Enrollment is up, way up at UH-Downtown. A record 10,500 students enrolled for fall ’02. That’s a nine percent increase over fall ’01. Contributing to the growth are UHD’s new graduate programs in criminal justice and teaching, which grew by 62.5 percent in one year.

Another notable growth area is the number of continuing and returning students. There are 6,158 continuing students and 1,427 students who have returned after “stopping out,” or leaving for a period of time after completing a semester or more. For the first time, fulltime students equal part-time students. UHD is friendly for either group by making classes available in the evenings, on weekends, at distance locations or via the internet. Nineteen new faculty and nine new staff positions have been added to help keep up with UHD’s phenomenal growth.

Crowded Hallways = More Knowledge-Seekers

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Planning Red Rose Ball 2003

High-performing, motivated students with compelling life stories. Good company. A delicious meal. Energizing entertainment. That’s what you’ll find at UHD’s Red Rose Ball, scheduled for March 28, 2003. The ball is an annual high point that recognizes the accomplishments of 25 Red Rose Scholarship recipients while honoring UHD partners in forwarding higher education. Honorees for the evening are Foley’s chairman Mark Weikel and wife Lynn. Foley’s has an outstanding record in partnering with UHD downtown and other higher education institutions and community organizations to improve the quality of life in Houston.

The Red Rose Scholarship recipients are UHD students with high grade point averages and a record of community involvement. They each receive $3,000, which covers the costs of an academic year at UH-Downtown.

There’s more good news inside!

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• Success Builders ....................................... p. 2
• Alumni Society News ........................... pp. 4-5
• Alumni in white coats
• Education. Get it ................................. p. 6
President's Report 2002

Architects of Success

Paul Castillo.

This year marks Dr. Castillo’s tenth anniversary as head of the institution.

In the classroom, Niccollette says Brekke captured and held her interest. “She was always upbeat and could make you laugh and remember stuff.”

Gail Brekke is just one example of UHD’s dedicated faculty and staff who are committed to making the academic success of students their number one priority.

UHD Success Builder: Gail Brekke

There’s a lot of cracking of textbooks in the Matthews household. That’s because Monica Matthews and her two daughters, Niccollette and Kristiana, all attend UH-Downtown.

Niccollette wants to eventually go to law school. Both Monica and Niccollette are aiming for medical school. They should all graduate within a year or so of one another.

While in pursuit of their degrees, the university journey is taking the Matthews through a number of required courses that are part of the core curriculum. The professors who teach core courses such as English and math play a significant role in the academic success of students by encouraging them to continue on in pursuit of their ultimate educational goals.

Niccollette and Kristiana both benefitted from the early positive influence of Gail brekke, a lecturer in the English Department. Brekke enjoys helping students build and maintain academic momentum: “It’s incredibly wonderful to see someone you taught graduate. My own diplomas don’t mean as much to me as my students'.”

“Her personality shows that she cares,” says Kristiana. “When I walked into her classroom, I knew I’d have a good experience.”

Like other UHD faculty, Brekke gives students individual attention to help them conquer course work. She says, “if you don’t spend one-on-one time, I don’t think you’re teaching.”

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For 145 UH-Downtown students, these are a routine part of Community Outreach Day, a beloved tradition that reinforces UHD’s mission of connecting to the community.

Through UHD’s Volunteer Center, the students helped paint and landscape the homes of four seniors living in Houston’s Fifth Ward. The homes were identified through Local’s Garden House, a nonprofit facility that provides human services in the community.

The A. W. Dyer Library received $25,000 to UHD's Master of Arts in Teaching program.

Recognizing the value of creating a new academic success for first-year students.

M.A. in Teaching

Recognizing the value of creating more masterful teachers, The Powell Foundation is giving $25,000 to UHD’s Master of Arts in Teaching program.

Building on the success of UH-Downtown’s urban teacher education effort, the M.A. in Teaching seeks to help socially and economically disadvantage children struggling to succeed in the urban environment.

