



TOWSON UNIVERSITY

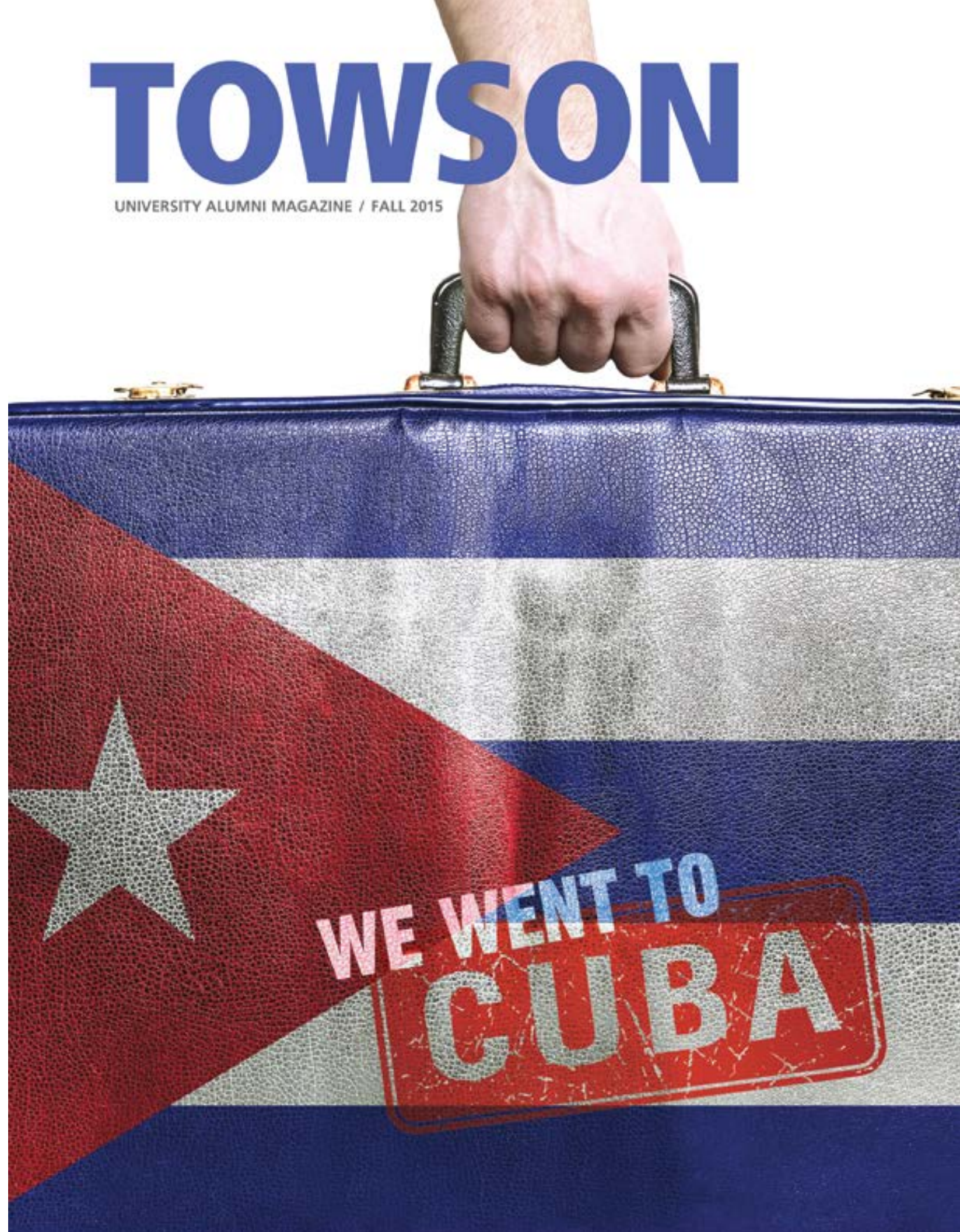
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# TOWSON

UNIVERSITY ALUMNI MAGAZINE / FALL 2015



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## VISITING SPEAKERS SERIES

As part of Towson University's year-long 150th anniversary celebration, experts from around the nation are coming to campus for a speakers series.



**NICOLE SHERROD**, managing director of the Trader Group, TD Ameritrade, Inc., has more than 15 years of experience in the financial services industry and is a leading advocate for young investors and women.

### "Millennials and Investing"

**Thursday, October 29  
6 p.m.**

Auburn House, by donation

Presented by the College of Business and Economics



**CHRISTINE A. OGREN**, associate professor of educational policy and leadership studies at the University of Iowa, is the author of the book, *The American State Normal School: "An Instrument of Great Good."*

### "The History and Significance of Teacher Preparation Programs"

**Wednesday, November 18  
6 p.m.**

Cook Library, Rm. 507

\$50; Attendees also will have a special opportunity to view and touch rare Towson University historical artifacts.

Presented by Albert S. Cook Library

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO FIND THE SPRING PRESENTATIONS, VISIT [TU150.TOWSON.EDU](http://TU150.TOWSON.EDU)



### Green Bean Supreme

Towson students in Project Serve filled up bins with mountains of green beans when they volunteered at the Maryland Food Bank in September. The food bank "nurtures the belief that together we can improve the lives of Marylanders by ending hunger."

## FEATURES

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Former Tiger standout John Schuerholz '62, president of the Atlanta Braves, scores big in Major League Baseball.

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CBE professors and students get a front-row seat to an island about to be flooded by a sea of cultural and economic change.

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 **FIND MORE ONLINE**  
[magazine.towson.edu](http://magazine.towson.edu)



**TOWSON**  
UNIVERSITY



“More than 150,000 graduates are now around the globe, making an extraordinary impact on the nation and the world.”

The fall semester is well underway with more than 22,284 students who are embarking on innovative educational journeys at Towson.

We also welcomed a new cadre of bright and talented faculty and staff, who will join our dedicated professionals in challenging our students with innovative and cutting-edge pedagogy and research.

As we mark our 150th anniversary of serving the state and region through higher education, we are celebrating another milestone—more than 150,000 graduates are now around the globe, making an extraordinary impact on the nation and the world.

Many of them will return to campus for Homecoming weekend, joining students and fans for the football game and family-friendly festivities. They will be among the first to hear the debut of a new song, Towson’s Alma Mater, selected from entries nationwide. The tune reflects the traditions and sentiments of our university experience.

Our 150th Speaker Series offers engagement and learning opportunities for the community. Six lectures from leading experts in each of our colleges—Education, Business And Economics,

Fine Arts And Communication, Health Professions, Liberal Arts, Science And Mathematics—will explore issues and offer insights into the complexities of our time.

We are also excited to host University System of Maryland Chancellor Robert Caret, a former TU president, who will spend a full day on campus to meet with faculty, staff, students, alumni and supporters. He also has plans to tour Towson University in Northeastern Maryland and connect with business and government leaders there.

Our Towson campus continues to evolve. We are putting finishing touches on the Campus Master Plan, our blueprint for future construction and renovation. Other projects include the \$40 million Burdick expansion and our critical need for a new science building to meet the state’s needs in STEM graduates and educators. We are committed to creating a flourishing landscape which advances our 150-year-old tradition of scholarship.

*Timothy Chandler*  
—Timothy Chandler  
INTERIM PRESIDENT

## TOWSON

**Timothy Chandler**  
Interim President

**Ginny Cook**  
Editor

**Lori Armstrong**  
Associate Vice President,  
Alumni Relations

**Lori Marchetti**  
Art Director/Designer

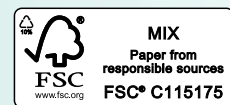
**Kanji Takeno**  
Staff Photographer

**Assistant Photographer**  
Lauren Castellana

**Contributors**  
Megan Bradshaw, Christine Collins, Ray Feldmann '77, Daryl Lee Hale, Kyle Hobstetter and Jan Lucas

**Office of Alumni Relations**  
410-704-2234 or  
800-887-8152

[www.towson.edu](http://www.towson.edu)  
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## LOOK BACK

### INITIATION

An elaborate freshman initiation ritual began in 1931. The Student Council, dressed as Greek maidens, became “The Spirit of Education” as they inducted freshmen into the college during the “Lighting of the Way.” Carrying lighted torches, these “spirits” led freshmen from Richmond Hall to the Administration Building (now Stephens Hall). The new students recited the induction pledge and sang. Finally the Spirit of Education would

underscore what it meant to be a student at Towson: “The campus is yours, the school is yours, the responsibility is yours.” In 1945, an article in *The Towerlight* reported that “For the first time in history, the induction service was held during the day.” After World War II, the school replaced the staid lighting ceremony with a celebration of Halloween. The tradition ended in 1968.

## Making the Grade

Towson gets high marks from *U.S. News & World Report* and *Washington Monthly*



The *U.S. News & World Report 2016 America’s Best Colleges* guide ranks Towson University 12th in its Top Public Schools – Regional Universities (North) category, placing it among the best of the 48 institutions surveyed.

The university occupies 53rd place in *U.S. News’* list of 131 rankings of private and public regional institutions in the North.

In addition, TU is included in *America’s Best Colleges’* Best Colleges for Veterans, placing 39th among 50 public and private regional institutions in the North.

*Washington Monthly* ranked Towson No. 201 in a list of 684 U.S. public and private institutions (Master’s University category) in its 2015 College Guide and Rankings.

*Washington Monthly* rates schools based on their contribution to the public good in three broad categories: social mobility (recruiting and graduating low-income students), research (producing cutting-edge scholarship and Ph.D.s), and service (encouraging students to give something back to their country)

In addition, TU ranks 35th of 402 U.S. public and private master’s universities in *Washington Monthly’s* 2015 “Best-Bang-for-the-Buck” (Northeast Schools) list.

## Nursing Department Receives Grant

\$1.65 million will expand associate-to-bachelor’s degree program



The College of Health Professions’ Department of Nursing—led by Bonnie Fuller, Beth Crusse and Lori Armstrong—received a \$1.65 million grant over five years from the Maryland Higher Education Commission. The money will expand nursing degree completion education through the associate-to-bachelor’s (ATB) degree completion program.

“It is exciting to be recognized for our innovative approaches to providing avenues for registered nurses to acquire their baccalaureate degree in nursing,” says Fuller. “Towson U nursing has been a leader in designing and offering the associate to bachelor’s dual degree enrollment program with CCBC and Hagerstown Community Colleges, which has served as a model for other programs in the state.”

TU’s nursing department was the first educational program in Maryland to offer the ATB program, where students can pursue concurrently associate and bachelor’s degrees.

## NOTEBOOK

## Best—Again



For the second straight year, Towson's chapter of Theta Chi walked away with the fraternity's highest honor—The

Howard R. Alter Jr. Award for Chapter Excellence—at the fraternity's national convention.

The Towson chapter also received the Sacred Purpose award, making it just the second recipient of the award.



A TU senior is adding flavor to beer one dip at a time.

As CEO of Hop Theory, the biology major develops sachets—citrus and pumpkin, so far—that can be dropped into a glass of beer to add flavor and transform the taste.

"All my friends were drinking, in my opinion, flavorless, boring beers," Bobby Gattuso told *The Daily Record*. "I really wanted to show them better beer."

Gattuso developed the company in 2013 with the help of a Kickstarter campaign that raised \$31,000 and with support from Towson's Student Launch Pad.



▲ The Ballad of Holland Island House

## Envelope, Please

Lynn Tomlinson '14 MFA, assistant professor of electronic media and film, is a finalist for the 2015 Student Academy Awards for her animated film, "The Ballad of Holland Island House."

The film, made with an innovative clay-painting technique, tells the true story of the last house on a sinking island in the Chesapeake Bay—a haunting view of the impact of rising sea levels. See more: [lynntomlinson.com](http://lynntomlinson.com)

## Physics Prize

Physics has taken Nathan Prins to the Albert Einstein Institute in Hannover, Germany, where he researched gravitational wave detection. Last summer

as a fellow at the Argonne National Lab, operated by the



▲ Nathan Prins

University of Chicago for the Department of Energy, he investigated particle physics.

Now the TU junior, who is majoring in general physics with a minor in mathematics, received a \$2,000 leadership scholarship from the Society of Physics Students. Prins has also served as vice president and president of TU's SPS chapter, promoting outreach and transitioning to a more organized club.

## At the Library of Congress

Surrounded by 16 million books Erin Kelly '15, Evan Neuwirth '15 and graduate student Mike Schoelen interned at the Library of Congress, while TU senior Katje Lattick participated in its Junior Fellowship program.

Kelly, Neuwirth and Schoelen were part of the Geographic Hotspot Dynamic Indexing Project, which created interactive digital representations of the library's "hotspot" maps in Syria, Yemen and Iran, for example.

"It's not just a picture from a helicopter or plane; it's the land coverage, how much area is a certain land type, and how it has changed over time," Schoelen explains.

Through the Junior Fellowship program, Lattick, paired with a curator, catalogued the jade and greenstone objects in the library's Jay I. Kislak collection.

By photographing and researching each object, she created a comprehensive resource, including date range, place of origin and a short description.

## Scholars in Service

Eight Towson students spent the summer with Maryland Public Service Scholars, gaining hands-on experience serving others.

The students participated in one of three tracts—the Governor's Summer Leadership Program, the Walter Sondheim Jr. Maryland Nonprofit Leadership Program or the Maryland Department of Transportation Fellows Program.

Senior Alain Farsace spent her summer revamping the drivers' education curriculum to make it more interactive and relevant to teens and to improve teaching methods through the Maryland Department of Transportation Fellows Program.

"If we can make the material more interesting, our hopes are that teens will retain more information, thus saving lives," she says.

Other service scholars were:

- Niyah Henson and Christopher Snyder, Maryland Department of Transportation Fellows Program.
- Kiarra Ceasar, Shoareged Phillipotts, Paul Schuler and Michella Vanagas, Walter Sondheim Jr. Maryland Nonprofit Leadership Program;
- Lily McFeeters, Governor's Summer Internship Program.

## NUGGETS

## Ruby Grants



▲ Top: Naoko Maeshiba  
Bottom: Juanita Rockwell

Two members of the College of Fine Arts and Communication received Ruby Artist Project Grants from the Greater Baltimore Culture Alliance.

