

Dateline: Downtown

S T U D E N T - R U N S I N C E V O L U M E O N E

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Don't Panic, Recession Brings Tuition Increase

By Jose Guitierrez
STAFF WRITER

The University of Houston-Downtown (UHD) administration is readying for the discussion on the proposed increase in tuition due to take place February 3, 2010 in N-1099 at 11:30 AM and 5:30 PM. At these meetings, the terms 'tuition adjustment' and 'percent change' are flung about haphazardly. Please note that when people say tuition increase, it also includes student mandatory fees. The subsequent experience is often negative and viewed as the following, a colossal wallet grab. Vice-President David Bradley explained in detail that the increase is proposed in response to recent budget

adjustments from the state legislature, in combination with a waning economy and regular inflation. The increase in tuition is due to a decrease in the state's budget of about 5 percent. This local increase is to compensate for that dip in funding at the state level.

In facts and figures, this boils down to budget cuts mandated from the administration to squeeze every penny already available to raise student fee adjustments. The following are some but not all of the fees that may be adjusted: Student Service Fee, Computer Use Fee, Student Records Fee, Center Fee, Library Fee, Energy Surcharge Fee, International Education Fee, and a Fee that only affects the students from the College

of Business. All of these fees are based and calculated differently; some are determined by number of students, but most are based on the School Credit Hour, or SCH, with a maximum cap. The cap is to protect from overcharging the students, for example, the Student Service Fee will increase from \$15 to \$20 per SCH but with the same max cap of \$140. So what does this mean for the proletariat at UHD in comparison to University of

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Sinners Beware!

How one church plans to Boycott Houston's "Liberal Agenda"

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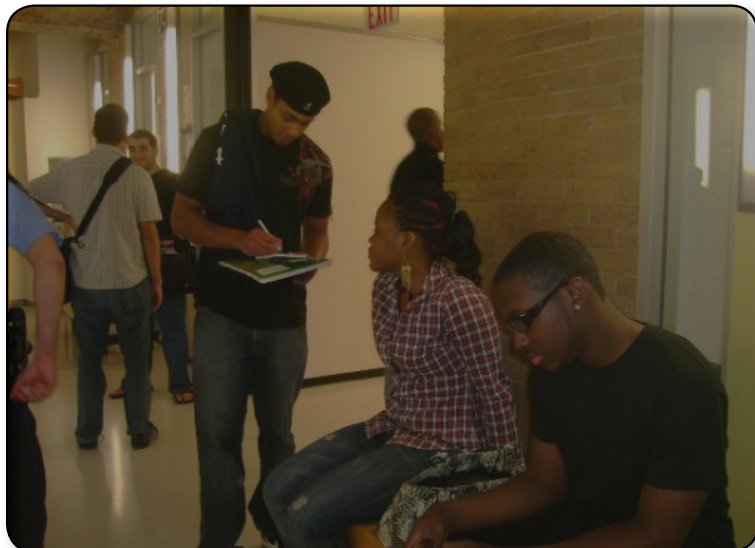
Job Market Outlook See Page 5

Kevin Li Yung Hing

STUDENT LIFE

A Day at UHD

By Alexis Rylander



Q: Why did you choose to come to UHD?

A: (L-R) Jason Caren, Alumnus: The CJ program was extensive. Francine Ebai, Freshman: My friends told me about UHD. Robert Harris, Freshman: I looked up the school online and this was the best place to go.



(L-R) Jeremy Washington, Sophmore; Jared Shuler, Junior; T. Harris, Junior; Velmer (Phillip) Garces Jr., Freshman; Ellecia C., Junior/Senior; Derrick Joseph, Junior; Brian Jackson, Junior.

Q: Versus last semester, how did your registration process go?

A: Jared Shuler; My registration process was smooth this semester. My advisor was very helpful and willing

A: Velmer (Phillip) Garces Jr.; My registration was not different, it was the same process as last semester.

Q: Why did you choose to attend UHD?

A: T. Harris; UHD offered my major and it was convenient with my work location.



(L-R) David Gavri, a UHD Senior and Lisa Dorn, a UHD Junior were talking about the livescribe, which is a "paper-based computing platform". www.allbystudents.com/livescribe. All student can register to win a free pin by going to the website.



