



E G R E T

inside:

- worldly experience
- creative alumni
- honorable donors



Out of the classroom
The college experience, off-syllabus



In recognition of The Simmons Foundation's generous support of UHCL's Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, university president William A. Staples named the foundation this year's UHCL Community Partnership Award honoree.

Since its inception in 1993, The Simmons Foundation has committed more than \$20 million in grants predominantly in Harris and surrounding counties. Its mission "to invest in the community so lives can be improved by helping people help themselves" manifests itself through its many philanthropic activities.

The foundation's most recent gift to CADD will allow for an additional graduate student to work with the center's Applied Behavior Analysis Skills Intervention Program, which offers free or low-cost intervention therapy for young children with autism.

In addition to its work with autistic children, CADD provides valuable services to the community such as an educational speaker series presented by local autism leaders and UHCL graduate students in the Applied Behavior Analysis program.

Sharing a strong commitment to education and philanthropy, UHCL and The Simmons Foundation are natural partners in efforts to improve the lives of people in the community.

Linda May (r), president of The Simmons Foundation, accepted the 2011 UHCL Community Partnership Award, which was presented in recognition of the foundation's support for the university's Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities. CADD, under the direction of Professor of Psychology Dorothea Lerman (l), assists children with autism and their families.

PRESIDENT
William A. Staples

**SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
AND PROVOST**
Carl A. Stockton

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR
ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**
Michelle Dotter

**ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR
UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT**
Dion McInnis

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF COMMUNICATIONS**
Theresa Presswood

MANAGING EDITOR
Taryn Cornelius

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Karen Barbier

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
Carol Pruitt

DESIGNER
Rebecca S. Trahan

PHOTOGRAPHERS
Karen Barbier
Taryn Cornelius
Van Edwards
Beryl Striewski

WEB PRODUCTION
Haley Stringer-Hedderick

WRITERS
Karen Barbier
Taryn Cornelius
Diana North

Egret is published by University of Houston-Clear Lake, a component of UH System. Address correspondence to UHCL Office of Communications, 2700 Bay Area Blvd., UHCL Box 199, Houston, TX 77058, 281-283-2015, news@uhcl.edu. Articles may be reprinted without permission, but with attribution.

ON THE COVER: Graduate student Carrie Gass is one of the thousands of UHCL students who have benefitted from the university's additional education opportunities such as research, leadership programs and internships.

Photo by Beryl Striewski



Visit Egret
Online right
now by
using your
smartphone's
QR code
reader.

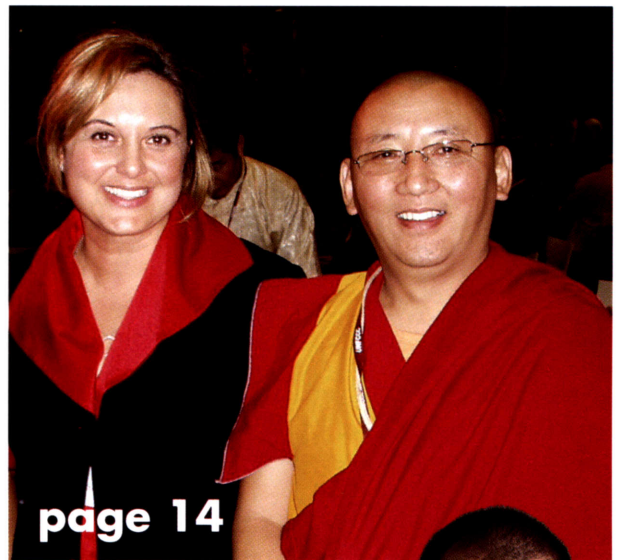




{ c o n t e n t s } spring 2011 | volume 17 | number 2 | www.uhcl.edu/egret



page 10



page 14

FEATURE SECTION

OUT OF THE CLASSROOM 6

Education doesn't end when students step outside the classroom. At UHCL, students find new community and career-oriented opportunities both on and off the syllabus.

A+ EDUCATORS 8

Always striving to achieve the full benefit of every opportunity she's presented, Carrie Gass helps to create a methodology for measuring teachers' effectiveness.

LIVE TO LEAD 10

Gabriel Salazar's lessons in leadership began years ago, but UHCL's leadership conference introduced him to a way to combine his passions.

AN AIR OF EXPERIENCE 12

Graduate student Debora Berhane-Mersha wanted a degree that would open doors. She discovered the passageway to a career.

DEPARTMENTS

- FOR THE RECORD 2**
- FACULTY BOOKSHELF 4**
- WHAT'S ONLINE? 5**
- POSTGRAD 14**
- ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT 16**
- CLASS NOTES 18**
- DATEBOOK 20**



page 16



{ noteworthy }

REMARKABLE RECOGNITION "Hospital Turnaround Practice in the United States: Value and Role of Consultants," an article authored by UHCL graduate student Amrita Shenoy, distinguished alumnus and adjunct lecturer Raymond Khoury, and Professor and Director of Healthcare Administration Ashish Chandra, was selected for the McGraw Hill/Irwin Distinguished Paper Award.

WORLDLY AGREEMENT Delegates from China Three Gorges University in the Hubei Providence of China visited UHCL during November to sign a memorandum of understanding. The international partnership will allow students who begin their course work at the university in China to transfer to UHCL to complete degree requirements.

FUNDING FINE ART Houston Arts Alliance awarded the university \$6,000 toward sponsorship of the Judy Chicago "Setting the Table" art exhibit in spring 2011. The exhibit was presented in celebration of the 31st year since Chicago's controversial artwork "The Dinner Party" was displayed at UHCL.

SUPPORTING SCIENCE The Welch Foundation presented Jack Lu, program chair and professor of chemistry, a \$35,000 continuation grant for his proposal, "Chemistry Department Research Grant," to support departmental research. The new funds will provide support for Lu and the UHCL Chemistry Department during the 2011-2012 academic year.

SUSTAINING BEHAVIOR Dorothea Lerman, professor of psychology and director of the UHCL Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities, received a \$96,000 grant award from the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Authority of Harris County for "Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders," as well as continuation grants from Pasadena Independent School District for \$42,180 and Clear Creek ISD for \$28,120 to support "Graduate Assistantships for Behavioral Sciences." Assistant Professor of Psychology Jennifer Fritz also received a \$37,780 award from Pearland ISD for graduate assistantships.

GIFT EXPANDS ARTISTIC ENDEAVORS

Houston Endowment awarded UHCL a three-year \$400,000 grant to expand university art programming and outreach. The award supports 10 initiatives, one of which is the creation of a new position, an audience development coordinator. The coordinator will oversee gallery space renovations, develop outreach programs and implement both on- and off-campus art programs.

The other nine initiatives include gallery and workroom renovations, an art collection display, cooperative/collaborative art events, international art consortium art/artist exchanges, virtual outreach projects, "Art Matters" presentations to the public, art salons/donor cultivation events, and interdisciplinary art projects.

"Houston Endowment's support of art audience development is only possible because of the years of great work by our art faculty members and others who have helped us reach critical mass in our art education, outreach and service," says Dion McInnis, associate vice president for university advancement.

"We have a wonderful blend of activities and talents that will enable the university to attract, engage, inform and enlighten new and familiar audiences thanks to the financial support of our creative plans."

A portion of the award was dedicated toward the promotion and hosting of Judy Chicago's "Setting the Table" exhibit that resided at the university through the end of April.

Houston Endowment has supported UHCL initiatives in the past. Most significantly, the foundation provided two matching challenge grants, \$500,000 in 1997 and \$1.5 million in 2000, which funded vital scholarship and program endowments.

Jesse H. and Mary Gibbs Jones established Houston Endowment Inc. as a private philanthropic organization in 1937. The foundation supports nonprofit organizations and educational institutions that produce and maximize benefits for the people of the greater Houston area.



Von Edwards

Raku ware, Spring, 2010 by Nick J. de Vries

NEW PARTNERSHIP OFFERS JOINT-DEGREE PROGRAM

UHCL and Texas Chiropractic College signed a joint-degree agreement in March. The degree blends UHCL's Master of Science in Fitness and Human Performance with TCC's Doctor of Chiropractic degree.

"By putting this joint-degree program in place, we are giving students at UHCL and Texas Chiropractic College more opportunities to strengthen their educational backgrounds, which will definitely help them in their future careers," says UHCL Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Carl A. Stockton.

Current students at TCC who have earned a bachelor's degree, received passing grades in all trimester one through five courses, and hold a TCC grade point average of 3.0 or better are eligible to apply

to the joint-degree program. UHCL's graduate program in fitness and human performance is a 36-hour program, six of which will come from TCC's curriculum for the joint-degree program. The joint program will add one trimester to TCC's standard 10-trimester doctor of chiropractic program. This new agreement also provides for the participation of qualified TCC students in UHCL's fitness and human performance certification program. The 12-hour certificate program is designed for individuals with a bachelor's degree who are not seeking a master's degree in fitness and human performance but are pursuing specific instruction in fitness, exercise, nutrition and human performance. For current UHCL students in the graduate program, the agreement provides for early placement if they choose to attend TCC.

