

TU

MAGAZINE WINTER 2025



Living History

PROFESSORS KELLY GRAY, ATOP FEDERAL HILL WITH A PHOTO OF THE INNER HARBOR FROM THE 1800s, AND DANNY MYDLACK SPENT THEIR SABBATICALS RESEARCHING MARYLAND'S HISTORY.

18 WARRIOR FOR
THE WOUNDED

22 TU'S SPECIAL INTEREST
GROUPS BUILD COLLABORATION

26 CASEY CARES
TURNS 25

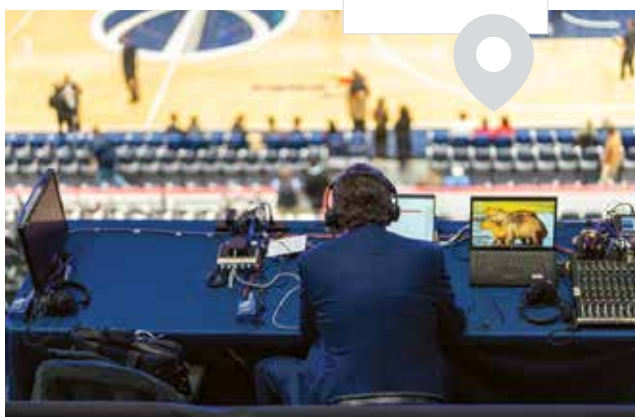


Casey Truly Cares

Casey Baynes '98 started the nonprofit that bears her name when she saw that kids in the hospital needed help. A quarter century later, the organization donates pajamas—among many other things—to ailing children.

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FEATURES

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Living History

Professors Danny Mydlack and Kelly Gray took sabbaticals to learn more about local history.



18

Warrior for the Wounded

Jenna Link '07 advocates for those who are injured serving their country.



22

Convergence Through Divergence

TU's special interest groups build cross-discipline collaboration.



ON THE COVER



It was a sunny but windy day when we ascended Federal Hill in downtown Baltimore for our cover shoot with history professor Kelly Gray. "The view from the top of Federal Hill is one of the best in the city," Director of Photo Lauren Castellana '13, '23 says. "We positioned the portrait so that the view was similar to the one in the print she's holding from the mid-19th century, showing past and present Baltimore."

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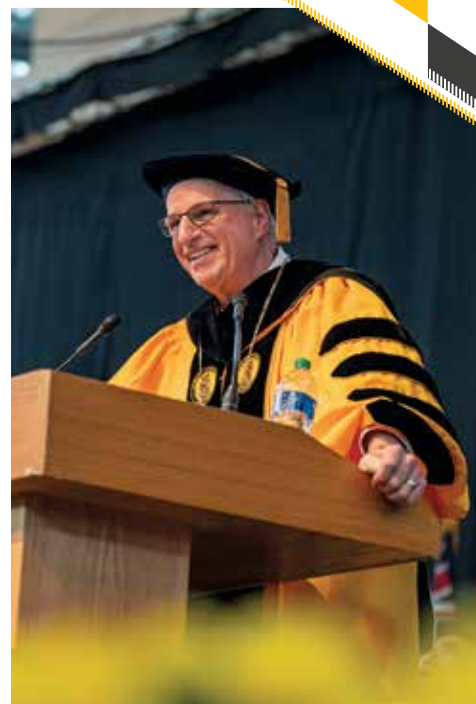
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President's Letter

Fellow Tigers,

It has been an exciting fall at Towson University, from the start of a new academic year to national rankings and transformative new partnerships. In August, we welcomed more than 5,600 new students to our Towson University community, adding to the nearly 13,900 Tigers who returned to continue their TU journey. We saw an increase of nearly 200 students, marking the university's first enrollment growth since 2018.

Our momentum continued with the release of annual collegiate rankings, which demonstrated that TU continues to rise as a national leader in academic excellence. TU was named the No. 1 public university in Maryland by The Wall Street Journal (for the third year running) as well as Washington Monthly. We achieved our highest-ever placement in U.S. News & World Report's regional rankings, which named us the third-best public university in the North. And we were again recognized as a top school for value, social mobility and student outcomes.



These milestones reflect TU's ascension, a positive trajectory that is strengthened by the stories and contributions of our 200,000-plus alumni across the globe. They are making a difference in their communities and showing the world what it means to have Tiger pride. In this issue, you'll read about many of these inspiring Tigers, like Jenna Link '07, a fierce advocate for injured veterans (page 18), and Casey Baynes '98, who founded and runs a nonprofit dedicated to helping critically ill children and their families (page 26).

I am very proud to be a member of our university community, which is filled with such special people.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mark R. Ginsberg".

MARK R. GINSBERG, PH.D.
PRESIDENT



TREASURES

Lo and Behold

Tucked away in the halls and a conference room of the Honors College offices in 7800 York Road sits an art collection of impressive depth and beauty.

The Lieberman Collection consists of about 50 works donated to TU from 1983 to 1997 by Sidney and Mignon Lieberman, who were 1932 graduates of what was then Maryland State Normal School. Over the years it has been displayed at Cook Library, Lecture Hall and Stephens Hall before moving to its current location.

Consisting of paintings, drawings, sculptures, photographs, books and more, the collection is impressive for its diversity, says Adam Rudolphi, the college's coordinator for admissions and enrollment.

"It includes Central American artists, women artists, Maryland artists and LGBTQ artists and

subjects," says Rudolphi, who has a doctorate in art history and experience as a researcher at the National Gallery of Art. He's been working for years to uncover more information about the artists and their works, which include a large lithograph by surrealist Joan Miró and eight works by pictorialist photographer A. Aubrey Bodine. Two of Bodine's creations in the collection were published in Harper's Bazaar and The Saturday Evening Post, respectively.

One artist Rudolphi—and everyone else—is familiar with is Pablo Picasso. The Spanish Cubist created an abstract portrait (pictured above) done in linocut—a traditional printmaking technique the artist focused on intensely in the 1950s. About the size of a sheet of paper, it hangs opposite the entrance to the conference room,

clearly designed to be a focal point of the collection.

But the work doesn't dazzle Rudolphi the way that some of the others in the collection do. Next to the Picasso is a portrait of the artist by photographer Yousuf Karsh.

"The textures in the printing technique that [Karsh] used are rich and wonderful, and the composition is very well balanced," Rudolphi says.

Ultimately, Rudolphi says his goal is to ensure that more people can enjoy the art.

"I try to honor the Liebermans' generosity with my research on their collection."



towson.edu/lieberman to see more photos of the Lieberman Collection

Campus News



Tiger Tuesday

Tigers wear black and gold on Tuesdays! To celebrate this tradition, campus hosted the inaugural #TigerTuesday bash in the center of campus during first week of classes. The event featured free food, music, carnival rides, prizes and more. (See page 29 for more.)



World Premiere

Filmmaker Mike Flanagan '02 has made a generous gift to name the Mike Flanagan '02 Cinema and fund the Mike Flanagan Endowment for Electronic Media and Film. The cinema is set to open with the completion of the new Smith Hall in 2027.



Miss Pennsylvania USA

Rica Clements of TU's Office of Student Accountability & Restorative Practices was crowned Miss Pennsylvania USA and advanced to the Miss USA Pageant.

Research Thrives on Campus

While most students were on summer vacation, Towson University students worked to develop their knowledge and get real-world research experience.

About 150 students took part in one of several course-based undergraduate research experiences (CUREs) held across the Fisher College of Science & Mathematics to expand undergraduates' research experience.

With the reduction in federal training grants, the TU Office of Undergraduate Research and Fisher College teamed up to create in-house research opportunities through CUREs that would provide students with similar research experiences.

CURE workshops over the summer gave students experience in researching vaccines, cybersecurity, Maryland's freshwater ecosystem and more.



Ben and Myrna Cardin Center Launches at TU

The Ben and Myrna Cardin Center for Civic Engagement and Civil Discourse, a dynamic hub for fostering open dialogue, respectful debate and active citizenship, has been established at TU. Founded in partnership with retired U.S. Sen. Ben Cardin and his wife, Myrna Cardin '65, the center reflects a shared commitment to advancing civil discourse and strengthening democratic values.

The center will be led by Sen. Cardin. He is joining Towson University as the second presidential scholar.

"Towson University is a proud anchor institution in Maryland, nationally recognized for its social impact and civic engagement," he says. "I look forward to engaging with today's students and helping inspire a lifelong commitment to learning, public service and advocating for the greater good."

The center will promote constructive dialogue on critical societal issues through student engagement, faculty collaboration and community programming.

RANKINGS BY THE NUMBERS

1

TU's rank among public universities in Maryland by The Wall Street Journal (WSJ) and Washington Monthly

1

TU's rank by the WSJ in schools for social mobility in Maryland

3

TU's rank among public universities in the north by Washington Monthly

26

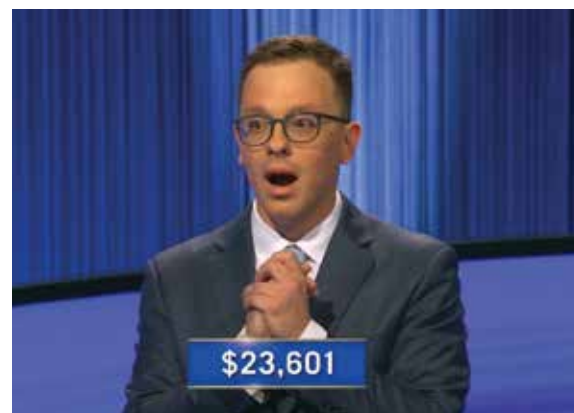
TU's rank by the WSJ in best public universities in the nation

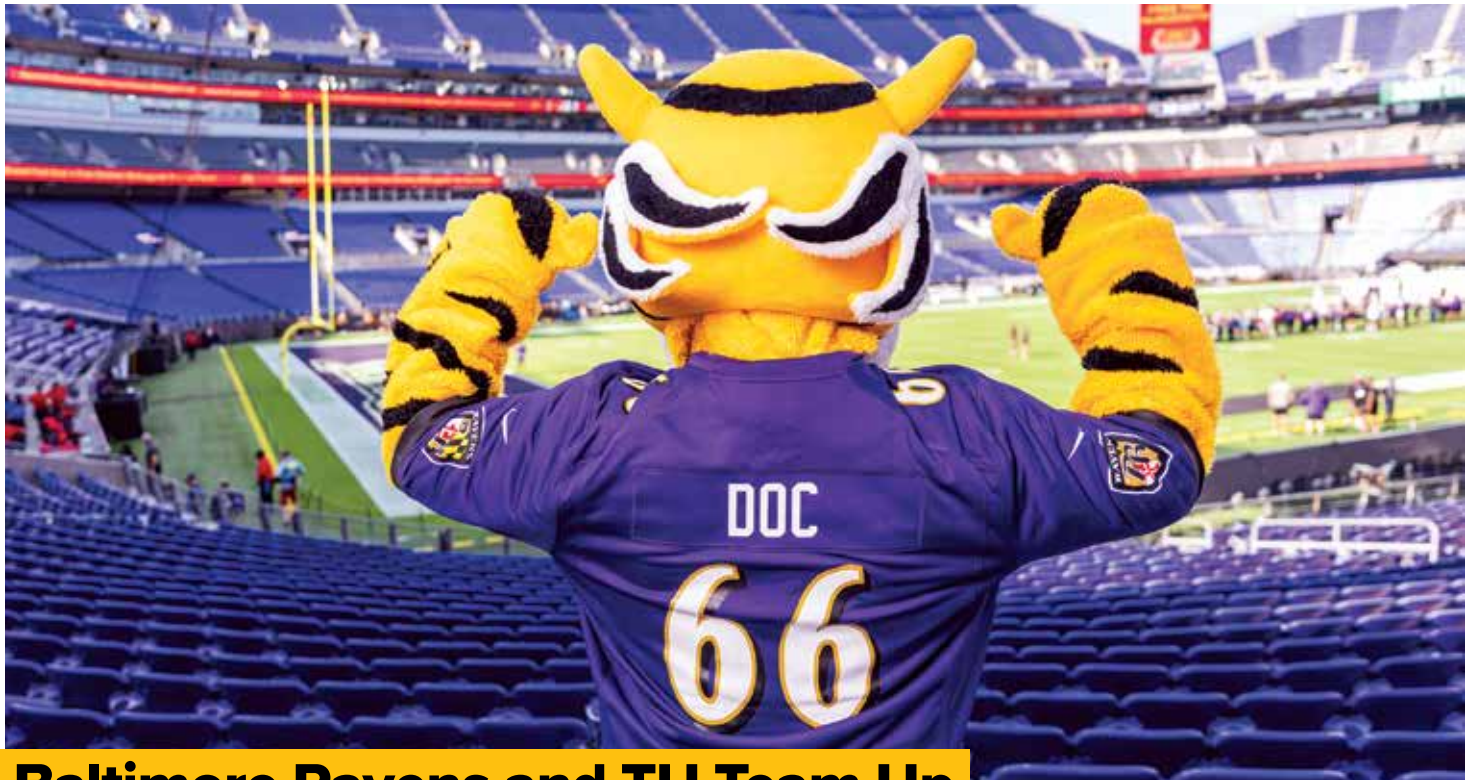
Who is a Jeopardy Champion?

TU music students noticed a familiar face on their TV screens this fall when adjunct professor Jonathan Hugendubler was a highlight in the season 42 premiere of "Jeopardy!"

Hugendubler won two games and a total of \$66,601. His big accomplishment was becoming a giant killer by beating super champion Scott Ricardi, who was on a 16-game winning streak—the 10th-longest in program history.

The newly minted adjunct professor is an accomplished saxophonist and music composer who teaches creative music technology in TU's College of Fine Arts & Communication.





Baltimore Ravens and TU Team Up

The NFL's Baltimore Ravens and TU have teamed up for a new, multifaceted partnership that brings expanded student programming, visibility and engagement opportunities to the TU community while strengthening ties with one of Maryland's most iconic sports franchises.

Through this collaboration, TU is prominently featured across Ravens gameday experiences. Highlights of the partnership include:

- **Student engagement:** The partnership includes a case study program, which will allow TU students to participate in a hands-on case study with the Ravens.
- **RavensWalk presence:** At each of the Ravens' nine regular-season home games, TU hosts a dedicated kiosk on RavensWalk and in-game engagement on the scoreboard.

- **Gameday and media presence:** TU is showcased in the Ravens Gameday publication and through programming on WBAL and 98 Rock radio broadcasts.

- **Social and digital integration:** TU receives visibility across Ravens digital and social channels during team press conferences streamed by the Ravens.

"We are proud to launch this partnership with Towson University," says Kevin Rochlitz, Ravens senior vice president and chief sales officer. "Together, we aim to create meaningful learning opportunities that prepare students to become the next generation of leaders while also strengthening the visibility of one of the region's premier educational institutions."



Splat!

Pumpkin guts flew through the Tiger Plaza air Oct. 29 during the ninth-annual Great Pumpkin Smash. Sponsored by the Towson University Student Foundation, the event allows students—or anyone for that matter—to relieve some stress by smashing a pumpkin (or two) to bits. Participants' **\$5** donations benefit a campus group of their choosing, ranging from the Tiger Athletic Fund to the Student Emergency and Food Insecurity Fund. This year's event raised more than **\$600** from 90 participants and donors, and over the course of its nine years, it has raised more than **\$4,000**.



OFFICE HOURS

The Value of Money

Economics teaching professor Sam Leppo explains how we determine a currency's worth and what can affect those decisions.

Currency really started with the barter system, trading one good or service for another. The first evolution was metal ingots: spare pieces of metal blacksmiths had lying around whose value was based on weight and purity. Then the Roman Empire started using coinage. Coins were still made of precious metals, but they were stamped and had very distinct values.

The biggest reason for currency evolving then to where it is today is what is known as the double coincidence of wants. That says another person must have something you want, or trade can't occur. If I'm a dairy farmer and you're a wheat farmer, and you don't like dairy, we're not going to trade. But if I'm a dairy farmer and I sell it to somebody else, I get currency for it.

Until 1931 nations were on a gold standard, a system in which a country's currency's value is directly linked to a fixed amount of gold. The U.K. was the first to leave; other nations then followed. There were some instabilities from then until the Modified Gold Standard was implemented through the Bretton Woods Accord. As a part of the Bretton Woods Accord in 1944, countries set a modified gold standard at \$35 per ounce. The modified gold standard went into effect in 1947. Now countries could trade or make international payments in their metal reserves or the U.S. dollar. This is also when the dollar became the international reserve currency. Nixon decided the U.S. was going to go off the gold standard entirely in 1973, which is how we ended up with fiat money today, which is defined as currency that has no intrinsic value.

The main factor in currency valuation is the state of supply and demand at any given moment. You have what's called a foreign exchange market, which

operates very similarly to the stock market. For example, if a lot of people are buying a certain stock, the value goes up. If a lot of people stop buying and start selling it, the value goes down. It's the supply and the demand of dollars relative to that of the other three main trading currencies—the euro, the pound and the yen—that determines whether a currency is strong—has a high value—or weak.

The Federal Reserve controls the supply of money, so it has a big role in the strength of the U.S. dollar. The

“The main factor in currency valuation is the state of supply and demand at any given moment.”

decisions the Fed makes about its supply also changes the interest rate. If the rates are low, it encourages us to take out more loans and spend money. But if you have high inflation, the Fed almost always has to increase rates, which slows down debt spending and inflationary pressure.

