

e

E G R E T

**inside:**

- from intern to employee
- learning in the middle
- donor honor roll



# Welcoming the Future

UHCL prepares for its first freshman class



Improving lives in the Clear Lake area since the early 1960s, the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce assisted in building a prosperous and active community to allow residents to succeed. The chamber's objectives are clear: to promote the cultural, educational, civic, commercial, industrial and general development of the Clear Lake area; to aid in the development of all legitimate enterprise designed for the betterment of the area; and to foster community harmony.

It is that first objective which has resulted in the successful relationship between the chamber and UHCL, and the one that led UHCL to present the chamber with the 2013 Community Partnership Award.

"UHCL provides quality education resulting in a vibrant workforce. The leadership at UHCL listened to the business community's employee requirements and structured the degree paths accordingly," says Chamber President and Chief Executive Officer Cindy Harreld.

Led by a 21-member board of directors, the chamber and its member companies participate in making the area a better place to live by attracting and retaining businesses. The chamber was founded in 1962 by the merger of the Seabrook and Kemah Chambers of Commerce, and has grown to include nine communities in the Clear Lake area.

"The Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce and UHCL have partnered in numerous ways since the university's founding in 1974," says UHCL President William A. Staples. "The chamber's active support of our four-year initiative and other legislative matters has been crucial to the university's growth and development."



Beryl Striewski

**{ partners in our success }**

The Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce was awarded the 2013 Community Partnership Award by UHCL. Pictured (l to r) are Chamber Chairmen Sharon Proulx, Joseph Mayer, Jamieson Mackay, President and CEO Cindy Harreld, Gail Payne and Mike Furin.

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William A. Staples



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**ON THE COVER:** In fall 2014, UHCL will welcome "the second most significant change in the history of the university" when the first-ever freshman class arrives on campus. Learn more about the monumental change on page 8 of this edition.

Photo by Beryl Striewski



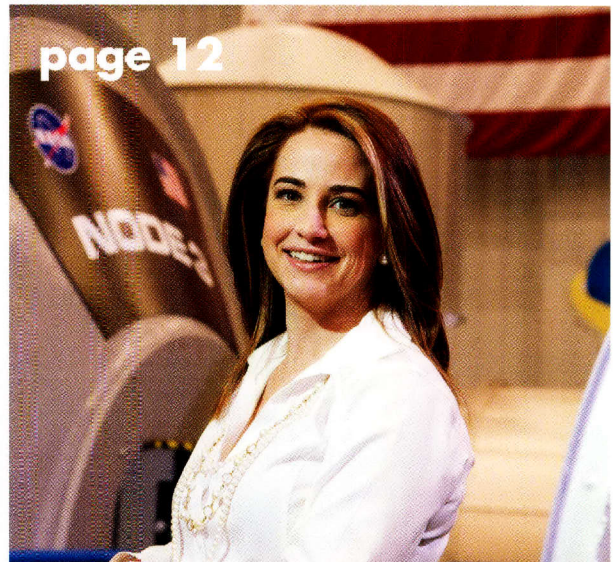
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## UHCL CREATES CYBER SECURITY INSTITUTE

University of Houston-Clear Lake will be doing its part to protect Internet users from the effects of cyber threats through the creation of the **Cyber Security Institute**. The new institute opened this spring to provide workshops and certification programs for local business owners, manufacturers, government employees, teachers, school administrators and non-profit organizations, as well as opportunities for collaborative research projects with high-tech companies and other colleges and universities in the area.

"UHCL's faculty has worked closely with several local groups throughout the years in educational research activities related to cyber security," says School of Science and Computer Engineering Dean **Zbigniew Czajkiewicz**.

Building on these past relationships, Czajkiewicz and Associate Professor of Computer Science and Computer Information Systems **Andrew Yang**, met with entities such as NASA Johnson Space Center and the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership to create the center. The Cyber Security Institute will serve as a focal point of collaborations with area businesses and organizations in research and development, education and cyber security-related services.

The institute hosted a day-long Cyber Security Collaboration Forum in April with more than 160 security experts and industry leaders, who discussed and made presentations regarding cyber security issues in government and the private sectors.

"In addition to the traditional research and education functions, the UHCL Cyber Security Institute will offer free and fee-based services to organizations and companies in the region, including public seminars for small business owners and summer camps for high school and college students," says Yang, who serves as executive director of the institute.

Planned activities include cyber security workshops for business owners and managers, certification programs for professionals in the computing and networking fields, advanced cyber security testing for research, and summer camps for high school students.

"In the future, we'd like to add an undergraduate degree in cyber security through the School of Science and Computer Engineering," says Czajkiewicz adding that no other university in the area offers a degree in the field of study. "The degree would answer a need by local companies and organizations by providing prepared graduates to secure their company's cyber systems."



Pictured (l to r) are Associate Professor of Computer Science and Computer Information Systems Andrew Yang and School of Science and Computer Engineering Dean Zbigniew Czajkiewicz.

## \$1 MILLION GRANT AWARDED FOR FOUR-YEAR INITIATIVE

**Houston Endowment** awarded UHCL a \$1 million grant for UHCL's Four-Year Initiative, which will help create new and expanded programs and activities related to the university's plan to welcome freshmen and sophomores beginning fall 2014. The payments will be presented in two \$500,000 increments in March 2013 and 2014. Student services and enrollment management will benefit the most from the award.

"We are always happy to hear when a grant is funded, but this grant came at a special time in our university's history making the news even more exciting for us," says UHCL President William A. Staples. "This grant will allow UHCL to

provide the valuable programming and activities necessary to welcome and sustain our new students."

The grant proposal requested funds for adding new activities and expanding existing programs in enrollment management and student services. It included academic advising, transition services and tutoring needs. Specifically, the grant explained the need for a centralized academic advising structure to allow for freshman and sophomore students to meet regularly with advisers.

Components of the transition services include orientation, which is now optional for upper-level students but would be mandatory for first-year students and would include a parent/family program. Other portions of the transition services would be the addition of a mandatory first-

year seminar course that provides skills for student success.

In recent years, Houston Endowment has provided UHCL with a \$400,000 grant to expand art audiences and opportunities at the university, and \$200,000 for the UHCL Archives and NASA Johnson Space Center History Collection that are housed in the UHCL Alfred R. Neumann Library.

## FACULTY AND STAFF HONORED AT AWARD CEREMONY

Honoring the hard work of many employees, UHCL recognized the achievements of faculty and staff during the 35th Annual Faculty & Staff Awards Presentation in early April. President William A. Staples, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Carl



A. Stockton and Vice President for Administration and Finance Michelle Dotter presented 128 faculty and staff members with service awards.

In addition to presenting five-, 10-, 15-, 20-, 25- and 30-year service awards, Staples, with the help of Stockton and Dotter, also honored 18 faculty and staff who are retiring or have retired this year.

“The 18 faculty and staff retirees recognized represent more than 437 years of service to UH-Clear Lake,” noted Staples.

School of Education Director of Student Relations **David Benz** received the 2013 Hugh P. Avery Prize – The President’s Distinguished Staff Service Award. Named after a long-time UHCL employee, the award and the Staff Merit Awards are the

highest honors that the university can bestow on staff members. Recipients of the 2013 Staff Merit Awards included School of Human Sciences and Humanities Senior Secretary **Terri Culbert**, Coordinator of Work/Life Services **Nichole Eslinger** and Director of Technical Services **Jerry Jones**.

Staples awarded the President’s Distinguished Service Award to Professor of Bilingual and Multicultural Education **Laurie Weaver**, while the President’s Distinguished Research Award was presented to Professor of Environmental Science, Environmental Chemistry and Program Chair of Environmental Science **Carl Zhang**. Professor and Program Coordinator of Management Information Systems **Naveed Saleem** received the President’s Distinguished Teaching Award.

The Outstanding Lecturer Award was presented to Senior Lecturer in Writing **Pat Cuchens**, while the Outstanding Adjunct Award was presented to School of Business Adjunct **Paule Anne Lewis**.

### COSTUMED MASCOT INTRODUCED



Mark Kinonen

UHCL unveiled its new costumed mascot, the **UHCL Hawk**, on April 6 at the university’s Chili Cook-Off.

“UH-Clear Lake’s Chili Cook-Off is a popular tradition that attracts students, faculty, staff, alumni and area residents, so it offered the perfect opportunity to present the Hawk costumed character to the university community,” says Mascot Leadership Team member and interim Dean of Students David Rachita.

UHCL University Police Department officers provided a police escort for the Hawk’s arrival, and students and alumni served as the event’s “flight crew,” guiding the Hawk through its first official appearance. View the Hawk’s arrival at [www.youtube.com/uhsclclearlake](http://www.youtube.com/uhsclclearlake).

The Hawk was named as the official mascot in 2012 after a five-phase mascot search process that began in 2010.

### UNIVERSITY ACCREDITATION APPROVED

The Board of Trustees of the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools voted to reaffirm **UHCL’s accreditation** in December 2012. The accreditation process required a Compliance Report and led to the creation of a Quality Enhancement Plan. The QEP committee and subcommittees included



Taryn Burnett

Pictured are award winners (l to r) Terri Culbert, David Benz, Nichole Eslinger and Jerry Jones.



Taryn Burnett

Pictured are award winners (l to r) Naveed Saleem, Pat Cuchens and Laurie Weaver. Not pictured are Carl Zhang and Paule Anne Lewis.



representatives from UHCL's faculty, staff and administration.

### PHYSICS FOR MINORITIES

UHCL's **School of Science and Computer Engineering** physics program was accepted as an American Physical Society Bridge Program Member Institution. The membership invitation was based on the commitment of faculty members of graduating underrepresented minorities from UHCL's Master of Science in Physics program, which is chaired by Associate Professor of Physics David Garrison.

