

# DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

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ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017




DIVISION OF  
STUDENT AFFAIRS

**UNT**<sup>®</sup>

EST. 1890

# GLORY TO THE GREEN AND WHITE

SINGING GLORY TO THE **GREEN**,  
SINGING GLORY TO THE **WHITE**,  
FOR WE **KNOW** OUR UNIVERSITY  
IS **STRIVING** FOR THE **RIGHT**;  
DOWN THE **CORRIDORS** OF YEARS,  
WE'LL FORGET THE **JOYS AND TEARS**,  
BUT **NORTH TEXAS**, **NORTH TEXAS**,  
**WE LOVE!**



## Message from the Vice President for Student Affairs

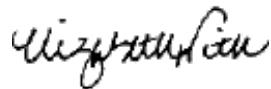
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The Division of Student Affairs (DSA) at the University of North Texas (UNT) accomplished many impressive things in 2016 – 2017 thanks to the dedication and support of our staff and student employees.

As you will see in the pages of this annual report, we increased our programming and activities, expanded our services for students, explored creating new facilities and strengthened our partnerships with other divisions on campus, in particular Enrollment and Athletics.

We also continued to recognize and develop our staff, who have dedicated themselves to supporting students during their time at UNT.

I am extremely proud of what we accomplished in 2016 – 2017, and we are carrying that momentum forward into our plans for 2017 – 2018. Our mission is to serve students, and we will continue to implement new ways of doing just that.



**Elizabeth With, Ed.D.**





## Our Mission

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The Division of Student Affairs provides opportunities for students and the campus community to cultivate academic, personal and professional success. We enhance the student experience through a wide array of intentional programs, services and activities that support the lifecycle of our students.

## Our Vision

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The Division of Student Affairs sees the potential within all UNT students and fosters a culture of excellence and opportunity. We build a foundation for all students to succeed as contributing members in an evolving global society.

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# Areas of Focus and Accomplishments

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The Division of Student Affairs (DSA) identified several areas of focus for the 2016 – 2017 academic year that would enhance its efforts to serve students. Through collaboration across departments and with other UNT divisions, the DSA was able to accomplish a number of initiatives that will continue to benefit students for years to come.

## Programs and Services

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The DSA offers a wide range of programs and services for students, but it continually strove to find new ways to improve the UNT experience for all students.

- In order to make all students feel included, programming increased at **Discovery Park** with Student Activities hosting Homecoming events and Off-Campus Student Services offering resources for students each month. A new Rec Sports field project is also underway.
- The DSA expanded services and programs at **New College at Frisco** by providing a total of 45 programs with 1,159 attendees and responding to a total of 385 student service requests. Student Activities also hosted the second annual UNT in Your Community at the New College at Frisco, featuring 12 departments, and Orientation and Transition Programs supported the first orientation program at the Frisco campus. In addition, the Student Health and Wellness Center offered a fall flu vaccine clinic and an Eagle's Refuge program "Lessen Your Stress" in April 2017 at the New College.
- The DSA continued to address the needs of graduate students by implementing findings from the **Graduate Student Survey**, which included launching the **Graduating Year Experience website** and blackboard page as a resource to graduate students preparing for graduation: [studentaffairs.unt.edu/orientation-and-transition-programs/graduating-graduate-student](http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/orientation-and-transition-programs/graduating-graduate-student). In addition, for the second year, Student Activities hosted events during **Graduate Student Appreciation Week** (planning three more programs than the previous year), and Orientation and Transition Programs hosted a **Graduate Student Commencement Reception** in April 2017.
- Recognizing the increasing student desire for more sustainability programs, the **We Mean Green Fund** implemented the **UNT Goes GreenSense Project**, which made UNT 100% renewable with its electricity. The project gained recognition through the EPA Green Power Partnership College and University Top 30 List, where UNT ranked #11 nationally and was the highest-ranked university in Texas.

