

# CORNERSTONES

A Quarterly Publication of The University of Toledo Foundation



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## UT ENGINEERING INSTITUTE DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP SKILLS

A University of Toledo engineering graduate who leads one of the region's largest public companies is now helping cultivate leadership skills among UT engineering students.

A \$1 million gift from Roy Armes (Eng '75) and his wife, Marcia, will support the Roy and Marcia Armes Engineering Leadership Institute (ELI). Mr. and Mrs. Armes helped establish the UT program with a \$100,000 gift in 2009.

The ELI provides opportunities for approximately 12-15 second-year and

third-year engineering students each year to develop their leadership abilities. Participants are selected by a rigorous process, including a personal interview with the dean.

The program includes seminars, team-building exercises, public speaking opportunities, and participation in national and international forums. The Institute also provides multiple

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Roy and Marcia Armes (shown here with Dr. Nagi Naganathan, dean of the UT College of Engineering), provided a \$1 million gift to support the Engineering Leadership Institute.

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## UT ENGINEERING INSTITUTE DEVELOPING LEADERS

opportunities to interact with accomplished alumni and industry and government leaders.

“The University of Toledo produces outstanding graduates, including many excellent engineers,” noted Mr. Armes, president, chairman, and CEO of Cooper Tire & Rubber Co. in Findlay. “Helping students develop leadership skills, in addition to their academic skills, is an increasingly important component of education, particularly in today’s globally competitive environment.”

Mr. Armes said his education at UT played a significant role in what he has been able to accomplish. “My wife, Marcia, and I feel we have been very fortunate, professionally and personally. We are pleased to be able to give back to the University, and hope that by creating the Engineering Leadership Institute, we can help others develop the necessary skills to succeed.”

While the program directly benefits the students who participate, it also will have an impact well beyond, noted Dr. Nagi Naganathan, dean of UT’s College of Engineering.

“Identifying potential leaders among our students and then cultivating those skills gives the students an edge in their professional careers,” he said. “In addition, companies across the world will benefit from the leaders we’ve molded here in UT’s College of Engineering.”

“As universities continue to face tightened budgets, programs like this are possible only through donor support,” said Dr. Naganathan. “We are grateful to Roy and Marcia Armes for their generosity and engagement.”

For more information about the Roy and Marcia Armes Engineering Leadership Institute, contact Jon Pawlecki, director of student services, at [jon.pawlecki@utoledo.edu](mailto:jon.pawlecki@utoledo.edu) or 419-530-8045.

## COLLINS ESTATE GIFT CREATES NEW PEDIATRIC PROFESSORSHIP

A Toledo woman’s \$2 million bequest to The University of Toledo, in memory of her son, will support research, innovative diagnostic services, and clinical services in support of treatment for children with disabilities.

Louise Collins, who died in January at the age of 104, was a former home economics teacher for Toledo Public Schools. She and her husband, Edmund Collins, Jr., both Scott High School graduates, raised a daughter, Susan, and son, Edmund Vickroy Collins (Vick), who was born with developmental disabilities.

“Vick was a very friendly, likable individual,” said Donald Pennell, the Collins’ son-in-law and husband of their late daughter, Susan. “He frequently rode his big Schwinn bike, which he called Speedy, around the neighborhood, stopping to hug and talk to all who knew him. And if they did not know him, he would stop to get to know them.” Vick also had several friends through his work at a sheltered workshop and always had a good attitude, Mr. Pennell said.

When Vick died in 1990 at the age of 49, Mrs. Collins and her late husband established the Edmund V. Collins Children’s Endowment at the former

Medical College of Ohio. The gift was a result of the family’s friendship with their neighbors, MCO president Richard Ruppert and his wife, Libby.

The Rupperts had always taken a fond interest in Vick, Mr. Pennell said, and oversaw a study done by MCO to determine what factors may have contributed to Vick’s disabilities. The results were inconclusive.

“Many years later,” said Mr. Pennell, “Louise realized that there was much more she could do financially to support research, innovative diagnostic services, and clinical services in support of treatment for children with disabilities.”