One of the biggest areas currency valuation affects is imports and exports. If the dollar has appreciated and is a stronger currency, your exports will be relatively more expensive and you're less likely

to sell as many. At the same time, imports are going to cost less. If the dollar is lower in value, you would see an increase in U.S. exports, and foreign goods would cost relatively more for U.S. consumers.

But valuation has a lot of other effects as well. There are two types of policies the government holds concerning finances. You have monetary policy, which is the central bank controlling the supply of money and interest rates. Then you have fiscal policy, which is taxes and government spending. Those impact currency values and can then also impact what is happening in the economy. If we have a small amount of inflation, that's not terrible, but it's not great. If the government dramatically increases domestic spending, that in turn could add additional inflationary pressure into the economy that in turn would hurt individuals because now what we're buying costs more.

Controversy over the existence and behavior of central banks goes back to the beginning of the United States. There's a story that Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton were in a literal fistfight on the floor of Independence Hall in Philadelphia, arguing over the central bank. Jefferson was opposed to one, saying it's more detrimental to freedom than any country's standing army. Hamilton felt it was imperative for economic growth to have a central bank.

Fast forward to now and a big issue is cryptocurrency. There is a lot of debate on this topic. Part of the allure of crypto is the minimal government interaction in this market, so how people who trade in this market react is uncertain.

I don't think that this will impact traditional currencies much, at least not the main internationally traded ones. Without some type of firm backing from a government, I feel it will have little impact on valuation, at least in the immediate future on more traditional currencies. But we'll see.



Coffee With...

Prabakar Kothandaraman

We chatted with the College of Business & Economics' new dean about what drew him to TU and how business education continues to evolve.

LOCATION:

Dunkin' in the University Union

IN HIS CUP:

Cappuccino with an extra shot

ADDICTION LEVEL:

"Low. Mostly one. Not more than two. If you're going to drink coffee, you might as well drink coffee."

Q: When you visited TU for the first time in March, what was your biggest takeaway?

A: I loved a few things. The first was how everyone rallied around our theme of being student-centric and caring for student success. When I was talking to people, they always came to this point: "How does this help our students?"

TU, in the midst of all the turbulence that's happening in higher education, is doing the fundamentals really well and unwaveringly. Things like student retention—everybody can only dream of the numbers like TU has. And the second piece is four-year graduation. You graduate your students on time. That means a lot, especially in a transformational institution like TU. That means lower student debt, increased capacity for transformation. These are fundamental to some of the work that we do. Yes, intellectual pursuit is what a university is going to seek to excel in, but over time, these important factors also have become defining for the university's strength. And I found TU to be extremely strong in those areas.

Q: What were your thoughts on CBE in particular?

A: When you come in from the outside, you look at the faculty profile: where the faculty are from, what kind of work they are doing in terms of research. When I started talking to them, the incredible passion that they all had in terms of serving the students, I think that is the key if you want to make a transformational impact on your students, engage with the community or create societal impact—faculty support. In a university, they take a lot of ownership in terms of the intellectual power, the curriculum and inspiring our students. The students come back to see not the dean, they come back to see the faculty.

A peripheral example in how that translates into student success is how technology has been a guiding factor for business success in the last several years. There is always a call to make newer technologies embedded in the curriculum so that our students become workforce ready and have in-demand skills. When I looked at the curriculum and asked around, I was amazed by the extent of technology that's been embedded into the curriculum. CBE's culture of being forward-looking and improving continuously was very impressive.

Q: What are some areas where you think CBE has the potential to grow?

A: The current generation of students and generations to come are going to be different types of learners than what we were as learners. One of the strongest things that I advocate is that the only reason students come to campus cannot be just to attend classes. We need to give strong reasons in terms of experiential learning, co-curricular activities on campus that the students feel really enthused about and want to be part of. So that's a big push.

The other great opportunity is engaging with the alums. We have just scratched the surface in my view. I've created a framework to work on how we create a base right before they leave and bring them back for engagement, which should lead to advocacy and philanthropy.



towson.edu/prabakar
for more of this interview



Moving On Up



TU has sparked countless innovators. These are their stories.

Brian Boring '01

Vice President of Global Brand Creative, Under Armour

What began as an interest in architecture and a love for art transformed into more than 20 years on the creative team at Baltimore-based sportswear behemoth Under Armour. Boring is the company's vice president of global brand creative, supporting the creative vision and future of the brand.

Boring's adolescence was filled with artistic projects, from silk screening to designing for his high school art department. He knew art was a hobby, but he didn't realize it could be a profession.

"I didn't come to TU knowing I wanted to get into graphic design—it was my dad who helped me get there," he says. "When I was contemplating dropping out of college, I'll never forget my dad calling me up and saying, 'There's this new field called graphic design—you can actually make a career out of all that stuff you're interested in.' I went to the head of the art department at TU as soon as I could."

At 24, Boring responded to a classified ad in the newspaper and has been with Under Armour ever since.

1977



BORN IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

1996

ACCEPTS A SCHOLARSHIP FROM TU.

1999

DETERMINES HIS PATH IS GRAPHIC DESIGN AND CHANGES HIS MAJOR AT TU TO VISUAL COMMUNICATION WITH A TRACK IN GRAPHIC DESIGN.

"I immediately immersed myself in the field and met some really great people in my classes. I went all in and that opened a tremendous number of doors for me and put me on the path to where I am today."

1999

STUDIES ART HISTORY IN ITALY FOR SIX WEEKS AND LEARNS ARTISTIC EXPRESSION.

"It changed me profoundly. All of a sudden, I knew that art wasn't just something you did as a hobby; it's a lasting symbol and projection of the human experience. It was really powerful."

2002

INTERVIEWS AT UNDER ARMOUR FOR THE ROLE OF GRAPHIC DESIGNER AND, WHILE IN NEW ORLEANS FOR MARDI GRAS, GETS THE JOB AND DRIVES HOME TO START THE VERY NEXT DAY.

"My answer for everything was always yes. I think that's what helped me. I knew what it felt like to be lost and to be struggling, and if I just keep going with the yes attitude, everything is going to work out."

2001



GRADUATED WITH A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN VISUAL COMMUNICATION AND GRAPHIC DESIGN.

"The classmates I was with really pushed each other. There was an inherent trust and camaraderie. The alumni and those relationships were really powerful. A lot of it had to do with us having an underdog mentality."

2006

HARNESSES HIS TALENT AS AN ART DIRECTOR.

"My actual talent as a designer had a ceiling on it, but I knew I had an innate ability to lead people and to build teams. As the projects become more and more complex, it takes dozens of people to execute the creative vision."

2010

TRANSITIONS FROM ART DIRECTOR TO SENIOR CREATIVE DIRECTOR AT UNDER ARMOUR.

"I transitioned out of being a doer and more of a leader and executive producer to create vision."

2014



BECOMES UNDER ARMOUR'S VICE PRESIDENT OF GLOBAL BRAND CREATIVE.

"We kept our creative internal because we wanted to make sure the vision came from [founder Kevin Plank] and through the folks really close to the brand. That's remained fairly consistent."

2025



REMAINS AN UNDERDOG AT HEART.

"To this day when I speak with alumni, there's truly this underdog mentality. A lot of successful people come out of TU. It's a super rad story—it's part of my ethos, Baltimore's ethos and Under Armour's ethos. We're a world-renowned brand that's out of a little town on the East Coast that everyone forgets about—that's badass."

2022



ACCEPTS OFFER TO BE AN ADJUNCT FACULTY MEMBER IN TU'S COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS, TEACHING BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP.

"I really enjoyed being able to contribute to the university, and it allowed me to connect with students in a way I didn't have the opportunity to before."

Breaking new ground, complementing
current knowledge and leading to
solutions for the public good.

Research



FAKE RIGHT, BREAK LEFT!

The Cognition, Regulation & Affective Biopsychology Lab is dedicated to the study of cognitive and emotional processes.

With his peers, experimental psychology student Sebastian Tanguay '26 is researching attentional control—the manner in which people's attention is directed—and how the brain works through conflict.

**“The work gives
you the sense
that you’re doing
something
important for
the world.”**

Tanguay is utilizing the basketball concept of head faking, a deceptive move in which a player pretends to shoot or pass the ball when, in reality, they are sending it in the opposite direction. A player uses their head and eyes, ideally tricking the opposing player into reacting.

Tanguay is studying how fast participants in the study can react to a visual representation of a head fake and determine the correct way the ball is going—all to better understand human attentional control.

SOCIAL AMOEBAS

Michelle Snyder, Ph.D., is supporting student research of bacterial resistance to the immune system.

Through close mentorship, students are studying strains of uropathogenic *E. coli*—bacteria that can cause urinary tract infections. A protein made by these bacteria essentially turns down the immune system, rendering a patient susceptible to infection or autoimmune issues.

In August, Snyder earned an R-16 grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Over the course of the next four years, the grant will enable Snyder to expand the labs she runs on bacterial resistance.

Seed funding Snyder earned through the Office of Sponsored Research, the Office of Undergraduate Research and the Provost Research Fellows Program at TU provided her with the funds to write for the grant.

Snyder's implementation of the grant is also supporting a pipeline of doctoral candidates through the Bridges Program. Soon, a post-doc fellow will join the lab to help train the next cohort of lab members.

SYSTEMS TO COMBAT SUICIDALITY

Rae W. Hartman Haight '28 joined TU's Autism Studies Doctoral Program



to research and elevate necessary changes in crisis support for autistic people.

While working in a group home for adults with developmental disabilities and in peer-support groups for autistic adults, Hartman Haight learned about the challenges autistic people have experienced when seeking support while in crisis.

After scouring the internet, he did not find any crisis support that existed specifically for autistic people but found a great deal of research indicating that it should. So, he set out on a path to learn more and has since worked with faculty at TU and beyond to conduct a secondary analysis on interview data with autistic people in decision-making roles.

Hartman Haight hopes to continue this research and develop funding to create Autistic Lifeline, a unique, peer-led crisis support for autistic adults.



Rising to the Top

★ GYMNASTICS

Before Jay Ramirez '03 coached one of the top collegiate gymnastics teams, he was a TU marketing major with a passion for the sport. While in high school, the Westminster, Maryland, native shifted from competing to coaching so he could earn spending money, and he'd grown to love it so much that in his first month at TU he asked to shadow then-coach Dick Filbert. Over time he became an essential part of the team, and by his senior year, he'd earned a spot as assistant coach.

The job put him in proximity with recent German Olympic gymnast Gabi Weller '00, who was on TU's roster at the time. The two worked well together, and Weller helped Ramirez get a summer job coaching the

German junior national team. That led to a post-graduation gig coaching top collegiate gymnasts at Chelsea Piers in New York, which led to an elite coaching position at Hills Gymnastics—the training facility known for launching Dominique Dawes. Eventually Ramirez's Maryland roots brought him back to Towson, and in 2019 he returned to the TU squad—this time as head coach.

He quickly brought on associate head coach Ashley LeVine, and together they began envisioning TU's rise.

"We asked the athletes what they wanted to achieve, then we built a plan to help them get there," Ramirez says.

Get there they did. In Ramirez and LeVine's first year coaching, TU gymnastics climbed 10 spots in the national rankings and earned a 5-1 home record before COVID ended the season. The following year, they jumped an additional 20 spots and qualified for the NCAA Tournament. In 2023, they racked up an astounding 33 wins to take home the East Atlantic Gymnastics League (EAGL) championship for the first time in TU history. The team earned the regular season EAGL title in 2024 and repeated the accomplishment in 2025, sending two gymnasts to the NCAA Tournament and tying

for the most regular-season victories in the country.

"I'm a big believer in visualization," Ramirez says. "As coaches, we provide the path, and we cheer our athletes on as they walk that path. But they have the vision, and they do the work to get there."

When the 2026 season kicks off Jan. 4, Tigers fans can look forward to watching All-American Isabella Minervini and her six fellow seniors lead the team alongside a promising group of up-and-coming gymnasts hungry for a championship. And who knows—there may be a young gymnastics fan in the stands watching, learning and waiting to one day take TU even higher.



SOPHIE THIBEAULT'S '27
goal in a 3–1 loss to Stony Brook on Oct. 2 propelled her into the women's soccer program's top 25 in career points.



SYDNEY STEWART '25
won three-straight Coastal Athletic Association (CAA) defensive player of the week honors after helping the volleyball team to two straight-sets wins over UNCW in early October.



JOHN DUNMORE
made an 18-yard catch with 28 seconds left to help TU football win the Battle for Greater Baltimore in a 27-22 win over Morgan State on Sept. 6.



SKY AUNG '27
placed eighth at the Red Flash Invitational golf tournament, jumping 14 spots on the leaderboard on the final day.



Tom Foster, co-founder of Diamondback Brewing Co.

Doc's Hops Benefits TU Student-Athletes

Baltimore-based Diamondback Brewing Co. has introduced Doc's Hops, a new pale ale with a catchy name. Each sip goes to a great cause: 10% of the proceeds of each sale benefit TU student-athletes. The beer is a 4.4% light pale ale, with medium bitterness and hops and fruit flavors. Inspired by TU's longtime mascot, Doc the Tiger, Doc's Hops honors the university's first athletics director, Donald "Doc" Minnegan, and is available at basketball and football games to those 21 or older.



WOMENS BASKETBALL

It's Hoops Season

In the 2025–26 CAA Women's Basketball Preseason Poll, TU was picked to finish seventh with 79 total points. TU guard India Johnston was named a Coastal Athletic Association (CAA) Preseason All-CAA Second Team selection. Johnston paced the Tigers last season with 12.5 points per game on 37.4% shooting from the field, adding a team-best 2.5 assists.

MENS BASKETBALL

First Pick

Men's basketball was picked to finish first by the coaches in the CAA preseason poll, receiving seven of the 13 first place votes. Tyler Tejada, one of five conference players of the year to return to his school, was named the Preseason Player of the Year. Tejada is joined by Dylan Williamson as unanimous Preseason All-CAA First Team selections.

FOOTBALL

Kicking Up a Fuss

TU punter Bryce LaFollette was named a semifinalist for the William V. Campbell Trophy®. It's awarded by the National Football Foundation (NFF) and recognizes an individual as the best scholar-athlete in the nation for combined academic success, football performance and exemplary leadership.

ATHLETICS DEPT.

A Gameday BFF

The athletics department has launched a Gameday App, powered by SIDEARM Sports and Fanmaker. Featuring real-time news alerts, schedules, exclusive multimedia content, gameday details and more, the new Towson Gameday App is free and compatible with both iOS and Android devices.

History in Our Own Backyard

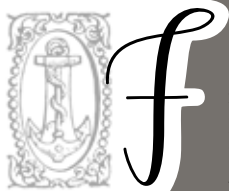
Professors **Kelly Gray** and **Danny Mydlack** took sabbaticals to learn more about local history and share it with the world.



BY MEGAN BRADSHAW



BY LAUREN CASTELLANA '13, '23



From its founding as Maryland State Normal School in 1866, Towson University has been an anchor institution for Baltimore and the surrounding region. It was the first teacher training institution in Baltimore, created to meet the growing demand during the years immediately after the Civil War for formally trained, high-quality educators throughout the state.

It immediately opened a model school in Baltimore to provide low-cost

education to students while training its student-teachers; four of the first seven principals became local supervisors or state superintendents of the Maryland school system. Physical education faculty member Donald "Doc" Minnegan developed curricula and best practices for state and regional K-12 fitness programs and school faculty and staff supported local efforts during both world wars, organizing first aid training, rolling bandages and collecting

supplies for U.S. troops. By 1960, when the university became a liberal arts institution, the school had graduated or certified nearly 9,600 teachers, many of whom stayed to educate tens of thousands of Maryland schoolchildren.

Which is why when electronic media and film professor Danny Mydlack and history professor Kelly Gray recently completed sabbaticals focused on Baltimore and state history, it was a full-circle moment.



This lithograph depicting Baltimore Harbor is from the mid-1800s. (Right) Professor Kelly Gray sits inside the Robert Long House in Fells Point reading the book that inspired a young Frederick Douglass.



The idea of faculty sabbaticals has been around since 1880, when it was instituted at Harvard University. Leaves of six months to a year give faculty members a chance to develop their research, devise new teaching methods or focus on creative growth. TU faculty members have a deep connection to their students, so it's natural that what faculty discovers while on sabbatical will be transferred to their classrooms and benefit their students.

Danny Mydlack didn't yet know that

he says. "It was attached—by a hose cord about the thickness of a vacuum cleaner hose—to the recorder, which was around the size of a wheelie suitcase."

Despite its bulk, this new technology caught on and changed not only filmmaking but also Mydlack's life trajectory.

"I was already a painter and a drawer," he says. "But the camera became like my backstage pass, so to speak, at the show of life, where you had an excuse to be hanging out on a sunny

think catamarans, trimarans—that has a lineage going back thousands of years in the South Pacific. The nonagenarian has built a life sailing around the world and embracing the cultures he found. Brown has been legally blind his entire life.

In his classes, Mydlack has ample examples of his own work to demonstrate principles and techniques to his students.

"If you can use your own film, then you can say with complete authority,

'Look at this shot. Let me tell you what you don't see,'" he says. "Or 'Let me tell you how lucky I got here.' Or 'If you want to shoot like this, here's the little trick I used.'"

Mydlack, who always works alone, now films with a 360-degree camera attached to a 12-foot pole that enables

him to shoot the novel angles and different distances that are key elements in documentary filmmaking.

