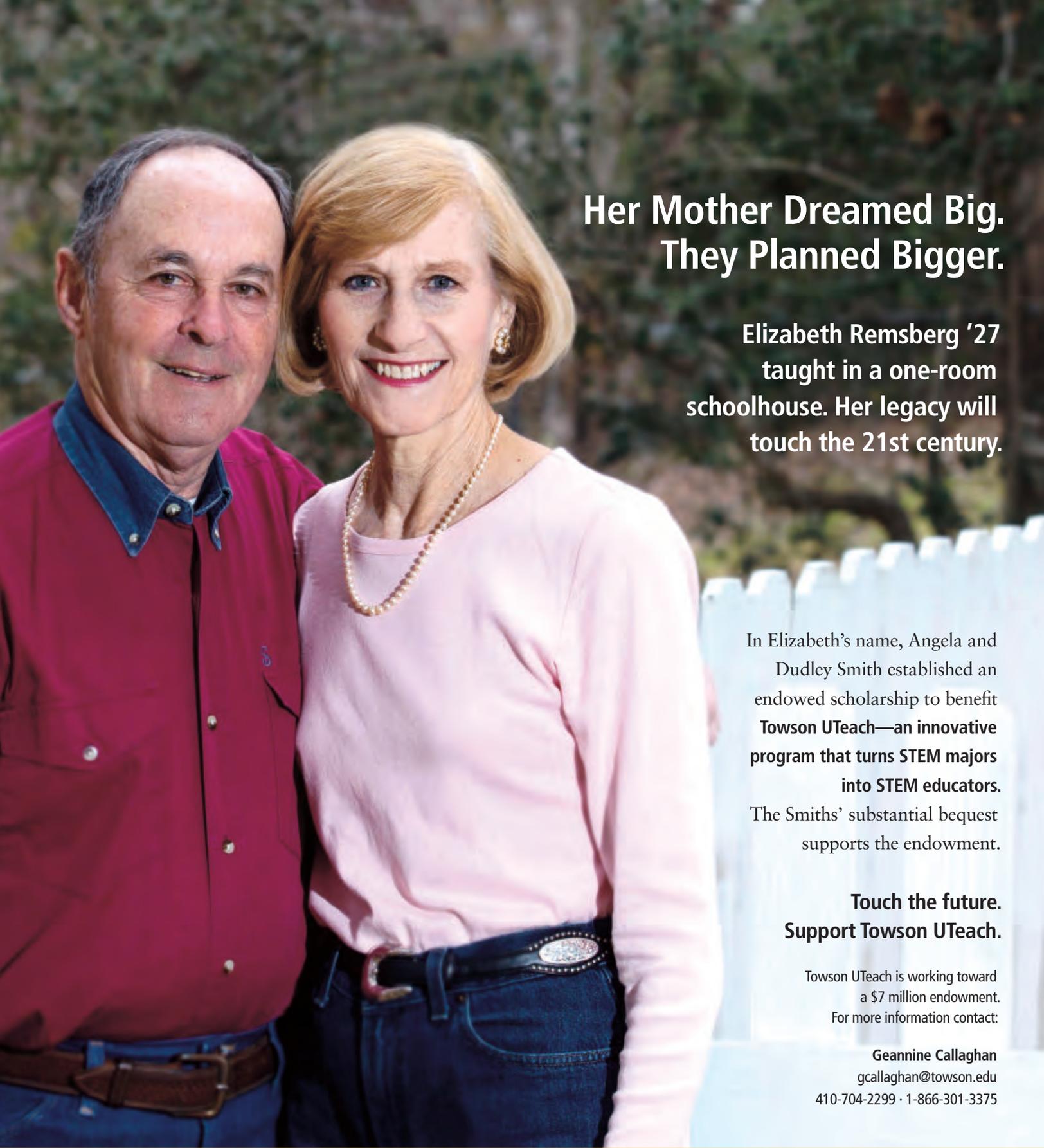
For Winner, the use of technology is essential in teaching a generation of students who "have never known a world without the Internet, cell phones or video games." He sees the classroom as the perfect place

to appropriately and efficiently incorporate these technologies into learning.

But he makes it clear that teaching is not all fun and games. "I don't think technology is the right tool for every situation," Winner says, adding that he only uses Wii and other games when they prove useful at helping students to connect to the material. He also notes that even the "latest and greatest" in technology is not a substitute for a great teacher.

Luckily for his students, Winner's love of learning extends to his free time, where he juggles so many projects that friends call him the "Busy Librarian." Between co-writing the book *Teach Math with the Wii*, running a podcast with children's authors and co-founding the Level Up Book Club, Winner is constantly switched on. But for a teacher who loves technology and education this much, "nothing feels like work," he says. "It's just one set of play after another." ■

—Katherine Lyons



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