Her bequest established the Edmund Vickroy Collins Professorship in the UT department of pediatrics, according to Howard Newman, associate vice president for development for UT’s Health Science Campus.

“This gift will help build a program to support children with developmental disabilities and special needs, through research and the application of knowledge to new clinical programs,” said Mr. Newman.

“While serving children with special needs, as well as their families,” he noted, “the endowed professorship will also serve as a lasting legacy to the Collins family.”

To learn more about making an estate gift to UT, contact Paul Hood, director of planned giving, at 419-530-5303 or [paul.hood@utoledo.edu](mailto:paul.hood@utoledo.edu).



Louise Collins, pictured at left with her daughter, Susan Pennell, at a 2004 Medical College of Ohio event, established a professorship in memory of her son, Vick, far right.

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## WHY I GIVE: TODD ALLES, JR.

**Name:** Todd J. Alles, Jr.

**Profession:** Founder, Managing Partner, Marketing Activations Group, LLC

**Residence:** Powell, OH

**UT Degree:** Bachelor’s in Individualized Studies, 1995

**Favorite UT Experience or Memory:**

My favorite experiences centered around my time as a member of the varsity football team. Team sports, particularly football, provide such a tremendous foundation for life after sports. From the TEAM first approach; to developing mental toughness; to helping develop multi-tasking skills; as well as problem-solving skills, I owe a lot of who I am to those leaders who helped not only to coach me, but more importantly, teach me about life.

**UT Area of Support:** Rocket Athletics (Football) and the College of Adult and Lifelong Learning

**Why I Give:** I think of that student-athlete who may be in need of financial assistance, and since UT provided me with the tools to succeed, I feel like it is my duty to give back. UT athletic programs also provide the opportunity for many to receive a college education who might not otherwise be able to do so—and that person was me. If not for my athletic scholarship, I would not have been able to go to college. That is also another reason why I feel it is my duty to give back and help support the next success story. Go Rockets!



## UT FOUNDATION REORGANIZES SENIOR STAFF, REVAMPS WEBSITE

The University of Toledo Foundation has restructured its senior leadership positions to better meet the organization’s changing needs.

A new chief operating officer (COO) position was created to oversee finance and administration, fund stewardship and communications, information technology, and real estate. Matt Schroeder, former UT Foundation vice president for real estate and business development, has been appointed COO.

In addition, John Cuckler has been named to a newly created controller position. Mr. Cuckler comes to the UT Foundation from the Bowling Green State University Foundation, where he served as associate vice president, advancement

services/controller. He will manage the accounting and financial reporting areas.

Finally, Adam Martinez, who most recently served as a commercial real estate agent for Signature Associates, has joined the Foundation staff as real estate director. He will be responsible for acquisitions, dispositions, property management and development.

In addition, the UT Foundation and UT Alumni Association have rolled out new websites, with updated content in a user-friendly format for alumni, donors, and friends. The sites are more dynamic and interactive, including a new, easily navigable online giving page.

Check them out at [www.utfoundation.org](http://www.utfoundation.org) and [www.toledoalumni.org](http://www.toledoalumni.org).

## HONORROLL

The following donors have become eligible for special recognition:

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- John A. Barrett, Jr. and Valerie M. Barrett
- Jan and Marilyn Kemp
- Gary S. and Debra L. Krall
- Lubrizol Foundation
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- David and Bonnie Morlock
- Edward and Pamela Moore
- Dr. Joshua C. and Rachel A. Morris

### Heritage Oak Society

- Reed S. Reynolds
- Dr. Richard E. Stegman, Jr.

as of May 6, 2014

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# CORNERSTONES

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## MEET OUR BOARD



Russ Mitchell is assistant treasurer-long term funding and liabilities for The Andersons. He graduated from Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics and received an MBA, with an emphasis in finance, from The University of Toledo in 1998.

To make a gift, contact a member of the fundraising staff:

### VP, Office of Institutional Advancement

Vern Snyder, ACFRE:  
419-530-4249

### Associate VP, Health Science Campus

Howard Newman, JD:  
419-383-6840

### Associate VP, Main Campus

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