Library

The W. J. Dykes Library received a $23,000 gift from the Rockwell Foundation to purchase books, journals and audiovisual materials.

The material will support the Master of Arts in Teaching program.

Gifts and Grants from UHD Friends

Scholars Academy

Thanks to a significant grant from the U.S. Department of Education, science, mathematics, computer science and technology students in UH-Downtown’s Scholars Academy will continue to receive full scholarships if accepted to the competitive honors program.

The $194,000 grant provides $73,666 a year until September 2003.

Scholars Academy students have opportunities that are unique for undergraduates. They are encouraged to apply for research positions normally reserved for graduate and post-graduate studies.

This past year, academy students served internships at facilities like Oak Ridge National Labs, NASA and Baylor College of Medicine.

Learners Community

Understanding and addressing the unique needs of freshmen. That’s the purpose of a $150,000 gift from the Cullen Foundation for UHD’s Learners Community. The funds will be received over three years for use in enhancing knowledge and teaching techniques for faculty in the program.

The Learners Community uses a variety of strategies to promote academic success for first-year students.

Trading Textbooks for Paintbrushes

Scraping...digging...sanding...raking...painting...sweating.

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Sponsors who supplied materials and funds included Wal-Mart, Home Depot, Delta Paint Centers, Coca-Cola, Shipley’s, Krispy Kreme and Keep Houston Beautiful.

Niccollette Matthews is a UH-Downtown student who owns a construction company, provided consultation and professional expertise.

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Bragging Rights

UHD Professor Receives Honors

Dr. Richard Alo, director of the Center for Computational Science and Advanced Distributed Simulation, was appointed by the Director of the National Science Foundation to a new oversight committee created by Congress. The committee is responsible for providing advice and recommendations on government reporting in matters related to use of grants.

This is not an honor just for Dr. Alo, but a significant national recognition for UHD, reflecting the university’s leadership role at local and national levels.

Dr. Alo also received a national award from the Hispanic Engineers National Achievement Awards Corporation as their top educator for the year.

A Gold Medal for National Service

Dr. Ralph G. Kauffman, C.P.M., assistant professor of management, has received the J. Shipman Gold Medal Award for his 34 years of experience in supply management and for his active contribution to the Institute of Supply Management (ISM) as a member for 21 years.

The award is presented to those individuals whose efforts have aided the advancement of the supply management field. Dr. Kauffman spent over thirty years in professional supply management until he began teaching at UH-Downtown in 1996. He is the coordinator of the purchasing and supply management program at the College of Business.

Dr. Ralph Kauffman, coordinator of the purchasing and supply management program at the College of Business, was honored by a national professional association for his service to the industry, which includes a national survey used as a key economic barometer.

First Grad Students Finish in December

Flash back 27 years to 1976 when bell-bottoms were in style, and long hair and peace signs were the norm and enrollment at UHD was 3,500. That was the year the university’s first four-year degree program began, a bachelor’s in criminal justice.

2002: UHD Downtown will award its first ever master’s degree — the M.S. in Criminal Justice. Life is different today (although bell-bottoms are back in style): hairstyles include buzz cuts and enrollment tops 10,000.

Three hard-working students will make history as UHD’s first master’s graduates: David Balderaz, Will Robertson and Ruth Weast. They will receive the traditional hoods during commencement on Saturday, December 14 at Minute Maid Park.

Students from UHD’s second graduate program, the Master of Arts in Teaching, are expected to graduate in 2003.

Safety on the Home Front

The Community Justice Institute at UHD Downtown is doing its part to keep the nation and the Houston area secure. They provided Homeland Security Training this fall in partnership with the Houston/Galveston Council on Governments and the American Society of Industrial Security.

Each workshop had 100-120 individuals in attendance. Professionals from chemical facilities, large entertainment venues, and the oil and gas industry discussed strategies with their colleagues in law enforcement and security. The training represents the first time public and private agencies in the Houston area formally came together to discuss an immediate response to possible threats.

