



Message from Dr. With

It is hard to believe that we are almost half way through the spring 2016 semester! There has been a constant bustle of activity as there always is and it is great to see so many students participating in the events and programs that you all are planning and hosting. With even more programs on the horizon for the rest of the semester, there is still a great deal of work left to do.

The new Student Union is in full swing and students are using the facility in numbers that have exceeded our expectations. As concerned as I was about students needing to learn how to use the building – they have jumped right in and proven that when a facility is designed with their input, no training is necessary! There are a variety of new dining options available to students including Burger King, Jamba Juice, Which Wich, and a few more still to come this semester including, Taco Bueno and Starbucks. The Union will host Wingspan Week later in April, which is not only a celebration of all things Union but also will be the culminating programming for our 125th Anniversary celebration.

- **Wingspan Week** will take place April 11-17 and will include I Heart UNT Day (April 11), the Union Fest (April 14), Lab Band Performances (April 14-15), Scrappy Exhibit and Ice Cream (April 14), Union Dedication/Ribbon Cutting and Sculpture Tribute (April 15), Nobel Prize speaker (April 15), University Day (April 15), Wingspan Gala (April 16), and Talons Alumni Banquet (April 17).

In an effort to keep you updated on a few other campus and/or system-wide events, I would like to provide the following:

- The next **Board of Regents** meeting will take place February 25-26, 2016 at UNT Dallas. The Board will vote on updating the Capital Improvement Plan by adding a two-phase residence hall project to the list. The initial phase of the project, the first 500 bed hall of a 1,000 bed complex, is set to open in fall 2018. The second phase is planned to begin immediately thereafter and is scheduled to include the second 500 beds and a possible dining hall. There is much more included in the meeting and you can learn more by clicking here for the [agenda](#).
- The University will undergo its SACSCOC accreditation process in late March. This process is a complex one that began several years ago to ensure that the University is fully in compliance. Our Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), *UNT Career Connect*, is one part of this accreditation process and will be fully launched in the coming year. The purpose of the QEP is to provide opportunities for students to increase their learning and skills in critical thinking, communication and teamwork. Student Affairs will play a key role in the QEP as we know students gain these skills in the co-curricular activities and programs we provide. We know employers value these skills and the University wants to do all we can to help students gain them during their educational career. More information will be shared on this topic in the coming months, but feel free to check the [website](#).
- There were a series of Town Hall Discussions that took place this month to gauge UNT's progress in key areas. The **Student Success Town Halls** took place on January 27, February 5, and February 10 and highlighted the proposal to update Sage Hall into a one-stop academic success center. The **Pride and Engagement Town Halls** occurred on January 28 and February 11 and presented an opportunity for campus constituents to discuss how to build UNT pride and community

engagement among UNT and surrounding communities. The next steps for each are for the input gathered to be incorporated into the University's planning activities. You will hear more about these two areas as we update our strategic plan in the coming months.

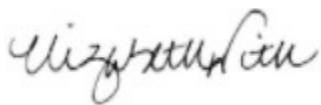
- The FY17 budget cycle is underway which will determine initiatives for the upcoming year. The Student Service Fee Committee is well underway and have heard presentations from all areas requesting funds. They will deliberate later this semester. The University budget hearings for E&G fund requests will occur in the coming weeks. All budgets will likely not be solidified until late spring or early summer.

Lastly, in our continued efforts to promote an engaged learning environment where our Division is strengthened and individuals flourish, please remember to take advantage of our professional development opportunities, which include, but are not limited to, the [Supervisory Building Blocks](#) Training. For those involved in the hiring process, look for training opportunities within your area during the coming months. It is extremely important that we follow all rules and policies regarding the hiring process and that everyone who is part of the process is adequately trained. Additionally, there is a monthly Professional Development newsletter sent from Austin Chappell. Feel free to contact him should you have questions related to DSA training opportunities at Austin.chappell@unt.edu or 940-565-4587.

As always, please utilize the [Employee Suggestions form](#) if you would like to submit feedback of any kind.

Thanks for all you do to serve and support our students,

Elizabeth



UNT's Quality Enhancement Plan

The Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) is a primary requirement of the Southern

Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS COC) reaffirmation of accreditation. This accreditation affirms UNT's high standards and allows the university to participate in the federal financial aid program.

UNT chose its QEP, **UNT Career Connect**, in November 2014 after significant university-wide input and feedback. UNT Career Connect will engage students through action-based experiential learning in the context of communities - public or private sector - in order to develop **communication, teamwork, and critical thinking skills**.