"The new relationship with the Texas Chiropractic College will enable qualified

students to attain academic training in chiropractic medicine, a licensed allied health science discipline renowned for preventive and progressive treatment of disease and disability,” says Bill Amonette, lecturer in fitness and human performance at UHCL.

“The result will be licensed chiropractic doctors equipped with advanced knowledge and practical experience in the science of exercise prescription.”

UHCL’s Master of Science in Fitness and Human Performance is housed in the School of Human Sciences and Humanities. Previous graduates of the program have served as strength and conditioning coaches for the NBA, NFL, MLB, collegiate programs, NASA, and international teams. Graduates work as exercise physiologists, scientists, health promotion coordinators, fitness specialists, personal trainers and many other jobs. Others have continued their education in physical and occupational therapy schools, chiropractic schools, physician assistant programs, medical school, or doctoral programs in related fields.

UHCL SEEKS OFFICIAL MASCOT

A search for an official mascot is under way at UHCL. The five-phase process began with an initial call for ideas and accompanying rationales from students, alumni, faculty, staff and university friends.

“A mascot can create a community in which all can feel as if they belong,” says UHCL Interim Dean of Students David Rachita, who serves on the Mascot Leadership Team. “It illustrates a shared school spirit that students are proud to ‘show off’ to others. It lets the greater community see the pride and want to be part of the energy.”

The eight-member leadership team is overseeing the process, seeking participation from all parts of the university community during the call for ideas and the final voting. An advisory team, composed of 10 representatives from major constituent groups, is providing critical feedback to the leadership team during key points throughout the search process. Final recommendations will be provided to the university president for approval.

During the second phase of the search process, the university community will be

invited to submit graphic images for the top mascot options. Phase three will include the refinement of images; then all will be invited to vote on the professionally refined mascot image concepts in the fourth phase. Also during phase four, a market research agency will test the mascot concepts with prospective students. Input from both groups will determine the mascot that will be unveiled in phase five during the 2011-2012 academic year.

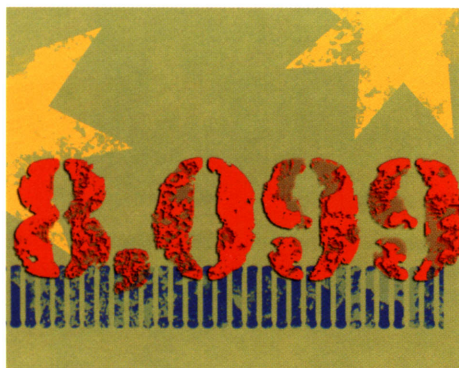
To learn more about UHCL’s mascot history and the search currently under way, visit www.uhcl.edu/mascot.

ENROLLMENT NUMBERS SKYROCKET

UHCL experienced record enrollment during the 2010-2011 academic year. More than 8,000 undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at the university for fall 2010 – an increase of more than 6 percent from fall 2009 enrollment. It was the first semester in UHCL history that enrollment exceeded 8,000 students. Spring enrollment increased to 7,987, also a record-breaking number for the university.

“Our record enrollment is the result of success in both student recruitment and retention as well as offering program and course options for our students on campus, off campus and online,” says UHCL President William A. Staples.

Enrollment numbers include the UHCL Pearland Campus, which opened August 2010. Enrollment at the new campus was nearly twice the amount originally predicted for the inaugural semester, with 530 students registering for Pearland courses. This spring, those numbers increased more than 20 percent to 674 students. In March, testing began on weekend usage of the library and computer labs at the new campus to assess the need for extended hours.



{ noteworthy }

SAFEST CAMPUS StateUniversity.com recognized UHCL for the second year in a row as one of the top 25 safest public higher education campuses in the United States. UHCL ranked as the fourth safest bachelor degree-granting institution in America and the safest bachelor degree-granting university in Texas.

ALL HANDS ON DECK The Environmental Institute of Houston at UHCL acquired two boats earlier this year for research purposes: a 22-foot J.H. performance vessel for shallow water exploration and a 25-foot Boston Whaler Guardian for deep-water research. The boats were acquired with support from a Texas Commission on Environmental Quality grant.

STEPS TO BAYTOWN ExxonMobil Baytown awarded \$7,500 to the Baytown Area Education Recruitment and Retention program, one of four Success Through Education Programs administered by UHCL’s School of Education. The grant will be used to fund scholarships for BAER² students enrolled at UHCL.

PIPER NOMINATION Gary Boetticher, associate professor of computer science, computer information systems and software engineering, received the university’s 2010-2011 Piper Award nomination for outstanding teaching. Professors are nominated for the award by students, and the final nominee selection is made by the UHCL Piper Award Committee composed of four students and four faculty members. Boetticher represents the university in the Minnie Stevens Piper Award competition, which honors Texas college and university professors. He joined UHCL as a faculty member in 2000, and teaches courses in financial data mining, bioinformatics, and software engineering.

SLEEPLESS STUDY Assistant Professor of Psychology Chris Ward received a \$248,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health for his proposal “Sleep Loss and Hippocampal Function.” Ward will be assisted in the research by co-investigator Richard Puzdrowski, division chair of natural sciences and associate professor of biology.

{ noteworthy }

DIVERSE RECOGNITION The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities designated UHCL as a Hispanic-Serving Institution in recognition of the fact that Hispanic students account for 25 percent or more of the university's undergraduate enrollment.

LEADING WOMEN The Association of Business and Professional Women presented scholarships to three UHCL students in fall 2010. Leila Pequeno and Christine Drummond received Rosemary Pledger Scholarships. Janet White garnered the Carrie Lee Warren Scholarship. Both scholarships were established by the association for founding members of the ABPW who played important roles at the university with Pledger having served as the dean of the School of Business and Warren having served as an associate professor in the School of Education.

ACCREDITED COUNSELING The International Association of Counseling Services University and College Board of Accreditation granted accreditation to UHCL Counseling Services. The Office of Counseling Services provides individual counseling, seminars, workshops and small group experiences for students, as well as a range of services for faculty, staff, alumni and community members.

UNITED THEY GIVE United Space Alliance awarded the university \$5,000 in support of the archives expansion initiative. The initiative is a \$300,000 project geared at expanding the archive facility and providing for the digitalization of archived documents. The UHCL Archives are housed in the Alfred R. Neumann Library and include the NASA Johnson Space Center History Collection.

PRESIDENTIAL HONORS The Clear Creek Education Foundation presented the 2010 George B. Carlisle Award to President William A. Staples during the organization's 10th annual Reach for the Stars Gala in recognition of his role as a community leader dedicated to excellence in education.

STATE LEADERSHIP Assistant Dean of Student Diversity and Director of Intercultural and International Student

faculty bookshelf

■ **The Cambridge Companion to the Literature of Los Angeles;**

Edited by Kevin R. McNamara, UHCL professor of literature. *Cambridge University Press, New York (2010)*. Fans of Los Angeles culture and history will enjoy this companion guide, which features essays such as "The Southland on screen," "Postwar Los Angeles: suburban Eden and the fall into history," and "Pacific Rim city: Asian-American and Latino literature." ISBN: 978-0-521-51470-5

■ **Coast to Coast: Exploring State Book Awards;** By Jane H. Claes,

UHCL assistant professor of library and information studies. *Libraries Unlimited, California (2010)*. Featuring a multitude of state book award competitions, this information-packed book also presents interviews with program coordinators, authors, publishers and bookstore representatives. ISBN: 978-1-59158-735-4

■ **Personal Investing, Second Edition;** By Grady Perdue, UHCL

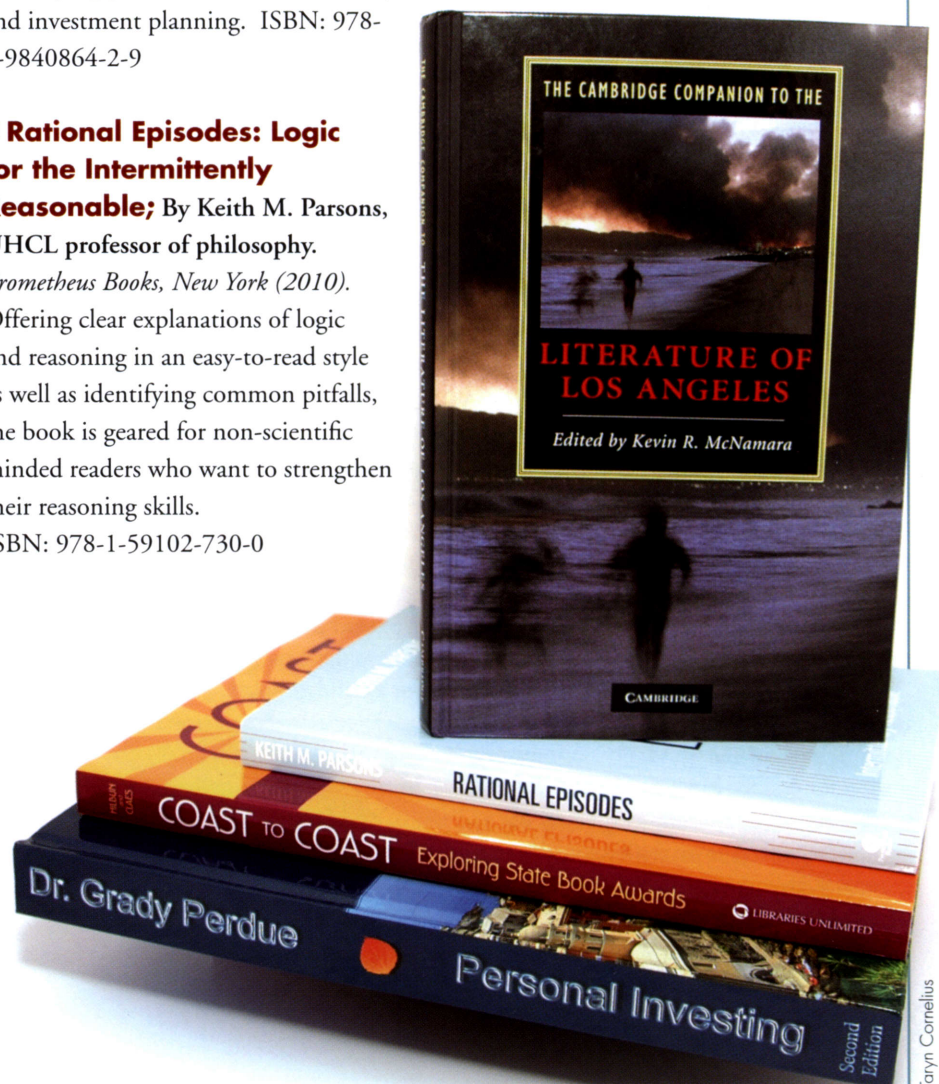
professor of finance. *Aspen Leaf Books, Houston (2010)*. Refining the focus on four major concepts, the updated textbook provides insight on risk-return relationships, diversifying portfolios, market efficiency and investment planning. ISBN: 978-0-9840864-2-9