(L-R) Gamma Alpha Omega – Rush Amada SanMiguel, Sophomore; Gloria Cruz, Sophomore; Liza Gonzales, Junior; Trisha Alvarado, Senior get ready for greek rush.

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Online Sound-Bites



Chrystan_ On the shuttlebus headed to class! Dont know why im excited/nervous. #UHD

8 days ago from mobile web



PhileoLove Any cuties? :)RT @_PEACEnLOVE: Is always amazed at the different ppl I see @ UHD... Ppl watching is really cool here. Lol

Calendar & Notices

February 1-15 Events Calendar

February is Black History month

February 2-3 - "As you Like it" Auditions O'kane Theater 1:30pm-3:30pm

February 3 - SGA and UHD Vice President discuss the impact of FY2011 budget change Room N1099 11:30 and 5:30

February 4 - Mardi Gras 11 am - 1pm Students can meet all student orgs and find out about student involvement. Complimentary food, drinks, novelties and a live Zydeco band

February 8 - Self Defense Seminar: Avoid Being a Victim UHD Student Life Center (North of the One Main Building). \$5 per class, or \$10 for all 3 courses (Avoid Being a Victim, How to Fight Back, and Confidence Conquers - Mental and Physical Balance). **Registration required at the Student Life Center.**

February 8-9 - UHD Graduation fair at the UHD bookstore from 10 am to 6 pm. Class rings, caps and gowns as well as announcements. For further information see www.uh-downtown.bncollege.com, www.herffjones.com/college/graduation, or 713-221-8145

February 9 - Poetry Reading: Merrilee Cunningham and Katherine Jager Auditorium 5:30pm - 7pm

February 10 - Movie Screening: This Is It N1099 11 am to 1 pm and 6 to 8 pm Complimentary drinks and popcorn

February 11 - Hispanic Film Series: Rudo y Cursi A405 8pm - 10pm All films are in Spanish with subtitles in English and are open to the public.

February 12 - "Performing and Understanding Inferential Statistics Using Resampling Stats" N1099 10am - 11:30am Presented by Dr. Barry Sullender, Assistant Professor of Natural Sciences.

Sigma Lambda Gamma Events

Masquerade - Feb 2 at 7 pm
Informationals - Feb 3 at 8:30 pm
Girls night out - Feb 4 at 8:30 pm
contact info: Beth 713-884-5153

Want to get your event noticed? Email us at Dateline@gator.uhd.edu with the subject line reading "calendar".

NOTICES

You Can do it! Orientation canned food drive- Bring a can good to room N325 and receive a free shirt. (while supplies last) 713-221-8022

Congratulations Tonya Chissell-Williams and José Eduardo Sanchez for being accepted as interns for the Mickey Leland Congressional interns program in Washington, D.C.

Save 3 lives in Minutes

By Michael Zamora
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, February 16, and Wednesday, February 17, the University of Houston Downtown will be holding its spring blood drive on the third floor Coffee House area (next to Smoothie King). Students wanting to donate should visit www.eblooddrive.org and enter or create a user id and then follow the onscreen instructions to schedule an appointment. Students should enter the sponsor code 3731 when prompted. If you do not know what time you will be able to give blood until the day of the drive, you can go to the donation center at the Coffee House to sign-up.

In order to ensure that the blood donation process goes smoothly, students are asked to adhere to the following guidelines: All donors must be at least 17 years of age or 16 with parental consent; weigh at least 110 pounds, and be in general good health without any flu or cold symptoms; Students will need a valid ID

card in order to donate which includes a driver's license, state issued ID card or student identification card; Before donating, students should eat a good meal that includes foods rich in iron, like red meat and leafy vegetables, and drink plenty of fluids; After donating blood, students should drink plenty of water and juice to replace the fluids they have lost, and avoid any strenuous activity for 12 hours. Alcohol should also be avoided before and after donation.

The blood drive is affiliated with the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center which serves over 170 hospitals and healthcare institutions in Texas. In order to meet the needs of these hospitals, Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center must collect 330,000 units of blood in 2010 alone. That amounts to over 1000 donations a day. In order to meet this goal, the blood center is encouraging all students to "Commit for Life." This involves donating once per quarter, allowing the blood center to contact you, and

encouraging others to do the same.