- In order to keep students, as well as faculty and staff, healthy and physically and mentally active, the DSA increased its focus on **wellness programs and activities** in several ways.
  - **Student Health and Wellness Center (SHWC)** contacts increased 16%, going from 12,958 in FY16 to 14,980 in FY17. The SHWC also collaborated with the psychology dept./clinic to host a placebo study in the clinical space and provided TB screenings for students in psychology prior to being placed in a hospital/clinical setting.
  - **Counseling and Testing Services (CTS)** continued its partnership with Student Veteran Services with a weekly veterans drop-in group; utilized new rehabilitation interns to increase prevention collaboration with the SHWC and Meadows Center for Health Resources; and placed Housing Counselors in Maple Hall for easier student access.
  - **Rec Sports** partnered with the **Media Library** to offer eSports to students. This included renovating The Nest and adding computers and additional consoles for eSports gaming; adding computers to the Discovery Park library for eSports; and launching the eSports series in the spring semester with League of Legends. Rec Sports also implemented the VIP membership partnership with loyal members, encouraging new faculty and staff to join the Rec Center; offered the New Year's Resolution membership the month of January for a discounted fee to help those commit to their new year's resolutions; and offered a new program, Moonlight Yoga, throughout the year on the patio after dark.
  - Leading the national trend of incorporating holistic, proactive financial wellness services for students, the **Student Money Management Center** focused on increasing comprehensive coaching services for students. Ninety-eight percent of students agreed that their financial wellness coaching session will help them succeed in college.





## Facilities, Infrastructure and Assessment

Having top-notch facilities bolsters student success, so the DSA continued to explore enhancing current buildings while researching means of creating new ones.

- Renovation began to the first floor of **Sage Hall**, clearing the way for new offices and meeting spaces.
- More than \$7,000,000 was spent on upgrading, renovating and refreshing **residence halls** over the summer.
- The DSA continued to work on the **Housing/Dining masterplan**, which includes a **new residence hall** and a new dining hall to keep up with student demand. The DSA also continued to explore options for the **Greek housing infrastructure**.
- Rec Sports continued to work with Peterbuilt to identify land to move all **intramural and sport club fields** to one location, making it easier for students to participate.

## Focus on Staff

From working with students to implementing new programs, staff are crucial for everything that the DSA does. Efforts continued to be made to recruit, retain and recognize staff for all that they do.

- The **DSA Staff Development Committee** continued implementing professional development programs by hosting new DSA staff orientations, the 2016 DSA Kick-Off Breakfast and 2017 DSA Awards Luncheon, where staff were recognized for their service to the division. Workshop Wednesdays, Training Thursdays and social networking events also were created and planned for fall 2017 based on feedback and suggestions from staff.
- Rec Sports added an **intramural coordinator** position to assist with the workload of other staff in that program area, which continues to gain interest among students.
- The **Student Money Management Center director** was named Financial Educator of the Year by the National Endowment for Financial Education.



# Enrollment and Retention

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Attracting quality students to UNT is the top priority for the university, so the DSA continued to partner with Admissions to enhance the experience for prospective and admitted students. The DSA also increased its efforts to assist in retaining current students.

- Thanks to the efforts of Orientation and Transition Programs (OTP), **Summer Send-Off Parties** increased 128% from the previous year, reaching more than 1,100 families across 12 parties in Texas and Oklahoma. OTP also incorporated Admissions staff into the events to signify a “hand-off” from recruitment to enrollment. OTP’s **Freshman Parent Orientation** participation also increased 25%, and its **Transfer Parent Orientation** participation increased 17% for summer/fall sessions. In addition, OTP assisted with **transfer recruitment and yield** by working with Academic Affairs to explore ways of serving transfer students outside of orientations.
- OTP focused on **Graduate Student Orientation** by developing an online orientation that rolled out for spring 2017 admits, engaging 967 new graduate students throughout the semester. OTP also enhanced its partnership with International Student and Scholar Services to make graduate orientation a seamless process for new international graduate students.
- OTP enhanced **yield events** by participating in UNT Live events, and Student Activities ensured spirit groups like Talons and the spirit squads participated in more local events (the Talons included the Model A in the Fort Worth Parade of Lights). OTP also developed a last-minute “I Am UNT” recruitment event in order to help “seal the deal” for prospective students in the DFW area who had been accepted to UNT but not taken any other step toward enrollment. In addition, OTP hosted a Major Boot Camp in August targeting freshman students who attended sessions 1-7. The camp helped students explore major options through personality profiles and activities designed to help them confirm their major.
- The Dean of Students (DOS) Office continued to be innovative and responsive with the **withdrawal process** and **CARE Team**, seeing a record number of referrals to the CARE Team (double the previous year) and adding a staff member dedicated to the CARE Team process. DOS also had a record number of saves in the withdrawal process in spring 2017 of 12%.