Naoko Maeshiba, associate professor and MFA director, supported her solo performance project, "Subject/Object," that investigates the nature of "self" through deconstruction and redefinition with the use of video, sound, poetry and clowning as the exploration tools.

The grant of Juanita Rockwell, professor of theatre arts, funded the creation of the script, lyrics and music for "A Little Patch of Ground," a darkly comic play with songs set in the bloody aftermath of Shakespeare's "Hamlet."

## Believe in Baltimore

Believe in Music, a program of the Living Classrooms Foundation and TU's WTMD radio came together with many of the city's most popular musicians to record the song,

"Believe in Baltimore." The plea for positive change in the wake of the riots debuted July 22. The collaboration among artists was one of the largest in the history of Baltimore's music scene.

All of the song's lyrics were written and sung by middle school students in the program, with help from members of Baltimore's most popular independent bands.

## Cyber4All

Cybersecurity crosses all disciplines.

That's the rationale behind TU's new Cyber4All program, a minor developed by Blair Taylor and Siddharth Kaza, both faculty in the Department of Computer and Information Sciences.

Backed by a two-year, \$280,000 award from the National Science Foundation, the pair will create the Cyber4All curriculum by integrating cybersecurity content into existing undergraduate courses in targeted areas.

Brian Gorman from Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice, Mary Helen McSweeney-Feld from Department of Interprofessional Health Studies, Barin Nag from e-Business and Technology Management, and Mike McGuire from Computer and Information Sciences are also involved in the project.

"Cybersecurity education used to be limited to computer scientists," Taylor explains. "We can't afford to do that any longer—everybody must have access."

## Valuing Diversity



▲ Gema Vinales

and Economics, won the inaugural grant from the American Marketing Association Foundation in June.

The Valuing Diversity New Faculty Research Grant, a \$3,000 award, supports underrepresented faculty in business schools, assisting them during the first two years of their careers.

Vinales researches visual communication in online networks and its impact on brand management.

## Power Savers



Towson University got high marks for reducing campus energy consumption by

13 percent since 2010. The nod came from the U.S. Department of Energy at the annual Better Buildings Challenge Summit in June.

New equipment and changes at TU's Unitas Stadium Field House led to an estimated 37 percent reduction of energy use last year—an annual savings of nearly \$100,000.

"It was a proud day for TU," says Energy Manager Steve Kolb. "We were asked to share details of our successes so others could learn how to implement them."

## SPORT SHORTS

## Olympic Strokes

Three Tiger swimmers qualified for the 2016 United States Olympic Swimming trials.

Men's team junior Nick Breschi and women's team seniors Hannah Snyder and Jenna Van Camp will head to Omaha, Nebraska, for the weeklong meet that runs June 26 through July 3, 2016.

## TOP 100 WOMEN IN STEM



▲ Gail Gasparich



▲ Clare Muhoro

Gail Gasparich, acting assistant provost and associate dean of the Fisher College, and Clare Muhoro, associate professor of chemistry, were named as two of the top 100 women nationally in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) field by *INSIGHT into Diversity* magazine.

"It has never been intellect and ability that limited women and minorities in this field, just a lack of access and opportunity," Gasparich says.

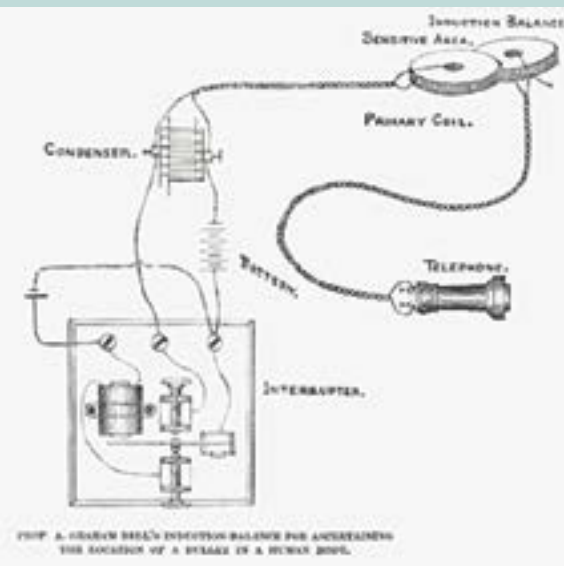
"Humankind must have all hands on deck as we collectively address grand challenges through scientific inquiry," Muhoro adds.

# Metal Works

TU demo on the first metal detector lands trio on The Smithsonian Channel



▲ James Overduin, TU physics professor, Dana Molloy '15 and Jim Selway, a high school physics teacher, with the detection device similar to Alexander Graham Bell's 1881 invention.



▲ A drawing of Alexander Graham Bell's electromagnetic device from 1881 which he hoped would locate a bullet lodged in the body of President James A. Garfield.

The tale of the first metal detector landed a TU physics professor and a then TU physics major on The Smithsonian Channel's "My Million Dollar Invention."

This story actually begins in 1881 after President James A. Garfield was shot in a Washington D.C., railway station. Alexander Graham Bell—best known as the inventor of the telephone—rushed to develop a metal detector—an electromagnetic device that could locate a bullet lodged in the president's body.

Inspired by this strange confluence of science and history, James Overduin, assistant professor of physics, created a

The production crew came to campus in May 2014. Overduin, Molloy and Selway had used identical teddy bears—one with a concealed "bullet"—in earlier teaching versions. But they substituted a medical dummy before the cameras started rolling.

"We filmed in a room in the Media Center basement," says Molloy, now a teacher in Rye, New York. "Dr. Overduin explained the inspiration for the demo and how we replicated Bell's metal detector."

Molloy then took over as the storyteller: locating a bullet in the dummy's chest cavity while explaining the concept of induction balance—all in the context

## Molloy took over as the storyteller: locating a bullet in the dummy's chest cavity while explaining the concept of induction balance.

simple-but-dramatic classroom demonstration. With help from Dana Molloy '15, then an undergraduate physics major, and Jim Selway, a veteran high-school physics teacher, the trio devised a demo using a simple metal detector similar to Bell's 1881 model, though it used a small speaker instead of a telephone receiver.

They published their lesson in "Physics Almost Saved the President! Electromagnetic Induction and the Assassination of James Garfield: A Teaching Opportunity in Introductory Physics," in the March 2014 issue of *The Physics Teacher*.

Then things got interesting, Overduin says.

Nutopia Productions, which was producing "My Million Dollar Invention" for the Smithsonian Channel, asked to film the TU demo for one of its episodes.

of a national tragedy involving a gravely wounded president and a famous inventor's race to save his life.

Overduin says students are almost always baffled by the failure of Bell's device to find the bullet. Another invention that debuted in the late 1800s—the innerspring mattress—was the culprit. While Bell knew that any reactive metal on or near the wounded president would adversely affect his device, he didn't know then that his patient was lying atop steel coils.

Ironically, Garfield died three months later from infection caused by his doctors' unsanitary practices, not from bullet-inflicted damage. Overduin, Molloy and Selway showed how this historic event—and the "what ifs" surrounding it—can still haunt, fascinate and educate. ■

# What's New

## COE Dean



Laurie Mullen, who became dean of TU's College of Education in July, is no stranger to technology.

Her background includes research on a federal grant, "Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology" and Simon & Schuster's Electronic Author Visit. Once she arrived on campus, Mullen almost immediately took to social media, re-tweeting the accomplishments of COE graduates.

She also began to familiarize herself with the college, meeting with faculty and charting COE's future. Her goal, she says, is to raise the college's national ranking.

Mullen comes to Towson after spending 18 years at Ball State University, most recently as the associate dean of its Teachers College.

She received her B.S. in secondary education and Spanish from Southern Illinois University in 1983 and earned a M.Ed. and Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from the University of Illinois in 1994 and 1997, respectively.

Interim Provost S. Maggie Reitz praised Mullen's "significant experience in recruitment and retention of diverse faculty and staff, as well as her passion for serving the university community and fostering educational partnerships internationally."

## Burdick Buildout

Burdick Hall opened the same year "Hey Jude" was Billboard's No. 1 single. Now the 1968 building (which got a student fitness section in 2003) is getting a much-needed makeover. This fall, the university began a \$40 million project to expand and renovate its fitness, gym and administrative areas.

The expansion features a 94,000 square-foot addition located near the athletic fields. The addition will house two multipurpose athletic courts, an elevated sprint hill, a mind and body studio for yoga and Pilates classes, a cycling studio and a combat studio. A new indoor challenge course will offer equipment similar to that seen on the television show, "American Ninja Warrior," where Kacy Catanzaro '12 made history.

"The design has an airy feel with open fitness areas that allow you to see the activity in the gym from anywhere in the building," says Scott Guckert, construction services director.

The project also includes an 8,000-square foot renovation to update existing offices and the mezzanine level of the existing fitness center.



Anticipated completion: Fall 2017

## Viva Latino!

TU's Albert S. Cook Library is one of 55 U.S. libraries and the only academic library in Maryland to receive a \$10,000 "Latino Americans: 500 Years of History" grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the American Library Association (ALA).

The grant will enable Cook Library to offer public programming about Latino history and culture during the 2015-2016 academic year.

The library also will receive the six-part, NEH-supported documentary film, "Latino Americans," created for PBS in 2013 by WETA-TV. The award-winning series chronicles the history of Latinos in the United States from the 16th century to the present.

Cook Library will also offer a photo exhibit on the recent wave of unaccompanied minors to the United States, a Latino student-organized rally, a *New York Times* talk, book discussion, and lectures on Latino-themed topics.

Librarian Joyce Garczynski says the multidisciplinary project is "timely, considering the dramatic growth of our region's Latino population and the continuing debate about immigration."

## Fulbright Scholar



Beth A. Haller's 20 plus years of research into disability and mass media took her to universities throughout Australia last February as a Fulbright Program specialist.

The professor of mass communication and communication studies participated in a series of speaking events to develop curriculum about media and disabilities.

Haller discussed how the Internet, mobile and social media has provided new ways to address social exclusion and inequality, and provide new opportunities for social participation by those with disabilities.

In Sydney, she lectured on "The Digital Media World Redefined by and for Disabled People."

"Some of the news media are framing disability as a problem and technology as a solution," she says, according to the presentation on her website. "In my opinion, the media are discounting the role of people with disabilities in assimilating and adapting these new technologies into their lives and into their communication methods.

Haller was also a guest lecturer at Curtin University in Perth, Western Australia, and conducted a master class for faculty so they can include disability representation in their courses.

# IN A LEAGUE OF HIS OWN

BY RAY FELDMANN '77 / PHOTO BY LAUREN CASTELLANA

**J**ohn Schuerholz '62 stood at the window of his modest Turner Field office and looked out on the perfectly manicured outfield grass. It was a brutally hot summer afternoon in Atlanta and batting practice wouldn't begin for another hour. Schuerholz, president of the Atlanta Braves, watched as a few players casually tossed a baseball back and forth under the unforgiving Georgia sun. The Red Sox were in town, and soon the stadium would be filled with nearly 29,000 screaming fans.

But at that moment, Schuerholz wasn't thinking about how his Braves would fare against Boston, or how long it would take his team's rebuilding process to pay off in the standings. His mind was hundreds of miles away at Towson University—a place where he never expected to be.

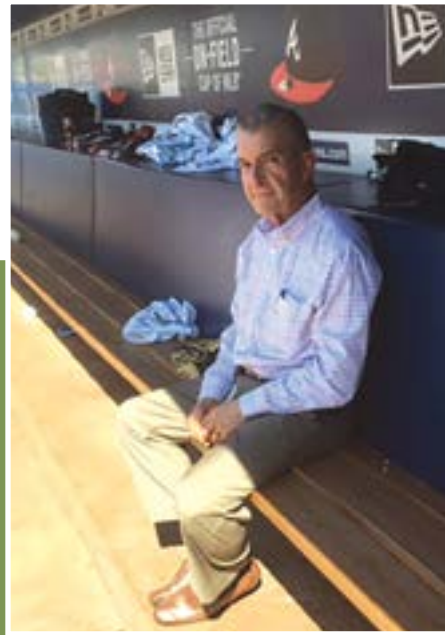
"I had no intention whatsoever of going to college," Schuerholz says matter-of-factly. "My ambition since I was a little kid was to become a major league baseball player. I expected to be a major league baseball player. I could hit, I could run and I could field. But I was small—too small. So being a major league ballplayer just wasn't in the cards for me."

Schuerholz was born and raised in southeast Baltimore, not far from Greentown and just around the corner from the iconic Hausner's Restaurant.

His family wasn't poor by any means, but they never considered themselves anything more than blue-collar, working-class Baltimoreans. When anyone asks, he says simply that he comes from "humble beginnings."

Former Tiger standout  
**John Schuerholz '62,**  
president of the Atlanta Braves,  
scores big in  
Major League Baseball

John Schuerholz at Camden Yards  
when the Braves played the Orioles in June.



**SCHUERHOLZ IS THE FIRST BASEBALL EXECUTIVE TO BE THE GENERAL MANAGER OF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS IN BOTH THE AMERICAN AND NATIONAL LEAGUES.**

Schuerholz watches batting practice in the Braves' dugout.

"I was born on East Avenue," Schuerholz recalls. "We had a big family, and we were spread out all over town. My Schuerholz family was just an extended family. Cousins were like brothers and sisters, and aunts and uncles were like having more parents. That's just how I grew up."

He attended high school at Baltimore City College, which was just across the street from the now-demolished Memorial Stadium where the Baltimore Orioles played.

"I would be in school at City and look across the street and think to myself 'I'm going to play there one day,'" he says wistfully.

That Schuerholz fancied himself a major league ballplayer was no surprise. The man, who was Towson University's Distinguished Alumnus in 2007, comes from a long line of accomplished athletes. The list includes his father, grandfather and several athletically gifted uncles. He was a three-sport letter winner at City, but baseball was always his passion. When he wasn't playing for City during the school year, he was playing during the summer for legendary amateur coaches Walter Youse and Bernie Walter.

