

TOWSON

UNIVERSITY ALUMNI MAGAZINE / FALL 2013

In His Shoes

Walking with TU's National
Geographic Young Explorer





CAA Championship Mound

After putting together a four-game winning streak, the Tiger baseball team took home the 2013 CAA Championship title and also earned an NCAA bid, their first since 1991. What's more, senior catcher Andrew Parker and senior pitcher Mike Volpe signed free agent contracts with the Atlanta Braves. This was a storybook season where how hard work and perseverance paid off. Now it's your turn to go to bat for the team. Visit www.towsonigers.com/supportbaseball.



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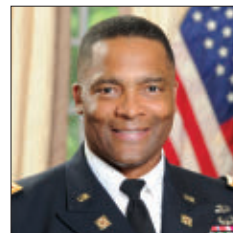
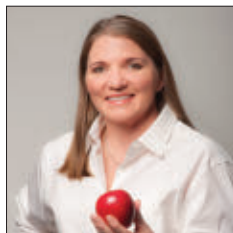
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Full of Life
A Motivator and Mentor
Keynote Instructor
Stand-up on the Spectrum

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“
Construction of the long-awaited pedestrian bridge over Osler Drive began in September.
 ”

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Towson has witnessed an explosion of activity this spring and summer, welcoming new people or opening the doors of new or renovated buildings.

In May, we inaugurated Tiger Arena with our 148th Commencement, followed in June by the basketball wizardry of the Harlem Globetrotters. Two months later, the sports complex became SECU Arena following an agreement with State Employee Credit Union—Maryland's largest state-chartered financial cooperative—giving it exclusive naming rights.

After a nationally competitive search, we welcomed Tim Leonard as the new director of athletics. A strong administrator with 21 years experience, most recently at Southern Methodist University and the University of Central Florida, he is the 2012 recipient of the Athletic Fundraiser of the Year award from the National Association of Athletic Development Directors. He shares our philosophy of creating and supporting opportunities for our student-athletes to develop their full academic, athletic and leadership potential.

By July the new Public Safety Building on Towsontown Boulevard opened, offering the latest in safety technology and police equipment. It is also home to campus locksmiths and access control systems, Environmental Health and Safety and the emergency preparedness unit.

Construction of the long-awaited pedestrian bridge over Osler Drive began in September. It will connect the academic center with the West Village Commons and residence halls.

Off campus, we celebrated the groundbreaking of Towson University in Northeastern Maryland. Opening in fall 2014, the facility, on the grounds of Harford Community College, allows students to finish their bachelor's degrees without having to drive to Towson for classes.

Josianne Pennington was appointed vice president of the newly reorganized Division of Marketing and Communications. Under her leadership, among other developments, the Great Expectations. Realized. ad campaign will now include television spots produced by our own Electronic Media, and Film students.

Each of these endeavors enriches what students experience each day at Towson, an energy that improves their education and their lives. This is just a small part of our ongoing commitment to Towson students and our alumni. Please stay connected to us and visit the campus often to see and learn how we are educating tomorrow's leaders and preparing them to make positive change with their careers and their lives.

MARAVENE LOESCHKE, PRESIDENT

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TOWSON



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Planting the Seeds of Science

TU instructors teach science to preschoolers—with dance

The “tree dance” just might root the next generation in science.

In April, preschoolers from Calvin M. Rodwell Elementary imitated trees through movement and dance taught by instructors in Towson’s dance department. The children compared how the cycle of their day is similar to the cycle of a tree’s seasons.

The bending and swaying kicked off Moving to Learn: Grow Up Great with Dance and Science, a program of TU and Port Discovery Children’s Museum that is backed by a \$17,000 grant from the PNC Foundation.

The program integrates developmentally appropriate dance methodologies with key concepts in pre-K standards in environmental science that improve school readiness and science proficiency for children ages 2 through 5 years old.

Moving to Learn is funded as part of PNC Grow Up Great, a \$350 million, multi-year bilingual initiative that helps prepare children from birth to age 5 for success in school and life.

The curriculum was designed by the Department of Dance’s K-12 Education Program and Towson University Community Dance, using concepts that are part of the Maryland public school curricula.

Led by certified dance instructors and interns, children use dance and movement to investigate the Earth’s resources and to recognize the cause-and-effect relationship.

“Through the Moving to Learn program, we are transforming STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) into STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math), providing our youngest learners with an arts-infused “leg up” in school readiness,” says Jaye Knutson, TU dance professor. ■



TU instructors teach children the “tree dance” at Port Discovery Children’s Museum.

Classroom Auditions

U Teach program offers ‘Teaching Tryouts’

We’ve all heard “Try it: You’ll like it.” But sometimes an opportunity—or a bit of cajoling—is all it takes to discover something we really like. That’s the premise of Towson

U Teach, a collaboration between the College of Education and the Fisher College of Science and Mathematics now entering its second year.

The U Teach model, which originated at the University of Texas at Austin, encourages freshman mathematics and science majors to explore teaching careers by—you guessed it—teaching. Towson U Teach offers participants a one-credit field experience that is, in fact, a crash course involving real classrooms and real pupils.

Christine Roland, a master teacher at Towson Uteach, says the program aims to recruit students who might not have considered teaching. “There are talent-

“Towson U Teach introduces them to classroom teaching in their first semester, much earlier than would be typical in a traditional teacher-education program.”

—Christine Roland

ed people who don’t realize that they could be fantastic teachers,” she says. “Towson U Teach introduces them to classroom teaching in their first semester, much earlier than would be typical in a traditional teach-

er-education program. It’s an invitation to discover or connect to their ‘inner teacher’ in a low-pressure environment.”

Roland says U Teach’s common-sense approach has succeeded in recruiting so many math and science teachers that it’s been adopted by more than 30 colleges and universities nationwide. About 65 students are now enrolled in Towson U Teach, which currently partners with the Baltimore County Public School system to provide teaching and mentoring in seven area elementary and/or middle schools.

“Of course not everybody will fall in love with teaching,” Roland emphasizes. “But for those who do, U Teach is a life-altering experience.” ■

 NOTEBOOK

15 Times

They are the nation's best collegiate dance team. And they've been the best for 15 years.

In April, the hyper-paced precision moves of Towson's Dance Team wowed the judges and brought home the trophy from the 2013 National Dance Alliance (NDA) Collegiate National Championship. It was the 15th consecutive title for the team.

The competition, held in Daytona Beach, Fla., at the Peabody Auditorium and the Daytona Beach Band Shell, is the largest college cheer and dance championship in the world.

"The team spirit and cooperation of this group of young women makes them champions," says Tom Cascella, dance team coach. "I can't begin to tell you how proud I am of our team."

Dancers give a "high-15" sign after winning the national title for 15 years in a row.



Ethical Win

A team composed of College of Business and Economics students took home the silver this March, placing second in the University of Pittsburgh's Berg Cup ethics competition. Meredith Walter, Sandrine Emambu, An Tran and Shaun Kravitz were awarded \$2,000 for mastering the cup's three case studies.

Walter, a member of TU's Project Management Association, was determined to field a team, especially after the association failed to form a team in time for last year's contest. Towson's team became one of eight selected for the competition following a preliminary round.

The case studies, prepared for the students by Pittsburgh's David Berg Center for Ethics and Leadership, simulated actual business meetings. The Towson team was asked to make decisions regarding the adoption of mobile banking and security breaches at a small bank, and also to fairly distribute NFL tickets.

Walter says that the simulated crises felt more "real" than any classroom experience, and called the Berg Cup a valuable chance for students to use what they have "practiced and rehearsed" through their coursework.

Horse Sense

Like many TU students, Gabby Gaudet attended the Preakness last May. But the senior in TU's College of Fine Arts and Communication wasn't in the infield.



Gabby Gaudet

She was at the track as Pimlico's newest handicapper.

Gaudet, who graduated in May, was selected from a pool of 14 candidates, becoming the full-time handicapper at Pimlico and Laurel Park in September. She will be responsible for researching the races, handling the media, and sharing news and stories on TV, online and in social media.

In an interview with the *Baltimore Sun*, she says, "Horse-racing has so many incredibly colorful characters in it, but to be honest, it tends to be kind of a closed-in community. I love collecting their stories, and I want to open that up."

Circle of Excellence

Lunden Hawkins, a TU family studies and community development major, received the Circle of Excellence scholarship from the *Maryland Daily Record*. Given to one female college student in the state, the \$3,000 award recognizes academic achievement, outstanding leadership in the community and a commitment to mentoring.

Lunden's leadership and philanthropy efforts began in high school when she and her peers raised more than \$5,000 to build a homeless shelter in Howard County, Md. Hawkins is also the founder and president of Project STAND (Students Taking a New Direction), an organization that recruits volunteers to mentor at area nonprofits.

 NUGGETS

Accredited

The College of Business and Economics has once again maintained its accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International for its business and accounting programs.

The College of Business and Economics maintains AACSB accreditation.

Towson University is the only University System of Maryland institution with AACSB Accreditation for both programs.

Computer Pioneer

Joyce Currie Little, professor emerita who founded TU's computer science department in 1983, won the Distinguished Information Sciences Award. The award, given by the Association of Information Technology Professionals, recognizes outstanding contributions and distinguished service in the discipline of information management.

For 50 years Little has had a passion for computers. In 1957, she was one of only a few women who wrote programs and tested data in a wind tunnel at Convair Aircraft in San Diego.



Joyce Currie Little

At Towson, she established curricula that earned Towson's computer science program accreditation by the Accreditation Body of Engineering Technicians in 1994. She also developed courses that tackled social and ethical issues for computer scientists.

Green Side

TU reduced its greenhouse gas emissions by 4.8 percent between 2008 and 2011, according to the university's report to the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment this year.



West Village Commons, with its LEED Gold-certified design, helps reduce Towson's emissions.

TU reduces its greenhouse gas emissions.

Despite a 10 percent increase in enrollment and a 5 percent increase in building square feet, every measure of emissions, including student and employee commuting, solid waste and employee air travel, decreased. The exception was purchased electricity.

Finding Cures

Bethany Brand, TU psychology professor, is leading the world's largest and longest international study on the effective treatment of dissociative disorders (DD). Brought on by prolonged trauma, DD causes the brain to shut down, which can lead to a range of psychiatric and physical problems.

According to Brand, about one percent of the world's population suffers from the most severe type of DD. Yet the disease is little known and barely studied. She is working to bridge that knowledge gap.

During an initial study, Brand and her team refuted claims that DD does not respond to treatment.

Now the team is on to its next phase of research, funded by TU's College of Liberal Arts and private donors, to develop a website that will engage DD patients and their therapists around the world in an effort to improve treatments and outcomes.



▲ Towson CSI

Crime scene tape surrounded the "murdered" mannequins in the Glen Pavilion. The mock crime scene was part of a three-day training seminar for forensic high school teachers sponsored by the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

◀ LOOK BACK

Stitches in Time

Students in the Maryland State Normal School had to master sewing as part of the elementary school curriculum. At right is the handiwork of M. Theresa Wiedefeld, a 1904 graduate of the Normal School. She was later president of the State Teachers College at Towson from 1938–1947.

TIGER NUMBERS

2 Academic All-Americans

- Zach Fisher, baseball
- Katy Buck, volleyball

3 CAA Players of the Year

- Jerrelle Benimon, basketball
- Kaitlyn Burke, swimming
- Ashleigh Rohrback, lacrosse (coplayer)

5 Coaches of the Year

- American Baseball Coaches East—Mike Gottlieb
- CAA men's basketball—Pat Skerry
- CAA volleyball—Bruce Atkinson
- CAA women's lacrosse—Sonia LaMonica
- CAA women's swimming—Pat Mead

7 CAA Championships

- Baseball
- Football (shared)
- Men's lacrosse
- Volleyball, regular season
- Women's lacrosse, regular season/tournament
- Women's swimming and diving

131 Student-athletes with a GPA of 3.5 or higher



Memories of Men's Soccer

A former player reflects on the program and Coach Frank Olszewski

Tuna fish and a stomach virus don't mix.

Thus I began my varsity soccer career at Towson in 1976, kneeling between the bleachers at Burdick Stadium puking my guts out. From this less than stellar debut, I completed an unremarkable (from a playing standpoint), but unforgettable three-year career as a Tiger student-athlete. I gained self-esteem, as well as the confidence to tackle most anything that life might throw my way.

This prompted me in the early '80s, along with my former teammate John Potyraj '77, to resurrect the Alumni Game to keep in touch with fellow Tigers, honor the memory of former players and coaches, and raise funds for the program.

