

# CAMPUS CONNECTION

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## Design Project Leads UT Engineering Students to El Salvador

Four students from the University of Toledo College of Engineering traveled to El Salvador this summer to install a water treatment unit they built earlier in the year turning their freshman design project into a real-world solution.

Kylee Kramer, Alison Haas and Lisa Young, chemical engineering majors, and Kayla Piezer, envi-

ronmental engineering major, were students in the Chemical Engineering Department's fall 2015 orientation class when they manufactured water treatment units as part of their freshman design experience.

Following the completion of their class, the students sought funding for a trip to install their treatment unit in El Salvador, where contam-

ination makes access to clean drinking water an increasingly urgent issue. The students collaborated with the Centro de Intercambio y Solidaridad (Center for Exchange and Solidarity) to plan their trip, seeking donations from external donors and obtaining partial support from the University.

"This trip provided the real-world experi-



The UT team, from left, Kayla Piezer, Lisa Young, Alison Haas, Kylee Kramer and Dr. Glenn Lipscomb, pose for a photo with the water purification unit that the students constructed in Toledo before taking it to El Salvador.

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## TARTA: Moving Forward

Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority — TARTA — has been moving forward with the Toledo region since 1971. With over 30 interconnected routes carrying 3.5 million passengers per year in and around

the Toledo area, TARTA serves the communities of Maumee, Ottawa Hills, Rossford, Sylvania, Sylvania Township, Toledo, and Waterville.

College students and faculty ride TARTA to connect with ten differ-

ent Toledo-area colleges and universities including The University of Toledo — all area campuses, Owens Community College, Lourdes University, Mercy College of Ohio, Davis College, Heidelberg University at



(TARTA — cont. on page 10)

## Mercy Student Finds Inspiration in Music & Family

Many at Mercy College of Ohio have heard piano music coming from the St. Joseph Chapel on campus. Most are surprised to learn the beautiful tunes are being played

by Tramone Russell, a 2015 graduate of Start High School and current Mercy College student. While he has had some lessons in guitar and performs with his church choir, Tramone

is entirely self-taught in piano, primarily by YouTube videos. To Tramone, "Music drives, motivates, inspires, encourages, and uplifts individuals in their lowest states of life. It has



Tramone Russell

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## Lourdes Freshmen Make a Difference

More than 270 Lourdes students, faculty and staff assisted 12 area nonprofit agencies as part of new student orientation. A total of 214 new Lourdes students provided 800+ hours of service to the northwest Ohio region. During the morning projects, students painted, planted, prepared food, moved household

furnishings, beautified parks, assisted those in need, and prepared classrooms and housing facilities.

Lourdes University undergraduate students are required to complete 20 service learning hours prior to graduation. Named to the U.S. President's Higher Education Community Service Honor

Roll by the Corporation for National and Community Service for three consecutive years, Lourdes University students completed 29,501 service learning hours in the 2014-2015 academic year.

"My group went to the new Toledo Metroparks Middlegrounds to pick up litter and debris washed up from



(LOURDES — continued on page 11)

## Business Curriculum Puts Summit Salon Academy a Cut Above

It used to be that students enrolled in beauty school to learn to "do hair."

Today, Summit Salon Academy in Perrysburg teaches students to "do life."

"I'm sure the other academies are good, but one of the things that sets us apart is our business curriculum," says Evan Soto, marketing manager of the school. "We want our students to keep excelling throughout their careers, without becoming complacent."

The school offers three Programs: Managing Cosmetology, Managing Esthetics, and Managing Manicurist.

The Managing Esthetics program includes theory, practical instruction, and business building skills for skin care and makeup artists. As a graduate, you will be prepared for the state licensing exam, and to work as an esthetician and esthetics manager. This program is 750 hours.

The Managing Manicurist Program also

includes theory, practical instruction, and business building skills — in order to perform nail services. This 300-hour program meets Ohio state law standards and prepares you for the state licensing exam.

The Managing Cosmetology Program includes the above, plus all the instruction and practice you need to cut, color and style hair — and, of course, to pass the state licensing board exams. In addition, a new partnership between Summit Salon Academy and

(SUMMIT — continued on page 11)

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(UT — continued from page 9)

ence that is needed to understand the impact of engineering design on the adoption and use of technology to improve the human condition," said Dr. Glenn Lipscomb, professor and chair of chemical and environmental engineering who traveled with the students to El Salvador.