### HOUSTON'S TOP SOCIAL WORKER IS A UHCL PROFESSOR



Taryn Burnett

Professor of Social Work **Stephen "Arch" Erich** was selected as Social Worker of the Year by the National Social Work Association's Houston Chapter. The chapter has also nominated Erich for Social Worker of the Year at the state level. Erich is a licensed social worker and teaches ethics, human behavior and practice skills for individuals, families and groups at UHCL. He is also the Bachelor of Social Work program director. He was nominated for the chapter award by UHCL Associate Professor of Psychology and Women's Studies Kim Case and by community members and students he currently instructs.

### IN MEMORY

The UHCL community mourns the passing of **Jan Simonds**, professor emerita. Simonds joined the university in 1997 and retired in 2007. In addition to teaching at UHCL, she held the titles of director of humanities and division chair for humanities and fine arts. Simonds passed away in April 2013.

### AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS

■ Columbia Scholastic Press Association awarded gold medals to **The Signal**, UHCL's student newspaper, for fall 2011 and spring 2012, and the 2012 edition of **The Signal Relay**. Editors for the award-winning publications were Ashley Smith (fall 2011), Jessica Brossack (spring 2012) and Lakeisha Moore (2012 Relay). Students taking COMM 4565 Media Production produce *The Signal* and COMM 4536 Magazine Publication students produce *The Signal Relay* magazine.

■ **William Hoston**, assistant professor of political science in the School of Human Sciences and Humanities, received the university's 2012-13 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. As UHCL's nominee, Hoston represents the university in the Minnie Stevens Piper Award competition, which honors Texas college and university professors.

■ Professor of Instructional Technology **Kathryn Ley**, School of Education, will serve as division president of Distance Learning within the Association for Educational Communications and Technology, an international professional association whose activities are directed toward improving instruction through technology.

■ School of Education student **Evelyn Aaron** and School of Education alumni **Jehovanissi "Jo" Solis** and **Martha Pacheco** were named Exceptional Teacher Candidates by the Texas Quest for Quality program. Quest for Quality is the first phase of a three-part program that partners with Texas universities to identify and highlight exceptional students and faculty, exemplary instructional and programmatic practices, and applicable research.

■ Interim Associate Dean for the School of Education and Professor of Reading and Language Arts **Kathryn Matthew** was named as a 2014 Odyssey Award Committee Member. The Odyssey Award is presented to the producer of the most notable audiobook recorded in the United States each year for children birth to age 18.

■ Emeritus Associate Professor of Literacy, Language and Library Science **Maureen White**, School of Education, was named chair of the 2014 Mildred Batchelder Award Committee. The committee selects the most outstanding translated children's book published each year in the United States.

### RESEARCH AND GRANTS

■ The National Science Foundation awarded \$1,117,769 to co-principals **Thomas Fox**, program chair of mathematics and associate professor of mathematics education for the School of Science and Computer Engineering, and **Jana Willis**, associate professor of instructional technology and curriculum and instruction for the School of Education. The grant, based on their proposal "Robert Noyce Program in Mathematics at the University of Houston-Clear Lake," is for a five-year scholarship program that will capitalize on local resources and programs while allowing UHCL to provide academic and financial support for 15 future secondary mathematics teachers.

■ School of Education doctoral student **Sundie Dahlkamp** was awarded a Public School Research Scholars Program grant by the Center for Research, Evaluation and Advancement of Teacher Education, a consortium of four Texas universities dedicated to exploring quality and effectiveness issues related to teacher preparation, retention and student achievement. Dahlkamp's dissertation research explores "Principal Efficacy and School Climate – A Recipe for Retention." She received a Master of Science in Educational Management from UHCL in 2007 and is now pursuing a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership.

■ The **School of Education** has received a \$200,000 Texas Teacher Quality grant from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to fund an additional year of the UHCL Mathematics Institute. The funding extends the current grant through May 2014 and will be used to enhance teaching techniques among 16 middle school teachers within the Goose Creek Consolidated, Dickinson, and Pasadena Independent School Districts. The focus is on teaching fifth- through eighth-grade algebraic critical thinking skills. The Mathematics Institute, under the guidance of UHCL Associate Professor of Curriculum and Instruction Sue Brown, has been continuously renewed since 1995. Previous grants have included teaching techniques for such topics as fractions, probability, geometry and measurement.





## what's online?

University news highlights, for on the go, anywhere.

**UNIVERSITY FRIEND PROVIDES GIFT FOR THE FUTURE** James Hightower loved to learn. His passion for education drove him to UHCL, a place that not only allowed him to continue to learn, but also introduced him to friend, mentor and teacher Associate Professor of Psychology Howard Eisner. When Hightower died in 1988, his sister, Norma Hightower, believed that the best way to memorialize her brother would be to support scholarships at the university that had offered him a place to grow.



**SIXTH-GRADERS HOLD TRIAL IN UHCL'S MOCK COURTROOM** One teacher's introduction to the UHCL Mock Courtroom during a campus tour led to a real exploration of justice for students from Creekside Intermediate. Students from the OMEGA (Opportunities for Meaningful Education through Gifted Application) program participated in a mock trial at UHCL and were able to use their lessons about the legal system to conduct a mock trial about a real criminal charge case.

### CHILDREN EXPLORE NATURE THROUGH SCIENCE TREK CLASSES

Nineteen elementary students from Clear Creek Independent School District visited the Environmental Institute of Houston at UHCL to participate in "Science Trek, the Next Generation." The 12-session class introduces students to a variety of nature and wildlife at UHCL.



**STUDENTS RECOGNIZED AT NATIONAL COMPETITION** In April, seven UHCL students traveled to Washington, D.C. to compete in the National Council on U.S. - Arab Relations Model Arab League competition, where they represented the Republic of Djibouti. Though they took a smaller team this year than last, they were able to earn more awards, and for two students, opportunities for a scholarship and a fellowship were presented.

**ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN RECEIVES ADDY® AWARDS** The university's "The choice is clear" advertising campaign gained recognition during the American Advertising Federation-Houston's 51st Annual ADDY® Awards. The campaign, designed and written by Houston-based agency Richards/Carlberg, received three gold and three silver awards as well as a certificate of excellence and an excellence in copywriting award for different aspects of the campaign.



- **NEW UHCL INSTITUTE HOSTS CYBER SECURITY COLLABORATION FORUM**
- **SCHOOL OF EDUCATION NAMES OUTSTANDING STUDENTS, AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS**
- **PRESIDENT'S CABINET AWARDS PRESENTED FOR LEADERSHIP, PHILANTHROPY**
- **UHCL CENTER PROVIDES FAMILY SERVICES AND RESOURCES**

Check out "Short Takes" each week on [www.uhcl.edu/news](http://www.uhcl.edu/news) to find out what's happening at UHCL.



[www.facebook.com/UHCLClearLake](http://www.facebook.com/UHCLClearLake)



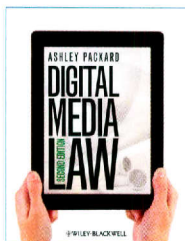
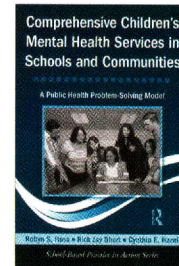
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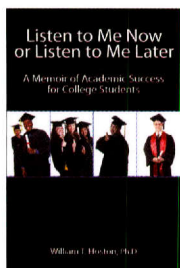
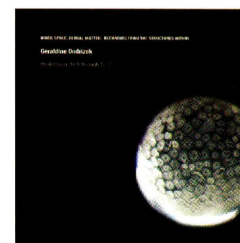


■ **Comprehensive Children's Mental Health Services in Schools and Communities: A Public Health Problem-Solving Model;** By Rick Short, dean of the School of Human Sciences and Humanities and professor of psychology. *Routledge, New York (2012)*. Co-author Short offers a public health model for mental health services, specifically those geared for children. The model explores expanding psychological services for children instead of replacing the current model for school psychology. A CD included with the text contains additional materials. ISBN 9780415804486.



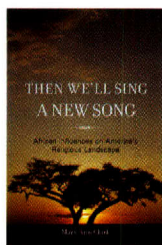
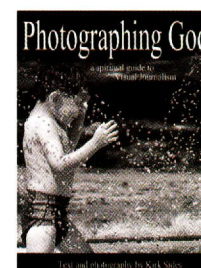
■ **Digital Media Law, Second Edition;** By Ashley Packard, professor of communication and digital media studies. *John Wiley & Sons, Inc., West Sussex, UK (2013)*. The second edition of Packard's text provides updated information on laws and rulings regarding the media including WikiLeaks, cyber-stalking and privacy issues. Readers will also gain a solid foundation on media law, and can follow updates on the topic with the text's supplementary website. ISBN 9781118290729.

■ **Inner Space, Global Matter: Recording from the Structures Within;** Edited by Jane Chin Davidson, assistant professor of applied design and visual arts. *University of Houston-Clear Lake Art Gallery, Houston (2012)*. An illustrated catalog chronicling the multi-venue survey of recent works by Portland artist Geraldine Ondrizek, exhibited simultaneously at UHCL, Space Center Houston and Florida International University. Contributions by the artist, projector curator Jane Chin Davidson and other guest writers explore Ondrizek's large-scale installations based on research images of human genetics. ISBN 9780578114262.



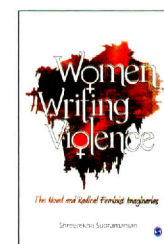
■ **Listen to Me Now, or Listen to Me Later: A Memoir of Academic Success for College Students;** William T. Hoston, assistant professor of political science and program convener. *Kendall Hunt Publishing Co., Dubuque, Iowa (2013)*. Hoston's book offers college students strategies for academic success while they are pursuing higher education degrees. Throughout the text, themes such as determination and courage serve as guides for students on how to approach and handle problems, gain self-awareness and become active learners. ISBN 9781465201379.