# Prepare Students for Career Success

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UNT students are primarily focused on their academic studies, but they need to be prepared for life after graduation as well. The DSA continued to enhance its programs and services for preparing students for success in the work place.

- The **Career Center's Employer Development and Outreach Team** brought 1,684 local and national employers new to UNT Recruiting, including Sonic Drive-In Headquarters, KERA Public Radio, Thomson Reuters, Mozilla, Coca-Cola Refreshments SWOU, CBS11-KTVT, Dillard's (Texas, Louisiana and Gulf Coast Region), Brinker International, Costco Wholesale and Hamilton Beach Brands. The Career Center also launched its first **Diversity and Inclusion Career Fair** by recruiting 27 companies that value diversity and inclusivity in the workplace. The center collaborated with the Multicultural Center, the Pride Alliance, Student Veteran Services, Office of Disability Accommodation and Office of Spiritual Life for the event.
- The Employer Development Team recruited more than 60 new companies for the **Employer Meet and Greet** event. Notable companies included Farmer Bros., Fiserv, Service King, Vaquero Club, Embassy Suites by Hilton, Keystone Automotive, WinCo Foods, Raytheon, Qorvo, IBM (TAO Group), New York Life Insurance and the Dallas Stars. The Employer Meet and Greet agenda also highlighted the new satellite Career Center office at the New College at Frisco.
- The Career Center launched a new Career Services Management platform, **Eagle Careers powered by Handshake**, for students, staff, faculty and employers in summer 2017. Within the first three weeks of the student launch, more than 6,000 students had logged in at least one time, and 38% of those students had completed their profile. In addition, more than 1,500 jobs were posted in the month of August alone, and students submitted 9,366 applications.
- The DSA increased its programs for **Career Connect** in several ways. Student Activities administered the Project CEO assessment for the second time, in which student organization officers were asked to indicate the level to which they learned the specific skills identified by NACE as the top 10 skills employers want. The results will be used to create Career Connect programs for student organization officers. Student Activities, in conjunction with the Career Center, bi-annually presented a workshop for student organization officers about how to translate their leadership experiences into a resume. Rec Sports implemented the Adulthood Series, which was a voluntary training series for student staff on resume building/interviewing/how to not live with mom and dad after graduation/etc. This was real-life training rather than the typical job-related training that they must go through as employees. New employee training for Rec Sports also was expanded to a four-hour session related to "culture" training and what it means to be a Rec Sports employee.
- The DSA implemented strategies within the **THECB 60x30 plan** by participating in the THECB state-wide Emergency Aid Survey, which prompted an invitation to join the Emergency Aid Network. Members were charged with developing best practices for emergency aid programs and financial literacy program in Texas, and UNT was one of 10 institutions in Texas selected to participate.
- The DSA strengthened its **community and alumni partnerships** by finalizing nine additional Eagle Advantage MOUs in the DFW area. Student Activities also added two events (Stop Hunger Now, Blood Drive) and replaced Canstruction with a Food Drive to create a focus on service during Homecoming, benefitting the community. In addition, Student Activities worked with the Talons to create mechanisms by which entities outside of the university could request spirit items, including the Model A and Boomer.

# Fundraising and Marketing

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The DSA could not continue to offer all of its programs and services without the assistance of financial support, so efforts were made to keep that support coming. The DSA also increased its communication and marketing efforts to keep students informed about programs, services, resources and events.