■ **Rational Episodes: Logic for the Intermittently Reasonable;**

By Keith M. Parsons, UHCL professor of philosophy.

Prometheus Books, New York (2010). Offering clear explanations of logic and reasoning in an easy-to-read style as well as identifying common pitfalls, the book is geared for non-scientific minded readers who want to strengthen their reasoning skills.

ISBN: 978-1-59102-730-0





what's online?

www.uhcl.edu/egret

STAR SCHOLARS RECOGNIZED Undergraduate student Amanda Funesti and graduate student Sara Konesheck were named the 2010 recipients of the prestigious Dr. Patricia Potter Wilson School of Education Outstanding Graduate and Undergraduate Student Scholarships. Honorees are selected based on academic achievements and demonstrated leadership capabilities. UHCL Associate Professor Emerita of Learning Resources Patricia Potter Wilson and her husband, Wendell Wilson, established the scholarship endowment 13 years ago.



Karen Barbier

FACULTY AND STAFF AWARDS Faculty, staff and retirees gathered in April for UHCL's 33rd Annual Faculty and Staff Awards Presentation. Enthusiastic applause and standing ovations recognized the many contributions of service award recipients, new retirees and distinguished award honorees.

GET THE LATEST NEWS UHCL's Office of Communications launched a new online newsroom that allows visitors to easily share articles through e-mail and social media. Readers can also subscribe to receive university news updates in their inboxes, alerts for the publishing of Egret Online, and other digital communications. The new site also features a university event calendar. University photo albums are just a click away, along with outside news stories about UHCL, and a news idea submission form.

MAX FAGET PAPERS ARCHIVED The family of Max Faget, the engineer responsible for designing the NASA Mercury capsule, has donated more than two dozen boxes of his papers, photographs, drawings and recorded memories to the university. The materials will be housed in the UHCL Archives in the Alfred R. Neumann Library as part of the Human Space Flight collection.



UHCL Archives

ARTCAMP Representatives from UHCL will return this summer to Plzen, Czech Republic, to teach at ArtCamp as part of the university's International Art Consortium. Dion McNnis, associate vice president for university advancement, will teach digital photography, and Miguel Herrera, adjunct art professor, will teach contemporary painting/mixed media with Mexican art influence. McNnis and Herrera will be joined by several UHCL students attending ArtCamp.

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE Become a fan or follow us online. Check out UHCL's page on Facebook for campus news and events, photos and contests, and on Twitter for campus updates on the go.



www.facebook.com/UHCLClearLake

www.facebook.com/UHCLPearlandCampus

www.facebook.com/UHCLAlumniAssociation

[Twitter@UHCLClearLake](https://twitter.com/UHCLClearLake)

{ noteworthy }

Services Linda Contreras Bullock was elected in February to serve as president-elect of the Texas Association of Chicanos in Higher Education. She has served on the TACHE Board for three years and has been a state and local chapter member for nine years. She also served as vice president and president of the local TACHE Houston Chapter. TACHE is a professional organization dedicated to improving education and employment opportunities for Hispanics in higher education.

TOP EDUCATOR Professor and Director of Healthcare Administration Ashish Chandra received the 2011 Federations of Business Disciplines Outstanding Educator Award from the Association of Collegiate Marketing Educators. The association is a professional marketing organization that encourages exploration and development of superior marketing practices from an academic and practitioner perspective and is an associate of Federation of Business Disciplines.

PLAY TO LEARN The Brown Foundation is funding an \$81,344 grant for the construction of a sensory playground for UHCL's Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities. The playground will be located outside of UHCL's Arbor Building.

IN MEMORY The UHCL community mourns the passing of faculty members from the School of Human Sciences and Humanities and the School of Education. Each served the university and their students with distinction, and were highly respected in their field. Clinical Associate Professor of Educational Leadership David Hicks, who joined UHCL in 1985, passed away in November 2010. Associate Professor of Literature Thomas McCall, who joined the UHCL faculty in 1991, passed away in January 2011. Professor Emeritus of Psychology Tulsi Saral, who retired in 2006 after more than 22 years of educating students, passed away in November 2010. George Trabling, who retired after more than 20 years as director of UHCL's Texas Department of Criminal Justice academics for offenders program passed away in March 2011.

Out of the classroom

The college experience, off-syllabus

Opportunities surround UHCL students and often require little more than stepping beyond the classroom into educational experiences not found on any syllabus. Comprehensive student support services are designed to enhance the academic experiences of our students at UHCL. Here, students discover that life-changing opportunities can surface at unexpected times – a project announcement during an unrelated lecture which leads to national explorations; a new personal venture introduced while planning an event; developing a marketable career before even crossing the stage at graduation. Passionate dedication driven by a strong desire to further one's self and one's learning serves as the impetus for many students to seek and embrace these opportune moments.

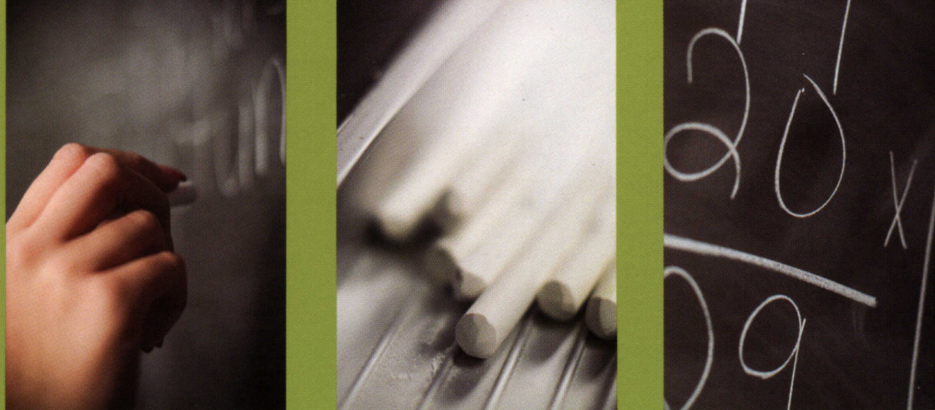


A+ educators

Research enhances
student experience

by Karen Barbier

Carrie Gass knows first
hand how graduate
students can benefit
from serving as
research assistants.



Carrie Gass makes people smile. She exudes an inherent excitement about education, commitment to excellence and willingness to learn, which makes her

choice to teach fifth-grade a perfect fit. She loves teaching at Clear Lake City Elementary, but her dream of becoming a principal as well as a nagging desire to continue learning, led Gass to UHCL in pursuit of a Master of Science in Educational Management.

Always wanting to get the most out of her pursuits, Gass didn't limit her learning experience to the classroom. Last summer, in a school law class taught by UHCL Assistant Professor of Educational Management Gary Schumacher, she learned about research he was conducting with Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership Bettye Grigsby and Assistant Professor of Research and Applied Statistics Winona Burt, and discovered a new way to add to her educational experience – serving as a research assistant.

“During my class, Dr. Schumacher mentioned that he and Drs. Grigsby and Burt were looking for a research assistant. I thought their research sounded interesting and would be something that could definitely help me if I moved into an administrative position, so I interviewed for the position and got the job,” says Gass.

The research project being conducted by the three School of Education professors will ultimately create a tool for identifying effective teachers. Phase one of the project included identifying theoretical teaching characteristics and developing a series of questions pertinent to those categories. More than 225 Clear Creek Independent School District teachers have assisted the researchers by voluntarily answering the questions. The second phase of the research will include teachers from the Pasadena Independent School District as well as two out-of-state school districts.