Years later when I refereed the last men's soccer game Oct. 24, 2012, I crossed the field for the pre-match greeting with Coach Frank Olszewski. Memories came flooding back: recollections of times gone by, friendships forged, maturity reached (that may be a stretch) and finally the realization that life comes full circle.

I formally met Frank in August 1978 when he became Towson's new assistant coach and Rich Bartos was named the new head coach. A former Hopkins player, Frank had opposed us the previous year. Now we had to adjust to him as an authority figure. He handled what could have been an awkward situation with his typical aplomb; he had been a cerebral, tough and respected player, and he brought these same qualities to bear in his 35 years of service to Towson soccer.

On away matches, Frank drove the van with the "crazies" aboard. Once we ran out of gas on I-70 and Bill "Hoagie" Carmichael sprinted across six lanes of highway, jumped a barbed wire fence, "borrowed" a gas can from a fire station, sprinted back and got us on our way. You see, he had this hot date.

In 1982, Frank became the head coach upon the untimely passing of Coach Bartos. Over the next 30 years, he led Towson soccer to unprecedented success, while sending over two dozen players to professional soccer teams. Success on the



(Above) Coach Frank Olszewski made sure his players succeeded on the pitch and in the classroom.

(Right) Tiger midfielder Rich Lorenzet '79

pitch did not come at the expense of the classroom—his teams consistently led the university in academic performance.

TU President Maravene Loeschke agrees. "Coach Olszewski has a stellar legacy at Towson and he is a class act," she says.

My two sons, Chris and Dan (then 5 and 3), were indoctrinated into the soccer culture in the early '90s. After they watched Towson goalkeeper Richard Pellegrini '94 in a game, he stayed to let the boys take shots on him, theatrically letting the ball go through his legs into the net. Thanks Rich, the boys still remember.

Along with former TU soccer players Nick Manna '88, and Tom Trafton '74, I officiated the Alumni Game in April. The last event of a storied program became a celebration of all things Towson soccer. It was certainly bittersweet, knowing that other young men will be denied the experiences I so cherish to this day. But in his typical understated, classy way, Frank put a brilliant postscript on the proceedings. He wrote a detailed description of the festivities, mentioning all players and attendees, and then emailed it to everyone. As Frank so tellingly put it, "That's a Wrap." ■

Former Tiger midfielder Rich Lorenzet '79 is a contracts administrator at Northrop Grumman and a certified NCAA, high school and U.S. Soccer Federation referee. Read Olszewski's tribute to players at magazine.towson.edu.



Men's Soccer Coaches

1921-25	Harold Callahill
1926	John Shanks
1927-40	Donald Minnegan
1947	Jack Hart
1948-50	Bill Clark
1951	Earl Killian
1952-66	Donald Minnegan
1967-75	Jack McDonald
1976-77	Paul Bell
1978-81	Rich Bartos
1982-2012	Frank Olszewski

What's New



Athletic Director

Towson University found a new champion in Tim Leonard, who stepped in as TU athletic director on August 19.

After a national search, Leonard, former senior associate athletic director for external affairs at Southern Methodist University, was Towson's "ideal candidate." He brings more than 20 years of intercollegiate athletics experience, as well as an award-winning fundraising record.

During his introduction, President Maravene Loeschke expressed great excitement about Leonard, calling him "a champion who is going to help us make champions."

He conveyed a similar sentiment about securing what he says was one of the hottest athletics openings in the country. "Towson University is where I want to be," says Leonard. "I want to listen and I want to learn from the people that have been here to understand what it means to be a Towson Tiger."

Leonard replaces Mike Waddell, who resigned as athletic director in May. Tricia Turley Brandenburg has served as interim athletic director.

The video board in SECU Arena gives Tiger sports fans high-definition action and sports statistics.

SECU Arena

Towson's new home for basketball, gymnastics and volleyball has a new name—SECU Arena. SECU—Maryland's largest state-chartered financial cooperative—secured the exclusive naming rights with a \$4.5 million contribution over 10 years.

A media and signage package accompanies the naming rights. The SECU/Towson partnership also includes the SECU Welcome Center at the arena, a SECU Information Center and ATMs.

The gleaming sports center opened its doors in May, hosting TU's 148th commencement. Fifteen area high schools also held graduation ceremonies in the new arena, followed by the Harlem Globetrotters, who displayed their ball-handling skills there in June.

The venue seats 5,200, with 40 club seats. An LED ribbon display circles the inside of the arena and an enormous video board hangs from the center of the court.

SECU Arena and the Tigers welcome Navy Nov. 8 when the basketball season opens.



An Emmy

WTMD-FM and MPT reeled in an Emmy for "Concert for the Chesapeake Bay" held last year.

The honor was bestowed by the National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the National Television Academy of Arts and Sciences.

In a unique collaboration with Maryland Public Television, WTMD simulcast a live concert that featured artists such as Cris Jacobs Band, Old Man Brown, Rachael Yamagata and Caleb Saleem. Throughout the broadcast, listeners were encouraged to help restore the health of the bay through volunteerism—for example, planting grasses, removing litter, making phone calls and mailing information.

"We and MPT understand that our job is to bring the challenges the bay is facing to our listeners

and viewers and provide them a way to make their own individual contributions, ensuring its health and beauty for all of us," says Steve Yasko, general manager of WTMD.



Turtle Pals

The endangered northern map turtle is getting a little help from its friends at TU and the town of Port Deposit, Md., on the Susquehanna River.

The university and the town formed a partnership to preserve the turtle and pursue research, education and economic development through ecotourism.

The partnership developed after the people of Port Deposit, heard about the turtle studies of Richard Seigel, TU professor of biology, Teal Richards-Dimitrie '11 and other Towson student researchers. When the town discovered the turtle's plight, the citizens immediately wanted to know how they could help, Richards-Dimitrie says.

Through the partnership, the state has allocated funding to help rehabilitate the historic Port Deposit Gas House, which will house a visitors' center and research space for Towson students.





DIS-CONNECTED

**STUDENTS ARE DISCONCERTED
WHEN FORCED TO
DISCONNECT
FROM SOCIAL MEDIA**

BY GINNY COOK

ANDREW REINER did the unthinkable. He made his students pull the plug.



The English Department lecturer, who won the Honors College Faculty Member of the Year award in 2011 and 2013, imposed what he called “a social-media sabbath” in his Honors College classes. Students had to turn off cell phones, Facebook, iPads and other electronic gadgets. They had to spend time by themselves—even dine *alone* in a public spot—without a technological appendage.

Then, their assignments were to reflect on these experiences and write essays.

Anger and anxiety ensued.

“After all, staying socially connected at all times is safer than standing apart from the crowd by risking, saying or doing something that might make you appear less intelligent or less cool (read: more vulnerable) than everyone else in the room,” Reiner wrote in an article in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* last September. “If this skittish generation is ever going to embrace risk-taking in the classroom, then risk-taking needs to be introduced consciously, deliberately.”

Reiner set some of those risk-taking parameters during spring 2012 in the class “Leading a Life that Matters,” when students were without cell phones for four hours. Instead of responding to texts, calls or emails, they were tasked with “looking within to explore some aspect of themselves,” he explains. Some were annoyed, others downright angry, but most discovered a refreshing self-awareness or forgotten talent, singing for example, during the short-lived time alone.

The following spring, Reiner devised a far more terrifying introspective assignment. In “The Search for Intimacy in the Age of Facebook,” students had to eat two meals in a dining hall or restaurant totally by themselves—no phones, laptops, books or even paper and pens could be on the table.

The universal reactions were embarrassment and fear. One student compared the experience to “being naked in public.” Another wanted to stand up and announce, “I have friends. I’m just doing schoolwork.” Still another would rather starve, noting, “The fear of eating alone was strong enough to overcome my grumbling stomach.”

Despite their misgivings, students admitted that being accessible 24/7 didn’t necessarily equate to meaningful connections. “They found that technology can damage the way we communicate and erode our sense of community and ourselves,” Reiner explains. “When given the opportunity, self-imposed isolation leads to compelling and unexpected discoveries.”

You can read some of those discoveries below and on the following page.

THE SEARCH FOR INTIMACY IN THE AGE OF FACEBOOK

“Have I gotten to the point where I cannot sit with others without trying to be connected to someone who isn’t even with me?”

Why do I not feel insulted when I am eating with someone and they feel it is more important to converse with someone else instead of me who is sitting right in front of them?

I pride myself on being independent and non-conformist. [I was] conforming to the idea that only strange individuals eat alone.”

• **Lorrie Sinibaldi**

“I thought I was past the high school phase where what I looked like to other people bothered me. I want people to think that I have friends and am not a lonely freak.

This experiment forced me to admit that I can be vain because of the extent to which I care what people think of me.”

• **Sam Thompson**

▶ READ REINER’S ESSAY ONLINE
magazine.towson.edu

“By not having my phone or laptop to hide behind, it was amazing how self-conscious I felt. If I don’t feel connected with others, I automatically feel alone, unpopular and even less confident.

It’s interesting how people need technology to connect but we become the most disconnected from the world through technology.

I possibly am too dependent on technology, a slave, which can only be broken by first being content with myself, whether I am with others—or alone.”

• **Erica Magnotto**

“At least when I would eat lunch alone but still have my electronics accessible, I could have conversations with others that made me feel as if I had some importance, but without connection I just felt sort of empty.

Technology and social media has convinced us that going out in public alone is a form of “social suicide.” If we want to be viewed as cool or popular, we better roll around everywhere with a posse.”

• **Jess Archibald**

“I gathered my things and bolted out the door. I was glad that I could feel like I belong somewhere again. I realized how much I relied on technology. What I hated most about this experiment was being alone and feeling like I was being judged for it.”

• **Loan Dinh**

“Let’s face it, college students, especially girls, are extremely judgmental, and no one wants to feel like an outcast. This experiment has caused me to come face to face with a fear I never knew existed—the fear of feeling unwanted.”

• **Melissa Lepson**

LEADING A LIFE THAT MATTERS

“I feel sorry for the masses of humans who dare not reach further than what is taught to them by others. These people will never achieve self-fulfillment; they will never recognize the astounding infinity which only thoughts, disagreements and questioning can attain.”

• **Scott Knowles**

“There is some surging amount of joy knowing I can sing with everything inside of me because no one was watching. No one is there to judge.

I knew I could keep singing because I had broken through all self-consciousness. I could sing a mistake because it didn’t matter; and because it didn’t matter, I didn’t make a mistake.”

• **Stephanie Hertl**

“With the help of the wind, the petals were able to get away from the bark...I envy those white petals. I yearn for that same sense of lifting away from the past and moving freely to a new destination, no matter how short lived.

I have a choice. Unlike those white petals, lifted away by natural forces, I have the ability to control the outcome. I will create my own path.”

• **Rebecca Laubner**

JOY  **LIFE CONTROL**
SELF-FULFILLMENT **RELIEF**
HAPPY MOOD **BEAUTY** 

“Noticing all the beauty around me just changed my entire mood about the experience of running. When I walk on campus I do not look at people or the buildings or the landscape. My eyes are almost always glued on my phone. If the beauty of the trail made me feel happy about running, maybe noticing life around campus or other places I go would make me happy too.” ■

• **Kayla Rolek**

Ginny Cook is the editor of *Towson*.

DREAMS + DRIVE
= MAKING A
DIFFERENCE

BY JAN LUCAS



Renee Foose '93

leads one of Maryland's
highest-achieving
school systems.



Imagine yourself in charge of a city-size community of learners, most between 5 and 18, and you may begin to appreciate Renee A. Foose's role as superintendent of the Howard County [Md.] Public School System.

Then add personnel—8,030 teachers, principals, professional and support staff, bus drivers, grounds and maintenance workers—to get a better sense of the scope of her responsibilities.

Don't forget the parents, taxpayers, businesses, elected officials (including the Board of Education), teacher unions and other stakeholders who provide support as well as scrutiny—and who aren't shy about voicing their opinions.

And then there's the State Department of Education, which holds school systems accountable for the implementation of state and federal K-12 education standards.

It's an enormous undertaking, but Renee Foose is upbeat and undaunted a year into her tenure. After all, she came to the job with an impressive resume that includes stints as deputy superintendent of Baltimore County Public Schools and associate superintendent of Montgomery County Public Schools.

Foose didn't travel an entirely conventional route to superintendent: Her trip to the top included some notable bumps and detours.

An Allentown, Pa., native and the youngest of eight children, Foose accepted a job offer from the Maryland State Police after graduating from community college. A road-patrol trooper assigned to the Bel Air, Md., barracks, she enrolled at Towson in 1990, intending to pursue a bachelor's degree in biology and fulfill her dream of becoming a high-school science teacher.

