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Dressman retains post

Five candidates fail in search for new provost

CHRISTINA RODRIGUEZ Assistant Editor

Professor Michael Dressman of the English department is now the Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs (VPAA) and Provost after a nationwide search with consulting firm R. William Funk and Associates.

The search resulted in five candidates who toured the campus and went through an interviewing process. Dressman eventually filled the post, recently vacated by former VPAA and Provost Molly Woods, after all five candidates were considered and dismissed as possibilities.

Provost Dressman began his post July 1, after he volunteered to fill the position while the school searched for a permanent VPAA and Provost. University of Houston-Downtown President William Flores, along with the committee in charge of finding an administrator, considered two of the final four candidates once they had finished their interviews, but negotiations regarding salary and other job qualifications were halted when the parties could not come to an agreement.

Having failed to fill the position, a fifth candidate was recruited in May, but was not considered seriously enough to begin negotiations.

It was when the last candidate could not fill the post that the committee recommended an interim solution.

Provost Dressman has agreed serve the post for a time frame of six months to two years. President Flores hopes by that time, the R. Funk and Associates will have gotten more candidates.

An additional job posting has been posted on the Chronicle of Higher Education Web site.

Provost Dressman was the Chair of the English department for seven years, and has since served as a Professor of English with an interest in American Literature before 1900 and the history of the English language. He has been published in various journals at least four times since 2005.



Professors discuss controversy surrounding mosque proposal near ground zero. See Page 2







2 News Datelinwe: Downtown www.datelinedowntown.com Professors unravel misconceptions about ground zero mosque

LUCHA MORALES **Contributing Writer**

Muslims and the practice of their faith have come under intense scrutiny from the media since 9/11, and three University of Houston-Downtown professors came together with the Center for Public Deliberation to address the controversy surrounding the building of a mosque near ground zero.

Dr. Paul Fortunato, the Interim Director of UHD's Center for Public Deliberation, invited Dr. Muchael Duncan, a professor in the English department, Dr. Derek De La Pena, assistant professor of psychology, and Dr. Alp Aslandogan, president of the Interfaith Dialog Houston chapter, to explain their views on Park 51, the name of the proposed mosque in downtown Manhattan.

While Pena and Aslandogan focused on the role the media is playing and the discrimination that Muslims are facing behind the controversy over the mosque, Duncan, the first presenter, took a no-nonsense approach to the controversy.

Duncan feels inaccurate information is fueling arguments against the mosque.

"I think it is in everyone's best interest to both minimize ignorance and inaccuracy," said Duncan.

Duncan verified that Park 51 is not being built directly at ground zero, a common misbelief, but that it is being built two blocks away from ground zero. Duncan also addressed the argument that the building of Park 51 would be insensitive to the victims and families of victims of 9/11.

"This [belief] might be the case because the terrorists who carried out the attacks on

9/11 were Muslim, and the attacks had religious overtones," said Duncan.

He also questioned the wisdom in judging American Muslims for those actions.

Duncan also believes there is a constitutional argument involved as well. People who support such an argument believe the Constitution clearly states, the practice of freedom of religion means any religion emotions are not to be considered.

"The First Amendment is not there to be used only when convenient and comfortable to do so," said Duncan.

Duncan did point out that while this should be the case, when issues are filled with as many emotions as this one, the argument can backfire.

Duncan believes Park 51 will mean what we choose to make it mean. People can choose to see it as a breeding ground for terrorists, a victory memorial for terrorists or simply what the organizations in charge of the projected purpose it will be - a community center that will include a prayer school, a performing arts center and other community services.

Pena, the second presenter, offered a 90 to 10 percent model for the way people assess other people: 90 percent of people are good and the other 10 percent are bad. Pena feels there should be a readjustment in assessments of people, without bias in opinions of others.

"I think one of the great injustices going around in our country right now is that Muslims are being filtered through the 10 percent eyes," said Pena.

Aslandogan focused on the association of Islam with violence. He argued that if people are going to make such associations, then they are associating Christianity, Judaism, and Hinduism with violence.

"Accepting the association of anyone's faith with violence is no different than associating your own faith and other major world faiths with violence," said Aslandogan.

He discussed how he felt that the U.S. was the "heaven of religious freedom" but that has unfortunately changed since 9/11.

Pena and Aslandogan both agree that the media tends to focus on the negative rather than the positive.

Aslandogan's nonprofit organization, The Institute of Interfaith Dialog, believes that peace grows from human communication. Aslandogan feels we should get to know other people's culture and use mass communication to facilitate human communication.



Back-to-back crimes reported at off-campus parking lots

TANU UPPAL Assistant Editor

Last week, the University of Houston-Downtown was faced with a series of offcampus crime, ranging from robbery to indecent exposure.

Wednesday, Sept. 22, a student leaving the Shea Street Building noticed a man skulking around the paid parking lot across the street. As he passed by, the man pulled out what appeared to be a firearm.

When the student asked the man what he was doing, the man stuffed the firearm back in his pocket and told the student that it was just a BB gun.

He then asked the student if he had seen a red-colored Ford Expedition. The student quickly replied and went to his car, where he called his classmates, who were still in the Main Building, and told them to be careful when leaving the school.

However, a seperate group of students passing the parking lot later that same evening were robbed by the man.

The students quickly called UHD police, who arrested the man after a short chase on foot.

The victim did not want to be identified, but was not physically harmed by the suspect.

A second, unrelated incident was reported the following day.