In El Salvador, contamination arises from inadequate wastewater treatment facilities, especially in rural areas where the majority of the population lives. Addressing this crisis, the students' water treatment unit has two elements: a micron filter for removal of large particulate matter and a UV light chamber that sterilizes bacteria and other pathogens to prevent proliferation and ability to cause illness. The team also inspected previously installed water treatment units

while in the Central American country.

As part of the trip, the student team learned about efforts by the Center for Exchange and Solidarity to support local economic development, create businesses led by women, provide high school and university scholarships, and spread awareness of proper hygiene practices.

"It was incredible to expand our freshman design project to make a global impact while connecting with the community in El Salvador," Piezer said. "It gave us the opportunity to examine the specific needs of a different environment, which led to an understanding of the community's way of life and allowed us to build relationships on a personal level."

"The journey from design project to real-world application was worth every minute. And

seeing the effect our unit had on the communities in El Salvador had a great impact on me," Haas said. "Though the design project itself had significance, interacting with the people of El Salvador and experiencing their way of living gave me a new outlook on the value of our unit and clean water in general. I am extremely grateful for this opportunity."

Incoming students in the freshman orientation course will continue to build water treatment units as part of the freshman design experience and explore improvements to installation, maintenance and performance. UT intends to facilitate future trips to deliver the units to communities in need.

"I've never really been a person who likes to travel, but this trip was one of the most gratifying experiences of my life," Young said. "It helped broaden my views of different cultures and expand my abilities as an engineer."

"This trip allowed me to use the skills that I learned in the classroom and put them to use in the real world," Kramer said. "It was also an amazing experience to see the culture and people of El Salvador while helping them receive a vital aspect of life."



(TARTA — continued from page 9)

Arrowhead Park, Herzog University, Professional Skills Institute, and Stautzenberger College. Owens Community College students ride free from downtown to both its Learning Center and Toledo-area Campus.

TARTA fare is \$1.25 per person; sixty cents for persons with disabilities and senior citizens age 65 and over. Children under age six ride free with an adult.

With monthly, unlimited ride passes for just \$50, TARTA riders can save a lot of money on their transportation costs by using any of TARTA's eight Park-N-Ride locations throughout the Toledo area. Households that take public transportation, and live with one fewer car can save hundreds—even thousands—of dollars per year.

All TARTA buses are equipped with lifts or ramps making them 100% wheelchair-accessible. TARTA also has bike racks mounted on the front of all of its buses holding two bicycles independently.

TARTA's curb-to-curb Call-A-Ride service oper-

ates in Maumee, Ottawa Hills, Rossford, Spencer Township, Sylvania, Sylvania Township, and Waterville. Passengers may connect to and from TARTA's regular line service and other nearby Call-A-Rides.

For persons with disabilities preventing them from using regular TARTA buses, there's TARPS. TARPS operates in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and covers the same service area as TARTA. Registered TARPS users may ride TARTA regular line and Call-A-Ride services free of fare.

TARTA's Game Shuttle offers Park-N-Ride service from several area locations for all Mud Hens baseball games at Fifth Third Field and Walleye hockey games at Huntington Center. Fare is one dollar; no game ticket is required to ride. Return trips leave twenty minutes following each game's conclusion.

TARTA Tracker uses predictive technology to help you locate nearby stops, access real-time route information, tell you exactly when your bus will arrive at your

stop, and alert you of any interruptions or delays in your schedule. Service is available on desktop and laptop computers and mobile devices. TARTA Tracker is also accessible by calling TARTA customer support at 419-243-RIDE weekdays, 6:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.; Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Sunday, 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; and holidays, 6:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Visit TARTA.tracker.com for details.

Every year, public transportation reduces our nation's carbon emissions by 41 million tons—equivalent to the electricity used by 4.9 million households. In fact, riding public transportation is one of the most significant actions one can take to reduce their household carbon emissions. Commuting on public transportation can reduce an individual's carbon footprint by up to 4,800 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions per year. In the Toledo area, over 3.4 million passenger trips were made by TARTA in 2015.