"The camera sees 360 degrees around in a sphere, and it records that, so you don't have to point the camera. Then you edit later," Mydlack says.



MYDLACK DESCRIBES HIS FILM, "BLACK CHESAPEAKE," IN PART, AS A PORTRAIT OF ASANTE'S MIND.

his future would be in academia when, at about 10 years old, his elementary school was chosen as part of a pilot program for a new technology: the video camera.

"The camera was a square about the size of a large, four-slice toaster,"

day on a street corner or poking your nose into an alleyway."

During Mydlack's prior sabbatical, he shot and edited "Outriggers," an award-winning documentary about Jim Brown, one of the modern innovators of the multi-hulled boat—



Danny Mydlack (right) met Marcus Assante (left) in a boat chandlery. Their conversation inspired Mydlack's latest documentary, "Black Chesapeake."

"We call it reframing. It allows a single person to get shots that you could never otherwise get—even with a big budget—economically and efficiently."

Mydlack was shopping for boat parts at a ship chandlery when the subject of his current sabbatical film walked up and said, "I have a story to tell, and I think you should tell it."

The man was Marcus Asante, and he wanted to share his experience as a Black sailor and how it fit into the larger tradition of Black people who are deeply tied to the Chesapeake Bay in a variety of ways.

Asante is the founder of Universal Sailing Club, which calls itself the only African American sailing club on the East Coast. He has a deep commitment to maritime education and decades of experience in boat maintenance, marine systems and boat sales. He has braided his abilities and passions into the Marine Arts Workshop, land- and sea-based programs he founded that provide life and trade skills to youth and young adults.

"Over time, I realized how intelligent, resourceful and talented [Mydlack] is in filmmaking and in teaching," Asante says. "The way he talked to me, I can almost see him in the classroom. I could see his deep love and care for the subject and for the outcome of the film."

"I felt it was important to share the legacy of the boatman who knows the ancestors, who knows the shared history and the modern story. I had been in Baltimore for over 30 years, and I felt it was time for me to extend my own experiences to do that."

Mydlack describes his film, "Black Chesapeake," in part, as a portrait of Asante's mind.

"Marcus had this jumble of passions that he saw as all of one cloth," Mydlack says. "Right from the get-go, I chose to see it as a fabulous collage that within would have a sense of meaning and honor."

He and Asante filmed in six locations: the Seafarers' Yacht Club's annual regatta in Annapolis; spots on the



Each year in the fall the Seafarers' Yacht Club, founded more than 50 years ago by working-class Black men, holds a two-day regatta for its members.



Images from "Black Chesapeake" courtesy of Danny Mydlack



Choptank River on Maryland's Eastern Shore used by Harriet Tubman as part of the Underground Railroad; the headwaters of the bay near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; the Souls at Sea Celebration in St. Michael's, Maryland; the Dartmouth, Massachusetts, Historical Society, interviewing scholar and activist Lee Blake about prominent Underground Railroad conductor Nathan Johnson, who helped Frederick Douglass find freedom; and Cuttyhunk Island off the coast of Massachusetts, which was the home of Capt. Paul Cuffe, a Black American shipowner and an influential figure in the 19th-century movement to resettle free Black Americans in Africa.

"Everything I shot turned out to be a revelation," Mydlack says. "The Seafarers' Yacht Club members dressing up in uniform and extravagant and disciplined boat parades just for themselves. The Souls at Sea ceremony overseen by an African holy man to appease and celebrate the living ghosts of the waters. Even Marcus' story of kayaking in the Inner Harbor, between sugar freighters where he could easily have been run over or killed."

But a constant throughout the film is Asante, a man Mydlack called his chaperone to the Black Chesapeake.

"Marcus embodies some of the core unresolvable class tensions of the city of Baltimore," Mydlack says. "For the last 100 years on the Chesapeake, boating and yachting has been seen as a very exclusive, expensive insiders' club that is traditionally white."

"People of color not only have worked the waters of the Chesapeake, but there are a lot of Black watermen and people that support Black water businesses," he says. "There are also and have been people of adventure, of achievement, of poetic grace. We just don't know about them. In some ways, theirs is a much more vibrant history because they've been doing it against all odds."

Frederick Douglass plays a role in Mydlack's documentary footage and

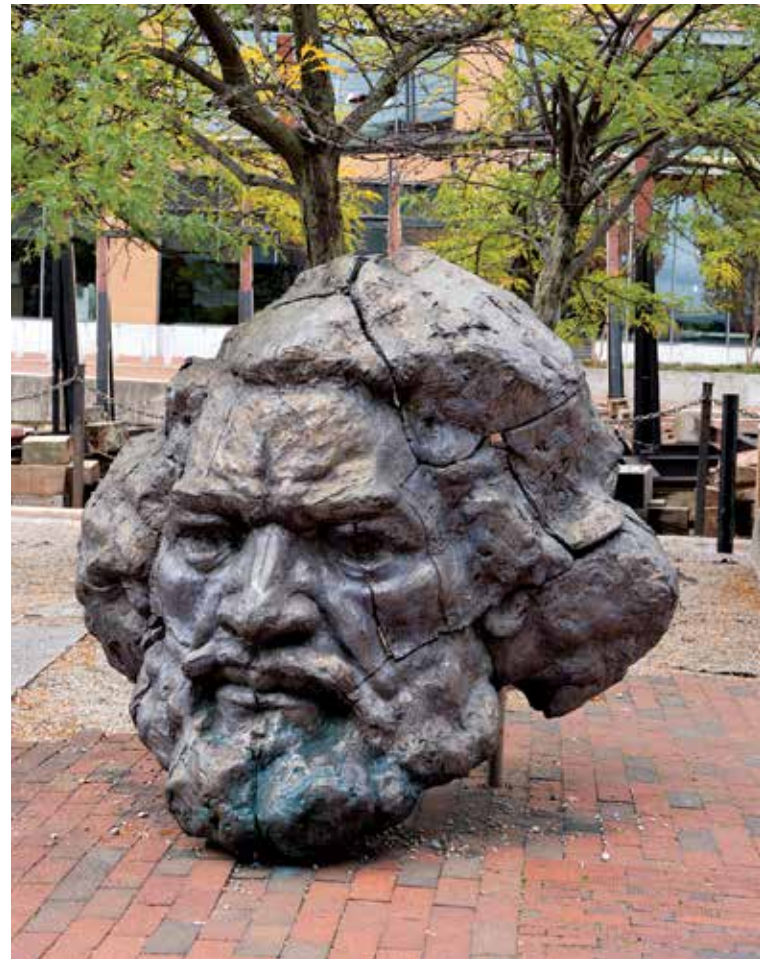
has a place in the manuscript evolving from Kelly Gray's sabbatical work on Baltimore City in the 1820s–1840s.

"Frederick Douglass bought a book at a bookstore in Fells Point in his early teens," Gray says. "And when he ran away, this is one of the few things he took with him. It helped him learn to read and contained arguments against slavery, so it almost certainly was important in helping him develop his ideas and speeches."

The bookstore's address, No. 28 Thames Street, remains and is now home to the Thames Street Oyster House (renumbered 1728). Other buildings still standing sentinel that Gray has researched include the University of Maryland–Baltimore's medical college building, now called Davidge Hall, and the Robert Long House, at 812 S. Ann St. Built in 1765, it is the oldest surviving residence in the original city limits. She notes other places have disappeared entirely, like the Marquis de Lafayette's tent site during the American Revolution, on top of which presently stands the Baltimore Basilica—whose primary construction phase ended in 1821.

A few years ago, Gray came across a liberal arts capstone course at TU on the topic "Edgar Allan Poe's Baltimore" and was intrigued. Reviewing available literature, she noticed slices of Baltimore life being covered—like the beginning of Poe's short story writing career in the early 1830s. But the native Baltimorean sensed a larger story.

"There was nothing that really looked at the whole city at that time," Gray says. "I thought that would be



This sculpture is a six-foot-tall, textured bronze bust by Marc Andre Robinson on the waterfront off Thames Street in Frederick Douglass-Isaac Myers Maritime Park in Fells Point.



The Thames Street Oyster House occupies the location of a bookshop where a young, enslaved Frederick Douglass bought a copy of "The Columbian Orator," which taught him about freedom and resistance and gave him the rhetorical tools he needed later in life. Professor Kelly Gray stands in front of the sallyport behind the Robert Long House, which is the oldest surviving residence in the original city limits.

an interesting story to tell; not just of what was going on but how different people related to each other, the city's geography, and, in antebellum Baltimore, we see the main themes for the whole country."

Gray cited concepts like the transportation revolution playing out in building the B&O Railroad to compete with the Erie Canal and slavery and abolition as seen through the conflict between Maryland being a slave state but having enough opposition to maintain a healthy abolitionist newspaper.

"I've always been deeply interested in writing, and history is what I do," she says, "but I really like helping students develop the skills to do solid research and writing. That will help them at Towson and beyond. Also, it is important to me to emphasize that things are knowable and then teach how to know and communicate them."

In her research, Gray is often captivated by information that seems like something small, but when she pulls a thread, unravels into a much bigger (and occasionally gossipy) story.

"I found one item announcing that

the son of the man who owned the nicest hotel in town had married the daughter of a local wealthy family," Gray says. A wedding announcement may seem run of the mill, but then she "found that their subsequent divorce had been widely written about [then] because it was a significant case. Their reason for divorce didn't fall into the existing legal grounds. But one of her lawyers was Roger Taney, who later joined the Supreme Court. The divorce was granted."

The deeper she digs into her research, the more she sees evidence that the Baltimore and Baltimoreans of today aren't that different than those in the early 1800s.

"The neighborhoods we see today had started to form," Gray says. "In fact, The Baltimore Sun was established in 1837 in Oldtown [today bordered by Orleans Street to the south and Eager Street to the north], and people were not buying the paper in Fells Point because they thought they would have to come all the way over to Oldtown. The paper had to run ads saying they'll deliver."

And while antebellum Baltimore

doesn't hold a candle to the quirky reputation the city has today, the seeds were already being sown. Citizens enjoyed their horse racing, but they also enjoyed attending museums of oddities and seeing Apollo, the dog who could play dominoes.

Gray is still in her research phase, but she does have a goal for what she wants readers to take away from her writing.

"In the era I'm studying, Baltimore was the third-largest city in the country," she says. "Just prior to this period, on his presidential inaugural tour, George Washington had proclaimed Baltimore as the 'risingest' town in America. History doesn't have to be about a war, a huge theme like the American West or a famous political leader to be a good read. Sometimes you can find a fascinating story in your own backyard." **TU**



towson.edu/sabbaticals to learn more on the professors' projects

A WARRIOR FOR

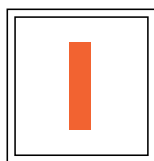


THE WOUNDED

Jenna Link '07 puts her heart and soul into advocating for those who are injured serving their country.

✎ BY MIKE UNGER

📷 BY LAUREN CASTELLANA '13, '23



It's only Tuesday, but Jenna Link '07 already has had a hell of a week. It started yesterday with her standard 6 a.m. Monday call, during which she learned of all casualties, significant injuries and illnesses of active U.S. Navy personnel in the past week. Later that day, she attended a meeting at the Pentagon during which eligibility for the Gold Star Program, which provides services and support to the families of armed forces personnel who die on active duty, was debated.

Today, Sept. 30, the Washington Commanders' Jayden Daniels was supposed to be at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda to visit with members of the Navy Wounded Warrior program, which helps sailors and Coast Guardsmen with injuries—physical or psychological—with their non-medical care needs. But the star quarterback sprained his knee a few weeks earlier and had to reschedule.

Now Link, 41, who leads both programs for the Navy, is dealing with myriad scenarios that could arise if a potential government shutdown becomes a reality at midnight.

(Spoiler alert: It did.) Despite all that, she manages to focus on what she says is the most important part of her job: the people she and the programs she runs serve.

"You're dealing with people who are going through the most traumatic times of their lives," she says. "It's going to be challenging, so you have to learn to deal with these situations on the fly and handle them the best you can. I charge my team with operating in the above and beyond, always encouraging them to go that extra mile for our [people]. How can we help? How can we make it better?"

Lately, she's been answering that question by implementing support groups for families of service members who lost their lives to suicide. Of the more than 200 deaths annually among active Navy personnel, Link says approximately half are due to suicide. Currently, of the roughly 8,700 survivors the Navy Gold Star Program manages, 2,100 have lost their loved one to suicide.

She's discussing all this with empathy, anguish—and a little stress—in her voice outside one of Walter Reed's five Fisher Houses. The facilities, each of which have private bedrooms and bathrooms and a common kitchen,

laundry room, dining room and living room, are funded by a private foundation and provide a free place for the families of active-duty service members and veterans to stay while their loved one undergoes medical treatment or rehabilitation. They're one part of countless ways that Link and the programs she manages lend a helping hand.

"She's very smart, and she listens," says Michael Ybarra, who was general manager of Walter Reed's Fisher Houses until he retired in October. "We know—and everyone who stays here knows—that she cares."

Link proudly describes herself as an Air Force brat. Her father, Walt, served in both the Navy and the Air Force. She grew up on military bases in places like Millington, Tennessee; San Antonio and Las Vegas before the family settled in Maryland when she was in fourth grade. Her naturally outgoing and caring manner, which would come to serve her so well in her professional life, paid off in her childhood as well; unlike many kids in military families, she relished moving frequently and making new friends.

After earning her associate degree, she followed a friend to TU, where she majored in business



Photo courtesy of Kayla Saska



Image by the Defense Visual Information Distribution Service courtesy of Travis Wyatt

Kayla Saska has competed in wheelchair rugby, basketball, archery, shooting and field events at the Warrior Games. Travis Wyatt has competed in archery, precision air rifle, swimming and cycling. Both credit Link for helping in their recoveries.

administration with a concentration in marketing. She studied abroad in Panama and says that she enjoyed her TU experience.

"The business communications, strategic planning, those kinds of courses were huge in what I'm doing today," she says. "I'm briefing three- and four-star admirals regularly, sometimes with just moments notice. My education was instrumental in my ability and confidence to perform my job."

During and after college Link worked full-time for the clothing company Aeropostale. She rose through the management ranks, landing a general store manager position before joining a defense contractor, which led to her career with the Navy.

After a dozen years in various roles, in 2022 she was charged with running the Casualty Support Programs branch at Commander, Navy Installation Command, overseeing the Navy's Wounded Warrior, Gold Star and Fisher House programs. For the Air Force brat and wife of a disabled veteran, the job is intensely personal.

Her husband, Nathan, was injured during a deployment in Iraq. He also suffers from PTSD and a litany of other maladies from his time in the U.S.

Army. He credits his wife's positivity, charisma and leadership for helping him navigate the system when he returned home.

"She is my rock," he says. "In my mind I thought, 'I've got all my limbs; I'm not in a wheelchair.' So I didn't think there was anything wrong. But she knew that I definitely needed some help."

**[NAVY WOUNDED
WARRIOR] OFFERS
THEM A TAILORED PLAN
TO ENHANCE THEIR
RECOVERY AND
PREPARE THEM
FOR CIVILIAN LIFE.**

Seeing her husband fight through his issues—some days are better than others—motivates Link.

"I constantly want to do more," she says. "I have sympathy, but I've seen a lot of incredible success stories. You may be disabled, but you're still able. You're still able to do so many things."

The Navy Gold Star Program was established in 2014 and charged with providing long-term support to families of sailors who die on active duty. It works with the spouse, children, parents and siblings of the deceased service members to connect survivors to each other, offer counseling, financial planning, employment assistance and many other services.

Six years earlier, Congress mandated the creation of the Navy Wounded Warrior program as a way for the branch to manage the non-medical care of seriously wounded, ill or injured sailors and Coast Guardsmen. It offers them a tailored plan to enhance their recovery and ensure they are prepared for their likely transition to civilian life.

"Service members enrolled in the program have serious illnesses and/or injuries and are very unlikely to return to full duty, so we focus on successfully transitioning them," Link says. "Whether that's working on their resumes, setting new career goals, offering financial planning assistance, we make sure that their new normal, whatever that may look like for them, is set up should they medically retire from the Navy."

There are about 900 active-duty sailors and Coast Guardsman in the program for reasons including combat injuries, mishaps aboard a ship, cancer,



This display sits in the lobby of aa Fisher House at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

motor vehicle accidents—you name it. Each week the program reviews about 40 new cases.

Kayla Saska became one of those cases six years ago. While deployed in Japan, she suffered traumatic brain injury and hurt her back and lower extremities while fixing missile radar equipment aboard the USS McCampbell. She underwent numerous surgeries at Walter Reed from 2022 to 2025.

"If I didn't encounter Wounded Warriors when I did, I would be really lost," says Saska, 27. "I had no family or friends in the area. They were able to help get my family to the area. For every surgery, they were able to help me get a little bit of responsibility off my shoulders and made the focus just about me and the mission of getting better."

During her recovery, Saska began participating in the Warrior Games, an adaptive sport competition for disabled veterans. She's competed in wheelchair rugby, basketball, archery, shooting and field events. The competition has impacted her in fundamental ways.

"When people say that [the Wounded Warrior program] saves lives, they're not joking," she says. "It truly changed my life by giving me a different outlook. You go from what your normal was to what your normal is and you make the most of it."

