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SPORTS

www.uhd.edu/dateline



Photo courtesy of the Student Life Center. Jordan Isom lays it up while playing TSU April 18.

NAME CHANGE FREQUENTLY ASKED **QUESTIONS:**

Look throughout the issue for FAQs about the Name Change!

Light Rail is Already Under Construction



UHD Name Change

Alumni's **Editorial Focuses** on Wasteful Spending SEE PAGE 6

EDTORIALS

Dateline : Downtown

STUDENT LIFE MetroRail Expansion Coming to UHD

By Amanda White STAFF WRITER

As of right now, construction crews are working in Downtown and in parts of East Houston on building new sections of the Metro Rail line. By 2014, Metro will extend the light rail to serve North Houston, Southeast Houston, Houston's East End. Southwest Houston, and West Houston. The expansion will be helpful for some Houstonians, because it will provide a quicker way to get to work, school, Downtown, shopping districts, and other parts of Houston. Other residents are not supporting the expansion for various reasons including the inconvenience of construction, the cost of the project, and the sight and sound of the train itself. Whether you're for or against the expansion, Metro will be creating five additional lines in the next four years.

The five lines will be Northline, Southeast, East End, Uptown, and University. The Northline will be added on to the existing red line that ends at the University of Houston-Downtown station. The Northline rail will travel about five miles away from UHD to the Northline Mall Center. Some stations that will be on the Northline route are Houston Community College - North, Northline Transit Center, and the Hardy Toll Road. The second line will be the Southeast line. which can also be called the purple line. The Southeast line will run for about six miles from Downtown to the Palm Center. Major streets that the Southeast line will travel on include Martin Luther King Blvd. and Griggs Rd. Stations along the Southeast line include University of Houston and Texas Southern University. The third line will be the East End Line, which can

also be referred to as the green line. The East End line will run a course of approximately four miles from the Magnolia Transit Center to Downtown. The East End corridor will run along Harrisburg Blvd., and will also connect to the purple line. Some major streets along the East End line are, Lockwood St. and Caesar Chavez (67th) Highway 59 South, portions of Richmond Ave, and across I-45 South. The University line will connect to other lines such as Uptown, Southeast, and Main Street. Some major points of interest along the University line are Bellaire, University Place, Montrose, University of Houston, and Texas Southern University.

of the street at a time in order to allow enough space on the road for two-way traffic. During this stage in construction, access to residential areas and businesses is not affected. The second step involves widening the road. Construction is limited to one side of the road at a time, so that there is room for two-way traffic. During this phase, citizens will



Photo courtesy of Wilbert Chinchilla. This is the UH-Dountown Station located in front of the school. This is currently the last stop on the Northbound Line.

St. The fourth line will be the Uptown line, and can also be referred to as the gold line. The Uptown line will run from the Northwest Transit Center to Westpark St. Passengers riding along the Uptown line will have access to Memorial City Mall, The Galleria, the 610 West Loop, Highway 290, and I-10 West. The final line will be the University line, which can also be called the blue line. The University line will run for about ten miles from the Hillcroft Transit Center to the Eastwood Transit Center The University line will run along

Construction is currently taking place on the Northline and East End Corridor. Construction will be taking place on the remainder corridors by Spring 2011. To make the construction process easier on surrounding businesses and neighborhoods, Metro has designed a four-step construction process. The first step is called the Underground utility installation. The Underground utility installation process involves arranging and installing the electrical wires that will be used to operate the train. This process is done on one side

of station platforms, and finishing touches. This step includes the planting of trees and other landscapes, which are used to beautify the stations. Currently, the Northline and East End stations are at the end of step one, or at the beginning of step two. All the other stations should be undergoing stage one construction by next Spring. Most stations should be ready for service by 2014 - some might be ready at the end of 2013. The expansion project is expected to cost over one billion dollars.

The last

step is the

completion

Name Change (Most?) Frequently Asked Questions:

Why "City University" or "Houston City University?"

Either name option highlights the University's distinct legacy as a richly diverse, urban institution and our focus on Houston. This includes our contributions to the City, and the importance of the City to our students and employees. Both names reflect the purposeful focus we have on the Houston metropolitan area.