The locations for the training varied from Space Center Houston to a chemical plant in the Pasadena area, to an oil and gas company high-rise building in the Galleria area. Participants received continuing education and training credits for each independent session from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Education through the UHD Criminal Justice Training Center.

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A Society for All UH-Downtown Alumni

No dues, no muss, no fuss. That pretty much sums up membership in the UHD Alumni Society.

All graduates of UHD who are in good standing with the university are automatically members of the UHD Alumni Society. There are no dues. You already have earned the privilege of membership simply by earning your degree at UHD Downtown.

As a graduate of UHD, you are in good company. You are an important part of UHD Downtown’s heritage of academic excellence, opportunity and diversity.

Besides the pride of affiliating with a university with great academic programs where the faculty know their students by name, you get a variety of benefits as a member of the UHD Alumni Society:

• Dig into the vast resources of the W.I. Dykes Library. From there, you have access to libraries in the UH System.
• Get some help rewriting your resume or absorbing the latest information on jobs through UHD Career Services. Alumni can use the facilities and resources. For more information, call 713-221-8980.
• Use the computers to update your resume in UHD’s Academic Computing Lab. Other computer lab benefits are available on a fee basis. Call 713-221-8540 for details.
• Work out at the Jesse H. Jones Student Life Center. Use the fitness center and weight room. Take aerobics or martial arts or other exciting classes. Join a pickup game in the gyms or sign up for intramural sports. There is an annual fee for Student Life Center use. For more information, call 713-221-8225.
• In addition, as a member of the UHD Alumni Society, you will receive:
  • New Horizons, UHD’s newsletter
  • invitations to alumni and university events
  • e-mails on ways to stay connected to UHD, including volunteer opportunities.

In order to use the facilities you will need a UHD Alumni ID. The fee is $4. Just pay the cashier or at the Student Life Center. Then, have your picture taken and receive your Alumni ID at the Information Center, on the 3rd floor of the main building.

Better to know than to just get college credits,” she recalls. Dr. Kenneth Alo earned a bachelor’s in applied mathematical science in 1985 and is now a physician specializing in pain management. He is president with four partners of Pain and Health Management Centers, with six satellite offices in Houston and Beaumont.

The practice takes a high-tech team approach to providing relief from pain, often treating old pain problems with new emerging treatments. For example, migraine headaches could be treated with a device that sends an electrical field along nerve pathways to intercept pain.

UHD Downtown gave Dr. Alo and Dr. Chen the foundation they needed to pursue their careers in medicine.

UHD: Launch Pad for Medical Careers

JAMP: Getting the Jump on Med School

Many UHD alumni have taken the Hippocratic Oath. UHD Downtown’s College of Natural Sciences offers a number of programs that are specifically designed to prepare individuals for a variety of medical careers — medicine, nursing, veterinary, dentistry and more.

In addition, the bachelor’s in interdisciplinary studies can serve as a springboard for graduate studies, including medical school. Dr. Phoebe Chen, class of 1981, earned what was then called a general studies degree and went on to become a radiologist who teaches at the University of Texas Houston Health Science Center, specializing in women’s health care.

“I took classes where I could learn what I needed to know, instead of just getting college credits,” she recalls.

Nominations are being accepted. If you or someone you know is interested in participating, contact the UHD Alumni Office at 713-221-8045.

Needed:

Your Sage Advice

Give your alma mater the benefit of your experience as a member of the President’s Alumni Society Council. The council supports the advancement of the university and advises the president of UHD on matters relating to alumni. Twenty-five members are selected to join this elite group.

Contact the UHD Alumni Office at 713-221-8045.
Something happening in your life?  
E-mail your alumni news to alfarok@uhd.edu

Jerry Morales ('95) is working as a chemical salesman in West Texas. He completed his Master of Arts in Applied Research Psychology from University of Texas at the Permian Basin in Odessa, Texas. He plans to attend the doctoral program sometime in the future.

