



July, 2018

From the President's Desk



We are busy preparing for fall classes to resume in six weeks and expect to cross yet another enrollment threshold -- possibly cracking the 4,000 student mark for the first time in history. To accommodate our ever-expanding student body, workers have braved hot temperatures throughout the summer as construction on our new Student Center progresses at a steady clip. When it opens in early 2019, this innovative, \$63 million facility that combines state-of-the-art learning and student life elements, will provide unprecedented opportunities to our

Trailblazers.

This July we are also welcoming a new leader, Dean Felecia Epps, to UNT Dallas College of Law. Dean Epps comes to us with an impressive resume and laser-like focus on helping our law school achieve full accreditation and improved bar passage rates. As Dean Epps comes aboard, Founding Dean Royal Furgeson moves into a fundraising role that will allow us to continue to take advantage of his strengths as an inspirational leader and great communicator.

Our leadership team is more determined than ever to build DFW's great urban university, and it takes world class leaders and facilities to make that vision a reality. Our focus remains providing a pathway to social mobility to students from the Dallas area, and a critical piece of making sure no students fall through the cracks is the Dallas County Promise.

As part of this game-changing program, UNT Dallas is working closely with DISD, DCCCD and our friends with the education-focused non-profit "Commit" to track 9,300+

seniors from 31 high schools in 7 school districts. Promise students get free community college tuition and a success coach beginning during their school senior year of high school and continue through college completion. Textbooks stipends are available for students with a 2.5 GPA or better who demonstrate financial need. Upon successful completion of an associate's degree, Promise students will receive a full-tuition transfer scholarship to UNT Dallas, and we are proud to have been the first 4-year university to support and help build this innovative pathway for area students.

It might be summertime, but these are hardly lazy days for our young university. The hard work our students, faculty and staff are putting in this season will benefit the ever-expanding UNT Dallas family for decades to come. Blaze your trail!

#UNTD News & Campus Updates

Welcome to the Trailblazer Family: We made two significant hires recently and please join me in welcoming Felecia Epps, the new Dean of the College of the Law, and Jim Main, our new Executive Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer. Main, who spent 17 years at the University of Nebraska, took his post in June. Epps, the former Dean at Florida A&M University, started at our downtown campus on July 1.

Board of Directors Set: The UNT Dallas Board of Directors includes: Brian K. Dennison, Senior Vice President, Urban America; Cheryl Mayo Williams, General Manager, The PLACE/T.D. Jakes Ministries; Dr. Howard E. Anderson, Jr., Internal medicine, AIM Center for Health & Wellness; Judge (Ret.) Royal Ferguson, former Dean of UNT Dallas College of Law; James Guess; Terrence G. Maiden, Executive Vice President, Corinth Properties; Regina Montoya, Chief Strategist, JMC Strategy Group; Tatiana Androsov, former President of Thanks-Giving Foundation; Thomas Joyner, Jr., President and CEO, Tom Joyner Foundation.

Partnership with City of DeSoto: We are partnering with the City of DeSoto to provide the city's employees the opportunity to further their education at no personal cost. We will provide employees selected by the city and admitted to UNT Dallas with higher education courses necessary to pursue a Bachelors of Business Administration degree, while the City of DeSoto will pay for the cost of application fees, tuition and books.

Student Group Earns Prestigious Award: The Society for Human Resource Management awarded a 2017-18 Superior Merit Award to the UNT Dallas SHRM student chapter for providing superior growth and development

opportunities to its student chapter members. Dr. Karen Shumway, Dean of the School Business said the award designates the UNT Dallas chapter as “one of the best in the world.”

College of Law Student Appointed as Regent: We are proud to have UNT Dallas College of Law student Amanda Pajares representing the school on the University of North Texas System Board of Regents. She was appointed by Governor Greg Abbott. Pajares earned her Bachelor of Arts in communications from the University of Texas at Tyler, where she was a decorated, multi-sport athlete. Her term as student regent runs through May 31, 2019.

Caruth Police Institute: The CPI is approaching its milestone 10th year of service. An anniversary celebration is planned for Sept. 27-28. An evening reception and panel discussion will kick things off on Sept. 27, followed by a breakfast with a keynote speaker on Sept. 28.

Building & Construction Update: With the erection of the \$63 million Student Learning and Success Center ongoing, the total makeover of the courtyard between Founder’s Hall and Building 1 is well underway and will continue into August. The SLSC is slated for completion in the spring of 2019.