"I chose Towson on the strength of its science offerings," she says. "I worked shifts, and the university was flexible enough to accommodate my schedule.

"It was a great experience," she adds.

But there was a hitch: She could take biology courses at night, but not the education courses needed for teacher certification. It was a disappointment, not a deterrent. In 1993 Foose left Towson with

a B.S. degree in biology. The State Police subsequently promoted her to corporal and reassigned her to the environment crimes unit.

She put her degree to work investigating businesses suspected of flouting Maryland's environmental protection laws by discharging pollutants into streams or the atmosphere. Foose recalls spending a lot of time in Baltimore City, where she tracked down contractors who were stripping lead-based paint from buildings and washing it down storm drains.

Although bringing scofflaws to justice proved satisfying, Foose's desire to teach hadn't abated. She enrolled in the Master of Arts in Teaching program at Loyola College Maryland, completing her coursework and student teaching while continuing to work full-time.

In 1996 she left law enforcement for Parkville High School in Baltimore County, where she taught biology. Performance-based promotions led to an assistant principal post and launched a career in school administration.

"Classroom leadership took me to the next level," she explains. "It's empowering and fulfilling to make a difference."

Foose's knowledge and determination propelled her through the ranks during the next few years. En route she earned two more degrees: an executive MBA from Loyola and a doctorate in education from the University of Delaware.

Accepting an offer to become superintendent of Howard County Public School System in 2012, she took the helm of one of Maryland's highest-achieving districts. Howard County's 52,000 students consistently score high on the Maryland School Assessment test, and 92 percent of high school graduates pursue postsecondary education.

"We need to ask ourselves 'What can we do better?'"

[Renee Foose '93]



Photo by André Chung

Renee Foose, superintendent of Howard County schools, believes kindergarteners should learn foreign languages and supports the use of technology in teaching.

The county has long attracted families in search of excellent public education, and Foose is committed to bolstering the system's already enviable reputation.

It's a tall order in some respects. Foose introduced a five-year strategic plan, as well as a budget of just over \$700 million for the 2013-2014 school year. "It sounds like a lot of money," she says, "but it's not.

"Eighty-eight cents out of every dollar goes to salaries. There are also operating costs to factor in, as well as transportation. We have so many competing priorities."

Foose says she's willing to trim spending in any way that doesn't adversely affect the classroom. "Our resources have to support our mission of teaching and learning. Anything less won't provide a return on investment."

Like other Maryland school superintendents, Foose is grappling with the Maryland General Assembly's decision to shift a portion of the cost of teacher pensions from the state to individual counties. "The responsibility will eventually be on the school systems," says Foose, who hopes the fiscal burden will be lightened by a recovering economy.

Redistricting—reconfiguring school boundaries to balance enrollments—is a sore point for Howard County parents and a huge challenge for the superintendent. "Redistricting has been done much more frequently here than in slower-growing counties," Foose says. "People buy homes with the expectation that their children will attend specific schools.

"All Howard County public schools provide a good education, but I appreciate their concerns."

After taking office Foose ordered a comprehensive look at the approach the system was taking to redistricting. "We need to reevaluate," she says. "We need to ask ourselves 'What can we do better?'"

In addition, Foose is leading her system's transition to the new Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The state-level initiative, which Maryland adopted in 2010, comprises rigorous, real-world academic standards for English/language arts and mathematics. CCSS are internationally benchmarked against standards from the highest performing countries, including Singapore and Japan.

The state is now translating CCSS into the Maryland Core State Curriculum, which is scheduled to be fully implemented by the 2014-15 school year. Foose says the phase-in presents challenges, especially for the teachers. "Right now we're integrating the new curriculum while ushering out the old," she adds. "As with any new curriculum, we work out the trouble spots along the way."

Foose says the result of this intensive effort will be graduates who are even better prepared for college and career success in a knowledge-based global economy.

"Howard County is at the forefront of preparing students to compete in the 21st century," she says, pointing to a county elementary school where kindergartners are learning foreign languages. "We can no longer afford to wait until ninth grade to teach languages," she insists, noting that, if successful, the pilot program may expand to more schools.

The superintendent clearly values technology as a tool that can integrate teachers and learners. There's another pilot program that will equip each student with an iPad, she says. (Those who can't afford iPads can borrow them from their school.) The goal, she adds, is to "build best practices around technology to make sure we stay purpose-driven and support student outcomes."

Renee Foose's commitment to K-12 public education includes classroom and cafeteria visits that bring her into contact with her most important stakeholders. The exchanges are always interesting, often illuminating and sometimes amusing, she says. On a visit to a kindergarten class, the teacher introduced "Dr. Foose" to a sea of tiny, crestfallen faces. "The children seemed so disappointed," Foose recalls with a laugh.

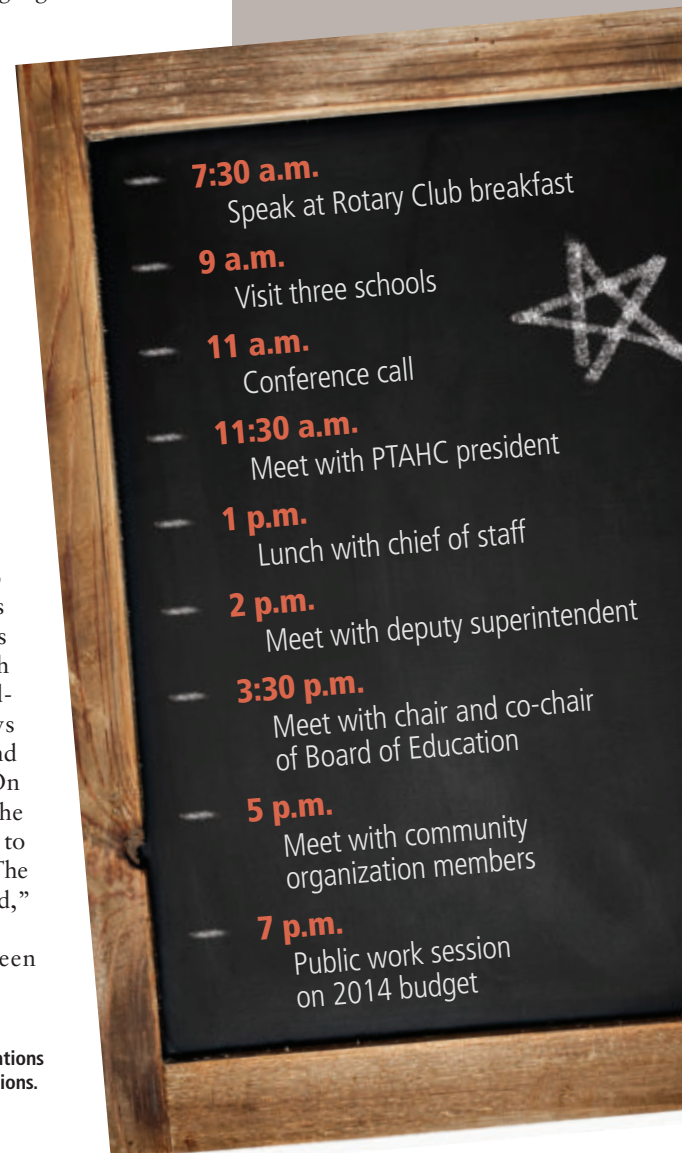
And no wonder: They'd been expecting Dr. Seuss. ■

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



A Day in the Life

Renee Foose routinely puts in long days as superintendent of the Howard County Public School System. A typical day's schedule might include the following:




 Winning

WORDS

Towson's *nationally ranked* debate team uses strategy and spin to out-argue Ivy League rivals.

BY WANDA HASKEL | PHOTOS BY DECARLO BROWN

"Debate is beautiful. You get eight minutes to talk and no one interrupts you."

—Korey Johnson

Korey Johnson '16 can't stop talking. Her gift for gab caused trouble in high school—until she joined the debate team, a perfect activity for a loquacious teen.

Debate is "beautiful," laughs Johnson. "You get eight minutes to talk and no one interrupts you."

Hooked on competitive arguing, Johnson debated for Baltimore Polytechnic Institute, then came to Towson on a debate scholarship.

Last spring, the freshman was part of TU's top-ranked traveling foursome, the nationally competitive branch of Towson's Forensics Program. Johnson and her partner Ameena Ruffin '15, and duo Kevin Whitley '15 and Lenny Herrera '16, are on fire, besting teams from Harvard, Cornell, Michigan State, Northwestern and Rutgers, and bringing home so much bling that the collegiate debate community can't help but listen.

Last debate season, says TU Director of Forensics Jennifer Potter, "they started winning tournaments and big speaker

awards and just kept getting better all year long. It's been phenomenal."

In October at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Towson debaters were unstoppable, winning the competition and bringing home the coveted West Point Sabre, a traveling trophy bestowed on tournament champions since 1967. This spring, the team finished in the top 16 in the two most elite national competitions—the Cross Examination Debate Association (CEDA) National Tournament and the National Debate Tournament. Ruffin, Johnson, Whitley and Herrera all earned individual honors during the season as well, with first speaker awards going to Ruffin and Whitley.

SPIN TO WIN

Towson's triumphant trajectory has its recent roots in a groundbreaking victory at the 2008 CEDA national championship. The underdog win, a first for Towson, made college debate history because the TU duo was the first pair of African-American national champions. They out-talked



◀ Fast-talking Korey Johnson articulates as many arguments as possible in a mesmerizing rhythm of words.

the competition by pushing the limits of traditional debate, personalizing the proceedings by putting issues of race at the forefront of their arguments.

Today's TU teams build on this innovation, approaching resolutions (the debate topic for the year) through the lens of social justice, but also expanding and diversifying the critical theory they use to support their arguments.

According to TU head coach Stephen Davis, debate is all about strategy and spin. This year's squad stepped up their research, yielding a range of strategies at debates that stymied many opponents. "They've had a lot of success because of the depth and breadth of knowledge" about numerous subjects, says Davis.

Preparation requires remarkable dedication, including summers spent planning for the upcoming season. TU debaters do enough research each debate season to write a master's thesis, Davis says. They can spend up to 40 to 60 hours a week—on top of their other course work—reading, formulating arguments and practicing.

Talking with team members is like dropping in on a graduate-level philosophy seminar. They bat around critical theory with the passion and intellectual curiosity of seasoned academics. Ruffin, who was the squad's top earner of speaker points this year and recipient of the inaugural Richard E. Vatz Debater of the Year Award, used a combination of theory from philosophers Foucault and Nietzsche and current thinkers in black critical theory to inform some of her arguments. People don't see the 60 hours of preparation that go into getting ready for a two-hour debate, says Ruffin. "It's a lot."

While research and prep are critical, so is a talent for talk. Debaters aim to articulate as many arguments as possible during their allotted time. Speech flows at an astonishing pace, punctuated by gasps of air to support the next wave of words, all to a mesmerizing rhythm that makes the performance as entertaining as it is intellectually challenging. In fact, college debaters speak so quickly that it's practically impossible for someone outside



◀ (Left to right) Towson Forensics Team members Kevin Whitley, Lenny Herrera, Corey Johnson and Ameena Ruffin crafted the winning words to bring home the West Point Sabre at the 44th annual West Point Debate Tournament, held last October at the United States Military Academy in New York.

the debate community to understand and digest it all. Debaters (and tournament judges) catch every nuance, though. They must. The competition is as much about refuting their opponents' positions as defending their own.

SPEAKING OUT

Yet students' motivations go deeper than performing and winning. They want to change the world for the better, seeing debate as a way to increase opportunities for the underprivileged and ensure that diverse perspectives are represented in national policy.

Herrera is grateful that debate offered him a way to college—he's also at TU on scholarship—and hopes that by participating in debate, he can inspire other students of color to pursue higher education. "Without debate, I don't know where I would be," says the freshman from New York City.

Ruffin and Johnson work to make debate, which traditionally has been dominated by white males from wealthy schools, more diverse and inclusive by serving as debate coaches at their former high schools in Baltimore City. Interacting with kids from various backgrounds and socioeconomic situations, Johnson uses her role as coach to let students know that their opinions are important. "That's the ultimate gift to a kid," she says, "to know they matter."

In addition to increasing access, these young leaders see the activity as a way to create an army of thinkers who will then

go out in the world and use their skills to make a positive impact.

Whitley plans to work as a foreign developer, contributing to the creation of infrastructures for countries in need of schools, roads and hospitals. The international relations major thanks debate for teaching him to value the perspectives of the people he hopes to help.

Debate is an inroad, adds Ruffin, to affect the thinking of those who will later be in positions of authority—the politicians, political strategists and business leaders who typically have backgrounds in college debate. Think power brokers Bill and Hillary Clinton, Karl Rove, Antonin Scalia, Arianna Huffington and Lee Iacocca.