Once the research is complete, researchers hope to be able to create a tool that will help school districts screen applicants for teaching positions more effectively, screening not just for teacher characteristics like many of the tools in use today, but also *teaching* characteristics – or how well the teacher will teach.

With more than 200 teachers answering multiple questions, the team has a lot of data to sort through, which is where Gass helps by making the research collected more manageable.

“I take all the data collected, sort it and organize it” explains Gass. “In the first phase, I looked for recurring themes. I also researched education articles to support the findings and to help identify the questions to ask.”

“Carrie was able to assist in conducting research first hand,” adds

Burt. “Many of our master’s students learn to develop a research proposal, but few have the opportunity to carry out the research.

“I believe Carrie’s experience as a research assistant helped her concretize many of the theories she studied and read about in EDUC 6033: Research Design & Analysis.”

Gass agrees and adds that this research is of particular interest since she hopes to someday be in an administrative role, which will likely include interviewing potential teachers.

“This research will absolutely be helpful to me in my future,” asserts Gass. “We’re looking at the answers and performance in the classroom.”

Although helping her in future goals is one benefit of serving as a research assistant, other benefits can come from working in that capacity. In an article titled “Research Experience: A Ticket to Graduate School,” author Tara Kuther lists several benefits to serving as a research assistant including the opportunity to work closely with faculty members; exposure to methodological techniques that will help complete later graduate work or, possibly, a thesis; and writing and public speaking practice by submitting papers to professional conferences and journals. Likewise, the faculty benefits from research assistants like Gass.

“Research assistant positions in education are crucial,” says Burt about Gass’s role. “RAs allow faculty to conduct research with efficiency not otherwise achievable.

“I’m certain we would not have made the progress we’ve made with our current research without Carrie’s assistance. We were very fortunate to have Carrie work with us. I only wish we all had a ‘Carrie’ assigned to us regularly.”

“I would recommend everyone get involved,” says Gass, who encourages all graduate students to engage themselves at this level of the university.



Research opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students are available in many of UHCL’s 80-plus academic degree programs. UHCL also hosts an annual Student Conference for Research and Creative Arts to provide students from any college or university the opportunity to present original work in preparation for academic and professional careers. Learn more about the conference at www.uhcl.edu/researchartsconference.



Gabriel Salazar's leadership experiences have helped him discover new opportunities and explore new ways of bettering the world around him.

by Diana North

Live to lead

Life, leadership experiences guide student's path



Motivation, inspiration, community service and leadership are more than just concepts to UHCL student Gabriel Salazar. Currently pursuing his Master of

Science in Fitness and Human Performance, Salazar credits his 18 months of leadership training from The National Society of Leadership and Success and the university's Student Leadership, Involvement and Community Engagement program for enhancing his life and his work as a martial arts instructor and community volunteer.

Since joining NSLS over a year ago, Salazar has assisted officers, participated in campus fundraisers and served as alternate Student Government Association representative, while serving as a volunteer service leader. His involvement in NSLS introduced him to SLICE, which oversees the university's chapter of NSLS, and leadership and community service programs, including the Student Leadership Retreat.

"Gabe is one of those students whose life experiences — veteran, father, student, martial arts instructor for youth — have shaped him to possess such a true heart for leadership through service," says Assistant Director of Student Life Jennifer Clark.

Through his efforts with SLICE, which boasts more than 1,500 members, Salazar has found a renewed sense of purpose in his work teaching martial arts, his career and personal goals, and his service to others.

"My leadership experience has been an invaluable treasure," says Salazar. "Without it, I doubt my life would have been nearly as interesting and full of inspiring change and learning. My mistakes and failures have turned to gold when crisis became opportunity. I've learned that so long as I am breathing and have another moment to live, anything is possible."

Last November SLICE held its 14th annual leadership conference, welcoming more than 300 students and faculty from colleges and universities across Texas and Mexico. The event theme, "Eyes on the Road Ahead," saluted and raised funds for the Gulf Coast Chapter of Bikers Against Child Abuse, a local nonprofit organization that works to protect and empower abused children and their families.

As part of the conference planning team, Salazar discovered and then served as liaison with BACA's Gulf Coast Chapter, founded in 2006. Impressed by BACA's mission, Salazar invited the local group to UHCL's leadership conference. BACA representatives provided information about the organization's mission and service in Brazoria and Fort Bend counties and showed an emotionally moving video clip about their work.

BACA's presence at the conference raised almost \$1,000 for operational and programming costs, including supporting "adoption" ceremonies and events for participating children and their families, says Gulf Coast BACA President and co-founder Larry "Frosty" Renaud.

An experienced motorcycle rider, Salazar's two-tone silver and charcoal flamed design classic Harley Davidson Softail® serves as his primary mode of transportation. It's also the bike he will ride during a one-year apprenticeship required to become a "patched" member of BACA, a decision he made after the conference.

"Strong leadership is vital to our organization," says Renaud. "As a charitable organization that offers no salary or payment of any type to its membership, we need strong leadership to bring good people to the forefront and lead our chapters forward in pursuit of our mission."

Salazar looks forward to joining other members raising awareness, making home visits to present special vests to each child, providing protection when requested and escorting children and their families to court appearances.

"It's a huge commitment," Salazar says. "Once someone is assigned as a Primary, they are on call 24 hours a day."

Salazar, who received a graduate degree in behavioral science from UHCL in 2008 and plans to graduate with his second master's degree in 2012, once considered a career in counseling. Today, he shares his passion for helping others and draws on his leadership skills to teach combined traditional martial arts to adults and children at Kim Soo Karate in Houston where he has volunteered for 12 years.

"Martial arts training enables students to face their enemies daily, and the more they face them and successfully defend against imaginary enemies confidently, they are capable of changing the world around them," says Salazar.

For Salazar, NSLS videoconferences hosted by SLICE have contributed to the visual lessons and motivational techniques he brings to the martial arts *dojo*, the classroom or "place of the way."

"I want them to know when opportunity presents itself, you should take it," says Salazar. "Some kids are shy, and I want them to learn to stand up and seize opportunity."

Although Salazar began acquiring his leadership skills early in life, he credits his education and active role in university leadership with his effectiveness as a teacher.

"I left my ego outside with my shoes, bowed humbly and served my school by serving its students," says Salazar. "I've helped people find their strength within and have motivated them to independently bring it out and to share it with the world around them."



UHCL's Office of Student Life provides a range of services, programming and leadership training for students to enhance their academic experience as well as their personal, social and intellectual development. Learn more at www.uhcl.edu/studentlife.

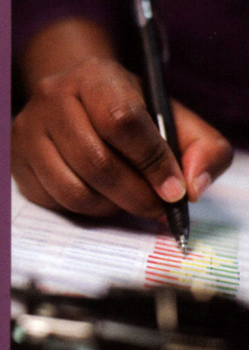
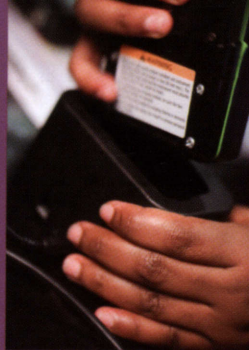
Debora Berhane-Mersha's goal is to work for a large company with a strong safety culture. She knows she'll be ready because of the experience gained in her internship at JK Inc.

by Karen Barbier

An air of experience

Internship gives student confidence





Undergraduate student Debora Berhane-Mersha knew from the very beginning of her educational career at UHCL that she wanted more than an education. She also

wanted a skill – a transferrable skill that would take her directly from a classroom into a career. Although she drives past three other universities on her way to UHCL from her home in southwest Houston, she does so with a purpose to get the most from an education.

“I chose UHCL because it was the best university for me,” says Berhane-Mersha. “It’s smaller, but it has great quality, and I wanted a high-quality student experience.”

She adds that it also had the field she was exploring in environmental science and, in particular, industrial hygiene and safety. Once at UHCL, she was not disappointed.

“I wanted a marketable field,” explains Berhane-Mersha. “I wasn’t aware at first how ‘hot’ the market was for environmental science, but I see that it is now. It’s a specialized field and awareness of it is growing as we become more environmentally conscious.”

Berhane-Mersha wanted hands-on experience, which led her to sign up for the internship program during the fall 2010 semester. UHCL’s internship programs are coordinated through its individual academic departments to ensure students gain relevant experience. The environmental science degree program in which Berhane-Mersha is enrolled requires students to work at least 80 hours in their chosen field.

Her internship was with JK Inc., an occupational health, safety and environmental consulting firm that provides recognized practices and procedures to identify potential hazards, conduct exposure assessments, assess risks and recommend appropriate controls. It was the perfect fit for Berhane-Mersha.

JK Inc. is contracted by companies in a wide range of fields to study indoor air quality and monitor noise levels. Berhane-Mersha, an enthusiastic fan of the company, explains that the small company has been in business for more than 23 years and that it is well-known for its work, both in type of work and quality.

“Most of what you learn is through books,” she says. “But this internship shows that I can handle projects and makes me more confident about what I’m doing because I know I can do it. It gave me the hands-on experience I was seeking.”