SACS COC will be on campus March 21-24, 2016 for their on-site visit committee.



The Office of Greek Life: Annual Presidents' Retreat

The Office of Greek Life started the semester off with our annual presidents' retreat at Camp Copas on the shores of Lake Lewisville. this year we were excited to open up this retreat to not only our chapter and council presidents but the four governing council executive board directors and vice presidents. The 2016 Greek Life Leadership Retreat was a two-day retreat that focused on leadership development, chapter and personal growth, community unity, and shared vision and goals for the future of UNT's Greek Life. The retreat was able to serve 63 of our community leaders in helping them prepare for the upcoming year. Maddie Runyan, president of Alpha Phi, said, "Leadership Retreat was an

opportunity that allowed me to not only grow in my relationships with other sororities and fraternities but it allowed us to come together as one organization and deliberate on the high ideals and unified foundation that we want to promote on campus. through the laughter and long conversations we were challenged by creating new opportunities within the community. It was an amazing retreat and I am so thankful to be a part of such an incredible organization!" The Office of Greek Life would like to thank Dr. Elizabeth With, Lindsey Fields, Dan Goodwin, and the Eaglethon executive board for coming out and leading us in empowering conversations. We would also like to thank everyone who participated and we look forward to seeing these leaders flourish in the Greek Community.

Recreational Sports: Explore what we have to offer!

Aquatics

[Adult Swim Lessons](#)

[Children's Learn-to-Swim](#)

[Lifeguarding](#)

From lifeguarding certification courses to adult swim lessons, Aquatics has more than just lap swimming. Don't forget that we offer private swim instruction for anyone wanting that personal, tailored approach to swimming.

Fitness

[Group Exercise](#)

[Specialty Fitness Programs](#)

[Personal Training](#)

Fitness isn't just lifting weights or cardio. Come participate in a variety of group exercise classes throughout the semester to vary up your workout routine, or try one of our specialty fitness classes to help give you more accountability and focus. Want even more accountability? Certified personal trainers are available for customized workouts, equipment instruction, and ongoing motivation and support for your fitness goals.

Intramurals

[Intramural Programs](#)

Compete in leagues like softball or even single day events like racquetball and tennis. Not into the competition but enjoy watching it happen? Check out our

annual Slam Dunk Contest on February 24 - free pizza, t-shirts, and a fun event to bring the family to.