What will it cost and how will we pay for this?

It will cost money to rebrand the institution, but re-branding or building awareness and relevance with key audiences will happen with or without the name change. An exact estimate will depend on options that we will choose. The value of free publicity that will be tied to the name change will likely be worth far more than the advertising UHD will buy. In addition, UHD will use a transition period so that consumables such as stationery, business cards, etc. will be replaced over a period of time.



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Want attention for your next event?

Be sure to email us at

Datelinecalendar@ gmail.com

Include contact info, name of event, date, time, location, and a short description.

Calendar & Notices

May 3-June 26 Events Calendar

May 5

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Health Workshop: My Pyramid Tracker N-1099

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM Scholars Academy Spring Convocation, Auditorium. Open to UHD Scholars Academy students members and UHD College of Sciences and Technology faculty.

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Student Awards Program Auditorium and Special Events Room (One Main Building, 3rd Floor, Academic side)

May 6

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM First Aid Training: CPR/AED and First Aid A-425 (One Main Building, Academic side, 4th floor) \$5 fee. Open to faculty, staff, and students.

May 7

11 AM - 12 PM Student Lounge Committee Meeting S-380 Open to the university community.

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM First Aid Training: CPR/AED and First Aid A-425 Open to faculty, staff, and students.

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM UHD Staff Awards Special Events Room A300 Open to UHD employees.

May 17

6 PM Commencement at Minute Maid Park. See www.uhd.edu/commencement

May 21

6:30 PM - 9:00 PM UHD Sports & Fitness Awards Banquet A-300 \$5 per person. Open to the public.

May 31

Memorial Day - UHD CLOSED All Day

June 16

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM UHD Staff Council Meeting 1099-N Open to the university community.

June 25-26

5:00 PM - 12:00 AM UHD Dance Marathon Special Events Room A-300 Free. \$10 per participant.

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FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERING **Technology***

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From The University of Houston-Downtown

Can lead to an exciting lucrative career!



WHAT IS FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERING (FPE)?

"The application of science and engineering principles to protect people and their environment from the destructive effects of fire."

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* * As reported in 2001 Profile of the Fire Protection Engineer



Randomdude18 (Cont.) Getting an Athletic Award from UHD is like getting an Academic Achievement Award from McDonald's. 5 days ago from TweetDeck



Fans - 131

Followers - 109

Come join the discussion on our fan page to answer questions that could be featured in @The Dateline Downtown.

Come join the discussion on twitter and possibly be featured in The Dateline Downtown. Follow @TheDateline or search uhd at www.search.twitter.com

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Dateline : Downtown

Interview with Faculty Awarded in Three Categories

By Salma Turrubiartes STAFF WRITER

A crowd of more than one hundred attended the 2010 Faculty Award celebration on Tuesday, April 6 at the Special Events Center at the UHD main building. One of the Faculty Award winners was Dr. Lisa Morano, Associate Professor of Biology and Microbiology Department of Natural Sciences. Among the attendees were Dr. Morano's family and her research students.

campus news

According to Dr. Morano, winner of the UHD 2010 Teaching Excellence Award, members of the faculty are nominated in the fall for the awards, and then they decide whether to accept or decline the nomination. Both students and faculty can make nominations, Dr. Morano added. Award winners are selected by a Faculty Awards Selection Committee, which includes winners from the previous year.

Dr. Morano was more than happy to reveal her teaching secrets in a recent phone

interview. Keeping students engaged is one of her secret teaching methods, she said. She tells stories to her students, and brings examples to class such as 3D models, fungi models, and virus samples. She also encourages student participation, and has students work in groups. She tests most of these methods through trial and error, and can tell whether or not they're working by students getting the right or wrong answers on the test.

Dr. Morano also brings the outside field experience into her classroom in an effort to further engage her students. For the junior and senior level classes, Dr. Morano brings in published scientific articles and gives them to her students to analyze. For instance, she would bring them the first published scientific paper about DNA, HIV, or new microorganisms that are discovered. She believes when students analyze these materials it builds their critical and analytical skills, which is important to her.

"Students will know if you care about their

success."