But as his City College days were winding down, and the telephone in the Schuerholz home was not ringing off the hook from major league baseball scouts, it became clear that he needed a Plan B.

That's when Towson University, then known as Maryland State Teachers College at Towson, entered the picture.

"My old high school soccer coach had said to me, 'John, just in case the major league scouts overlook your ability, you work at the YMCA day camp in the summer, you like working with kids, why don't you take a look at Towson State Teacher's College? I think

you would enjoy that.' So I put my application in at Towson.

"And he was right, the scouts did overlook my ability," he jokes. "Or maybe they didn't. Maybe they accurately evaluated my skill and ability. And so I ended up at Towson."

When Schuerholz recalls his journey from Baltimore City College to Towson, one can almost hear the distinctive voice of Moonlight "Doc" Graham from the iconic baseball movie, "Field of Dreams."

"It was like coming this close to your dreams," Burt Lancaster's character says in the 1989 box office hit, "and then watching them brush past you like a stranger in the crowd. I never got to bat in the major leagues. I'd have liked to have that chance, just once."

But enrolling at Towson ultimately proved to be a wise decision for Schuerholz. "I had four great years there," he notes, although he didn't exactly get off to a terrific start. A mischievous grin crosses Schuerholz's face when he recalls his first semester at Towson. There almost wasn't a second.

"I loved Towson. It was a small, beautiful campus, easy to get around. There were not a lot of male athletes on campus, and any time there was a school musical, they needed people to fill the male roles. I was a bit of a ham, so I performed in several musicals. That was fun."

Schuerholz also played soccer for legendary coach Donald "Doc" Minnegan. Most of Schuerholz's teammates were older; several had returned from military service. He lived in what was then West Hall during the first semester of his freshman year, but admits to being "distracted" by his surroundings.

"I was unable at that young and tender age to balance the responsibilities of my obligations at school with the fun that my older teammates on the soccer team wanted to expose me to," he confesses. "One day the dean of students called me into her office and told me I needed to get serious and buckle down. Or else it was possible that Towson was not for me."

The dean's stern warning was a wake-up call Schuerholz took seriously. Whether it was his family's influence or his fear of flunking out, he quickly improved his academic standing. He also wrote a sports opinion column for *The Towerlight* newspaper called 'Under The Bench.'

But his most dramatic successes at TU came on the soccer and baseball fields. Schuerholz was a standout for the Tigers, earning all-conference honors in both sports.

After four years, Schuerholz left Towson in 1962 with a bachelor's degree in education and an even more coveted possession: a full-time teaching job at North Point Junior High School. He taught at NPJHS for three years and loved it. But his first love—baseball—was still tugging at his heart. He knew he had to find a way back into baseball.

Ironically, it was inside the bowels of the old Memorial Stadium where his lifelong dream finally began to take shape. He was teaching at North Point when out of the blue he sent a letter to Frank Cashen, who at the time was the Orioles' president. Cashen brought Schuerholz in for an interview—largely because Cashen recognized the Schuerholz family name—and hired him as an assistant to his director of player development.

That improbable start as a "glorified administrative assistant" launched an incredibly successful career in major league baseball. Two years after joining the Orioles' organization, Schuerholz took a similar post with the fledgling Kansas City Royals and eventually became their general manager from 1981 to 1991. He led the Royals to the world championship in 1985.

Schuerholz then joined the Braves organization in 1991 and led Atlanta to the 1995 World Series title. In 16 years as the Braves' general manager, Atlanta won a record 14-straight divisional titles as well as six National League pennants and one World Series. He has served as the organization's president since 2007.

He was honored as the major league's Executive of the Year in 1985, an award he also earned with the Braves in 1991. Schuerholz is the first baseball executive to be the general manager of world championship teams in both the American and National leagues.

These days, Schuerholz is overseeing construction of a massive new stadium complex in Smyrna, just outside of Atlanta, that will be known as SunTrust Park. Besides becoming a new home for the Braves, it will include a mix of retail and commercial development.

Meetings to keep that ambitious project on schedule (it is due to open in spring 2017) and on budget now occupy most of Schuerholz's days ... and nights.



The "mighty bats of John Schuerholz (front row, right) and Joe Mills both closed the season with batting averages in excess of .400," reads the 1960 yearbook where this team picture appears.

"We're all going pretty much 24/7 with this thing," he observes.

This year, Schuerholz is also marking three major milestones in his life: 25 years with the Atlanta Braves, 50 years as a major league baseball executive, and his 75th birthday.

But Schuerholz still maintains strong personal ties to Baltimore and Towson. He was back in Baltimore last June when his Braves played a three-game interleague series at Oriole Park. In addition to reconnecting with his extensive family while in Charm City, Schuerholz also met with current Towson Athletic Director Tim Leonard.

"I was devastated and angry when the previous athletic director proposed eliminating baseball and soccer—the two sports that I played at Towson," Schuerholz admits. "I believe Tim Leonard is committed to doing everything he can to preserve the baseball program."

Saving baseball is especially important to Schuerholz, who provided the seed money and served as chair of a fundraising drive to upgrade Towson's baseball facility and name it for his late father, John Schuerholz Sr.

Schuerholz also admits to being touched by the strong TU contingent that traveled to Macon, Georgia, earlier this year when he was inducted into the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame.

"That meant a lot to me that so many people from Towson came down here for that event," Schuerholz says. "I love Towson University. I still have great fondness for my years there. Baltimore is in my blood and Towson is in my blood, and happily so."

Michael Gill '74, Maryland Secretary of Business & Economic Development and a friend for 20 years, was more than ready to make the trek.

"John left Baltimore for Kansas City in 1971, but his heart never left Baltimore," he says. "Crab cakes, brothers Larry and Jerry, marble steps in East Baltimore, John Unitas, Doc Minnegan, Locust Point, City College, Towson State Teachers College—these are John's roots. He's never forgotten them."

Gill adds, "In the not-too-distant future the call from Cooperstown will come, telling John he has been selected to join the most important and prestigious fraternity in baseball ... Cooperstown will be inducting one of the most genuine and outstanding executives in the history of the great game."

Spend any time around Schuerholz and one can see that he loves where baseball has taken him. He's quick to mention that he met and married his wife, Karen, soon after he began working for the Kansas City Royals.

And while he never got to bat in the majors, he'll always be among the "boys of summer" in a career that has kept him close to the action.

When Schuerholz switched from teaching to baseball management he knew he couldn't be a player but he also knew he had a winning combination—"my understanding of the game of baseball and my love of the game of baseball, the fact that baseball was still in my blood, would serve me well," Schuerholz recalls.

"It turns out, now some 50 years later, that my instincts were correct," he adds. "I love what I do. I still enjoy coming to work every day, and I feel incredibly fortunate to have a career in the sport that I have always loved." ■

**Ray Feldmann '77 is TU director of communications and media relations.**

# DRILLING AND



## To frack— or not?

**The question has roiled state legislatures, divided communities and pitted neighbor against neighbor in recent years.**

Pennsylvania and West Virginia joined the natural gas-drilling boom, and New York banned it. But Maryland, where Garrett and Allegany counties sit atop part of the gas-rich Marcellus Shale formation, has taken a much more deliberative approach to the controversial drilling method.

Darius Irani, chief economist of TU's Regional Economic Studies Institute (RESI), says he wasn't surprised when the Maryland Department of the Environment asked RESI to analyze the economic impact of hydraulic fracturing—often referred to as “fracking”—in Western Maryland for the Marcellus Shale Safe Drilling Initiative.

“We've worked with the Department of the Environment on other projects,” he notes. With David Vanko, a geologist and dean of TU's College of Science and Mathematics, appointed by former Governor Martin O'Malley in 2011 to chair the Advisory Commission, TU was positioned to make significant contributions to public policy.

Extracting the earth's resources always involves a variety of risks, Irani explains.

# DOLLARS

BY JAN LUCAS

For Maryland, deciding how much risk is tolerable—and how best to manage it—has thus far taken four years of study and sometimes heated debate. RESI's contribution involved research, analyses, surveying and stakeholder input from residents, elected officials, business owners, tourists and community leaders.

The economic-impact study, designed by Senior Economist Susan Steward, aimed for a context-sensitive understanding of this complex issue. “It wasn't just about employment, output, wages and tax revenues,” Irani explains. “There were other serious considerations, such as the ways in which drilling might affect community character, housing, roads and transportation, and recreation and tourism.”

As part of the study, RESI research assistant Zachary Jones '14, then a TU student, joined five staff members sent to Garrett and Allegany counties to survey residents and visitors about fracking. In addition, two representatives from Garrett County's Department of Economic Development, as well as a Frostburg University student, pitched in to help.

After consulting with county officials, the RESI team homed in on local gathering places and asked people at random to participate in the survey. “It's tough walking up to strangers and asking for 10 minutes of their time,” Jones recalls, “but it was an important part of the study.”

“We were cordial and honest,” he continues. “And most people liked to share their opinions.”

A Garrett County farmers market and a Cumberland, Maryland, street fair proved to be great surveying sites. But Jones says he also approached hikers at a trail head as well as visitors at the Deep Creek Nature Center, restaurants and shops. In all, surveyers collected 158 on-site surveys over two days in Western Maryland. (A highly publicized online survey collected another 802 viable surveys.)



**“Maryland has a very small amount of the Marcellus Shale—only 1.6 percent of the total.”**

—DARAIUS IRANI

Jones recalls that most of those approached by the RESI surveyers were responsive. “About 50 percent of the respondents were well acquainted with issue of hydraulic fracturing,” he says. “The rest knew about it, but weren't clear on the specifics.”

“A lot of people live in that part of the state for the outdoor activities,” he continues. “Those respondents had strong feelings about the outdoors and how it contributes to both their livelihood and spiritual well-being.”

“They were apprehensive about fracking and how it could hurt the environment or other industries in the area.”

Darius Irani says analysis of the data collected over the course of the study indicate that both Garrett and Allegany counties would experience an economic “boom” followed by a “bust” over a 10-year period if drilling were to proceed.

Furthermore, the study found that housing values, industry sales, royalty payments and willingness to pay for wilderness conservation were key indicators of economic change associated with Marcellus Shale drilling.

“The impact would depend on the size of the economy before drilling and the amount of drilling that takes place,” Irani adds.

“Maryland has a very small amount of the Marcellus Shale—only 1.6 percent of the total. We are not going to be a Pennsylvania or North Dakota. Still, the state has to develop rules and regulations governing it, and that takes input from a great many people.”

“The horizontal drilling technology has improved, and that may make the process safer, but that's not to say that it would be economically viable at a time when oil prices have dropped.”

Fracking for natural gas will not get underway in Western Maryland in the near future. A law, signed in June, bans fracking in Maryland for two and one half years. It also requires the state to come up with standards after the ban is lifted. “There's more work to be done,” Irani says. “But I'm glad RESI was able to contribute to the initiative.” ■

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



WE WENT TO

# CUBA

BY GINNY COOK

## CBE professors and students get a front-row seat to an island about to be flooded by a sea of cultural and economic change



(Top) An American sedan from the 1950s  
(Bottom) Colorful murals that line the streets and adorn buildings are part of Havana's community art project—Muraleando.

Welcome to Cuba.

Here you'll find Castro's three biggest successes—health care, education and a legion of gifted athletes. You'll also find his three biggest failures—breakfast, lunch and dinner.

That oft-told joke crystalizes what two TU business professors and 15 students found when they visited the island nation for 11 days last spring—an eye-opening shot of pure socialism and a Communist government.

"Cuba provides the last glimpse of a planned economy," explains Seth Gitter, who along with fellow business professor Tobin Porterfield began planning the study abroad trip for students in TU's College of Business and Economics more than two years ago.

And that economy "works better than one might expect," he adds.

Health care is free. So is education. In fact one of Cuba's biggest exports is physicians, many of whom work in Venezuela, the country that propped up the Cuban economy after the USSR collapsed, Cuba lost Soviet aid and markets for exports, Gitter says.

Food production and low wages represent the darker side of this socialist equation. Sugar, tobacco and some fruits are the main crops grown on state-controlled farms.

"No one is starving," Porterfield notes, "but people told us they hadn't seen a fresh egg or anything other than powdered milk in three years." As the Towson group discovered, the daily diet, theirs and the rest of the population's, consists of rice and beans.

Wages are regulated. According to Porterfield, pay scales range from \$18 a month for a line worker to \$32 a month for doctors and engineers. The result is a level playing field—no middle class—but also no worker incentive.

The economy is further controlled by a single government bank and a peculiar two-currency system—the Cuban peso and the convertible peso. "The convertible peso is pegged to the dollar and worth 25 times more than the Cuban peso," Gitter says. While most workers are paid in Cuban pesos, nearly all consumer goods are priced in convertible pesos, making most items simply unaffordable, he adds.

This dual currency system is leading to an exodus of professionals. Engineers, for example, says Gitter, are leaving jobs to become taxi drivers. By catering to the growing tourist trade, workers can take home more convertible pesos and raise their standard of living.

### Back in time

There's a certain thrill in experiencing a country where doors have been mostly shut to Americans for more than 50 years. Since 1960, a U.S. trade embargo prohibited Americans from trading, traveling (with few exceptions) and investing in Cuba.

Last December's Obama-Castro handshake and the August reopening of the U.S. Embassy in Cuba removed some of those barriers but not the dichotomies of an island nation stuck in time. The Towson group discovered the joys of seeing 1950s-vintage Chevys, pristine beaches and a vibrant music scene along with the hassles of leaving behind Internet access, free trade and free speech.

The CBE students enrolled in one of two courses, The Economics of Cuba or Operations Management. They toured businesses, farms and historic sites, and heard lectures by officials or university professors that covered Cuban history and Cuban economics, experiences that will give them a competitive advantage when seeking internships, their professors say.

But spotty cell phone service and limited Internet access—11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—which often crashed due to sheer volume, left students flummoxed. The White House is encouraging U.S. companies to invest in expanded tele-

communications in Cuba, but it remains to be seen whether a country that controls access to information will open up Internet links.

Paid monitors—government agents—already keep tabs on political rhetoric and every day conversation. "It's very cold war," notes Porterfield about the government's tight control. "It was hinted that we should be careful about what we said and what we asked. Folks get reported if they violate policies."