For more information about TARTA and all its services, visit TARTA.com or call 419-243-RIDE.



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# Getting High School Seniors Ready For College

(NAPSI)—Nearly 17 million high school seniors graduate each year, the U.S. Department of Education estimates, and many plan to attend college. But are they all really college-ready?

Data suggests the answer is a resounding “no.” According to the 2015 “Condition of College & Career Readiness” report from American College Testing (ACT), 31 percent of the ACT-tested graduating class is not meeting any of the four subject benchmarks: reading, English, science and mathematics.

These low-readiness test scores coincide with college dropout figures that top 29 million, making the number of Americans who have dropped out of college greater than the number of American adults who have not obtained their high school degrees.

“While test scores provide a benchmark for high school seniors, college readiness is an important issue for everyone headed to college, whether they are a new high school graduate or an adult learner returning to the classroom,” said Jennifer Fletcher,

Ph.D., program dean for general education at University of Phoenix. “Being prepared for the challenge can help ensure students aren’t forced to take remedial course work and are able to stay motivated and on top of their workloads, ultimately resulting in a successful collegiate experience.”

The pressure to earn a college degree is higher than ever. The White House has set an ambitious goal of producing a higher share of college graduates than any other nation by 2020.

“More and more, employers are seeking college graduates for jobs that previously required a high school diploma or other subbaccalaureate training,” Dr. Fletcher said. “For the nearly two-thirds of U.S. adults who do not have a bachelor’s degree or higher, this can create barriers to career growth, unless they are able to pursue higher education.”

She offers the following advice to high school seniors and adult learners heading off to college:

- Use summer months to take courses in English and mathematics to refresh high school level skills. Courses can be taken at community colleges or via online professional development resources such as University of Phoenix’s continuing education programs, Udemy, StraighterLine and Lynda.com.
- Don’t overburden your first semester course load. There are always opportunities to add courses deeper into your college career or over summer and winter intersessions.
- Team up with your college adviser your first semester. College advisers are available to discuss your goals and a graduation timeline and can offer guidance on the best ways to manage coursework.
- Attend skills center sessions for assistance in coursework and free proofreading.
- Organize study groups with peers to work together on complex materials and to gain different perspectives to approaching assignments.

(MERCY — continued from page 9)

the capacity to combine words, melodies, and rhythms to convey ideas and aspirations in a way that plainly talking to individuals cannot.”

While Tramone is a talented musician, he is even more dedicated to his education. Greatly inspired by his grandmother’s battle with three different forms of cancer, Tramone first focused on high school and then college. “My grandmother, Charlotte Stallworth, was my legal guardian and the spectacular woman who raised me. She passed away in March 2016. Her greatest desire was to see me graduate from high school. I bettered my grades and character to make sure I’d graduate — just for her.”

Currently pursuing a certificate in Polysomnographic Technology at Mercy College, Tramone is also taking pre-requisite coursework for the Bachelor of Science in Biology program. After finishing the Polysomnographic Technology program, his ultimate goal is to complete the Biology program in preparation to attend medical school. And, Tramone is well on his way to achieving his goals with a 3.8 GPA and placement on the Dean’s list.

In addition to teaching himself piano, Tramone is active in the community. He is volunteering/shadowing at the University of Toledo Medical Center at the Eleanor Dana Cancer Center and

works in Mercy College’s admission office, helping with Orientations, Open Houses, and other events for prospective students. He is active in Student Government and volunteers at Great Light Tabernacle Church, stocking and distributing food to the community and helping with renovations.

Through his range of community involvement and musical talent, Tramone’s number one passion remains achieving his goal to practice medicine. “I have a deep interest in understanding the human body, diseases, and treatments. I genuinely care about helping others and encouraging them to pursue optimal health.”

(LOURDES — continued from page 9)

the river,” says freshman Kendra Duling. “The park is underneath a bridge so it was very cool to be able to hear the cars drive over as you worked under it. The new park offers a lot of walking paths and some beautiful views of the city.”

“It touched my heart even though I did not directly see the people I was assisting,” says freshman Abby Miller who along with other students helped prepare dinner for families in need. New student orientation team leader and

peer mentor Ashley Erd adds, “The best thing for me to watch was how the freshmen encouraged each other. They came out of their comfort zone and took the first steps in creating new relationships.”