By committing to donate blood for life, students can help save up to three patients' lives with every donation. The Blood Center accomplishes this by separating every donation it receives into three different components: red cells, platelets, and plasma. Your red blood cells are used to help treat accident victims, surgical patients and people with anemia. Your platelets are used to help treat leukemia and cancer patients, and your plasma is used to help patients suffering from burns or shock.

In addition to helping save up to three lives with their donations, students also receive other benefits as well from blood donation. For example, all students will receive their blood type, blood pressure and cholesterol levels after donation. This information can inform the student as to whether or not their blood pressure and cholesterol levels are within normal, healthy limits.

More Reading for UHD Vets Military Newspapers Available

By Aldo Gino Cruz
STAFF WRITER

Aside from being ethnically diverse, the University of Houston-Downtown's student body is composed of 200 veterans currently pursuing a degree. UHD has taken measures – hiring a Veteran Services Coordinator – to ensure these students have a smooth collegiate experience; The most recent of which has been taken by the W.I. Dykes Library.

The library now subscribes to the Military Times Newspapers. The Military Times Newspapers include the

Air Force Times, Army Times, Marine Corps Times, and Navy Times. Each one of these provides news and information from their respective branch. These are all located in the 5th floor leisure reading area of the Library. The Military Times Newspapers are a great source of information in the following areas: Military News, Financial Services, Pay and Benefits, Healthcare, Education and Training, Promotions and Certifications, Product Reviews, Gear and Games, Travel and Leisure, and Transitioning to Civilian Life.

Besides the new subscription, veterans

have access to an array of resources that are ideal for their needs. In fact, they even have a way to access them in an extracurricular setting through the Student Veterans Organization (SVO). The main objective of the SVO is to serve the needs of students with prior or current military association, their families and dependents and bring past and current members of the Armed Forces together to promote, unify and advocate for the veterans' voice on campus. A voice that UHD has proven that it's capable of taking an extra step in order to reach out to this sector of the student body.

CAMPUS NEWS

Do you have tips? Contact us at Dateline@gator.uhd.edu for any tips, events, or story ideas to cover.

Big Dreams for Big Class



Kevin Li Yung Hung

Photography and Front Page Image by Kevin Li Yung Hung
The fall class of 2009 is the largest class to graduate from UHD. This was the first commencement ceremony for President Flores since he began in August of that same year. The commencement was also streamed live over the UHD website.

By **Amanda White**
STAFF WRITER

The class of fall 2009 celebrated the completion of their degrees from the University of Houston-Downtown (UHD) at the 2009 Commencement Ceremony, which was held on Sunday, December 20, 2009 in Minute Maid Park. As many as 15,000-20,000 spectators were present to support over 1,239 students that made up the largest class in UHD history. Graduates ranged from young-aged-twenty-somethings to a 63-year-old student. Coming from varied places – Latin America, Asia, Africa, Europe, and Texas – to complete their academic degrees, many UHD graduates are the first in their family to earn a degree.

Graduate Novia Read gave the official Student Address. In her speech, Read pointed out that UHD made a difference in her community and that every

graduate has the potential to succeed. Read, despite having a learning disability, didn't let anything stop her from working hard in order for her to earn a Bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies and becoming a teacher. She attended the joint admission program for aspiring teachers at Lone Star College in conjunction with UHD. This program allows students to complete an Associate's Degree at Lone Star College and a Bachelor's degree from UHD. She is now currently working as a third grade teacher in the New Caney Independent School District.

Luckily for Read, she has secured a job before moving her tassel from right to left at the ceremony where nearly all the graduates validated that they worked more than thirty hours a week while going to school. Some students from the class of 2009 are experiencing feelings of anxiety and concern as they leave school during a recession and tight job market.

Although the economy may be heading towards recovery, jobs are still hard to find in many places around the country. Houston and Texas may have a stronger economy than most other cities and states in the nation, but according to a prediction from The Greater Houston Partnership, job losses are expected to continue throughout 2010. Only about twelve hundred new jobs are projected to be created for the whole year. Some UHD graduates are feeling very optimistic about the future regardless of the state of the economy. According to an article post on President Flores's blog, one student stated, "The economy will turn around. I plan to start my own business. Who knows, maybe I'll hire some of these graduates one day." Until the job market starts to recover, many students will get involved in alternative activities such as attending graduate school, traveling, volunteering, or working on internships.