### Finding a drop to drink

Perhaps the most telling anecdote about the Cuban economy was the search for water. Before departing on a field trip, the two professors asked their tour guide where to buy water so they could refill water bottles during the long hot journey. Head scratching and pondering ensued, eventually followed by a 15-minute bus ride to an unmarked door.

"Inside there was water available for purchase," Gitter says. But the deliberation, the trek and the lack of advertising was a perfect illustration of the lack of retail trade, even in the capital city of Havana.

With so few competitors, Cuba might seem like the perfect place for an entrepreneur. "My students always ask me if I would open a business in Cuba," Gitter says.

He would not. "I don't know enough about the local economy, and I would need to have a Cuban partner," he explains.

Even major chains such as Starbucks or MacDonald's must have a majority Cuban ownership. And unlike China, which seems to welcome new business and has an emerging middle class, Cubans appear less interested and have less money to spend, he adds.

American businesses with products to sell won't find much of a market in Cuba, Gitter says. Even tourism could experience an initial boom, then a bust, as the novelty wears off and visitors tire of the lack of luxuries. But exporters, those who trade in products such as rum or cigars, may find money to be made.

Both Gitter and Porterfield agree that the biggest surprise on the trip was the warmth of the Cuban people. "They have a huge animosity toward the American government because of the blockade and are desperate to have it lifted," Gitter says. At the same time, they eagerly embrace American people—they were excited and interested in learning and having legitimate exchanges.

"Somehow they are able to separate the two," Porterfield says. ■

Ginny Cook is the editor of *Towson*.

(Left) The Ministry of the Interior building with an image of Che Guevara in Revolution Square, the site of political rallies and speeches by the Castros.  
(Right) TU students Donye Taylor, Maria Muchaypina and Vasthy Delgado stand behind the street musicians who came to a restaurant where the Towson group dined in Old Havana.





# Saying Goodbye

BY GINNY COOK

## Memorial service celebrates the life and legacy of **President Maravene Loeschke '69/'71**

# M

usic, dancing and tributes filled the SECU Arena on Sept. 18 when friends and family gathered to remember former Towson President Maravene Loeschke, who died June 25 at age 68.

The memorial service was a final farewell to the president emerita, and was also largely planned by her. She selected the music, the performers and some of those who would deliver remarks.

“What you are about to experience is the last professional endeavor of Maravene Loeschke,” Timothy Chandler, interim president, told the audience. “This program reflects her experience here with us and highlights all that she loved about Towson, her Towson home and her Towson family.”

The Towson University Chorale, Shannon Wollman '91 and GQ, an *a capella* quartet with Kathryn Gillis '11, Katherine Macdonald '13 Amanda McNutt '13 and Alexandra Hauger '13, performed vocals. Arno Drucker and Eva Mengelkoch played selections on the piano. Cecylia Barczyk played the cello. Vincent Thomas danced.

In between the performances, friends and colleagues spoke in person or via video (See side-

bar.) Some recalled the woman who reminded everyone that students were the core of the university's mission.

“Her selfless commitment, devotion really, to the university and her focus on its students serve as a model for other university presidents,” said William E. “Brit” Kirwan, USM chancellor emeritus.

Marsha Becker '99, professor of theatre arts and music, led the audience into one last standing ovation for the woman who “could make one feel important, that we all mattered to humanity.”

Ralph Blasting, dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, State University of New York at Fredonia, remembered a tough administrator focused on developing and showcasing Towson's strengths.

“Maravene had an ability like no one I've ever met to know what to do and when to do it, how to listen, how to wait and how to say, ‘OK we've discussed this plenty. We can do this. And we will,’” Blasting said.

“Maravene was both driven and nurturing, impatient and generous with her time, demanding and forgiving,” he added.

Loeschke and C. Richard Gillespie, professor emeritus and founder of the theatre department,

Photo by Kenji Takano



1. Loeschke in a 1967 performance with the Glen Players
2. The president emerita with her husband, C. Richard Gillespie, professor emeritus and founder of the theatre department
3. Vincent Thomas, associate professor of dance, performs his tribute choreography.
4. Loeschke with students at a football game
5. Arno Drucker plays Intermesso, Op. 118, No 2 by Johannes Brahms.
6. GQ, sings "What A Wonderful World."

married in 1981. The pair shared a vision to build the department but often argued on different sides, recalled Jay Herzog, professor of theatre arts.

He compared them to the husband and wife painters Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo. Much like Rivera, Gillespie hoped his wife's reputation would surpass his own.

"It is not to say that Maravene exceeded Dick's work," Herzog said. "But I heard Dick say more than many times that Maravene was due for greatness, and he would do anything he can to serve her life's ambitions. He chose to aid her and watch her grow."

Other live tributes came from Brandy Hall '13, past SGA president, Myrna Cardin '65, chair of the Board of Visitors, Robyn Quick, chair of theatre arts and Juanita Rockwell, retired professor of theatre arts.

Loeschke spent more than three decades at her alma mater as a teacher, professor and chair of the Department of Theatre Arts, dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication and then president. She was also a provost and president of two colleges in Pennsylvania.

Loeschke became TU's 13th president in January 2012, carving an impressive legacy of innovative programs, diversity initiatives and administrative vision during her term. She was direct, organized and firm, yet always maintained personal connections with students, faculty, and state and local leaders.

Loeschke also stayed active in the theatre, leading what she called "a glorious life" that included "teaching what I love [and] doing what I love." In addition to performing many roles and acting in four one-woman shows, she wrote three books, a monograph, and numerous scholarly papers and articles.

**In her final composition, a farewell letter to the university community, Loeschke penned a heartfelt goodbye to her friends and Towson. Bruce R. Nelson '89 read this letter to the assembly.**

*This is not what I would have chosen. I still have much more to give to my friends, my family, students, my community and Towson University—one of my life's loves.*

*I have been one of the most fortunate people on earth. There was no, "Woe is me, why me?" attached to this challenge. I accept that I have been dealt a nasty scenario, but it is no different a challenge than millions of others have faced courageously. It was my intention to use this example and try to do the same.*

*I cannot imagine what a more rewarding career and life would have been like. I have had the opportunity to have a career doing the work I love— theater, writing, teaching, acting, and motivating students to be the best they can be. Over my 45-year career in higher education, there was rarely a morning [when I didn't feel that] I could not wait to get to work. This was especially true when the work was connected to my 33 years at Towson.*

*I have had the opportunity to spend my life with gifted students, brilliant faculty and actors and directors, and excellent colleagues. My family and friends are golden. Most importantly, I have spent 45 years with the love and soul mate of my life—the most beautiful man I have ever known.*

*As I pass to the next adventure, I hold my life's journey with deepest gratitude and respect for the responsibilities in my care. I asked the students every chance I got (and I ask you now), "How will the world be better because you have been given a college education? How will you make your life one of service to others and the world condition? Students, what will be better because of you?" Please keep asking our students and each other these questions.*

*Thank you for allowing me in your lives. I have learned so much about love from you. It is with love and gratitude that I say goodbye. ■*

*Maravene Loeschke*

## VIDEO TRIBUTES

Friends and colleagues recorded their memories of the Maravene Loeschke they knew and loved

**Caret's wife was throwing him a surprise birthday party and almost had "a nervous breakdown because I had cut a three-foot hole in our ceiling to install some track lights. Liz called Maravene, who came over with about a dozen balloons to fill that hole. As we think of her, we smile. That's what she would want."**

Robert Caret  
Chancellor, University System of Maryland

**"She will be fondly remembered as someone who greatly enjoyed her students above all. Her loss is tremendous, not just for Towson University but for the entire university system."**

Janet Dudley-Eshbach  
President, Salisbury University and Chair  
USM Council of University System Presidents

**"She inspired all of us to be better and to change the world. She was one of the most fierce, loving, kind, fearless leaders that I've ever met."**

Angela Hong '12

**"Mar was extraordinary, the way she touched everyone's life. She made everyone feel like they had a special bond with her."**

Roi A. Ligon Jr.  
Former student at Mansfield University

**At a basketball game last December, Maravene grabbed a tambourine and played with the pep band. "It was an amazing moment—the mutual love for one another, the connection and the magic that Maravene had with Towson students."**

Francis S. Soistman Jr. '79  
Vice Chair TU Board of Visitors

**"When she was in the fourth grade, the teacher put her in charge of games day. I can imagine Maravene with her long legs and her clipboard in hand going around and taking charge. I've often thought of that teacher's understanding of her leadership abilities."**

Sandra Esslinger

**"She loved to play golf. Her creativity came through when she kept score. One day she hit about six shots to get to the edge of the green, and then she chipped it onto the green and it went into the hole. She screamed, 'It's a hole-in-one.' I said, 'Maravene it doesn't work that way.' She said, 'It works for me.'"**

Dean Esslinger  
Associate Vice President For International Programs (retired)

**"President Loeschke was the most honest, fearless and most involved president Towson University has ever had. We shall miss her terribly."**

Richard Vatz  
Professor, Instructional Leadership  
and Professional Development

To see the memorial service and to read the obituary, visit [towson.edu/loeschkeobituary](http://towson.edu/loeschkeobituary).

# rhyme 'n' REASON

BY JAN LUCAS / PHOTOS BY KANJI TAKENO

The excitement is palpable as hip-hop teaching artist Jamaal Collier strides into a fifth-grade classroom at William Paca Elementary, a Title 1 public school in Harford County, Maryland. Kids squirm in anticipation, and their teacher is clearly pumped for the mental workout to come.

Collier, aka “Mr. Root,” jumps right in. “We are always being rude to one another,” he points out. “How do we change it? Give me a sentence.” His audience knits its collective brow, and teacher April Kenney steps forward with encouragement. “What rhymes with rude?” she prods.

“Attitude!” a girl shouts.

Mr. Root nods as he threads his way between desks, smiling and bouncing on the balls of his feet. “Change your *attitude* to stop being *rude*,” he raps. Kenney explains that the school’s next assembly will focus on “spreading the message that disrespect is up—we can do better.”

Mr. Root surveys the class, then ups the ante. “Give me a rhyming couplet,” he says.

The pupils get to work, with several calling out rhymes. A boy supplies the punchy rhythm with a beatbox imitation. Minutes later, Mr. Root has his couplet:

*At school we were always rude.  
Then we got rid of our attitude.*

Twenty-two small faces brighten, and Mr. Root beams with pride. Since 2009 he’s been working his magic in association with Young Audiences of Maryland, a Baltimore-based nonprofit devoted to enriching the lives and education of Maryland’s youth through educational and culturally diverse arts programs.

“I derive joy from collaborating with children and teachers to produce an exciting educational experience,” Collier explains afterward. “We’re always discovering new things together.”

The Dewey Decimal rap uses rhyme to teach kids about libraries.

**Jamaal Collier '05**  
mixes artistry and  
education as ‘Mr. Root’

Dewey Decimal System

Over a century ago, the  
library was disorganized!

Melvin Dewey had a plan  
that made it formalized!

Ten Topics all labeled by  
triple digits!

Broke them down with  
decimals to make them  
more specific!

From 000 all the way to  
triple 9!

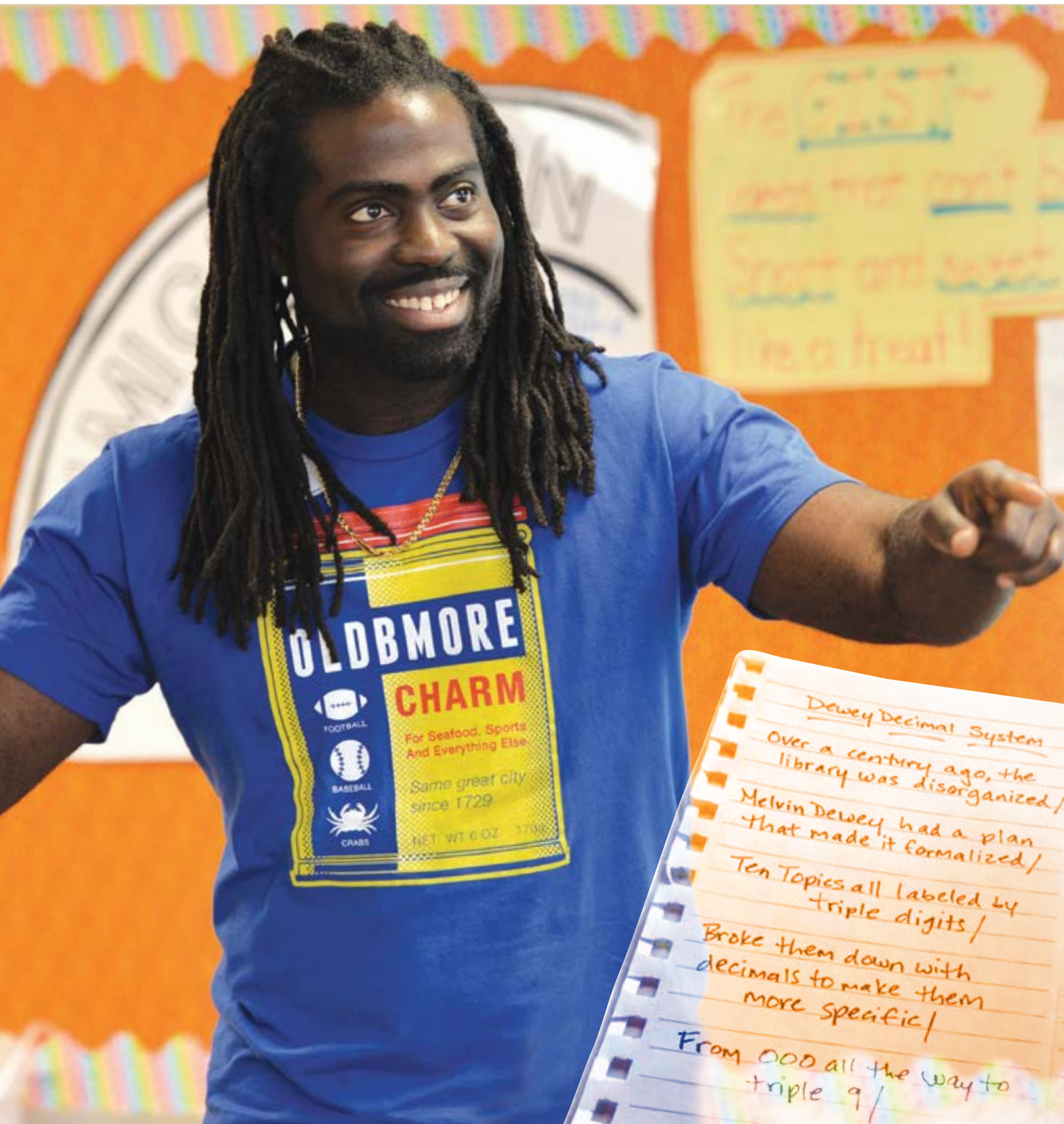
Categories that lead to  
any book you try to find!