“For JK Inc., Debora Berhane-Mersha was very open to learning about industrial hygiene field consulting activities involving several site monitoring efforts,” says JK Inc. owner and president Jan Koehn. “She assisted with chemical and noise monitoring at an OSHA Voluntary Protection Program workplace for a client in November 2010.

“She helped record the plant noise map data documentation. She also performed other local indoor air quality monitoring projects

and obtained a better understanding of industrial hygiene.”

About her internship duties, Berhane-Mersha explains that she would accompany her mentor at a facility and using specialized monitoring equipment, would assist in air samplings and noise monitoring, depending on the environment. After gathering the samples, she would download and log the information. Reports were then prepared for the client.

Working with Koehn has been an added plus for Berhane-Mersha.

“She is very patient and recommends books and other resources to help you succeed,” says Berhane-Mersha of her mentor. “She is very professional and provides an internship that is very conducive to learning.”

“Internships have become a very important element of academic preparation for professional and technical job positions in the related fields of health and safety,” says Koehn, who serves as an adjunct lecturer for UHCL’s School of Science and Computer Engineering.

“Completing an internship within an occupational workplace allows the student to further apply technical knowledge learned in the classroom as well as obtain ‘real world’ field site experience.”

It also starts the networking process, which Koehn states, “appears to become imperative to a successful career path in environmental sciences.”

A better understanding of verbal and written communication skills, interaction with a wide background of personnel in various workplace settings, and awareness of work flow and procedures to start and finish job assignments are three other attributes of internships, Koehn adds, all of which Berhane-Mersha appreciated during her experience. Fortunately, her internship also developed into post-internship freelance work, with Berhane-Mersha being called in to work on special projects through JK Inc.

“The internship not only gives a student experience, but it also gives them confidence in an interview,” says Berhane-Mersha, who plans to graduate with her Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science in August and begin the master’s program in the fall.

“When employers see that confidence, they know they are going to get an experienced employee.”



UHCL offers a variety of experiential learning options, including internships and cooperative education. Learn more at www.uhcl.edu/careerservices or the web pages for individual academic programs.

What the world needs now

UHCL grad turns internship into world-changing career

by Karen Barbier

It was a dream job opportunity and a chance to return to a former home. It became a career. These are attributes of a good internship opportunity that UHCL alumna Lily Schwabe experienced on her journey to a new profession. Now serving as a United Nations representative for the Temple for Understanding in New York City, Schwabe credits her UHCL education and subsequent internship at the temple for helping her reach her career goals.

“I had raised my kids and decided to go back to school,” says the 52-year-old mother of three, who received her Master of Arts in Cross-Cultural Studies at UHCL in 2009. “I applied for this internship at the Temple of Understanding while completing my coursework, and decided that it was the one for me.”

“Internships are very important opportunities for sociology and cross-cultural studies students because they are a way to directly apply what they have learned in the classroom,” says Associate Professor of Sociology Mike McMullen. “Both disciplines are built around theoretical understanding as well as practical skills, and

an internship is a way to immediately apply what you know, and reflect on the impact of what you do.”

Schwabe would agree that the internship did just that.

An East Coast native, Schwabe relocated to Texas in 2006 and started building a life, which included returning to school. She learned about the Temple of Understanding internship through one of her friends and decided it would be a great opportunity. After Hurricane Ike “shifted her life” and destroyed her house in Houston, she realized, too, that there was nothing holding her in Texas.

“I was, basically, homeless,” says Schwabe.

Once she arrived in New York City, Schwabe says that she was fortunate enough to intern with Sister Joan Kirby, who was well connected to world leaders and human rights activists alike. Schwabe was introduced to such leaders as the President of the General Assembly Miguel d’Escoto Brockmann and Nobel Laureate Wangari Maathai. In her role as an intern, she helped



Photos courtesy of Lily Schwabe





3

3A



4

4A

with various UN programs that address women's issues, financial crises, climate change, interreligious dialogue and many other concerns around the world.

Leaders of the Temple for Understanding valued Schwabe's contributions as an intern and asked her to join their staff. "I had made myself indispensable," she says with a chuckle.

Her job requires her to work with a number of non-governmental organizations to help bring attention to the causes that change the world. For instance, in 2009 and 2010, she met with other civil societies, scientists, UN bodies and member states to discuss climate change during the United Nations Framework on Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark, and Cancun, Mexico, respectively. She adds sympathetically that while it might be an important issue for all of us, "climate change really affects the poorest and the most vulnerable," pointing to the issues related to Hurricanes Katrina and Ike.

In March 2011 Schwabe lent her talents to the 55th Session

on the Commission of the Status of Women at United Nations Headquarters in New York and offered an event for attendees, "Green Women's Economy: Creating a Sustainable Bronx." Events like these and many others give Schwabe an opportunity to create awareness on a variety of dilemmas facing the world today using best practices, lessons learned and concrete action plans with real solutions for the international community.

Schwabe believes UHCL gave her a solid foundation and points to two events during her time at the university for helping prepare her for her current work – study trips to Egypt and Turkey. She adds that while these trips were "life-changing," so were the UHCL professors who planned the trips: McMullen, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Cross-Cultural Studies Maria Curtis, and Associate Professor of Anthropology Christine Kovic.

"Who you are around inspires you," says Schwabe. "The professors at UHCL inspired me. When people talk the talk and walk the walk, they change lives."



4

4

4A

CAREER RESOURCES

UHCL's Office of Career Services assists UHCL students while enrolled at the university and after graduation, too.

Home to a variety of resources, the office provides alumni job seekers with opportunities for one-on-one career counseling and résumé assistance as well as career fairs. The Office of Career Services hosts free networking receptions, bringing together students, alumni and employers who share a common field, and hosts two semi-annual job fairs: one focused on Gulf Coast careers and one geared toward teachers.

Local employers find resources through the UHCL Office of Career Services with locations for on-campus interviews, résumé exchanges and recruitment opportunities.

OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES
Student Services and
Classroom Building
Room 3109
www.uhcl.edu/careerservices
281-283-2590



GROWING RELATIONSHIPS

BY TARYN CORNELIUS

PTP NEW MEDIA, created and run by UHCL alumnus James Robert Lay, is home to four other UHCL alumni who design unique marketing media for credit unions across the nation and beyond. Pictured, l to r, are Mandy Dixon, Aaron Mireles, Lay, Jenn Wade and Nida Ajaz.

American publicist Bruce Barton once said, “Most successful men have not achieved their distinction by having some new talent or opportunity presented to them. They have developed the opportunity that was at hand.”

In 2002, James Robert Lay chose the right opportunity to cultivate when he realized “this whole web thing could catch on.” Lay planted the seed for PTP NEW MEDIA, a company dedicated to designing and redeveloping websites.

Two years later, while working on his bachelor’s degree in management information systems, he hosted a booth at a UHCL career fair. At the fair, Lay’s chance encounter with Johnson Space Center Federal Credit Union Vice President of Marketing Thomas Hast led to the discovery of his business niche. Hast had mentioned needing to redevelop the credit union’s website and Lay followed up a few weeks later.

“I didn’t know what credit unions were. I just thought they were banks,” says Lay. “Instead, credit unions offer a banking alternative built around the community and people helping people. Suddenly I learned business doesn’t have to be about the big bad corporate.”

Lay spent the next few years growing his business while completing his bachelor’s degree in 2004 and his Master of Business Administration in 2006 – both from UHCL. A couple of years after attaining his MBA, Lay was at a Starbucks in Pasadena,



Texas, brainstorming ideas for marketing an alumni mixer for the Southwest CUNA Management School. The event marketing campaign quickly blossomed into a new venture. Lay saw the need for helping connect credit unions and created CU Grow, a subset of PTP NEW MEDIA that focuses on innovation, communication and collaboration within the credit union movement.

CU Grow started as a blog offering candid online video interviews, interactive websites and viral videos geared for credit union-related audiences. Last year, representatives for CU Grow attended 30 credit union conferences across the nation.

Today, the PTP NEW MEDIA office brims with social media, graphics, videos and t-shirts. The team of seven – five of whom are UHCL alumni – launched CU*SWAG, a t-shirt line, in 2010 to promote credit unions through the creative use of established, recognizable designs that play on pop culture themes.

Lay hasn't forgotten his alma mater though. Whenever possible he volunteers to speak to students and alumni. One such presentation introduced him to PTP NEW MEDIA's Tailor of Conversation Nida Ajaz.

While working on her MBA at UHCL, Ajaz attended Lay's presentation. Intrigued by his business repertoire, she waited more than an hour to speak with him. A year and a half later, she jokes about how each alumnus has a great story of how they ended up

with the company, similar to the television show "Lost" and its theme of "why were we chosen?"

Lay doesn't pause when answering that question. "There's so much rich talent at UHCL."

At UHCL career fair panel discussions, Lay's bright t-shirts, faded denim and the occasional blazer are in stark contrast to the suits and ties worn by other employers. It can pay to stand out. Mulcher of Marketing Aaron Mireles and Cultivator of Brands Jenn Wade both made their career connections by talking with PTP NEW MEDIA employees during career fairs at UHCL. Germinator of Social Media Mandy Dixon joined the team after stumbling across the company's videos on YouTube and contacting Lay. The newest alumnus on the team, Dixon was hired during summer 2010. Lay hopes to bring two more alumni to the team next year.