Dr. Morano's classes are usually full, ranging from 50 students for the General Microbiology class to 30-40 students for the upper division courses. She generally teaches Junior and Senior Environmental Biology and from time to time she teaches freshmen biology classes.

UHD had two more award categories the Service Award and the Scholarship/ Creativity Award. The Service Award was for excellence in his/her department or outside the university, said Dr. Morano. The winner for the Service Award this year was Dr. Marvin Williams, Professor of Finance, Accounting, and Computer information Systems. The 2010 Scholarship/ Creativity award winner was Dr. David Ryden, Associate Professor of History. The Scholarship/Creativity Award, like the Service Award, is for excellence in your department or outside the university, added Dr. Morano.

SGA Meeting Brings More Questions

By Christina Sheets CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Tempers flared at the Student Government Association's Town Hall Meeting held last week to discuss the current name change ideas for the University of Houston-Downtown. The Special Events Room was crowded with students and faculty who both support and oppose the name change. Among the panel composed of administrators that discussed the reasoning for the change, President William V. Flores was present to answer students' questions. Other panelist included David Bradley (Vice President of Administration & Finance), Ed Apodaca (Vice President of Student Services &

Enrollment Management), Molly Woods (Vice President of Academic Affairs & Provost), and Sue Davis (Executive Director of Public Affairs).

The idea of the meeting was to provide students with an opportunity to express their opinion about City University or Houston City University as the new name of the campus. Certainly there was no lack of enthusiasm from those attending as student after student rose to voice their concerns. Lines formed immediately with strong opinions about the name change and the crowd supported each student with fierce clapping, "amen's," and a lot of head nodding.

President Flores did his best to answer every question, but he provided no new information than what he previously stated in his blog entry from April 15th. Flores argued that, "The proposed names permit the university to tie itself to Houston even more clearly," and as more focus groups are held he will "report...findings to the Board of Regents." The Regents will then vote on the new name for the university, but ultimately it is up to the legislature to approve the name. Also in his blog, President Flores clearly says that the legislature will only approve the change, "if the campus community rallies behind the new name."

So, students are left to wonder whether or not they can truly control the situation or if the Town Hall Meeting – and others like it – is just a chance to let students feel as if they matter with no real opportunity to change the proposed names.

Name Change FAQs:

Can 1 still have University of Houston-Downtown on my diploma? Yes, if you are currently enrolled. All diplomas past and present will mention the University of Houston System. It is part of co-branding strategy that will promote a new name while taking advantage of being part of a great university system.

If I have a diploma with UHD on it, can I get one with the new name?

Yes, once the name officially goes into effect. We will also work with vendors to see if new class rings can be offered to those who want them.

What name will be on my transcript?

Both names will be used to make things clear to employers. Transcripts will also reference the University of Houston System.

What should I put on my resume after the name change? List the new name and "formerly University of Houston-Downtown." When will the new name go into effect?

The goal is Fall 2011.

Did Stamats involve students and alumni in the recent process? Yes. Together with the consultants, we conducted onsite visits, interviews and facilitated discussion groups. Questionnaires and surveys were emailed to all current students, faculty and staff. Surveys were also mailed to all alumni for whom we have email addresses. Prospective students were also surveyed.

How did the name change issue come about?

This is not a new problem. The name change issue was first presented to the UH System Board of Regents more than eight years ago when it became apparent there was confusion that was negatively impacting UHD. The Regents voted to change the name nearly two years ago when more than 90 names were considered and all eventually were set aside. In fall 2009 after President Flores arrived, UHD contracted with a nationally known consulting firm that specializes in higher education. That firm, Stamats, has been collecting insights from all of UHD's constituent groups related to the University's name change initiative.



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EDITORIALS Wrong Name, Wrong Time

By Bill Barton CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Last Friday I walked the halls of the University of Houston-Downtown campus carrying a handmade protest poster that read, "Say NO to the Name Change. Say NO to Aesthetic Spending." My wife thought I was completely out of my mind, but I felt compelled to do SOMETHING to speak out and make my opinions heard regarding the proposed name change of the university. Typically a rather quiet person, I was pleasantly surprised at the reaction I received. I was approached by almost every person I passed, including faculty and university staff, expressing agreement and support of keeping our current name. In fact, not one person voiced support of the proposed name change.