Fiction is alphabetical  
like ABC!

And finding non-fiction  
is simple. 123!

If you have any more  
questions don't ask me!

Ask the librarian, that's  
his J-O-B!



For April Kenney, Mr. Root's classroom visits are a real day-brightener. "Jamaal is awesome," she says. "I've been working with him for at least three years, and I co-teach with him every chance I get.

"We had three students who tend to be resistant to new people," she continues, "but they warmed up to Mr. Root right away. It's great to watch him establish trust and to see students respond in positive ways."

Jamaal Collier discovered his love for music and theater as an 11th grader growing up in Prince Georges County, Maryland. His Costa Rican mother fostered his love of music, and a teacher who'd noticed his charisma suggested he take a drama class the following year. It wasn't long before he had a role in his school's production of Shakespeare's "Macbeth."

"Theater was very liberating for me," Collier recalls, "but I was also interested in working in a medical field. Towson offered the best programs in the region, so that's where I headed after high school."

As an undergraduate Collier was actively involved in TU's Kuumba Players, Martial Arts Club, Caribbean Students Association, Latino American Student Organization, and Black Student Union. Off-campus pursuits included reenacting the role of Jacob Butler—a free man of color in 19th century Baltimore—for the Maryland Historical Society. "I had an awesome time," he says of his undergraduate experience.

After earning his B.S. in athletic training and theatre, Collier found he preferred "being a musician on my own schedule, rather than being at the mercy of casting directors."

While honing his craft as a hip-hop artist, he worked as an athletic-training intern at Loyola University Maryland.

"I really enjoyed athletic training, but you need to give 100 percent to it," he says. After three-and-a-half years of traveling with the teams, he decided to pursue his artistic career full-time. "I loved it more," he explains.

Collier chose a stage name that reflected his Central and South Ameri-

can cultural traditions. "I was taught to always use "Mr." or "Ma'am" when speaking to elders," he explains. "Children are supposed to show respect by calling me "Mister," so I became Mr. Root."

He teamed with Young Audiences/Arts for Learning in 2009. In 2013 he



**"For me the joy comes from collaborating with children and teachers to produce an exciting educational experience."**

**—Jamaal Collier**

became a Young Audiences roster artist, offering assemblies and long-term residencies to elementary, middle and high school students as well as professional development for teachers.

But it's not merely entertainment, says Stacie Sanders Evans, Young Audiences' executive director. The organization provided Collier and other artists with 70 hours of training on state standards and how to partner

with teachers to develop lesson plans and assess outcomes. "Our artists get to pilot their ideas in a real classroom with the support of a teacher and a master teaching artist," she emphasizes.

Evans explains that while Young Audiences works with over 400 public and private schools—from pre-K through high school—it has a particular focus on Title I schools with large concentrations of low-income students.

"Jamaal takes hip-hop into the classroom and uses it to engage kids and inspire learning," she says. "He helps teachers understand how to use the urban art form. For example, in a literature class he uses rap's rhyming couplets to help students identify themes in a novel. In a math class, it's an effective way to teach mathematical concepts.

"As a result, students are better able to summarize and synthesize material.

Jamaal turns on that light bulb in their heads."

Collier remembers the thrill of discovering his talent for transforming lives. He once worked with a girl so withdrawn that she couldn't speak in class. "I told the rest of the class to look away," he remembers. "And she created an awesome couplet."

It gets even better, he says. "In less than seven days this child went from shy and introverted to bold and confident. She was communicating effectively, and her stage presence was phenomenal."

For Collier, providing the spark that fires young imaginations is the most rewarding career he could choose.

"I may be an ephemeral experience," he adds with a chuckle. "But because I'm me, it'll stick."

"I want to do it forever," he says. ■

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



FROM OUR ALUMNI PRESIDENT

*“We look forward to hearing about your accomplishments and successes.”*

\* *The Alumni Association is hosting numerous events in the coming year to celebrate Towson University’s 150th anniversary. Find details at [www.tutigertracks.com/events](http://www.tutigertracks.com/events) or by following us on [Instagram.com/towsonalum](https://www.instagram.com/towsonalum), [twitter.com/towsonualumni](https://twitter.com/towsonualumni), or by liking us at [fb.com/towsonalum](https://www.facebook.com/towsonalum). We hope to see you at one of our events.*

As I begin my final year as president of the Alumni Association, I am looking forward to Towson University’s 150th year. We have planned many exciting events on and off campus to help you celebrate our sesquicentennial. From lectures to an O’s game to Homecoming to charitable events, these special occasions are spread across two academic years. There’s something for everyone, so I hope you can celebrate with us. The university and the Alumni Association are working hard to make every event a success. Visit [TU150.towson.edu](http://TU150.towson.edu) to find more information.

The spring and summer were filled with gatherings that recognized and celebrated our alumni. There was the annual crab feast and game at the Orioles spring training facility in Sarasota, Florida, followed by a trek across the state for an alumni reception for graduates living in

south Florida. Other events included the Distinguished Alumni and Deans Recognition Award Dinner, the annual Graduation Celebration, the Alumni Association crab feast and the welcome back celebration for Chancellor

Robert Caret. If you missed the opportunity to attend these grand affairs, please come back to campus and join us for future ones. It’s never too late to reconnect or get involved.

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

**Lance Johnson '93**  
President



## SECU Introduces Visa Signature Card

Elite credit card is for Towson alumni

SECU, a financial partner of Towson University and the Towson University Alumni Association, has issued the new *SECU Visa Signature® Card for Towson University Alumni*, an exclusive card available only to TU graduates.

The SECU Visa Signature card provides access to valuable benefits, exclusive perks and VIP features, including no annual fee, no international fee, EMV chip technology and complimentary concierge service, all with special, custom card designs available only to TU alumni. Whether the design is Stephens Hall or Tiger Athletics, the cards let graduates show their TU colors while enjoying all the perks and benefits that the SECU Visa Signature card has to offer.

SECU calls it “an elite card experience wrapped in TU pride.”

Those who apply, receive 25,000 bonus points for new card members after making \$2,000 in purchases within three months of opening the account. To learn more or to apply, visit [secumd.org/towson](http://secumd.org/towson).

To learn more or to apply, visit [secumd.org/towson](http://secumd.org/towson).

# Awards Banquet

Alumni receive Distinguished Alumni and Deans Recognition Awards

Towson's finest were recognized May 4 at the 2015 Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni and Deans Recognition Awards. Established in 1958, it is the highest honor presented by the Alumni Association. The Deans Recognition Awards honor alumni from each college for their personal and professional accomplishments.

## 2015 Award Recipients

### Distinguished Alumni Award

Jermon Bushrod '07, a left tackle and four-year starter at TU, was drafted by the Saints in 2007 and helped the team win the Super Bowl. In 2013, he signed a five-year contract with the Chicago Bears. He has also created the Visualize and Rize Foundation for youth and sponsors scholarships for high school senior athletes.

### College of Business and Economics

Robert W. Sharps '93 is a vice president of T. Rowe Price, a member of its US Equity Steering committee and lead portfolio manager of the firm's US Large-Cap Growth Equity Strategy.

### College of Education

Karen Gregory Schafer '68/'75 served as director of the Center for Professional Practice in TU's College of Education for more than 10 years. She also received nearly \$700,000 in grants and research support.

### College of Fine Arts and Communication

Keith L. Ewancio '94/'07 is a senior human resources specialist for the Social Security Administration's Office of the Inspector General.

### College of Health Professions

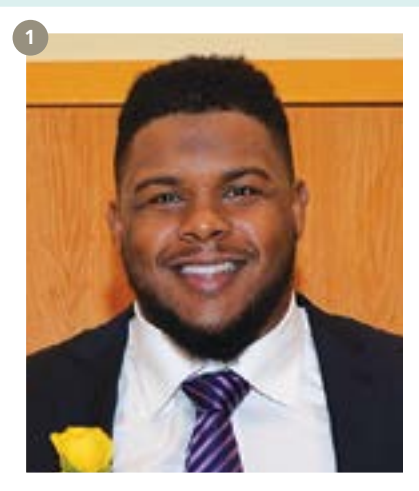
Beverly Decker Brown '75 is the clinical supervisor of the Speech/Language Program at the Baltimore City Public School System.

### College of Liberal Arts

Thomas H. Mueller '94, Ph.D. has been a geography professor at California University of Pennsylvania for more than 14 years.

### Fisher College of Science and Math

Jeffrey C. Miller '78 is a board-certified orthodontist with more than 20 years of experience specializing in orthodontics for adults and children.



Jermon Bushrod '07



Robert W. Sharps '93



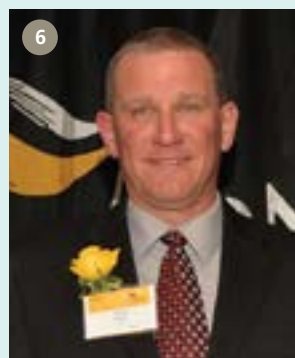
Karen Gregory Schafer '68/'75



Keith L. Ewancio '94/'07



Beverly Decker Brown '75



Thomas H. Mueller '94, Ph.D.

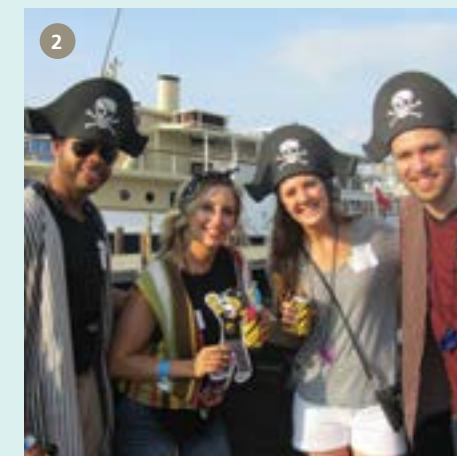
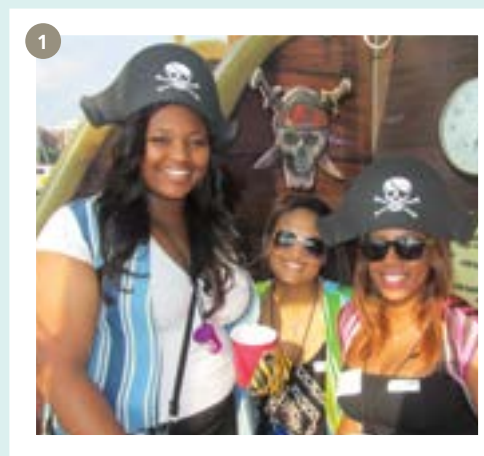


Jeffrey C. Miller '78

# Ahoy!

Young alumni become party pirates on the high seas of the Inner Harbor

"Shiver me timbers." TU has more than 60,000 graduates nationwide who are under the age of 40. A group of these young graduates and their friends donned pirate hats and boarded The Fearless for a sailing adventure with Urban Pirates. The cruise left Ann Street in Baltimore's Fells Point, plying the waters of Baltimore's Inner Harbor. Guests enjoyed refreshments, and no one had to walk the plank.



1 Leekeisha Ervin '14, Tawnya Dinkins '14 and Erin Smith '14

2 Chris Patterson '10, Jenna Patterson '10, Ashley White and Jake Molzahn

3 Alumni become part of the pirate crew of The Fearless.

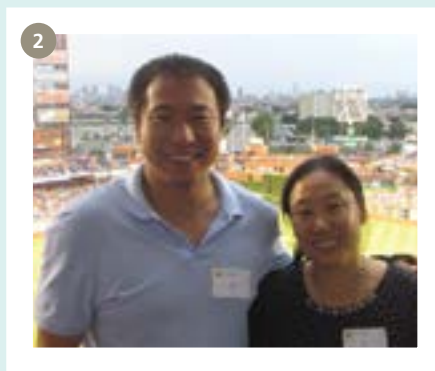
4 Nicholas Zahn '09, Liz Zahn '11, Brendan Maltese '11 and Kaitlyn Wose '13

## Let's Go Os!

Alumni cheer for the Birds in Philadelphia, Dallas and D.C.

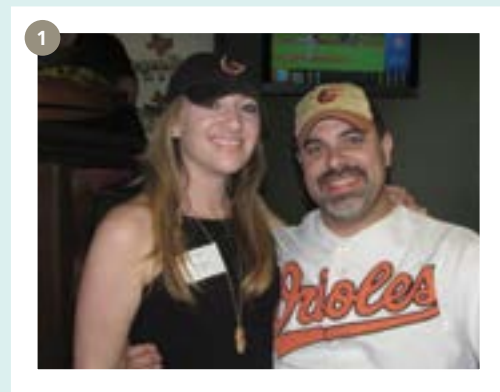
The Alumni Association is making the rounds at ballparks across the country to support the Orioles. On June 17, alumni fans in Philadelphia watched the Orioles beat the Phillies 6-4. Cheese steaks, pretzels and refreshments were an added bonus. On August 29, alumni in Dallas, Texas watched the Orioles take on the Rangers. The final alumni road trip, Sept. 23, was to Washington, D.C., for a Nationals game.