Gary Palmquist ('93) is the new legislative director for Rep. Bob Clement (D-Tenn.). In his new position he will coordinate all legislative efforts for the office, specifically supporting Clement’s Budget Committee assignment in addition to overseeing foreign policy, religion, international trade, veteran’s affairs and immigration legislation.

Anjanette D. Watson ('93) entered the Graduate School of Biomedical Science at University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston after completing her degree at UHD. After completing her Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in May 2000, she joined Caragen, a genomics company, where as a senior scientist in the bioinformatics department she continues to mine the human genome for novel genes and therapeutic targets for treating human diseases.

Alumni: Donate Your Skills and Smarts

Sometimes in life, all it takes to reach your goals is a simple boost from someone who cares. You can be the person who gives that boost by volunteering at UH-Downtown. Your time and talent could make a real difference in the life of a UHD student who may need just a bit of extra attention to succeed.

There are many opportunities for alumni volunteers:
- Become a contact for students and alumni who are looking for advice about your career.
- Help your company hire talented new UHD graduates through corporate participation in job recruiting fairs on campus.
- Talk to prospective students and their parents about the opportunities at UHD during College Day and College Night programs at area high schools.
- Volunteer for university-sponsored events on campus.
- Work one-on-one with a student who needs mentoring or tutoring to achieve academic success.
- Participate in the Alumni of the Year Reception. Call the UHD Alumni Office for more information: 713-221-8045, or e-mail alfarok@uhd.edu.

Double Your Gift to Your Alma Mater

You can make even more of an impact when you give to UH-Downtown, thanks to an anonymous donor who has agreed to match every new gift to the Alumni Annual Fund. Every dollar you contribute to UHD will be matched dollar for dollar!

Your gift to this year’s Alumni Annual Fund will support scholarships, student research projects, and the Scholars Academy, as well as support for faculty and staff development programs.

It’s not too late! Please act now and help UHD receive additional dollars. For your convenience, you can now choose from various options to make your gift. You can give online or make an electronic funds transfer gift at www.uhd.edu/alumni.htm. You can also mail your gift to: University Advancement Office, UH-Downtown, One Main Street, Suite 9905, Houston, Texas 77002.

For additional information about the Alumni Annual Fund, please contact Karen Paz Allarco-Chamberlin at alfarok@uhd.edu or 713-221-8045.
Companies looking for qualified, enthusiastic new employees come to UH-Downtown each fall and spring for Career Expo, where opportunity is a recurrent theme. Students eagerly mingle with corporate and agency recruiters, resumes in hand, with an eye on a potential job following graduation. In some cases, connections are made for internships — a strategy that has paid off handsomely for many UHD students. Faculty throughout the institution encourage students to take advantage of internships in disciplines ranging from professional writing to microbiology.

More than 50 companies such as ExxonMobil and Walgreen’s participated in the fall Career Expo. Generous partners included HEB, Aramark and Enterprise Rent-a-Car, which also donated funds to help furnish UHD’s remodeled Career Services offices.

If your company is interested in participating in the spring Career Expo, contact UH-Downtown Career Services at 713-221-8980.

Closing the Gaps in Texas

Education. Go get it. That’s the message of the “College for Texans” public awareness campaign, created by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. Through the effort, UHD joins other educational institutions across the state in encouraging young people to prepare for and complete a college education.

Pictured (below) is UHD microbiology major Diana Leal being interviewed by one of the media representatives who attended the campaign kick-off, hosted by the Houston Texans at Reliant Stadium.

Diana is the first in her extended family to attend college. While in high school, she participated in one of UHD’s precollegiate programs — Houston PREP. The program focuses on encouraging budding scientists and mathematicians, many of whom come from socially or economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

Companies + Students = Opportunity

Fueling Muscles to Power the Brain

Cesar Hernandez, a student employee at the Jesse H. Jones Student Life Center, demonstrates weightlifting exercises with new barbells, part of a $17,600 in fitness equipment donated by Karen and Pat Bierschwale, owners of Bison Building Materials. At the facility, UHD students can work on their physical wellbeing so that they’re at their best when it’s time to study.
**High Art**

High school students saw their art formally displayed at the O’Kane Gallery’s annual High Art program, an exhibit that rewards and encourages young artists. Just one example of UHD’s outreach to the community, this year High Art engaged artists from 24 public and private schools. More than 150 works were submitted for the fourth annual show, judged by UHD’s own artist-in-residence, Floyd Newsum.