What's in Store for May 2010 Grads? Job Forecast Won't Look Good For Grads, Until 2011

Jessika Davidson
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

For the past few years, college graduates have been walking out of the classroom and straight into an economy and job market that have become synonymous with the word "recession". Hiring for graduates was at its lowest level in decades after a devastating 40% plunge in hiring in 2009, and economists predict that a change will not be seen until the last quarter of this year. Houston lost a little more than 93,000 jobs in 2009 alone, and most recent graduates are not working in careers that compliment their degree. Even though the outlook for college

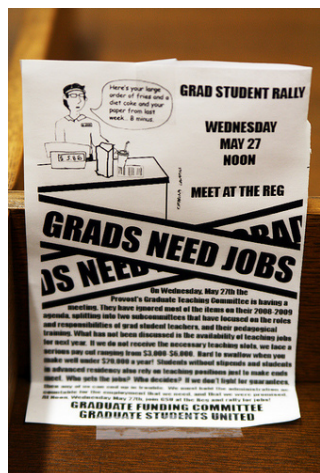


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graduates in 2010 is better, it is still not promising.

According to Michigan State University's survey on hiring trends, job opportunities for recent graduates with bachelor's

degrees, which will account for most of this year's graduate hires, will drop nearly 1% from 2009's numbers. So, who's hiring? Average to large sized corporations are currently employing between 500 and 4,000 employees, ironically decreasing their hiring rate in 2010 by 14%. The small gleam of hope for recent college grads lies in small business. Companies with less than 500 employees expect their hiring to jump by 15%. Michigan State's survey also found that out of the 11 employees each small business will hire on average, 8 will be at the bachelor's degree level. A third of these employers

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LOCAL NEWS

Is there something going on in town? Contact us at Dateline@gator.uhd.edu.

New Mayor, New Opposition,

by **Christina Rodriguez**
NEWS EDITOR

On January 2, 2010, former City Controller Annise Parker was sworn in as Mayor of Houston, the fourth largest city in the United States. On January 17, 2010, Pastor David Grisham of Amarillo, TX, unveiled a website that openly and harshly criticizes not only Parker, but the city she now represents for electing her in the first place. The new website is called "Boycott Houston" and has already been the subject of both praise and indignation from groups as varied as the political parties and area religious organizations of Texas. This odd combination of supporters is due partly to the new Planned Parenthood building that is being built on I-45 that will be the largest such facility in the country and

partly because Rev. Joel Osteen of Lakewood Church gave the opening prayer at Parker's inauguration ceremony.

While Osteen is considered to be either 'too' Christian or too enthusiastic in 'saving' lives through the Bible, he is in fact more lenient on the sexuality issue than one might expect. He has been quoted in many interviews discussing how homosexuals weren't God's best idea and is a Christian who believes that homosexuality is a sin, but he is also surprisingly tolerant when it comes to collaborating or participating in city activities with homosexuals. He was absent from the protest at the site of the new Planned Parenthood.

Boycott Houston's intentions are to enact 'economic sanctions' on the city of Houston. This is done by withholding one's contribution

to the city's economy. In the 'About Me' section of the website it states, "While you may or may not be a resident of Houston and eligible to vote for mayor, you can vote with your dollar." This can be done by stopping business relationships with other Houstonians, moving to another city or suburb that would change who actually receives your property taxes, and numerous other ways that require a drastic effort for those in Houston and its outlying areas. This is a good idea, but even for those of us who live in suburbs of Houston, we still have needs that can only be met in the city, such as education opportunities, healthcare, and other public services such as permits or licenses that must be obtained in Downtown Houston. Even if you wanted to stage a protest or public gathering against

Houston, having a license issued by the city is always a situation in which you would rather pay this sinful city than be arrested by it.

The home page of the Boycott Houston website shows features such as "Houston, We Have a Problem!" which states the claim that the existence of an openly gay mayor will only result in having the inevitable 'radical gay agenda' stuffed down our throats. One choice is whether you would like to sign the online petition for Boycott Houston, and yet another link describes Parker's campaign as flaunting her gay lifestyle in an attempt to garner support from the city of Houston, which is one of the only Democratic areas in a largely Republican state. In fact, very little was said about Parker's sexuality for most of her campaign. During the latter period of the

mayoral election, some religious supporters and political groups that were in support of Gene Locke sent out a mailer stating that Houstonians shouldn't vote for Parker because she was endorsed by the Houston "gay and lesbian political caucus". Some readers may be relieved to find that a measly 82 people have signed this online petition out of Texas' total population of nearly 25 million individuals.