Thursday, Sept. 23, two female students parking in UHD's Daly Street Parking Lot noticed a man in a green Buick parked next to them. When the students got out of their car, they witnessed the man exposing himself.

The two women immediately returned to their car and drove to UHD's police station, where they reported the incident.

The UHD police were unable to apprehend the suspect, who was described as a black male with a long ponytail.

The incidents were communicated to students and faculty via email.

Campus police encourage anyone who witnesses suspicious activity on campus to report the incident to UHD Police at (713) 221-8065 or (713) 221-8911.

Students should also make use of Emergency Call Boxes located in parking lots and in buildings throughout campus in order to contact UHD Police for any reason.

Students should check their Gatormail regularly for updates on any crimes occurring on campus, and stay alert when walking to and from parking lots, especially at night.

When possible, it is best to walk in groups or use the UHD Shuttle when traveling between campus buildings and the parking lots.

Campus police held two safety seminars during September, which is recognized as Campty Safety Month. It is not known at this time if additional seminars will be held.

Leonardo Villalón addresses Islam and Democracy

MATTHEW ELLSWORTH

Contributing Writer

Leonardo A. Villalón, an Associate Professor of Political Science and the Director of the Center for African Studies at the University of Florida, attempted to answer the question: "Is Islam compatible with democracy [in West Africa]?," in his lecture Islam and Democracy: West African Perspective on Monday, Sept. 20.

Villalón, who spent many years travelling and teaching in sub-Saharan Africa, said that the concerns, questions and needs of Islamic countries in sub-Saharan Africa, who are adopting democracy, are very similar to those in Western countries, where Islam is the minority.

"You find a lot of books with titles like Islam and Democracy and The Future of Democracy in Islamic Countries that don't even mention sub-Saharan Africa," said Villalón. "I am happy to be here to talk to you today about sub-Saharan Africa. There are a lot of reasons not to ignore it."

Villalón's lecture was given in front of that they adopted from France, but through

more than 100 students in the Cullen Robertson Auditorium, and came just one day before Center for Public Deliberation Presentation: "Muslim Community Center Near Ground-Zero," which addressed the issues surrounding the building of an Islamic center near the site of the World Trade Center.

lar to issued faced in Western democracies

Initially in Senegal, Mali and Niger there

were issues with the democratic template

where Christianity is dominant.

debate these countries were able to work democracy and Islam into a system that can work, and continues to evolve.

France is a very secular society and believes very much in the separation of government and religion. In sub-Saharan Africa they found that things like family codes and educational systems, taken directly from

"One of the interesting things about studying the rest of the world is, in the end, you learn something about yourself and I think that's pretty important."

-Leonardo Villalón

According to Villalón, in Islamic countries in sub-Sahara Africa, there were concerns about how well democracy would mesh with their religious beliefs, which is very simi-

Villalón illustrated that one of the greatest benefits of democratic process is that it evolves through debate. These debates often turn from democratic to religious, which bring about changes in religious interpretation. He cited one example of a debate in Senegal, where citizens were arguing about the death penalty, and both sides were arguing using ideas and language directly from the Quran.

Villalón pointed out that democracy is not a fill-in-the-blank template that is absolute, but is an adaptable guide that can be modified to accommodate any religion. He made clear early in his lecture that even though we preach separation of church and state, "religion is a very important part of American democracy," and this is the same in Senegal, Mali, and Niger.

Senegal, Mail and Niger are all three countries located in sub-Saharan Africa, who all began to move towards democracy in the early 1990s.

"One of the interesting things about studying the rest of the world is, in the end, you learn something about yourself and I think that's pretty important," said Villalón, who earned his Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin.

Villalón has taught political science in Senegal, Mali and Niger, and is the author of Islamic Society and State Power in Senegal.



<u>On Campus</u>

HERE, BULLET

Brian Turner

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Poetry Reading by Brian Turner Author of the collections Here, Bullet and Phantom Noise

Thursday, October 7, 5:30–6:45 p.m., Cullen Robertson Auditorium, 3rd Floor, Academic Building

Brian Turner is a soldier-poet whose debut book of poems, *Here, Bullet*, won the 2005 Beatrice Hawley Award, the New York Times "Editor's Choice" selection, the 2006 Pen Center USA "Best in the West" award, and the 2007 Poets Prize, among others. His second poetry book, *Phantom Noise*, was released by Alice James in the Spring of 2010. Turner has recently been selected as one of 50 United States Artists Fellows for 2009.



Turner served seven years in the US Army, including one year as an infantry team leader in Iraq with the 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division. Prior to that, he was deployed to Bosnia-

Herzegovina in 1999-2000 with the 10th Mountain Division. Turner's poetry has been published in Poetry Daily, The Georgia Review, and other journals, and in the Voices in Wartime Anthology published in conjunction with



Brian Turner's Here, Bullet is a harrowing, beautiful first-person account of the Iraq war. The poems in this remarkable collection reflect Turner's experiences as a soldier with penetrating lyric power, compassion, sensitivity, and eloquence, while deploring the violence and acknowledging the grief and terror of war. One poem, Eulogy, was written to memorialize a soldier in his platoon who took his own life. Adding his voice to the current debate about the US occupation of Iraq, in poems written in the tradition of such poets as Wilfred Owen, Yusef Komunyakaa (Dien Cai Dau), Bruce Weigl ("Song of Napalm") and Doug Anderson (The Moon Reflected Fire), veteran Brian Turner's affecting poetry of witness is exceptional for its beauty, honesty, and skill. These gracefully-rendered, unflinching poems make Here, Bullet a must-read for anyone

who cares about the war, regardless of political affiliation.