It certainly changed Travis Wyatt's life. In July 2020, he was injured in the

USS Bonhomme Richard fire in San Diego while across a pier onboard the USS Fitzgerald. Wyatt, whose nickname is JIGSAW—his call sign for his 13 years in the Navy—suffered blast trauma to his head, chest, back and brain. After the incident, he was lost in limited duty status until, he says, adaptive sports with the Navy Wounded Warrior program showed him a new way forward. He met Link at the 2022 Warrior Games, at which he competed in archery, precision air rifle, swimming and cycling.

"Any warrior that gets the chance to talk to her, she 100% focuses on that warrior," he says. "She is not thinking about something else. She's interested in hearing what you have to say about what's good, what's bad and how it could be better."

Wyatt, 44, a married father of two, struggled with depression and anxiety that he says may have overtaken him had it not been for his recovery care coordinator and team at the Navy Wounded Warrior program.

"I'm forever in their debt because they actually care about helping injured service members recover and find that, yes, our careers may end, but there's other stuff that can keep us active," he says. "It created a path for me to keep living instead of surviving." **TU**



Convergence

“IF EVERYONE IS THINKING THE SAME, THEN SOMEONE ISN'T THINKING.”

That line is frequently attributed to U.S. Army Gen. George Patton, thought to have been spoken in one of his many motivational speeches to soldiers in 1944. In the ensuing eight decades, it has become shorthand for leaders in nearly every industry.

One way to avoid following a single point of view to its inevitable conclusion is to change who is in the discussion. The terms interdisciplinary collaboration and cross-disciplinary teams have become ubiquitous in academic settings in the last 30 years, but TU has made this type of cross-collaboration part of its mission. So much so, the university designed and built an entire campus facility around the idea: the Health Professions Building, a state-of-the-art structure that creates opportunities for students to engage in teamwork and develop the communication skills essential for success in the integrated health care teams they'll find in the real world.

Interdisciplinary collaboration occurs across campus every day. TU's collective of special interest groups (SIGs) is one way that happens. Housed administratively within the Fisher College of Science & Mathematics and the School of Emerging Technologies, SIGs are designed to promote information exchange, resource sharing and collaboration among faculty, staff and students from different departments, colleges and administrative branches.

Past SIGs have examined ideas and technologies including accessibility, Big Data analysis techniques and geospatial information systems (GIS) and environmental informatics as it pertains to environmental science.

A look at four of the collaborations shows that the range and dynamism of their predecessors live on.

TU's special interest groups are designed to exchange resources and information and build cross-discipline collaboration.

 **BY MEGAN BRADSHAW**



THROUGH *Divergence*



DESIGN THINKING

Liyan Song, a professor in TU's Department of Learning Technologies, Design and School Library Media was part of the initial cohort of the Design Thinking SIG in fall 2022.

Design thinking research and practice has gained much attention in the past decade or so in a variety of learning contexts, particularly in the STEAM fields. It is a human-centered approach to problem-solving that leans on collaboration between diverse teams to develop user-focused products, services and strategies. TU's Design Thinking SIG would like to promote this perspective through its collaborative research, practices and networking endeavors.

"Our SIG members include faculty from the disciplines of anthropology, educational technology, instructional design, machine learning and software engineering," Song says. "We see the potential of interdisciplinary collaboration on promoting the integration of design thinking in teaching and the application of design thinking in interdisciplinary research."

Members of the SIG have engaged in a collaborative self-study and iteratively developed four design thinking cases in education, anthropology, software engineering and machine learning. The results of their research have been published as a book chapter. Song and her colleagues are actively seeking funding opportunities to support the creation of a design thinking curriculum for TU students.

Not all their work is theoretical. The SIG members have been exploring ways to integrate design thinking in their teaching practices when appropriate to provide richer opportunities for TU students.





DIGITAL HUMANITIES

Conversations in fall 2024 came to fruition in spring 2025 when associate history professor Vicky McAlister, performing arts librarian Christina Gibson and digital archivist Jasmine Malone began to collaborate on promoting and supporting the digital humanities classes, programs and interests across campus.

This group explores digital tools and methods to enhance teaching or research in disciplines concerned with

the experience of being human. It also distributes information about publication/presentation opportunities, provides opportunities to request Cook Library investment in digital-humanities-related resources and brainstorms ways to develop a digital humanities major for TU students.

"I'm the only faculty member with a specific job role in digital humanities, and what

I realized was how many people across campus in the different colleges do something that can tap into the digital humanities," McAlister says. "My motivation was to de-silo the university and faculty teaching and research interests."

The SIG has started holding workshops in various aspects of digital humanities, including a September seminar in using ArcGIS technology—a platform for users to manage, visualize and share information using GIS software—to enhance storytelling. McAlister already uses it in her classes and brought volunteer students to the group's second meeting to show off their work for faculty to see how they may incorporate the tool in their pedagogy.

"One thing about trying to break down silos is that someone or some group of people have to lead it,"

Malone says. "This is a unique group in the way that we are already doing work across the different colleges and the different departments, where we have a mindset of being able to find those opportunities to bring people together in ways that they might not think about."

Malone, Gibson and their library colleagues have an overarching view on digital humanities work on campus. The library staff has helped students put together oral histories and StoryMaps for the Unearthing Towson's History project, and their existing and expanding digital collection is available for coursework or research. Malone is also planning ways to use digital visualization tools to display materials that exist within the university archives in interesting ways.

"The focus on collaborative work, on working across disciplines in a way that's productive and that recognizes different people's labor and seeks to value that...those are not principles that you see celebrated in the humanities all the time," Gibson says. "Digital humanists would define a lot of what people are doing here as digital humanities, even if they themselves would not define it that way. So expanding the umbrella and allowing people to identify with this way of thinking is important to us."



IMAGINING AMERICA

This group supports all faculty and staff interested in interdisciplinary collaboration and creatively reimagining their teaching, practice and scholarship in partnership with Imagining America (IA), a consortium that brings together scholars, artists, designers, humanists and organizers to imagine, study and enact a more just and liberatory America and world. TU's chapter is a collaboration between BTU, the Faculty Academic Center of Excellence at Towson (FACET), the Office of Civic

Engagement and Social Responsibility (CESR) and the School of Emerging Technologies.

Prior to the COVID pandemic, TU had been an institutional member of IA, and two years ago, Romy Hübler and Morna McNulty paired up to reinstate the university's membership. Hübler, CESR director, and McNulty, professor of elementary education, are co-chairs, bringing administrative and academic acumen to their leadership.

"It all goes back to the mission of [CESR]. We want to make sure that people feel they matter, they're valued for who they are, for their stories and experiences," Hübler says. "The other piece is to think about the approaches we're using in our programs or classes that get in the way of us feeling that connection. We're trained to just go, go, go, so it can be hard to pause and build those connections so that we can harness people's imagination and have them see a space for themselves."

The team aims to create a space where faculty and staff can come together and think about their practices, research, teaching, and where there is room for imagination and creativity.

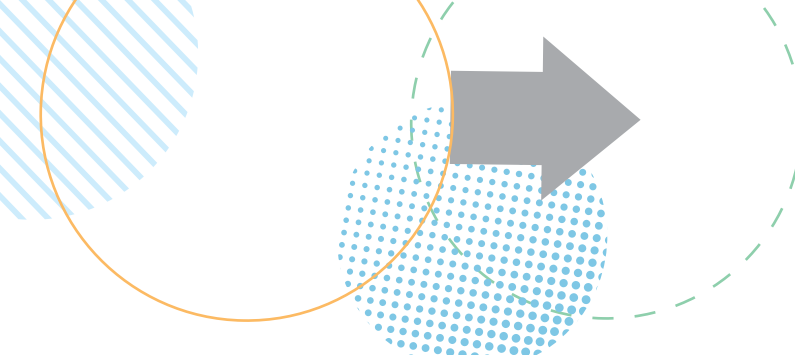
"The arts and creativity have everything to do with having a full toolbox to create the communities that we want to see," McNulty says, "and to embrace the sustainable practices that we know are important for democracy to not only survive but thrive."

Last academic year, the group held a series of workshops on campus where participants from multiple TU colleges as well as student affairs organizations, such as the Career, Military Veterans and Counseling centers among others, completed creative arts or creative community building exercises using the Imagining America workbook.

"We asked participants questions like, 'What does it mean to thrive in higher education today? What might that look like? How do you imagine things as they ought to be?'" says McNulty. "We hope folks walk away with connections in the

"WE HOPE FOLKS WALK AWAY WITH CONNECTIONS IN THE COMMUNITY THEY CAN BUILD ON AND HOPE FOR THE FUTURE."





community they can build on and hope for the future.”

While the co-chairs acknowledge the obstacles to such work, McNulty reports the participants came out of the workshops feeling positive and excited in ways they hadn’t been before. Buoyed by these early successes, Hübler and McNulty are in the planning phase of widening membership to include colleagues and supporters at UMBC and the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA).

The three universities together received an IA grant to enhance collaboration between them, and they created the B’More with Imagination Collaboratory to gather participants from all three campuses to share resources, continue workshoping and develop their ideas. As a result of this collaboration, Hübler has been chosen for a three-year term on the Imagining America advisory board.

“Engaging with the imagination and democratic practices matters to everybody,” McNulty says. “We have an opportunity to cross-pollinate our expertise, our interests, our knowledge, the things that we find are challenges, those things transcend our respective subject areas. It’s important, especially for those who don’t think that using the imagination is a logical fit for their respective fields of work, to see that their experiences also matter in the broader picture.”



SUSTAINABILITY

Associate geography professor Michael Allen and Feng Cheng, an assistant professor in the Department of Business Analytics and Technology Management, are the new chairs of the group, which is focused on creating interdisciplinary connections to support the growth of sustainability-related content within

the curriculum and research. They have continued the monthly meetings and interdisciplinary conversations around sustainability.

Cheng cites an example from their October meeting to illustrate this point. “We have a faculty member from the English department. And she developed a course on sustainability. Well, you may not learn this information until you have this meeting. Immediately, we had a huge chat on Zoom where people asked, ‘Is it possible that you can share your syllabus with us?’ and ‘I want to do something similar, and I do want to discuss this with you.’”

The group also maintains a Share-point site to upload resources and share information that has proven very popular, and Cheng and Allen would like to continue the speaking series begun by prior leadership. What they are primarily focusing on now is the university’s Sustainability and Climate Action Plan (SCAP), which aligns with the university’s new master plan.

“That’s never been done here before, so some of the work that we’ve taken on this semester is to promote opportunities for students, faculty and staff to engage in discussions arising from the plan,” Allen says. “We are also thinking about the curriculum: what are the barriers to integrating sustainability into classes and where are we already succeeding?”

Cheng and Allen were each drawn to this group because of the community aspect. And the different voices and perspectives with the membership have been part of what makes it solid.

“Sustainability crosses disciplines, sectors, geographies,” Allen says. “I ask the question often, ‘Sustainability for whom?’ You get very different answers based upon your audience. Those different disciplines have different lenses at which they interpret those words. But if we’re moving toward a more sustainable campus, community, nation, world, I think those discussions provide value.”

A SIG is an opportunity to get people together and imagine new possibilities by bouncing ideas off each other.



TU’S FOCUS on interdisciplinary education, research and collaboration benefits every member of the university community. It helps break down siloes between departments and divisions and makes works produced by faculty and staff more powerful. For students, even in specialized majors, interdisciplinary teams and attitudes guide them to a deeper understanding of how their majors related to other disciplines, better application of their knowledge in different contexts and more effective communication with people outside their fields. Well-rounded graduates are highly sought after in the job market as well because their ability to transfer their skills enables them to easily join professional communities.

The creation of the United States’ motto, E pluribus unum (out of many, one), may have been the country’s first call for interdisciplinary collaboration, and TU’s faculty and staff understand the assignment.

Every person spoken to for this article said something similar: Divergence leads to community.

“A SIG is an opportunity to get people in a room together and then imagine new possibilities by bouncing ideas off each other because everybody is smart in their own way,” Christina Gibson says. “When you put two people who are smart in different ways together then possibilities expand in an exponential way. And then everyone benefits.” **TU**



Casey Truly Cares

✎ BY MIKE UNGER

📷 BY LAUREN CASTELLANA '13, '23

Casey Baynes '98 has dedicated herself to ensuring sick children and their families know they have an ally in their battles with illness.

Mandy Bloodworth's world was upside down. Her then-7-year-old son, Liam Brown, had just had surgery to remove an ependymoma—a malignant brain tumor. Now he was recovering on the oncology floor; she was beside herself with worry. But Liam had something else on his mind.

"My son hated wearing hospital clothes," Bloodworth '03 says, laughing at the memory. It's now two years later, and Liam is doing great.

It may seem small, but to a kid suffering from a debilitating illness who's in the hospital, the little things matter. Clothing turned out to be one problem, among a million other ostensibly more serious ones, that his mom didn't have to deal with. Within a day, a brand-new set of pajamas arrived, courtesy of the Casey Cares Foundation.

"Just being able to wear pajamas made him feel like normal," Bloodworth

says. "And they were so cozy. He was so happy."

Infusing kids—even those in the worst of health circumstances—with joy is Casey Baynes' calling. She's the Casey who truly, with all her heart, cares. Since Baynes '98 started the foundation that bears her name and her mantra a quarter century ago, she's dedicated herself to ensuring that sick children and their families know that they're not alone in their battles.

Since its inception in 2000, more than a half million people have benefited from the foundation's efforts. Each year, it dispenses more than \$3 million in pajamas, birthday presents, tickets to sporting events and attractions like the National Aquarium and other gifts to families as well as provides programs like its Better Together Bereavement Circle group. The foundation serves more than 1,600 families a year in eight states and Washington, D.C., and statistically, every 15 minutes, Baynes says, the



Casey Cares Foundation lends a helping hand.

"It's that ongoing nature of our programs that we believe really gives the families the stability, the faith and the support that they need as they go through the journey," she says. "It's just so wonderful to be able to come into people's lives and make an impact. There are so many families who will say to us, 'I haven't seen my kids smile in months. And you made them laugh.' That is an amazing opportunity to be able to help."

Baynes is a Marylander through and through. She grew up in Harford County, where she spent winters playing basketball, springs on the softball diamond and summers in Ocean City. School was always a challenge for Baynes, who is dyslexic. Teachers either didn't understand or didn't care about her condition, but her parents were unrelentingly supportive.

"My mom always said, 'You can do anything in this world,'" she says.

Frustrated by people doubting her, she began taking classes at Harford Community College while she was still in high school. Computer science, with its seemingly never-ending series of zeros and ones, was beautifully logical to someone with dyslexia, she says.

Armed with both a high school diploma and an associate degree, she enrolled at what was then Western Maryland College (now McDaniel College) where she took pre-med courses with the goal of becoming an OB/GYN. But she pivoted, transferred to Salisbury University and earned her bachelor's degree in communication. After graduating she went to work for Grant A Wish as a program coordinator.

"It's interesting how the world works, right?" she says. "I grew up wanting to be a doctor. And then as we went on, I was like, 'Oh, that might not be my thing.' And then I get this great opportunity to work with the community and patients. And that's when I was like, 'Oh, my gosh. This is coming full circle.' Maybe it wasn't medicine, per se, but helping these families go through such tough times."

While working for her parents' trucking company, Baynes earned a master's degree from TU in liberal arts studies. She focused on marketing and public relations.

"The professors used their experience in the field and brought it to us," she says. "That approach worked so well for me."

During her time at TU, Baynes continued her lifelong pursuit of volunteering. It started with a push from her parents.

As a kid, Baynes didn't love going to church. She would do anything—sometimes hiding all her left shoes—to get out of it. Needless to say, it drove her dad crazy.

"He got tired of my games, and he's like, 'Fine, if you don't go to mass, then you have to volunteer in the hospital or at the food kitchen. You have to do something in the community before next week's mass,'" she says.

Baynes decided to help feed the

homeless. That experience sparked a lifelong love of community service. She continued volunteering through high school, college and grad school, and one night found herself cleaning bedpans at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

In one room, a kid told her that he'd love to meet a racecar driver. Baynes took it upon herself to call Dover Motor Speedway in Delaware. She recounted the story and asked if they would send a driver to visit the boy. What could be the worst that happens, she thought. They say no?

They said yes. The driver arrived in his jumpsuit, the kid went nuts and his parents cried. As Baynes stood back and watched the scene unfold, she heard a murmur from behind the curtain that divided the room in two.

"I hear a voice say, 'I wish I had cancer. Maybe I'd get cool stuff too,'" she recalls. "My first reaction was, 'Who says that?' And then I walked around the curtain, and I looked over, and there is this mom, like a human shield trying to block her son from seeing what's going on here. I was like, 'Oh my God. He doesn't want cancer. He wants somebody to be like, 'Buddy, we got you, and we're here to help.' That's when I became obsessed with helping all critically ill kids."

From that chance encounter, Casey Cares was born. It was a grassroots organization from the start. Baynes ran it out of the trucking company offices, and from its earliest days relied on her social network to open doors to organizations such as the Orioles and the Ravens. Funded by individuals, corporate donations, grants and fundraisers, it grew slowly until, about 15 years ago, she made running it her full-time job.

Brent Harris '90 was a volunteer from just about the jump. A former sports broadcaster (and former adjunct professor at TU), he emceed some of its golf tournaments and other fundraising events.

"Casey has incredible energy," he says. "She never stops. She meets with the families. She's at all the events. And I think that has an impact. When you spend time with mom and dad, the brothers and sisters and the children

"There are so many families who will say to us, 'I haven't seen my kids **smile** in months. And you made them **laugh**.' That is an amazing opportunity to be able to help."