Mayor Annise Parker did respond to Boycott Houston on local news station KHOU, stating, "I trust that the citizens of Amarillo will make their own decisions about visiting us here in Houston. I'll simply continue to do my best to make sure that Houston is a great place to do business in and a great place to visit." It is heartening to hear these unassuming words from a woman whose so-called radical gay agenda will soon be wreaking havoc on our forward thinking city.



Bill White-(D)



Farouk Shami-(D)

Texas Governor's Race Starts, Let the Spending Begin

By **Brittney Musgrave and Peyton Davis**
STAFF WRITERS

The Governor's race of 2010 has drawn many competitors. Every candidate is unique and different, but how does a voter choose which candidate is the right one for Governor? Each candidate brings their own unique ideas on every major issue in our state and our country. What makes a good governor is an even harder question. Is it a born and raised Texan? Should the governor be someone with a strong background in Texas politics, or should they just have a history of making Texas stronger? For any well informed Texas citizen to make this decision they should first know more about the candidates.

There was no question that the current Republican Governor Rick Perry would have a fight on his hands with Republican Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, but it was not until August 4 that former Mayor Bill White-(D) announced his intention to switch races and join Kay Bailey Hutchison and Rick Perry in the battle for Texas. Mayor White had been campaigning for Kay Bailey Hutchison's senate seat until she decided not to resign in light of special laws in Texas allowing her to hold a federal seat while running in a state race.

Bill White called on the people of Texas to help him in making the right decision. Should he run for senate or should he run for governor? The emails, Facebook postings and online contributions were

overwhelming. Texas and especially Houston wants to see our former Mayor as our future governor. And so the campaign switched gears. Push cards, bumper stickers, and t-shirts had to be redone to reflect that Bill White was seeking residence in Austin as Texas' next governor. Bill White has a strong background in business and a history of bringing people together. He strongly proved that through Hurricane Ike, when Houston dealt with weeks of no electricity, broken traffic lights and food shortages. He served as mayor of Houston from 2004 to 2010.

White's only real fight may be against the relatively unknown businessman Farouk Shami-(D). Shami has never been in politics, and he hasn't voted since 2004. But his money speaks louder than his words. He has said he

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Rick Perry-(R)



Kay Bailey Hutchinson-(R)

EDITORIAL

The Dateline Downtown accepts editorials from students. Has something irked you on campus? Has something gone well? Contact us at Dateline@gator.uhd.edu.

Eff That Response to "Eff the Status Quo"

By Zak Galla
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Are you effing kidding me? I will be graduating in May 2010 and will proudly walk across the stage in right field at Minute Maid Park at the ripe ol' age of 30 and have not a single complaint about the University of Houston-Downtown. You want to know why? Because I pay the school in peanuts and what you pay is what you get. That's right, it has one of the lowest tuition's in the state and you still get the privilege of saying you went to a credible university. Not to mention UHD didn't care what my educational history revealed. There was no GPA requirement, no SAT requirement, no ACT requirement or any other requirements other than having a high school diploma. If you want a steak dinner, you don't go to Luby's, you go to Morton's.

Why did you pick UHD? Why did it take you 7 years to graduate? That's assuming you came here straight out of high school. It's probably the same reason I'll be taking a picture with William V. Flores, in right field come May, because I couldn't afford to go to any other university, and wanted a damn good education that looks good on a resume. Probably not as good as Rice or St. Thomas University, but then again I won't be in a six-figure tuition debt when I graduate.

To your quam about the professors,

UHD is not a daycare, elementary, middle, or high school; the professors don't have to care. In fact, they get paid not to care. You seemed to do alright, you're graduating. The key ingredient to a student's success is the student has to care. If a student cares, then the professor cares. And obviously, according to the admission standards at UHD, there is going to be a lot of students who don't care. Instead of your precious game-room, which by the way is irrelevant to a college education; we should have a designated area for stories and nap time.

I will agree with you on the UHD police department; that, my friend, needs improvement. And you are also right about the homeless, UHD is not a bathing facility and something needs to be done with the trespassing. And yes hats off to the custodial staff. The ATM thing, business hours on Fridays, the food selection, crossing the street and what student do in the computer lab are all just a temper tantrum. Take a long drag of your cigarette, exhale and count to 10. Do we feel better now?

