



RENU KHATOR • CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

UH System Board of Regents Meeting • December 2020

UH System

Number of Degrees Awarded by UH, UHCL, UHD, UHV

Despite all the challenges posed by this global pandemic and the ability to hold in-person commencement ceremonies, the UH System will be awarding a total 18,519 degrees for the 2019-2020 academic year.

UHS Raises More Than \$1.2 Billion in Transformational Campaign

After eight years, nearly 200,000 donors and an astounding \$1.2 billion for scholarships, professorships and facilities, the UH System's transformational fundraising campaign, 'Here, We Go,' drew to a close Aug. 31. The campaign raised \$1,235,427,334, far surpassing its \$1 billion goal while opening opportunities for thousands and strengthening Houston's future workforce.

Public Art – New Temporary Public Art Exhibit Color Field

Color Field provides opportunities to question our perceptions while thinking about the impact color has on our lives. Featuring large-scale brightly colored, sculptures by six contemporary artists, this exhibition is displayed throughout the University of Houston's park-like campus. It is the first curated exhibition of outdoor sculpture at UH and the second project in the Temporary Public Art Program, generously supported by the Brown Foundation, Inc.

University of Houston

UH Professor Cristina Rivera Garza Receives 'Genius Grant'

Award-winning fiction writer and UH distinguished professor **Cristina Rivera Garza** is among 21 talented individuals who have been awarded a 2020 MacArthur Fellowship, commonly known as the "genius" grant. Rivera Garza is founder and director of the UH doctoral program in Hispanic Studies with a concentration in creative writing in Spanish.

No. 1, Again!

The Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff Center for Entrepreneurship within the C.T. Bauer College of Business has been named the No. 1 undergraduate entrepreneurship program in the United States by The Princeton Review. The Wolff Center for Entrepreneurship has ranked No. 1 or No. 2 for 10 of the last 13 years.

Moving the Big Rocks in Health and Energy

Two major grants have been received by UH Researchers to move our big rocks in health and energy. First is the \$11.8 million federal award to Dr. **Ezemenari Obasi** of the College of Education to create the HEALTH Center for Addictions Research and Cancer prevention. This center is the 7th national research center at UH and first of its kind in Houston. The second award of \$9.5 million is to Dr. **Ramanan Krishnamoorti** in support of the UH Subsea Institute for workforce training and developing new technologies to improve the safety and sustainability of the offshore industry.

Another Anonymous Transformational Gift

Houston Public Media received an \$8 million testamentary gift from an anonymous couple, the largest gift the station has ever received to support news reporting and programming in education, arts and sciences.

UHPD Recognized as Safety Leaders

For the fourth consecutive year, the UH Police Department was ranked among the top 500 power-players by Security Magazine. This magazine ranks 500 enterprises through metrics to determine the forerunners in 20 sectors. UH is the only public Texas university highlighted and also one of two Texas universities featured on the list.

And Cougar Men's Basketball Ranks #10

Undefeated Cougars are ranked #10 in the AP Top 25 Poll. It is 2nd time in the last three years that the Cougars are ranking in the top 10 and in Coach Sampson's words, "We are still climbing the mountain."

University of Houston-Clear Lake

MHA Students Win National Case Study Competition

Three MHA students collaborated to achieve success at the 25th annual Everett V. Fox Student competition. Team UHCL bested 36 other universities, with each team member – **Jennifer Ho**, **Jalynn Evans** and **Isidor Dibia** – receiving a \$5,000 award. The team's work tackled a local Houston health care challenge exacerbated by COVID-19-related hypertension. They credit Professors of Healthcare Administration **Femi Ayadi** and **Jordan Mitchell**, and Faculty and Department Chair in Healthcare Administration **Raymond Khoury** for their success.

UHCL Launches Inaugural President's Speaker Series

UHCL launched its inaugural "President's Speaker Series: The Big Questions" this fall. The speaker series hosted two events with virtual panel discussions to initiate dialogue between the university and community on the future of higher education, with the second event focusing on social justice and globalism. More than 400 registered attendees engaged in conversation with well-known educational futurists and thought leaders, Dr. **Peter Bishop**, Dr. **Chris Dede**, **Jennifer Jarratt** and Dr. **James Anderson**.

