



RENU KHATOR • CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

UH System Board of Regents Meeting • November 2018

UH System

UHS “Here, We Go” Fundraising Campaign Nears Its Goal

The systemwide “Here, We Go” campaign continues on its steady path toward its \$1 billion goal. As of this past Tuesday, a total of \$957,743,109 has been received from 179,177 donors.

	Dollar Amount	Donors
UH	\$ 904,217,513	167,247
UHCL	\$ 12,278,508	4,994
UHD	\$ 25,764,957	3,719
UHV	\$ 10,970,753	3,205
UHS	\$ 4,511,298	12
All	\$ 957,743,109	179,177

Major Work by Critically Acclaimed Artist Joins UHS Public Art Collection

“Synchronicity of Color: Victoria,” a work of hand-painted laminated glass elements by **Margo Sawyer**, now hangs suspended from the ceiling of UH-Victoria’s University North Building – the newest addition to the UH System public art collection. The collection, nearing its fiftieth anniversary, comprises almost 700 works on public display in the four UH System universities.

University of Houston

\$17 Million Gift Will Support UH Students Leaving the Foster Care System

Houston philanthropists **Andy** and **Andrea Diamond** have made a \$17 million gift to offer financial, academic, mentoring and other support for the 60 to 100 UH students who self-identify as leaving the foster care system every year. The Diamond Family Scholars program will extend beyond scholarships and stipends to build a learning community focused on advising, mentoring and sharing living space in a UH residence hall.

Hines College Recognized for Ranking and Leadership

The Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture and Design has joined the ranks of the top 35 “Most Admired Architecture Schools” in the nation according to Design Intelligence, an organization made up of architects, educators and recent graduates, while the college’s dean, **Patricia Belton Oliver**, was named “2018 Educator of the Year” by the Houston chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

Degree Approval, Large Gift Advances College of Medicine

In addition to the unanimous decision by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating approving a UH doctor of medicine degree, several large gifts benefitting the College of Medicine were received recently. The largest, \$15 million from Humana, will create the Humana Integrated Health System Sciences Institute, which will unite the efforts of the College of Medicine and the colleges of Nursing, Pharmacy, Social Work and Optometry.

UH Researchers Develop Breakthrough Drug to Treat Pancreatic Cancer

The news that two UH researchers – **Ruiwen Zhang**, Robert L. Boblitt Endowed Professor in Drug Discovery, and **Wei Wang**, research associate professor of pharmacology – have developed a breakthrough drug for the treatment for pancreatic cancer was picked up by print media and professional journals across the nation. Approximately 40,500 people die of pancreatic cancer in the nation each year.

Several Large Grants Totaling More than \$25 Million Will Boost Research

In the scant three months since the last Board of Regents meeting, eleven million-plus-dollar grants totaling more than \$25 million have been received by seven colleges. The grants will support biomedical and civil engineering, pharmacology and pharmaceuticals, optometry, learning disabilities and chemistry research, among others.

Student Awarded Prestigious Advance STEM Training and Research NASA Fellowship

Elizabeth Klovenski, a doctoral student in the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, has been granted a three-year \$165,000 fellowship by NASA. Her work will be part of a climate model developed by NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies. The fellowship will allow Klovenski to work at Goddard for eight weeks each year at its facility at Columbia University.

University of Houston-Clear Lake

Opportunities Emerge through New Institute

More than 200 participants learned about the importance of exercise and nutrition at the Low Carb Houston conference at UHCL. During this first-of-its-kind conference at UHCL, medical professionals and nutrition experts from throughout the country, including Top Chef **Monica Pope**, were featured speakers. The conference provided the perfect segue to the official grand opening of the UHCL's Exercise and Nutritional Health Institute.

UHCL Provides Mental Health First Aid™ Training

A three-year, \$375,000 grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration will fund the Mental Health First Aid™ training program for faculty, staff and students, with plans to extend trainings to school districts and community organizations. Current sessions focus on the experiences and needs of college students. "First-aiders" learn the warning signs for anxiety, depression, and eating and substance abuse disorders, as well as how to assess and talk to someone who is experiencing these issues.

Educational Training Expanded through Partnerships

OSHA has awarded UH-Clear Lake \$114,000 to develop and deliver free training on "Heat Illness Prevention" for construction and general industries throughout the Greater Houston area. The program will target employers with workforces of 250 employees or fewer. UHCL hopes to provide the training in English and Spanish. In addition, UHCL gained approval to offer a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Safety and Health and a Master of Science in Occupational Safety and Health.

University of Houston-Downtown

Grants Support Success on Campus, in Community

UHD has received a Title V grant totaling \$2.7 million from the U.S. Department of Education's Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program to support student success through its "Accelerated Transfer Program." UHD also is helping adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities rejoin the workforce. UHD's College of Public Service and the H.E.A.R.T. Program, received \$1.1 million from the Houston-Galveston Area Council to help these adult Houstonians advance their education and career-building skills.

Gators Show Civic Engagement

UHD was involved in a variety of events to promote public discourse, safety and civic responsibility. UHD hosted debates for candidates running for U.S. Congressional Districts 2 and 29. And in the weeks leading to Election Day, students participated in the Gator Day of Action and the annual Walk 2 Vote, a procession to the polls. Both initiatives were coordinated by the Student Government Association. UHD also hosted its first National Night Out, with UHD's Police Department working with community partners to spotlight public safety initiatives on campus and the city.

Eric Carl Link Named Provost

Following a national search, UH-Downtown selected **Eric Carl Link** as its next provost and senior vice president for Academic & Student Affairs. Link comes to UHD from Purdue University Fort Wayne, where he is serving as dean for its College of Arts & Sciences. He will officially join UHD on Jan. 14, 2019. He succeeds **Ed Hugetz**, who was appointed as interim provost in 2013. Link will arrive in Houston with wife **Laura** and children **Nolan** and **Natalie**.

University of Houston-Victoria

Foundation Provides UHV with \$1.5 Million Gift

UHV has received a \$1.5 million gift to fund equipment, furnishings and build-out for three new labs. A kinesiology lab will be located in the former Town Plaza Mall, part of which UHV has acquired, and organic chemistry and biology/anatomy labs will be part of a new STEM building to be constructed during the next two years. The gift is the largest ever to UHV and comes from the **M.G. & Lillie A. Johnson Foundation**. With this gift, UHV is within \$1 million of its \$12 million "Here, We Go" campaign goal.

UHV Disburses \$6.5 Million in Student Scholarships, Grants

As of mid-October, UHV had distributed about \$6.5 million for the fall semester in financial aid through scholarships, grants and work study programs, mainly from state and federal grants. More than 1,600 UHV students were awarded \$5.2 million in grants, and \$3.35 million of that total were Pell grants. Scholarships made up an additional \$1.3 million in financial aid and were awarded to more than 1,200 students. Of that total, about \$860,000 came from UHV funds, which included merit- and need-based scholarships.

UHV Named NAIA Five-Star Institution

UHV was one of 171 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics institutions named a “NAIA Champions of Character Five-Star Institution” for the 2017-18 academic year, the third consecutive year UHV was recognized as a silver-level institution. Institutions are measured on demonstrated commitments to the NAIA Champions of Character program and earn points in character training, conduct in competitions and exceptional student-athlete GPAs, as well as obtaining zero ejections during competitions throughout the course of the year.