Since Lay first launched PTP NEW MEDIA from a computer in his parents' bedroom almost a decade ago, he has seen many changes. The company has worked with more than 120 credit unions in five countries and has sold more than 20,000 t-shirts. Lay hopes that within the next three years the company will have sold one million of the edgy walking billboards. Known as the company's Grower of Relationships, this UHCL alumnus not only found a way to tailor his education to his aspirations, but also found a way to cultivate the dreams of his fellow alumni.



1970s

Harry Hanson, '79 BS, retired after 27 years with the College of the Mainland. He currently lives in Onalaska, Texas.

Joan Malmrose, '79 MS, works for Stafford Municipal School District in the Federal Programs Department.

John D. Morris, '77 MA, retired as executive director of Discovery Living Inc. in Cedar Rapids, Ind.

1980s

H. Marguerite Baxter, '84 MS, is an ESL instructor for the Harris County Department of Education. She received a 2010 travel scholarship from Delta Kappa Gamma to visit the Indian Pueblos of New Mexico.

Ricky Clifton, '80 BS, was recently appointed general manager for Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority.

Ellois Jane Frantz, '82 MA, retired from Galena Park Independent School District.

Robert Lynch, '82 BS, teaches bilingual math, computer programming and computer technical skills at John F. Kennedy High School for Paterson Public Schools in Paterson, N.J. He and his wife recently opened TechNett Computer Services Inc. in Windham, N.Y.

Mary Raffetto, '86 BS, is celebrating 20 years as legal assistant to the managing partner for Williams Kherkher Hart Boundas Law Firm, Houston.



Gerald Winslow, '84 BS, received a graduate degree in mathematics from University of Houston in August 2010.

1990s

Lyvier Leffler Aschenbrenner, '92 MS, is an associate dean at Indian Hills Community College, and lives in Eddyville, Iowa.

Eric Bruns, '92 MA, is an associate professor of psychology at Campbellsville University. He is a member of the American Psychological Association and the Kentucky Psychological Association.



Peter Edwards, '96 BA, '90 BA, received a Ph.D. from North Dakota State

University and is the principal staff research and development engineer at Lake Region Medical in Chaska, Minn.

Angela Jones, '91 BA, is a family readiness support assistant for the U.S. Department of Defense.

Mae Mangieri, '94 BS, works for NASA Shared Services Center as a communication specialist at the Stennis Space Center in Mississippi. She and her family live in Mandeville, La.

Mike Martindale, '96 MS, was named principal of College Station High School. He has been with College Station ISD since 2007.

Beverly Nashold, '94 MA, is an adjunct instructor at San Jacinto College.

Jimmy Simien, '94 BS, is the owner of Simien Properties, an independent real estate brokerage firm in the Clear Lake area.



Stephanie Weaver, '96 BS, was one of three finalists in Texas nominated for the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

Michael V. Wright, '99 BS, is a senior polymer chemist at H.B. Fuller Co. in St. Paul, Minn.



2000s

Shahab Dean Aslinia, '07 MA, received a Ph.D. in Counseling from Texas A&M University in December 2010. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in psychology and counseling at two universities and operates a private counseling psychotherapy office in the Dallas Metroplex.

Christopher Briggs, '02 MS, works for Hamilton Sundstrand Management Services as a structures test and analysis section manager.

Apurva Char, '06 MA, and her husband, Anand, had a baby girl, Madhavi, on Aug. 26, 2010.

Shannon McGraw Deitz, '01 MA, wrote "EXPOSED: Inexcusable Me ... Irreplaceable Him," which was nominated for the Evangelical Christian Publisher Association Christian Book of the Year Award.

Patricia Dixon, '10 MA, who is currently pursuing a Stegner Writing

Fellowship to Stanford University, has had her book, "Praise is What I Do: Psalms for the Modern Soul," published.

Suzy Domingo, '00 BS, has been named executive director of Interfaith Caring Ministries.



Oommen Eapen, '09 BS, '06 BS, works at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center as a business systems analyst.

Seth Frey, '06 MHA/MBA, is the program administrator for Ventura County Medical Center. He lives in southern California with his wife and son.

Joseph J. Hamilton, '05 MS, is the emergency medical technology department chair for San Jacinto College Central. He was recently honored with the 2010 EMS Educator Award.

Joshua Kozel, '08 BS, is a technical reporting analyst at Transocean Ltd.

Maria Cuello Lee, '08 MHA, '05 BS, is employed by The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston.

Sylvia Linares, '05 MA, works for the Brazoria County Community Supervision and Corrections Department.

Lori Lopez, '00 BBA, and her husband, Michael, welcomed baby girl Alexis Renee on July 16, 2010. She was recently promoted to assistant director of admissions at UHCL.

Amanda Martin, '10 BS, is currently attending law school at St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas, and works for Select Energy as an accounting clerk.

Veronika Minor, '09 MA, was recently sworn in as a police officer for the Deer Park Police Department, Deer Park.

Terra Mynhier, '05 BS, welcomed twin baby girls Morgan Shayne and Harper Nicole on Oct. 4, 2010.

George Onofre, '08 BA, works for Petrotechnics as a training consultant.

Andrew Pegoda, '08 BA, works for Brazosport College as a technical specialist and coordinator/trainer in transitional education. He also teaches history and transitional education courses. Additionally, he is pursuing a doctorate in civil rights history and education at UH.



Karen L Ramirez, '07 BA, is teaching high school in Brazosport ISD.

Kelley Reid, '10 MA, is the accreditation coordinator for the UHCL Police Department.

Jody Schmitt, '06 BS, married Jeff Cone on July 31, 2010. She teaches kindergarten in Goose Creek Consolidated ISD and lives in Baytown.

Paul Shank, '01 MBA, has completed a Ph.D. in Business, specializing in leadership and change management.

Grant Wheat, '07 BS, is a certified public accountant.

Tammi Wilhelm, '04 MS, is principal for Robert E. King Elementary in Katy ISD.

John Williams, '02 MBA, '93 BBA, is the director of Global QHSE for INOVA Geophysical in Stafford.

Sheera Winn, '09 BS, works for Lee College as project secretary for the High Growth, High Energy Grant.

Brandy Wright, '02 BS, is a teacher in Tarkington ISD.



In Memory

Dawn Bilbrey, '01 BS, passed away September 2010.

Bundy K. Bowers, '08 BA, passed away February 2011.

Truvey Lynn Fielder, '88 BBA, passed away January 2011.

Jane't M. Lattimore, '06 BS, passed away February 2011.

Trina E. Shaw, '82 MS, passed away January 2011.

Submit your items to Class Notes by sending an e-mail with "Class Notes" in the subject line to alumni@uhcl.edu or by completing the online form at www.uhcl.edu/alumni. Be sure to note your full name, class year and contact information with your update. You also may mail your submission to Class Notes, UH-Clear Lake, Office of Alumni and Community Relations, 2700 Bay Area Blvd., UHCL Box 318, Houston, TX 77058.

{ get involved }



Reconnect with former classmates and the university community by getting involved with the UHCL Alumni Association. You're invited to be part of another year of exciting events and programs. Make plans now to attend the next association committee meeting that interests you. For details or to reserve your spot at the meeting, contact Coordinator of Outreach and Communications Mindi Funderburg at 281-283-2041 or funderburg@uhcl.edu.

AAEC AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Alumni Association Executive Council and its committees for Alumni Events, Alumni Acknowledgement/Community Outreach, Constituent Relations, and Education and Career Connections meet quarterly. For specific meeting details, visit www.uhcl.edu/alumnirelations/Alumni_Events.

MAY 19 – 4-5 p.m., Committee Meetings; 5-7 p.m., AAEC Meeting

AUG. 18 – 4-5 p.m., Committee Meetings; 5-7 p.m., AAEC Meeting

NOV. 17 – 4-5 p.m., Committee Meetings; 5-7 p.m., AAEC Meeting

KEY ALUMNI EVENTS

JULY 16 – 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., UHCL Alumni Association Summer Planning Retreat

OCT. 1 – 6:30-9 p.m., UHCL Alumni Celebration, South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center

ENTER TO WIN AN IPAD

Go digital with the UHCL Alumni Association. Visit www.uhcl.edu/alumnicontest today to update your contact information and request digital newsletters such as the newly redesigned eConnections and Your UHCL, event announcements, association updates and more. If you sign up by June 15, you'll be automatically entered to win a free iPad!

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

Become a fan of the UHCL Alumni Association page to view photos of recent alumni events, stay informed about upcoming events, learn interesting facts and news about your alma mater and reconnect with your fellow alumni. Visit www.facebook.com/UHCLAlumniAssociation today.

Through August 19

Fall 2011 Open Registration. 281-283-2500.

May 5

"The Archeology of the Mexican Army," by Dr. Gregg Dimmick, author. CLASP "Visions in our Midst" Distinguished Speaker Series, 5:30-7 p.m., Bayou Building, Garden Room. 281-283-2021.

May 6

"My Beloved Friend: The Letters of Abigail and John Adams," dramatic reading by Nancy and Walt Hansen, compiled and narrated by Betty Crockford. CLASP Daytime Speaker Series, 10:30 a.m. – noon, Freeman Branch Library, Houston. 281-283-2021.