Too often, says Ruffin, policies or big decisions neglect the people affected. That's something she hopes to change, explaining, "We try to look at the underside of those issues, the things that often get glossed over—the way that we as individuals would link to those issues—to give a new perspective that can add to the way policies are created." ■

Wanda Haskel is a freelance writer based in Lutherville, Md.

TU debaters do enough research each debate season to write a master's thesis.



issues
strategy
rapid-fire
argue champs
resolved
depth compete
saber
performance
policy issues



In May 1988, Towson alumni and students who had competed in debate or competitive speaking celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Forensics Team at a banquet in the Lord Baltimore Hotel in Baltimore.

MANY VOICES

Debate Team Celebrates 50 Years

Towson's Forensics Program began its tradition of making debate available and inclusive when it was established by Professor Emeritus C. Richard Gillespie, husband of TU President Maravene Loeschke '69/'71, 50 years ago.

Brenda Logue, who was program director and coach for 24 years (1970-1995), is proud of the team's history of diversity. "We had an incredibly balanced team of males and females," she said at the anniversary celebration in May. "But more than that, we represented the makeup of [then] Towson State—a public institution."

Helen Pryor Gross '69 remembers being part of the squad that brought the first Maryland chapter of Pi Kappa Delta, the nation's oldest speech and debate honor society, to campus. And long before the Internet granted instant access to facts and figures, she made trips to offices in D.C. to track down information.

Gross joined the speech and debate team just as the Women's Liberation Movement was gaining traction in the United States. She credits her debate experience with helping her navigate a

work environment that was just beginning to accept women as equals. At Social Security, where she would work for 38 years, some male colleagues assumed that women would automatically take notes in meetings.

One of TU's most famous debaters, Mike Rowe '85 hosted Discovery Channel's unscripted "Dirty Jobs."

Being a debater, says Gross, "made me confident." She spoke up, agreeing to take notes once. Next time, it would be someone else's turn.

Steven Mister '85 also benefited from TU forensics' inclusive tradition, showing up at Logue's office with a desire to try speech and debate but no high school experience. Logue took a chance on him. He grew into a record-breaking debater, representing Towson at national competitions.

Now, Mister considers debate invaluable preparation for his position as CEO of a trade organization for the vitamin industry. "I make my living communicating," says Mister, who testifies before Congress and grants interviews with *The New York Times*, *CNN* and *The Wall Street Journal*. "I couldn't do that without the experience I got in forensics. It teaches you how to think on your feet, how to be a critical thinker, to have the self-confidence to stand up in front of people and talk."

One of TU's most famous debaters, Mike Rowe '85, silver-tongued his way into QVC and then went on to host Discovery Channel's unscripted "Dirty Jobs." In a video address played at the 50th anniversary celebration, Rowe echoed sentiments common among alumni who view speech and debate as a springboard for life.

"I just remember leaving Towson feeling like there were a whole bunch of things that might be possible for me," said Rowe, "that weren't possible before I got there."

Wanda Haskel

In His Shoes

BY GINNY COOK PHOTOS BY JAY SIMPSON

Walking 400 miles in South Africa
with **Jay Simpson '09**,
a National Geographic
Young Explorer





Simpson's trek along the Rim of Africa stretched from the Cederberg Grand Traverse to the Outeniqua Epic outside of George.



He rises at dawn; knows something is wrong.

A mechanical noise is drowning out the trill of songbirds. A grey mist settles over the valley—pesticides from a sprayer blanket the air.

It is time to leave.

He packs up his sleeping bag, treks from the valley through the bush, walking higher and higher until “The noise of the pesticide tractors is lost in the wind and the ground underfoot is now free from manicured perfection. Up here we find the scent of the clouds and the untamed inside us.”

Jay Simpson '09, who wrote those words, thrives on adventure and the untamed—in himself and the world around him. Here is a man who literally walks on the wild side.

As a 2012 National Geographic Young Explorer, he trekked through six mountain ranges in South Africa for 50 days along 400 miles on the Rim of Africa Passage.

The passage, cofounded by Ivan Groenhof and Galeo Saintz, is a conservation initiative that aims to preserve the mountains while collaborating with private landowners for access to the trails.

Alone—at times with other hikers—Simpson endured “storms, the sweltering African sun and limited access to water” to become the first person to walk the entire route. His journey often found him treading on terrain where no human had ever set foot before. (National Geographic cited him in the Best Explorer Moments of 2012).





The protea is one of the flowers in the Cederberg area.

But Simpson is not a thrill-seeker. He really wasn't looking to be "the first" to forge a passage through the Western Cape of South Africa. Instead, his wanderlust is fueled by a passion for conservation and intricate stories—this one related to saving flora and fauna.

Story telling is in his nature. Even the voice message on his cell phone asks the caller to "tell me a story."

He explains, "I'm drawn to complicated stories—the issues that cannot be summarized in 30 seconds."

And Simpson's tale of his South African walk is awash in complexities that defy simple sound bites. It involves the competing interests of the rural legacy of farming and the biodiversity of the land.

For example, the Cape Floristic Region is recognized as the "world's hottest hotspot" for diverse and rare plants. "It contains nearly 9,000 species of plants, 69 percent of which occur nowhere else in the world," he says.

Yet this unique landscape is under siege. Humans, agriculture, freshwater industrialization, climate change and alien species continue to invade its beauty and solitude and biodiversity.

So it hardly seems possible that a single hiker can achieve any meaningful ecological change. But Simpson took small steps, photographing unusual flowers that he would encounter only once during his journey. He posted information on an endemic flycatcher bush and its singular role in the ecosystem.

He even transformed from a pacifist to a "sap-thirsty annihilator" killing alien trees he discovered and videotaping the destruction. It was justifiable herbicide. "The South African Work for Water Public Works Programme estimates 'Invading alien plants are the single biggest threat to plant and animal biodiversity,'" Simpson notes on his blog.

These and countless other experiences—from campfires to mountain summits dwarfed by mega rocks to the habitats of

mini foaming insects—became his *Rim of Africa Multimedia Trail Journal*. Simpson hopes this record of his trip will inform, instruct and rally the local population to action.

"It is an interactive resource for educators and nonprofits to teach about the environment and conservation," he explains. "That way youth can learn about the significance of the region, and maybe even consider future studies or jobs related to conservation or tourism."

By working with groups, including the Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation Youth Center, Simpson hopes the next generation of South Africans can become the problem solvers for the ecological issues in their backyards. He also hopes the journal—photos, video and other media—will "increase the publicity of the project and income to local communities."

It's not the first time Simpson has used his multimedia expertise to champion a cause.

His resume includes producing fundraising videos for a school in Malawi, collaborating on a book (issuu.com/tboltkid/docs/j2e) that supported the rights of Hazara women in Afghanistan after the Taliban, and creating a fundraising blog for an AIDS/Lifecycle ride.

"After graduating from Towson, I've spent most of my time living and working in Southern and East Africa creating media for nonprofit causes," Simpson explains. He studied abroad in South Africa in 2008, returned there in 2009 and eventually worked in Web and video production at GreatGuides.org. "My degrees in anthropology and filmmaking prepared me to apply what I learned in the classroom out where there were few others leading the way."

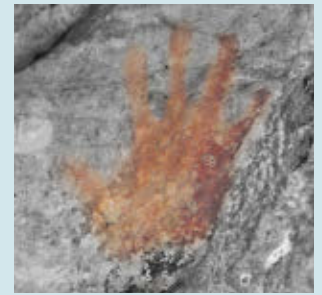
Doing what comes naturally

While Simpson sharpened his media and reporting skills in school, he's always been at home outdoors.

He grew up in Southern Maryland where, "my parents ordered my twin brother and me outside with the only rule—to return by dark," he says.

With Our Ancestors

Pictures of the past



Why paint these markings on the cave walls? Will we ever really know what they mean?

The true magic of rock art is that the energy, transferred from the ancestor through the paint into forms on the wall, is still visible and therefore survives for us to experience. Their handprint becomes an undeniable bridge to the world of people before us. We were, and are, here. Together.

This ancient experience is one of the joys of walking on the Rim of Africa. For days when the mountains seem harsh and inhospitable, the weather challenging and taxing, and the journey lonely or too far from other human existence, you can look around, like I did when hiding from rain under the cover of a boulder, and find signs of someone from before saying "I was here too."

Excerpted from *With Our Ancestors* from Simpson's *Rim of Africa Trail Journal*. Visit toltkid.com/trailjournal/with-our-ancestors/ to read the entire entry.



He cannot remember when he didn't own a tent and backpack, when he wasn't testing himself outdoors with increasingly challenging trips. "Deep wilderness is a great place to find what you're capable of," he says.

In the South African bush, however, he nearly met his limit. At times there were trails to follow, but often he was hacking through the bush. Thirty-two days into the trek, Simpson faced the third successive day of foul weather—driving wind, pelting rain—that only got worse. What should have been a panoramic mountain vista was

"I was fortunate that no serious events occurred — no snake bites, no hypothermia, no falls, breaks, sprains," he says. His feet never failed him—until after he finished the journey. Then they swelled up, forcing him to lay down for several days.

Now healed, Simpson depends on them for his next adventures.

In November he'll return to South Africa, joining Ricardo Filander, a Cape Town native who had hiked with him for two weeks, in a month-long visit to schools along the Rim of Africa route.

"We hope our experiences will spark

"I had no idea what it would be like to be
alone for two weeks in the mountains."

—Jay Simpson

a slog through mud. "I kept falling down. I was furious, screaming," he remembers.

Somehow he kept putting one foot in front of the other. "I had no idea what it would be like to be alone for two weeks in the mountains. There isn't much you can do other than just doing it," he says. "Somehow, I made it through."

His mental toughness was matched by his ability to walk through thick bush for 18 hours a day with a 50-pound pack for 50 days. "You just do it and listen to your body," he says.

While he downplays any physical preparations, his planning was meticulous—organizing daily safety check-ins and emergency contacts, securing permission from landowners to hike through their properties, packing and sorting provisions and equipment to carry, and making food.

"I prepared 72 meals in one afternoon," he says. Stored in Ziploc bags were daily rations of quinoa, cashews and vegetables. He also carried canned tuna, one block of cheese for every five days, and one chocolate bar for every three days. It was never enough.

students to make positive changes in their environments," Simpson says.

He also hopes donations will arrive via his website (tboltkid.com) so he can continue his environmental and activist nonprofit work.

Next year, he'll be part of the OR-7 Expedition, a 1,200-mile walking and mountain biking project tracking a wolf that left its pack in northeast Oregon, traveling to western Oregon and into Northern California.

"It became the first wild wolf in those areas in nearly 90 years," Simpson says, sparking a longstanding debate that pits the animal's right to survive against farmers who want to hunt them to protect their livestock.

"We created this journey to find effective solutions—a middle-ground—in the polarized dialogue of humans vs. wildlife," Simpson explains.

It's another one of those complicated stories that Simpson can sink his feet into. ■

Ginny Cook is the editor of *Towson*.

SEE MORE ONLINE
magazine.towson.edu



(Above) The rocky and desolate landscape of the Kouebokkeveld. (Below) "I'm done," yells Simpson, jumping for joy at the end of his 400-mile trek.





COMMAND

☆☆☆☆

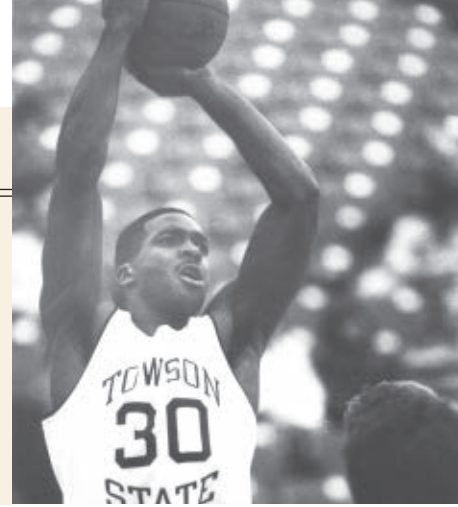
DECISIONS

BY PETE SCHLEHR '71 | PHOTOS BY KANJI TAKENO





Long before **Greg McClinton '86** became commander of Aberdeen Proving Ground, he had to choose a life in the military.



At 6'8", Greg McClinton '86 was an imposing inside presence on the Tiger basketball court in the early 80s.

Fast forward 27 years and the former Towson basketball captain has not only maintained his athletic frame but also his demeanor as a U.S. Army colonel. Now he's commander of the United States Army Garrison at Aberdeen Proving Ground, a multi-billion dollar infrastructure that houses 96 different organizations in Harford County, Maryland.