■ **Photographing God: a spiritual guide to Visual Journalism;** By Kirk Sides, adjunct professor of communication. *Self-published, United States (2012)*. Sides offers guidance for aspiring visual journalists who comprehend the basics of photography, but desire direction and inspiration for their images. Each chapter contains discussion points that relate to Bible verses and images showing God in all aspects of everyday life. ISBN 9781481073127.



■ **Then We'll Sing a New Song: African Influences on America's Religious Landscape;** By Mary Ann Clark, adjunct professor of humanities. *Rowman & Littlefield Publishers Inc., Lanham, Maryland (2012)*. Clark investigates how African religions have shaped beliefs and practices in America. She goes beyond the story of how African American religions developed and discusses the broad reaches of these religions and the black church. ISBN 9781442208797.

■ **Women Writing Violence: The Novel and Radical Feminist Imaginaries;** By Shreerikha Subramanian, assistant professor of humanities. *Sage Publications, Los Angeles (2013)*. Subramanian's first monograph gives readers a new way of thinking about violence and survival from a feminist point of view. She discusses the literary landscapes of African-American writer Toni Morrison along with South Asian writers such as Mridula Garg, Tahmina Durrani, Amrita Pritam, Bapsi Sidhwa and Mahasweta Devi. ISBN 9788132108948.





# Be THE Change

By Diana North

Created to promote awareness of African heritage and engage with other cultural organizations, the Black Students Association is a 20-member group with a powerful mission. The UHCL chapter was established in 2003 and is currently led by President Tomeka Blanks.

"We are open to everyone and anyone can join, as long as they are UHCL students or alumni," says Blanks. "We're the best kept secret on campus."

As president, Blanks focused her efforts on growing the association's membership through outreach projects, events and activities with a vision of uniting people on campus and in the community. Guiding that goal was Blank's personal vision to foster leadership skills that members will take beyond campus.

Active attendance at meetings is strongly encouraged and on-campus activities help members connect with students and alumni of all races for academic and social engagement. Membership also offers graduation cords earned through community service along with a chance to learn about African heritage.

"I know a lot about the history and culture of Black Americans, and I enjoy being able to share that with other people," says Blanks.

The association provides members opportunities for learning and leadership. For computer information systems

## Student organization promotes unity and outreach



Beryl Striewski

Joyce Delores Taylor, Kelsie Brown and Tomeka Blanks (pictured l to r) provided leadership to the Black Students Association during the 2012-13 academic year.

student and association member Joseph Obodeduo, such involvement has already enriched his educational experience.

"Through collaborations with other students and nonprofit organizations, I have benefitted by learning to work with large groups comfortably, improving my networking abilities and having the opportunity to serve my community and the UHCL family," says Obodeduo.

Part of the association's contribution to student life and community outreach includes honoring national Black History Month in February with events such as educational lectures, cultural displays and demonstrations, as well as historical reflections on the achievements and struggles of Black/African Americans.

This year's national theme was "The 150th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation and Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington." Events focused on family, faith and community, success in the workplace and educational disparity.

Last year, the association won "The Biggest Oinker" contest, a fundraiser sponsored by the universitywide Be The Change campaign. Open to all student organizations, the contest tallied up a total of 179 pounds of donations. BSA's winning entry included 100 rolls of pennies, for a total of 60 pounds. Funds raised go to the university's student programming to provide support for students.

Looking forward, plans are being discussed to hold a 10-year reunion and anniversary

ball, and possibly the association's first Juneteenth Celebration.

"It's so fulfilling to help unite people on campus," says Blanks, who completed her bachelor's degree in psychology in spring 2013. She plans to enroll in the university's industrial organizational psychology graduate program and pursue her goal of becoming a human resources director.

"I believe that being a leader and organizer of a group gives me the skills to be able to understand the needs of different people in an organization, and be able to meet their needs."

# Change





# Welcoming the Future

UHCL prepares for its first freshman class

by Karen Barbier





On a spring-like day in February, UHCL faculty, staff and students experienced something more unusual than the unseasonable warm temps and sunny skies in winter: they met teenagers with a purpose on their campus. Eighty-three high school sophomores and juniors and their parents attended the first Hawk Premiere, a recruiting event unlike any other that the upper-level university has held. While Open Houses are common UHCL events for area community college transfer students and professionals considering a graduate degree to explore their options, events geared primarily for teenagers are something new.

### **A New Generation**

“I either want to be an art designer or a doctor,” says Jasmine Jones, a 15-year-old high school student who attended the event and is still contemplating where to attend classes, and adds with a smile. “I guess I still have some time to decide.”

Jones was joined at the Hawk Premiere by two high school-age friends and all three know about UHCL from Jones’ mother



Rauchelle who serves as the university's executive director of admissions.

"This is just one of the differences that I've talked with the admissions counselors about; that for the first time, we are going to have students who really have no idea what they want to study or what they need to study to achieve the goals they have for themselves," says the elder Jones.

But unlike her daughter and her daughter's friends, Jones says that many of the students may also be first-generation students who don't have the benefit of having a mother who not only graduated from college but now works at one.

"Parents who didn't go to college have a slightly different level of engagement than those who attended themselves," explains Jones. "However, we are finding that even if they did go to college, parents of the future students, or millennials, will have a more hands-on approach when it comes to the education of their children."

Fortunately, university administrators know that enrollment counselors are a first line of contact for the students who decide they want to attend UHCL. Because of that, the university added counselors this spring to assist both parents and students.

"Students are going to show up not knowing anything about college, and we will be starting at 'ground zero.' Others will have some knowledge because many of the local high schools do a very good job preparing students," says Jones.

## "The right thing for us"

"This is the second most significant change in the history of the university since its opening in 1974," says UHCL President William A. Staples who is enthusiastic about the change and has

been speaking about it to area organizations. "UHCL's commitment to our community college partners and transfer students will not be diminished nor will our commitment to our graduate students and graduate programs, but transition from an upper-level university to a four-year university is the right thing for us to do now."

With this change come numerous questions: What about student services? What about the additional entry-level classes? When classes are added, who will teach them? Where will the new students park?

Realizing the complexity of the 2011 legislative authorization to offer courses to freshmen and sophomores, university senior leadership, including the deans, established a steering committee that understood the monumental task ahead of them. They quickly established six committees to address the various needs including enrollment management, student services, curriculum, learning resources, facilities and financial resources.

Associate Vice President for Facilities Management and Construction Ward Martaindale chairs the Facilities Committee. While the current space will be acceptable for the first few years, the university's current classroom space is "significantly underutilized" during the daytime. He knows that eventually new buildings will need to be added and current space will need to be revised.

"Our labs are geared to upperclassmen," says Martaindale, pointing to just one of the issues that will eventually need to be addressed. "We will need to address that issue and are hopeful about adding buildings."

In fact, new buildings were the focus of a presentation Staples made to the Texas Senate Finance Committee in January. Formally, the president requested tuition revenue bond authority to add a Science and Academic Support Building and a Student Access and Classroom Building. If permission to move forward is received, the university will add approximately up to 287,000 to its campus facilities.

## What does it take to be a Hawk?

Freshmen applications will be accepted beginning August 2013.

Fall 2014 application deadlines:

February 1, 2014 (priority) and June 1, 2014 (final)

Students in the top 10 percent of their high schools will qualify for automatic admission if they meet the following criteria:

- Attend a recognized public or private high school within the state of Texas.
- Meet the Texas Uniform Admission Policy.
- Submit all required credentials by the freshman admissions final deadline.

## Assured Admissions

### Rank In Class

Top 11-25%

Top 26-50%

Below 51 %

GED/Homeschooled

### Minimum SAT Scores

SAT I Total (CR + M)

950

1050

Individual Review

Individual Review

or

or

### Minimum ACT scores

ACT Composite

20

23

Individual Review

Individual Review

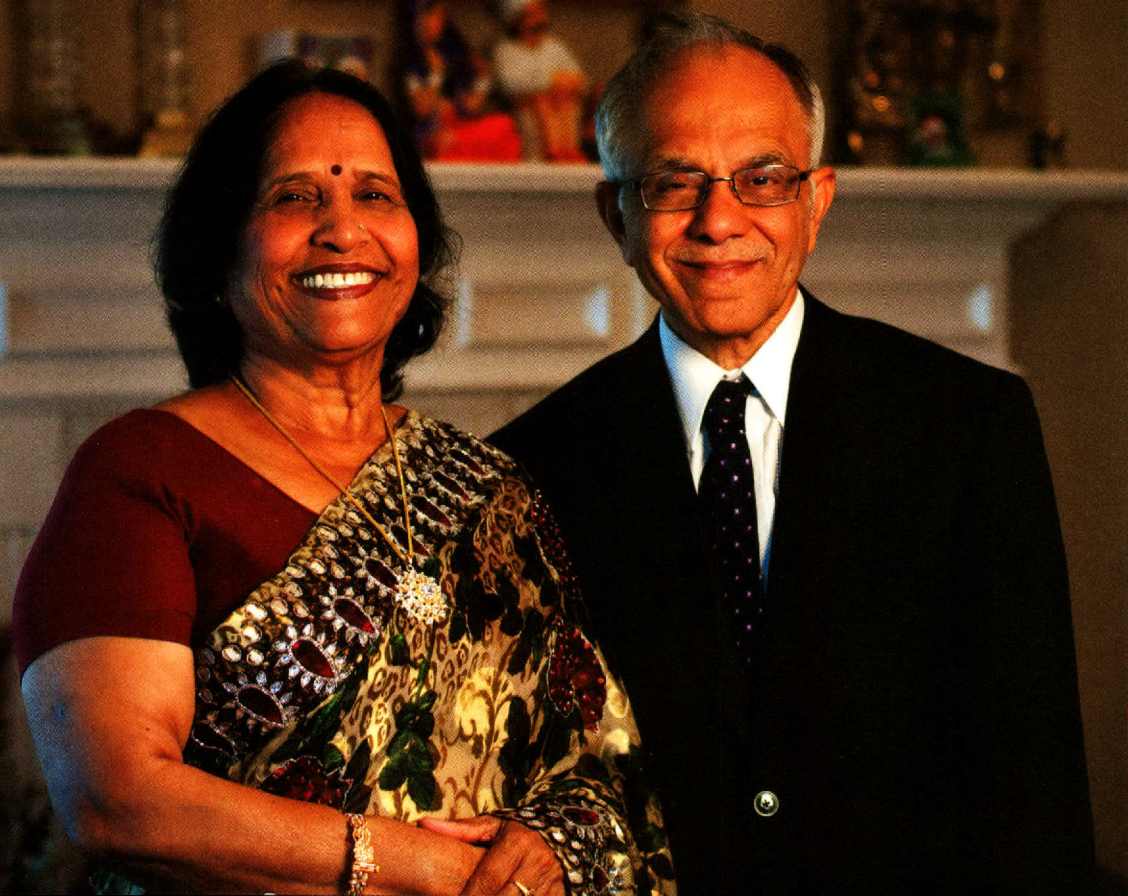


For more information, visit [www.uhcl.edu/admissions](http://www.uhcl.edu/admissions).