May 9

"Trends in American Religion," by John McMullen, UHCL associate professor. CLASP Daytime Speaker Series, 9:30-11 a.m., Melvin Knapp Center, Pearland. 281-283-2021.

May 13

Commencement Kick-Off, 5:30-7 p.m., Bayou Building, Atrium I and Garden Room. 281-283-2021.

May 13

"Mozart's Requiem," by Mercury Baroque Ensemble, 8 p.m., Bayou Building, Bayou Theater. 281-283-2560.

MAY 24

"Another Great Day in CCISD – Celebrating Sandra Mossman," event honoring Distinguished Alumna Sandra Mossman through the establishment of an endowment, 5:30-7 p.m., Bayou Building, Atrium II. 281-283-2021.

June 1

Fall 2011 application deadline for international students. 281-283-2500.

June 2

New International Student Orientation for summer semester students. Registration required. 281-283-2575, iiss@uhcl.edu.

June 2

New Student Orientation for summer semester students, 6-8 p.m. Registration recommended. 281-283-2560, orientation@uhcl.edu.

June 6

Summer I application deadline for domestic students. 281-283-2500.

June 6 – July 29

Kids U Summer Camps: Gifted Academy, Language Camp, Science Camp, Math Camp, Young Writer's Camp, Technology Camp and World Explorer's Camp. 281-283-3530.

June 6 – August 26

"UHCL Graduate Student Exhibition," Bayou Building, Art Gallery. 281-283-3311.

July 11

Summer II application deadline for domestic students. 281-283-2500.

August 1

Fall 2011 application deadline for new graduate students. 281-283-2500.

August 8

Fall 2011 priority application deadline for new undergraduate students. 281-283-2500.

August 13

New Student Orientation, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Registration recommended. 281-283-2560, orientation@uhcl.edu.

August 18

New International Student Orientation, 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Registration required. 281-283-2575, iiss@uhcl.edu.

AUGUST 18

New Student Orientation for fall semester, UHCL Pearland Campus, 6-8 p.m. Registration recommended. 281-283-2560, orientation@uhcl.edu.

August 23 – September 24

NASA images exhibit celebrating the 30-year legacy of the space shuttle program, featuring images from all 135 shuttle missions. Bayou Building, Atrium II, Levels I, II and III. 281-283-2021.

September 12 – October 27

"Lone Star College CyFair Faculty Exhibition," Bayou Building, Art Gallery. 281-283-3311.

September 13-15

Fall 2011 Career Week. 281-283-2590, jobfair@uhcl.edu.

September 21

Gulf Coast Job Fair, Bayou Building, Atrium I. 281-283-2590, jobfair@uhcl.edu.

OCTOBER 1

UHCL Alumni Celebration, 6:30 p.m., South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center. 281-283-2021.

October 1

UHCL Fall Open House. Event registration recommended. 281-283-2515.

October 1

Spring 2012 application deadline for international students. 281-283-2500.

November 3

Fall 2011 Teacher Job Fair, 12:30-2:30 p.m., Bayou Building, Atrium I. 281-283-2590, jobfair@uhcl.edu.

November 5

15th Annual Student Leadership Conference, Bayou Building. 281-283-2611.

November 11

Annual Veterans Day Celebration, 10:30 a.m., Liberty Park. 281-283-2024.

November 11 – January 13, 2012

Spring 2012 Open Registration. 281-283-2500.

November 14 – January 20

"Campeche," Photography by Van Edwards and poetry by Joshua Edwards, Bayou Building, Art Gallery. 281-283-3311.

Find more UHCL events at www.uhcl.edu/events.

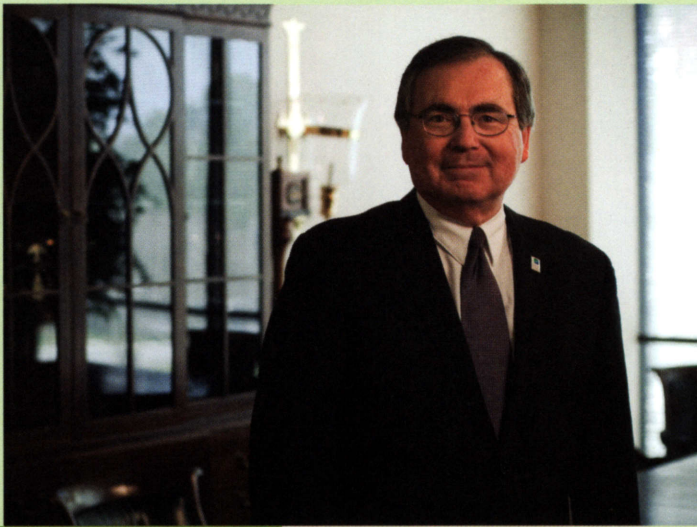
Dates and times are subject to change; please confirm event details by calling the telephone number listed or visiting UHCL's website at www.uhcl.edu. Individuals who wish to participate in any of the events listed and who need special accommodations to do so, should contact the university's American Disabilities Act coordinator at 281-283-2626 at least two weeks before the date of the event.



university of houston-clear lake

donor honor roll

spring 2011



At University of Houston-Clear Lake, we recognize and celebrate the many individuals, foundations and organizations, who through their gifts provide opportunities for success to so many students.

Recent successes at UH-Clear Lake include record-breaking enrollment and national recognition. In fall 2010, UHCL experienced the highest enrollment in its 37-year history with a total of 8,099 students including the 530 enrolled at the newly opened UHCL Pearland Campus. In addition, UHCL was officially designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution by the Hispanic Association

of Colleges and Universities. The university continues to award more than 2,000 degrees each year, and consistently receives high marks in survey responses from graduating students regarding their experience at UHCL.

Your contributions come at a crucial time. Despite the wide-ranging effects of the economic downturn, UHCL's commitment to its students combined with your support allows us to continue offering tuition and fee rates below the state average while sustaining excellence in academic programs and student services.

In March, it was my pleasure to present the 2011 President's Cabinet Philanthropy Award to Verva Densmore. A UHCL alumna twice over (she earned Bachelor and Master of Arts in Literature in 1993 and 1996, respectively), she has been providing financial support to the university for the past 17 years. Her commitment to education and her gifts to UHCL have helped others reach their educational goals. I applaud her unwavering dedication.

To all UHCL supporters, I would like to say "Thank You!" Your generosity helps ensure the success of the university and its students, faculty, staff and alumni.

William A. Staples

William A. Staples
President

President's Cabinet

President's Inner Circle \$5,000

Cindy and Jamie Davis
Verva Densmore
Sue and Chuck Fellman
Karen Friedman
Debra and Mark Grandjean
Sheryl Lightfoot Johns
Iris Mills
Stephanie and David Palmer
Camille and Bill Shock
Charles South
Kathy Tamer
Ann and Dick Trask
Sherry and Mark Weesner
Bea and Bob Zaring

President's Round Table \$1,000-4,999

Mary Ainslie
Melodee and Darrell Alexander
Pam Barton
Susan and Jim Benson
Darlene Biggers
Jason Bradt
Terry Brandhorst
June and Paul Bruder
Joan and Sam Bruno
Regina Callaghan
Carol Carman and Robert Bartsch
Patsy Carnes
Patricia and Stephen Chazen
Bill Chen

Peggy and Jerry Clause
Sandra and Sonny Colley
Edwin Cooper
Allison and Craig Cordola
Glenna and George Crist
Ulani and Walt Dannenberg
Melissa and David Disiere
Emmeline Dodd and Gene Hollier
Jill Fields
Sue and Jack Garman
Estella and Peter Gillette
Marcie Goss
Lynette and Dick Gregg Jr.
Deborah and Michael Griffin
Fran and Hank Hartsfield
Sonia Hernandez

ON THE COVER: 2011 UHCL President's Cabinet Philanthropy Award honoree Verva Densmore believes in the value of education and in UHCL. While a UHCL student pursuing Bachelor and Master of Arts in Literature in 1993 and 1996, respectively, she began making annual gifts to the university. During the past 17 years, her generosity has assisted students to reach their educational goals and helped inspire others to contribute toward the success of future UHCL graduates.