Under his direction are five Army Communities of Excellence including Public Health and Medical Research; Test and Evaluation; Research and Development; Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Explosive (CBRNE); and Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR).

Guess who's responsible for managing the \$132 million budget to cover nearly every imaginable support service for this community of 23,000 that includes civilians, soldiers and contractors?

"I view the position as a combination of mayor and city manager," McClinton says, "without the traditional politics."

How McClinton ascended to a military career is a mix of circumstance, diligence, and yes, even some romance.

The likelihood of an appointment to the United States Naval Academy didn't entice him. Casual conversations with a retired warrant officer did.

The game changer came in his senior year when he stepped off a campus bus with Towson's cheerleading squad captain, Vicky Saylor '86. He asked if he might join her for dinner.

Up to that point McClinton was enjoying the life of a college basketball player, a military career nowhere in the picture. The tallest of five boys in a basketball family, he was a starter most of his playing days, leading the Tigers in blocked shots his junior (29) and senior (54) years. He still ranks seventh on Towson's all-time list with 97 career rejections.

(Two of his brothers, Jack and Larry, enjoyed successful college careers. Jack, a first team All WVIAC power forward, was a 2002 inductee into the West Virginia Tech Hall of Fame. Larry was recently honored by Lincoln University for his role in the school's 1983 NAIA District 19 Championship.)

As a business major McClinton also kept himself in excellent academic shape, helped by a redshirt year due to a broken wrist after his freshman season that allowed him to concentrate on the classroom.

He was heavily recruited out of Harrisburg High School by St. Joseph's, VCU, Towson and Navy among others. Midshipmen coach Paul Evans was escorting him through the Naval Academy's rigorous application process that had reached the appointment stage when McClinton backed off.

"My visit to Navy went well and I liked the coach but I just knew it wasn't for me," McClinton recalls. "On the other hand I had a great visit at Towson with (head coach) Vince Angotti and (assistant coach) Doug Robertson."

He also had relatives in town—his brother, Jack, and sister-in-law had just moved to Baltimore. He adds, "The Towson Center was relatively new at the time, and to a kid coming out of an inner city high school, it made an impression."

Courting a military career

During his final undergraduate year, basketball wasn't McClinton's only interest. Thoughts of a military career were being nurtured through talks with Edgar Saylor, Vicky's father, who was a warrant officer.

"My parents came up for a Parents Weekend at Towson and that was their first real introduction to him," recalls Vicky, a social science major. "As we started dating he would come home with me. My family always had friends visiting and Gregory got a chance to meet a lot of retired military officers like my dad and in second

McClinton, team captain of the basketball team in the late 80s, still ranks seventh on Towson's all-time list for blocked shots.

careers. You never know the conversations your dad is having with your boyfriend but he was definitely having an influence on Gregory. Even for me it was kind of a surprise that he really connected with my dad.”

As graduation neared McClinton had heard and seen enough to convince him to set his course for a military career.

“Greg came to me in April of his senior year and asked me if I’d write him a letter of recommendation for Officer Candidate School,” recalls Terry Truax, who had become TU’s head basketball coach. “I told him I would be delighted. He had never missed practice. He had leadership qualities and he was a bright young man.”

Yet McClinton is the first to admit that his leadership role as a Tiger basketball team captain fell short of the mark, except to help him define what it takes to lead.

“You have to be exposed to good leadership to understand what it’s all about. Unfortunately that’s one of the things we didn’t do in our program at Towson. I’m not talking about from the coaching perspective but from the player’s,” McClinton says. “I never really saw team leadership from our team captains. But they weren’t being developed either.

“Again, that’s not a knock on the coaches or players. The younger players weren’t seeing it from the seniors on the teams. Unless you had a natural inclination to be a leader you just didn’t know what you should have been doing to lead the team. There were no role models for you to aspire to be.”

Those role models would soon be in front of him in full dress uniform.

Reporting for duty

In August 1987, after completing U.S. Army Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Ga., McClinton was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps. Two days later, he and Vicky Saylor were married. The McClintons have raised two children; Chelsea, a recent graduate from Georgia Tech, and Greg, who just completed his freshman year at Roanoke College.

Over the years McClinton’s duties have sent him all over the map with over a dozen family moves in the United States and abroad. His assignments have included Desert Storm and other tours in the Middle East.

“My unit was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division during Desert Storm and responsible for supporting Black Hawk helicopters used to transport troops and supplies to and from active battlefields,” McClinton says. “We were locked and loaded at the border of Saudi Arabia ready to enter the conflict on the ground at daylight. In the middle of the night we got the call to stand down. Saddam Hussein had surrendered, so it was over for us.”

Later he returned to Saudi Arabia with the U.S. Military Training Mission assigned to headquarters in Riyadh. McClinton was

The game changer came in his senior year when he stepped off a campus bus with Towson’s cheerleading squad captain, **Vicky Saylor ’86.**



there when the Saudi Arabia National Guard Headquarters and Khobar Towers were bombed.

“I was always on pins and needles over there because I had to travel extensively throughout the kingdom,” McClinton says, “but it wasn’t during a time of war so I had the opportunity to appreciate the culture.”

In 2003 he was back in Kuwait City with the Third Army. Assigned as the executive officer of the Headquarters Element, he was responsible for deploying the Coalition Forces Land Component Command into and out of Iraq.

As a career logistician McClinton has honed his managing skills through a combination of experience and education. His graduate work produced masters degrees in computer resources and information management plus national research strategy. He has also attended the Army Command and General Staff College, and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. He served two years as a professor of Military Science at Southern University in Baton Rouge, La.

McClinton held a similar position to his APG assignment as the Garrison and Installation Commander at Alaska’s Fort Greely, a U.S. Army launch site for the nation’s Mid Course Ballistic Missile Defense system. His extensive military curriculum vitae details his many command positions.

At Aberdeen, McClinton faces the challenges of the 2005 Defense Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) and sequestration. BRAC changed Aberdeen Proving Ground from a soldier installation to a multi-task government site, adding



Greg and Vicky McClinton

6,000 civilians and 3,000 contractors. The change heaped more responsibility on the shoulders of the Garrison commander. Sequestration looms with budget cuts and furloughs.

“When FY ’14 begins in October we’re anticipating additional resource challenges,” McClinton says.

McClinton is up to the task. When he decides it’s time to transition out of the Army, he intends to seek a position in public administration. Almost three decades of command and organizational experience have prepared him for such an undertaking.

It’s part of a master plan, hatched years ago when the captain of the men’s basketball team asked the captain of the cheerleading squad if he could join her for an evening meal in the dining hall. ■

Pete Schlehr ’71 was director of TU athletic media relations for more than 35 years.

The Towson University Alumni Association is pleased to announce the 2013-2014 Board of Directors

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College of Liberal Arts:

Gerry Gaeng '81

Fisher College of Science and Mathematics:

Liina Ladon '76

Past President:

Lou Dollenger '74

Ex-Officio Members:

Maravene Loeschke '69/'71,
 President, Towson University

Gary Rubin '69, Vice President,
 University Advancement

Lori Armstrong, Associate Vice
 President, Alumni Relations &
 Executive Director, Alumni Association



FROM OUR ALUMNI PRESIDENT

“You will always be a part of our network.”

As another academic year begins, the Alumni Association continues to work hard to support the goals and mission of Towson University. There have been many challenges during the year, but there have also been many successes and achievements worth celebrating.

The Alumni Association was busy last spring, traveling to the Orioles' training facility in Sarasota, Fla., for a game and an alumni crab feast.

We hosted a presidential reception with alumni on the Eastern Shore at Fenwick Island, Del. We honored some of our best graduates at the annual Distinguished Alumni event, celebrated before lacrosse games at the hospitality tent and held a professional development fundraiser at Baldwin Station. If you missed the opportunity to attend these affairs,

we hope to have you join us in the future. It's never too late to reconnect or get involved.

Remember, you will always be a part of the growing Towson University alumni network, and we want you to stay connected to your alma mater. The Alumni Association will help you do this, and we look forward to hearing about your accomplishments and successes.

As a former men's soccer player, I would like to say thank you to Frank Olszewski for the 30 years he has given to the university as the head coach of men's soccer. Coach Olszewski is as good a person as he is a coach. He has had a positive impact on all of his players.

Lance Johnson '93
 President

Football Fun

Join us this fall at the Hospitality Area

The Alumni Hospitality area at the Auburn Pavilion is open before all Saturday home football games with lite fare and a cash bar. The area is open one and one half hours before the game and closes one half hour after the game begins.

Fall 2013 Schedule:

- Sept. 14** TU vs. Delaware State, 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 5** TU vs. New Hampshire, Noon
- Oct. 12** Homecoming, TU vs. Villanova, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 2** TU vs. Delaware, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 23** TU vs. James Madison, 3:30 p.m.



Celebrating Lacrosse

Pre-game fun at the Alumni Hospitality Area; Max Siskind receives the 2013 Joseph Ferrante Memorial Scholarship Award

Last spring more than 1,000 lacrosse supporters joined us at the Auburn Pavilion to celebrate before Tiger lacrosse games.

The Alpha Omega Lambda fraternity awarded the Joseph Ferrante Memorial Scholarship to Max Siskind, son of former Tiger lacrosse player Jules Siskind '79. The scholarship honors a junior and unsung hero on the team.

1 Max Siskind (center) winner of the Joseph Ferrante Memorial Scholarship

2 Susan Siskind and Jules Siskind '79



Making Music

Performance benefits Professional Development Grant

Gary Rubin '69, accompanied by pianist Brent Hardesty '83, sang a medley of Sinatra-inspired vocals at Baldwin's Station in Sykesville, Md., on April 2. The event raised money for the Alumni Association's Professional Development Grant.

1 Sherry Luria '66, Gary Rubin '69 and Harriet Kochen '68

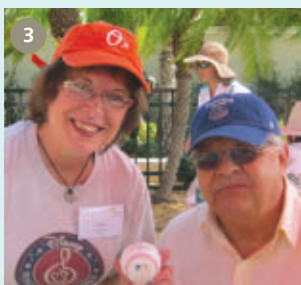
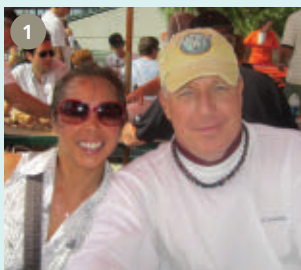
2 Brian Dempsey '95 and Ericka Moore '93/'00



Orange, and Blue Crabs

Orioles baseball and steamed crabs are a hit

More than 125 alumni watched the O's defeat the Minnesota Twins on Feb. 23 in Sarasota, Fla. Instead of eating peanuts, the group feasted on Maryland steamed crabs, thanks to Pincher Crab Shack. Hope you can join us next year at this annual event. The Alumni Association will announce the 2014 date once the Orioles release their spring training schedule next winter.



- 1 Sonia Velasco '88 and Jeffrey Mehler
- 2 (Standing) Ben Brohawn, Ronald Brohawn '72, and Tammy Moore (Sitting) Judy Brohawn, Hilda Bodden and Kathleen Brohawn
- 3 Alfreda '63/'77 and Donald Dempsey
- 4 Jeff Riddle '75 and John Gilliss '74
- 5 Ben Wainio and Esther Heymann '72



MORE EVENTS ONLINE
magazine.towson.edu

At the Beach

Alumni gather in Fenwick Island, Del.

Dennis '72 and Cynthia Mather hosted a reception April 13 at their Fenwick Island home for 100 alumni and friends from nearby beach towns.

1
Dennis Mather '72, Dr. C. Richard Gillespie, Gary Rubin '69, Cynthia Mather and President Maravene Loschke '69/'71



2
Gary Lamdin and Karen Lamdin '79



3
Jamie Millhoff, Donna Millhoff '70, President Loeschke, and Beth Gismondi '78



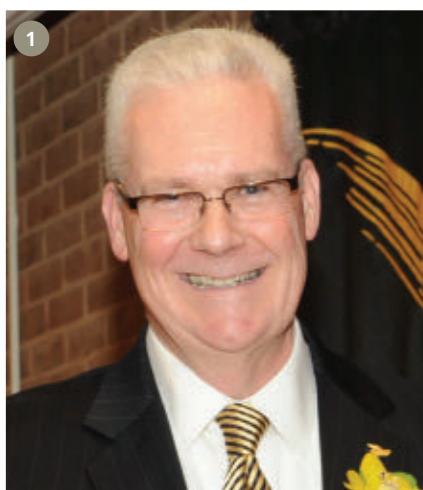
4
Raymond Lorion and Shelia Lorion



Awards Banquet

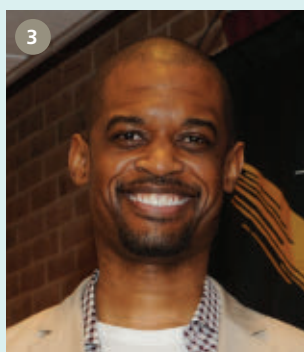
Alumni receive Distinguished Alumni and Deans Recognition Awards

Towson's finest were recognized May 9 with the 2013 Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni and Deans Recognition Awards. Established in 1958, the Distinguished Alumni Award is the highest honor that the Alumni Association presents. The Deans Recognition Awards were established in 1997 in partnership with each of the academic colleges to honor alumni for their personal and professional accomplishments.