Elizabeth Moran from the Kinkaid School won best in show for Boundaries. Ashley Wilson from Eisenhower High School won second place for Self-Portrait. Almost $1,000 in prizes was awarded to seven artists. Over 300 people attended the High Art opening, partially held in conjunction with the Houston Poetry Festival young adult workshop. The poetry festival is co-sponsored by the UHD Department of English and Cultural Enrichment Center.

**Currently on Display...**

Prints from Coronado Studios: Tejano Artists is in the O’Kane Gallery through December 19th. The exhibit features twenty artists from the “Serie Print Project,” created in the Austin studio. The screenprints, or serigraphs, represent a diverse array of works which express humor, politics and poetics.

Carla Nickerson: Mundane Splendors will be in the gallery January 23 – February 20 and The Far Distance: Frank Reaugh’s Texas Plains is scheduled February 27 through April 3. The O’Kane Gallery is on the third floor of the One Main Building.

**O’Kane Theatre**

Ever wondered where the term “Oedipus complex” came from? Audiences found out at an O’Kane Theatre production of Oedipus, the King, written by Sophocles (c. 420 B.C) and translated by David Grene.

This classic tragedy, often considered by many to be the greatest of Greek tragedies, tells the story of a man out to change his fate, but to no avail. As predicted at his birth, he would ultimately grow up to kill his father and marry his mother. Sophocles produced a timeless work that dramatizes the awesome power of the gods and the utter helplessness of man.

The O’Kane Theatre’s spring production will be the Neil Simon classic comedy Plaza Suite. Presented on Broadway in 1968, the play is an uproarious farce about three couples successively occupying a room in the Plaza Hotel. The couples’ stories are linked by love: lost, unrequited and found.

The O’Kane Theatre is located on the third floor of the One Main building. For more information, call 713-221-8104.

**Retooling a Degree for Today’s Needs**

UH-Downtown’s College of Business is overhauling the professional land management degree program — formerly known as petroleum land management — to better suit the needs of today’s energy industry. Re-engineering with enthusiasm is Gary J. Junco, newly-hired as director of the energy management program.

“Having been in private industry for over 25 years, I am excited about the opportunity to help build the foundation for this program,” says Junco. “We want to combine existing resources in the UHD College of Business such as finance, marketing and professional land management to build a ‘pipeline’ of students who are prepared to make decisions in all facets of the energy business.”

Junco was most recently President and C.O.O. of Argonauta Energy LLC, a startup oil and gas exploration and consulting firm formed by the principals of Reading and Bates Development Co.
in the average weekly hours of classroom use. Translation: the university has very little wiggle room.

According to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, UHD has a space deficit of more than 240,000 square feet. The new building will help, but the university must still contend with a shortage of space.

...and Growing....

Thinking ahead. That’s the operating mode for UHD-Downtown as more students are attracted to the university.

To accommodate anticipated increases in enrollment, a second new classroom building could be built before the end of the decade. UHD already took the first step by acquiring a plot of land directly to the west of the One Main campus. The 1.25-acre parcel is located at 404 Washington, the current site of a pay parking lot bounded by Buffalo Bayou to the north and sandwiched between Milam and Louisiana streets.

Very preliminary plans call for a 150,000-square-foot building, at a projected cost of $26 million. The source of funding is undetermined. UHD could seek permission from a future session of the state legislature for the sale of tuition revenue bonds, or the effort could benefit from a major gift.

In the meantime, the land at 404 Washington will be used to address yet another of UHD’s facility challenges: a shortage of parking for students, faculty and staff.