### Philadelphia ▼



1 Josh Bell '00, Jeffery Mancuso '00 and Robert Salotto '01  
2 Peng Yang '11 and Hui Zhang  
3 Linzell Harris and Rhonda Harris '87

### Dallas ▼



1 Danielle Roberts '09 and Andrew Roberts  
2 Karl Wimer, Kevin Spaeth, Jack Tierney and Jason Stefanides '89  
3 Chris Via and Jamie Via '03



## Remember When

Reunions of the Classes of 1945 and 1965

On May 9, the Class of 1965 returned to campus to celebrate their 50th Reunion. The day was filled with bus tours, dinner, entertainment and, most of all, reliving memories of time spent at their alma mater. The Class of 1965 also returned to celebrate 70 years of being graduates of Towson.



1 Class of 1965 at their 50th Reunion  
2 Class of 1945 at their 70th Reunion

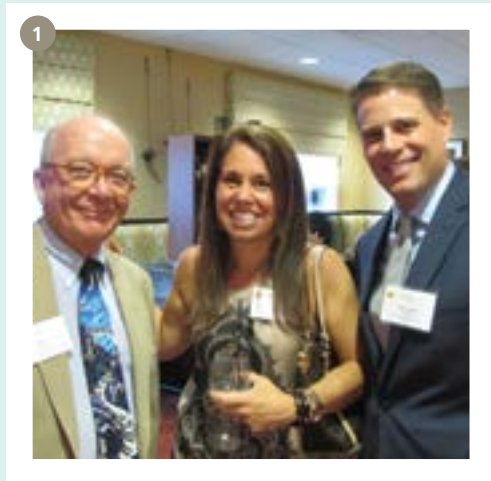


## Welcome Back

Robert L. Caret, former TU president, becomes chancellor of the University System of Maryland

Bob Caret spent eight years as Towson University's president—from 2003 to 2011—before leaving to become president of the University of Massachusetts System. On July 1, he returned to Maryland to head the USM. The Alumni Association welcomed Caret and his wife, Liz Zoltan, at a reception July 10. Caret serves on the National Association of System Heads and the Business-Higher Education Forum boards. He also is a member of the National Security Higher Education Advisory Board and the Government University Industry Research Roundtable.

1 Bill Murray '08 & '11, Jane Evans and Christopher Evans '93



2 James Torrence '10, Brittany Miller '10 and Tanisha Taylor '04



3 Lori Armstrong, Chris Ahern '94 and Kim Fabian '88



4 Chancellor Caret, Mary Gill, Liz Zoltan and Mike Gill '74



5 Gary Gill '74, Missy Dudley and Interim President Chandler



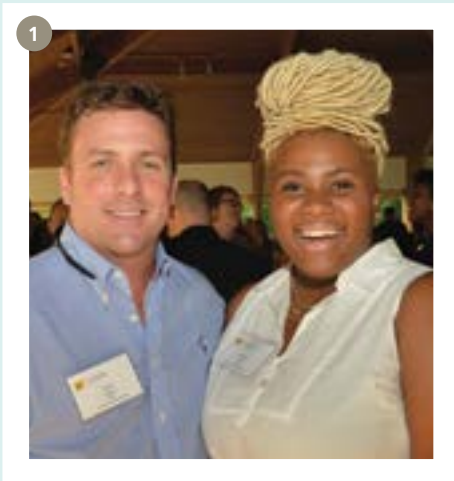
6 Friends toast the new chancellor.



## In Good Company

Alumni Association partners with the SGA, Career Center and businesses

The Alumni Association welcomed student leaders back to campus Sept 1. This networking opportunity at the Auburn House brought together students and representatives from businesses that offer corporate internships.



1 Chris A'Hern '94 and Corey Johnson



2 Natalie Hurley, Jamal Washington and Halina Siegel are part of the Student Government Association.



3 Ebony Marcus, Omnia Shedid and Schneina Pinchinat



4 Pierce Jaffri, Natalie Hurley, Deb Moriarty, Kristen Zdon and Mary Crowe



5 Kurt Anderson (President, SGA), Keith Ewancio '94/'07, Maria Morales '94, Stephanie Johnson '95, Erika Moore '93/'00, and Lance Johnson '93

## An Annual Tribute

Remembering Honor Elizabeth Wainio '95, who perished on 9/11 aboard Flight 93

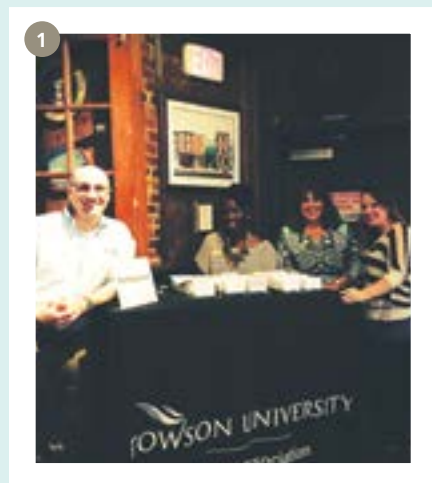
Each year family and friends celebrate the life of Honor Elizabeth Wainio '95 who was on the plane that crashed in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Discovery Communications, her employer, and many relatives and friends established the scholarship in her memory. A special thank you to the host committee, and Marc '95 and Linda McFaul, proprietors of Ropewalk Seafood Company, for their ongoing generosity, which makes this fundraiser so successful.

1 Keith Ewancio '94/'07, Shari Groover, Amy Smith, and Margaret Paulson '11

2 Sarah Wainio (second from the right) surrounded by friends

3 Raven's Art work created and donated by Richard Reinhardt

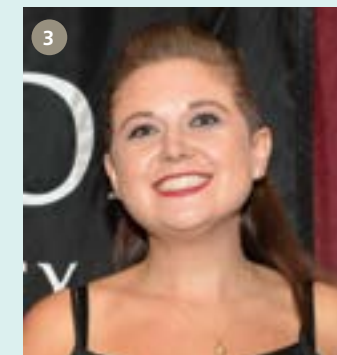
4 Silent Auction display at Ropewalk Tavern



## Best and Brightest

The Second Annual Young Alumni Awards

They are innovative, entrepreneurial and civic-minded, ready to tackle any challenge. These are just a few of the recent Towson graduates who are making a difference in the world. On Sept. 18, the Alumni Association celebrated their accomplishments at the Second Annual Young Alumni Awards Banquet in the University Union. A special thank you to the Alumni Association Awards and Recognition Committee who reviewed the nominations.



1 Distinguished Young Alumni Award  
Mayokun Demehin D.D.S. '09

2 Young Philanthropic Alumni Award  
Darian S. Carter '10

3 Young Service Alumni Award  
Amanda Frances Menke '12

4 Young Entrepreneur Alumni Award  
Kathleen Watson '05

5 Outstanding Recent Graduate Award  
Khanh-Dung (KD) Hoang Nguyen, Ph.D. '07



As we celebrate Towson University's 150th anniversary, we take pride in the level of philanthropy invested on campus and thank you for your generosity toward your alma mater. Like countless other public universities, philanthropy and fundraising were not as critical to accomplishing our mission in years past. In fact, in Towson's 150-year-history, there have only been three capital campaigns, which makes raising nearly \$10 million in this year's annual campaign even more striking. Economic challenges, however, highlight the need for increased funds. As state resources stay the same or—more likely—are eroded, investment from private donors is more critical now than ever before.

As you look back on your experience at Towson University and the impact it has had on your career and your life, this is the ideal opportunity to support TU and make it possible for others to have the benefit of a rich academic experience at this remarkable university. Whether it's funding a scholarship, making a planned gift, or contributing funds for a particular program, athletics or the arts, your gift to TU will make a difference. I hope you will make supporting Towson University part of your personal legacy and join me in making a gift today.

—Gary N. Rubin '69

VICE PRESIDENT FOR UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

## Supporting Our Students

The colleges of Business and Economics and Health Professions launch 150th anniversary scholarship campaigns

One goal for the 150th anniversary celebration is to raise \$1.5 million in scholarship support by June 30, 2016. The College of Business and Economics (CBE) and the College of Health Professions (CHP) have created giving campaigns to increase the money available for scholarships. Enhanced scholarship support means that students can spend more time engaging with campus activities, volunteer organizations and career preparation, and less time working to support their education.

CBE's Forward Momentum Scholarship Campaign asks alumni and friends to donate \$150 to the CBE Endowed Scholarship. The \$150,000 goal would more than double the college's existing scholarship endowment and secure financial support for generations of TU business and economics students. CBE has 74 scholarships that award an average of \$1,300 each. Increasing

the scholarship endowment will allow the college to award even more scholarships in greater amounts to deserving students.

With only 34 scholarships offering an average award amount of \$1,875 each, CHP also hopes to increase scholarship support for its 5,077 students. CHP's DreamMakers Scholarship will support all majors across the college and allow students to continue improving the lives of patients and clients through overall health and wellness. This scholarship campaign seeks 150 donors who are willing to meet students' financial needs. Donors are encouraged to contribute at four levels: Anniversary DreamMaker—\$150; DreamMaker—\$500; WishMaker—\$1,500; or DreamMaker Founder—\$5,000.



Foundation Scholarship recipients thank donors for their generosity.

To support these campaigns, go to the College of Business and Economics Scholarship Endowment or the College of Health Professions DreamMakers Scholarship at [towson.givecorps.com](http://towson.givecorps.com).

## Providing for Future Elementary Educators

A Charitable Gift Annuity is another option for scholarship donors

"Educating young children is a job that requires teachers who are talented, creative, dedicated, compassionate and knowledgeable. If our gift is able to allow future teachers to get the education that will aid them in developing the skills required, not only will we be grateful, but also, above all else, it will be their future students who will reap the benefits," says Lois Becker Wright '65/'77.

She and her husband, Howard Wright Jr., have spent their lives ensuring that the next generation is prepared for future success. Lois taught at the elementary level in Baltimore for 10 years and the middle school level in Havre de Grace for 20 years. Howard retired from teaching at the U.S. Army Ordinance Center and School, formerly at Aberdeen Proving Grounds. In their retirement, they are continuing to provide for future students by creating the Lois B. and Howard W. Wright

Jr. Endowed Scholarship, through a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA).

A CGA is another option for donors when considering a scholarship gift to Towson. This option transfers cash or property to a charity in exchange for a partial tax deduction and a lifetime stream of annual income from that charity. At the death of the donors, Towson University will keep their gift to financially support future generations of elementary educators. Lois says, "I hope the recipients are able to concentrate on their education rather than how to pay for schooling. And I hope such opportunities are available to all students who need it."

To learn more about how to establish a Charitable Gift Annuity with Towson University, contact Marjorie Bray at [mbray@towson.edu](mailto:mbray@towson.edu) or 410-704-6287.



Howard and Lois '65/'77 Wright

## A Gift to the Hearing Impaired

The Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank makes generous donations

Towson University's state-of-the-art Hearing and Balance Center has received a generous gift of 92 gently used hearing aids from the Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank. This donation gives the Institute for Well-Being (IWB) the capability to create its own hearing aid loan program. "This is a tremendous asset for us to have a supply of hearing aids available for clients to borrow in order to maintain their daily activities," says Amanda Kozlowski '07, audiology clinic director.

The Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank also provided an Earmold Modification Lab. This piece of equipment will allow the center to modify hearing aids for clients while they wait.

The technology enhances the acoustical qualities within minutes, which saves time and improves satisfaction with the center's services.

Thanks to the Maryland Hearing Aid Loan Bank's donation, the IWB and the Hearing and Balance Center can continue to provide outstanding professional service to clients and the highest quality clinical training foundation for those pursuing an Applied Doctor in Audiology degree.

To support the TU Hearing and Balance Center's hearing aid bank, visit the Audiological Equipment Operating Account at [towson.givecorps.com](http://towson.givecorps.com).



A client is fitted for a hearing aid at TU's Hearing and Balance Center.

## Belief and Gratitude

Donors meet recipients at the Foundation Scholars luncheon

Towson University celebrated philanthropy and the accomplishments of student scholarship recipients at the Foundation Scholars Luncheon on April 24. The event was attended by 305 donors, students and university leaders, and offered the opportunity for donors to meet the recipients of their generosity.

Featured speaker John C. McLucas, a steward of the Patricia Knapp McLucas Memorial Scholarship and professor in TU's Foreign Languages Department, reflected on the scholarship he created in his mother's memory. "She so adored Towson students and pondered the difference between her life, in which her parents could simply write a check and send her to Wellesley College, and the lives of my students who were sacrificing and working their way through college, and she was very touched by that," he says. McLucas reminded students that, "every single scholarship at TU represents a story like this. The forebears who come before you really believe in what you're doing, make very concrete gestures to support it and have immense pride and belief in you."

The program also featured remarks from scholarship recipients, including Vondalia Barber '15, a recipient of the Osher Reentry Endowed Scholarship. Barber shared her emotional story of getting to Towson, including the death of her husband and the financial uncertainty of going back to school to complete her degree in elementary education. Barber spoke of her gratitude for the Bernard Osher Foundation. "I don't know if my scholarship donors realize the impact that their donations make in the lives of students such as me, but without them, I do not know where I would be at this very moment, and I do not know the path I would have taken. One thing I do know is that I will be forever grateful that they have given me this opportunity and I don't have to worry about the 'what ifs.'"

To view event videos and photos, visit [towson.edu/ScholarsLuncheon](http://towson.edu/ScholarsLuncheon).



Guest speakers Bryan Goodyear '15, Vondalia Barber '15, Harpal Baines '18 and John McLucas

★ "I don't know if my scholarship donors realize the impact that their donations make in the lives of students such as me."

—Vondalia Barber '15

★ "Mr. Bainter epitomizes what we see in Towson students today, and exemplifies the alumni we expect them to become tomorrow."

—Timothy Chandler, interim president



The seal on The Legacy Walkway

## Leaving Behind a Legacy

Herman C. Bainter '35 Legacy Walkway Dedication

The Legacy Walkway, a brick path inlaid with five historic seals of Towson University and commemorative milestones of TU's progress, was made possible by the generosity of Herman C. Bainter '35. When Bainter died in 2014, his will provided for gifts to the College of Education, from which he graduated.