Benefits Enrollment Coming Soon: Blue Cross Blue Shield will continue to be the insurance provider for UNT Dallas for the 2018-2019 academic year. Annual enrollment for the BCBS plan and other coverage options will be available from July 9-July 21. More information regarding annual enrollment is forthcoming. If you have additional benefit questions, please email: hrbenefits@untsystem.edu or call 817-735-7650 (option 2).

Orientation Continues: Four more orientation sessions remain this summer with two dates in July. Transfer students will be on campus on July 13 with another group of incoming freshmen on July 14. The final sessions will take place next month with transfer students on campus Aug. 16 and freshmen on Aug. 17.

Strategic Planning Meeting in July: Our first strategic planning meeting will take place the afternoon of July 9, and during the day of July 10. Students, faculty, community members will be invited, as will Rosemary Haggett, the UNT System Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs & Student Success.

Make Mine a Grande: The Starbucks at the entrance of Building 1 continues to be a popular stop for faculty, staff and students. It offers a variety of Starbucks’ signature caffeinated concoctions plus a variety of pastries and other beverages.

Tree Campus USA: We were tabbed a Tree Campus USA, which recognizes college and university campuses that effectively manage their campus trees, develop connectivity with the community beyond campus borders to foster healthy, urban forests and strive to engage their student population utilizing service learning opportunities centered on campus, and community, forestry efforts.

Law Student Gets Media Treatment: John VanBuskirk, a 71-year-old retired Army major and member

of the College of Law's inaugural class was featured in articles by WFAA.com and Texas Lawyer, and was a guest on the news and entertainment television program Daily Blast Live, which airs afternoons on WFAA.

Friend of UNT Dallas Passes Away: It is with great sadness that we lost a dear friend Altha Moore last month. Born and raised in West Dallas, she served the past two years as a GrowSouth AmeriCorps VISTA working with community leaders to strengthen neighborhoods. She was a lifelong educator, entrepreneur and neighborhood leader with a heart for service.

UNT Dallas takes important leadership role at Campus Safety Conference

The University of North Texas at Dallas continued to position itself as a regional leader in critical arenas, serving as the higher education sponsor of the Campus Safety Convention 2018 that was held at the Omni Mandalay Bay at Las Colinas on June 25 and 26. The conference was attended by nearly 350 police officers from across the state, nation and even internationally, to discuss, strategize and share the latest trends and techniques to help ensure campuses are always safe places.

More: [UNT Dallas joins USC, Penn as higher ed sponsor of premiere campus safety](#)



National spotlight shines on UNT Dallas, host of two Wipro Science events

The University of North Texas at Dallas continued to emerge as a leader in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) by playing host to two significant events -- the Wipro Science Education Fellowship Conference in May attended by representatives from six universities from coast to coast, followed by the Wipro Science Education Fellowship Program Induction Celebration on June 8.

More: [Representatives from six universities from coast to coast gathered on campus for day-long event](#)



Texas Instruments Awards ETI STEM Program \$460,000 Grant

The Texas Instruments Foundation awarded the University of North Texas at Dallas' Emerging Teacher Institute with a \$460,000 grant to support a new advanced science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education program for public school principals. The grant will fund an innovative approach to preparing the next generation of school leaders who know how to nurture school campuses to achieve uncommon STEM and Career and Technical Education (CTE) outcomes for students.

More: [The STEM Principal Training Program will offer a total of 30 full scholarships](#)



Elevate Academy spends week on campus training future entrepreneurs

There was no shortage of confidence among those attending this week-long leadership conference held on the campus of UNT Dallas. Now in its second year, the participants, all aspiring entrepreneurs selected through a competitive application process from public, private and charter schools in Dallas, spent the week on campus, staying in the residence hall and interacting with guest speakers in Building 1.

More: [Maiden Brothers connect business leaders with aspiring high school students](#)



Puerto Rican mental health students learn valuable skills to help at home

Spearheaded by UNT Dallas' own Dr. Jennifer Baggerly, a professor in the department of Counseling and Human Services, the group of mental health students from Puerto Rico were taught new therapy techniques to help their community cope with the devastation of last September's Hurricane Maria.

More: [Puerto Rican students will take techniques learned here home to help children](#)



The University of North Texas at Dallas is our city's emerging urban university. UNT Dallas empowers students, transforms lives and strengthens communities. Perched on a hilltop, overlooking the Downtown Dallas skyline, UNT Dallas is the only public, accredited 4-year university in the City of Dallas. UNT Dallas includes the UNT Dallas College of Law in Downtown Dallas and is part of the UNT System.





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