(SUMMIT — continued from page 9)

Owens Community College will allow students, once they pass the Ohio state licensing exam, to continue their education at Owens with 15 credit hours already earned toward a business management degree.

“All of our educators are highly qualified, with years of practical expe-

rience in the field and a passion for sharing their extensive knowledge.” Mr. Soto says. “We began this school in 2005. We have graduated many accomplished talented students.”

He believes the school’s emphasis on small class sizes allows students to have more one-on-one

time with instructors, leading to greater skills and knowledge.

Federal financial aid is available for those who qualify, and students may apply for grants and scholarships.

For more information, visit [summitsalonacademy.perrysburg.edu](http://summitsalonacademy.perrysburg.edu).

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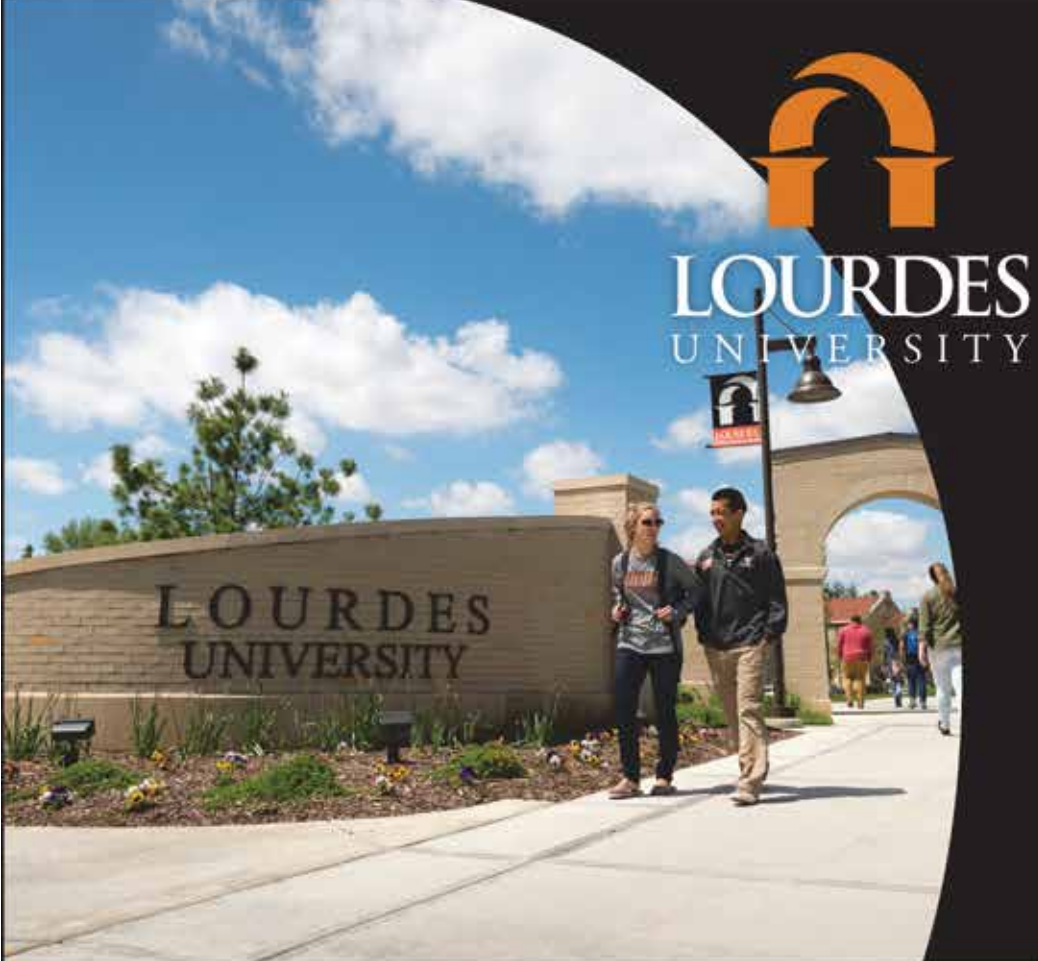
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