2013 Distinguished Alumni and Deans Recognition Awards

Each year, the Alumni Association honors seven alumni for their outstanding achievements at its annual awards banquet.



1 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD
Leonard Raley '78 is president and CEO of the University System of Maryland Foundation, Inc.

2 COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
Michael Ford '80 is vice president of Global Diversity and Inclusion for Hilton Worldwide.

3 COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATION
G. Roberson '96, co-CEO of Blueprint Group, played a key role in launching the careers of Jay-Z, Kanye West and Drake.

4 COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
Julie Anne Schafer '05 is director of public policy and advocacy for the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.

5 COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS
Pepper K. Mintz '89 is president and COO of Northern Pharmacy and Medical Equipment in Maryland.

6 COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Constance Unseld '79 is founder of the Unselds' School in Baltimore, which educates children ages nine months through eighth grade.

7 THE JESS AND MILDRED FISHER COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS
Debbie M. Seeberger '92/'96 is assistant to the president for diversity at Towson University and an adjunct faculty member in the College of Liberal Arts.

Golden Celebration

Class of 1963 marks 50 years

The Class of 1963 celebrated their 50th reunion in May with dinner, a tour and a presentation by Keith Ewancio '94/'07, vice president of the Alumni Association Board of Directors. This class began their education at the State Teachers College at Towson but became the first class to graduate from Towson State College. A special thanks to the 50th Reunion Planning Committee, Joan Migliarini Pickens, Mary-Lou Seng Stenchley, Judith Simpson McGowan and Rose Lester O'Hara.

1 Sherman Silverman '63, Rebecca Silverman, Victor '64/'73 Carol Ann '63 Petrosino and Carolyn May Sauthoff '63



2 David Darrell, Edna Uttenreither-Darrell '63, Leslie Sarantinos '63, Joan Sitaras-Pantelis '63, Sophia Glyphis '63, Benedict Glyphis



3 Fred and Lois Muhl '63 and Albert '62 and Priscilla '63 Beachley



4 Richard Sours '63, Charlotte Sours '64, Laura Hopper, Carol Huggins '63 and Mary Louise Stenchly and Jean Holley '63

5 (Standing) Kelly Sommer, Ray and Nadine '63 Weinstein, (Sitting) Ronald Sommer '63, Dr. C. Richard Gillespie and President Maravene Loeschke '69/'71



Reunion Luncheon

Celebrating with the Classes of 1943, 1948, 1953, 1958, 1968, 1973 and 1978

No matter what the institution was named when they attended—State Teachers College at Towson, Towson State College or Towson State University—alumni were eager to recall their days on campus. A special thanks to the Reunion Celebration Committee Volunteers, Robert Cohen '58, Stephen M. Rohe '58, Beverly Berlett Norwood '68, Bruce Stevens '68, Karen Gregory Schafer '68, Susan Belschner Tager '68, Kathie Billingslea Smith '73, Maura Friedel Manley '78, Jerome A. Strausberg '78 and Lorrie Olson Jakubik '78.



- 1 Class of 1973
- 2 Audrey '73 and Keith Morgan
- 3 Karen Schafer '68 and Lone Azola '68
- 4 Class of 1978
- 5 Class of 1953
- 6 Class of 1958



CHARITABLE IRA

Rollover returns for 2013

Among the provisions of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 was the reauthorization of the charitable IRA rollover, which allows donors to make gifts of up to \$100,000 directly from their individual retirement accounts to qualified charities, such as the Towson University Foundation. Gifts made in this easy and convenient way are excluded from a donor's gross income and can be used to satisfy a required minimum distribution. They may also be used to satisfy an existing pledge. For donors who have already designated the foundation as a beneficiary of their IRA, a charitable rollover can be a terrific way to give that legacy gift a head start.

Some restrictions apply:

- Donors must be 70½ or older at the time of the gift.
- The transfer must go directly from the IRA to Towson University Foundation, Inc.
- A donor's total IRA gift(s) cannot exceed \$100,000.
- The gift must be made outright.

The charitable IRA rollover is currently authorized through December 31, 2013. To learn more, contact Ann Kolakowski, director of major and planned gifts, 410-704-3899 or akolakowski@towson.edu.



FROM THE ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT

“You will make an impact.”

In the year that I've been back on campus, I've seen firsthand the impact of philanthropy at Towson University. More than 500 students received Towson University Foundation scholarships for the 2012-2013 academic year. The aid broadens their opportunities, whether it allows them to participate in extracurricular campus activities or study in another country. No doubt they all rested a little easier knowing they had help financing their education.

From July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013, more than 12,000 alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends of the university came together to contribute more than \$7 million in support of Towson University students. Those numbers make a

statement—they speak to how much this institution means to so many people. The widespread effects of such incredible generosity will be seen and felt for years to come.

As we begin another academic year, I hope you will share what Towson means to you by showing your support. Whether you make a gift to a scholarship fund or a program or support Towson University through your presence at an athletic event, lecture, fine arts performance or exhibit, know that you will make an impact. Thank you.

Michael Cather '93
Associate Vice President
for Development

Toasting Top Tigers

Donors honored at reception



Jim Kihm, President Loeschke '69/'71 and Connie Kihm '95

Towson University celebrated its most loyal donors this spring by hosting Top Tiger Night on March 30.

Members of the Golden Tiger Society, who have given to the Towson University Foundation for 20 or more consecutive years; the Founders Society, who make annual gifts of \$1,000 or more; and the Tower Light Society, who have included the university in their estate plans, gathered for a reception in the SECU Arena.

“We are privileged to be able to thank so many individuals who have financially supported TU through their annual gifts, planned gifts and overall philanthropy,” says Gary Rubin '69, vice president for university advancement. “Their generosity is truly appreciated and plays a critical role in continuing the positive momentum of Towson University.”

Following the reception, guests enjoyed exclusive tours of the SECU Arena and cheered on the men's lacrosse team as it triumphed over Hofstra University 7-6. For more photos from the event, visit www.towson.edu/development/growing/newsevents. ■

Phonathon Fundamentals

Laura Davidson '11 makes the calls



Laura Davidson '11

Laura Davidson '11 can't seem to get enough of the Towson Fund Phonathon. Even after graduation, Davidson, a former student caller and supervisor, continued to work with the Phonathon program. In August 2011, she seized the opportunity to work full-time as a TU staff member charged with leading a group of over 35 students who reach out to alumni, parents and friends, not just to request philanthropic support, but also to talk about what's happening at Towson. Learn a little bit about her and why she's so excited about the Towson Fund Phonathon.

Why did you choose Towson?

I knew I wanted to go to a school known for its teaching program. I visited other schools, but it wasn't until I toured Towson's campus that I felt those "warm and fuzzies" from

being in a place that was exactly right for me. I knew Towson was going to be the school where I felt most at home. The campus had this vibrancy about it, the staff was super helpful and the campus felt safe.

What activities were you involved in on campus?

I was involved with Housing and Residence Life as a resident assistant and an office assistant for two and a half years. In addition, I worked as an orientation leader for TU CARES my last minimester here. I was also a Phonathon caller and supervisor my last two years.

How did you get involved with Phonathon?

In fall 2009, I participated in an online career fair through the Career Center. I knew I needed some extra cash, so I perused the listings and applied for various jobs. However, the Phonathon stood out to me because my twin sister was working for the Phonathon at her school. I figured if my sister could do it, then I could do the job here at Towson.

What made you decide to continue working with Phonathon?

I really believe in providing the best education possible to as many students as possible. My track at Towson was in secondary education, so education has always been and will always be a huge passion of mine. The Phonathon has a great mixture of students from all different backgrounds working to make Towson better. Our callers love Towson and really enjoy listening to what the university means to our alumni. I hope you'll take the opportunity to speak with them this fall! ■

THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY

Gifts come in all sizes

No matter how much you give, your contribution makes a significant difference to the campus. The majority of gifts made to Towson University each year are less than \$1,000. These contributions play an important role in supporting the day-to-day activities of Towson's students and faculty.



\$25

purchases a book for Cook Library.

\$36

provides one day of scholarship support for an in-state undergraduate student.

\$100

pays for one student to attend leadership training or a yearly subscription to a scientific journal.



\$125

funds a stipend for a mentor teacher in Towson UTeach, a STEM training program.



Head Coach Pat Skerry draws up a play for the basketball team.

Bucket List

Coach's winning formula includes basketball fundamentals and funding

Pat Skerry wants to dance. And the Towson University men's basketball head coach has a plan for getting to the NCAA Tournament—improved recruiting, more practice time, fewer guaranteed games and more games at home or on neutral courts.

practices, speak to the team in the locker room and mentor student-athletes.

Skerry knows that having engaged supporters makes all the difference when it comes to building a winning program. Student-athletes in well-supported programs benefit from stronger conditioning, improved equipment and more opportunity. Funding went toward this summer's 10-day trip to Montreal for games, practice and cultural exposure. And it means better academics—something Skerry has made a priority. "Our academic performance since I have been hired has given

“The health of our program will absolutely be tied to the support we receive—especially financially.”

—Head Coach Pat Skerry

Another critical element, however, will contribute to his plan for success—funding.

"The health of our program will absolutely be tied to the support we receive—especially financially," says Skerry. The athletics department is almost entirely self-supported, funded by ticket sales, donations, boosters or other gifts. Better funding leads to better recruiting, which leads to better play. That leads to a better schedule, which leads to more fan support, which leads to more funding.

Members of the Center Court Club (CCC) understand the connection. Last season CCC members contributed nearly \$200,000 to the men's basketball program. While the money helped augment the program during its record-setting season, donor support went much further. CCC members were invited to attend

me the greatest sense of pride," he says. Last semester, the team carried a GPA above 2.9. "Our kids know how important it is to have a great effort in their studies daily," he adds.

Skerry's passion goes beyond the game. He's particularly enthused about the team's new home at SECU Arena, but he sees how everything ties together at Towson and advances the success of the institution—and its students—on and off the court.

Skerry calls athletics a "front porch" to TU. "We can be a very good vehicle to show people [what] a great university we really have," he explains. "Men's basketball requires the least amount of investment for the potential of the greatest return, and there is no doubt in my mind we have a university that can flourish here on the hardwood." ■

Women in the Red

Bridging the wage gap

“Do you deserve Le\$\$?”

Last spring, this jarring question, emblazoned on red posters across campus, was the calling card for Women in the Red, a program that offered strategies to combat the disparity in women’s wages compared to those paid to men.

Funded through a grant from the American Association of University Women (AAUW), TU’s Center for Student Diversity’s women’s resources hosted informal presentations, workshops and a forum featuring a panel of local business women to discuss the wage gap.

Programming also included a “Tech In” on Equal Pay Day, April 9, when students could access online resources, such as the AAUW salary calculator, and learn more about the wage gap. More than 70 students participated in \$tart \$mart salary negotiation workshops offered through campus-wide training, the Women in Leadership Conference and the Black Student Leadership Conference. Student feedback was positive. One attendee said, “Everyone should have to attend this,” and a second declared, “Empower-

ing! I learned how to be effective without being overbearing.”

Now TU’s Career Center has added Salary Negotiation for Women to its workshops and, through the AAUW grant, has rights to continue to deliver the \$tart \$mart workshops through 2016.

The program’s success relied on cross-campus partnerships.

“I was fortunate to collaborate with a wide range of other offices,” says Marie Lilly, TU associate director of women’s resources, “including the Career Center, the College of Business and Economics, the College of Education, the Office of Technology

Services, the Women’s Faculty/Staff Association, Greek Life and other student organizations, such as Sisterhood and Students Achieve Goals through Education (SAGE).