Sponsored by: The Cultural Enrichment Center Contact: creightonj@uhd.edu

Dateline: Downtown goes online

with the times and offering an online version of the publication.

Datelinedowntown.com will launch Oct. 5, after nearly five years of failed attempts.

The site will contain all of the articles and features of the current edition of the publi-

Dateline:Downtown is finally catching up cation, but will also allow the Dateline staff to bring breaking stories to students, faculty and staff, without the two-week wait of the next publication date.

Other features of the site are weekly polls, a printable PDF version of the current edition and the option to comment on articles

that are posted on the site and in the printed publication.

The Dateline staff would like to encourage the UHD community to please leave feedback on the site and let us know what you think.

-Jamee L Cox, Editor in Chief

Be a part of the *Dateline:Downtown* staff If you are interested in getting involved, stop by the newsroom (S-260), call us at 713-221-8569 or visit www.datelinedowntown.com and click Get Involved on the left side of the screen.

The new Pledge to America, what does it mean?



DYLAN OSBORNE Columnist

A few weeks ago, Republican lawmakers left Washington, D.C. for a few hours to announce to the world their new "Pledge to Amer-

ica." This new pledge, modeled after their 1994 "Contract With America," is meant to outline the problems they have with the Democratic administration and the policies enacted under President Barack Obama. Their plan is flawed, extremely political and lacks solutions.

This last part is by design, according to House Republican leader John Boehner. He claims first, you must educate America about the problems, and then you offer solutions.

"It's time for us as Americans to have an adult conversation with each other about the serious challenges our country faces. And we can't have that serious conversation until we lay out the size of the problem," Boehner told Chris Wallace on Fox News. "Now, once Americans understand how big the problem is, then we can begin to talk about potential solutions."

The Pledge to America addresses Congressional distrust and the stimulus package (of course), mentions the unemployment rate numerous times and attacks Democrats at every turn, while complaining about partisan politics. All of these subjects are obviously fair game, and some of the complaints are appropriate, but it is hard to take this manifesto seriously without hard solutions about serious problems. Wrapping a bunch of hot-button issues in patriotic images, and their report is full of these, does not make a

political platform, nor does it do much to add to civil debate about our government. It does, however, pander to the Republican base, the Tea Party.

In this Pledge, Republican leaders lay out the basic framework of their ideas: increase defense spending while cutting taxes; decrease the size of the federal government payroll, but only in non-defense sectors; tighten the belt around Social Security, Medicaid and Medicare; shrink the size of the government.

Some of these ideas are good in theory, such as cutting taxes, but doing so now will only enlarge the deficit the Tea party is rallying against. Other ideas such as cutting Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid simply will not work. This is a veiled push to privatize Social Security, just as they tried in 2004. Can you imagine what kind of shape the Baby Boomers would be in without Social Security right now? If everyone had invested in the stock market and depended on that for retirement you would see huge numbers of people with no money to live on.

Speaking of entitlements, there is not one mention of trimming corporate welfare. The Republicans want to curb social welfare programs for poor people, but do not have the foresight to cut welfare programs for the largest, most profitable companies in America.

At one point, the Pledge states the problem with Washington is not the spending, but what the money is being spent on.

This is a direct contradiction with the conservative right's stance on government spending. You cannot rail against government spending levels, and then decide the money just needs to be redirected. It is either one or the other. This clause in the Pledge is

probably one of the only honest parts of it. The Republicans will not cut spending levels, they will just steer the money to more "important" things, say from human welfare to corporate welfare.

This brings up the biggest problem with the Pledge to America - it says nothing whatsoever about the Republican's role in creating the mess we are in.

While the Right fights government regulation of businesses, the repeal of banking regulations under a Republican Congress is one of the largest contributors to our current economic state. The GOP did nothing to stop the flow of jobs overseas when they were in power, but now complain about the lack of jobs here. All of the complaints about the stimulus package fail to mention the Republican administration that ushered it in, and no one stops to ask what would have happened without the stimulus money. Nor do they mention the Patriot Act - a Republican concoction that strips more liberty from the American people than anything in recent memory.

The Democrats in this country have been far from perfect and have a lot to atone for, but Republican smear tactics do not help fix any of the problems. President Obama has made some serious mistakes, but a lot of them have simply been political. Attempting to work with Republicans at the beginning of his term was one of them. As this Pledge to America proves, Republicans still have no new ideas, and only want to reinstate the policies that helped to dismantle our economy and alienate the electorate. Mainstream Republican ideals, and they are the same ideals expressed by their Tea Party brethren, do nothing to help the average American, and only serve to divide the nation.

Editors

<u>Viewpoints</u>

Editor-in-Chief Layout and Design Jamee L Cox CoxJa@uhd.edu 713.221.8569 **Assitant Editors** Tanu Uppal Christina Rodriguez dateline@gator.uhd.edu **Copy Editor** Dylan Osborne

Business Manager

Daniel Almanza almanzaD@uhd.edu 713.221.8192

Advisor

Anthony Chiaviello chiavielloa@uhd.edu 713.221.8520



Brittany Musgrave Amanda White Dylan Osborne Christina Rodriguez Tanu Uppal David Melendez

Information

Letter Policy

Dateline: Downtown welcomes letters to the editor from any member of the UH system. Letters should be no more than 250 words, include the author's full name, phone number or email address, and affiliation with the University, including classification and major. Anonymous letters will not be published. Deliver letters to Room S-260, email them to dateline@gator.uhd.edu, or fax them to (713) 221-8119. Letters to the editor may be edited for space. They will be edited for spelling, grammar and malicious or libelous statements. Letters must be the work of the writer and must be signed. All submissions become property of Dateline:Downtown and may not be returned.