- The DSA increased fundraising efforts for **UNT Cheer** in order to support sending students to national competitions.
- The **Student Money Management Center** received financial support from Wells Fargo for its annual signature educational program – **Money Month**. During April 2017, more than 1,778 students attended events and 91,267 contacts were realized through marketing and social media.
- Counseling and Testing Services (CTS) increased marketing of **group therapy** and **Therapy Assistance Online (TAO)** on the CTS website, which included creating engaging videos that were highlighted on the CTS website, Facebook, and Twitter. CTS also increased its utilization of social media, which included creating a CTS Pinterest account with PINS specific to different needs and topics.
- The DSA expanded and improved **communications** by launching the new DSA website in fall 2016. The DSA also began providing messaging on video screens in the University Union.





## Focus on Spirit and Traditions

Recognizing the need for a well-rounded collegiate experience, the DSA continued to expand its offerings to students. The DSA also supported student athletes by partnering with Athletics on several initiatives.

- The DSA integrated the **North Texas Cheerleaders, North Texas Dancers, Scrapy** and **spirit groups** into the division by creating an expectations document for the Scrapy program, creating an audition process, and then hiring six Scrapy performers to increase the potential for mascot outreach. Plans also were begun to build storage and changing space for Scrapy performers in the University Union. In addition, the DSA hired a new North Texas Dance Coach from the nationally competitive Florida State University Golden Girls Dance Team and created spirit group head coach job descriptions.



- The DSA increased its **partnership with Athletics** in several ways.
  - o The DSA offered a **tailgate** or had giveaways available at every home football game in the fall and partnered with Athletics and Advancement to offer a tailgate for students at the Cotton Bowl.
  - o **The Student Health and Wellness Center** (SHWC) provided a space for performing full physical examinations prior to the fall season and saw student athletes in the clinic for illnesses when the team doctor was not available. The SHWC also performed all of their Sickle Cell screens for the student athletes at a much reduced cost and quicker (within one day) turn around; provided laboratory testing and x-rays services (at a reduced cost and quicker turn around than sending them to an outside facility) for the team doctor when he held a clinic at the athletic complex; handled and filed claims for international student athletes who had the new International Student Athlete Insurance policy underwritten by United Healthcare Student Resources; and worked with and trained staff to provide pharmacy items that they kept on hand at the athletic complex.
  - o **Counseling and Testing Services** maintained an ongoing partnership with Athletics and Dr. Jay Darr for individual and group consultations.
  - o **Dining Services** hired a sports nutritionist to work with student athletes in achieving proper nutrition goals. The sports nutritionist also partnered with Champs Cafeteria to create healthy menus for student athletes.



# Points of Pride

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The Division of Student Affairs had many great successes in fall 2016, spring 2017 and summer 2017 across all departments. Here are a few of the highlights.



## Career Center

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- The Career Center's fall 2016 **Part-Time Job Fair** witnessed an increase of 21.2% more student attendees and 14.5% more employer attendees than fall 2015.
- A total of 1,572 students participated in the fall and spring **Suit-Up** events in which 2,309 professional clothing/accessories were given away.

## Center for Leadership and Service

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- \$20,902 was raised for Cook Children's Medical Center through Eaglethon, an 8-hour-long dance and activities celebration.
- 148 students participated in Alternative Service Breaks.



## Counseling and Testing Services

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- CTS had 3,979 student contacts, which is a 38% increase compared to the previous year.
- CTS had 9,607 total appointments, which is a 23% increase compared to the previous year.
- CTS continued to not have a waitlist for the fourth consecutive semester.

## Dean of Students Office

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- The DOS Intervention Team served 6,507 students with academic, social and personal challenges through the CARE Team, Seeking Options and Solutions, UNT Food Pantry and Withdrawals.
- More than 1,400 students, staff and faculty were reached through education and prevention presentations, programs and trainings focused on sexual assault and intimate partner violence.