Liam Brown in the hospital wearing the pajamas he received from Casey Cares. (Photo courtesy of Mandy Bloodsworth)



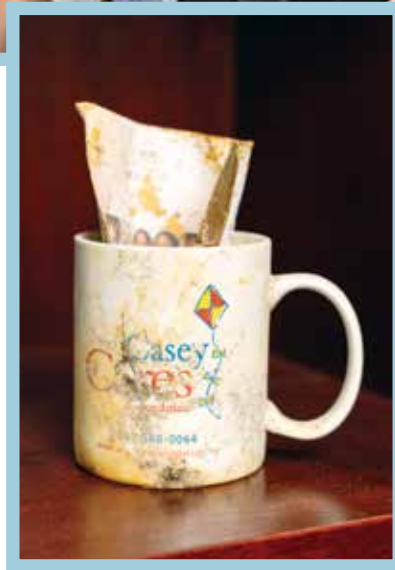
Casey Baynes '98 started the Casey Cares Foundation 25 years ago to brighten the days of sick kids, like Justin Silver. He was battling leukemia when Batman showed up at his fifth birthday party. Now 21, Silver is doing great.

that are going through it, I think that's different than a lot of other organizations. When you talk to families, they always say, 'I know they care. I know they're going to be there for us.' It's very genuine."

In 2007, Baynes' parents' trucking company, then still home to Casey Cares as well, suffered a devastating fire. The foundation's office and records were lost—but Baynes' resolve was not.

"Rebuilding Casey Cares was so refreshing and so energizing," she says. "It was just four walls. Look at these families. They're fighting for their kids' lives. And that, I think, really helped us fight back."

Today, Casey Cares has six core programs, including Kami's Jammies (the pajama donation program, which is named in memory of Kamryn, who preferred PJs to hospital gowns before she died of leukemia in 2007) and Hammy's Heart (named in honor of Abraham "Hammy" Scrivner), which donates gift cards to families who need assistance with their grocery bills. One of the most popular programs is



This mug survived the fire that decimated Casey Cares' old offices.

Birthday Blasts, in which a child gets a present on their special day.

Kate Bardroff '13 was familiar with Casey Cares long before she unfortunately needed its help. When she was an undergraduate at TU, one of her family and human services classes had a community service requirement. While she volunteered for Art With A Heart, several of her classmates worked at Casey Cares.

"I remember they said how great it was, what an amazing experience they

had," she says. "I think it's really cool that it's kind of come full circle. Here I am now as a parent, and I'm able to benefit from Casey Cares personally."

Bardroff's twin sons Rylan and Landon Anderson were born three months premature. They both have a rare genetic disorder called Pataki Lupski Syndrome. Rylan also suffers from cerebral palsy and retinoblastoma, a rare form of eye cancer.

He had an eye removed and went through six rounds of chemotherapy.

"We had been through so much, surgery after surgery, medical crisis after medical crisis. I just didn't have the time to think, 'Are there resources out there that can help?'" Bardroff says. "Casey Cares is an amazing organization for the family as a whole. Because when your child is sick, you're going through it as well."

Bardroff and her husband, Bobby, got Orioles tickets from Casey Cares

for a much-needed grown-up night out. When Rylan, who like his brother, Landon, is thriving now, turned 6 in August, he got a Casey Cares blanket.

"He loves it so much," his mother says, "that I'm going to be bringing it to school with him."

Dori Capodanno '03 is a nurse in Howard County. She's known Baynes for years and has served on Casey Cares' advisory board since 2023, so she's seen the impact of the organization from a number of different angles.

"You get so stuck in the day-to-day of checking your MyChart and knowing what is happening with each appointment. Everything is medical related," she says of families with sick kids. "It feels like there's no time to breathe and to just enjoy watching your kids—including your healthy kids—have smiles on their faces and getting to enjoy things with their siblings. I love when kids go to things like Disney on Ice or monster trucks because you see the kids light up and come to life. It brings joy to everybody and memories that last forever." **TU**

#TUProud

Tiger Tuesdays

More than 1,000 people turned out to show their Tiger pride at the Tiger Tuesday launch party in August. During the event, which featured food, games and other activities, more than 2,000 T-shirts were distributed to students, faculty and staff, all of whom—plus alumni—proudly wear black and gold on Tuesdays. The event was such a success that a second was held in October in advance of Homecoming. Share your Tiger pride on social media and tag @TowsonUniversity with **#TigerTuesday** for a chance to be featured on TU's social channels.





MY TOWN

Brittany Fowler '06 New Orleans

FAVORITE LIVE MUSIC VENUE
The Spotted Cat

PLACE FOR A PO' BOY
Parkway Bakery and Tavern

HAPPY HOUR SPOT
Superior Seafood and Oyster Bar

PARK
Audubon

MUSEUM
Historic New Orleans Collection

Brittany Fowler and her family started going to New Orleans for Mardi Gras regularly in 2007. Her mother attended Louisiana State University, so they had plenty of friends in the area. After those trips, they had even more.

"Coming down for Mardi Gras, you see the flash, the glitz, all of that," she says. "But you also get to know people that are friends with the people that you're hanging out with. It is a very community-focused event. You get to meet neighbors. You get to meet people whose families have always stood in these spots because of X, Y and Z reason. And so you build your community."

Fowler majored in communication with a concentration in strategic public relations and integrated communication at TU. She loved her TU experience and calls the university a "natural fit." She moved to the Big Easy in 2019, and she's been reveling in the city's culture and way of life ever since. She lives in the **Lower Garden District**, not too far from Tulane University, where she works as the communications manager at the School of Liberal Arts. Her neighborhood, the **Irish Channel**, reminds her of Canton in Baltimore.

"It used to be very industrial," she says. "Young people started moving in and families started. It's a really good mix of people who have lived there for a very long time and newer people. I'm on a block where I know my neighbors. I walk my dog every day. So she's friends with other dogs. It's a cute little area."

Sometimes she brings her pooch to one of her

favorite outdoor spots in the city, **Audubon Park**.

"It's gorgeous. They have an area called the Fly, which is a big open space where you can take a blanket or chairs and watch the Mississippi River and the boats go by. I ride horses, and the stable that I ride at is in Audubon Park. And I also play bocce there."

From her home, Fowler can walk to all kinds of bars and restaurants, of which there are no shortage in New Orleans. Her favorite spot for a po' boy (she gets shrimp), **Parkway Bakery and Tavern**, isn't within walking distance, but it's worth the short drive. For a more formal, quintessential New Orleans meal she recommends **Commander's Palace** and **Galatoire's**.

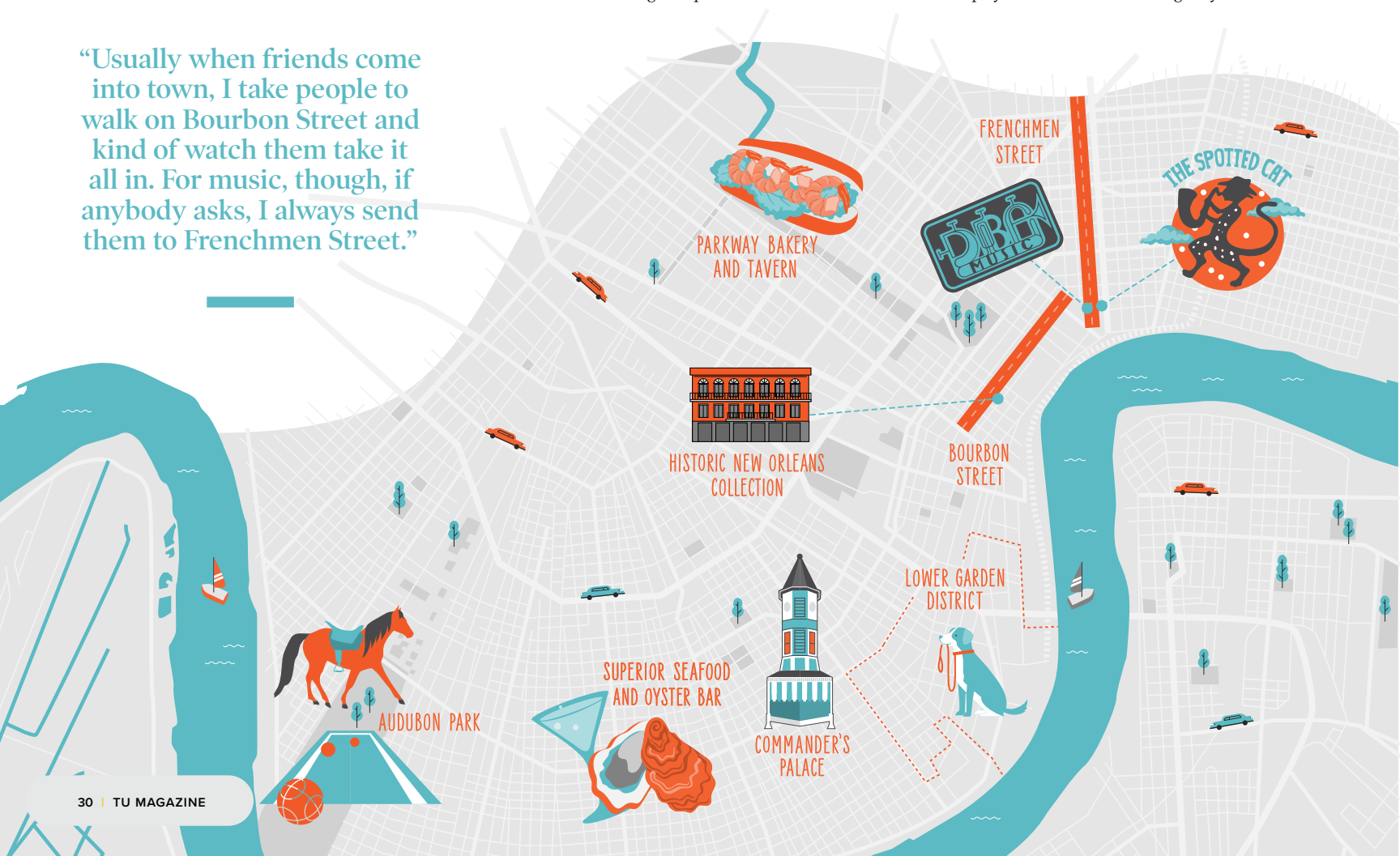
Living in New Orleans, she gets no shortage of visitors.

"Usually when friends come into town, I take people to walk on **Bourbon Street** and kind of watch them take it all in," she says. "For music, though, if anybody asks, I always send them to **Frenchmen Street**."

Live music—jazz, funk, folk, rock—pulsates throughout the city. Fowler's favorite spots are **The Spotted Cat** and **DBA**. They're both located on a small stretch of Frenchmen Street, just outside the French Quarter, that's become famous for its music clubs. They're small, sweaty and offer an unequalled opportunity to see some of the world's best musicians up close and personal.

"There are times when you're standing right in front of the band, and you have to watch out because the trombone player's slide could be coming for your face."

"Usually when friends come into town, I take people to walk on Bourbon Street and kind of watch them take it all in. For music, though, if anybody asks, I always send them to Frenchmen Street."



Alumni News



Scholarships

Apply to receive up to \$1,000 in scholarships through the TU Alumni Association. Open to current and incoming students. Visit alumni.towson.edu/scholarships to apply by Jan. 5, 2026, for fall 2026.



Upcoming Events

Dec. 17–18 Commencement

Volunteering

Jan. 8 'Wicked' at the Hippodrome

Jan. 9–11 California Alumni Events

Jan. 31 Winter Volunteering at the Salvation Army

March 6–7 O's Spring Training in Sarasota, Florida

View the full calendar at alumni.towson.edu/events.



Top Tigers in Their 20s Nominations

Help identify the most impressive young alumni of 2026. Nominate a deserving candidate for a Top Tigers in Their 20s award by Feb. 14, 2026, at alumni.towson.edu/toptigers.



2025 DADR Awards

As a Homecoming tradition, the Towson University Alumni Association (TUAA) honored eight exceptional Tigers who have made significant achievements in their careers. The Distinguished Alumni & Deans' Recognition Awards are the highest honors presented by the TUAA.

Distinguished Alumni Award
Pamela Beidle '94

College of Business & Economics

Distinguished Young Alumni Award

Lauren O. Cahalan '18

*College of Business & Economics,
College of Liberal Arts*

Deans' Recognition Awards
James Downing '02

College of Business & Economics

Cynthia McCabe '94
College of Education

Viera Whye '79
*College of Fine Arts &
Communication*

Patricia D. Hoge '81, '82
College of Health Professions

Carolyn Scruggs '87
College of Liberal Arts

Thomas Kinsey '68
*Jess and Mildred Fisher
College of Science &
Mathematics*

Volunteer of the Year



In the spring, we recognized College of Health Professions graduate Richard Holley '96 as our 2025 Alumni Volunteer of the Year. Holley has become a dedicated helper at TU over the past few years, welcoming new Tigers at summer send-offs, participating in our alumni postcard program and volunteering often at our quarterly service projects like picking produce at First Fruits Farm and packaging food boxes at the Salvation Army. Whether on campus or out in the community, Holley's Tiger pride and generous spirit are always on display.

Tigers Overdue It

The TU community crushed this year's summer reading challenge with more than 500 Tigers participating in the second-annual event. Nearly half of those who took part completed the challenge, reading a total of 1,129 unique titles by 847 different authors. Popular writers from last year, including Sarah J. Maas and Freida McFadden, continued to top the leaderboard in 2025, with Elin Hilderbrand and Stephen King close behind. In addition to the virtual challenge, Tigers embraced our first in-person book swap in September at The Ivy Bookshop, exchanging great stories—literally and figuratively. Participants in the challenge and swap raised more than \$700 for the TU Reading Clinic.

Clockwise from bottom left: Evelina Sarapi '22, Bailey Hardwick '23, Sydney Redford '23, Allie Kashan '23 and Taryn Painter '22 exploring bookstores in Alexandria, Virginia





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ROAR AT THE SHORE: From June 26 to 28, Tigers converged in the Delmarva area for a Shorebirds game, happy hour at Saltwater 75, volunteering event at Big Chill Beach Club, family day at Jolly Roger and meet-up at Ropewalk. It was an action-packed weekend.

1. Alan Taylor, Tori Taylor, Edna Primrose '84, Sherman the Shorebird, Greg Ing, Jenna Markland and Layla Phipps at the Shorebirds game
2. Angelina Davis, Carly Kostakos '03, Michael Sandy '14, Barbara Kostakos '03, Richard Holley '96, Jake DeFilippis, Edna Primrose '84, Brian DeFilippis and Rachel Reinecke at the beach clean-up
3. Mike Allen, Laura Allen, Amanda Allen '14, Gabby Jacobson '21 and Jonas Jacobson '90 at Saltwater 75 happy hour
4. Edward Haywood '17 and Ariana Haywood '23 at Jolly Roger

CALIFORNIA BRUNCH:

On Sept. 21, John Kassir '81 and his wife, Vanessa Waters, hosted a reception at their beautiful home in Agoura Hills for Tigers working in the entertainment industry. It was a welcome opportunity to talk shop, reconnect and meet new friends.

1. Alumni at the home of John Kassir '81
2. Alex Gradet '98, Samantha Devlin, Chris Devlin '90, Courtney Birk and Ashleigh Coffelt '12
3. Heather Seiden '97, Hilary Saunders '22, Copeland Bryan, Viera Whye '79, Regina Carlow and Michelle Mitchenor '10
4. John Kassir '81, Jessica Ford '98, Rich Rotella '06 and Gayane M.



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SPORTS-LOVING TIGERS: Throughout September, alumni attended several fun athletic events around the region—a TU football tailgate at the University of Maryland, College Park; alumni night with the Orioles at Camden Yards; a D.C. United soccer match at Audi Field; and a Ravens watch party at Mother's North Grille.

1. Alumni, family and friends gather at the Maryland vs. TU tailgate.
2. Tigers enjoy a cookout before the O's take on the Yankees.
3. Mia Edwards '16 and Derrick Edwards '16 watch the D.C. United match.
4. Jun Tao '09 and Yvonne Zhang '09 cheer on the Ravens with their family at the watch party.



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HOMEcoming T-CLUB AND ALUMNI TAILGATE: Before and during the big game, the TU Alumni Association teamed up with Towson Athletics to host a fun-filled tailgate party for Tigers and their families on the track at Johnny Unitas Stadium®.

1. Tiger fans get an up-close view of the game from the end zone.
2. TU besties Stephanie Calabretti '97, '01; Melissa Luckman '98 and Ruth Roberts '98
3. Families take advantage of activities like face painting and caricature drawings.
4. Alumni, including several former football team members, return to cheer on the current squad.

Class Notes

SEND US YOUR NEWS!

We'd like to hear about your personal and professional lives.

SEND MAIL TO:

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

EMAIL:

alumni@towson.edu


WEB:


alumni.towson.edu/classnotes

 **Tiger Connect:**
alumni.towson.edu

 **Facebook:**
Towson University Alumni Association

 **Twitter:**
@towsonualumni

 **Instagram:**
@towsonalum

 **Tag your posts:**
#TowsonUAlum

1960s

CHRISTOPHER TERRY '66 was inducted into the Harford County Public Schools' Educator Hall of Fame in February. Terry's career spanned 32 years as a teacher and assistant principal and 28 years as a principal. He retired in 1998.