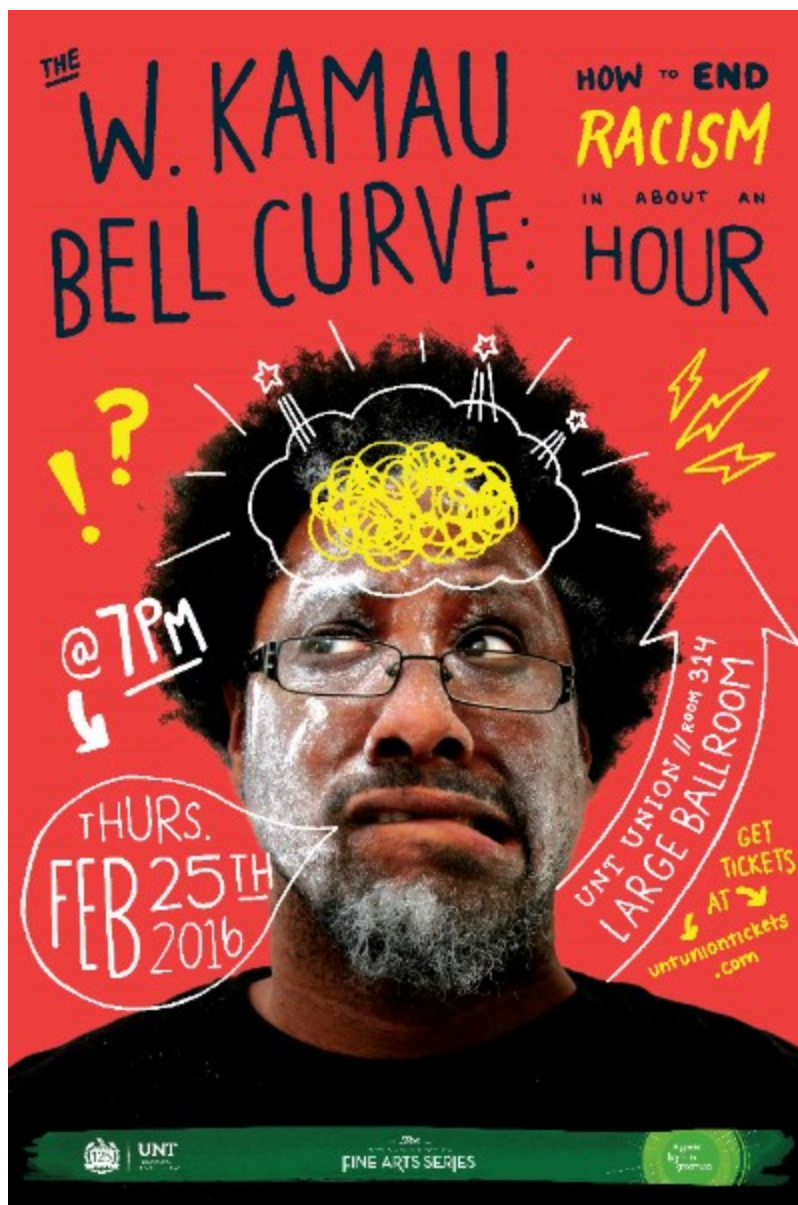
Outdoor Pursuits

[Adventure Trips](#) [Free Clinics](#) [Climbing Wall](#) [Equipment Rentals](#)

Whether you're interested in getting out on day or extended trips led by our staff, or just learning new skills at one of our eight free clinics this semester, the Outdoor Pursuits program will help you meet new people, develop your skills, and explore the North Texas area. The climbing wall is open every day too, including family climbs over the weekends, and the Outdoor Pursuits Center rents high quality equipment for all of your outdoor trip needs!

And don't forget! **Friday, February 12 is the final payroll deduction deadline for the semester.** This is a great way to have your membership taken out of your paycheck each month at a low monthly installment. You can find a copy of our payroll deduction form [here](#).

Visit our [website](#), stop by the Member Services Desk in the Rec Center, call our main office at 940-565-2275, or contact [Ben Hanisian](#) to get started!



W. Kamau Bell to Speak at UNT

W. Kamau Bell is speaking at UNT as part of the Mary Jo & V Lane Rawlins Fine Art Series on February 25th at 7:00 p.m. in the new University Union. Tickets can be purchased starting February 1 here. The performance is called "The W. Kamau Bell Curve: How to End Racism in About an Hour." Socio-political comedian W. Kamau Bell has emerged as the post-modern voice of comedy. Named an Ambassador of Racial Justice by the ACLU, his weekly half-hour FX comedy series, *Totally Biased with W. Kamau Bell*, premiered in August 2012 and became a critically acclaimed but criminally short night show in September of 2013 on FX's new comedy network FXX. The NY Times called Kamau "the most promising new talent in political comedy in many years." The

show was nominated for a 2013 GLAAD Award for "Outstanding Talk Show Episode" for Kamau's interview with Orange is the New Black's Laverne Cox, as well as "Best Talk Series" at the 2012 NAACP Image Awards. Salon.com named Kamau on their "Sexiest Men of 2012" list, calling the series "surreptitiously revolutionary in its effortless diversity and humanism." The San Francisco Chronicle raved, "it makes The Daily Show seem like something your dad watches." Totally Biased was executively produced by Chris Rock, who became a fan after seeing a performance of Kamau's one man show.

The Big Event

Do you want to be a part of something big?

Join thousands of students, staff, and faculty in making a difference in the Denton County community through the Big Event. Join us for our kick-off celebration and leave to volunteer throughout the community with the environment, youth, homeless, seniors, and more. Then come back to meet our community partners at our Big Event Block Party! The Big Event is Saturday, April 2, from 7:15 a.m. - 2 p.m. Volunteers are encouraged to [register](#) by March 4. Please contact [Tricia Rodriguez](#) for more information.



UNT Quiz Bowl Winners

UNT Student Activities hosts an annual Quiz Bowl tournament where student teams compete in a question-and-answer game of general knowledge and quick recall. Game questions cover a range of topics from history and science to sports and popular culture. The winners of our local UNT tournament get to travel to the regional sectionals tournament to compete against other universities, hosted at the University of Central Oklahoma this year. The UNT Team competed this month against six other teams and finished the weekend in third place against some very experienced teams! More information on the UNT Quiz Bowl can be found [here](#).