I hate to break it to you but these problems will never change. You want a problem-less world, move to Candyland. Graduation is a big deal and I'm sure there are many people who are extremely proud of you, but don't go out by bashing the university that put a diploma on your wall and made job advancement easier for you. Embrace it.

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Does UHD Really Need a Student Lounge?

By Nick Martinez
LOUNGE COMMITTEE MEMBER

When I picked up the last 2009 issue of the Dateline: Downtown newspaper and read the "Con Article for the Student Lounge", I was extremely close to tying a rope to my ankle and jumping off the bridge near I-10. The majority of the article written was blasphemous and had no clear discussion. What a CON!

Here are a few questions for you: Do you know the difference between a raise in tuition and a raise in fees? Did you know student organizations will benefit from this more than hurt from it? The ideas of pool tables, bowling alleys, and a stage for performances are being explored as an option. Currently it is just speculation and not official. The construction of a student lounge/center is based on funding by the university center fee, not tuition increases. The university center fee is \$15 for those students who are registered for five hours or less and \$25 for those registered for six hours or more. The fee is used to fund the Student Life Center, O'Kane Gallery, Campus Information Center, and any utility charges incurred.

The University of Houston-Downtown (UHD) has been well off with just twenty five dollars for 25 years. Imagine if we increased the dollar amount by \$25 more? Of course, we would want to see what our options would be with an increase in the center fee, but UHD is willing to work with what we want to propose. This can be a voted on by the student population to determine what the increase is and what exactly the increase in center fee provides.

UHD is not looking to purchase land or buyout property. They are literally

PRO

Do you have a response for this topic? Is there something that needs to be addressed at UHD? Please Contact us at Dateline@gator.uhd.edu

exploring the option of renovating an area that students can congregate and really take in the non-academic side of the college experience. Previous renovations for the 4th floor library and 10th floor for the newly designed College of Humanities & Social Sciences Department were not disruptive (in regard to the CON piece). Hell, what's really bothering anyone is the noise levels of students who are always on the benches on the third floor!

A student lounge would be great for the University of Houston-Downtown. It can serve as a marketing tool to increase enrollment numbers and provide adequate space for students who can't seem to find one. Imagine a state of the art facility equipped with the latest television sets, (possibly) accompanied by the most recent video game systems projected on a wall in an area designated as "Gamers' Corner" along with an area designated as the exclusive internet radio station produced by UHD's very own students. This environment could be equipped with pool tables, four bowling lanes, ping pong tables, a snack bar (possibly negotiating with Aramark), and even an alcohol bar with the taps of some of Texas' finest beers (Shiner Bock or Saint Arnolds anyone?).

The student lounge can be utilized by organizations to create a more "traditional" college lifestyle/experience. Mind you, there are some logistics and

see **PRO** on page 8

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JOBS

Continued from page 4

would consider hiring graduates regardless of their major.

Employers typically look for flexibility and the willingness to adapt. They prefer an employee with multiple skill sets that can be used in several situations. However, even with some companies looking for well rounded candidates, the most sought after graduates are those who majored in natural sciences and statistics. Hiring opportunities for these graduates will climb by 6% and 11% respectively this year. Also, hiring students who just completed graduate degrees will continue a steady rise this year, with a 20% increase in hiring for candidates that hold a PhD.

With thousands of Houston graduates entering the job market this year, choosing the right career field might be the advantage that graduates will need. The Wall Street Journal, who released their “Best and Worst Jobs for 2010”, an annual list of the most promising jobs of the year and professions you should avoid based on stress level, the current job market and employment outlook stated that becoming an actuary—a collector of statistics to calculate the financial impact of risk and uncertainty in businesses—is the most promising job of the year. The average annual salary of an actuary is \$65,754, over twenty thousand dollars more than the \$39,990 average salary of all bachelor’s degree graduates. Other jobs in the top ten consist of computer system analysts, biologists, accountants, paralegals, software engineers and lastly dental hygienists.



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After Settling with NBC, America is Still with COCO

By Frank Raia
STAFF WRITER

“I’m with Coco!” is a phrase that everybody knows or has heard in the last few weeks. This comes from the situation between Conan O’Brien Vs Jay Leno on NBC. O’Brien’s fans scream this with almost fanatic religious passion.