JOSEPH BOYLE '68 published "These are artful villains' Maryland Runaways, 1789-1794."

1970s

PAMELA WINDSOR '78 was recently elected to board of directors at House of Ruth Maryland and serves on its H.R. committee, strategic planning task force and as a mentor to a staff member. Windsor also engaged in a communications advisory role for an elephants and bees research center project in Tanzania. She is a member of TU's CHP Advisory Council and actively participates in classes at Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at TU, where she serves on its curriculum committee. Windsor provides an annual College of Health Professions nursing scholarship and named the Labor and Delivery Suite (Gabriel's Gift) at the Health Professions Building in memory of her grandson.

1980s

MARK FRIIS '83 celebrated 40 years with AT&T in New Jersey, Florida and North Carolina.

PHILIP RAVITA '83, '85, '01 has a new CD, "Alice Blue," which placed No. 1 in mainstream jazz releases. The tune "Broken Light" placed No. 1 for newly released mainstream jazz singles on Roots Music Report.



STEVE BLAKE '84 serves as assistant



director of gift planning at Penn State University, where he recently completed his 15th year as a development officer and 41st year in education external relations.

HOPE TARR '86 published the historical novel, "Stardust," the second in her American Songbook Series, in February. The novel, published by Joffe Books, follows Daisy Blakely, who arrives in Paris in 1938, to apprentice with legendary fashion designer Coco Chanel.

JIM DECARLO '87 published "Honk: A Leadership Journey of Hope, Love, and Joy."

TIM DZUBAK '89 retired Feb. 1, 2025, after a 35-year career as court psychologist of the 31st District Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court in Manassas, Virginia.

MICHAEL ERTEL '89 represents the 6th District (which includes the Towson, Parkville and Rosedale areas) on the Baltimore County Council. In January, he was elected by his colleagues to be the council chair.

1990s



RUSSELL FARMARCO '91 directed and edited the feature length film "Permanent Damage" in 1992. Thirty-three years later, the film found distribution on a special edition Blu-Ray. The crew included writer **JEFFREY HOWARD '92**, director of photography **ANDRE OWENS '25**, line producer/A.D. **PAUL ZINDER '92**, production mixer **ROBIN MEIER '89**, gaffer **GLEN STRATAKES '91**, production assistant **JOY LUSCO-KECKEN '94** and composer **PAUL MATHEWS '90**. The cast included **DANA WHIPKEY '91**, **JAMES "JIMI" KINSTLE '90**, **PATRICK JOHNSON '92**, **ANDREW ROTHKIN '90**, **ELIZABETH LEXA '91**, **REBECCA COHEN '90**, **JOHN BENOIT '93**, **DAVID CALKINS '92**, **IVAN C. HALL '93**, **ANDI SHREM '93**, **CORTLAND SMITH '92**, **CHRISTY SALERNO '95** and **HILLARY ISQUITH '91**. Also featured in small roles were the late former TU President **MARAVENE LOESCHKE '69, '71** and her late husband, former professor and theatre department chair Richard Gillespie.

JERRY MITCHELL '91, '93 is professor and chair of the Department of Geography at the University of South Carolina. He recently published his sixth book, "The Handbook of Geography Education."

JASON COHEN '93 was appointed managing director of the Maryland State Ad Agency (MSAA). A division of Maryland



Public Television, MSAA delivers comprehensive advertising services to state agencies, and Cohen will oversee operations, business development and client relations. He brings extensive experience in digital marketing, having most recently served as digital marketing manager at Audacy and as vice president at Spokes Marketing. His leadership will strengthen MSAA's mission to support Maryland state agencies with innovative advertising solutions.

RICHARD HOLLEY '96 is the 2025 Towson University Alumni Volunteer of the Year.

MATTHEW WITENSTEIN '96 recently accepted a position as associate professor with tenure in the Department of Teacher Education, Educational Leadership and Policy at the University of New Mexico. Witenstein also serves as a senior research fellow in the School of Educational Studies, Claremont Graduate University. His upcoming co-authored textbook is "Comparative and International Education: An Introduction."



DAVID CAMPAIGNE '97 is now a senior partner at Blue Trust, a wealth

management and trust services company headquartered in Atlanta, with 17 branch offices across the country. Campaigne serves clients from the mid-Atlantic branch office in Hunt Valley, Maryland, and is in his 24th year with the company.

IZABELA LOPES '97 joined Snap Inc. as senior director of screens and services for North America. Lopes will be leading one of the ad sales teams across multiple industries.

JAIME CROSTHWAIT '98 successfully completed the Active and Adventure Travel Specialist Program with Travel Leaders Network and is now a certified active and adventure travel specialist.

KAIJA LANGLEY '99 published her third children's book in May. "A Century for Caroline" is an intergenerational story about a great-granddaughter meeting her great-grandmother for the first time on the latter's 100th birthday. The book was inspired by Langley's grand-aunt, who lived in Baltimore and lived to 100.

2000s

SAMANTHA PELLER '01 received the Be Brad Voiceover Community Award from the National Association of Voice Actors (NAVA). As a voice actor and cofounder of the Vocal Victims Advocacy Group (VVAG), Peller was recognized at the NAVA gala for her leadership and advocacy in addressing unethical practices in the voiceover industry. She was



 **SARAH DICKERSON '18**

Orangutans and Beyond

Sarah Dickerson has dedicated her career to caring for some unique animal species. After earning her biology degree at TU, she completed veterinary school in 2023 and is now serving as a veterinary intern at the Phoenix Zoo—an important step in accomplishing her lifelong dream.

The one-year internship, which she began in July 2025, allows Dickerson (pictured wearing orange) to work alongside the zoo's veterinary team while preparing to apply for competitive residency programs in zoological medicine. These residencies, typically three years long, provide the specialized training needed to become a board-certified expert in the field.

"At the Phoenix Zoo, I'm gaining experience as a clinical veterinarian for a wide variety of zoological species," Dickerson says. "Every day is different—routine exams, rechecks, lab work, wellness care and emergencies with animals ranging from reptiles and birds to big cats, giraffes, rhinos and primates."

Among her most memorable experiences so far has been assisting with the care of an orangutan diagnosed with a cancerous tumor. While the case was primarily managed by the zoo's medical director, Dickerson played a vital supporting role during the animal's second surgery, assisting with the anesthesia needed to remove the mass.

She credits her time at TU with setting her on this path. Dickerson participated in a study abroad trip to Peru led by biology professor Harald Beck, later joining him to help establish the gliding mammal lab at TU. She was also active in TU's music department as a percussion ensemble member, which helped her become more well-rounded and stand out during the veterinary school application process.

"I had a great experience [at TU] and know my opportunities there played a big role in getting me into vet school," Dickerson says. "The support from my professors at TU was such an important part of my journey."

—By Jamie Abell



BRITTANY JAKUBOWSKI '14, '20

Born to Teach

Little Brittany Jakubowski made it her business to ensure that among her friends, knowledge was not lacking.

"My mom says when I was younger, I used to pretend to teach the neighborhood kids," says Jakubowski, 36. "We had this little shed, and I would make them sit through school, even though they didn't want to. I've always really liked the idea that a teacher has a lot of power and influence."

Today, Jakubowski is among the most popular teachers at Catonsville Middle School—and one of the best in the state. Earlier this year, she was named Baltimore County's Teacher of the Year. After the shock of hearing she had won wore off, Jakubowski was humbled by the honor.

"The things I do on a daily basis, I would do even if nobody was watching," she says. "But it's nice to feel like that stuff is appreciated by other people who realize it does take a lot to go that extra mile."

A Baltimore County native, Jakubowski was attracted to TU because of its stellar reputation for developing teachers. She thought she wanted to teach high school, but TU required her to intern at both a high school and a middle school.

"I absolutely fell in love with middle schoolers," she says. "There's something really interesting about the way that their brains work."

Jakubowski returned to TU and earned her master's in human resource development. Now a language arts teacher for sixth and eighth graders, she calls her teaching philosophy "the three F's."

"I tell them that I will be firm because I'm always going to have high expectations of them; I will be fair, so I will always make sure that you get what you need; and I try to be a little fun while I'm at it."

It's clearly working. Jakubowski's students love her, precisely because she goes that extra mile. She's approaching a 500-day streak on the app Duolingo, which she is using to learn Spanish.

"I had a student a couple of years ago who was new to our country," she says. "I talked to him in Spanish once, and I said something really basic, like, 'Hey, how are you doing?' To see his face light up because there was another person in the building who could speak to him, it inspired me to do that more often."

So she does, every day in her classroom.

also recently featured on the Voice Acting Stories podcast, where she shared the origin and mission of VVAG.

STACIE BAKALAR '04

recently was featured by the Producers Guild of America in a "Day in the Life" spotlight that



highlighted Bakalar's work as a post-production producer in the TV and film industry.

AMY (RICEDORF) LYON '04

was promoted to president/CEO of United Way of Southeast Mississippi, after serving as its director of community impact since July 2022.

DEON AVERY '06

co-founded Charm City Garden Montessori: A Wildflower School (CCGM). Set to open in fall 2026, CCGM will become Baltimore City's first public Montessori high school, offering a nature-based, interdisciplinary and student-centered learning experience for high schoolers across the city. Avery brings nearly 20 years of experience in education to this initiative, having served as a Spanish teacher, assistant principal and principal across Baltimore City, its surrounding counties and Washington, D.C.

STEVEN LESSNER '07

was elected to serve as a committee member for a four-year term on the College Section Steering Committee (CSSC) of the National Council of Teachers of English.

2010s

ROBERT PLANT '10

published the book "Dark Matter." It's a collection of



seven short stories in which technology, morality and human nature collide.

HISHAM VALIUDDIN '11

was recently recognized by The Maryland Daily Record as a Physician of the Year as part of their 2025 Health Care Heroes Awards.

KERIS KINGSLAND

SHORT '12 became a partner at E & S Construction Engineers, Inc. Kingsland Short is the youngest partner the firm has ever had as well as the first female partner.

MILES ENGEL-

HAWKBECKER '14 wrote and directed the film "Transformers: Terminal."

THERESA TOMI

FAISON '17 is the movie's producer and editor.



BETHANY MICHALSKI '16

had two projects premiere at the Oscar-qualifying SXSW Film Festival in which she served as the director of photography. One is a feature film, "She's The He," and the other a television series, "Denim."

ILKA KNÜPPEL '17

published the book "Finding Ruth: A Personal Story of Hitler's Secret Euthanasia Program Aktion T4."

MORGAN BRENNAN '18
was promoted to assistant manager of the chemistry section of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Crime Lab.

2020s

MEGAN LOVELY '22
partnered with 11 organizations and five artists based in Baltimore to create a "Story Market,"

where vendors and community members exchanged stories about tastes of home, Baltimore's food environment and community created around the dinner table. Her thesis evolved into a four-year storytelling project at the 32nd Street Farmers Market in Baltimore, which is now documented in her book "Story Seeds: Growing Home at the Farmers Market."

“Towson University provided me with a strong foundation in both languages and educational leadership. The practical knowledge and mentorship I gained at TU have guided my approach to building inclusive, innovative school communities that center student growth and voice.”