Bainter was a history teacher at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, where he inspired his students, many of whom went on to become Harvard graduates, business leaders, military leaders, legal and political figures, and influential members of their communities. Two examples of his impact are Robert M. Bell, the recently retired chief judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals, and Clarence "Tiger" Davis, former member of the Maryland House of Delegates. "We are most grateful for Mr. Bainter's life and the legacy that he has left behind," says Timothy Chandler, interim president. "He epitomizes what we see in Towson students today, and exemplifies the alumni we expect them to become tomorrow."

The dedication of The Legacy Walkway on May 18 was attended by Bainter's family,



Robert Bell, Bill Loewner, Jacob Loewner '15, Rachel Loewner, Timothy Chandler, Myrna Cardin '65, Clarence "Tiger" Davis and Gerry Gaeng '81

including his great-grandnephew, Jacob Loewner '15. "Jacob, your great-grand uncle has set the bar high for you," Chandler told the young man. "But I expect your time here at Towson has prepared you to venture into the world and make a similar but unique impact."

To learn more about how you can reinforce your legacy at Towson University, please visit [www.towson.edu/giftplanning](http://www.towson.edu/giftplanning) or contact the development office at [supporttu@towson.edu](mailto:supporttu@towson.edu) or 410-704-3375.



Victor '75/'82 and Lynne '78 Brick

## Kinesiology Department Recognizes Couple's Generosity

Rooms named for C. Victor Brick '75/'82 and Lynne Brick '78

C. Victor Brick '75/'82 and Lynne Brick '78, best known as the co-founders of Brick Bodies Fitness Services, Inc., had spaces dedicated to them on May 19 in recognition of their gifts to the Department of Kinesiology. The C. Victor & Lynne Brick Faculty Research Lab and the C. Victor & Lynne Brick Seminar Room are where the couple first met in the mid-'70s as undergraduates. The story of their first interaction is told in their own words on a plaque outside of these spaces.

Gary Rubin '69, vice president for university advancement, thanked the Bricks "for investing in our students and providing financial resources for generations to come. Your gift demonstrates an outstanding commitment to our kinesiology program and its future."

The Bricks' gifts helped acquire exercise equipment for the Department of Kinesiology's recently renovated space in Burdick Hall and established two endowment funds. The Brick Kinesiology Student Research Endowment provides resources for student research and professional development through conference attendance and presentations. The Brick Kinesiology Faculty Development Endowment supports kinesiology faculty members' research and professional conference attendance to present research in health, exercise and well-being.

To support these funds and honor the Bricks' spirit of philanthropy, visit [tinyurl.com/BrickFacultyDevelopment](http://tinyurl.com/BrickFacultyDevelopment) or [tinyurl.com/BrickStudentResearch](http://tinyurl.com/BrickStudentResearch).



## Thanking the TU Family

Faculty and staff enjoy Pre-game Reception

Faculty and staff donors and their families received a heartfelt thank-you at the President's Pre-game Reception before TU football's home opener against St. Francis.

"It's impressive how much you all give back to Towson through your work, research and leadership," says Gary Rubin '69, vice president of university advancement. "It's even more impressive that you see what we do, on campus and in your offices, and you believe enough to give your financial support as well."

The family event featured face-painting, basketball, cornhole, a prop-filled photo booth and a prize wheel. Guests also enjoyed refreshments and the Tiger football game. The occasion celebrated a successful fundraising year and was Towson University's way of saying "Thanks" to the faculty and staff who contributed more than \$253,000 to TU.

A tiger butterfly is painted on the face of Olivia Cooper.

## Before 1960

**ANN FRANCE '45** returned to Towson last May to celebrate her 70th reunion and the graduation of her great grand-daughter, Jeanne Holland '15.

## 1960

**MAVIS POLSON LEWIS '60** was inducted into the Howard County Women's Hall of Fame for her work in supporting African-American students. Lewis has held positions including assistant principal, guidance department chair, middle school counselor, human relations counselor, classroom teacher and part-time college lecturer. After retirement, she worked part-time as executive director of the Maryland Association for Counseling and Development (now Maryland Counseling Association).

**JOHN MURPHY '64 PHED** was inducted into the Cambridge-South Dorchester High School Athletic Hall of Fame in Cambridge, Md. In 1958 and 1959, Murphy won state championships in cross country and the 1959 state crown for the 1,600-meter run. He is also a member of TU's Athletics Hall of Fame.

**MARK REYNOLDS '67 ART** had his second art show at Pierogi Gallery in Brooklyn, N.Y. from June 12 to July 12.

**MARILYNN LAREW '68 HIST** published *Dead in Dubai*, the second book in her thriller series. It joins *The Spider Catchers*, featuring Lee Carruthers, a CIA analyst.

**ANTHONY C. BENICEWICZ '69** is starting his 10th year substituting in the Anne Arundel County School system after teaching biology for 37 years.

## 1970

**EDDIE APPLEFELD '70** is promotions director at talk radio 680 WCBM and sister station Q1370. A member of the local media since 1978, he was part of the "Rouse & Co." show for 12 years, hosted the cable TV show "Dining Out" for 10 years, and has freelanced for Channel 2.

**MAMIE JOHNS PERKINS '73** made *The Daily Record's* 2015 Top 100 Women in Maryland list. She is a trustee at Howard Community College and served as the 2013-14 superintendent of schools for Anne Arundel County Public Schools.

## alumni

**Norma S. Strasburger Meyer '30**  
July 10, 2007

**Emily R. Ross Schlining '35**  
July 2015

**Belle Vodenos Bloom '38**  
May 7, 2015

**Charlotte M. Hurt '39**  
July 27, 2015

**Evelyn S. Scarff Fox '39**  
July 19, 2008

**Evelyn F. Fiedler Streng '40**  
Nov. 13, 2014

**John B. Shock '41**  
May 14, 2015

**Marie F. Faraino Biegun '41**  
May 31, 2015

**Eleanor D. Dietz Gebler '42**  
April 16, 2015

**Thelma R. Rosenthal Davitz '42**  
May 27, 2015

**Elizabeth A. Spurrier Hildt '44**  
June 17, 2015

**Bernice S. Shugar Gilman '48**  
June 30, 2015

**Virginia Young Richards '49**  
May 5, 2015

**Edward M. Schilling '50**  
June 9, 2015

**Anne Z. Zimmerman Schilling '52**  
Aug. 3, 2015

**Edward C. Phoebus '53**  
Dec. 8, 2004

**Janelle H. Hagerla Hall '53**  
Aug. 11, 2015

**Nancy H. Harrison Hall '55**  
April 19, 2015

**Elizabeth A. Goodman Eveson '56**  
May 18, 2015

**William J. Zachmeier '56**  
July 18, 2015

**Stanley L. Curtain '57**  
July 30, 2015

**Gertrude T. Troph Byrd '58**  
June 24, 2015

**Kathleen E. Clagett '58**  
July 16, 2015

**Milton O. Ruark '58**  
Aug. 28, 2015

**Ray H. Patschke '58**  
May 10, 2015

**Constance H. Hoagland Morrison '61**  
April 27, 2015

**Elizabeth A. DiNardo '61**  
May 25, 2015

**Lynne R. Crouch '62**  
September 17, 2013

**Darla H. Heckner Buckley '63**  
April 20, 2015

**Edward T. Hoehn '63**  
July 3, 2015

**Jean E. Mineur Kohlenstein '64**  
May 11, 2015

**Jerry Sklar '64**  
July 18, 2015

**Norma M. Musey Holliday '64**  
Jan. 27, 2015

**Steven L. Brohawn '64**  
April 22, 2015

**Eleanor L. Rumberger '65**  
July 23, 2015

**Carolyn R. Myers Sprague '66**  
May 12, 2014

**Charna Harris '66/'78**  
July 23, 2015

**Craig S. Knoll '66**  
April 29, 2015

**Emily M. Scott '66**  
Dec. 13, 2011

**Joan D. Drye Stipetic '66**  
Aug. 15, 2015

**Stephen J. Alsop '66**  
July 24, 2011

**Donna Coulson Tkac '68**  
June 14, 2015

**Jean C. Bennett Zbozien '69**  
Aug. 17, 2015

**Carol A. Lewis Mehrling '71**  
June 14, 2015

**Clinton E. Gosnell '71**  
Sept. 5, 2015

**Ernestine E. DeBerry '71**  
July 5, 2015

**Lynn C. Burton Thomson '71**  
April 20, 2015

**Marilyn F. Fedelchak Harley '71**  
Nov. 25, 2014

**William E. Reiber III '71**  
Feb. 26, 2014

**Nancy F. Delea '72**  
September 7, 2015

**Carol A. Clever Porciuncula '73**  
July 24, 2015

**Gloria Lowery Furtaw '73**  
Nov. 1, 2003

**Mary J. Tullis Kadlec '73**  
May 19, 2015

**Lambert E. Coakley '74**  
July 10, 2015

**Raymond Jenkins II '74**  
Aug. 20, 2015

**Winifred H. Harrison '74**  
June 20, 2015

**Beverly K. Krebs Hirt '75**  
June 3, 2015

**Dorothy P. Ramsay '75**  
September 6, 2015

**Kay L. Walker '75**  
September 5, 2015

**Connie B. Whitescarver '76**  
Aug. 29, 2015

**Joanne L. Wisowaty '76**  
Feb. 13, 2015

**Katheryn Jonas '76**  
April 23, 2015

**Phyllis G. Sachs '76**  
June 19, 2015

**Raymond V. Tannahill '76**  
September 17, 2015

**Adele E. Hammerman '77**  
August 13, 2015

**Charles A. Beigel Jr. '77**  
July 14, 2015

**Georgia L. Lewis Leonhart '77**  
April 18, 2015

**James P. Dunn '77**  
July 27, 2015

**Valentine W. Lentz '77**  
July 2, 2015

**Wendy R. Rubin '77**  
July 30, 2015

**Charles E. Grau '78**  
Aug. 30, 2015

**David M. LaPenotiere '79**  
May 16, 2015

**Joan E. Maloney '80**  
May 5, 2015

**Susan K. King Boyle '80**  
Aug. 1, 2015

**Cynthia D. Steele '81**  
May 30, 2015

**Leo F. Matrangola '81**  
July 12, 2015

**Tony D. Barnes '81**  
Aug. 17, 2015

**Martha M. Degreif '82**  
April 28, 2015

**Lawrence I. Hall '83**  
May 12, 2015

**Vance C. Ishler '85**  
June 13, 2015

**Ronald Shifflett '86**  
Aug. 22, 2015

**Axat S. Jani '87**  
June 23, 2014

**Gregory A. Anderson '87**  
Sept. 9, 2015

**Michele K. Grden '87**  
Sept. 13, 2015

**Katherine A. E. Goldbeck '88**  
Sept. 8, 2015

**Lorraine M. Cain '88**  
Aug. 5, 2015

**David Edwin Johnston '91**  
June 28, 2015

**Sandra Thien-Trang Tan Nguyen '93**  
June 23, 2015

**Sheri Melia Fuller '94**  
June 17, 2015

**Nicholas P. Visciani '95**  
May 3, 2015

**John P. Spanogle '98**  
Aug. 18, 2015

**Michael Donald Murphy '99**  
July 2, 2015

**Susan Lev '00**  
May 22, 2015

**Kimberly A. Markel Blunt '01**  
June 25, 2013

**Richard W. Zinn Jr. '01**  
June 16, 2015

**Anne E. Clark '02**  
2015

**Kathleen A. Weber '05**  
September 11, 2015

**Regina Josephine Peregoy '05**  
Aug. 8, 2015

**Amy E. Snipes '06**  
Sept. 1, 2015

**Bernard E. Cross '06**  
Sept. 14, 2014

**Kylee B. Webster '06**  
Oct. 11, 2013

**Mark Eric McKenna '10**  
April 23, 2015

**Eileen Deborah Mcneely '11**  
Aug. 15, 2015

**Daniel Thomas Sprague '12**  
Aug. 29, 2015

**Emily Marie Patterson '14**  
July 29, 2015

## students

**Andrew Lindsey**  
August 3, 2015

staff/  
faculty

**Bonnie J. Middleton**  
July 4, 2015

**Eric A. Belgrad**  
Sept. 1, 2015

**Gloria Rose Evangelisti '57**  
July 10, 2015

**James M. Furukawa**  
July 27, 2015

**John M. Govern**  
2015

**Lynne E. Dowell '88**  
May 2, 2015

**Mara Baresn Lauterbach**  
July 2, 2015

**Maravene S. Loeschke '69/'71**  
June 25, 2015

**Mildred Zindler**  
July 27, 2015

**Shirley D. Gillespie-Schwartz**  
Jan. 8, 2006

**Stanley J. Kutz**  
June 19, 2015

**MICK TERRY '73 MUSC**, a composer-songwriter in Los Angeles, created a diorama, Bicci & Onri Railroad, the focal point of the "Arts of the Locomotive" exhibit at Santa Clarita Library in Newhall, Calif.

**BEVERLY CUSTER HARRIS '74 PSYC/SOC** retired after teaching special education in Albuquerque, N.M., and Denver, Colo. A former adjunct instructor for the University of Denver and a system supports coordinator/implementation consultant for the Colorado Department of Education, Harris now serves on a new charter school's advisory board as well as on the state's special education advisory committee.

**DREW CARBERRY '75 MS** was named executive director of Lighthouse Inc., a nonprofit in Catonsville, Md, that provides counseling services for children and families.

**LYNN MILLER RICCI '77/'81** was named president and CEO of Hospital for Special Care in New Britain, Conn., where she has worked since 2007.

**STEVEN J. MURFIN '77 MCOM** was named the public address announcer for the 2015 World Police and Fire Games, the olympics for the world's first responders, at the biannual event in Fairfax, Va. He announces sports at the University of Maryland and at high school championships in Maryland.

The art of **Mark Reynolds '67** at the Pierogi Gallery in Brooklyn, New York.



**Mavis Polson Lewis '60**

was inducted into the Howard County Women's Hall of Fame.



**Ann France '45**

celebrated her 70th reunion and the graduation of her great grand-daughter, Jeanne Holland '15

**GLENN L. WILSON '79** is president and CEO of Chesapeake Bancorp Chesapeake Bank & Trust Company. His career includes being past national chair of the Risk Management Association, vice-chair of the Pennsylvania Bankers Association and a member of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia's Community Institutions Advisory Council. He was also a chair of the local United Way board.