It all started six years ago when O’Brien signed a contract stating that he would get the “Tonight Show” as his. It was pretty much understood that the “Tonight Show” contract would last for a few years like other hosts before him; But after only seven months, it’s canned. Blame the rest on NBC and the people who didn’t give “Coco” long enough to prove that he could take on David Letterman. As the host of “Late Show” on CBS, Lettermen

simply destroys other shows in the ratings race.

During Leno’s first years as host of the “Tonight Show,” Lettermen dominated the ratings. NBC easily forgot about that incident and decide to kick Conan O’Brien off the Tonight Show because of poor ratings for both “The Jay Leno show” and the “Tonight Show”.

In doing so, NBC helped spawn Team Coco. Artist and college student, Mike Mitchell created an iconic poster of Conan titled “I’m with Team Coco”. This image posted on various anti-NBC websites have suggested a ban on the network to support Conan no matter where he goes. And where can this redheaded Irish man go? Nobody knows because in order to get the money that is included in his severance deal from NBC, he can’t

appear publicly as a host until September 2010. Jay Leno will take over the “Tonight Show” after the Olympics in February.

Considering the layoff, O’Brien has pocketed \$32 million after the original \$45 million that was given to his crew that had traveled migrated from New York to Los Angeles after the switch from “Late Night”. During this dramatic exist, O’Brien insisted to realize the devastation in Haiti that has now killed an estimated 200,000 people. He would mention that all this is nothing compared to what is going on in the real world asking his audience to help the people who lost everything. During a tough economy, losing a job has never seemed so honorable as Conan said he would move on and do other things.

CLASSIFIEDS

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GOV

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will contribute ten million dollars to his own campaign and he has already started the spending. Shami is the founder and CEO of BioSilk and CHI. These two products have been used to make salons cleaner and healthier for salon customers. Shami has developed a very personal business relationship with Texas. In 2007 he moved his manufacturing of CHI products to Texas, which created 1200 jobs. Besides being a good business man, Farouk Shami wants to help improve Texas' agriculture, and help Texas become the leader in the alternative energy field.

Other candidates, such as Rick Perry-(R), might have some support but also have some negative feedback attached to them. Rick Perry is a prime example of someone who has received some bad rep. Some might recall how in April 2009 Rick Perry suggested that Texas might want to consider seceding from the Union, all because taxes have reached pressuring limits. Perry has made claims

against the nation to which the state of Texas belongs. Some people might argue that a good and promising future for our state requires a governor that works with our country, not against it.

Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson-(R) has represented Texas in the U.S. Senate for many years. She is well liked amongst her peers, and has been endorsed by George H.W. Bush and his wife Barbara Bush. Hutchinson has quite a distinguished history in politics. She is a strong supporter of lowering taxes for working families in Texas and has helped Texas become the recipient of many research funds. Her strengths are in her background, her strength, and her results which have helped Texas so much since she became involved with Texas politics.

Kinky Friedman, who has been a candidate many times before, has announced his withdrawal from the governor's race as of December 2009 and has changed his campaign to the AG Commissioner's race. Kinky made the announcement saying that he was doing what was best for Texas by choosing to run for a different office within the Texas government.

Sell Your Junk

Classified Section Is Free To All Faculty And Students. See Details Below

FREE Classified Ads for all students, faculty, and employees. All submissions should include a brief description of what you are advertising (25 words or less) as well as your contact information and estimated time frame that it could be run. You may submit these as an e-mail ATTN to: classifieds at dateline@gator.uhd.edu

All ads will remain in print until notification is received that it has been successful. All ads will be published on a first come, first serve basis, so hurry up. Deadline: February 8, 2010