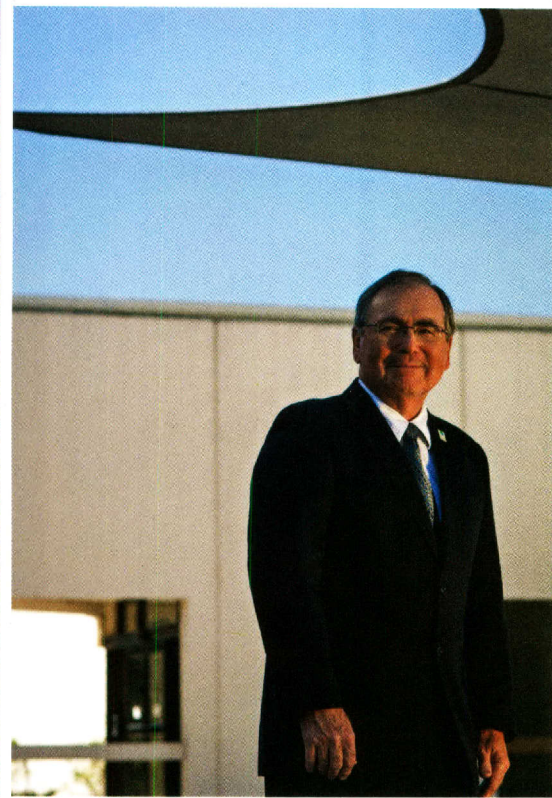


UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON-CLEAR LAKE  
**DONOR HONOR ROLL**

SPRING 2013







## University of Houston-Clear Lake appreciates the generosity

of the many individuals, foundations and organizations which, through their active support and involvement, significantly enhance students' opportunities for success.

Our transformation from an upper-level university to a four-year institution will be the most monumental development in the university's history since it opened in fall 1974, and will expand the higher education options for the Bay Area community. During the past year, faculty, staff and administrators continued preparations to welcome our first freshmen and sophomores in fall 2014. And, to help ensure a successful transition, Houston Endowment Inc., a long-time supporter of UHCL, awarded the university a \$1 million grant.

As our average number of graduates rises to more than 2,200 annually and our alumni base increases to more than 55,000, the contributions of university friends become even more essential to UHCL's success.

Those friends include alumna Sheryl Lightfoot Johns, who received this year's President's Cabinet Philanthropy Award in recognition of her support of UHCL students through the Lightfoot/Johns Family

Accounting Scholarship Endowment, and President's Cabinet Leadership Award honorees Satish and Kamlesh Agarwal whose student scholarship donations were prompted because of the assistance their niece received through scholarships while attending UHCL.

To the President's Cabinet honorees and to all of our university friends, thank you for ensuring UHCL students receive exceptional education opportunities.

*William A. Staples*

William A. Staples  
President

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**ON THE COVER:** (top) Alumna Sheryl Lightfoot Johns was recognized as the 2013 President's Cabinet Philanthropy Award honoree; (bottom) Satish and Kamlesh Agarwal were recognized as the 2013 President's Cabinet Leadership Award honorees.



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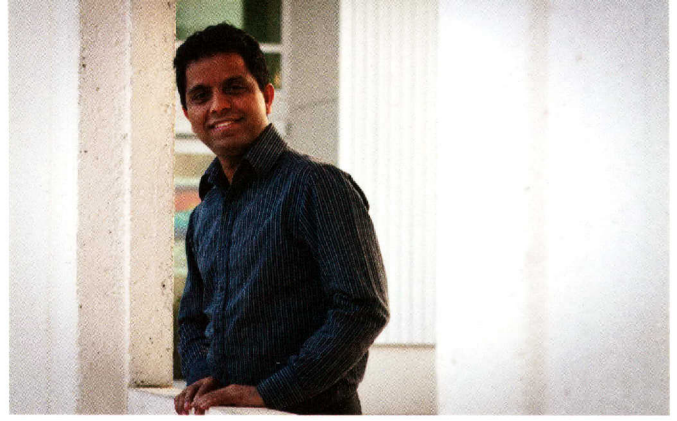
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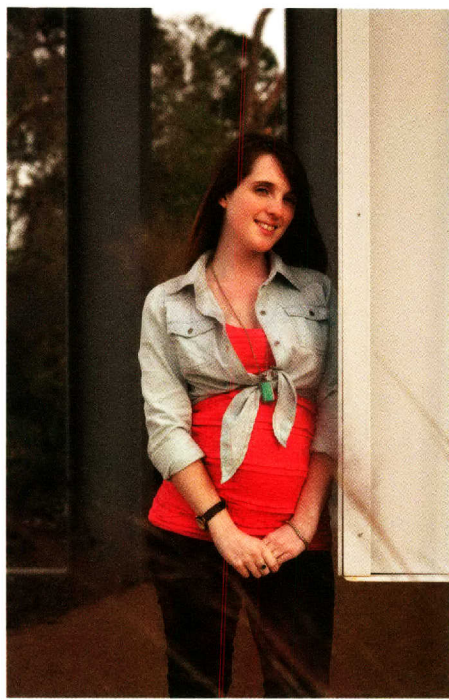


**VIKRANT BHUSAL | M.S., Software Engineering |** Jesse H. & Mary Gibbs Jones - SCE Scholarship, and Pranshanth Memorial Scholarship | Vikrant Bhusal found motivation in recognition when he received the Jesse H. & Mary Gibbs Jones - SCE Scholarship and Pranshanth Memorial Scholarship. "Receiving the scholarships encouraged me to take more classes and complete my degree faster," says Bhusal, who is studying software engineering as a graduate student.

**SASHA CHARLES | M.S., Management Information Systems |** Hall Family Endowment for Presidential Scholars | International student Sasha Charles came to UHCL to achieve a life-long goal and this year, she received the Hall Family Endowment for Presidential Scholars. "This scholarship gave me the opportunity to focus on my academics while being the best I could," says Charles, who is pursuing a Master of Science in Management Information Systems. She is from Trinidad and Tobago.

**ANA FLORES | B.S., Early Childhood-Grade 6 Bilingual Generalist |** Partnership for Future Teachers Scholarship | When Ana Flores came to the United States at age 18 she was inspired by a teacher who sacrificed after school and weekend hours to help Flores succeed. "That teacher gave me everything," says Flores. "Since then, I knew that I would become someone like her." Flores, who received the Partnership for Future Teachers scholarship, is pursuing an undergraduate degree in early childhood-grade six bilingual generalist.





**THEO THOURSON | M.A., School Psychology** | Eve Mieszkuc Scholarship, Jesse H. & Mary Gibbs Jones - HSH Scholarship, and University Scholarship | When Theo Thourson graduates with his master's in school psychology, he will begin a diverse and rewarding career. "I'll be able to work with teachers and families to help those students who are most in need of assistance," says Thourson. He hopes to share the lessons of generosity from the Eve Mieszkuc Scholarship, Jesse H. & Mary Gibbs Jones - HSH Scholarship, and University Scholarship with the students he meets in his career.

**DESTINY HOOPER | B.A., Psychology** | David and Stephanie Palmer Scholarship | Destiny Hooper dove in to her degree field by working as an applied behavioral analysis therapist with children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders, while pursuing her bachelor's degree in psychology. "I am a student dedicated to learning," says Hooper, who also plans to pursue a master's degree at UHCL. She received the David and Stephanie Palmer Scholarship and appreciates the blessing it meant for her family and her future.

## PRESIDENT'S PARTNERS

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## 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](mailto:gifts@uhcl.edu).



**University  
of Houston  
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## Supporting the Future

Funding for the four-year initiative however, will not solely rely on tuition revenue bonds for new buildings. To prepare for the arrival of the first freshman class in fall 2014, the projected multi-million dollar cost will be offset by funding coming through three avenues including possible start-up funding from new state appropriations, a reallocation of the current budget, and private funds. Among these private funds is a \$1 million grant from Houston Endowment to assist with start-up of the four-year initiative.

“The money from Houston Endowment will fund new and expanded programs and activities specifically to address the needs of freshmen and sophomores,” explains Associate Vice President for University Advancement and co-chair of the Financial Resources Committee Dion McInnis.

McInnis adds that there will be staffing and equipment needs in such important areas as the Writing Center and Math Center, and the recently established Office of Veteran Services. Tutoring needs and transitioning services remain key initiatives too, while various resources are being considered to assist with funding much-needed scholarships.