My opposition to the name change isn't just about the high cost factor. However, money spent on trademarks and signage could be used to retain seasoned faculty, parking improvements or to lessen the blow of cutbacks. I think that spending on cosmetics during a time of cutbacks is very irresponsible. But in addition to the cost that a name change would incur, I feel that UHD carries a name that is well-known within the community. The name attracts aspiring students and employers alike. Having a University of Houston-Downtown diploma means something to me.

When I was shopping for a college to attend, I was

attracted by both the University of Houston name and the downtown location. I found the diversity of age and culture within the UHD student body to be the best of both worlds – multifaceted diversity and the prestige of name recognition. The two proposed names both convey a feeling that is more akin to a junior college or technical school, rather than embodying the prestige of a four-year university.

As an honors graduate of this esteemed university, I consider myself to be an intelligent and a welleducated individual. I attended the SGA meeting headed by Dr. Flores last week, and I've read his blogs detailing his reasoning for the name change. I've also read the postings on multiple Facebook discussion sites, as well as the article and posted comments on chron.com and click2houston. Despite my reading, research, and review, I remain extremely skeptical of any real benefit of the name change.

I have read rumors that the name change is necessary so that UH can obtain Tier One status, giving them greater funding opportunities, but "throwing UHD under the bus" in the process, as one student commented. I have read that the change is necessary for UHD to increase fundraising, because donors are confused by our affiliation with UH. If the reason for the name change is to separate ourselves from UH, then regardless of the proposed name change, leaving the tagline "a Part of the University of Houston System" will only perpetuate the current confusion and continue the current obstacles in fundraising. If the purpose is to differentiate ourselves from UH, then perhaps we should separate completely from the UH System, and take on a totally new identity, such as the suggestions like University of Southeast Texas or Gulf Coast State University. Don't get me wrong - I ultimately am against any change at all. Especially because this is the season of cutbacks, not the season of taking risks and reckless spending.

For me, my opposition ultimately comes down to the fact that I LIKE our name and I am proud to see it on the framed diploma hanging on my wall. If the purpose is to differentiate ourselves. I suggest hiring a local public relations firm to develop an educational campaign that clarifies our identity without changing our name. But if the name change is imminent, and no amount of student protest and objection will halt the path of change, then I beseech our university leaders to reopen the naming discussion and consider alternative names that the student body can support. And finally, I ask that our leaders consider the economic climate. I ask that our leaders defray making any such change until the university is financially able to handle the burden of the cost, without depriving its students of the necessary means to obtain the best possible education for their tuition dollars.

The author can be contacted at bill.b.barton@gmail.com

Is The American Dream Dead?

Jaime Puente CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I can't help but ask that question. Last week Arizona Governor Jan Brewer signed into law SB1070. With a stroke of her pen, the governor ratified one of the most discriminating pieces of legislation since the Jim Crow era. Proponents of the law cite the need to stop the flow of "illegal aliens" into the country because they "take our jobs, our tax dollars, etc." This is a statute that requires law enforcement officials to detain and check the citizenship status of anyone who gives them "reasonable suspicion" to believe "the person is an alien who is unlawfully present in the U.S." That means that the horribly racist and criminal Sheriff Joe Arpaio of Maricopa County, Arizona can use his

own discretion to determine whether or not he believes someone is here illegally.

The language of the bill is enough to convince a person that this legislation has racist undertones. Calling people "illegal aliens" intentionally denies their humanity, and makes it easier to justify inhumane actions. But what is more damning than the language the bill is written in is the person who sponsored it, and the lobbying firm who helped write it. In recent days it has been revealed that Arizona State Senator Russell Pearce has longstanding ties with known Neo-Nazi groups and leaders. The influence of these kinds of groups in any state's legislative process should be alarming for anyone in the country because as the great Martin Luther King, Jr. once said in his prophetic "Letter From a Birmingham Jail", "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

In response to this heinous offense to the concepts of American freedom, democracy, and equality, a coalition of students and faculty are organizing a Teach-In on Monday, May 3, 2010, from 2:30 to 3:30pm. We will be discussing the statutes of the law, its consequences to the people of Arizona, and to the country as a whole. The discussion is intended to foster a respectful learning environment so that we can all educate ourselves to the facts of the situation. There has not been a location set as of yet, but an announcement will be sent out through GatorMail. For more information about the Teach-In please contact Dr. Cara Murray at murrayc@ uhd.edu, and visit www.confrijoles.com for links to news articles, references, and updates about the meeting.