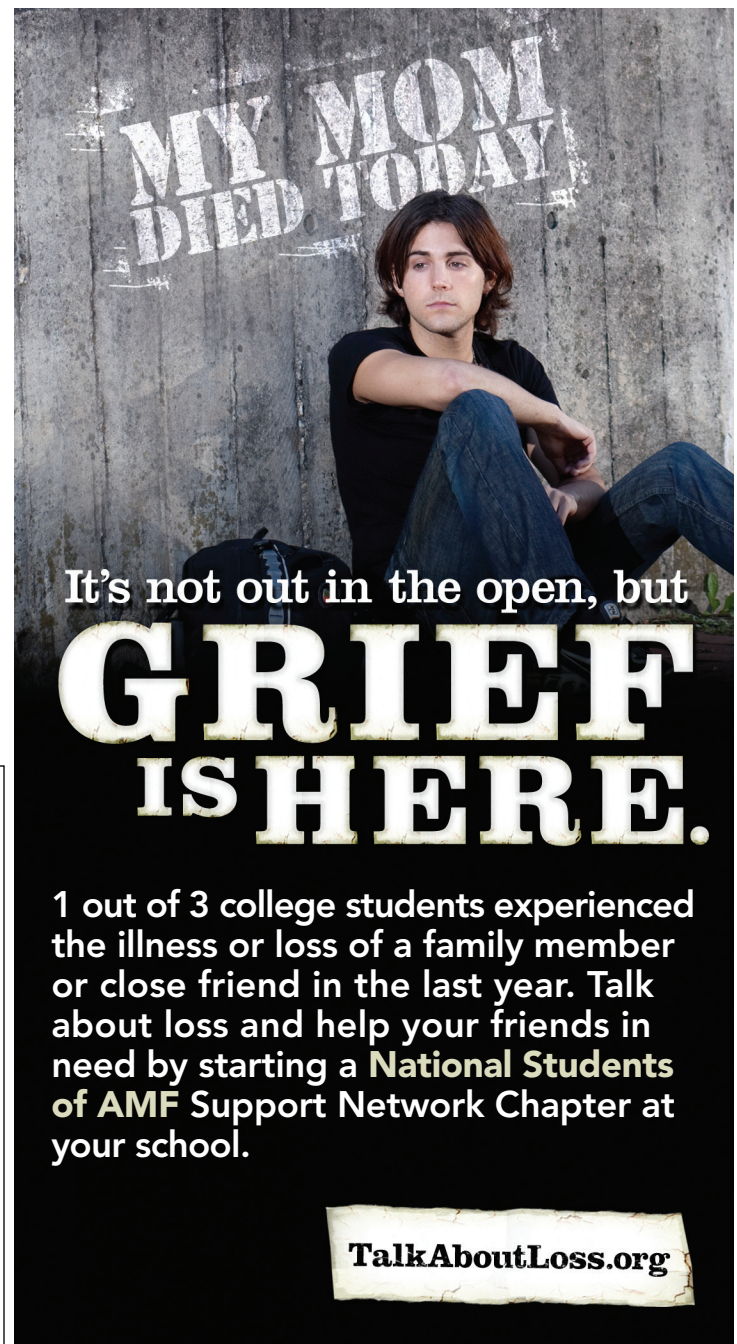
Early voting runs from February 16 through February 26. Regular voting begins on March 2. This will be the primary in which you will decide who will be on the ticket in November. The two Republicans who are sure to keep you entertained with their jibs and jabs are, of course, the incumbent Rick Perry who is in his tenth year as governor, and Kay Bailey Hutchison. The two Democrats are former Houston Mayor Bill White and Businessman Farouk Shami. If Facebook is any indication of how the race will go, the group "Not Having Rick Perry as Governor" has over 13, 619 members, but only you can decide.

Peyton Davis is a UHD student who Works for Bill White for Texas.

PANIC

Continued from page 1

Houston-Main? UHD undergraduate students will pay a proposed \$5,010 for 30 school credit hours in tuition and fees, while campuses within the UH System students will be paying \$7,962, which is still cheaper. For more information please attend either of these two meetings.



It's not out in the open, but **GRIEF IS HERE.**

1 out of 3 college students experienced the illness or loss of a family member or close friend in the last year. Talk about loss and help your friends in need by starting a **National Students of AMF Support Network Chapter** at your school.

TalkAboutLoss.org

PRO

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accountability that needs to be addressed like alcohol on campus, and respecting contracts with current UHD clientele.

At UHD, students are the number one consumer and patron. We pay fees with our tuition every semester, so why not build something that students will actually use? We should be asking for the world, yet we lay dormant with tunnel vision focusing on the negativity of

the UHD college experience. Yes the issues of parking, absence of a sports field, and need of a veterans facility seem like a void at UHD, but think of the student lounge as the foundation from which we can build other amenities. The student lounge is one major factor that will help CREATE THE UNITY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY HERE AT University of Houston-Downtown.

Nick Martinez works as the UHD Students Activities Board President and is on the committee for the proposed student lounge.