Inaugural TD Ameritrade Interns Named

Quanah Cruz and Reagan Weatherby were named finalists for the inaugural TD Ameritrade internships with the Student Money Management center. Both seniors bring great experience and enthusiasm to the internship. Quanah is a former SMMC Intern who said of his selection, "I am so excited to be part of the TD Ameritrade grant team. Reagan and I look forward to creating an exciting and innovative program." The interns will be engaged in working with the SMMC team to provide financial literacy education services on campus and to promote the field of financial planning to the greater Denton community. Paul Goebel, SMMC Director, noted, "This is an innovative academic partnership for our center. Our entire team is very honored to have been selected as the placement site for these new internship positions."



Avesta Restaurant

The Union Building is now home to the brand new Avesta restaurant. Avesta is a full service elegant dining experience for a casual price. They accept cash, credit, debit, flex, declining balance, and department ID's. Avesta is open Monday-Friday from 11 am - 2 pm. View the menu [here](#) or call to make a reservation.

Spring 2016 Commuter Week

The time has come to plan for our Spring 2016 Commuter Week; March 28-April 1! This is a prime opportunity to reach a significant number of students and provide them with valuable information. Your department can either submit an intent to extend hours, plan an event or program, or both! By combining with your department or organization, we can give our students the best information and resources. The deadline to [submit](#) is February 21.



UNT Dental Office

The Dental Office at UNT is a full-service practice that provides students, faculty, staff, and their families with the most affordable, high-quality, and convenient dental care available. Located on the first floor of Chestnut Hall inside the Health and Wellness Center, the Dental Office accepts all major PPO insurance (including the UNT Dental PPO plan) and a variety of payment options for patients without insurance. Special discounts for full-time faculty and staff are available.

Services Include:

- Preventative exams, x-rays, and hygiene
- Crowns and fillings
- Endodontic services such as root canals
- Periodontal services such as gum treatments
- Invisalign and MTM orthodontics
- Cosmetic dentistry such as advanced teeth whitening, veneers, and cosmetic crowns
- Oral cancer detection

The Dental Office is open Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you have any questions or would like to schedule an appointment, please call 940-273-2184 or dial campus extension 7334.

April Named UNT Money Month

The Student Money Management Center has named April as UNT Money Month. The SMMC outreach team will be planning on collaborating on special programs and events with both academic and student affairs departments to strengthen students' personal financial skills throughout the month of April. April also has the special national designation as Financial Literacy Month. Student co-chairs for the SMMC's Money Month planning team - Nichole Lantis and Maegan Shafer - have been working together since last fall to plan events. If your department would like to offer a special program during Money Month, please contact [Nichole Lantis](#).



Student Health Insurance Coverage and Your Taxes

By Kerry Stanhope, M.Ed.

The [Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act](#), passed into law by president Obama on March 23, 2010, created a tax liability for individuals and families without qualifying health insurance coverage for an entire tax year, starting with tax year 2014. Individuals, including students, who cannot provide proof of qualifying coverage, either through the health insurance marketplace, employer-sponsored plan, or coverage from a parent, spouse, or other family member, could pay an additional [tax penalty](#) on their federal income taxes.

Students who do not already have insurance coverage from their employer or family have few options for getting coverage. The [health insurance marketplace](#) is a site that offers insurance coverage on a sliding scale based on income

requirements that is overseen by the federal Department of health and Human Services. Open enrollment for the health insurance marketplace ended on January 31, 2016, but students might be able to use the exchange if they had certain qualifying events that would grant them an extension, such as loss of insurance from an employer or family member after the enrollment deadline. Another option for students is insurance provided through UNT.

UNT currently offers a plan for enrolled students through United Healthcare Student Resources which covers the majority of services provided at the [Student Health and Wellness Center](#) at 100% with no deductible. The plan also includes other in-network providers, including hospitals and specialist, for a \$400 deductible and then coverage for 80% of incurred charges. this coverage is nationwide for students who may travel during the school year.

The University endorsed student insurance plan also covers prescription benefits. Students on the plan would pay \$10 for generic prescriptions and \$35 for brand name prescriptions at the [UNT Pharmacy](#). Going to an in-network, off-campus pharmacy would provide enrolled students with co-pays of \$10, \$25, or \$40 for covered medications.