## Dining Services

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- UNT was one of only two schools to receive an “A” rating from animal advocacy group, peta2, on its Vegan Report Card and to be added to its Dean’s List for going “above and beyond to provide all students with exceptional vegan food” and for making “exceptional strides in vegan dining on campus.”
- UNT became the first university in Texas to hydroponically grow lettuces, brassicas and herbs in an upcycled refrigerated truck trailer, where up to 11 different varieties of lettuces have been grown organically and up to 800 heads of lettuce a week have been harvested, providing for all of the salad needs of Mean Greens Café and some of the other dining halls.
- Collaborated with the College of Hospitality and Tourism to help jumpstart research initiatives relating to sustainable food service and assisted its students with their intern credits to graduate strong with a sound understanding of the hospitality field.
- Text n Tell Monitors were installed in dining operations all over campus, allowing students to submit their comments and concerns via their mobile device. Dining management can respond in real-time, and everything is posted on monitors throughout the dining rooms for all customers to view. The result has been a quicker response time to student feedback.



# Engagement

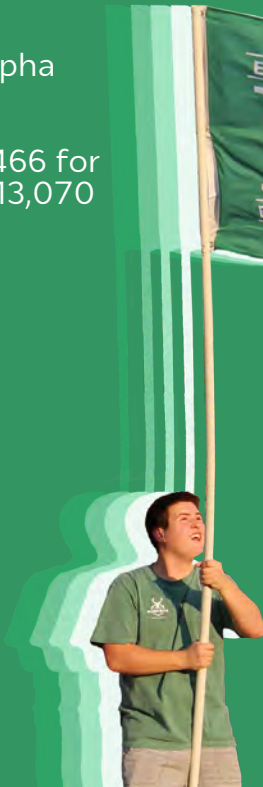
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- Green Jackets completed 3,331 hours of service.
- 33% of first-year Emerald Eagle Scholars made a 3.5 or higher in their first semester.
- The Distinguished Lecture Series hosted five different speakers (Diane Guerrero, Mae Jemison, Elizabeth Smart, Carl Bernstein and PJ O'Rourke and Nev Schulman), drawing in more than 5,000 participants.

# Greek Life

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- The Greek Life community expanded to include all nine of the possible NPHC Greek Organizations. UNT is one of roughly 30 universities to host all nine NPHC Organizations.
- Kappa Alpha Order and Lambda Chi Alpha successfully returned to campus.
- The Greek Life community raised \$82,466 for charitable organizations and provided 13,070 hours of service.





## Housing and Residence Life

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- Living Learning Communities (LLCs) were re-established in cooperation with various departments and colleges resulting in 10 academic communities with six LLCs having course components and two themed communities (UNT SERVES and MARTIAL Eagles).
- Housing Ambassadors completed 4,866 tours with 38,959 individuals. This represents 838 more tours and 3,894 more visitors than the preceding year.
- Professional live-in staff conducted individual student success meetings with 1,469 new incoming students for the purpose of supporting them in achieving their goals at UNT.

## Office of Disability Accommodation

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- The number of students served increased from 1,513 in 2015 – 2016 to 2,703 in 2016 – 2017.
- The number of exams hosted by the ODA for students with testing accommodations increased from 4,943 in 2015 – 2016 to 5,137 in 2016 – 2017.
- The ODA provided approximately 336 consultations regarding physical access of the UNT Campus. This averages approximately one per day.



## Office of Spiritual Life

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- Initiated new Spiritual Life newsletter, increasing office visibility and contacts by email and office visits.
- Offered interfaith resources and training for students through training sessions and classroom presentations.

## Orientation and Transition Programs

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- 2,573 peer mentoring meetings were logged by the ACCESS Peer Mentors.
- Freshman Parent Orientation participation increased 25% summer 2017, and Transfer Parent Orientation participation increased 17%.
- Attendance more than doubled from the previous year for the Senior Day overnight program, where 179 Eagle Advantage high school seniors participated in workshops about major selection and StrengthsQuest and learned about campus resources.