Financial Resources Committee co-chair and Executive Director of Budget Jean Carr addresses the needs for additional staff and says that by the end of fiscal year 2013, the university will have added approximately 15 staff members, with many of those in the enrollment management area to help with recruitment and admissions processing.

Other items in development by the committees include creating a positive first-year experience through peer mentoring and freshman interest groups, revising the student handbook to be more useful to students, and expanding and updating the current orientation program. And, events like the Hawk Premiere, named after the university’s new mascot, will become more commonplace.

But the outcome will be worth it for the additional 200 freshmen and 100 sophomores who are projected to attend UHCL in 2014.

Deer Park Independent School District junior Johnny Garza might be one such freshman. The Hawk Premiere attendee and his parents, Andrea and Johnny Sr., decided to attend the event at UHCL to explore the educational opportunities close to home. His sixth-grade sister, Alyssa, tagged along to take a look too.

“A teacher told me that you were going to be adding freshmen soon and once we received the invitation in the mail we decided to come here for a visit,” explains the 17-year-old Garza, who is still exploring options and adds that he’s gathering information specifically for fields in law enforcement and/or criminal justice and will probably be looking into UHCL’s Bachelor of Science in Criminology.

“We want him to do what he wants,” explains Andrea Garza. “College matters, but it’s mainly his decision if and where he might go.”

With the addition of freshmen and sophomores to UHCL, students like Johnny Garza and Jasmine Jones will have a way to attend a four-year university and still stay close to home.

**What better way to welcome high school juniors and seniors to UHCL than to have a high school junior rally to the cause? When local Career Counselor Beth Dennard contacted former UHCL Director of Alumni and Community Relations**

**Charity Ellis about allowing 16-year-old Amanda Bradley to shadow her for an hour a couple of days a week, Ellis happily agreed.**

**“It was a good match,” says Ellis. “Amanda wanted to learn more about community relations, and she was part of a target market that could help us get the word out to her classmates about UHCL’s four-year-initiative.”**

**Bradley also thought it was a good match and had the opportunity to work with someone who works in the field she hopes to work in some day. When her independent study mentoring class at school suggested she find a mentor in a field she enjoys, Bradley contacted Bright Futures Consulting counselor, Dennard, who immediately suggested Ellis.**

**One project they worked closely together on was an event at a local yogurt shop that allowed high school students interested in finding out more about UHCL to meet with university transfer advisers and university alumni to discuss the opportunities available at UHCL.**

**Working with UHCL Academic Transfer Adviser Alvin Johnson and Ellis, Bradley created a survey that was sent to approximately 600 students in the Clear Lake High School junior class. Approximately 150 responded to the survey.**

**“We worked on the questions together and included a question about whether they were interested in receiving more information about UHCL,” says Bradley. “If they said yes, we gave them a place to put their name and email; then we invited them to the yogurt event.”**

**Eighteen students attended the successful yogurt event.**

**“Working at UHCL has been a very positive experience,” says Bradley. “I learned a lot about community relations, but I also learned how to be professional in all that I do.”**



Taryn Burneth



# FROM INTERN TO EMPLOYEE

## Alumna learns the business side of NASA

BY DIANA NORTH ★

Petite and vivacious, UHCL alumna Ashley Harral recently landed a career that exceeds fulfilling her desire to learn. Graduating with her Master of Business Administration with a concentration in Finance last December, Harral accepted her diploma knowing her position as contract specialist with NASA Johnson Space Center would be official in January.

“My dream since I was little was to obtain a master’s degree,” says Harral, who grew up in the Clear Lake area. “There was a strategic advantage to growing up near JSC and being a UHCL student.”

While attending graduate classes with fellow students who were NASA employees or contractors, Harral began to understand the NASA culture, change her perceptions and deepen her appreciation for the space program.

“Early on I got to see the excitement that engineers have for their jobs,” says Harral. “They are so energized; if you ask them what they do, they’re excited about telling you.”

Realizing her lack of work experience would make it tougher for her to enter the workforce, Harral followed a tip from a classmate and began searching for an internship. She applied to what was then called the NASA Co-op Program. Now known as Co-op Pathways Programs at NASA, the program was created to provide opportunities for students and recent graduates to be considered for federal employment.

“The relationship that the university has with NASA allowed me to apply to be a co-op student,” says Harral. “Not all schools have this agreement, which is required for application to this program.”

With the arrival of summer, Harral found out that she was selected for the program and in fall 2011, she started as a NASA graduate co-op student. As a business major, she was required to log a minimum of two tours in the Office of the Chief Financial Officer and in the Office of Procurement. Each tour meant 10 weeks of full-time hours as an employee.

For Harral, her internship provided “amazing unprecedented opportunities to tour and understand the research and projects going on at NASA.”

Co-ops met weekly to work on projects including outreach, such as creating YouTube videos promoting NASA and organizing volunteer opportunities. A recent “NASA Johnson Style” YouTube clip created by NASA co-op students was featured on “Late Night with Jimmy Fallon” and had more than five million hits. Public speaking, technical and on-the-job training provided well-rounded career preparation.

Harral heard lectures from astronauts, including Eugene “Gene” Kranz, famed NASA flight controller during the Apollo 13 mission. She went on tours to see moon rocks and other artifacts at NASA JSC, adding richness to her learning experience and an up-close look at NASA’s unique work environment. Her biggest project as an intern was supporting the Crew and Thermal Division for their work on the High Performance Extravehicular Activity Glove.

At the end of each tour, participants gave a presentation before the office’s director or chief financial officer on accomplishments during the tour and why the organization should hire them. Harral’s presentation outlined her activities and her ability to take responsibility for large projects. It included an impromptu quiz to test managers and directors on their Federal Acquisitions Regulations knowledge and helped her land not only the job, but also the Co-op Award given to co-ops that go above and beyond in excellence.

Harral credits some of her leadership and teamwork skills to her involvement with the UHCL Student Government Association and Student Life Council, and even her participation in the Mascot Advisory Team as part of the UHCL Mascot Search. While a student she received the Emerging Leader of the Year Award, Student Government Director of the Year, was recognized in Who’s Who in American Universities and Colleges, and earned Committee Representative of the Year Award. She also served as an orientation leader, member of the Student Government Association Executive Council, and as special events director for SGA.


Harral says the university’s diverse student body prepared her to work successfully with the multicultural workforce at NASA.

“The diversity at UHCL helped me be more prepared,” says Harral. “Learning to respect different cultures on campus taught me to appreciate NASA’s workforce diversity – we’re all quirky there.”

On a typical day at NASA, Harral manages, negotiates, administers, extends, terminates and renegotiates multimillion dollar contracts. Her work supports projects that include Morpheus, the International Space Station and the Multi Purpose Crew Vehicle — all programs making important contributions in research. For Harral, supporting the engineers is one of the most rewarding parts of her job.

“I feel blessed that I am able to be part of a team that allows dreams to become a reality,” says Harral. “Everyone is so passionate and excited about what they are working on, it gets you excited to come to work every day and help them achieve extraordinary goals.”





**NASA Contract Specialist Ashley Harral is responsible for negotiating some not-so-normal contracts, including procuring the cameras mounted to NASA's Mars Exploration Rover.**



**Overwhelmed** is a fair description of Lorena Counterman's feeling the day she learned she had been promoted from school secretary to child care center director at the Friendswood Christian School. After four years as secretary, she knew her new position would require working closely with the staff and handling parents' expectations, but her most important concern was providing a good experience to the children.

Counterman quickly shifted her college major from social work to early childhood education, taking classes first at San Jacinto Community College then transferring to UHCL when she learned of its Bachelor of Applied Science in Early Childhood Education. The program includes a leadership track designed specifically for individuals like her: child care facility directors, owners and education specialists.

The program appealed to Counterman because it wasn't only about how to run a school, it also included a lot of classroom experience working directly with the children. Nearly every course calls for child observations and case studies that require students to be in the classroom engaging with the children. It is one of the things she has appreciated the most.

"It's the same way they taught us to teach children, with hands-on experience," says Counterman.

Time spent at the San Jacinto Lab School, an early childhood facility UHCL uses in the BAS program, as well as visits to other centers, helped Counterman compare and learn about changes she needed to implement.

Children," has been accepted by the National Association of Education for Young Children for publication in the *Voices of Practitioners*.

Counterman, who juggles family, career and school priorities, expects to complete her BAS degree next year and looks forward to pursuing a master's degree.

To Queen Okoloise, the BAS program has been a step on the path to her dream of having her own childcare center, as well as earning a doctorate degree.

"I want to teach teachers how to teach children," says Okoloise.

Passionate about making a difference in the lives of young children, she had to put her desire on hold 18 years ago as a single mom with a son to raise and a career in the fashion industry. Something was missing though and as soon as she was able, Okoloise returned to classes and earned an associate degree at SJCC.

She now works full-time at the San Jacinto Lab School and was among the first enrollees in UHCL's BAS program. She completed her degree in December 2012 and is now enrolled in the Master of Science in Early Childhood Education program.

"When you have more education you cannot just educate the children, but you can also educate the parents as well," says Okoloise. "You can do more when you have higher education."

# Learning in the **middle**

**EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDENTS LEARN  
IN THE CLASSROOM AND ON THE JOB**

"I'm not just learning and then I'm going to go find a job," says Counterman. "I'm smack in the middle of it. I'm learning every day."

Counterman began incorporating what she was learning in the BAS program right away, restructuring the center's program and curriculum, and found the UHCL faculty support invaluable.

"They give you opportunities to take personal experiences, and help you come up with a plan. Or encourage you, which a lot of them did."