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On Campus

Alternatives to the "fail or withdraw" options

UHD tutoring services can help keep students grades on track

TANU UPPAL Managing Editor

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Judging by the pained looks on many faces of students at the University of Houston-Downtown, the fall semester is in full force. With the passing of the first round of exams, numerous students are beginning to feel the pressure associated with catching up on material before the next round of testing. As the official withdrawal date approaches, some students are contemplating their "last resort" – drop the class before the academic train wreck becomes any more gruesome.

It seems like a vicious cycle: study, cram, take the test, cringe in pain, study harder, cram longer, take the next test, over and over again. Once the cycle begins, it becomes almost impossible to stop. Some classes seem extremely difficult to pass – luckily, there is a ray of hope at the end of the tunnel.

UHD offers tutoring services for almost all classes, ranging from fundamentals to upper-level courses. The Academic Writing and Reading Center (N-925) provides resources for students who seek to improve their reading comprehension, writing skills and study habits. The Math and Statistics lab, also located in N-925, provides students with academic support and tutoring by both faculty and students.

UHD also participates in the national Supplemental Instruction program, which targets introductory courses that have a high failing or drop rate.

Supplemental instructors are typically stu-

dents who have taken the course and have displayed command of the material. They attend classes and participate like other students; out of class, they offer hour-long sessions twice a week where students who are struggling with the material can come in and discuss course objectives through peer learning, without the pressure of being in class.

On Fridays from 2-6 p.m., supplemental instructors participate in "Algebra Bashing", where they go through exercises relating to MATH 0300, 1300, and 1301 and is open toall students. For more information, contact Kenneth Luke at lukek@uhd.edu or visit the Learner's Community in S-405.

Scholar's Academy also offers tutoring for biological, physical and computational sciences.

Tutoring for courses such as genetics, general biology and chemistry, physics and biochemistry are provided free of charge. For a full schedule of courses and times, visit the Science Learning Center (SLC) in N-604. The Collaborative Learning Community Center (CLCC) located in S-735, provides peer-oriented tutoring for computer science and upper-level math courses.

UHD also engages in the Peer-Led Team Learning Program (PLTL), designed to encourage students' knowledge of math and science subjects. Similar to the supplemental instruction program, students who have mastered courses such as college algebra, trigonometry and business calculus offer tutoring services at a variety of times throughout the day. For more information, visit S-738.

Before making any decisions, students should exhaust every possible academic resource available to them. Sometimes it is not a matter of course material; often students are simply in need of better study skills or time management tools.

Regardless of the reason, the effort is small, but with great reward. We merely have to make the effort to seek out these services.

Public Service Announcement National Math Competition Comes to Houston Area October 30, 2010

MathFest, the national math competition aimed at igniting students' interest in pursuing careers in math, is coming to the Houston Area on Oct. 30. During a nearly nine-hour day, elementary and middle school students will rotate in and out of the Convention Center on Galveston Island solving math problems. MathFest is a competition for students in First through Eighth Grade in public, private, charter, Christian and home school programs. The event founder, Dr. Ron K. Boykins a former principal in Atlanta, has been guiding the program for over eight years. Dr. Boykins said that too many of our competitions in academics are limited to the best and brightest therefore only a few students benefit from the experience. All children, regardless of math ability level, are welcome to compete at MathFest. Dr. Boykins feels that it is important for students to get involved at an early age because these will be our competitors and mathematicians of tomorrow. The competition generates tremendous interest and enthusiasm for math while also reinforcing existing mathematics curriculum.

Boykins continued that we need a new way to get our kids motivated for math. In too many classrooms, educators are presenting material the same way that it was presented 20 years ago and our kids are not buying it. Where are the math programs in our communities? We have so few that we shouldn't wonder why are kids are not interested. When the Math-Fest comes to town, you will see the excitement and energy that a critical area like math deserves. During this competition you will find the math music, shirts and carnival-like competition that are unlike anything that Texans have seen before.

The event has seen numbers exceeding 7,000 in Atlanta according to Boykins. This year their goal is to reach across the country in 34 states to impact students. The MathFest Competition will be making three stops in Texas at the Gonzales Convention Center in San Antonio, the Galveston Island Convention Center in Galveston, and the Dallas Convention Center in Dallas There is a charge of \$395 for a school to register 80 students, or \$20 to register a child individually.

The top students from each grade level will progress to the Regional and National Championships. To get involved or to get more information contact Dr. Boykins at 404 391-0249 or visit www.mathfest.us.

DAVID MELENDEZ Staff Writer

The Gulf coast Regional Blood center was at the campuses of University of Houston-Downtown (UHD) as well as University of Houston-main campus on Sept. 21 and 22, to help save lives and reach a two-day goal of 30 units UHD donors and 75 units at the main campus.

The Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center and their staff of technicians welcomed students and faculty to come to the Coffee Lounge to help save lives by donating blood.

Gulf Coast technician, Garret Butler, stressed the importance donating blood, as one person can save up to 3 lives with a single donation. In addition, blood can be broken down into three components that can be used for specific purposes: platelets, plasma and red blood cells.

Platelets are produced in bone marrow and can be used to save the lives of cancer patients. The blood types most needed are A+ and A-.

