RENU KHATOR
CHANCELLOR'S REPORT
UH SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING
AUGUST 17, 2010

NEWS FROM THE UH SYSTEM

One of the top news items system-wide is fall enrollment. Following a trend that began a few years back, the four UH System universities continue to attract and enroll students in record numbers. Preliminary figures (as of July 31, 2010) show an increase of 4.8% across the UH System. By university, the enrollment increases are as follows:

University of Houston	up 4.6%.
UH-Clear Lake	up 8.5%
UH-Downtown	up 1.2%
UH-Victoria*	up 11.2%

*The UHV figure reflects the first incoming cohort of freshman and sophomore students.

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

UH is closing the fiscal year with an enviable record of accomplishments across the board – accomplishments that are driving our Tier One efforts. As of last week, our research awards and expenditures were up 9 and 12 percent, respectively, over 2009, our fundraising is at approximately $80 million, and as noted above, our enrollment is up. All these figures are records for UH.

Add to these statistics an increase in six-year graduation rates, an increase in alumni participation, and the good news that the Cougar Village freshman housing project – it officially opened yesterday – is at 100 percent occupancy, and we can safely assert we are moving rapidly and steadily on our path to Tier One.

Two energy research-related activities attest to this process of "growing up" as a research university of the first rank.

- In three weeks, a team from the National Science Foundation will visit the UH campus for two days prior to deciding on awarding a large grant for wind energy research. Only 11 proposals nationwide were selected for a site visit. UH is the lead institution (along with five U.S. and three European universities) proposing to create a Center for Offshore Wind Energy.

This is the first time in UH's history that the NSF's Engineering Research Centers has made a site visit to campus.

■ During the recent oil spill crisis in the Gulf of Mexico, the local, national, and international media came to UH to find answers to their questions from one of the world's foremost experts. **Donald Van Nieuwenhuise**, director of the petroleum geosciences programs in the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, was interviewed more than 100 times by radio, television, and print reporters, from ABC's Good Morning America, the *New York Times*, and CNN's Prime Time London, to NBC World News Tonight, the *Washington Post*, and the BBC. Almost all of the television interviews were conducted via satellite from a new KUHT-TV interview studio which features a backdrop of the E. Cullen Building.

I invite the members of the Board of Regents to attend the President's Fall Address on September 22 when I will present a more comprehensive report on last year's institutional and individual successes, as well as the next steps we need to take on our Tier One journey.

NEWS FROM UH-CLEAR LAKE

■ The word from President **William Staples** to Board of Regents Vice Chairman Jim Wise is: "We did it!" We are referring, of course, to the opening of the UHCL Pearland Campus earlier this month. The project, a partnership among UHCL, the City of Pearland, and the Pearland Economic Development Corporation, has an initial enrollment of 437. Six bachelor's and five master's degrees will be offered to this inaugural class.

■ **George Guillen**, associate professor of biology and environmental science and executive director of the Environmental Institute of Houston, has received an increase in funding of more than $1 million from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). He received an additional TCEQ award, for $137,745, and a $150,000 continuation grant from the Harris County Flood Control District.

■ Astronaut **Lee M. Morin** ('09 MS) is among six graduates who will be recognized with a Distinguished Alumni Award by UHCL's alumni association at their October celebration.

■ **Mary Ann Shallberg**, executive associate to the president, has been elected secretary of the National Association of Presidential Assistants in Higher Education.

■ UHCL's student-produced newspaper, The Signal, and the literary art magazine Bayousphere received 24 awards at the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association's state competition.

NEWS FROM UH-DOWNTOWN

■ UHD Northwest's first fall semester will open in a few days with 356 students enrolled to date. The operation, which occupies an entire floor of Lone Star College-University Park's University Center, will offer 14 bachelor's and one master's degree.

■ Alumnus **Charles McClelland** has been appointed to the post of Chief of the Houston Police Department by Mayor Annise Parker, and May 2010 graduate **John Wolf** won the Texas Student

Teacher of the Year Award. He is now a science teacher in Carmichael Elementary School in Aldine ISD, the same school he attended as a young boy.

■ UHD has been named by G.I. Jobs magazine as a "Military Friendly School" for 2011. This honor puts the university in the top 15% of all colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide for serving veterans and current members of the armed forces.

■ **Carolyn Ashe**, professor of management, marketing and business administration, was one of only 27 scholars from around the world invited to participate in the Oxford Round Table at Oxford University in March. The international session focused on "Ethical Sentiments and the World Financial Crisis."

NEWS FROM UH-VICTORIA

■ Earlier this month, I appointed UHV President **Tim Hudson** to join my staff at the UH System level as Special Assistant to the Chancellor for International Programs and Initiatives. As President Hudson moves to the next chapter in his administrative career, he closes a fruitful and accomplished tenure at UHV, highlighted by his leadership in the downward expansion of the university, which is becoming a reality this fall with the enrollment of almost 200 freshman and 65 sophomore students.

■ **Kathryn Tart**, founding dean of the School of Nursing, was selected from 646 nursing deans across the nation to receive the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Advocate of the Year award.

■ The School of Business Administration has completed its fifth-year review and maintained its business accreditation by The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International. Less than 6 percent of business schools worldwide have earned this distinguished hallmark of excellence.

■ **Kristen Lindley** ('09) was the recipient of a $25,000 Rotary Foundation Academic-Year Ambassadorial Scholarship that she hopes to use to study in Hong Kong. Lindley, who was a member of the UH System Board of Regents in 2009-2010, is working on a master's of business administration.