Norma Hightower
 Peggy and Alan Hill
 Susan and Lee Holmes
 Rebecca Huss-Keeler and
 Terry Keeler
 Rochelle and Alan Jacobson
 Sandy and Doug Johnson
 Libby and Michael Jones
 Anne and Robert Kasten
 Delena and James Robert Lay
 Marilyn Lunney
 Martha and Kemp Maer Jr.
 Tara Silver-Malyska and
 Robert Malyska
 Yuvaraj Mani
 Alice and Dan Martin
 Suzanne and Jan Mathes
 Nolie and David Mayo
 Kimberly and Dion McInnis
 Gretchen and Peter Mieszkowski
 Ben Mieszkuc
 Leslye and Mike Mize
 Sandra and Gary Mossman
 Patricia and Robert Nossov
 Sarah and Patrick Olfers
 Laura Oren and Bruce Palmer
 Rosalind and Frank Perez
 Jana and Steve Phelps
 Kathy and Mike Reeves
 Jane and Robert Reeves
 Becky Reitz and John Gay
 Gina Rizzo

Linda Wooten Robinson
 Marion Seymour
 Marilyn and Charles Sims
 Nancy and Jerry Smith
 Rebecca Smith
 Galina and Christopher Sower
 Jay and Dennis Spuck
 Darlene and Bill Staples
 Cecile and Jerry Strickland
 Joanne Timm and Jim Duke
 Josephine Tittsworth
 Gwen Uman
 Chris Wagner
 Frances Weeks
 Marlene Wilcox
 Pat and Wendell Wilson
 Ann and Mike Wismer-Landolt

Alumni and Community Partners

\$500-999

Robert Altus Jr.
 Jean and Rodger Carr
 Livia and Arch Erich
 Gail and Robert Finley
 John Gilmore
 Sandra and Gerald Griffin
 Tery and Miguel Hernandez Jr.
 Lori and James Hood
 Jerry Jones
 Carolyn and Matthew Legg

Dorothea Lerman and
 Robert Dempsey
 Houston Lowe
 Margaret and Michael McDermott
 Shannon Payne
 Becky Schergens and John Kinsey
 Steven Schlesinger
 Mary Ann and Bill Shallberg
 Margaret and Gregory Slutz
 Mary Wegmann and Andrew Taylor
 Selina and Stephen Wilbur
 Susan Williams

\$250-499

Darlene and Arnold Adair
 Ed Altemus
 Betty Bludworth
 Carol Bornstein and Gene Ungar
 Laura Bradley
 Rebecca Brady and William Sallee
 Katherine Briggs
 Eve Chen
 Ruth Cohen
 Dorcas and David Collins
 Carmen and Raymond Conley
 Stephen Costello
 Stephen Cotton
 Jeffrey Cullen
 Casey Cundieff
 Julie Dienno-Demarest
 Sonja and James Fairbanks
 Tina and Terry Farrell

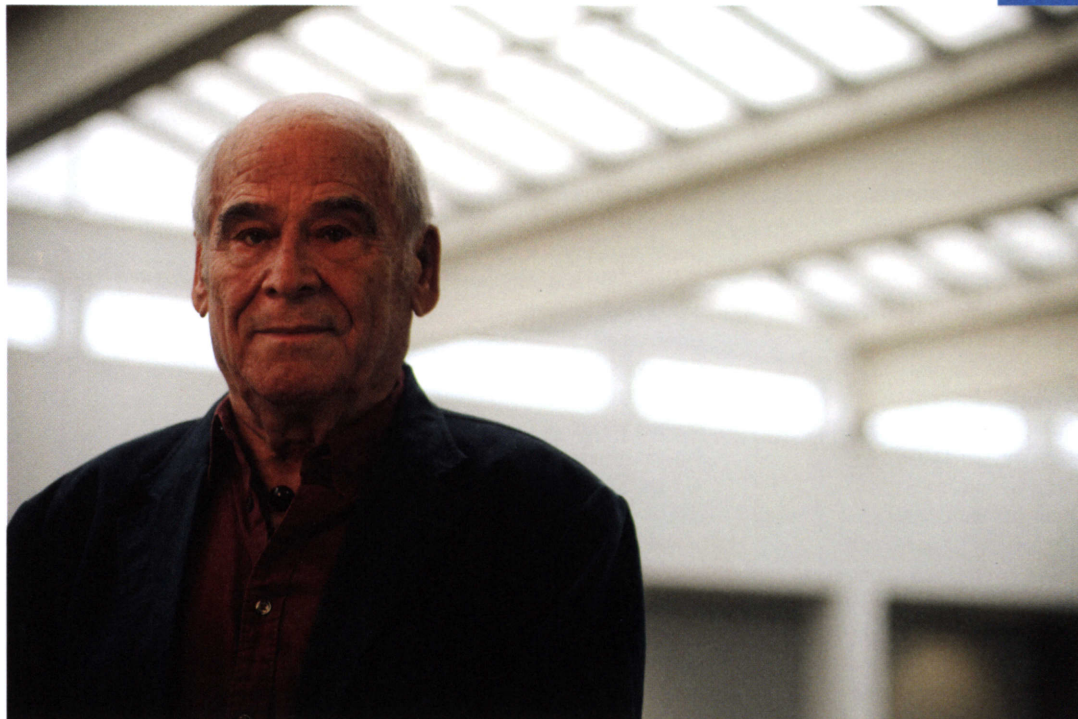
Karen and David Fiscus
 Matthew Fondren
 Laura and David Fulton
 Joan and Paul Hitz
 Cindy Howard
 Veena Kaul
 Nancy Keese
 Cecilia Kouns
 Pei-Chen Lee
 PauleAnne and Richard Lewis
 Harry Little III
 Karen and Roger May
 Theresa and Cyril Mickiewicz
 Christine and Michael Nicosia
 Camille and Christopher Peres
 Lynn and Mark Pickett

Financial support offers many students hope in attaining their educational goals. Pictured, from left, are Adrienne Vasquez, clinical psychology graduate student and recipient of the Hilary Jo Karp & Charles Edward South Psychology Scholarship; Jim Huynh, legal studies undergraduate student and recipient of The Honorable Russell P. Austin Endowment for Legal Studies Scholarship; and Keith Lee, fitness and human performance undergraduate student and recipient of the UHCL Veterans Scholarship.



Donors' generosity can secure the future success of UHCL while making a lasting tribute to colleagues and loved ones.

Longtime university friend Ben Mieszkuc honored the memory of his wife, Marilyn, and their daughter, Eve, through the creation of the Marilyn Mieszkuc Memorial Professorship Endowment and the Eve Mieszkuc Memorial Scholarship Endowment.



Crystal and Allan Plumb
 Carole Poindexter-Sylvers
 Theresa and Terry Presswood
 Keith Ruether
 Gregory Scoggin
 Rebecca Sellers
 Jayme and Billy Smith
 Margaret and Greg Smith
 Maria and Douglas Steel
 Nancy and David Weise
 Mary and Terry Williams
 Susan Williams
 Camber and Paul Willingham
 Nancy Wright
 Jing and Xiao Zhao

Entergy Corp.
 Exxon Mobil Corp.
 Fred and Mabel R. Parks Foundation
 George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation
 Greater Texas Foundation
 Gulf Coast Educators Federal Credit Union
 Houston Arts Alliance
 Institute of Interfaith Dialog
 Jacobs Technology
 Kinder Morgan Foundation
 PBK Inc.
 Rice University
 Society of Petroleum Engineers
 The Fondren Foundation
 The Lubrizol Foundation
 The Simmons Foundation
 United Space Alliance

Fiesta Mart Inc.
 French American Cultural Exchange
 GB Tech Inc.
 Alice Taylor Gray Foundation
 HCA Gulf Coast Region
 HEB Tournament of Champions Charitable Trust
 Hegwood and Associates P. C.
 International Connections of Houston
 JSC Federal Credit Union
 Ladies Philoptohos Society of St. John the Theologian
 Lunar Rendezvous Festival Inc.
 McDermott International Inc.
 Spectrum of Hope LLC
 Star Toyota
 Texas Association of Environmental Professionals
 The Samuels Foundation

Beacon Federal Credit Union
 CenterPoint Energy
 Fastsigns-Clear Lake
 Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority
 Phillips & Musgrave Fine Art
 Texas Association of Environmental Education
 The Arts Alliance Center at Clear Lake
 UH-Clear Lake Support Staff Association

The honor roll includes contributors whose gifts were received in 2010. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy and completeness of this list. In instances of omission or misidentification, please report corrections to the Office of University Advancement at 281-283-2021 or gifts@uhcl.edu.

Corporate and Foundation Partners

\$5,000+

Barrios Technology Ltd.
 Beckman Coulter
 Bestcare Laboratory Services Inc.
 Chemical Research and Licensing
 Coca-Cola
 Eastman Chemical Co.
 Enbridge Energy Partners

\$1,000-4,999

American Acryl
 Association of Business and Professional Women
 B & N College Booksellers
 Canon Envirothon
 CHRISTUS Health

\$500-999

Associaton of Texas Soil and Water Conservation District
 Bay Area Association of Democratic Women
 Bay Area Network Mental Health Providers

Support your university

UHCL's engagement with the communities it serves is aided by university friends who contribute financially to scholarship programs, faculty development, research opportunities and campus enhancements. Donors' generosity can secure the university's future for many years to come.

Help strengthen the university's ability to serve students and generate funds for specific initiatives by contacting the Office of University Advancement at 281-283-2021 or gifts@uhcl.edu.



University
 of Houston
 Clear Lake

2700 Bay Area Blvd.
 Houston, Texas 77058
www.uhcl.edu

Save the Date

ALUMNI CELEBRATION OCTOBER 1, 2011

JOIN FRIENDS IN A CELEBRATION OF UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON-CLEAR LAKE ALUMNI AND PROFESSORS
AND THE DIFFERENCE THEY ARE MAKING IN OUR COMMUNITY AND IN OUR WORLD.



University of Houston  Clear Lake

Egret
2700 Bay Area Boulevard
Houston, Texas 77058

Change service requested

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HOUSTON, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 1506



discover
egret
ONLINE 

www.uhcl.edu/egret

Subscribe using your smartphone's
QR code reader to receive email
alerts when the latest issue of
Egret Online is published.