DEON AVERY '06

In Memoriam

Alumni

Freida L. Mazer '49
Sept. 20, 2025

Thelma B. Davis '50, '69
Sept. 9, 2025

James G. Wetzel '50
July 26, 2024

Martha J. Griswold '51
March 7, 2024

Matilda T. Heavilin '51
Jan. 29, 2025

Thomas A. Jackson '51
Oct. 6, 2024

Julie A. Alexander '52
March 6, 2025

Margaret A. Catlett '52
Sept. 10, 2025

Helen A. Dill '52
July 28, 2025

Doris U. Mellor '52
May 12, 2025

Florence Thackston '52
Sept. 24, 2025

Nancy A. Whittemore '52
Aug. 9, 2024

Patricia Downing Aitkens '53
Sept. 27, 2024

Gloria P. Holland '53
April 29, 2025

Patricia A. Rogers '53
June 6, 2024

Dorothy S. Sanborn '53
July 17, 2024

Eleanor Bangs '54
May 15, 2024

Marion S. Hazlehurst '54
May 31, 2024

Patricia M. Beard '55
March 30, 2025

Ann C. DeBolt '55
Aug. 30, 2024

Cicely K. Finkelstein '55
Oct. 12, 2025

Carolyn R. Youngberg '55
July 20, 2025

Shirley Q. Findeisen '56
July 22, 2025

Patricia J. McColgan '56
May 7, 2024

Julia A. Persky '56
March 22, 2025

Joseph J. Brown '57
Aug. 19, 2025

Perry L. Conley Sr. '57
March 18, 2025

Erma T. Papadimitriou '57
March 17, 2025

Donald L. Rollins '57, '68
July 27, 2025

Joan Grimes Luerksen '58
March 6, 2025

Norma I. Needham '58
April 13, 2025

Glenn D. Zimmerman Jr. '58
May 27, 2025

Joan R. Broderick '59
Feb. 4, 2025

David G. King Sr. '59
Sept. 16, 2025

Chrysanthi Kootsikis '59
June 10, 2025

Charles L. Livingston '59
April 18, 2024

Eleanor F. Ripple '59
March 8, 2025

Skip L. Feldman '60
March 11, 2025

Joseph W. Haluch '61
June 23, 2025

Janet C. Merritt '61
March 31, 2024

Beulah W. Weigle '61
May 9, 2025

Albert C. Beachley '62
July 2, 2024

Nancy L. Carver '62
June 15, 2025

Marsha J. Kaplon '63
Sept. 20, 2025

Robert H. Chapman III '64
March 25, 2025

Anna R. Kopp '64
Jan. 6, 2025

Arlene S. Rosenthal '64
June 27, 2025

Susan L. Beary '65
July 7, 2025

Diane H. Hess '65
Sept. 5, 2025

Walter J. Hicks '65
Jan. 28, 2024

Catherine W. Hopkins '65
April 10, 2025

Dina Jeanne Karlip '65
May 15, 2025

Gail G. Rohrer '65
May 20, 2025

Peggy A. Way '65
April 21, 2024

Paul K. Hjelmervik '66
Jan. 2, 2025

Patricia A. Kusik '66, '79
Aug. 7, 2025

Mary F. Lathroum '66
Sept. 20, 2025

Raymond P. Ostrander '66
April 10, 2025

Linda S. Taylor '66
May 20, 2024

Judith M. Turner '66
April 7, 2025

Nancy R. Voith '66
Oct. 13, 2025

Roberta A. Cockey '67
June 1, 2025

Nora L. Gibson '67
July 9, 2025

Barbara M. McNeill '67
Sept. 22, 2025

John E. Richardson '67
Aug. 3, 2024

Arthur Laurance Rosenberg '67
Sept. 4, 2025

Mary Elizabeth Snyder '67
March 12, 2025

Homer L. Springer Jr. '67
Feb. 14, 2025

Chester A. Thurlow Jr. '67
Sept. 26, 2025

Barbara Alice Beall '68
July 31, 2025

Veronica A. Eichelberger '68
Aug. 11, 2024

Kathryn C. Knutsen '68
March 11, 2025

Joseph S. Latoff '68
April 30, 2025

Susan D. Martin '68
April 5, 2025

In Memoriam

Gregory W. Dunn '69 June 23, 2024	Joanne Murphy '71 Jan. 28, 2024	Rivalee J. Gitomer '74 May 31, 2025	Frances C. Cascio '76 Jan. 19, 2025	Carol J. Wilson '78 Sept. 7, 2025
Sheila M. Fishman '69 Feb. 26, 2025	Lois H. Quesenberry '71 April 17, 2025	Allen W. Grimes '74 July 23, 2025	Janet P. Miele '76 March 17, 2025	Kim E. Wineland '78 Feb. 27, 2024
Howard J. Gould '69 March 29, 2025	Janice M. Stein '71 April 1, 2025	Douglas C. Hentz '74 July 11, 2025	Rae M. Murray '76 Aug. 22, 2025	Richard W. Young '78 March 1, 2025
Richard A. Humbert '69 March 19, 2025	Joan L. Barnett '72 May 18, 2024	Kay Howington '74 2025	Stephen M. Peregoy '76, '80 April 9, 2025	Pamela M. Branch '79 June 15, 2025
Louis N. Kulaga '69 July 5, 2024	Naomi Helene Carlucci '72 June 16, 2025	Sandor J. Israel '74 Aug. 22, 2025	Barbara Woods Rusinko '76 March 1, 2025	Karen A. Brown '79 Sept. 21, 2025
Raffaele Pierorazio '69 April 15, 2024	Frieda J. Colfelt '72 Jan. 6, 2025	George W. Konig '74 May 13, 2025	William E. Sapp Jr. '76 April 22, 2025	Leo H. Bryant III '79 June 5, 2025
Rebecca A. Reasner '69 July 26, 2025	Joseph F. Driver '72 April 20, 2025	Helene S. Levi '74 Oct. 11, 2024	Richard C. Shellhorn '76 June 26, 2025	William Robert Carter '79 July 3, 2025
Bruce A. Bailly '70 May 12, 2024	Michael W. Finnerin '72 Aug. 19, 2025	Ronald W. Reiland '74 July 4, 2024	Norma H. Stein-Smith '76 Jan. 11, 2024	Diana J. Dannettel '79 April 15, 2025
M. L. Hayden '70 Aug. 20, 2025	Elizabeth A. Fitzner '72 July 19, 2025	Bonnie L. Pettebone '74 April 29, 2025	Robert W. Wanner '76 July 11, 2024	Richard D. Kuzmik '79 Jan. 20, 2025
Robert T. Jacobs Sr. '70 April 21, 2025	Patricia L. Garner '72 March 26, 2025	Gilda D. Shapiro '74 Oct. 7, 2024	Raymond H. Baltz Jr. '77 April 7, 2025	Charmaine M. O'Neill '79 March 23, 2025
William T. Jefferson '70 July 13, 2025	Paul W. Haynie '72 June 14, 2025	Kathleen M. Vienna '74 March 17, 2024	Robert W. Fisher '77 May 18, 2025	Gregory M. Pfannenstien '79 Oct. 14, 2025
Richard K. Kellough '70 Feb. 27, 2025	Geraldine D. McQuaid-Connelly '72 Oct. 12, 2024	Michael A. Ward '74 April 18, 2025	Lois J. Nicoletti '77, '95 Sept. 27, 2024	Roy W. Woody '79 July 23, 2024
Levin J. Newcomb III '70 March 30, 2025	Joyce A. Miles '72 March 6, 2025	Donald Ray Abbott '75 June 23, 2025	Jeffrey M. Permison '77 April 2, 2025	Kerri F. Wormwood '79 Jan. 16, 2024
Bonnie F. Rubinstein '70 July 6, 2025	Lynn T. Ridgely '72 Dec. 4, 2024	Paul I. Adler '75 March 11, 2025	Jan Mitchell Sherrill '77 July 29, 2025	Burline Dantzler '80 March 4, 2024
Yale H. Rudo '70 March 31, 2025	Stephen A. Troy '72 Sept. 5, 2025	Shirley J. Akman '75 Oct. 2, 2025	Richard W. Story '77 May 23, 2025	Selma R. Hess '80 May 17, 2025
George J. Tolen '70 June 2, 2025	Stephen Balser '73 Sept. 18, 2024	James A. Ansted '75 Jan. 9, 2025	Debra Y. Tibbs '77 Jan. 26, 2024	Donna H. Klimowicz '80 April 12, 2025
Freida R. Unger '70 June 5, 2025	Janis J. Nieman '73 Oct. 4, 2024	Regina M. Cox '75 June 20, 2025	George F. Weber '77 May 3, 2025	Carolyn A. Krach '80 June 25, 2025
Linda C. Unklesbee '70 May 31, 2025	William A. Owings '73 Feb. 15, 2024	Stephen W. Dausen '75 Jan. 19, 2024	Edward E. Edsel '78 Aug. 28, 2024	Patricia A. Maskell '80 April 30, 2024
Brydon E. Brydon '71 March 13, 2025	Christine C. Ritz '73 May 22, 2024	Rosemarie P. Freiert '75 Feb. 28, 2025	Mary M. Gallagher '78 Sept. 16, 2024	Gilbert J. Meerdter Jr. '80, '91 Sept. 17, 2025
Martha L. Collison '71, '79 Feb. 20, 2024	Ruth G. Schneehagen '73 June 18, 2025	Patricia L. Hopkins '75 Jan. 29, 2024	Lynn M. Harris '78 July 8, 2024	Claire Linda Robier '80 Feb. 9, 2025
John N. Graham '71 July 18, 2025	Catherine W. Willman '73 Feb. 24, 2024	Robert D. Johnson '75 April 8, 2025	Rosemary S. Keech '78 Aug. 1, 2025	Margaret J. White '80 March 7, 2025
Aleda S. Jackson '71 June 29, 2025	Harry E. Wilson '73 March 11, 2024	Kathleen M. Mitchell '75 Sept. 4, 2025	Robert G. Kelly '78 Aug. 14, 2025	Steve Davis '81 Sept. 26, 2024
Benita J. Kaplan '71 Aug. 21, 2025	James J. Abate '74 Jan. 26, 2025	Frances M. Tolley '75 March 3, 2025	Frederick W. Schulte '78 Oct. 15, 2024	Diane Z. Israel '81 Aug. 19, 2024
Barry D. Lowe '71 Feb. 1, 2025	Patricia L. Eisgruber '74 Aug. 10, 2025	Timothy Neal Wisthoff '75 Jan. 26, 2024	Lynd R. Thomas '78 March 4, 2024	Marion D. Mercer '81 Aug. 31, 2024
Thomas A. McCormac '71 Sept. 9, 2024		Janet B. Woolwine '75 May 1, 2025	Veleria L. Wilkins '78 July 12, 2025	Anne Marie Scott '81 Oct. 6, 2025

<p>Louis M. Smith '81, '88 June 26, 2025</p> <p>John A. Abell '82 2025</p> <p>Gwendolyn E. Baker '82 June 16, 2025</p> <p>Fredericka E. Courpas '82 July 29, 2025</p> <p>Martin A. Crawford '82 July 21, 2025</p> <p>Margaret E. Monty '82 Feb. 22, 2024</p> <p>Roland E. Schaeffer '82 May 12, 2025</p> <p>Mohammad A. Sedghi '82 June 12, 2024</p> <p>Lynn Weiner '82 Jan. 7, 2025</p> <p>Kevin J. Bosley '83 Jan. 30, 2024</p> <p>John H. Engel Sr. '83 July 13, 2025</p> <p>Louis Gregory Foster '83 March 25, 2025</p> <p>Judith L.H. Katcoff '83 April 23, 2025</p> <p>Deborah A. Klarman '83 Sept. 25, 2024</p> <p>Jaroslawa A. Meier '83 Aug. 30, 2024</p> <p>Joyce T. Rochlin '83 March 20, 2025</p> <p>John C. Staab '83 Jan. 11, 2025</p> <p>Stephanie A. Stockman '83 March 6, 2025</p> <p>Patricia S. Verde '83 March 14, 2025</p> <p>Richard L. Christensen Jr. '84 Aug. 3, 2025</p> <p>Deloris M. Testerman '84 Nov. 24, 2024</p> <p>Ronald E. Davison '85 Jan. 22, 2024</p> <p>Mary A. Dekinder '85 Jan. 25, 2024</p> <p>Elliot B. Rosen '85 Oct. 20, 2025</p> <p>Melanie Anne Ryan '85 June 24, 2024</p>	<p>Deborah Schuchman '85 April 29, 2025</p> <p>Stella P. Yousem '85 Sept. 15, 2025</p> <p>Eileen Lamasa '86 Jan. 3, 2024</p> <p>Neal Billingsley '87 April 13, 2025</p> <p>Robert M. Carnochan '87 Sept. 18, 2024</p> <p>Virginia Cabllero Linsenmeyer '87 March 1, 2024</p> <p>Jennifer K. Rickrode '87 March 2025</p> <p>Laura Briggs '88 Jan. 7, 2024</p> <p>Ann Marie Eichelman '88 May 20, 2025</p> <p>Sharon K. Frey '89 Aug. 17, 2024</p> <p>Patricia F. Pittinger '89 Jan. 13, 2025</p> <p>Patricia Marie Rost '89 Feb. 23, 2025</p> <p>Kimberly Moran Lawrence '90 Oct. 12, 2025</p> <p>Christopher M. Hall '91 Oct. 6, 2025</p> <p>Leonard B. Lee '91 Jan. 19, 2024</p> <p>Virginia E. O'Rourke '91 Aug. 27, 2025</p> <p>Kemal Benyounes '92 March 27, 2025</p> <p>Nancy W. Schnydmann '92 March 8, 2025</p> <p>Rosetta H. Simpson '92 March 3, 2024</p> <p>Charlotte Uffner '92 April 26, 2025</p> <p>Jon J. Davis '94 Dec. 27, 2024</p> <p>Patricia Mary Jeffers '94 April 19, 2025</p> <p>Paula J. Kollman '94 Dec. 28, 2024</p> <p>Tom Joseph Garner '95 Oct. 10, 2025</p> <p>Mary K. Imhoff '96 Aug. 23, 2024</p>	<p>Arlene Schimberg '96 Feb. 2, 2025</p> <p>Kari W. Swan-McKittrick '96 March 8, 2025</p> <p>Wesley C. Ellis '97 July 7, 2025</p> <p>Constance A. Flagg '97 June 11, 2025</p> <p>Jeffrey Scott Witte '97 Sept. 26, 2024</p> <p>Frank P. Bramble Jr. '98 March 25, 2024</p> <p>Okeysha Y. Brooks-Coley '98 March 15, 2025</p> <p>Alyce Heather Kirk '98 Sept. 27, 2025</p> <p>Bernadette Jeanne Wendricks '98 June 19, 2024</p> <p>Linda K. Charbonneau-Hughes '99 May 20, 2024</p> <p>Ann Rutledge Egerton '99 Aug. 11, 2025</p> <p>Edward S. Kang '99 Sept. 16, 2025</p> <p>Vincent J. Pagan '99 Aug. 29, 2024</p> <p>Jeremy S. Pellegrini '99 Aug. 23, 2025</p> <p>Stephen C. Reynolds '99 June 9, 2025</p> <p>Abraham Kaplansky '00 Aug. 28, 2025</p> <p>Maryellen A. McDonnell '00 Sept. 26, 2024</p> <p>Kelle M. Brumley '02 Sept. 24, 2025</p> <p>Donna Elizabeth Hancock '02 Aug. 8, 2024</p> <p>Nancy Farrah Hersh '02, '05 March 14, 2024</p> <p>Jennifer L. Kopf '02 Jan. 26, 2025</p> <p>Jean Arlene Weaver '02 May 8, 2024</p> <p>Alan Edward Perry '04 Sept. 24, 2025</p>	<p>Anne E. Cieslak '05, '10 May 12, 2024</p> <p>Matthew Daniel Moulis '05 June 28, 2025</p> <p>Khanthypor Pemy Chhim '06 March 22, 2025</p> <p>Helen E. Parker '06 March 9, 2024</p> <p>Sheryl D. Young '06, '10 Sept. 3, 2025</p> <p>Stuart Matthew Harrison '07 Nov. 5, 2024</p> <p>Ryan W. Devoe '08 Aug. 10, 2024</p> <p>Edwin R. Esbrandt '08 September 2025</p> <p>Carol A. Holmes '08 June 29, 2025</p> <p>Derek A. Salisbury '10 July 12, 2025</p> <p>Gregory S. Lamberson '11 Aug. 12, 2025</p> <p>Alexander James Lenzi '11 May 9, 2025</p> <p>Lucas K. Kealey '12 May 15, 2024</p> <p>Jeffery Alan Schanberger '12 Jan. 3, 2024</p> <p>Ethan Osterhout '13 July 6, 2024</p> <p>Frances E. Wheeler '13 Feb. 27, 2025</p> <p>Brittany Jamison Litecky '15 May 15, 2025</p> <p>Brandon R. Ruth '15 Aug. 31, 2025</p> <p>Danielle M. Gordy '16 April 4, 2024</p> <p>Hilary Shaw '16 Jan. 9, 2024</p> <p>Adam M. Comarow '17 Jan. 20, 2024</p> <p>Whitney M. Newland '17 March 26, 2025</p> <p>Micah A. Torbert '17 Jan. 28, 2025</p>	<p>Katherine C. Lamirande '19 Sept. 2, 2024</p> <p>Zakina McGee '19 July 19, 2024</p> <p>Emily J. Sisk '20 May 7, 2025</p> <p>Alma I. Cyllah '21 Feb. 9, 2025</p> <p>Ryan M. Summers '21 June 25, 2024</p> <p>Mathew Passarelli Price '23 July 5, 2025</p>	<p>Eddie L. Loh July 6, 2025</p> <p>Martha A. McCoy '73 Aug. 5, 2024</p> <p>John C. McDonald Oct. 28, 2023</p> <p>Stuart M. Miller Sept. 23, 2025</p> <p>Katherine M. Moore '95 April 9, 2024</p> <p>Armin E. Mruck Oct. 1, 2025</p> <p>William J. Reuling '64 June 24, 2025</p> <p>Frances Correa Ufnar Oct. 16, 2025</p> <p>Elizabeth Zoltan June 19, 2025</p>
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Faculty & Staff

E. Beth Barnes '75
Sept. 13, 2024

Laurence J. Boucher
Aug. 20, 2025

Patricia A. Bourgeois
July 9, 2025

Angela D. Carlisle '02, '06
Feb. 22, 2024

Lawrence E. Crawford
Feb. 10, 2025

Ronald L. Dietz
April 14, 2025

Michael Donahue '74
Jan. 14, 2025

Ali Emdadi '00, '10
April 23, 2024

Karen Gerstmyer
July 26, 2025

Harold E. Griswold
Oct. 16, 2025

Marsha Ann Harris '72
March 26, 2024

Stefanie Harris Hunt '84
Jan. 15, 2025

William Hunter
July 3, 2025

Jenny M. Jochens
July 7, 2025

Arthur L. Laupus '59
2025

Thom Lieb
Oct. 13, 2025

Rearview Mirror

FROM THE DESK OF FELICITY KNOX '94, Assistant University Archivist



ASK AN ARCHIVIST

Hey Felicity...

Q: Why isn't everything in the collection online?

A: While our digital collections have grown exponentially in recent years, very little of our collections of physical items are available online. This is due to how much storage space, manpower and equipment it takes to create robust online collections that are accessible to all. And this only becomes more complicated as we move from things like physical photos and correspondence to shared online drives and emails. This year, Special Collections and University Archives (SCUA) hired digital archivist Jasmine Malone to help us plan and prioritize how to manage this work. This photo is of one university department's audio/visual material she recently brought into the archives.

Have a question for Felicity? Email her at fknox@towson.edu.

WHAT'S NEW

Kirmani Collection

Before his death in early 2024, Sanaullah Kirmani, Ph.D., advised TU's Muslim Student Association for almost 30 years and was deeply invested in creating space for interfaith dialogue on campus. While Cook Library honors his legacy with the newly created Kirmani Circle for Faith, Spirituality & Peace, SCUA cares for the Kirmani Family Papers. These documents include his writings but also many photographs of his family and friends, beginning with a view of his early life in India. SCUA will be collaborating with members of the Kirmani family to record more details about the photographs.



PAST



1969

TU's gymnastics won the Division II women's national gymnastics tournament championship, despite the program only having been established two years prior. The first coach, George McGinty, built the program from scratch and remained until he retired in 1981. In 1991, he was inducted into the Towson Athletics Hall of Fame. The entire 1969 team was inducted a year later as a team of distinction.



1987

The team headed to the NCAA Division I Southeast Regionals under the leadership of Dick Filbert. Filbert coached the team for 28 years and was inducted into the Towson Athletics Hall of Fame in 2016.



2025

TU gymnastics' years of steady progress in the East Atlantic Gymnastics League (EAGL) paid off when, under Coach Jay Ramirez's guidance, the team won the championship for the second year in a row.

To learn more about TU gymnastics' climb to the top, see page 10.

PRESENT

On My Playlist

RYAN MULLANEY, CLASS OF 2007

A Maryland Distinguished Scholar in the Arts in high school, Ryan Mullaney came to TU to study voice performance and sing in choirs under the direction of professor Paul Rardin. Very late in his college career, Mullaney took a detour into choral conducting and has since built a career in musical education and creating and leading choral programs and activities.

Now an assistant professor of fine arts and music at DeSales University in Pennsylvania, Mullaney teaches music history, conducts four choirs, teaches voice lessons and works with the university's choral and liturgical music.

He also cofounded the Mountainside Baroque Concert Series in his hometown of Cumberland, Maryland.

Mullaney and former University of North Texas music professor Lyle Nordstrom hatched the idea over coffee in 2011 to fill a void in the area for high-quality classical music. They attracted a following that evolved their plans to include artists in residence, the concert series and a multi-day music festival in 2018.

"It's nice to foster relationships both with the artists and with the local community," Mullaney says.



towson.edu/mullaney to read more about Mullaney and watch him conduct a choir.



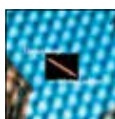
In 2007...

Mullaney brought his love of liturgical and brass instrumentals to TU, where he discovered and delighted in jazz and funk. He calls these five albums "the seed for growth and exploration into new artists and genres."



Cambridge Singers: Music for the English Church

This was a sound I wasn't accustomed to, being from the Maryland mountains—serene, austere, pure.



David Gray: White Ladder

This felt like the beat of city life to me, even though David Gray hails from the Manchester suburbs in the U.K. It was new and was part of my maturing in Baltimore.



John Mayer: Room for Squares

It was moody, hip and had a melodramatic message that resonated with me.



Reel Big Fish: Turn the Radio Off

This has brass instruments—one of the types of instrument I played growing up—in a bed of pop-punk music. Yes, please.



Soulive: Doin' Something

It was the start of my love of jazz, jam and funk, which I started listening to at the behest of my high school band director.

In 2025...

The music Mullaney listened to in college isn't very different from what he listens to now. He believes his musical palate has simply expanded in every direction. Curiosity about musical artists and genres has since become a lifelong passion.



Bibio: A Mineral Love

He has so many looks: He's situationally appropriate for both the lo-fi guru and the '80s pop fan.



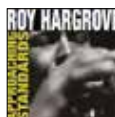
Chris Thile & Michael Daves: Sleep With One Eye Open

Bluegrass pickin' and them high and lonesome [sounds]. If this lot can fill out their sound like this as a duo, who can stop them?



The New Mastersounds: Shake it

A great example of new funk, from Leeds, England.