“The wage gap is one of the most important issues facing women today,” she adds. “I hope this project will serve as just the first step to making sure everyone at Towson—faculty, staff and students—knows about wage inequality and is empowered to confront it.” ■



STRENGTHENING TIES

Towson University Foundation luncheon unites scholars and donors



From left to right:
Devin Hamberger '13,
Harry Rubin '14,
Junaed Siddiqui '13,
Kristen Gioffre '13
Darryl Gonzalez, Ph.D.
and Courtney
McClelland
Gonzalez '96

The ninth annual Towson University Foundation Scholars Luncheon took place April 26 in the West Village Commons. More than 260 donors, students and university leaders gathered to celebrate philanthropy and the achievements of Foundation Scholars.

Hosted by Vice President for University Advancement Gary Rubin '69, the luncheon featured a keynote address by Darryl J. Gonzalez, Ph.D., who spoke on behalf of the Huether-McClelland family. Gonzalez’s wife, Courtney McClelland Gonzalez '96, is the granddaughter of Douglas Huether and the daughter of Cathy and George McClelland. Through their foundation, the Huether-McClelland family has supported education for more than 20 years. In 2008, their philanthropy expanded to include Towson University, when, at Courtney’s urging, they established the Huether-McClelland Endowment for Top Ten Scholars.

Mary F. Shock '75, a major TU philanthropist and president of the TU Foundation, shared her perspective on the impact of gifts on students.

The following student speakers also shared heartfelt messages of thanks for the support they received through their foundation scholarships:

Kristen A. Gioffre '13

Mid-Atlantic CIO Forum Scholarship

Devin O. Hamberger '13

Chrystal Marie Clifford Memorial Scholarship,
Eddie Ballard Award for Journalism

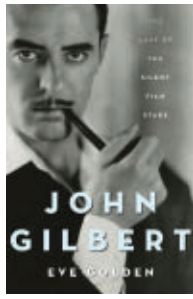
Harry N. Rubin '14

Aramark Facility Services Working Scholars Endowment;
Stout, Causey & Horning Excellence in Accounting
Scholarship

Junaed A. Siddiqui '13

Neil E. Gallagher Scholarship

For additional photos, speaker video clips and a listing of the 2013 Foundation Scholars, visit www.towson.edu/foundationsscholars.



Eve Golden '79 published her eighth book, *John Gilbert: The Last of the Silent Film Stars*.

Before 1960

REECE LIVINGSTON '56 was inducted into the Maryland Soccer Hall of Fame. He is also a member of the Towson Athletic Hall of Fame and the University of Baltimore Athletic Hall of Fame (soccer coach).

1960

DONALD R. BUCHANAN '69 MATH and **DIANE BALLING BUCHANAN '72 HIST** retired from Harford County Public Schools. Donald retired after a 40-year career as a high school math teacher, athletic coach and school counselor. Diane retired after a 30-year career as a middle and elementary school teacher and counselor. They recently celebrated their 38th wedding anniversary.

1970

ROBERT KEPERLING '70 retired as a senior captain from Delta Air Lines. His 42 years of military and commercial flying took him to all but two continents. He and his wife, Jane, live in Anderson, S.C., where they enjoy their eight grandchildren and play golf, ski, go boating and volunteer at their church.

FRAN MINAKOWSKI '70 ENGL, special assistant to the president and CEO of Maryland Public Television, was elected to the board of trustees of St. Elizabeth School, a special education facility in Baltimore. She also heads Alacarte Marketing Communications, which she established in 2010.

ROBERT GOODIER '71 received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Home Builders Association of Maryland.

JOAN KRAMER '74 was honored by the American Nurses Credentialing Center as a member of the Ambulatory Care Nursing Content Expert Panel from 2008 to 2012. Kramer is an adjunct faculty member at Capella University.

MARY ELLEN BARBERA '75 ELED was appointed chief judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals, making her the first woman in state history to fill the role. She previously served as assistant attorney general and as a judge with Maryland's Court of Special Appeals.

JOE HEIDELMAIER '77 BUAD became president and CEO of Hansen Distribution Group in Honolulu in February.

CHARLOTTE CUNNINGHAM BREWER '78 retired after 30 years as a Baltimore City Public Schools kindergarten teacher.

EVE GOLDEN '79 THEA published her eighth book, *John Gilbert: The Last of the Silent Film Stars*, with the University Press of Kentucky.

1980

CYNTHIA M. ALT '81, a CPA at Stoy, Malone in Towson, Md., received a Paul Harris Fellowship from the Rotary



Full of Life

Helen Graham Turner '26 marks her 106th birthday

Turner says the Board of Education in Margate, N.J., estimated that during her 38 years in the classroom she taught more than 1,200 students, whose ranks include many physicians, lawyers, and at least one judge.

"You just get such a wonderful feeling after you finish and get all this return," she says. "I'm so glad I was a teacher. I loved my years at Towson."

Now, Turner enjoys taking daily walks and spending time with visitors. She remains active with a local garden club and the volunteer auxiliary for a local children's hospital. She also teaches a game, Rummikub, to residents of her retirement community and knits scarves she gives as gifts (there is a long waiting list).

Her secret to a long and full life?—attitude. "Each morning, when I wake up," she says, "I can't wait to discover what good things will happen." ■

To read the magazine feature in 2008 when Helen Turner turned 100, visit magazine.towson.edu.

—Ann Eichler Kolakowski '84

The announcement arrived via email. Helen Graham Turner '26 would turn 106 on April Fools' Day. Was this a prank?

Not. At. All.

Turner holds the distinction of being Towson University's oldest known living graduate. The spritely centenarian celebrated her birthday with a party attended by more than 100 family members and friends. Her guests included a former first-grade student, now in his 80s, who presented her with flowers and an apple.

Two weeks later, Karen Blair '74, director of TU's Teacher Education Oral History Project, recorded Turner's memories as a student at what was then the Maryland State Normal School and as a teacher, beginning in a one-room schoolhouse in Felton, Del.

Club of Towson in recognition of her volunteer services to the club.

JEFF DUGAN '82 presented the Baltimore premiere of his all-new photography exhibit in January at the Five Points Tavern in South Baltimore.

MARK K. HUTCHINS '84 BUAD manages a sales team that handles the marketing, sales and consultation of supply chain solutions for FedEx accounts in Pennsylvania. He is also a proud husband, and father to three boys.

SANDRA ABBOTT '89, curator of collections and outreach at the UMBC Center for Art, Design and Visual Culture, is a member of the board of the Baltimore City Public Art Commission. She will jury public art projects to enhance the cityscape, quality of life and creative atmosphere in Baltimore.

COLLEEN BRADY '89 MCOM, '93 PROF WRIT was named president of the Reisterstown-Owings Mills-Glyndon Chamber of Commerce.

JOHN GABURICK '89 BUAD became executive vice president of television production for TNA Entertainment in July. He will oversee the company's management and production including LIVE IMPACT Wrestling, marketing and advertising production, special projects and digital assets. Gaburick spent 13 years with World Wrestling Entertainment.

1990

KEVIN DAVIS '91 was appointed chief of police for Anne Arundel County in July. He has over 20 years of experience with the Prince George's Police Department and has served as assistant chief of police for the past three years.

AILEEN M. ESKILDSEN '95 was promoted to director at Ellin & Tucker, Chartered, a certified public accounting and business consulting firm. She is also on the Towson Accounting Advisory Board.

ALLETTE FENTON-SHARP '95 is opening The Spanish Nursery and Children's Centre for Culture and Language in London.



MATT KAISER '10

If you think Asperger's syndrome is no laughing matter, you haven't met Matt Kaiser '10.

The Towson theatre graduate has been honing his craft as a stand-up comic since 2007. When he's not working the crowds at local clubs, he directs a comedy workshop at the university's Hussman Center for Adults with Autism.

Kaiser has Asperger's syndrome, which is on the autism spectrum and characterized by social and communication differences. In his routine he talks about encounters with people who think Asperger's can be transmitted sexually. "It's a social disorder," Kaiser quips. "Not a social disease."

Kaiser says it is unfair to perceive people with Asperger's as stolid and humorless. "Of course they enjoy humor," he insists. "But sometimes they laugh at different things."

In his weekly workshops, Kaiser shows his students—all college-age adults on the autism spectrum—that being funny takes work. He engages the group in games that spark creativity while emphasizing the

Stand-up on the Spectrum

Teaching a comedy workshop for adults with autism

comic timing and rapid-fire skills needed to evoke a belly laugh.

The participants enjoy Kaiser's tutelage. More important, they enjoy being together and expressing themselves, whether that involves a group exercise or individual improvisation.

Rhonda Greenhaw, who directs the Hussman Center, often sits in on the workshop sessions, along with some students from her honors class on autism. "Laughter brings people together—it fulfills a universal need," she says.

"This workshop enables adults on the autism scale to get in touch with their authentic selves," she explains. "That, in turn, leads to self-acceptance, self-awareness and self-esteem that spill over into other areas of their lives."

As for Kaiser, he's planning a return engagement at the Hussman Center. "They get it," he says of the staff, students and aspiring comics. "They really do." ■

—Jan Lucas

DAVID M. CURRY '97 MAT has been promoted to counsel at Farrell Fritz law firm in Uniondale, N.Y. He is a member of the firm's real estate, construction and distressed assets departments.

JACK S. MONELL '97 MCOM, assistant professor of justice studies at Winston Salem State University, spent the summer as a visiting professor in the Department of Sociology, Pusan National University, Pusan, South Korea.

DAVID SETH COHEN '98 launched a campaign to help fund his film, *Finding Sandler*.

THERESA HASENER HALL '98 joined Oak Crest retirement community as a nurse practitioner with its employee health and wellness center. She is also a member of the Nurse Practitioner Association of Maryland.

ALYCE SPARKMAN KIRK '98 was named vice president with J. Vinton Schafer & Sons, Inc. Construction Managers.

MICHAEL LAMPASSO '98 SOCI, a captain in the New York City Fire Department, was awarded the Henry D. Brookman medal of valor by Mayor Michael Bloomberg in June 2012 for rescuing two critically injured residents from a burning building. He lives in West Babylon, N.Y. with his wife, Jennifer, and children, Aislinn and Rory.

2000

DAVID BERNSOHN '00 was promoted to partner at the Duane Morris law firm in Philadelphia where he practices corporate law and commercial finance. He was also given a "40 Under 40" award by the M & A Advisor, a website that focuses on professionals in mergers and acquisitions, turnaround and finance.

TIM BIBO JR. '00 was promoted to director of TU's Office of Institutional Research. He has over 10 years of experience in higher education and public-sector policy.

MELISSA FELLER '02 joined the MGH Institute in Boston as a clinical instructor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

BRIAN LEVIN '02 is making his feature film debut as writer and producer of the all-star comedy *Flock of Dudes*. The film, being produced in Los Angeles, is scheduled for release next spring. Levin is also a founding member of the Web show *The Post Show*, which has been featured on CNN, *Funny or Die* and G4.

AMY SCHUMER '03 THEA has her own series on Comedy Central's, "Inside Amy Schumer," which has been renewed for a second season. She brings her brand of ribald humor to the Meyerhoff in Baltimore on Oct. 4.

KATIE MCCLAMMER '04 BUAD joined Business Volunteers Unlimited Maryland as a senior manager of marketing and communications. Her responsibilities include coordinating the company's program promotion, digital support, publicity and a 10-year anniversary celebration plan.

ELIZABETH BOROWSKY '05 and her sister **FRANCES BOROWSKY '11** performed a concert tour of the Baltic States this summer. Along with their brother Emmanuel and their mother, Cecylia Barczyk, the sisters comprise the classical group The American Virtuosi. The quartet has released recordings and has performed in venues across the Americas, Asia, Europe and the Middle East.

RYAN LEVY '05 joined the tax department at Gross, Mendelsohn & Associates as a supervisor.

