

RENU KHATOR
CHANCELLOR'S REPORT
UH SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING
JANUARY 30, 2013

UH SYSTEM ACHIEVEMENTS

- The four UH System universities awarded a record number of degrees – 5,454 – at seven winter commencement ceremonies. The chart below shows a five-year trend:

	Fall '08	Fall '09	Fall '10	Fall '11	Fall '12 (preliminary)
UH	2,345	2,396	2,640	2,812	2,941
UHCL	969	842	928	905	921
UHD	937	1,005	1,043	1,021	1,061
UHV	318	377	428	468	531

- An agreement has been reached between the UH System and Houston Community College-Katy to relocate all undergraduate programs offered at Cinco Ranch to the HCC-Katy campus. Co-locating programs, advising, and support services will ease the transfer of HCC students into our UHS programs. Graduate programs will now expand at Cinco Ranch, which will transition into a UHS graduate/professional center.
- A UHS-wide committee has been formed to develop a web portal with information about all UHS's 50-plus online degrees. The website will also provide prospective students with admissions information, and will go live in August.

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON ACHIEVEMENTS

- Former astronaut Bonnie Dunbar, who graduated from UH in 1983 with an engineering Ph.D., will join the Cullen College of Engineering faculty and lead a new UH center to promote and foster STEM education. A member of the National Academy of Engineering and veteran of five Space Shuttle flights, she will direct efforts to build upon UH's STEM programs and leverage their success in the larger K-12 community.
- The number of Fall 2013 applications (18,718) is up 3% over the number received for Fall 2012 at this time last year, and the quality of the pool is higher as well. The Fall 2012 to Spring 2013 retention rate is 95.3%, up from 94.3% from Fall 2011 to Spring 2012. As we continue transforming UH into a more residential campus, we report a Spring 2013 occupancy of 96%, a 4% increase over Spring 2012.
- In the area of faculty searches, we are currently conducting searches for 106 new positions.

■ The Moores School of Music has grown into a respected school, nationally and internationally. Part of this success is the International Piano Festival, hosted by the school on campus. The festival is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, and its founder, Cullen Distinguished Professor Abbey Simon, still teaches and performs at age 91! He is regarded as one of the world's most recorded classical piano virtuosos.

UH-CLEAR LAKE ACHIEVEMENTS

■ The Board of Trustees of the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) voted on December 10, 2012, to reaffirm the accreditation of UH-Clear Lake. SACS reaffirms accreditation every 10 years. UHCL was originally accredited in by SACS in 1976, just two years after the university was established.

■ UHCL wrapped up a mascot search process by selecting a hawk. The search process began in 2010 and included input from students, alumni, faculty, staff, and the community. The new logo art reflects attributes such as courage, spirit, and adventure, as well as the natural beauty of the campus and a historical relationship with the UHCL Alumni Association's hawk logo from the 1980s.

■ UHCL will host its first freshman event in early February in anticipation of welcoming its first freshman class in Fall 2014. The "Hawk Premiere" will feature campus tours, presentations by representatives from student organizations as well as opportunities to visit with academic advisers and financial aid staff members.

UH-DOWNTOWN ACHIEVEMENTS

■ UH-Downtown experienced a record-breaking enrollment of 13,916 students in Fall 2012. Total UHD enrollment is comprised of 40% Hispanic, 27% African-American, 9% Asian and 20% White. More than 26% of fall semester credit hours are offered through online and hybrid courses, helping to spur enrollment growth.

■ UHD received a \$2.4 million, five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education for its Upward Bound program, which provides academic and social skills instruction to high school students. The program, in its 31st year, has provided nearly 3,000 students from the Houston Independent School District with individualized training in mathematics, laboratory science, composition, literature, and languages.

■ UHD is one of nearly 500 universities partnering with the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities and the American Association of State and College Universities to take part in the organizations' "Project Degree Completion" initiative, which aims to increase the number of degree completions nationwide.

UH-VICTORIA ACHIEVEMENTS

- UH-Victoria has been named the third fastest-growing public master's institution in the nation over the last decade. According to *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, total UHV student population grew from 1,698 in fall 2000 to 4,095 in fall 2010, a growth rate of an astonishing 141% – the highest in Texas! UHV enrollment has continued to rise, reaching 4,335 in Fall 2012.
- UHV has introduced a \$10,000 accelerated bachelor's degree program that started this semester. The new \$10,000 Degree in Three, also known as the \$10,000 Dn3, is available to full-time students who complete their bachelor's degree in three years. Degrees are offered in English, history, communication, psychology, Spanish, and criminal justice. Students pay only \$9,999 or less thanks to UHV's low tuition and fees, federal Pell Grants, Texas grants, and UHV continuation scholarships.
- The UHV School of Nursing became the 53rd member institution of the Texas Medical Center in November. Because the UHV School of Nursing is the only nursing school in the UH System, students at all teaching sites now have expanded access to do their required clinicals as well as for research, service, networking, and career opportunities.