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UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

DEAN OF STUDENTS



COUGAR PARENT connection

vol 1, summer 2006

Calendar of Events

- :: June 21st - July 26th Summer Arts Workshops for Kids - Blaffer Gallery
- :: July 26th Houston Alumni Organization - Operation School Supplies Collection Day
- :: July 31st - August 4th Campus Rec Day Camp Get Active
- :: August 7th - August 11th Campus Rec Day Camp On the Go
- :: August 9th Last day of classes - Summer III & IV
- :: August 21st First Day of Classes - Fall 2006

Dean of Students Spotlight

We would like to welcome a new member to the Dean of Students Office team. Bianca Springer, Assistant Dean of Students began working with us this summer. Ms. Springer is the Judicial Officer for the UH community. Her duties include enforcing policies found in the student handbook with regards to student conduct. She is also responsible for producing the student handbook a overseeing its distribution on campus.

Ms. Springer came to us from the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Employment on campus and has many years experience in conflict management. She has earned a BA degree in Psychology from Taylor University in Upland, Indiana and a

Message from the Assistant Dean

This is our very first e-newsletter in this exciting new format and we hope you enjoy it. This newsletter can be accessed on our parent page at www.uh.edu/dos and it is automatically sent to anyone who signs up to be included on the parent list serve.

The big news for parents and family members of UH students is the planned **Family Day on October 28th, 2006**. There will be a variety of activities and the UH Cougars football team will take on the University of Central Florida that same night. Check back here for further details in the upcoming months. We hope you will all join us for this event.

We are also involved in **The Jump Program** for new freshmen. There will be activities in

the Campus Recreation and Wellness Center and the UC Games Room after classes for these students. There will also be tours of the library, Career Services and Blaffer Gallery. Other offices sponsoring events are: Wellness, Student Alumni Organization, Campus Activities, and Residential Life and Housing.

"The Jump" is a program that allows selected incoming UH freshmen the opportunity to take their first two college courses - counting toward six credit hours -- for the price of one during a five-week session, July 10 - Aug. 11. Incoming freshmen chosen for this program also will have a chance to interact with UH faculty, staff and students to learn more about the university and how to adapt to life as a college student.

"The Jump" will also feature academic advising from various colleges and a student mentors program sponsored by UH's Scholars' Community. William Kellar, executive director of the Scholars' Community also will conduct four workshops.



Dr. Elwyn C. Lee, Vice President for Student Affairs, addresses the Jump program students after classes in the Campus Recreation and Wellness Center



Students in the Jump program listen attentively to Dr. Donald Foss, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

Participating "Jump" students

will also be eligible for UH's new [Graduation Pledge Scholarships](#) that rewards incoming freshmen who participate in the program for every 30 hours completed in one academic year. In this scholarship plan, students entering UH who comply with program guidelines such as completing 30 hours in 12 months will receive \$500 to apply toward their next year of classes. If they complete another 30 hours in 12 months, the Graduation Pledge Scholarships reward them with \$1,000 to apply toward their third year of studies. After another 30 hours of courses in 12 months, students will receive a \$1,500 scholarship for their fourth year at UH.

MS in Conflict Analysis & Resolution from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. She is a wonderful addition to our staff and we welcome her aboard.



Students taking "The Jump" will be enrolled in two courses that are required of all UH students: English composition and either American History or U.S. Government.

We have been busy in the Dean of Students Office this summer with **Freshman and Transfer Orientation Conferences**. These occur nearly every week from late May to early August and information about them can be found at www.uh.edu/dos. If you know of a new student, please encourage that student to attend one of these orientations. It is not too late to register.

Another service for new students offered through the Dean of Students Office is the **EXCEL Mentoring Program**. Every new freshman and new transfer student can be matched with a faculty, staff, or student mentor who will support the new student during the student's first year at the University of Houston. This is a free service and it provides the kind of one-on-one connection that leads to greater academic success for the new student and a feeling of belonging to the UH community. New students who began taking classes this summer have already been matched with mentors and are on their way to a successful transition. For more information and to sign up for the program, tell your student to go to www.uh.edu/excel.html or e-mail us at excel@uh.edu.

