



RENU KHATOR • CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

UH System Board of Regents Meeting • February 21, 2024

University of Houston

Generous Gift Supports Student Success Efforts

An anonymous donor made a \$3 million commitment to support scholarships for working junior and senior level undergraduate students at the Cullen College of Engineering and the C. T. Bauer College of Business. The funds will be used to award up to \$8,000 in scholarships to support students' degree completion. The funds will also be leveraged as a dollar-for-dollar match, up to \$1 million annually, for three years as part of UH Giving Day and other major gift efforts.

UH Concert Chorale Ranked in Top 10 Most Impressive College Choirs

The world-renowned Moores School Concert Chorale at the University of Houston has been named one of the "20 Most Impressive College Choirs" in the country by College Rank, coming in at No. 10 on the list. Betsy Cook Weber, professor of choral studies and director of the Concert Chorale, plans to leave UH after more than two decades to join the Houston Chamber Choir as artistic director and conductor.

UH Grad Wins Global Footwear Award

Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture and Design is more than buildings. A recent graduate of the college, Toluwalase Adedipe ('23), is the winner of the Global Footwear Student Award. As a student, he designed an athletic shoe called Flyte, inspired by dragonflies and geckos. He completed the project in a studio led by Jeff Feng, industrial design co-director, and Adam Wells, associate instructional professor.

UH Students Peer Into the Future of Technology

UH joined IBM's Qiskit Fall Fest, a global network of quantum computing events on college campuses that promotes quantum computing education and showcases its impact on data processing. UH was selected by IBM as one of only 34 schools nationwide to participate.

UH Men's Basketball Continues to Break Records

UH Men's Basketball continues to set new standards for excellence. During the last 79 weeks, the team has been ranked in the top 25 nationally, the longest active streak in NCAA Division 1.

Endowed Chair in Health Care Business Innovation Funded

Houston philanthropist Elaine Finger has made a generous \$2 million gift for an endowed chair to advance education, research and innovation in business and health care at UH. The Elaine W. Finger Endowed Chair in Health Care Business Innovation will be a joint appointment in the C. T. Bauer College of Business and the Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine.

University of Houston-Clear Lake

Wellby Financial Establishes Largest Intern Scholarship Endowment

UH-Clear Lake is the beneficiary of a significant contribution from Wellby Financial, leading to the establishment of the largest intern scholarship endowment in the University's history. The scholarship is available to students from any college or discipline. Its primary goal is to alleviate the financial strain associated with unpaid internships, enabling students to concentrate on their academic pursuits and professional growth.

UHCL Prepares for MSN Launch in Fall 2024

UH-Clear Lake's Master of Science in Nursing Education and Leadership program will welcome its first students in Fall 2024. The program supports Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree holders. This graduate program will prepare students for advanced roles in education and leadership across academic or clinical settings.

UHCL Students Excel in NASA Innovation Competition

A team of College of Science and Engineering students won the grand prize of \$20,000 in the NASA Minority University Research and Education Project Innovation and Tech Transfer Idea Competition. Led by Space Radiation Physicist Kristine Ferrone, they developed GalvaniGauze, an innovative wound healing solution using NASA's 'Electroactive Material for Wound Healing' patent. Additionally, they received a grant to license the NASA patent for their business proposal.

University of Houston-Downtown

Collaboration Supports Low-Income, First-Generation College Students

In support of college accessibility for all students including low-income, first-generation students, UH-Downtown and the statewide school district Harmony Public Schools signed an inaugural Memorandum of Understanding on the UHD campus. They represented the 150 Harmony Public Schools seniors already admitted to UHD for fall 2024 as compared to the 46 Harmony alumni in the current UHD freshman class.

UHD Named Fulbright HSI Leader for 2023 by the U.S. Department of State

In late 2023, UH-Downtown was one of 46 higher education institutions across the U.S. named as a Fulbright Hispanic-Serving Institution Leader. This is the first time for UHD to receive this honor. Fulbright HSI Leaders demonstrate noteworthy support for Fulbright exchange participants and promote Fulbright program opportunities on campus. In 2022, four UHD faculty members—Natacha Poggio, Edmund Cueva, Shahnaz Savani, and Rahul Verma—were named Fulbright Scholars.

UHD's 45-foot Tall, Helium-Filled Ed-U-Gator Balloon Made Its Debut

UH-Downtown's 45-foot tall, helium-filled Ed-U-Gator mascot—with a 30-foot tail—made its debut in the 74th Annual H-E-B Thanksgiving Day Parade. Thirty UHD merit scholars, the UHD Drumline, cheerleaders, dance team, club team athletes and members of sororities and fraternities led the way as the giant Gator marched with thousands watching across the region.

University of Houston-Victoria

UHV Listed as One of Best Small Colleges in Texas

UH-Victoria has been named No.3 in the Best Small College category in Texas, according to a recent ranking published by Niche. The ranking was calculated using metrics that include more than 500,000 verified college reviews from students and analyzing data from other sources such as the U.S. Department of Education and the National Science Foundation.

Retired UHV Library Director Receives Library Champion Award

Joe Dahlstrom's impactful career in libraries across Victoria and the state is now being recognized with an award from the Texas Library Association. The Texas Library Association recently announced that Dahlstrom, who served as the UH-Victoria Library's senior director for more than 30 years, will be added to the list of Texas Library Champions.

UHV Programs Receive Honors in Latest Rankings

UH-Victoria has been recognized across 10 different categories according to Intelligent.com in its latest rankings of programs and universities in the U.S. UHV has six programs in the top 20, with the online master's in creative writing coming in at No. 7, and four in the top 50, most notably No. 29 for best online colleges in Texas. Evaluations are based on quantitative measures such as academic quality, graduation rate, cost, return on investment and student resources.