It's a two-way street though. Counterman believes that her real-time experience helped bring light to a child care problem that needs to be addressed: what is healthy sexual development behavior in young children. She acknowledges that it's a tough subject to talk about, but believes it is an important one because the state requires her staff to be trained in recognizing signs of child abuse. When children act out, it's easy for teachers to jump to the wrong conclusion to explain the child's behavior. With her professor's assistance, Counterman's BAS research paper, "Exploring a Better Understanding of Healthy Sexual Development in Young

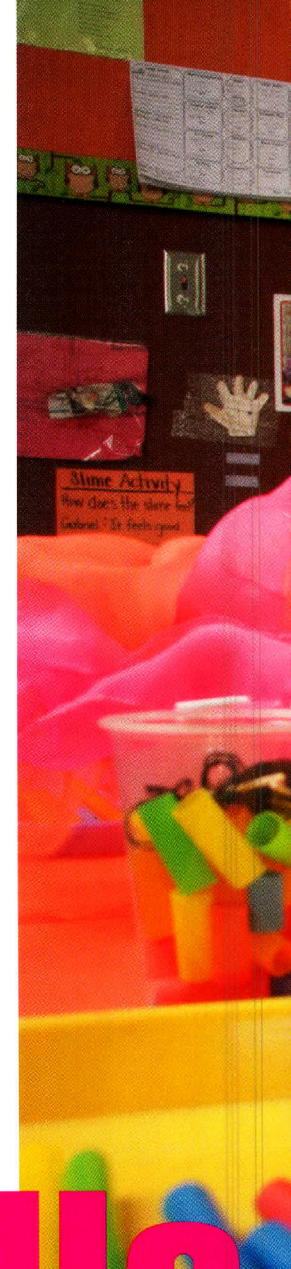
Her passion is driven in part by her own experience. Parents today work hard to make ends meet.

"They leave their children with us. I would like to give the children that come into my classroom the right tools to become successful in life. What they learn at this age is what is going to carry them through in the future."

Okoloise says the BAS professors encourage students to network and to develop a strong support system among themselves, and it has been one of the key benefits of the program.

"We still talk to each other. We share ideas, and if we have questions, we talk to one another."

**BY JEAN RUDNICKI**







Beryl Striewski

Undergraduate student Lorena Counterman and graduate student Queen Okoloise (pictured l to r) both studied in UHCL's Bachelor of Applied Science in Early Childhood Education. They are pictured in the San Jacinto Lab School, an early childhood facility used as part of UHCL's BAS program.

## BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREES AT UHCL

Bachelor of Applied Science degrees are specialized programs designed for students who are employed in specific fields and are looking to update their knowledge and advance their careers.

UHCL offers three Bachelor of Applied Science degrees, one each in the School of Business, the School of Education and the School of Science and Computer Engineering. The courses concentrate on technical knowledge and include an emphasis on hands-on experience. They are often an extension of an Associate of Applied Science degree received from a community college.

**School of Education BAS in Early Childhood Education** When the government mandated tougher educational requirements for child care workers, UHCL worked in collaboration with local community colleges to provide an option for a four-year degree program with three tracks: Educator of Young Children, Young Children with Disabilities, and Early Childhood Program Leadership. The program is targeted for child care center owners, directors and other child care professionals.

**School of Business BAS in Healthcare Services** The degree provides students with allied health course credits a quicker route in preparation for entry-level management positions in the health care industry. To be eligible for admission to this BAS program, applicants must have either an Associate of Applied Science in an allied health field or a minimum of 12 credits in an allied health field. The program prepares individuals with an allied health background such as nursing, pharmacy technician, health information management, etc.

**School of Science and Computer Engineering BAS in Information Technology** This program provides technical knowledge with practical, hands-on training. Graduates will be ready to design, implement and maintain the information technology infrastructure used in business management. It prepares students in a variety of careers such as systems administrator, network administrator, computer specialist, database manager, computer technician, computer security manager or computer systems manager for work within commercial, industrial, educational and government institutions.

To learn more, contact a UHCL Transfer Adviser: 281-283-3068 or [transfer@uhcl.edu](mailto:transfer@uhcl.edu).



# Discover AlumNights



In 2008, three members of the UHCL Office of Alumni and Community Relations found inspiration from the community and created a way to help connect alumni.

UHCL alumna and then Director of Alumni and Community Relations Charity Ellis, along with Coordinator of Outreach and Communications Mindi Funderburg and Coordinator of Special Events Kris Thompson, discussed the business-oriented networking activities hosted by the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce and decided the UHCL Alumni Association would benefit from hosting similar events.

“So many of our programs were structured but our alumni were asking for very casual mix-and-mingle events,” says Funderburg, who came up with the events’ name, AlumNights. “AlumNights were created for UHCL alumni but also for local businesses, as a way for businesses to gain great exposure for not a lot of money.”

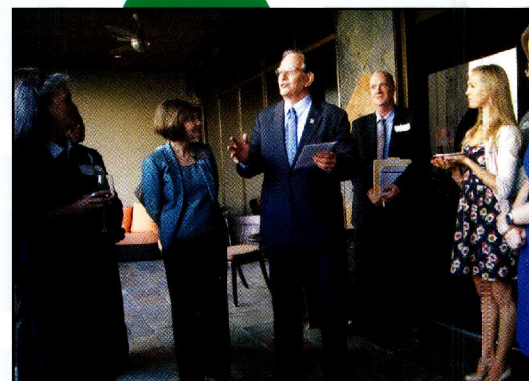
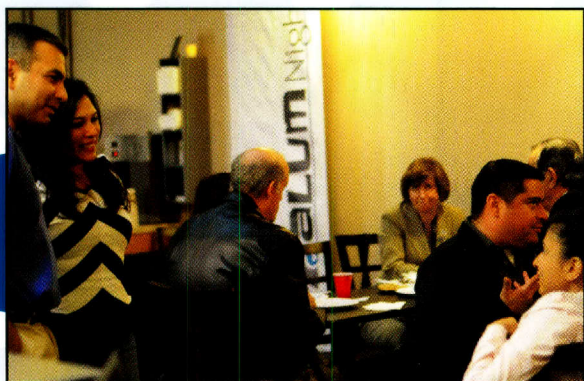
Anyone can offer to host an AlumNight though there are some guidelines such as venue size and accessibility. Alumni Association staff manage publicity for each event through online and print materials, and are on-hand at events to provide guests with name tags, lapel pins and university publications.

The first AlumNight was held at the university in 2009 and was followed by the first off-campus event, held at Emma’s Grill & Tex-Mex Bistro in Pearland. Since then, AlumNights have been hosted by RE/MAX Space Center, Target and Cosmos Bakery and Deli – to name a few. Though AlumNights are typically open to all UHCL alumni, hosts can choose to target their event to a specific audience such as graduates from the School of Business.

“After being designated as the Alumni Association Executive Council liaison to the School of Business, I wanted to do something that would engage our alumni and make them feel connected to UHCL,” says Marilyn Sims, who graduated from UHCL in 1998 with a bachelor’s degree in accounting, was recognized as a Distinguished Alumna in 2010, and has served on the AAEC since 2011. “In my visit with School of Business Dean Ted Cummings, I suggested gathering alumni with the same degrees and the professors who taught them to mix and mingle and find out where their education from UHCL led them in their professions.”

That suggestion led to Sims organizing an AlumNight for legal studies alumni, based on her connections from working in the legal profession. Sims contacted Jim Benson, associate

by Taryn Burnett







## Past UHCL AlumNights

**Target**  
June 4, 2013

**Cosmo's Bakery & Deli**  
March 7, 2013

**Accounting graduates**  
November 8, 2012

**School of Human Sciences and Humanities graduates**  
November 6, 2012

**Jill Hickman Journal Event**  
September 18, 2012

**Carmen Moreno Book Event**  
October 9, 2012

**Edgewater Community, Coventry Homes**  
May 22, 2012

**Dorothy Hagan Book Presentation and Signing**  
May 8, 2012

**Legal Studies graduates at Cullen's Upscale American Grille**  
April 12, 2012

**Butler Longhorn Museum**  
April 3, 2012

**Mary Sue Anton Book Presentation and Signing**  
March 8, 2012

**James Houston Turner Book Launch**  
September 15, 2011

**Pearland Arts League "Corks & Canvas" Event**  
August 6, 2011

**RE/MAX Space Center, hosted by John and Madeline Nugent**  
July 7, 2011

**Emma's Grill & Mex-Mex Bistro**  
November 4, 2010

professor of legal studies, and they arranged the event at a local restaurant. The story didn't end there though.

"One of Dr. Benson's students had approached me about nominating Dr. Benson for Outstanding Professor and I suggested that would be a great idea," says Sims. "Most everyone at the AlumNight had at some point had Dr. Benson as their professor, and were specifically coming to the AlumNight to visit with him. We felt like it would be a great showing to have those alumni in attendance endorse the nomination if they chose to do so, and many did just that."

Benson received the Alumni Association's award for Outstanding Professor at the 2012 Alumni Celebration event.

Stories like this are just what Charity Ellis had in mind when she helped create AlumNights.

"Our purpose is to gather people up then step aside and let them connect," says Ellis. "AlumNights are for those natural conversations."

AAEC Chair Kanch Weerasinghe, who completed his bachelor's degree at UHCL in 1998 and his master's degree in 2000, is often present for those conversations.

"AlumNights have been an overall success for everyone involved," says Weerasinghe. "They have created valuable relationships between UHCL, its alumni and local area businesses."