Plasma is the yellow, liquid component of blood in which the blood cells in whole blood are normally suspended and can be used to treat burn victims. Plasma cells that are most needed are AB+ and AB-.

Red blood cells are the most common type of blood cell. Red blood cells are used

As a result, these are the cells that are most in demand. The type of red blood cells most needed are O-, as donors with this type are universal and can donate to anyone, regardless of recipient blood type.

The Gulf Coast Regional blood center was joined by the Be the Match Registry, a national donor program that focuses on helping patients in need of bone marrow transplants find a donor match and help find financial resources to receive the transplants.

Michael Brown, a recruiter for the registry, stated there are as many as 6,000 patients requiring a bone marrow transplant on any given day. There are over 8 million patients on the registry list, with 1.5 million being minorities. The important factor for marrow donors is human leukocyte antigen, or simply HLA. A close match between a marrow donor and recipient can reduce the chance that immune cells will attack a donor's HLA cells or the donor's cells attack the body of the recipient after transplant.

Brown stressed the importance of minority donors, as there are very few. To obtain a compatible match, for instance, a Hispanic male would need a donor that was also a Hispanic male of similar descent. In order to register for bone marrow donation, you must be between the ages of 18 and 60.

The next blood drive scheduled for UHD will be March 2-3, 2011.



Photo by David Melendez Be the Match recruiter, Michael Brown, spoke to students about becoming potential donors.

For more information on donating or organizing a blood drive with the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center, call 713-790-1200.

The "Be the Match Registry" is open to answering questions from prospective donors

and willing to perform presentations and host donor drives. For more information, call 713-213-3499, or e-mail Michael Brown at MBrown@giveblood.org.





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Latino Heritage Month

Author sheds light on unrecognized Hispanic achievements

LUCHA MORALES Contributing Writer

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Founder of Arte Publico Press, Dr. Nicolas Kanellos, spoke to University of Houston-Downtown (UHD) students about Hispanic contributions that pioneered much of the growth, identity and culture in the United Sates, but were never recognized.

Kanellos is the Brown Foundation Professor of Hispanic Literature at The University of Houston, main campus. He is best known as the founder of "Recovering the Hispanic Literary Heritage of the United States", an established worldwide effort to preserve U.S. Hispanic works written during colonial time to 1960.

los.

Kanellos discovered during graduate school that there was not much information available to the public about historical Hispanic contributions. He decided to do his own research, which ultimately led to the publication of his books.

"My whole career has been making available types of knowledge that wasn't available before," said Kanellos.

His graduate studies gave him the knowledge and skills to research, compile and publish historical facts about influential Hispanic and Latino contributions to the U.S. Kanel-

los believes such information is vital to understanding the world in which we live in today, information that has been overshad-

son here, in a sense that he's making a lot of U.S.). history that was lost, available. He has really made a difference in the Hispanic Latino world," said Apodaca.

The nationally recognized professor has written many notable books including "Hispanic Almanac: From Columbus to Corpo*rate America*," and *"Herencia: The Anthology* of Hispanic Literature of the United States."

Kanellos earned his Ph. D. in Spanish and Portuguese at The University of Texas. He currently teaches four courses at UH main campus, including Literatura Hispana de los Estados Unidos (Hispanic Literature of the latinoteca.com.

Kanellos continuous his groundbreaking work with Arte Publico Press by publishing Hispanic literature works including reference works, novels, Hispanic civil rights, theatre and the arts. Arte Publico Press also publishes children's and young adult literature (Piñata Books). Arte Publico Press accepts submissions for manuscripts, proposals, queries, and outlines for Hispanic themed poems, books, non-fiction studies, and women's issues and history.

Oct. 4-17, 2010

Dateline : Downtown

www.datelinedowntown.com

For more information visit http://www.

"Latinos have produced important contributions to American culture and history throughout time." -Dr. Nicolas Kanellos

The esteemed professor was invited to discuss his book, "Hispanic Firsts: 500 Years of Extraordinary Achievements" to UHD students in celebration of Latino Heritage this month. The book documents Hispanic contributions to agriculture, education, literature, science and technology, government, media and the military.

With only a few small written notes in hand, Kanellos asked students to sit together as he candidly discussed interesting facts like agricultural development in the south, the discovery of the Gulf Stream by Antonio de Alaminos in the 1500s, and more recent contributions like the development of photocell technology by George Castro in 1978 and the founding of an airline by Frank Lorenzo in 1980 that later became Continental Airlines.

Kanellos pointed out how these things are used and are part of our everyday lives, yet not much thought is given as to how they came about.

One of the most compelling facts that Kanellos discussed was the incorporation of some Spanish and Hispanic family laws into traditional Anglo common law during the mid 1800s.

"The air we breathe is as common as some of the laws that govern our lives," said Kanelowed over the years.

"Latinos have produced important contributions to American culture and history throughout time," said Kanellos.

Kanellos greatly believes in order to prepare a well-rounded individual in a multi-cultural society, we need to know things that are relative to past and future generations, so we as a society can embrace all our diverse people and our diverse history. He stressed the importance of avoiding the iron hands of powerful institutions and economic interests that sometimes govern the ways of the world; therefore, we need to educate ourselves with knowledge.

His colleagues and friends hold Kanellos in great regards.

Mr. Ed C. Apodaca, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at UHD, expressed great admiration for Kanellos,

"You're meeting a great per-



Latino Heritage Month UHD Salseros help kick-off Latino Heritage Month

TANU UPPAL

Assitant Editor

The University of Houston-Downtown (UHD) kicked off Latino Heritage Month with a series of events, including guest speakers and Latin Dance Night.

