



**Renu Khator • Chancellor's Report**

UH System Board of Regents Meeting • February 2016

## University of Houston System Achievements

### Interim UH-Downtown President Named

**Michael A. Olivas**, the William B. Bates Chair in Law and Director of the UH Institute of Higher Education Law and Governance, has been named to the post of Interim President at UH-Downtown. **William Flores**, UH's previous President, will serve as Research Fellow in the Institute for Educational Research and Evaluation, which is housed in UH's College of Education.

### UH Sugar Land and UHS Katy

The University of Houston and UH-Victoria have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding UHV's transition out of the UH Sugar Land campus and the UH System Cinco Ranch facility. The MOU affirms: a) that all of UHV's offerings in Fort Bend County will be consolidated in one temporary location beginning in Fall 2016. UHV officials are looking into several options to rent a facility, b) UH will provide UHV with an agreed-upon fund to cover all of the costs of transition to ensure that UHV is held harmless, and c) the UH System will build a permanent campus in Katy and, once completed, it will be home to all programs from UH and UHV. We are identifying the best site to locate our campus, and UHV will be involved in the campus design.

## University of Houston Achievements

### Significant Philanthropic Gifts

Since the Board of Regents meeting in November 2015, we have received 17 commitments over \$500,000 from alumni and friends to spur year-end fundraising. Topping the list is a \$6 million gift from Houston businessman **R. Stephen Stagner** to name and support the Sales Excellence Institute at the C.T. Bauer College of Business.

### Phi Beta Kappa Installation Ceremony in March

An installation ceremony marking the establishment of a Phi Beta Kappa chapter at UH is set for March 4 at the Moores Opera House. ΦBK, the nation's oldest academic honor society, has only 283 chapters nationwide

### The Republican Debate Comes to Campus

UH will be the focus of attention nationwide one week from today as the university hosts the Republican National Committee's presidential debate – the final GOP one before the crucial "Super Tuesday" primary elections. The debate, to be held in the Moores Opera House, will be broadcast on the CNN television networks, CNN.com and in Spanish on the Telemundo network. Numerous events are scheduled across campus, including student and faculty watch parties. Almost 100 students are expected to experience the debate as volunteers.

## College of Education Shares Multi-Million-Dollar Gates Foundation Grant

The College of Education is part of a national effort to transform teacher preparation thanks to a \$34.7 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The college will be part of a six-university consortium that pairs higher education institutions with local schools districts to review and renew teaching practices. UH will partner with the Houston Independent School District to create teacher preparation centers and partnerships to leverage data, knowledge and best practices.

## Recognition for UH Football

An American Athletic Conference championship win at the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl and an AP national ranking of No. 8 – highest in recent UH football history – capped an extraordinary inaugural season for Head Coach **Tom Herman** and his exceptional team. Herman was named by the Football Writers Association of America “First-Year Coach of the Year,” and was a finalist for the Bear Bryant Award. He will proudly represent UH and our football team when he rides as Grand Marshal at the head of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo parade through downtown Houston on February 27, fresh from signing the highest-ranked non-Power 5 recruiting class in the history of college football.

## National Honors for Faculty and Staff

Several faculty members and administrators have been honored recently with awards and appointments. **Diana Chow**, professor of pharmaceuticals and director of the Institute for Drug Education and Research, has been named a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors. **Robert McPherson**, dean of the College of Education, received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Texas Psychological Association. **Richard Walker**, vice president for student affairs and enrollment services, received the 2016 Pillar of the Profession Award from NASPA, the national organization of student affairs administrators.

## UH-Clear Lake Achievements

### Third Doctoral Degree Approved

UHCL received approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for its third doctoral degree, a Doctorate in Psychology in Health Service Psychology (Combined Clinical/School). This is the first doctoral program to be offered in the School of Human Sciences and Humanities and the first of its kind offered by a Texas public university. Graduates of this practitioner-scientist program will work as licensed professional psychologists in clinics and schools, with particular competencies in health and behavioral health, including prevention.