Name Change FAQ

Is it unusual for a

University to change its name? Higher education institutions often outgrow a name: Normal schools nationwide expanded to offer more than teacher education; colleges often become universities. UHD has outgrown the restrictive "Downtown" name, expanding offerings in Houston with both the 249 Initiative and online courses. Our future growth is greatly tied to our ability to more intentionally affect and utilize the broader Houston metropolitan area.

Anything else I should know?

Yes. Stamats also reported an extraordinarily strong atmosphere of camaraderie among faculty, staff, students and alumni at UHD is one of our true and distinctive strengths. This namechange initiative provides strong evidence of just that.

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UHD SPORTS Lady Gators' Basketball Season Ends on a Good Note

By Derrick Wiley CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This season did not go as expected for the Lady Gators of the University of Houston-Downtown. They failed to reach the tournament, but still had a strong desire go out with a win in their final game of the season against the University of Phoenix. This was the Lady Gators' first home game in more than a month, so the Gator fans were excited to see the game.

As the game started, it seemed the Gators had to shake off some jitters, as they trailed early 11-2. Suddenly, the emergence of Jennifer Juarez shifted the momentum back to the Lady Gators. Even with the sudden shift, however, the Gators were still unable to put Phoenix away. This happened partly because of the many missed layups by the Lady Gators, which in turn led to points for Phoenix.

Even with all the missed lay-ups, The Lady Gators still held a slim lead at the half. As the second half began, however, the same problems occurred, with UHD missing lay-ups and allowing Phoenix to hang around. Besides Jennifer Juarez, no other Gator could get into a rhythm. Yet, even with all of the mishaps, the Lady Gators survived with a 41-30 victory, taking the team to a 6-5 record.

This marked the Gators 4th straight winning season. Although this was not the season everyone had envisioned, this team fought hard the whole year, which shows that UHD has the potential to once again return to their dominate form in the coming years.



Photo courtesy of the Student Life Center. Jennifer Juarez playing against University of Phoenix on April 16.

Lady Gators Go to Volleyball Tournament Tomball previously dominated UHD

By Derrick Wiley CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The University of Houston-Downtown Women's Volleyball team participated in the Volleyball Tournament for the 9th straight year. The Lady Gators were very excited and ready to compete for the Houston Club Sports Conference title.

The Lady Gator's first opponent was against the Rice Owls. UHD had defeated the Owls early in the season, so the Gators were confident that they could get the victory again. This day, however, Rice proved to be too much for the Lady Gators, beating them in straight sets by scores of 25-11 and 25-17. The Lady Gators had to quickly rebound if they were going to continue in the tournament.

The next opponent for the Lady Gators was Tomball collage. earlier in the season, but this time the Lady Gators were not going to go down without a fight. Tomball won the first set easily, making it look like a repeat performance from the season. Nina Seniw, the Captain of the Lady Gators, got some strong kills, however, and led UHD to a victory in the second set.

With the match was tied at one set a piece. UHD had the crowd and momentum on their side. The third set was action packed, with neither team able to gain the edge. Unfortunately, The Lady Gators were unable to pull off the upset, and lost the match 2 sets to 1. The loss also eliminated them from the tournament.

This season showed that our volleyball program is slowly but surely moving back to their once dominating form, and they will be a force to be reckoned with in the years to come.

The Gators' Strong Effort Not Enough

Derrick Wiley CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Gators of UHD finished a rocky regular season on a five game winning streak. Big wins against Tomball Collage and the University of Phoenix led the Gators to a third place finish in the conference standings. This led to the rematch against Texas Southern University, a team who defeated UHD 52-41 early in the season. UHD wanted to make sure that history did not repeat itself.