The UHD Cultural Enrichment Center presented the Hispanic Film Series: "Rosario Tijeras" (2005), a Colombian film based on a novel by Jorge Franco; the story centers around a woman with an abusive past, who becomes caught up in the subculture of sicarios, motorcycle-riding hitmen based in the slums of Medellín, Colombia during the 1980's.

"We wanted to find other students who were interested spreading Latin music and culture and also in sharing the fun that comes from social dancing." -Christopher Simmons 2009-2010 UHD Salseros president.



Photo by Kevin Li Yung Hing Jose Trinidad and Mayra Izaguirre were among the many UHD students that took part in the Salsa and Bachata lessons on Sept. 23.



Photo by Kevin Li Yung Hing

(Left to right) Christopher Simmons, Maria Gonzalez and Dionicio Martinez, members of the UHD Salseros performed at the Salsa and Bachata Night, held Sept. 23.

UHD also hosted Salsa and Bachata Night, Sept. 23, hosted jointly by Student Activities and the Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF). Professional Latin dancers from across Houston taught an hour-long Salsa and Bachata class, demonstrating the basics of Latin dance.

After the lessons, various dance teams performed for a crowd of over 100 students and faculty. Among the performers were the University of Houston (UH) Salsa team, Studio 8 performers, and UHD's own Salseros.

The UHD Salseros were founded last fall by a core of students who were passionate about Latin dance and sought to increase awareness and participation among other students.

"We wanted to find other students who were interested spreading Latin music and culture and also in sharing the fun that comes from social dancing," said Christopher Simmons, 2009-2010 UHD Salseros president.

The UHD Salseros recently held officer elections and welcomed their new president, junior Nataly Trevino. Other officers include Instructional Coordinator Dionicio Martinez and Ladies Styling Coach Maria Gonzalez. The team is currently training rigorously for upcoming performances and training new members for the core team.

"With our new officers, members, and momentum, we hope to carry the team to new heights," said Simmons. "This

is going to be a great year to dance."

The Salseros also host a Latin Dance class on Wednesdays, led by Martinez, from 6:30-7:45 p.m. and hold practice at various times throughout the week. The dance class offers beginners' training for those interested in Latin culture and social dancing. For more information, contact the UHD Fitness Center.

On Sept. 29, Dr. Tatcho Mindiola, associate professor and director of Mexican American Studies at UH, discussed his role in furthering knowledge of Latin culture and heritage at UH as well as potential steps to implement a similar program at UHD.

On Sept. 30, UHD Career Services sponsored a recruiting event hosted by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU). Representatives provided information regarding internships, scholarship programs, and student conferences available to UHD students.

Upcoming events include the screening of "Girlfight", "Virgen de los Sicarios", and "Bomben: El Perro" as part of the Hispanic Film Series, and a presentation by Harris County Sherriff Adrian Garcia.

More information can be found online on the UHD Calendar of Events.

¹⁰ On Campus Purdue hosts Big 10+ 10 TANU UPPAL

Assitant Editor

Three students from the University of Houston-Downtown travelled to West Lafayette, IN. to attend the Big 10+ Graduate Exposition at Purdue University, Sept. 26 and 27.

Approximately 375 students from around the US attended the events, with students coming from as far as Puerto Rico.

Purdue offered travel scholarships to eligible students displaying exemplary academic achievement and the UHD students were among those awarded scholarships. Seniors Karina Vazquez and Russell Kendrick were two of the three UHD students that travelled to Purdue.

The Graduate Expo featured a series of workshops; some dealt with specific graduate studies, such as "Opportunities in Biomedical Sciences", but most centered on graduate applications and admissions, as well as networking and etiquette.

"I attended the workshop 'Graduate School Admissions - What They Look For'. The workshop really helped me determine what areas I need to work on for my application," said Vazquez. "The other workshops were also very useful."

Purdue also hosted a brunch where students had the unique opportunity to interact with representatives and recruiters from over 50 universities and institutions. Students were required to dress professionally for the brunch.

The Expo was held at the Purdue Memorial Union; booths were set up representing various universities, with some booths highlighting special graduate programs in Biology, Chemistry, Math, and Engineering.

UHD will be hosting their annual Graduate Student and Internship Fair on October 15. The fair will have representatives from Baylor College of Medicine, University of Texas, and other academic institutions.



National Domestic Violence Awareness Month Speaker Tuesday, October 19, 2010 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. North 602 Don't be a victim! Come learn about services that are in

place to help and warning signs of abuse. Brought to you by the UHD Community Involvement Center and the Houston Area Women's Center. www.uhd.edu/sae





Earn course credit and travel to

London and **Dublin**

May 18 - 30, 2011

UHD College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Study Abroad Program

Scholarships Available!!!

Scholarships Available!!!

7 nights in London & 4 nights in Dublin

CHRISTINA RODRIGUEZ Assitant Editor

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Houston-Downtown is hosting a trip to Europe in conjunction with a selection of three to five classes. This year will be to London, England and Dublin, Ireland, in May of 2011, and the students will be in London for seven nights, and then take a train and a ferry to stay in Dublin for four nights.

The coordinator, Professor Sandra Dahlberg, states that, "Foreign travel expands students' perceptions of the world they live in, and the study abroad program to London & Dublin provides students an opportunity to experience other cultures, to explore historical locations, and to intimately engage global diversity."

