

Fall Faculty Retreat

August 12, 2026

Focused on the Future:
*The Faculty Role in Preparing
Career-Ready Graduates*

Agenda for the Day

 9 AM



Welcome and Academic Affairs Updates

- Interim President Deborah Bordelon
- Interim Senior Vice President and Provost Jonathan Davis

 10 AM



Updates in Compliance & Title IX

- Vice President of Human Resources Carole Clerie
- Title IX/Equal Opportunity Officer Brandon Lee

 11:15 AM



Keynote Address

- Rafael Alvarez, Senior Vice President for Regional Workforce Development, Greater Houston Partnership

 12:30 PM



Lunch (A300)

 1:30 PM



Programming and Curriculum Workshop (A300)

- AVP for Programs and Curriculum David Ryden
- Executive Director of the CTLE Greg Dement

 3 PM



Closing

Updates from Academic Affairs

Jonathan Davis, Interim Senior Vice President for
Academic Affairs and Provost

Promotions – Associate to Professor

- ❖ Ashley Archiopoli, Arts and Communication
- ❖ Julio Canedo Soto, Management
- ❖ Kit Cho, Psychology
- ❖ Sucheta Choudhuri, English
- ❖ Arthur (Henry) Eliassen, Social Sciences
- ❖ Elizabeth Hatfield, Arts and Communication
- ❖ Paul Kintzele, English
- ❖ Vida Robertson, History, Humanities, and Languages
- ❖ Raghu Venugopalan, Accounting and Int'l Business

Tenure and/or Promotion to Associate Professor

- ❖ Henry Foust, Computer Science and Engineering Technology
- ❖ Mahmud Hasan, Computer Science and Engineering Technology
- ❖ Tonya Jeffery, Urban Education
- ❖ Mukesh Kumar, Mathematics and Statistics
- ❖ Daniel Perez, Finance, Information Systems, Economics, and Risk Management
- ❖ Ashleigh Petts, English
- ❖ Adriana Visbal, Natural Sciences
- ❖ Lanyi Zhang, Accounting and International Business

Promotion to Senior Lecturer

- ❖ Joyce Hallaway, Mathematics and Statistics

Award of Emeritus Status

- ❖ Sandra Dahlberg, Professor Emeritus, English
- ❖ William Waters, Associate Professor Emeritus, English
- ❖ Floyd Newsum, Professor Emeritus, Art and Communication
- ❖ Tammis Thomas, Professor Emeritus, English
- ❖ Mohsen Mobasher, Associate Professor Emeritus, Social Sciences
- ❖ Maria Bhattacharjee, Associate Professor Emeritus, Urban Education

Welcome New Academic Affairs Staff!



Jamie Thomas

Executive Director, Off-Campus
Learning & Academic Partnerships

Dr. Sri Sitharaman
Executive Director for Data Analytics &
Institutional Research



Welcome New Academic Affairs Staff!



Esteban Smith
Coordinator, Web Support &
Publications

Dr. Sally-Ann Ashton
Director, Center for Crime, Urban
Research and Education (C-CURE)



Welcome to Academic Affairs!

Johanna Byrd-Moye
Director, Quality
Enhancement Plan (QEP)



Welcome to UHD!

Martina Johnson

Director, Accessible
Education Center (AEC)



Looking Ahead with Academic Affairs

C-CURE

Center for Crime, Urban Research, and Education

Applied research for safer, stronger urban communities

1. What C-CURE Is



- An applied research center focused on crime and urban issues
- Advances knowledge and develops innovative solutions

2. Research Mission



- Examines the social, economic, and structural drivers of urban crime
- Generates cutting-edge, evidence-based insights

3. Community Impact



- Supports communities, policymakers, and law enforcement
- Promotes safety, justice, and sustainable urban development
- Knowledge transfer and collaboration are central to our work



C-CURE Roadmap & Research Strategy

Building partnerships, integrating data, and informing public safety solutions



1. 2026–2027 Priorities

- Hire core team: administrator, data manager/statistician, research scientist, community liaison
- Form advisory boards across courts, communities, law enforcement, probation/corrections, and government
- Finalize MOUs, data-sharing agreements, and security protocols
- Assess Houston/Harris County crime and public safety trends
- Launch UHD collaborations, internships, and research engagement
- Pursue project-specific funding opportunities



2. 2027–2028 Expansion

- Expand law enforcement partnerships across Greater Houston
- Pilot and evaluate C-CURE response models
- Launch a data inquiry and analytics hub for criminal justice professionals
- Provide timely research findings and evidence-based insights for policy and strategy



3. Data Integration

Law enforcement data will be triangulated with:

- Court data
- Adult and juvenile probation data
- Corrections data (jails, prisons, and reentry)
- Other statewide criminal justice data



4. Primary Research Inputs

Where appropriate, secondary data will be supplemented with input from:

- Community members and businesses
- Criminal justice practitioners
- Justice-involved individuals
- Survivors/victims of crime
- Nonprofits and government agencies serving justice-involved, victimized, and at-risk populations



Applied research for safer, stronger urban communities

Academic Programs

Approved and on the way

- ❖ BBA Entrepreneurship and Family Business
- ❖ BBA in Business Intelligence
- ❖ MS in Biological Sciences and Instrumentation
- ❖ BS in Legal Studies

Ideas under discussion / development

- ❖ MSN in Nursing Education
- ❖ BS in Chemical Process
- ❖ BAAS in Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Early Alert Umbrella



Roster Certification

- ✓ All Enrolled Students
- ✓ Each Session (Regular, 8w1, & 8w2)
- ✓ Specific Times/Deadlines Beginning of Each Session



Progress Reports

- Specific Courses
 - English
 - Math
 - First year Seminar
- Each Session (Regular, 8w1, & 8w2)
- Specific Times/Deadlines



Academic Support Alert (formerly Care Alerts)

- ✓ Any Enrolled Students
- ✓ Anytime During the Semester
- ✓ Anything Impacting Student's Academic Success

External Funding



50

proposal submissions
in 2026



\$38,075,893

in proposed dollars.



\$19 million

for all active grants
in FY26



\$11.5 million

currently active

Recent External Awards

A quick view of new external funding by award size, sponsor, and PI

\$1,410,890

in recent external awards

5 awards across education, STEM, social work, finance, and biology

Top award represents 53% of the total

A small number of large grants drives the overall portfolio while smaller discipline-specific awards broaden activity.

Award size and source

01	Elizabeth Stackhouse — Urban Ed Houston Endowment: Alternative Intensive Certification Program		\$750,000
02	Mary Jo Parker — Scholars Academy Texas Talent Connection: UHD Bridging Entry into STEM Workforce		\$344,000
03	Wei Wei — Information Systems Powell Foundation: SMART Pathways		\$286,450
04	Kenya Johnson — Criminal Justice Hogg Foundation: NextGen Social Work Legacy: Holistic Wellness for Students to Leaders		\$22,000
05	Roseanna Crowell — Biology Texas EcoLab: Texas Freshwater Red Algal Diversity		\$8,440

Distinguished Faculty Endowment Award



August

Spring nominations;
Applications due in
August



October

Winner named in
October



Thu. 21 Oct.

Celebration on
Thursday, October 21.

New Faculty Ombuds



Dr. Jeffrey Jackson,
Professor, Department of
History, Humanities, and
Languages

Policies

Get engaged:

- Participate in community comment
- Use the SharePoint site

Upcoming policies for review:

- PS 03.A.02 Placement and Course Sequencing
- PS 03.A.19 Academic Honesty Policy
- PS 10.A.02 Faculty Grievance Policy
- PS 10.A.04 Faculty Teaching Workload Policy

Faculty Council (2026 – 2027)



Presiding Officer

Ashleigh Petts, Associate* Professor
(CHSS, A&C)



Associate Presiding Officer

Maria Benavides, Professor
(CST, NS)



Secretary

Daniel Perez, Associate* Professor
(MDCOB, FISER)

Opportunities for Faculty Engagement



Aug 15

– Convocation



Weeks of Welcome

(Ask A Gator);
UHD/NW



Sept 1

– First Faculty Council meeting



Volunteer Opportunity

Volunteer to be a Subject-Matter
Expert for the University
Communications team!
Sign up here!



Off-Campus Learning

Fall outreach moments at Northwest and Kingwood

3 key events

Weeks of Welcome

 AUG 17–21

Giveaways + snacks all week at Northwest & Kingwood

Aug. 19 evening: Lite Bites with 3SL at Northwest

Gator Ring Week | 2–5 PM

 SEPT 3

One-stop, on-site support at Northwest

Herff Jones • Alumni • Career Services • Graduate Admissions • Bookstore

Criminal Justice Program Ribbon Cutting

 FALL

Northwest launch event with Houston Northwest Chamber

UHD faculty, staff, and community members invited

Bayou Scholars – Second Issue Fall 2026!



Course Evaluations – Watermark

Pilot project to replace the IDEA system

1 Summer 5W2 Pilot Results



86.61%

Response Rate

4,636 of 5,353
responses received

2 Next Step



January Launch

Campus rollout of
Watermark course
evaluations.



IN MEMORY

Remembering Michael Dimmick



Associate Professor of English



Department of English



College of Humanities and
Social Sciences