Premiums for the plan depend on the dates of coverage. Spring only coverage (through 5/15/16) is \$702 for an individual student, and coverage for spring and summer (through 8/13/16) is \$1,166. Please note that premiums costs are not prorated, so it will be the same cost no matter when you enroll for coverage, and premiums must be paid in full at the time of enrollment. Make sure to enroll by the end of February to [avoid paying the tax penalty](#) for the 2016 tax year as plan coverage starts from the date of enrollment.

Students qualify for participation in the student insurance plan by enrolling in at least 1 credit hour in each semester. Enrollment in the UNT student insurance plan, and full plan benefits, is available [online](#). Spouses and other dependents can be included as well, for additional fees listed on the enrollment site. Spouses or dependents would need to be enrolled UNT students to utilize the Student Health and Wellness Center, otherwise they would need to see another in-network primary care provider.

Questions about enrolling the University endorsed student policy can be directed to the [Billing and Insurance Department](#) of the Student Health and

Living Learning Communities

Living Learning Communities is the new name for what used to be REAL Communities. The reason for this change is to be in line with national Living Learning Programs language and effectively share the focus of this community effort.

Living Learning Communities are groups of students who opt-in to live together that share a common interest or major, and are supported by a department or College in the hall. Besides living on a wing with other students who share similar academic interests, a Living Learning Community Mentors, our department and College support persons, regularly engage with their residents, and support the out of class academic experience through:

- One-on-one and small group conversation
- Academic support from near-peers and/or faculty
- Connecting students to future career possibilities through field trips
- Support our local community through volunteering and other acts of service
- Promote a faculty and staff presence as a friendly resource beyond the classroom
- Potential cohort enrollment in a same course/same section of a core class related to their major

Fall 2016 Living Learning Communities include:

- Art & Design
- Business
- Child Development & Education
- Health Professions
- Health, Wellness, and Sport
- Jazz Studies & Music
- Merchandising & Hospitality Management

- Radio, TV, & Film (Media Arts)
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)
- UNT SERVES!

If you are interested in connecting with any of these communities now, or serving as a LLC Mentor in the upcoming academic year, please reach out via email to [Lindsey Fields](#), Coordinator for Academic Initiatives & Assessment or her Graduate Assistant, [Coleman Sulak](#). Position openings for future LLC Mentors will be posted [here](#) for the upcoming academic year.

Residence Life Advisors

Housing is recruiting dedicated student leaders across campus for Residence Life Advisors (RLAs) for the Fall 2016 semester. Being an RLA is a rewarding experience for students, providing the opportunity to develop professionally, personally, and as leaders, all while serving as a role model and resource for peers. There are three positions from which RLAs serve their community:

1. Resident Assistants (RA): build community in residence halls; plan and execute events to connect students to their peers and their campus
2. Housing Ambassadors (HA): front line customer service representatives for UNT Housing; assist with customer concerns; provide tours of residence halls to prospective students
3. Facility Assistants (FA): perform maintenance repairs in residence halls; enhance the aesthetics of residence halls

RLAs are chosen through a competitive selection process, including group interviews and individual interviews. Beyond the professional and personal experience, RLAs are also generously compensated with room and board coverage and a stipend for their service to the UNT community. Encourage your student leaders to apply! Any students interested in becoming an RLA should refer [here](#) and attend one of the information sessions. A schedule of information sessions (Feb 17 – March 8) is available online as well.

Career Center Spotlight

Business Career Fair

Wednesday, February 17

3 - 4 p.m.

Coliseum

Journalism, Media, Communication & Design Internship & Career Fair

Wednesday, February 24

1 - 4 p.m.

Gateway Center

Engineering Fair

Thursday, February 25

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Discovery Park

U.S. College Hiring to Increase 11 Percent

According to results of the National Associate of College's and Employers (NACE) Job Outlook 2016 survey, "the hiring outlook for college graduates continues to improve as employers plan to hire 11 percent more new college graduates from the Class of 2016 for their U.S. operations than they did from the Class of 2015." Though hiring is on the rise, it is still important for students to engage in career development early on. Please encourage students to visit walk-in hours or schedule an appointment with their Career Development Specialist today by calling (940) 565-2105 or by emailing the [Career Center](#).

Career Center: Spring 2016 Walk-In Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday from 1 - 3 p.m.

Monday through Thursday from 4 - 6 p.m.

We would love to hear from you!

We are always looking for new stories and feedback. If you have anything to share, please use the links below.

Newsletters will be sent out on a monthly basis on the first Friday of every month. Stories, announcements, and pictures will be due the Monday previous.

Submit Content for the Next Newsletter

Tell Us Your Thoughts Anonymously



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