There are four classes offered in conjunction with the trip: DRA 4390 Royalty, Rogues and Rebels: English and Irish Theatre in Performance 5:30-6:45 pm, Thursday, Dr. Kate Roark roarkk@uhd.edu

ENG 3309 Creative Writing and the Delight of Travel 5:30-6:45 pm, Monday, Dr. Robin Davidson DavidsonR@uhd.edu

ENG 3340/HUM 3310 Cultural Criticism: Modernism, the Metropolis and Manifestos 5:30-6:45 pm, Tuesday, Dr. Nicole LaRose LaRoseN@uhd.edu

POLS 3303 Urban Politics: Cultures of Space, Sport and Media 5:30-6:45 pm, Wednesday, Dr. Anita Chadha ChadhaA@uhd.edu

These courses will all be hybrid courses that meet one day a week during the semester, with the rest of the course requirement for the course completed while traveling. The classes will have the regular credit and grading systems as other courses.

There are scholarships available for students who meet the requirements such as completion of 30 hours with at least 12 hours at UHD, have a 2.5 GPA, and meet the prerequisites of the course they would like to enroll in.

Information regarding the trip such as costs, scholarships, payment schedules and enrollment procedures will be discussed at the three Information Sessions to be held on Monday, September 27 at 2:30 pm, Tuesday, October 5 at 5:30 pm, and Saturday, October 9 at 10 am. All sessions will be held in room N420.

Professor Dahlberg stresses that space is limited and that students will be enrolled on a first-come basis. Any questions can be directed to Professor Dahlberg at dahlbergs@uhd. edu, by phone at 713-221-8949 or go to http://www.uhd.edu/academic/colleges/humanities/ chssummerabroad/index.htm.

Arts & Leisure

Today's Crossword

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17	Ceremony	92	Mouse-button
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33	Negation	107	Flimsy
35	Kind of roast	108	Lemon or clunker
37	Ice pellets	109	Speeder's undoing
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42	Law (abbr.)	115	Exotic fruit
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¹² Arts & Leisure

Moderately Confused by Jeff Stahler



HOW TO PLAY: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

> Look for the solution to the Aug. 23 Sudoku on the Back Page (16).





Oct. 4-17, 2010

Dateline : Downtown www.datelinedowntown.com

Film Reviews

Latino Heritage Month presents "Girlfight"

ARIEL SIMON

Contributing Writer

"Girlfight" received great reviews and high honors at the Sundance Film Festival and is being presented at University of Houston-Downtown during Latino Heritage Month.

At Sundance, the film's first-time writerdirector, Karyn Kusama, won the Best Directing Award in 2000, and tied with "*You Can Count on Me*" for the Grand Jury Prize at Sundance.

This is a film that portrays a high-school senior, Diana, with a fiery temper and a troubled reputation.

Diana (played by Michelle Rodriguez) lives with her brother and single dad, Sandro (Paul Calderon), in a housing project in Red Hook. Each week Sandro pays a local trainer to put some meat and muscle on his son, but when Diana decides she wants to become a boxer, he shows no support for her decision.

With strong determination, and despite the lack of support from her father, Diana



Michelle Rodriguez and Jaime Tirelli star in "Girlfight," which will be presented during Latino Heritage Month at UHD.

begins a grueling training regimen with her trainer, Hector (Jaime Tirelli) and, under the

"Resident Evil: Afterlife" could use some afterthought

WHITNEY BARRETT Contributing Writer

The dead shall rise again!

Well, not literally, but that's the case in the new installment of the *"Resident Evil"* franchise.

"Afterlife," which has incorporated the growing popular 3-D effect, is a follow-up to the 2007 film, *"Resident Evil Extinction,"* and it doesn't stray too far from the usual themes of the franchise.

This one, like its predecessors, was nothing but hype.

Besides being filled with occasional pointless dialogue, it actually has some pretty decent action sequences, but everything else is just completely mediocre. There are some parts of the movie that should have been carefully explained more, unless confusing the audience was the overall intention, but perhaps the makers of "*Af*-

There are some parts of the movie that *terlife*" thought the action scenes would disould have been carefully explained more, tract viewers from the need-to-know.

There are some fresh faces in the character lineup, but most of them are overshad-



loving guidance of her trainer becomes the first female champion in the gym.

Arts & Leisure

Discipline and humility are what's needed for Diana to focus her ambitions.

But when she falls in love with a promising amateur, her priorities are forced into burning focus.

This is a great melodramatic and entertaining film, with a great storyline. Michelle Rodriguez gives one of her most electrifying performances.

While Diana possesses a rough beauty, she is absolutely believable as a teenager trying to come into her own, and as a fighter who can swing a mean right hook.

This film was noted All Movie Guide critic, Jonathan Crow, as "Both a gritty character study and a feel-good film, "*Girlfight*" is a richly entertaining work and an example of American independent filmmaking at its finest."

"Girlfight" will be shown Wednesday, Oct. 6, at 11:30 a.m and 5:00 p.m. in the Special Events Center White Oak Room, located in One Main Building, 3rd Floor, Room A-300.

owed and barely have any lines in the film. In a movie where barely ten people are cast, one would think the individual personalities of the characters would have been evident, instead, the characters seem to just be on-

screen and taking up space. The visuals are pleasant and it is straight to the point, but the film seems short, as if it is missing something.

Despite some of the faults in *"Afterlife*," it is a decent film.