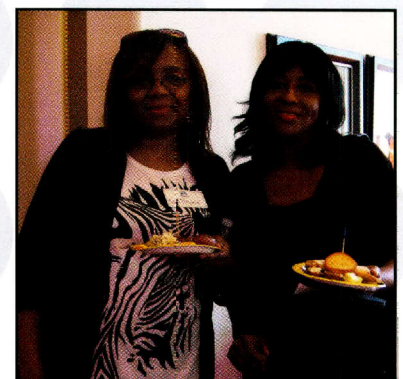
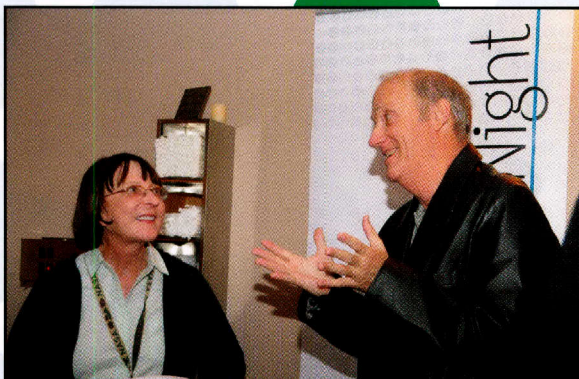
Those relationships – reconnecting with former instructors and classmates, discovering new business owners in the community and engaging with UHCL – are why AlumNights not only exist, but are successful events that will continue for years to come.

As Sims says, "relationships are so important in your personal and professional lives and they start with a common bond."

### Interested in hosting an AlumNight?

AlumNights are a great way to promote your business while visiting with UHCL alumni. Hosts receive free publicity for the event and their business through a variety of online and print materials created and distributed by the UHCL Alumni Association.

To learn more, visit [www.uhcl.edu/alumnights](http://www.uhcl.edu/alumnights).





**1970s**

**Lawrence Manning Jr.**, '79 BBA, is a foreman at Excel Construction Services.

**1980s**

**John Belt**, '80 MS, is president of QuilLab Consulting LLC and a professor at California Southern University.

**Penny Bowman**, '82 BA, is a business process analyst for University of West Florida, Pensacola, Fla.

**Dan Glazier**, '84 MBA, is a partner at The Glazier Group in Denton.

**Chester Little**, '85 MS, retired from BP America and now teaches at Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, Tenn.

**Shannon McClendon**, '89 BS, was appointed to a second term on the Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board.



**Bufford Moore**, '81 BS, has a practice in Baytown in cosmetic, plastic, reconstructive and hand surgery.

**Daniel O'Neill**, '89 BBA, manages planning, scheduling and routing the Boeing fleet aircraft for United Airlines, Flight Operations Division.

**Steve Sloat**, '81 MBA, published his first fiction thriller, "A Day to Die."

**1990s**

**Michael Bedford**, '90 BS, was elected to a four-year term as prosecutor for Van Buren County, Mich.



**Donna Lord Black**, '92 MA, '88 BS, was reappointed by Gov. Rick Perry to the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists.



**Toni Castillo**, '94 BA, is director of Stetson University Celebration Center, DeLand, Fla.

**Jan Johnson**, '95 MA, '86 BS, published "Walking Historic Galveston: A Guide to its Neighborhoods."



**Mike Merkel**, '94 MA, '90 BA, '95 Distinguished Alumnus, was elected to Brazoria County Precinct 3-1 as Justice of the Peace.

**Patricia Porter**, '95 BS, hosts an online radio program, The Texas Conflict Coach. She has produced 145 episodes during the past four years.

**Robert Porter**, '96 BS, graduated with a Master of Science in Computer Science from the University of Texas at San Antonio last year.

**Carolyn "Kaye" Post**, '90 BS, retired as principal from A.B. Freeman Elementary, Pasadena Independent School District, Pasadena.

**Donna Poth**, '91 BS, is the principal at Langford Elementary, Austin ISD, Austin.

**2000s**

**Julius Adeniyi**, '06 MS, is a senior auditor with Transocean.



**Premeela Chacko**, '04 PB BS, was awarded "Special Recognition" at the Women of Color Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Conference. She is an information technology professional with Boeing Test & Evaluation.



**Sravanthi Chigurupati**, '09 MS, accepted a position at the University of Chicago as a senior research technologist.



**Jared Cibley**, '07 MHA, works for the Department of Veterans Affairs as a health system specialist. He is currently working at Overton Brooks VA Medical Center, Shreveport, La.

**Jacque Darragh**, '00 BA, is a faculty secretary and a student at UHCL.

**Varun Desai**, '10 MS, works for L&T Infotech Ltd. in Edison, NJ as an information technology consultant.

**Mike Emery**, '07 MA, earned Public Relations Society of America – Excalibur Award, Blog – Gold award, and at the Houston Press Club Lone Star Awards: Press Release (Hard News) - First Place and Press Release (Soft News) - First, Second and Third Place.

**Nancy Garza**, '09 BS, is an accounting manager at Pasadena Tank Corp., Pasadena.

**Sharon Griffin**, '08 MA, '06 BS, has self-published a children's book titled "When I Grow Up: A Little Girl's Big Boy Dreams."

**Laurie Hake**, '06 BA, works in digital marketing for Halliburton.

**Rayomand Kumana**, '04 MS, is a project engineer for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Carmen Laffey**, '04 MA, works as a criminal investigator, Harris County Public Defender's Office.



**Erin Landry-Jones**, '04 MA, designs jewelry and owns Jewelry Inspirations by Erin, Santa Fe.



**Linda Matheson**, '06 BA, is the 2011-13 president of the Brazosport Art League, Clute.

**Shawn McCann**, '02 MA, published "Asleep At Work," a novel on surviving in the ever-changing workplace.

**Paul McRee**, '00 BA, published "Hell has Torments of Cold, Rebels on Johnson's Island," a book about a Civil War prison for Confederate officers.

**Linette Moore**, '03 MS, is a certified specialist microbiologist in biological safety microbiology. She is the safety program manager at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston.

**Claudia Ovalle**, '07 MS, teaches at Carroll Elementary in Sheldon ISD.

**Sameer Pande**, '02 MS, and his wife, Shivalika Pant, had a baby girl Jan. 6, 2013.

**Santosh Patel**, '09 MHA/MBA, is a market practice manager for HCA Physician Services.



**Mitali Paul**, '05 MHA/MBA, is chief executive officer of Select Specialty Hospital-Houston West.

**Shalonvia Ramirez**, '09 MA, is a clinical therapist at Youth & Family Counseling Services.

**Adelina Rucker**, '02 BS, was named the 2011-12 Pearland ISD Elementary Teacher of the Year. She is an educational technology specialist for grades K – 4.



**Mandy Scott**, '03 MS, is the principal of Santa Fe High School, Santa Fe ISD.

**Melonie Sczesny**, '07 BS, is a senior accountant for Tarpon Operating and Development LLC, Houston.

**Ryan Shuler**, '06 BA, has been certified by the American Health Information



Management Association as a registered health information technician and works for Harris Health System, Houston.

**Kirk Sides**, '05 MA, released his book "Photographing God: a spiritual guide to Visual Journalism." He is a visual journalist for Houston Community Newspapers and an adjunct professor at UHCL.

**Jamie Smith**, '02 BA, works for Baylor College of Medicine as manager, educational operations, Office of Undergraduate Medical Education.

**Nathanial Wiggins**, '09 MS, is a professor of mathematics at San Jacinto College.

## 2010s

**Derek Bird**, '12 BS, is a staff accountant for Camden Property Trust, Houston.

**Jamie Davis**, '12 MBA, '05 MA, '03 BA, was promoted to director of global procurement for TSC Offshore and is in charge of the company's global logistics.

**Angela Doggett**, '11 MHA/MBA, is working as an administrative fellow for Harris Health System, Houston.

**Joy Eddleman**, '11 MS, '06 BS, is a librarian at McMasters Elementary School, Pasadena ISD.

**Jessica Fiske**, '11 MHA, is a research coordinator at MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston.

**Roel Garza**, '11 BS, is a controller/scheduler for Kinder Morgan.

**Ryane Harris**, '12 BS, teaches third grade at Stafford Elementary School



in Stafford Municipal ISD, Stafford.

**Melissa Harrison**, '10 MHA/MBA, works for St. Luke's Episcopal Health System as a management consultant.

**Antrix Jain**, '12 MS, works for Baylor College of Medicine as a research assistant.

**David Langenberg**, '12 BS, is a senior captain with Village Fire Department, Houston.

**Emily Liles**, '10 BA, works for Brazosport College as a course developer, financial assistant and part-time event manager.

**Dahlia Mack**, '11 BS, works at MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston as a CE associate analyst.

**Hemanjan Padhy**, '10 MS, is a designer for Pentair Thermal Management, Houston.

**Brandon Rich**, '10 BS, works for Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services as a risk consultant.

**Crystal Rico**, '12 BFA, works for The Grand 1894 Opera House in Galveston as a marketing associate.

**Krystal Rogers**, '11 BS, received the First Year Promising Teacher of the Year Award from the Council for Exceptional Children-Texas. She teaches mathematics and science at Harlem Elementary, Goose Creek Consolidated ISD.

**John Simms**, '11 BA, teaches at Woodland Acres Middle School, Galena Park ISD. He also coaches football, basketball and track.



**Don Snider**, '12 BS, is the senior investigating officer for the U.S. Coast Guard, Milwaukee, Wis. He oversees marine casualty investigations and credentialed mariner investigations for all units within the Sector Lake Michigan area.

**Sylvester Talbert**, '12 MA, is a sales agent for Western Southern.

**Vanitha Venkateshaiah**, '11 MS, is a lab assistant with GE Clariant.

**Bridget Walton**, '10 MA, is an assistant professor of English at College of the Mainland, Texas City.

## In Memory

**Josh Jacob**, '99 BS, passed away in November 2012.

**Roy Frank Hans**, '83 BA, passed away in January 2013.

**Marian Stauffer**, '93 Special Education Teaching Certificate, passed away in October 2012.

**Ida Swiggett**, '83 MA, '81 BA, passed away in September 2012.

*Submit your items to Class Notes by sending an email with "Class Notes" in the subject line to [alumni@uhcl.edu](mailto:alumni@uhcl.edu) or by completing the online form at [www.uhcl.edu/alumni](http://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

Your UHCL Alumni Association is here for you! Use your free association membership to receive discounts around town and to get involved with other alumni and the future of UHCL. Is your membership I.D. missing? Let us know and we'll send you a new one.

## UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

### Welcome Back Bash

Friday, August 30, 2013 | UHCL Alumni Plaza

### Alumni Celebration

Saturday, October 19, 2013, 6:30-9 p.m. | Space Center Houston

### Association Executive Council Meetings

Thursday, August 15, 2013, 5:30-7:30 p.m. | UHCL Bayou Building, Garden Room

Thursday, November 21, 2013, 5:30-7:30 p.m. | UHCL Bayou Building, Forest Room

Open to all alumni. Come learn how you can get involved.

## WE WANT YOU!

Visit [www.uhcl.edu/alumni](http://www.uhcl.edu/alumni) or email [alumni@uhcl.edu](mailto:alumni@uhcl.edu) to get involved in your alumni association.



[www.facebook.com/UHCLAlumniAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/UHCLAlumniAssociation) | [www.youtube.com/UHCLalumni](http://www.youtube.com/UHCLalumni) | University of Houston Clear Lake on LinkedIn





**Through July 7**

Cricketer Tournament, hosted by the UHCL Indian Student Association. Matches are held every Friday and Saturday at 5:30 p.m. behind the Delta Building. 281-283-2575.

**Through August 1**

Kids U Summer Camps: Critter Camp, Under the Sea, Fairy Tales, Lego Robotics, and more. 281-283-3530.

**Through August 13**

"2013 Graduate Student Exhibition." Bayou Building, UHCL Art Gallery. 281-283-3311.

**Through August 23**

Fall 2013 Open Registration. 281-283-2500.

**July 10**

UHCL New Student Orientation, 5-8 p.m. Registration required. 281-283-2560.

**July 12-26**

"Successfully Coaching & Motivating Employees" workshop presented by Center for Advanced Management Programs. Course fee and pre-registration required. 281-283-3133.

**July 13**

UHCL Pearland Campus Open House, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., 1200 Pearland Parkway, Pearland. Registration recommended. 281-212-1690.

**August 1**

Fall 2013 application deadline for new graduate students. 281-283-2500.

**August 1**

UHCL begins accepting applications for the fall 2014 freshman class. [beahawk@uhcl.edu](mailto:beahawk@uhcl.edu).

**August 12**

Fall 2013 application deadline for new undergraduate students. 281-283-2500.

**August 17**

UHCL New Student Orientation, 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Registration required. 281-283-2560.

**August 22**

UHCL New International Student Orientation, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Registration required. 281-283-2560.

**August 22**

UHCL Pearland Campus New Student Orientation, 6-8:30 p.m. Registration required. 281-283-2560.

**August 22 – October 17**

"The Art of Sequential Storytelling," presented in association with comiCulture. Bayou Building, UHCL Art Gallery. 281-283-3311.

**August 24 – September 3**

Fall 2013 Late Registration. 281-283-2500.

**August 29**

"8 Seasons," concert by Mercury. Bayou Building, Bayou Theater. 281-283-2560.

**August 30**

Welcome Back Bash, Alumni Plaza. 281-283-2560.

**September 12**

Accounting Recruiters Reception for current students and alumni, 5-8 p.m., Bayou Building, Atrium II. Registration required. 281-283-2590.

**September 19**

Gulf Coast Job Fair, 1:30-4 p.m., Bayou Building, Atrium I and II. Registration recommended. 281-283-2590.

**September 21**

"comiCulture: From Creation to Consumption," symposium featuring comic book industry guest artists and writers. Various locations at UHCL. 281-283-3311.

**October 1**

Spring 2014 application deadline for international students outside the U.S. 281-283-2500.

**October 4**

"Mozart Piano," concert by Mercury. Bayou Building, Bayou Theater. 281-283-2560.

**October 5**

UHCL Open House, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Registration recommended. 281-283-2515.

**October 19**

UHCL Alumni Celebration, 6:30-9 p.m., Space Center Houston. 281-283-2021.

**October 28 – November 7**

Spring 2014 Pre-Registration. 281-283-2500.

**November 1**

Spring 2014 application deadline for international students within the U.S. 281-283-2500.

**November 2**

UHCL Pearland Campus Open House, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., 1200 Pearland Parkway, Pearland. Registration recommended. 281-282-1679.

**November 7**

17th Annual Student Leadership Conference, 7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Bayou Building. Open to non-UHCL students. Registration required. 281-283-2611.

**November 7 –****December 20**

"Prints from Slovakia." Bayou Building, UHCL Art Gallery. 281-283-3311.

**November 8 – January 10, 2014**

Spring 2014 Open Registration. 281-283-2500.

**November 9**

Hawk Premiere, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., for prospective 2014 freshmen. Registration recommended. 281-283-2515.

**November 11**

Annual Veterans Day Celebration, 10:30 a.m., Liberty Park. [www.uhcl.edu/veteransday](http://www.uhcl.edu/veteransday).

**November 14**

IISS Global Expo, 12-5 p.m., Bayou Building, Atrium II. 281-283-2565.

**November 21**

Fall Teacher Job Fair, 12:20-2:30 p.m., Bayou Building, Atrium II. Registration recommended. 281-283-2590.

**December 1**

Spring 2014 application deadline for new graduate students. 281-283-2500.

**December 13**

Commencement Kick-Off. 281-283-2021.

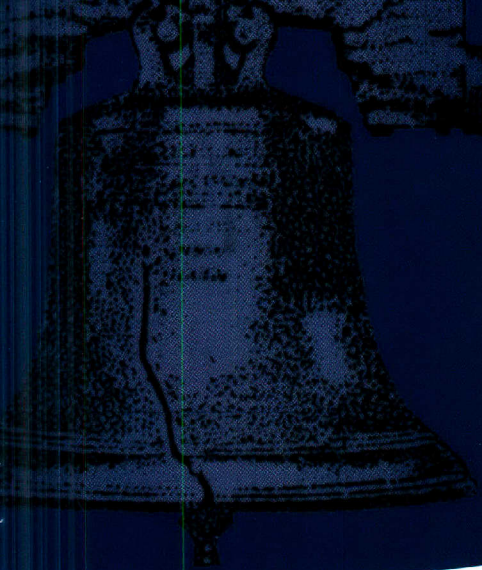
**December 15**

UHCL Fall Commencement Ceremony, Reliant Arena. 281-283-2525.

**Find more UHCL events at [www.uhcl.edu/events](http://www.uhcl.edu/events).**

*Dates, times and locations are subject to change; please confirm event details by calling the telephone number listed or visiting UHCL's website at [www.uhcl.edu](http://www.uhcl.edu). Individuals who wish to participate in any of the events listed and who need special accommodation 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.*





# THE UH-CLEAR LAKE **LIBERTY BELL** FUNDRAISING PROJECT

## **HELP BRING THE LIBERTY BELL TO BAY AREA HOUSTON**

**FULL-SCALE REPLICA CAST AT THE ORIGINAL WHITECHAPEL FOUNDRY**

- Permanent installation at UHCL
- Historical icon for the community
- Civics learning reference for legal studies, government, history, art students, and more!

### **You can play a role in the UHCL Liberty Bell Project**

Declaration Level (\$10,000)

Foundry Level (\$5,000)

Signatory Level (\$1,000)

Sustaining Founder (monthly gift of any size)

Citizens (one-time gift)

#### ***Limited Space Opportunity***

***Belles of the Bell:** ONLY 50 women will be acknowledged individually as a Belle of the Bell with a gift of \$1,000. Reserve your "Belle" spot now for you or the lady of liberty in your life, past or present. This is a great opportunity to honor or memorialize a special lady.*

***For more information or to schedule a special presentation,  
please contact Elbby Antony, [antonye@uhcl.edu](mailto:antonye@uhcl.edu) or 281-283-2016.***

**WWW.UHCL.EDU/LIBERTYBELL**



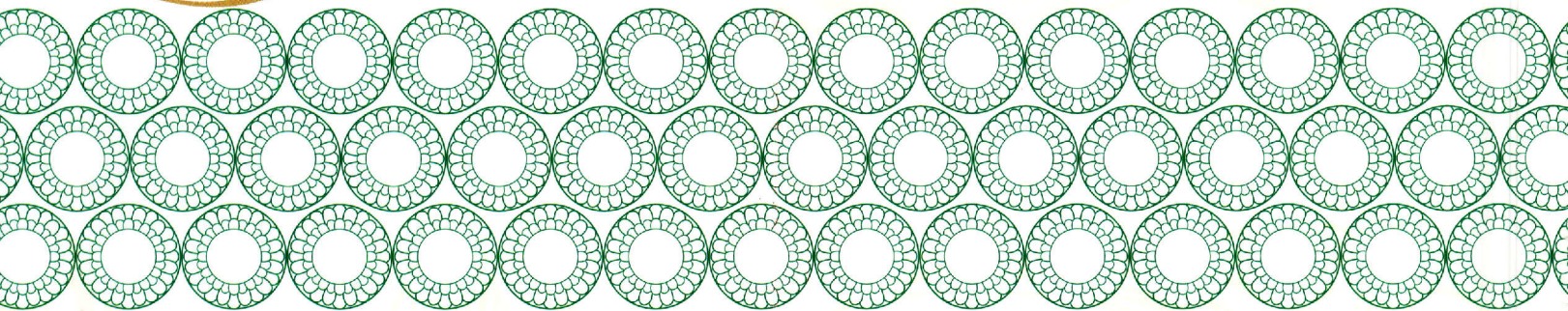
University of Houston  Clear Lake

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Houston, Texas 77058

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# Save the Date



**2013 UHCL ALUMNI CELEBRATION**

*Saturday, October 19, 2013*

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.