



RENU KHATOR • CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

UH System Board of Regents Meeting • November 20, 2025

University of Houston

UH and DHR Health Partner to Improve Health

The University of Houston and DHR Health Hospital System have partnered to create the UH Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine and DHR Health Medical Research and Education Center in the Rio Grande Valley. Supported by \$15 million in state funding, the center will advance research, expand the health care workforce and improve health in South Texas.

UH Co-Leads \$25 Million Study on Pediatric Nearsightedness

UH is co-leading a \$25 million National Institutes of Health study — the first of its kind in the U.S. — to determine if a prescription eyedrop can delay nearsightedness in young children. The study is co-led by David Berntsen, Golden-Golden Professor of Optometry and chair of the Department of Clinical Sciences at UH's College of Optometry.

A Rise in the Rankings

UH climbed six spots to No. 68 among public universities in the U.S. News & World Report's "Best Colleges" rankings. UH also ranked No. 40 for social mobility and debuted on the "Most Innovative Schools" list at No. 48.

Biology Student Plays Key Role in Cancer Discovery

UH biology student Cole Woody played a pivotal role in an MD Anderson Cancer Center study showing the COVID vaccine can boost immunotherapy treatments. Woody helped validate the theory by designing custom antibodies to detect cancer-targeting T cells.

Board of Visitors Welcomes 25 Power Players

The UH Board of Visitors — an influential group of leaders and visionaries championing UH's goals — welcomes 25 new power players with impressive credentials, including entrepreneurs, a philanthropist and several CEOs.

Cougars Flex in the Big 12

Coach Willie Fritz has led Houston football to its best performance since entering the Big 12 Conference, qualifying to play in a bowl game for the first time since 2022. Coach Kelvin Sampson picked up his 800th career win, and men's basketball is ranked No. 2 in the Associated Press rankings.

The University of Houston-Clear Lake

Students Gain Placement at NASA

Six University of Houston-Clear Lake students gained placement at NASA's Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory, thanks to UHCL's corporate partnership initiative. Through a collaboration with V2X, students will gain unparalleled work experience in the premier training facility for spacewalks.

UHCL Veteran & Military Resource Center Earns Statewide Recognition

UHCL's Capt. Wendell M. Wilson Veteran & Military Resource Center earned the Texas Veterans Commission's Gold Veterans Education Excellence Recognition Award for its outstanding support of veterans, service members and their families.

Enrollment Increases at UHCL

UHCL's fall enrollment shows strong growth, with transfer enrollment up 4%, post-baccalaureate enrollment up 3.7% and new domestic graduate enrollment up nearly 20% from last year.

The University of Houston-Downtown

UHD Acquires Nearly 12 Acres of Land

The University of Houston-Downtown has acquired 11.93 acres from the Texas Department of Transportation, enabling the University to fulfill its Campus Master Plan expansion. The new land will transform UHD into a more cohesive, pedestrian-friendly campus, connecting its north and south portions and adding more green spaces.

UHD to Host Gulf-South Summit Conference

UHD will host the 2026 Gulf-South Summit on Service-Learning and Civic Engagement Through Higher Education on March 26-28. Featured speakers include the director of the Kinder Institute of Urban Research and the CEO of the Houston Food Bank.

Provost Bordelon Appointed President of TCCAO

Deborah Bordelon, UHD's senior vice president for academic affairs and provost, has been appointed president of the Texas Council of Chief Academic Officers for 2025-2026.