### Dual Degree Announced

Medical students at The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston seeking to gain an edge with additional management and finance skills will be able to obtain a Master of Business Administration at UHCL while working on their medical doctorate beginning in 2016 through a new agreement established by the two universities. The MD-MBA program is geared to medical students who wish to go on to private or group practice, health system administration or into fields of bio-technology, health system management or entrepreneurship aspects of health care.

## National Rankings

U.S. News & World Report has ranked UHCL in two categories including overall business programs and the online Master of Business Administration. In the 2016 Best Online Graduate Business Programs (non-MBA), UHCL moved up six spots from the 2015 ranking to No. 61 out of 91 ranked schools. The 2016 Best Online MBA Programs included a move for UHCL from No. 89 in 2015 to No. 81 out of 163 ranked programs. And PayScale Inc., a leading provider of on-demand compensation data and software, ranked UHCL No. 9 out of 51 Texas universities overall and No. 5 out of Texas public universities in salary earnings for students with a bachelor's degree.

## UH-Downtown Achievements

### HBJ Recognizes MBA Program as Largest in Houston

UHD's Master of Business Administration (MBA) Program was ranked topped the list of the Houston Business Journal's 2015 Largest Houston-Area MBA Programs. In only two years, the program has grown from smallest to largest in HBJ's rankings. The rankings were based on Fall 2015 enrollment, which totaled 765 students. Preliminary reports for Spring 2016 indicate that enrollment has grown to 893 students. The program reflects UHD's emphasis on providing strong academic and career preparation as well as lifelong learning opportunities.

### Pathways to Teaching Initiative Receives \$3 Million DOE Grant

The U.S. Department of Education awarded a \$3.07 million grant, distributed over a five-year period, to Pathways to Teaching Careers, a collaborative initiative between UHD and Lone Star College-Kingwood. The grant will support the collaborative effort to prepare students for K-12 teaching certification by enrolling them in a structured, guided, career-focused curriculum that promotes success, persistence and graduation in a reduced time frame of four to five.

### Welcome Center Opens

Students who enrolled in spring 2016 classes were the first to use the new Welcome Center and Student Services Center. The 26,000-square-foot space includes Academic Admissions, Testing Services, Disabled Student Services and Veterans Services, enabling prospective and current students to access resources in a single convenient location. The Welcome Center entrance features a 29- by 36-foot wall installation by Houston artist Trenton Doyle Hancock.

## UH-Victoria Achievements

### Former UH System Board Chair Honored

UHV shared success stories and handed out five awards – including the prestigious Presidential Medal – during the 2014-2015 President's Annual Report and Excellence Awards event. **Morgan Dunn O'Connor**, Victoria resident and former chair of the UH System Board of Regents, received the Presidential Medal, the highest award bestowed by UHV. **Jennifer Yancey**, Victoria College vice president of college

advancement and external affairs, was named Alumni of the Year. The Community Partnership Award was presented to the M.G. and Lillie A. Johnson Foundation Inc. Victoria residents **Claud and Mary Virginia Jacobs** were the recipients of the People Who Make a Difference Award. The Student Leadership Award went to **Bola Adebayo**, a junior biology major from Houston, who is serving her second term as president of the UHV Student Government Association.

### **Students Make a Difference in the Community**

UHV students continued to make a difference in the community by volunteering at the Food Bank of the Golden Crescent, cooking dinner at Christ's Kitchen, and donating their own meals for National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. More than 150 students donated 1,374 meals from their university meal plans, and the meals were converted into dollars by UHV. In addition, the 13th annual UHV Giving Tree sponsored by the Student Government Association had students, employees and community members bringing needed items to benefit Adopt-A-Pet, the food bank, Mid-Coast Family Services and the Old Landmark Committee.

### **Nursing Program Update**

UHV has selected **Cindy Hudson**, who has nearly 40 years of professional health experience, to oversee development of the university's new nursing program set to start in August. Hudson comes to UHV from Langston University's School of Nursing and Health Professions in Oklahoma, where she was dean. UHV will launch a Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing program in Fall 2016.