## Recreational Sports

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- Rec Sports was home to 41,033 individual UNT users, who totaled 624,576 entries into the Rec Center.
- 374 people took part in Rec Sports Finals Survival Week, a first ever, week-long event offering 15 various programs developed specifically to support the wellness of students during their final exams.
- The GPA of Rec Center student users for each classification level averaged almost two-tenths higher than non-users. That includes Freshmen (2.72 vs. 2.55), Sophomores (2.91 vs. 2.74), Juniors (2.94 vs. 2.85) and Seniors (3.09 vs. 3.03).



## Student Activities

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- Student Activities coordinated or co-sponsored 222 programs, with a participation of more than 49,000.
- Student Activities hosted 220 student organizations, 45 departments and 60 vendors at Mean Green Fling 2016, with 8,600 in attendance.
- North Texas Cheer won third place at the National Cheerleaders Association (NCA) Collegiate Cheer Championships in Daytona.

## Student Health and Wellness Center

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- Medical providers saw 22,524 appointments.
- The dietitian saw 672 appointments.
- The laboratory ran 18,140 in-house lab tests.

## Student Legal Services

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- SLS opened 589 unique legal matters (including Notary Services).
- SLS recovered a total of \$90,982 on behalf of students.
- SLS launched an Immigration Consultation Program with 33 participants.



## Student Money Management Center

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- 95% of students attending financial coaching sessions reported improved confidence in their financial futures.
- The SMMC opened a new satellite coaching office in the Eagle Student Services Center in collaboration with the Student Accounting and Financial Aid offices.
- Ranked #2 in LendEDU's national study on the Top 50 College Financial Literacy Programs.

## Student Sustainability

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- New We Mean Green Fund initiatives included: the UNT Community Garden, in which harvests began providing produce for the UNT Food Pantry; the I Bike UNT, Bike Safety campaign; and sustainable shirts for large campus events.
- The We Mean Green Fund purchased a solar trailer, which provides green energy and eliminates a point-source for air pollution in the middle of crowded events.
- Through the Tailgate Recycling initiative, students were able to collect an average of 80 lbs. of recyclables per home game.





## Student Veteran Services

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- The director gave 127 personal campus tours to veterans that resulted in all 123 veterans enrolling.
- Selected by *Military Times* 2017 “Best for VETS Colleges” first time; *Victory Media for Military Friendly* 2017 “MF Gold Tier 1 Research Universities for GI Jobs” first time; *Top Colleges/Universities* 2017 by *Military Advance Education & Transition*; *Victory Media for Top STEM Colleges* 2017-2018.
- Recognized by the State of Texas House of Representatives Resolution for the SVS work with veteran students on UNT. Hr No. 977.

## Substance Abuse Resource Center

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- 25 programs were offered, with 2,072 students attending.
- Longitudinal follow-up surveys show 100% of students shared vital information learned in SARC with friends and other students.
- Approximately 90% of students utilizing SARC services say they found the experience life changing.



## TRIO Programs

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- All TRIO programs not only met their grant objectives, but greatly surpassed them.
- The TRIO/Student Support Services program provided more than 760 hours of advising to 261 UNT first-generation, low-income, and/or students with documented disabilities.
- Upward Bound successfully responded to their RFP and was refunded for another five years.

## University Union

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- The University Union had 2,794,879 visitors, and on an average weekday during a full semester, 19,574 people were in the building.
- The University Union recycled nearly 17 tons of cardboard, more than 9,226 pounds of paper, and 171 bags of bottles/cans during fall 2016 and collected 24 tons of cardboard during spring 2017, up 21% from spring 2016, and 5,711 lbs. of paper, up 410% from spring 2016.
- The Coliseum hosted 120 events and the Gateway Center hosted 99 events during fall 2016.
- The University Union installed a Scrappy Bench on the south lawn which has become a popular photo spot on campus.
- The University Union hosted 1,516 events during spring 2017, a 36% increase from spring 2016.

## UNT on the Square

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- UNTSQ had the highest program and exhibition attendance for any 12-month period since opening in fall 2009 —more than 13,000 attendees by conservative count.
- UNTSQ had more than 3,000 in attendance for the Holiday Lighting Festival and Wassail Fest (1,000 increase over 2015).



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