UH SYSTEM ACHIEVEMENTS

- A total of 7,833 degrees are being awarded at 13 commencement ceremonies throughout the UH System. All commencements – except for UH-Clare Lake, which will hold two ceremonies on May 19 – were held last weekend. The number of degrees awarded at the respective universities is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Bachelor's</th>
<th>Master's</th>
<th>Doctoral</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Houston</td>
<td>2,587</td>
<td>915</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>3,652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UH-Clear Lake</td>
<td>624</td>
<td>511</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UH-Downtown</td>
<td>2,037</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UH-Victoria</td>
<td>593</td>
<td>383</td>
<td></td>
<td>976</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- *The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education* magazine has published its list of the nation’s “Top 100 Colleges” conferring degrees on Hispanic students, from information made available by the U.S. Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics.

**University of Houston**

- # 14, bachelor’s degrees awarded
- # 47, master’s degrees awarded
- # 14, doctoral degrees awarded

**UH-Clear Lake**

- # 80, bachelor’s degrees awarded
- # 62, master’s degrees awarded

**UH-Downtown**

- # 32, bachelor’s degrees awarded
**UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON ACHIEVEMENTS**

- During commencement ceremonies this past weekend, UH awarded Doctor of Humane Letters degrees, *honoris causa*, to:

  --Gerald D. Hines, real estate developer and philanthropist, in whose honor the Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture is named.


  --Nicholas Massad, CEO of American Liberty Hospitality and UH alumnus, in whose honor the Massad Family Library Research Center and Hospitality Archives in the Conrad N., Hilton College of Hotel and Restaurant Management is named.

  --Cristina Rivera Garza, Ph.D., professor of writing at the University of California, San Diego, one of Latin America’s leading writers, and a UH alumna.

  --Ruth Simmons, Ph.D., educator, higher education administrator, and President of Brown University.

The UH President’s Medallion was awarded to Alonzo Cantú, prominent McAllen business owner and civic leader, philanthropist, and active advocate of UH receiving Tier One funding during the last Texas legislative session.

I had the rare opportunity last Saturday, as the College of Optometry commencement was already under way, to make a surprise announcement of a $5 million gift from Molly and Doug Barnes – he is an alumnus of the college – to create the Molly and Doug Barnes Vision Institute.

- TARU-recognized faculty awards continue to come in. By last count, a total of 11 TARU-recognized awards have been received this year – the largest number of TARU awards ever given to UH faculty since TARU started counting in 1999.

- The Big East Conference is in search of a new commissioner, following the recent resignation of John Marinatto, and I have been asked to serve on the search committee to find his replacement.

**UH-CLEAR LAKE ACHIEVEMENTS**

- UHCL has been named to the 2012 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll by the Corporation for National and Community Service. This is the third time UHCL has received the honor, which is the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement.
During one of UHCL’s spring 2012 commencement ceremonies, President William A. Staples will award a UHCL Presidential Medal to 1996 Distinguished Alumna Sandy Johnson, president and CEO of Barrios Technology, in recognition of her support of, and service to, UHCL.

School of Education faculty received more than $3 million in funding from the U.S. Department of Education for collaborative initiatives with local school districts.

**UH-DOWNTOWN ACHIEVEMENTS**

- UHD has been named to the “2012 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction” by The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), recognizing outreach efforts and thousands of community service hours performed by UHD students. UHD has been recognized by CNCS annually since 2007, and is one of 110 universities nationally to receive the honor “with distinction” this year. In addition, UHD is one of only two Texas universities – and the only public university in Texas – to receive this recognition in 2012. President William Flores was invited to attend the White House in recognition of this honor.

- UHD hosted a High-Impact Practices Showcase in April for faculty, staff, and students. Over 7,500 students have been involved in presentations, practicum, internship, field experience, co-op, community service, field work, and many other high impact practices.

**UH-VICTORIA ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Starting in Fall 2012, UHV will offer the new “UHV Guarantee” to provide free tuition and fees for new Texas freshmen and sophomores from outside the Victoria area whose families meet certain income requirements. Freshmen and sophomores from families with an annual income of $50,000 or less can expect to have all of their tuition and fees covered by federal, state and/or university aid. Students with family incomes from $50,001 to $90,000 will have 50% of their tuition and fees covered, and those with family incomes of more than $90,000 will receive up to a $1,000 UHV scholarship, pending available resources.

- As a way to let community leaders in UHV’s traditional service region know more about downward expansion and other recent initiatives, UHD has started holding a series of “friendraising/fundraising” events. President Phil Castille recently addressed groups in Cuero (De Witt County) and Kenedy (Karnes County), and future events are planned in other counties as UHV seeks to broaden its outreach.