The Gators were finally playing with confidence, so it would not be easy for TSU to defeat them again. The Gators began strong with quickness and energy, catching TSU off guard a little bit, but not for long. TSU quickly got back into the game with their size and athleticism, and by the time the game reached the halfway point it was all tied up at 26.

Even though the game was tied, UHD still had a major problem controlling the glass, as they were being out rebounded by double digits. During the second half, the Gators started to fall behind as TSU displayed their dominance. UHD, however, would not quit, as they kept TSU's lead under ten points. Their effort never tired, which resulted in a close and dramatic ending.

Down by seven with 35 seconds, UHD player Aaron Brown made back to back three point shots, to bring TSU's lead down to one. TSU then went to the line and made two free throws. The score was 57-54 with 4.3 seconds left and no timeouts remaining for UHD. They in bounded the ball to Michael McCain, who then shot a pass down the court to Chris. The sudden pass was too much for him, however, as he dropped the ball to the floor as the buzzer sounded.

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The Gators fell three points short, losing 57-54 and making their usual early exit from the tournament. TSU then went on to win the Lone Star Conference Championship for the second year in a row. The Gators are still not back to their dominate stage, but with a few more acquisitions, they will be contenders next season.

Are you an InDesign expert? The Dateline Downtown is accepting applications for a layout editor for 2010/2011 school semester. Duties include graphical & photo responsibilities and simply placing articles into the copy. Must have above average experience. Send resumes to Dateline@gator.uhd.edu and examples of work.

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Dateline : Downtown

letter to the editor

Show Your Support During National Police Week

For the past several years, Concerns of Police Survivors has been encouraging citizens to fly blue ribbons from their car antennas during National Police Week. This year from May 9-15th, seeing thousands of blue ribbons flying from cars would be a tremendous show of support for our fallen officers and those still working the streets. The ribbons should be tied to personal cars and/or police cruisers to show support for law enforcement. While many law enforcement agencies fly the ribbons during National Police Week, we'd love to see more ribbons on personal vehicles.

The University of Houston-Downtown Police Department would like to invite our wonderful community to stop by our police department, room 118-north or parking office, 354-north, to pick up a complimentary blue ribbon to show your support. The amount of ribbons available is limited so please come by as soon as possible to pick up your ribbon so you can start displaying it proudly.

On behalf of the University of Houston-Downtown Police Department, our families and friends, we wish to thank the UHD community for their continued support.

Sincerely, Frederick Varela Lieutenant of Police University of Houston-Downtown Police Department

Notices

May 27- Last Day for Regular Registration 6 PM May 28 – June 1, 2010- Schedule Changes (Drop and Add). Late Registration (including late fee) begins at 8 AM June 1 – Summer Classes Begin June 7 – Last day to drop a class without a grade (Official Day of Record)

To see when to take your final, go to http://www.uhd.edu/academic/ calendars/0910/spring10finals.html to view the final exam calendar. Be sure to speak to your professor ahead of time to meet on the right date and good luck!

Congratulations 2010 UHD Graduates!



U.S. CENSUS 2010 ON CAMPUS Paint a new portrait of America.

Required by the United States Constitution once every 10 years, the census is a snapshot of everyone residing in the U.S. regardless of age, race or citizenship. Data from the U.S. Census helps determine how more than \$400 billion dollars of federal funding each year is spent on infrastructure and services such as college tuition grant and loan programs. Census information also determines the allocation of seats for each state in the U.S. House of Representatives and representation in local and state governments.

Complete and return your census form. For more information, visit www.uh.edu/cpp/census.htm. Textbooks bought and sold, new & used, online buybacks. Buy, sell, rent at cheapbooks.com ; 260-399-6111 Español, 212-380-1763, urdu/ hindi/punjabi 713-429-4981, see site for other support lines.

SENIORS: Win \$\$\$ & Help UHD If you'll complete your degree by December 2010, you may win up to \$125 by taking a test that will strengthen UHD's General Education program. Results won't affect your grade in any course, GPA, nor graduation status. For information and to register: http://tinyurl.com/UHD-Seniors

Argentine Tango is Hot. Female needed for professional dance lessons and 7PM-9PM Friday night group practice. Bellaire Area. Dance experience helpful but not required. Call Brian - 713-298-8783