UHCL Hosts Diplomatic Lecture Series

UHCL's Diplomacy Institute, in keeping with its mission presented the Diplomatic Lecture Series 2020-2021. To date, two virtual presentations have been made: The Consulate General of the Republic of Korea, Ambassador **Ahn Myung-Soo**, delivered a lecture entitled "ROK-US Alliance and the Korean Peninsula." **Charles C. Foster**, vice dean of the Houston Consular Corps and the Honorary Consul General of the Kingdom of Thailand, delivered a lecture entitled "Fostering Diplomatic Relations Through the Houston Consular Corps."

University of Houston-Downtown

UHD Breaks Ground on New Student Wellness & Success Center

UHD broke ground on the newest addition to its downtown campus, the Student Wellness & Success Center. The building will house facilities for fitness and wellness, as well as classroom spaces and a demonstration kitchen. University supporters in attendance at the recent groundbreaking included Texas Senators **John Whitmire** and **Borris Miles** and State Representatives **Mary Ann Perez** and **Christina Morales**. Construction is scheduled to begin in January 2021 and the Center will open its doors in 2022.

College of Sciences & Technology Earns Landmark Award

Each year, the Houston Business Journal Landmark Awards recognize real estate projects that enhance and impact our city. UHD's newest academic building, the College of Sciences & Technology Building took top honors in the awards' Education category. It's constructed to LEED Gold standards and very soon will have solar-powered life sciences laboratories thanks to a grant from Green Mountain Energy Sun Club.

UHD Recognized with Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award

For the second consecutive year, UHD has earned a Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from "INSIGHT Into Diversity" magazine, the largest and oldest diversity-focused publication in higher education. The University is among just 90 institutions nationwide that were recognized for their outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion and academic success rates. Institutional initiatives that contributed to this award include its Center for Critical Race Studies, Center for Diversity & Inclusion and the Center for Latino Studies among many other programs and projects.

University of Houston-Victoria

Johnson Foundation Commits to \$2M Gift for Recreation & Health Center

In what is the largest gift in UHV's history, the M.G. & Lillie A. Johnson Foundation has committed to providing the university with \$2 million to build a student recreation and health center near the new University Commons student center and library. Also funding the center is a student fee that UHV students voted in December 2018 to approve. The center will have classrooms where students in health-related majors can take courses, cardio and weight areas, an indoor track, a basketball court that can be modified for other sports, two multipurpose rooms for fitness classes and locker rooms. UHV also plans to offer health services for students in the building, which is expected to open by fall 2023.

UHV Expected to Add \$490.8M to Region in FY 2029

A study conducted by Emsi estimated that the university will add \$490.8 million in income to the region's economy in 2028-2029, an increase of 53 percent compared with 2018-2019. The expected 2028-2029 income is equal to supporting 5,365 jobs. Additionally, the study found that students who earn a bachelor's degree from UHV can expect to earn annual wages of \$64,600 at their career midpoint in the Coastal Bend, which is

\$29,500 more than someone with a high school diploma. Students who earn a master's degree from UHV can expect to earn annual wages of \$81,900 at their career midpoint.

Virtual Annual Report Event Features Awards, Campaign Announcement

UHV presented its first-ever virtual President's Annual Report & Excellence Awards to the community, reviewing highlights from FY 2020, giving awards to three outstanding community leaders and a graduate student, and announcing that the Here, We Go fundraising campaign goal of \$12 million had been surpassed by \$1.43 million. The People Who Make a Difference Award was given to **Robin Cadle**, president and CEO of the Food Bank of the Golden Crescent and a three-time UHV alumna. The Community Partnership Award went to UHV alumni **Lane** and **Phyllis Keller**, owners of KMH Wealth Management LLC and Keller and Associates CPAs PLLC. **Cesar Gonzalez**, a graduate student and UHV alumnus from Rosenberg, was recognized with the Student Leadership Award.