If you are a *"Resident Evil"* fan, it's a must see. But, if you're a fan of gore, or just simply love action movies, wait for the DVD; don't bother wasting your time in the theatres because it will most likely disappoint.

Hopefully, the DVD will come with great special features to at least give viewers something to look forward to. ¹⁴ On Campus Keeping breast cancer in check

AMANDA WHITE

Staff Writer

14

The University of Houston-Downtown (UHD) and The Rose will host a breast cancer awareness event Wednesday, Oct. 6, from noon until 1 p.m., in room N – 420.

The Rose is a non-profit organization that provides screening and support services to women throughout the Houston area.

Breast Cancer is the second most common cause of death for American women next to lung cancer. This year alone, almost 200,000 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer, and about one-fifth will die from the disease.

Men are also affected by breast cancer, and about 500 men die from breast cancer yearly.

In addition to the female victims, almost 500 men are expected to die from breast cancer this year.

Breast cancer is a disease in which cancer cells develop in breast tissues. The cancer comes in seven different types and progresses in stages.

The most common type of cancer is Infiltrating Ductal Carcinoma (IDC). IDC represents almost eighty percent of all breast cancer cases.

The least common type of cancer is Inflammatory Breast Cancer (IBC). IBC causes vessels in the skin of the breast to become blocked, and also causes the breasts to be-

come swollen.

Breast cancer progresses in four stages, ranked zero to four.

Stage zero is the least severe stage, because the cancer is still contained within the milk producing organs of the breasts. If the cancer is diagnosed at this stage, there is still time to treat it. Stage four, the most severe stage, is an indication that the cancer has potentially spread to other areas of the body and could be attacking other major organs such as the liver, lungs and brain.

To prevent the progression of cancer, it is important to see your doctor as soon as you notice symptoms such as lumps on the breasts, sore nipples, nipple discharge or anything else out of the ordinary.

Health professionals have not yet discovered any causes of breast cancer, but there are some risk factors that have been identified.

According to The National Breast Cancer Organization, factors such as family history, obesity, diet, and menstruation/reproductive habits can increase your risk of developing breast cancer.

The Breast Cancer Awareness with The Rose event is free and students are encouraged to come find out more about early detection and self-examinations.

For more information about risk factors and general facts about breast cancer, visit www.nationalbreastcancer.org.

Podiatry seen as alternative practice with less stress

TANU UPPAL Assitant Editor

Health Professions Organization (HPO) hosted a guest speaker as part of an effort to raise awareness of different medical and health careers on Sept. 29.

"The session was helpful in that it provided information about a medical profession that has more flexibility and less stress." -Flor Castro, senior

Mark Litwa, assistant director of admissions for the New York College of podiatric medicine, met with approximately 20 HPO members to discuss the field of podiatry as

an alternate medical practice.

Podiatry is a specialized branch of medicine devoted to the study, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases and disorders relating to the lower leg, ankle, and foot. Unlike doctors practicing traditional medicine, podiatrists have more relaxed schedules.

"The session was helpful in that it provided information about a medical profession that has more flexibility and less stress," said Flor Castro, senior.

Litwa also presented a breakdown of their programs at NYCPM, as well as information on a pre-health internship available to undergraduates. Students who qualify will travel to New York for three days and tour the school and the city.

Students who are interested in the program or other available pre-medical and pre-health internships should contact HPO officers via email at uhd_hpo@yahoo.com.



Sexual activity is a normal human behavior with a large amount of variation. From a health standpoint, it is important to note that there are considerations with being sexually active, including sexually transmitted diseases, pregnancy, and emotional issues.

Dating violence is also a possibility with sexual activity as well. Not being sexually active is always a choice for any person. In addition, having a relationship does not necessarily mean that sexual activity is required to show caring for a partner. Caring can be demonstrated by holding hands, kissing and hugging, not just intercourse.

If you do engage in sexual activity, remember that your partner may not understand your wants, needs, feelings, or limits. A person should only participate in sexual activity that they are comfortable with.

To prevent sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy, remember that sexual activity requires planning such as:

- Having a latex condom available for sexual activity
- Knowing how to correctly use a condom
- Using a latex condom for all kinds of sexual intercourse, including oral and anal sex
- Use a new latex condom each time

Remember that each time you have sex with your sexual partner, you are exposed to everyone your partner may have had sex with. Talk with your sexual partner about their previous exposure to sexual transmitted diseases and safe sex.

Sexually transmitted diseases include:

- Chlamydia
- Hepatitis
- Genital herpes
- HPV (Human Papilloma Virus)
- HIV
- Syphilis
- Trichomonas
- Gonorrhea

If you have unprotected sexual intercourse, be sure to see your health care provider for any possible exposure to sexual transmitted diseases as the signs of infection may not be immediately noticeable by you.

Future articles will include specific information on sexually transmitted diseases.

-Robert Hanks, PhD, FNP-C, RNC Faculty Practice at UHD Student Health Services Assistant Professor-Clinical

UHD Sports & Fitness sponsors





Healthy Workshop October 8, 2010 12noon - 1pm N1099 Free to UED Students, Faculty & Staff

Breathing is essential to healthy blood flow. Healthy blood flow helps to keep your body functioning properly and increases your body's ability to heal. Your posture, fitness level, and the way you sleep can affect all of these things. Our guest presenter, who is a certified fitness and ergonomics professional, will walk you through breathing exercises and show proper

body alignment that will improve the air flow through your body.

Sports

Solutions to last edition's puzzles Last Edition's Crossword



SUDOKU

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