Our office also serves as **student advocate for all UH students**. Our ombudservice is available to help students with issues on campus. Each Assistant Dean will listen to the student, provide information, explain university policies, and follow-up on student concerns. For more information go to www.uh.edu/dos/ombuds.html.

Until next time...

Liz Frederick
Assistant Dean of Students
713/743-5470

Cougar Parent Connection Spotlight

UH OFFERS ONLINE EMERGENCY PLAN

With the Gulf Coast still recovering from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, forecasters are predicting a "very active" 2006 hurricane season, which runs from June 1 to Nov. 30.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is predicting 13 to 16 named storms, with eight to 10 becoming hurricanes, of which four to six could become hurricanes of Category 3 strength or higher.

In preparation for the hurricane season, University of Houston administrators are encouraging faculty, staff and students to review UH's online Emergency Management Plan at www.uh.edu/emergency/.

The plan states that UH President Jay Gogue (or his designee) is the only person authorized to close the university. Once the decision is made to close the university, the information will be communicated as quickly as possible through electronic and voice mail, the UH home page at www.uh.edu, the UH Today Web site at www.uh.edu/uhtoday, UH OnCall at 713-743-2255 and the UH switchboard at 713-743-1000.

Emergency information will be provided to KUHT-TV (Channel 8) and KUHF-FM (88.7 FM). Area television stations, including channels 2, 11, 13, 26, 39, 45 and 47, will be notified. Local radio stations, including KLTN (FM 102.9) and KTRH (AM 740), also will be informed.

The Emergency Information Resource Guide site offers an overview of the communication and information process, shelter-in-place procedures and the building evacuation plan, security tips during an emergency, a Severe Weather Response Planning Kit and links to governmental Web sites.

Academic Issues

:: NATIONAL HISPANIC MAGAZINE RECOGNIZES UH AND LATINO GRADUATES UH in Top 100 College and Universities to Graduate Hispanic Students

HOUSTON, May 18, 2006—The University of Houston ranks prominently among colleges and universities for awarding degrees to Hispanics. That's according to the latest issue of Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education magazine, which compiled its Top 100 Colleges for Hispanics from figures from the National Center for Education Statistics.

"We are pleased to be recognized, alongside other fine institutions of higher learning, for our commitment to Hispanic students," University of Houston Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost Donald Foss said. "UH prides itself on a diverse student body and faculty that reflect the richness of our region."

Using data from 2005, the most recent statistics available, the magazine listed the University of Houston as 15th in the number of bachelor's degrees awarded to Hispanics—833 or 18 percent of the total graduating class; 55th in the number of master's degrees awarded (117); and 14th in the number of doctoral degrees awarded (21).

Student Services

:: Student Health Services

The University Health Center serves students, faculty and staff by providing affordable and accessible quality primary medical and mental healthcare, prescription and non-prescription medication, and the promotion of disease prevention, health maintenance and wellness through education.

[Click here for more information.](#)

:: Learning Support Services

The mission of Learning Support Services (LSS) is to increase graduation rates by improving student retention at the University of Houston. We offer learning support programs and self-development activities designed to increase student academic performance and improve student retention. Individualized diagnostic, prescriptive, and instructive educational plans as well as group intervention programs are available. All services are free to currently enrolled students.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Get Involved!

There are many events/activities going on at the University of Houston during the summer. Check out theatre performances, art shows, musical concerts and athletic events by viewing the calendars on our website.

:: [UH Master Calendar](#)

:: [Summer Arts Calendar](#)

:: [Moores School Calendar](#)

:: [Cynthia Woods Mitchell Center of Arts Calendar](#)

:: [Blaffer Gallery Exhibitions](#)

:: [Cougar Athletics Calendar](#)