**MIKE FLANAGAN '79 CCMM** and his company LDWWgroup won the Best of the Silver Anvils award from the Public Relations Society of America for their work with Carnival Corporation on a corporate recovery campaign in 2013-14.

## 1980

**DENNIS CAPRIO '80** and his wife, Gayle, have two sons and TU graduates, Timothy J. Caprio '10 and David A. Caprio '12.

**MARK BECKER '80**, president of Georgia State University, was named to *Washington Monthly's* 2015 list of most innovative college presidents. He has "increased the six-year graduate rate from 32 percent all the way up to 53 percent and basically eliminated the graduation gap between students of different racial backgrounds," according to the magazine.

**GERALD J. GAENG '81**, partner at Rosenberg Martin Greenberg, LLP and chair of the firm's litigation department, is the 2016 Lawyer of the Year for Litigation, Banking and Finance in the Baltimore area. He is also co-chair of TU's 150th Anniversary Committee and a past president emeritus of the TU Alumni Association.

**MARK FREUND '81** is executive director for the Christian Brothers Conference Office for Lasallian Education. Freund will promote the Lasallian mission and oversee activities serving ministries in the United States and Canada.

**REBECCA "BECKY" LONG '82** was appointed director of nursing and will oversee all nursing care at the Presbyterian Home of Maryland, a faith-based non-profit in Towson, where she has worked since 2011.

**TONYA WILSON '85** debuted two novels, *Portrait of a Hustler* and *The Chronicles of Tomi* through Polk Publishing House in Baltimore. Her third book in the trilogy will be released this year. She was also selected for the 2015 National Author's Directory by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

**RHONDA PIERCE-BROOKS '86 MCOM** is vice president/director of human resources at Tower Federal Credit Union.

**TERRIE FLECKENSTEIN '86** is celebrating the 15th anniversary of Fleckenstein Gallery & Archival Framing. An exhibit during the fall will highlight some of the gallery's most celebrated artists from throughout the years.

## 1990

**AMY J.H. PIERCE '90** published her first book, *Through the Hourglass of Time*, a collection of poems and short stories. She also crochets mats for cats at the Humane Society of Carroll County.

**LINDA VILLEGAS LINZEY '90 ECED/ '95 MS ECED** received the 2014 Dorothy Lloyd Women's Rights Award from the Maryland State Education Association.

# Money Matters

MAKING STUDENTS FINANCIALLY LITERATE

Avonette Blanding '96 is fluent in the "language of money." The chief financial officer at the Maritime Applied Physics Corporation is also a volunteer who imparts lessons on financial literacy to youth in Baltimore City Public Schools.

Her accomplishments have landed her on the list as one of *The Daily Record's* 2014 Leading Women, an honor that recognizes Maryland's female leaders under age 40 for their career-related accomplishments and community service.

"I wanted to give back and try to do something to improve the community," Blanding explains.

Her volunteer work with Banking on Our Future—Operation HOPE—puts her in the classroom, teaching financial principles to students in grades four through 12 so they can control their financial futures.

Blanding also sits on the advisory council for Baltimore City Public Schools' Career and Technology Education Pathways, a rigorous academic curriculum that gives high schoolers industry certification or college credit.

She also hopes to inspire young people to follow in her fiscal footsteps.

A teacher, union activist and women's issues volunteer since the 1980s, Linzey retired from teaching at Baltimore County Public Schools in 2006, but remained active as chair of the MSEA Women's Concerns Committee until 2013. She was also co-chair of the 2012 WWII Unsung Heroines, which recognized the women who served in WWII.

**BETTY CIESLA '91 MS**, one of the first graduates in TU's professional writing program, released the third edition of her textbook, *Hematology in Practice*, which is available in four languages.

**LAURI FUNK '91 ACCT** was promoted to family office director at Arthur Bell CPAs. Funk has been with the firm since 2011 and has over 24 years of financial analysis and accounting experience.

## AVONETTE BLANDING '96



"I want other women in Baltimore City, especially students, to see that they too can become Certified Public Accountants (CPA)," Blanding says. "I go around to high schools and try and encourage students to obtain their CPA license."

In addition to working with students, Blanding's advisory role with Career and Technology Education Pathways allows her to shape the future technology programs in Baltimore City.

"We ... determine whether the new programs benefit Baltimore City Public School students to make them more competitive in industry," she says.

Blanding intends to expand her volunteer efforts to work hands-on with inner-city youth. Her long-term goal is to begin a foundation to provide scholarships for accounting students in Baltimore City. She also plans to publish a children's book about being a CPA. ■

—Daryl Lee Hale

**JOHN LONG '92/'94** welcomed TU students, who joined 745 volunteers to clean Bear Creek in Dundalk as part of his Clean Bread and Cheese Creek, an organization that improves the quality of the historic Bread and Cheese Creek. They removed over 1,221 bags of trash from the park and shoreline.

**CHRISTOPHER FRINK '92** became a partner at WMS Partners, a wealth management firm in Towson. Frink is also chair of the firm's alternative investment committee and a member of the investment committee.

**JOE CORBE '93 MCOM** was named senior vice president of advertising for The Daily Caller, a 24-hour news website.

**BERNIE GERST '94 BUAD**, chief of TUPD, along with TU police officers, received the achievement award from Towson Area Citizens on Patrol at its 15th annual Rally Against Crime in June. The award recognizes those who have made Towson safer.

**DANIEL PARISI '96** is a video producer for Studio Center, a commercial production company in Virginia Beach, Va.

**KAREN HESS '96** was promoted to semi-senior accountant at Gross, Mendelsohn & Associates, P.A.

**WILLIAM WALTER '96** was promoted to principal at Gross, Mendelsohn & Associates, P.A. He is part the company's technology solutions group.

**CAROL SAUCIER '97** published *Explore the Cosmos Like Neil DeGrasse Tyson*, a children's book about the universe and the science of astrophysics.

## 2000

**ADAM LAMBERG '00 MCOM**, a founding partner of Corner Film Productions, manages the media production company's financial and logistical operations. He is the primary author and producer of the feature-length drama-thriller "Casualties of the State" (2012) and has served as producer on other projects. He is also host of "The Corner Bloc," available on iTunes and Stitcher. He lives in Colorado with his wife.

**ROBERT HOOPLE '01 PSYC** received his doctorate in counseling psychology in January from Argosy University in Phoenix. Hoople teaches at four campuses of the Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana. He also runs his own sports consulting business, working with athletes to help mental performance deficiencies.

**ANTHONY JAMES BENICEWICZ '02** received his doctorate in clinical psychology from Alliant College in San Diego. He is studying to obtain his state counseling license.

**RYAN STURM '02 BUAD** was nominated for Rising Star of the Year at the 2015 *SmartCEO* CPA & ESQ Awards. In 2011 and 2012, Sturm was recognized as a SmartCPA for *SmartCEO* magazine.

**AMY SCHUMER '03 THEA** won an Emmy for Outstanding Variety Sketch Series for "Inside Amy Schumer." She also landed a seven-figure deal with Simon & Schuster for a series of comedic essays.

**BEN LIGHTNER '04** and **BETTY TRUMP LIGHTNER '01** welcomed their third daughter, Brennan Rae, on Feb. 14, 2015. Brennan joined big sisters Bailey and Becca.

**JENNIFER DUGENT WOLFF '04** received the Circle of Service Award from Kiwanis International for her contribution to Circle K, helping "shape many hard-working and dedicated student leaders." Wolff joined Circle K when she was a freshman at Towson.

**LAUREN SCHEIB '04 ART** is design director at Warschawski, a branding, marketing, public relations, advertising and interactive agency in Baltimore.

**BEN PIERCE '05** won a regional Emmy for his part in creating the animated video "Financing a George Washington Education." Pierce worked on the concept and created the graphics for the video, which won in the Graphics-Animation category in the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences' National Capital Chesapeake Bay chapter.

**DORAY SITKO '05 SCHE** became a Nationally Certified Emergency Medical Technician and a Texas Emergency Medical Technician. She lives in Austin, Texas.

**KETRYN (LAUREN MARTIN) PORTER '05 THEA** won a Gold Remi at Worldfest Houston for Dramatic Original Short for "Painless." It also received an award for Best Short Dramatic Film at the Burbank International Film Festival in September. Porter and co-producer/co-star **KIM BURNS '05 THEA** were also nominated for best actress.

**RYAN LEVY '05**, was promoted to manager at Gross, Mendelsohn & Associates, P.A.

**ALISON ZERBE PITTS '06/'11 MA EDUC** is a full-time art teacher in Harford County. She was recently asked to illustrate a children's book.

**PETER L. HARMON '08 EMF/ENG** is an author, screenwriter and producer. His first novel, *The Happenances at the Yellow County Community Swim and Racquet Club the Summer Before Last* is based on his summers at the Cheverly Swim and Racquet Club. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife Angela, their son Christian and their pug Summer.

**KATIE MOLLOT '08** was promoted to associate head women's lacrosse coach at Hofstra University in Hempstead, N.Y.

**MICHAEL BRUSH '09 ENG**, co-founder of Baltimore' Charm City Fringe Fest, is promoting the fourth annual festival. The event includes performances by up-and-coming artists, workshops and parties.

**Mark Freund '81** is executive director for the Christian Brothers Conference Office for Lasallian Education.



**Lauri Funk '91** was promoted to family office director at Arthur Bell CPAs.

**Rhonda Pierce-Brooks '86** is vice president and director of human resources at Tower Federal Credit Union.



**Lynn Miller Ricci '77/'81** was named president and CEO of Hospital for Special Care.

**AARON STEVEN '09 RTVF** took second-place prize at Screencraft's 2014 Action/Thriller Screenplay Contest. The win helped him secure a literary manager at Kaplan/Perrone, a management company with clients including David Callahan (*The Expendables*), Jeremy Slater (*Fantastic Four*) and Scott Neustadter and Michael Weber (*500 Days of Summer*).

## 2010

**BINTU MUSA '10 POSC** received a 2015 Thomas R. Pickering Graduate Foreign Affairs Fellowship from the U.S. Department of State's Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. Musa is one of 20 recipients of the award, which recognizes graduate students "who are dedicated to representing America's interests abroad."

**ELLON SCHERER '10** and **DERRIN RUSCHELL '10** married July 11 at the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore. Many fellow alumni attended along with a penguin, an owl and a rabbit.

**TIMOTHY J CAPRIO '10** and **AMY SORRELLS CAPRIO '10** married on May 16, 2015. Timothy is a doctor of physical therapy and Amy is an officer with the Baltimore County Police Department.

**WILLIAM STAFFORD '11 ECON** was appointed legislative assistant to the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. Stafford most recently served as director of government affairs at the National Association of Wheat Growers.

**BRITTANY EDMONSON '12 M.S.** was promoted to tax senior at Arthur Bell CPAs after four years the firm's tax department.

**CASEY SCHMIEGEL '14** is a media assistant at Media Works Ltd., a Baltimore-based integrated marketing agency.

**KEVIN CONNELLY '14** was promoted to semi-senior accountant at Gross, Mendelsohn & Associates, P.A.

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alumni@towson.edu



**Amy Schumer '03** won an Emmy and signed a book deal for a series of comedic essays.



**Ben Pierce '05** won a regional Emmy for the animated video, "Financing a George Washington Education."

## CHRISTOPHER EAVES '89

# Hitting the "Bullseye"

THEATRICAL MEMOIR TACKLES ISSUES OF BULLYING

When Christopher Eaves '89 received a commission for a theatrical work about bullying prevention, he began by doing a lot of research. But he struggled with finding the right thing to say until he turned to what he knew best—personal experience. "I thought about my own life, my own family, my own brother, my brother's experience in school and ... my own experiences with the world and bullying," Eaves says.

And so "Bullseye" was born, a theatrical memoir that Eaves wrote, designed and now performs—by himself, as himself.

"Bullseye" relives the memories of growing up with his younger brother, "the most bullied kid in school," Eaves explains. The piece seeks to convey messages about bullying, brotherhood, identity and tolerance.

Eaves initially created the piece for a 2013 symposium in Indiana, *Bullying Prevention: Creating a*



Christopher Eaves performs in South Korea.

Culture of Acceptance. Since then, he has performed "Bullseye" at schools and festivals in the United States, as well as abroad. Last year, he toured and performed the piece in South Korea in conjunction with the U.S. Department of State and Seoul Public Affairs.

"It was a wonderful experience to get out and see how the themes of the work resonated with people of another country and of another culture," Eaves says.

Receiving feedback has been one of the most rewarding parts of performing "Bullseye," Eaves says. He recalls a young boy in Seoul who reached out his hand to thank him for bringing the piece to Korea.

A woman at a performance in New York told him she had to leave the theater so she could call her own brother.

"I have again and again had people approach me after the show to tell me how the piece reminds them of things that happened in their childhood, in their adolescence," Eaves says.

But despite the relatability of the piece, Eaves says for him, it is still a deeply personal experience. Before going on stage, he thinks back to his training at Towson—"the training of being in the zone." Performing the piece is like carving a sculpture—he removes what's unnecessary to reveal the statue inside.

"When I'm getting ready, I'm leaving behind every part of myself that isn't the part I need to tell that story," he explains.

Eaves most recently performed "Bullseye" at the Left Out Festival in New York. In 2017, he plans to perform and speak for the U.S. Embassy in Okinawa, Japan, as part of the U.S. Department of State Speakers Bureau. ■

—Daryl Lee Hale

“My Towson UTeach scholarship is helping me *achieve* my career goal as a math teacher.”

**UTeach scholarship recipient**

Blake Paulson, Class of 2016, is a mathematics secondary education major and a recipient of the Towson UTeach scholarship made possible by a generous gift from the Huether-McClelland Foundation to grow the resources of the *Towson UTeach General Support Fund*.



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For more information on how to support Towson UTeach, contact Geannine Callaghan, [gcallaghan@towson.edu](mailto:gcallaghan@towson.edu) or 410-704-2299.