DANA T. MARSHALL '05 recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

IN MEMORIAM

alumni

Frieda Fine Gulin '32
June 9, 2013

Emma E. Ziegler '32
January 31, 2013

Hilda Weiner Hillman '34
March 23, 2013

Mary Haviland Hartford '35
December 20, 2012

Helen Gross Robinson '35
November 10, 2012

A. Marguerite Schorr Whipple '36
December 16, 2012

Katherine Parsley Blazek '37
December 16, 2012

Louise Gerhardt Fitzell '38
March 21, 2013

Jessie O. Hollenberry '39
December 25, 2012

Doris Henkle Gould '40
November 10, 2012

Margaret Wells Brooks '41
December 28, 2012

Elisabeth Haacke Carroll '42 EDUC
December 22, 2012

Ann Fry McCarthy '42
April 30, 2013

Dorothy Dixon Wheatley '42
April 13, 2013

Margaret Dixon Dowell Hopkins '43
January 14, 2013

Agnes Hicks Coale '44
January 9, 2013

Sally Tantari McClelland '45
March 24, 2013

Clara Crouch Boender '46
January 12, 2013

Ruth Mullendore Cline '46
September 22, 2012

Shirley Zimmerman Hayes '47
October 16, 2012

Mary Elizabeth Garvey Hession '47
March 12, 2013

Samuel J. Miller '48
May 2, 2013

Helen McDonald Diehl '49
May 29, 2013

Mary Daum Armstrong '50
January 30, 2013

Geraldine A. Rutkowski '50
November 25, 2012

Phyllis Hendler Glassman '51
December 14, 2012

Maynard E. Keadle '51
March 19, 2013

Carroll W. Matanoski '51
December 14, 2012

Gloria Spencer Anderson '52
May 3, 2013

Margaret King Argent '52
April 7, 2013

Betty L. Eser '53
January 24, 2013

David L. Ford '53
December 14, 2012

Grason E. Fowble '53
June 30, 2013

Cassandra Britton Phillabaum '53
January 1, 2013

Wilmer L. Jones '53
April 2, 2013

Faye Davis Cobb '54
January 22, 2013

Charles L. Hayes '54
February 1, 2013

Shirley Strube Kessler '57
January 10, 2013

Barbara Frantz Nelson '57
November 25, 2012

Sally Roberts Ross '57
May 3, 2013

Robert H. Broderick '58
May 5, 2013

John S. Heck '58
June 18, 2013

Charles R. Woessner '58
March 15, 2013

Mary Dix Wickham '59
February 5, 2013

Elaine Zimmerman Allen '60
January 26, 2013

Thomas A. Fox '61
April 12, 2013

Neal C. McCloskey '61
June 13, 2013

Connie Crum Glass '62
May 28, 2013

Joan Lewis Thompson '62
February 20, 2013

Rodney R. Bardsley '63
August 21, 2012

Anita E. Martin '63
May 27, 2013

Marlene Bernstein Oshry '63
March 20, 2013

Sandra Caplan Winakur '64
May 21, 2013

Lynn Creamer Carr '65
December 23, 2012

Barbara Wernecke Durkin '66
February 18, 2013

John W. Neubert '66
December 22, 2012

Dorothy Perkins Brown '67
March 14, 2013

Douglas W. Ohlin '68
June 27, 2013

Alan F. Patrick '68
February 15, 2013

Louis C. Serio '68
April 27, 2013

Bede A. Clarke '69
December 5, 2012

Ronald L. Bell '70
May 26, 2013

Alfred G. Marshall '70
April 1, 2013

Judith Strand Crawford '71
May 26, 2012

Margaret E. Jones '71
April 26, 2012

Mark T. Petrick '71
September 25, 2012

Gene Small '71
April 16, 2013

Paul M. Kolb '72
November 2, 2012

Doris M. McDonnell '72
July 1, 2013

Leona Zackon Adleberg '73
May 8, 2013

Lily Schoen Crusse '73
March 7, 2012

Kester H. Greene '74
August 30, 2012

Eunice Schwartz Haimovitz '74
May 22, 2013

Joan Goldberg Kappelman '74
May 10, 2013

John E. Schmelz '74
June 20, 2013

Marilyn Freitag Deady '75
March 2, 2013

Antonia Newman Jaslow '75
November 15, 2012

Charlotte Erb Viener '75
December 8, 2012

David J. Firak '76
April 18, 2013

Velma Smith Hart '76
November 30, 2012

James A. Nickel '76
April 7, 2013

Wanda E. Waters '76
December 9, 2012

Mavis Grantham Sheedy '77
April 4, 2013

Wade B. Douville '78
December 9, 2012

Mildred Miller Gruver '78
November 26, 2012

Kenneth L. Klingmeyer '78
March 19, 2013

George T. Watson, Jr. '78
January 9, 2013

Jill Krug Kaminski '79
January 26, 2013

Anne Kassab Olive '79
December 31, 2012

Barbara A. Segala '79
November 19, 2012

Charlotte Zinser '80
January 9, 2013

Martin J. Esral '81
August 6, 2012

Marjorie Magness Olsen '81
November 27, 2012

Mary-Jean Lange Kirk '82
December 8, 2012

Kirk Osborn '82
March 8, 2013

John F. Knauer '84
January 21, 2013

Julie Coblentz Kuhlman '84
March 12, 2013

Stephen L. Levin '84
June 2013

Sandra McCray Bonner '85
February 23, 2013

Charles R. Garbe '85
May 11, 2013

George P. Govatos '85
December 16, 2012

Karyn L. Proctor '85
December 27, 2012

Susan A. Teigen '85
December 6, 2012

Peggy Nelson '87
April 27, 2013

Faye P. Westley '87
November 28, 2012

Richard Spooner '88
December 10, 2012

Nancy Montes Ball '89
December 2, 2012

Jeffrey P. Cushing '89
June 4, 2013

Frank Dvorak '90
December 7, 2012

Aaron D. Kluth '91
January 17, 2013

Jennifer Veth Alexander '92
February 8, 2013

Michelle Brown Catoe '92
November 13, 2012

Gordon H. Witherspoon '93
April 9, 2013

Rosemary E. Allulis '94
January 15, 2013

Jonas S. Eberly '94
November 21, 2012

Eugene G. Marquard '95
November 20, 2012

Jeffery Baynard '96
November 21, 2012

Thomas F. Carroll '96
June 14, 2013

Robert C. Clingan '97
May 18, 2013

Alexander Kamantauskas '98
May 15, 2013

Lisann A. Carriker '99
May 31, 2013

Dong H. Lee '00
April 11, 2013

Thomas P. Davids '01
January 26, 2013

Joseph M. Gattus '03
November 9, 2012

Jacquelyn B. Phillips '03
March 19, 2013

Laura H. Carnrike '04
December 9, 2012

Daniel M. Sullivan '09
April 20, 2012

Devin M. Spence '12
February 11, 2013

staff/ faculty

James C. Harrison '79
June 16, 2013

Mauritz G. Anderson
March 22, 2013

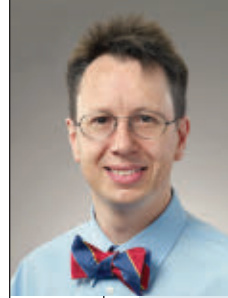
Beverly C. Leetch
March 22, 2013

Paul B. Moore
November 27, 2012

Frederick Morsink
March 23, 2013

Catherine Sauer
January 22, 2013

Dorothy G. Siegel
November 29, 2012



A Keynote Instructor

Music technology teacher wins
national and local awards

RICHARD MCCREADY '96/'99

When it comes to blending technology and music, Richard McCready '96/'99 strikes all the right chords.

The music technology teacher at River Hill High School won the Technology Institute for Music Educators 2013 Mike Kovins TI:ME Teacher of the Year Award for developing music technology courses in the Howard County school district. He also won the Howard County Music Teacher of the Year Award for 2013.

McCready's classes are innovative and fun. His students compose, record, edit, mix and sequence music using computers.

"My students learn through active involvement, and they are able to gain hands-on experience creating music even if they have no previous music skills," he says.

While his students may be rookies, McCready has a wealth of musical talent. A native of Northern Ireland, he completed an undergraduate degree in music in England. When his parents moved to the United States, he continued his studies, graduating with two master's degrees from Towson—tuba performance in 1996 and vocal performance in 1999.

He taught at a number of schools, including TU, where he created the first "History of Rock and Roll" course, and has played professionally with several groups. But teaching music technology remains his passion. "I made sure to keep up my computer knowledge while studying music in college," he says. "Today it has come full circle. Using computers in my career has married my two biggest loves."

—Hannah Kaufmann '13

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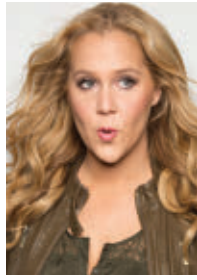
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Towson University, 8000 York Rd.
Towson, MD 21252-0001

EMAIL

alumni@towson.edu

Amy Schumer '03

brings her comedy to the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall in Baltimore Oct. 4 at 8 p.m.



Gary Neal '07

signed a two-year, \$6 million contract with the Milwaukee Bucks in July.

MATTHEW C. WINNER '05 ELED has been named a "Mover & Shaker" in the library industry by the national publication, *Library Journal*, in the Tech Leaders category.

GARY NEAL '07 signed a two-year, \$6 million contract with the Milwaukee Bucks in July. The former Tiger basketball guard attracted national attention when he played in the NBA finals this season with the San Antonio Spurs. Neal has also played in Italian and Spanish professional leagues.

BRIAN STELTER '07, a reporter and Web editor for *The New York Times*, published his first book, *Top of the Morning: Inside the Cutthroat World of Morning TV*. The book, which landed on the *Times*' best-seller list, details the ruthless behind-the-scenes realities of morning news.

JANELLE WALLACE '10 co-founded KAE Collection, a fashion line that will give back 10 percent of all sales to a different charity every other year. KAE (Kindness Above Everything), based in Westchester, N.Y., began the 2013 season with a line of beanies with plans to add other clothing items to its collection.

AMY HEFTER '11, a freelance photographer, published her first book in the series *Tattooed Campus: Towson University*.

HILLARY LIVINGSTON '11 PSYCH joined the TU marketing and communications team as a switchboard operator/receptionist in January.

GREGORY A. MILLER '11 HIST, BUAD graduated from the Marine Corps Basic Combat Engineer Course at Marine Corps Engineer School, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

GLEN R. PEAK III '11 BUAD joined Stoy, Malone & Company, to provide tax preparation for a wide range of individual and corporate clients. He lives in Westminster, Md.

REINER PROCHASKA '11 published his play *Antigone: Through the Ages* with New Theatre Publications. He is an actor, playwright, filmmaker and director and serves as a member of the Maryland Ensemble Theatre. Prochaska is also a lecturer with TU's English department. ■



A Motivator and Mentor

Maryland's 2013 Teacher of the Year helps students succeed

RHONDA HOLMES-BLANKENSHIP '96

Rhonda Holmes-Blankenship '96 learned her lessons well. The English teacher at Rising Sun High School in Cecil County won Maryland Teacher of the Year 2013 and was one of four finalists for National Teacher of the Year.

This veteran teacher of 17 years understands firsthand the importance of pushing struggling students to succeed and checking up on their progress. Without those interventions, Holmes-Blankenship would have been a high school dropout.

But she had teachers who stepped in, helping her push through hardships and succeed. Not only did she earn a high school diploma, she continued her education, eventually becoming the first person in her family to graduate from college.

"It is so important for students to have relationships with caring adults outside of the classroom," she says, relationships that are not "confined by the timeframe of a school year or a semester."

Her experience left her with a passion for teaching and a belief

that growth stems from meeting the needs of students and teachers. "Teaching should always be about these kids at this time, and teachers can pull from years of experience in instruction to help students meet higher standards," she says.

Holmes-Blankenship motivates students to develop literary and critical thinking skills, and to enjoy learning.

Each year her students read *Night* by Elie Wiesel and take a field trip to the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. "I like moving outside of the classroom and getting authentic learning experiences," she says.

While Holmes-Blankenship was both shocked and thrilled with being named Maryland's Teacher of the Year, she is quick to point out that "people have the misconception that Teacher of the Year is the 'best teacher award.'" But she adds, "Every teacher is great in his or her own way. What the award means to me is that I'm representing the best and offering myself as a voice for all teachers across the country." ■

—Hannah Kaufmann '13



“My scholarship allowed me to have an experience that transcended anything I thought I would do at Towson.”

Ryan Muffi’s world is bigger because of Towson’s Study Abroad Program. With a \$5,000 gift to the International Walkway Initiative, you can support study abroad opportunities for students like Ryan and be recognized on a flagpole celebrating an international student’s home country.

Ryan Muffi, Class of 2014
Psychology major
Recipient of the Study Abroad Scholarship

Read more about Ryan and other scholarship recipients at www.towson.edu/foundationsscholars.

To learn more about how you can invest in the education of students like Ryan, please contact:

Meghan Culbertson, Director of the Annual Campaign, mculbertson@towson.edu

TowsonFund

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Homecoming 2013

Tiger Taps and 'Tizers

Young Alumni Social for
Graduates from 2000-2013

Fri., Oct. 11 • 7-9 p.m.

Max's Taphouse
737 South Broadway
Baltimore, Md., 21231

For more details or to RSVP, visit
www.tutigertracks.com/yas13

Sat., Oct. 12

Tigers vs. Villanova
Unitas Stadium • 7 p.m.

For more information about
Homecoming events and
activities please visit
www.towson.edu/homecoming

For football tickets, call 410-704-2244
or visit www.towsontigers.com