Roy Hargrove: Approaching Standards

I met him when I was in Seattle, and he was normal. But if you gave him a flugelhorn, he could speak a different language.



Teada: Ceol & Cuimhne

Irish traditional music at its absolute best. It was inspiring to my pursuit of the sean-nós tradition of Irish music.

From Towson, With Love

At TU, thousands of romances have blossomed in dorm rooms, dining halls and at dance parties—no swiping right necessary. Tell us about yours by emailing munger@towson.edu.



Left to right:
Matt, Kirstin,
Marta and
Mark

Lots of sisters can say that they're best friends. But how many best friends can also say that they're sisters (in-law)? Kirstin '11 and Marta Wasko '11 didn't have the same last name when they met on the seventh floor of Tower C the very first day of their freshman years at TU. They've been besties basically ever since. In 2012, Kirstin's parents invited Marta on a family cruise. In what could have been an episode of "The Love Boat," Kirstin fell for Matt Wasko, and Marta met his identical twin brother Mark. Their romantic journeys took very different paths, but both ended up at the altar. Today, the Kirstin and Matt version of the Waskos live with their two children in Scottsdale, Arizona, while the Marta and Mark edition live about 10 minutes away with kids of their own—fraternal twin boys.

Kirstin (Cappiello) '11 and Matt Wasko

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Marta and I were both in triples in the Towers. I think we were both the odd man out in our triples. And we just hit it off. When we came back in January, both of Marta's roommates were like, "Oh, we decided to move out." So now she had no roommates, and I was still in a triple. So it was kind of just, "Okay, I'm going to move in with you."

Sophomore year, we lived on the 14th floor of Tower C. Junior year, we moved to Rodgers Forge Apartments. We both had one extra semester in the fall after our senior year, so we lived in Cockeysville.

When we graduated TU, my parents had set up a vacation. They met my (now) husband's parents years earlier on a cruise and thought, "Hey, let's all get together, have some fun and have our families and friends meet each other." Marta came on that cruise with me and my sister, and that's where we all met everyone.

Matt was shy and goofy, and I kind of liked that. He wasn't up in my face. We dated for seven months before getting engaged. Marta and Mark stayed friends for several years.

Matt proposed at Liberatore's restaurant. It was really simple, out on the patio after dinner, by a fire. It was perfect.

We got married in Bel Air, Maryland, and then we went on a cruise for our honeymoon. It was supposed to go to Bermuda, but there was a hurricane, and we wound up going to the Bahamas and Cape Canaveral, Florida. It was still great.

I stayed in Baltimore County until 2017, when we moved to Arizona for a change of pace. There was, I think, 30 inches of snow in Baltimore that winter, and my husband and I were kind of tired of it. Marta moved to Arizona in 2020.

Especially since we've had kids, it's the best. When we get together, she's an extension of me as a mom. And we help each other. I just called her yesterday on day three of potty training the 2 year old. I needed a pep talk. My 5 year old went to her house for two nights to hang out while we were doing the potty training. It's been fantastic.

Marta (Hodan) '11 and Mark Wasko

GEOLOGY, GEOGRAPHY

We met the first day at a floor meeting. My roommates were a bit more party animals, and hers were very different people also, so we just kind of gravitated to each other. We had a core group of girlfriends, several of who lived on the seventh floor with us that freshman year. We all stayed pretty good friends. I had an awesome experience at TU.

Her parents were very gracious and offered to take me along on that cruise as a graduation present. True to my third-wheel form I was excited. I was like, "Hey, free cruise."

When we all met, I was in a relationship, as was my now-husband. He and I kind of hit it off. Kirstin and Matt were reserved and quiet. We both laughed about it because we became really fast friends.

Within a couple of months of that cruise, my long-term relationship ended, and his relationship ended as well. And let's just say Mark pursued. He tried. And I rejected. Mark was persistent. Every six months or so, he would be like, "Hey, you want someone to come visit you?"

In summer of 2015 I called Kirstin and was like, "I think I might like Mark." And Kirstin told me to stop playing with him. Despite that, I did call him and say, "Hey, would you have any interest in going to Europe with me for six weeks for a backpacking trip?" And he's like, "Yes." No hesitation.

He proposed in our backyard in Texas. I'm not easy to surprise. It's funny because as I was leaving work that Friday, I told my coworker, "I think I'm going to get engaged this weekend. Something's up." And I walked home into candles and flowers. We got married in June of 2018 outside Breckenridge, Colorado. Matt was Mark's best man. Kirstin was my maid of honor.

We've all been living in Scottsdale since 2020. Because Matt and Mark are twins, they want to be down the street from each other all the time. They would deny it, but they're very dependent on each other.

At this point, my husband and I are like, "I can't imagine moving anywhere else unless they moved with us."

Philanthropy



TU Athletics' \$12 Million Campaign for Excellence Reaches Milestone With Eber Gift, Among Others

Mark '93 and Jody '93 Eber have deep ties to both Towson University and to the greater Towson community, where they have lived for more than 30 years. Their most recent gift of \$500,000, through their Eber Family Foundation, will support a \$40 million capital renovation and expansion project on South Campus and transform the Field House and Towson Center Gym.

Mark, a former TU student-athlete who played baseball from 1987-1990, met Jody as an undergraduate student. Together, they raised four daughters, all competitive athletes. "Towson has always been a special place for me," he says. "Playing baseball and being a member of the 1988 East Coast Conference Championship team is an experience I will never forget." Baseball and Towson were lifechanging for Mark. "It's where friendships were made," he says. And, they are friendships he continues to nurture 36 years later.

"Student athletes need a space to build community," Jody adds. "This new space will encourage those friendships and allow the TU athletics community to thrive. Athletics shaped so much of our daughters' lives, and we know the role it plays in building confidence, discipline and teamwork."

The Campaign for Excellence launched in November 2024. The \$28 million Phase 1 will expand and modernize the Field House with team meeting rooms, enhancements to the Dr. Frances S. Soistman Jr. '79, '15 (hon.) and Family Athletics Academic Achievement Center and training room, and the creation of a Fueling Zone to support student-athletes' nutritional needs. This phase will also combine the current weight rooms and turf training areas into a state-of-the-art Sports Performance Center. Groundbreaking for Phase 1 is anticipated in spring 2026.

Major Gifts Propelling the Campaign for Excellence Forward

\$1.5 million

from John '73 and
Robin '70 Beynon

\$1 million

from the Constance
and Brooks Robinson
Charitable Foundation, Inc.
through the support of
Brooks David Robinson Jr. '83

\$500,000

from Mark '93
and Jody '93 Eber

\$175,000

from Tom Beyard '77

\$80,000

in a collective effort to
name the Coach Carl Runk
Lacrosse Suite

\$25,000

Jeff '85 and Jeannie '85 Kihn



Tall-Wiedefeld Society Tea

Members and guests of the Tall-Wiedefeld Society were welcomed to the Auburn House Oct. 12 for a Homecoming tea and social. More than 35 friends enjoyed each other's company and learned more about the history of tea at TU and the society's grants program. President Mark Ginsberg also shared inspiring statistics about TU's recent rankings success and the opening of the Ben and Myrna Cardin Center for Civic Engagement and Civil Discourse. For more information on the Tall-Wiedefeld Society or becoming a member, contact Sarah Metzgar at smetzgar@towson.edu or visit towson.edu/womensgiving.



PRIORITIZING YOUR NEXT DOLLAR

Don't hesitate to contact your financial advisor to talk things through. They will help you prioritize your current financial goals, offer guidance on how much to save and how to invest your savings, and follow up with you periodically to discuss your progress.



01

PHASE ONE:

Financial foundation

1. Fund an Emergency Savings Account
2. Get Your Employer Match
3. Eliminate High Interest Debt

02

PHASE TWO:

Retirement accumulation

4. Contribute to a Health Savings Account
5. Maximize Your Retirement Savings

03

PHASE THREE:

More goals

6. Save for College
7. Save for More Goals
8. Accumulate Wealth
9. Eliminate Low Interest Debt

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May Lose Value

PHASE ONE: FINANCIAL FOUNDATION

1. **Fund an Emergency Savings Account:** Unplanned expenses make it hard to sustain a consistent saving strategy (and possibly lead to high interest credit card debt). Think: car repair, dishwasher replacement, leaky roof, or worse — an unexpected gap in employment. Build up a fund in a liquid, accessible savings account until it holds at least three to six months of living expenses (preferably closer to six).
2. **Get Your Employer Match:** Make sure you are contributing enough to your workplace retirement plan to receive the full employer match. This is free money. For example, a common employer matching formula is to contribute \$0.50 for each dollar you contribute, up to 6% of your pay. That's a 50% return on your investment. A dollar-for-dollar employer match up to a certain percentage of your pay is even better - a 100% return on your investment!
3. **Eliminate High Interest Debt:** Credit cards are often your most expensive debt. And if you use credit cards too much, they can become the biggest obstacle to reaching your financial goals. If you have more than one card with a balance, focus on paying down the one with the highest interest rate first. Or start with lowest balance card, if that's easier. You can apply this strategy to other debts as well, such as student loans, car loans, or home equity loans.

PHASE TWO: RETIREMENT ACCUMULATION

4. **Contribute to a Health Savings Account (HSA):** If offered by your employer, contributions to an HSA are triple tax-free: your contributions are pre-tax, your savings grow on a taxdeferred basis, and withdrawals for qualified medical expenses are tax-free. These unique tax advantages make HSAs an excellent way to save for healthcare expenses you may incur now and in the future, even during retirement. And as a bonus, many HSAs include an employer match (free money again). Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs) are another place to consider putting your money, as their tax advantages are basically the same as HSAs. One caveat: some FSAs require you to spend the money by year-end.

5. **Maximize Your Retirement Savings:** Do you still have discretionary saving dollars after taking care of your personal priorities, such as setting up an emergency fund, paying off high interest credit card debt, and funding other financial goals? Then it's time to focus on trying to max out your 401(k), 403(b), IRA or other type of retirement plan, like a Roth account. While Roth contributions don't give you a tax deduction now, the withdrawals in retirement are tax-free. In 2024, you can contribute up to \$23,000 to a workplace retirement plan, plus an additional catch-up contribution of \$7,500 if age 50 or older. For IRAs, the amount is \$7,000 plus an additional catch-up contribution of \$1,000.

PHASE THREE: MORE GOALS

6. **Fund College Savings:** For most families, a 529 plan is an excellent use of your college savings dollars. While you don't receive a federal tax deduction, the money grows tax-deferred for the benefit of the student and is not subject to federal taxes when withdrawn for qualified education expenses.
7. **Save for More Goals:** Maybe you want to take a vacation next year, or you know you will need a new car or want to buy a second home. If so, consider a high interest savings account. Or, if the goal is further out, you may opt for a regular taxable investment account. There are no maximum contribution limits with these types of accounts.
8. **Accumulate Wealth:** To build up your net worth, you can invest or save money in things like taxable accounts, annuities, and cash value life insurance. By diversifying your savings, you have the opportunity for both lower tax bills in retirement and potentially higher returns on your investments.
9. **Pay Off Low Interest Debt:** Even low interest debt like a low-cost mortgage or home equity loan can be a burden when you are older and not working. By periodically making extra payments, you could pay off those loans much faster than you thought. You might be surprised at how satisfying it is to work on becoming debt-free. Gaining control of your finances gives you and your family the opportunity to realize many more of your dreams for the future.



**LEARN HOW TO PRIORITIZE YOUR CURRENT FINANCIAL GOALS.
CONTACT US TODAY!**

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The Roth IRA offers tax deferral on any earnings in the account. Withdrawals from the account may be tax free, as long as they are considered qualified. Limitations and restrictions may apply. Withdrawals prior to age 59½ or prior to the account being opened for 5 years, whichever is later, may result in a 10% IRS penalty tax. Future tax laws can change at any time and may impact the benefits of Roth IRAs. Their tax treatment may change.

Contributions to a traditional IRA may be tax deductible in the contribution year, with current income tax due at withdrawal. Withdrawals prior to age 59½ may result in a 10% IRS penalty tax in addition to current income tax.

Prior to investing in a 529 Plan investors should consider whether the investor's or designated beneficiary's home state offers any state tax or other state benefits such as financial aid, scholarship funds, and protection from creditors that are only available for investments in such state's qualified tuition program. Withdrawals used for qualified expenses are federally tax free. Tax treatment at the state level may vary. Please consult with your tax advisor before investing.

There is no guarantee that a diversified portfolio will enhance overall returns or outperform a non-diversified portfolio. Diversification does not protect against market risk. Sources: Nerdwallet: "Financial Goals: Where to Begin;" The Balance: "How Should I Prioritize My Savings Goals?"; Bankrate.com: "Should I Pay Off My Mortgage Early?"



Students use the liquid chromatograph mass spectrometer to analyze samples, using both parts of the instrument during the analysis.

♥ GIVING

Gifts in Kind: Defining Giving Differently

Research is taking place in TU chemistry professor Ryan Casey's laboratory related to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), commonly referred to as forever chemicals, used in a variety of industrial applications and consumer products. PFAS are widespread in the environment, contaminating drinking water and circulating in the blood of almost every person in the United States.

"As a society, we are early in the learning curve regarding the impacts of these chemicals," says Casey, director of the environmental science graduate program.

The analysis of PFAS requires extremely sensitive measurements because, even though concentrations are low, their presence is significant enough to be biologically relevant.

A triple quadrupole mass spectrometer is the gold standard measurement instrument and an important investment in the TU student research experience. The recent gift-in-kind from Agilent Technologies, Inc., valued at more than \$444,000 and combined with nearly \$400,000 in university funding, made the purchase of this critical technology possible.

"Agilent has a generous history of gifting equipment to other universities, and I thought, 'Why not at TU?'" says Science Complex building manager Josh Wilhide, who first learned of the Agilent program and negotiated the deal.

"Agilent is very committed to enhancing the student experience—better preparing them for careers in STEM fields," says Jim Lynch, director, business development with Agilent. "Agilent routinely does this type of gifting, especially for new teaching labs and STEM buildings."

Both graduate and undergraduate students have been using the mass spectrometer since the day it was installed in March 2025. As the name forever chemicals suggests, PFAS aren't going away. The skills these students are developing are highly desired and make them highly marketable as they enter the workforce.



Every gift matters, no matter the size.
towson.edu/support

"Agilent has supported our academic mission to include students in the learning process. From the initial inquiries about this instrument through installation and training, Agilent has been an excellent partner."

—Professor Ryan Casey

♥ DONOR PROFILE

Kurt Anderson '16

At the 2025 TU Foundation Celebration of Donors & Scholars in April, Kurt Anderson inspired students and donors when he recounted honoring his grandmother by starting the Sharron Kingsbury Anderson '61 Scholarship for Education.

During the summer, Sharron, her husband, George, and Kurt joined Laurie Mullen, dean of the College of Education, to formally endow the scholarship, thus ensuring it will continue to support TU education majors forever.

HOW DID YOUR GRANDMOTHER INSPIRE YOU?

She inspires me every day not just because of what she's done but because of who she is. She has a gift for connecting with people—she checks in, shows up and remembers the little things that make people feel loved.

WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO ESTABLISH THE SCHOLARSHIP?

It's my way of honoring my grandmother's lifelong commitment to education and continuing the legacy she built as a teacher. As someone who struggled in school, I understand what a difference it makes to have someone believe in your potential. This scholarship is about giving that same belief and opportunity to others.

WHY CHOOSE TU? WHY A SCHOLARSHIP?

Towson University is where I found my voice, my confidence and a community that truly saw me. I wanted to give back to the place that helped shape me and make me the person I am today. Creating a scholarship is not just a gift; it's an investment in the next generation.

📷 BL Strang-Moya



Capital One Arena

From his radio desk at Capital One Arena in downtown Washington, D.C., **Dave Johnson '86** has called thousands of Wizards basketball games. Last year, people started calling him something new: a Hall of Famer. In 2024, Johnson, who has also broadcast D.C. United soccer games for 30 years, was inducted into the D.C. Sports Hall of Fame. "It's overwhelming," he says of the honor. "It's a perpetually changing business, but I've worked hard to stay in it since my time at Towson [University]."



towson.edu/johnson

to learn more about Johnson's life, including his fight against MS



Gratified By Giving

Barbara DeGast '75 comes from a family that valued the arts. She majored in theatre at TU and trusted that her education would lead her to a fulfilling career, which it did. Her professional journey took her to The Juilliard School drama division and then to her second act as a corporate trainer and operations manager.

Now enjoying a comfortable retirement, Barbara gives annually through a **qualified charitable distribution from her IRA**. To ensure her values and legacy live on, she has also provided for TU through a **bequest** and a **beneficiary designation of her IRA**. Her gifts, now and later, will enhance programs that deepen students' skill sets and build professional networks.

"Giving to TU has been very gratifying. Helping to fund an opportunity that might be the spark for a young person gives me great joy," she says. "My legacy of giving will continue through my estate."

To learn more about how you can make a difference for TU students, now and through a legacy gift, contact:

CONTACT | **Geannine Callaghan**

DIRECTOR OF PLANNED GIVING

PHONE | **410-704-2299**

EMAIL | gcallaghan@towson.edu



"It gives me great joy to know that my legacy of support will continue for the theatre department."

Barbara DeGast '75



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SAVE THE DATES June 18–21

Mark your calendar for our second-annual
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friendly events along the shores
of Maryland and Delaware.



**KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR
MORE INFO IN EARLY 2026!**

