



# University Student Health Fair Event a Success

Jacqueline Reyes  
Staff Writer

UHD held a student health fair February 7, 2013, where students could be tested for HIV/STD's, measure their BMI, test their blood pressure, or have a dentist check their teeth.

32 vendors and eight speakers participated in the fair, which also had interactive activities for attendees, such as the drunken goggles test, the distracted driver tested their skills at navigating a car with goggles that skewed their vision, which was meant to bring awareness to driving while tipsy or texting and driving.

The students were able to engage with the speakers, visit informational booths, and take part in activities, eventually walking away from the event with bags filled to the brim with information.

The organizing committee had one goal in mind when organizing the event: to provide education for



Visitor participating in UHD's Health Fair Event  
(photo by Jacqueline Reyes)

students on health issues and available services. The committee also strived to educate students on how to apply for health insurance, as well as familiarize them with clinics on campus and in the Houston area.

"According to students, this Health Fair Event was a lot better than [the ones from years] before. A lot of it was pretty similar but we did a lot of changes to the event. There [were] a lot of health professional speakers at this event and more services for students. [Students] gained a lot of useful information from different vendors and speakers," said Tam Nguyen, a Political Science major involved in SGA and UHDMUN, who was also part of the organizing committee of the Health Fair event.

The fair was also planned to help UHD's students feel like the University of Houston-Downtown

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# Environmental Club Auctions off Dates to Singles

Jacqueline Reyes  
Staff Writer

The UHD Environmental Club hosted their annual date auction this past Valentines Day, February 14, 2013, in which students voluntarily choose to be part of the auction and were bid on by those who wished to go on a date with them. The date auction served as a fundraiser for the EVC's annual camping retreat during Spring Break.

The EVC exists to raise awareness within the UHD student body and the commu-

nity in regards to the environmental issues. The club is a big proponent of recycling and sustainability on campus and continually works with UHD to improve on these aspects.

However, it seems UHD's EVC not only cares for the environment, but also for those single hearts on campus. This Valentine's Day, the organization made sure the singles on campus had the opportunity to go on a date with a special person, but only if their wallets were big enough.

The club introduced the student being auctioned off to

the group of interested bidders with a small bio. Bids started off at 10 dollars, and went as high as the bidder was willing to pay.

The organization auctioned off their own members and students in other organizations who have significant exposure around campus, such as the president of SGA. This has resulted in success in previous years, and this year was no different. Students were willing to pay large amounts

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Students attend the Valentine's Day date auction, hosted by the Environmental club. (photo by Jacqueline Reyes)

# Graduate Degree in Nonprofit Management to be Offered Fall 2013

David Slaughter  
Staff Writer

A new graduate program, which will offer a Master of Nonprofit Management Degree, will be offered by University of Houston-Downtown beginning in Fall of 2013.

According to the website, the MANPM program is highly multidisciplinary and designed to prepare recent college graduates as well as mid and senior level administrators for management and leadership of nonprofits of all types.

Applications are being taken now for entrance to the program. There will be space for up to 25 students in the first semester. The general

requirements include a 3.0 GPA in the last 60 hours of completed course work, two letters of recommendation, and completion of the GRE, GMAT, or five years of experience in the nonprofit sector.

The program began as the dream of Dr. Adolfo Santos, a political science professor and special assistant to the president, who has worked at UHD since 1997 and previously served as the chair of the social sciences department.

See the department website for more information on the program, such as deadlines and applicant procedures.



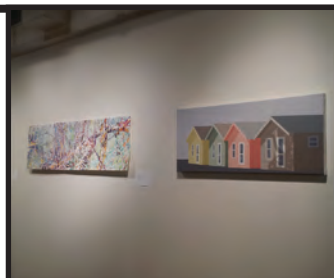
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MORE UK HORSE MEAT FOUND

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# Facebook's COO Sandberg Sticks Foot in Mouth



Via UWire:

Last week, at the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum, Facebook Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg held that companies should be able to ask women about their plans for starting a family, according to The Telegraph.

She meant to articulate that women are held back in the workplace by stereotypes that most firms aren't willing to talk about — her aim, therefore, was to call for a more open and accepting dialogue about gender, one that includes discussing with female employees or potential employees whether they plan to have children, reported The Telegraph.

As of yet, employers are not allowed to pose this question. Her remarks have been met with controversy. However, Huffington Post business columnist Gene Marks responded to the issue positively: "I am not embarrassed to say that when I interview a young woman my first thought is 'what happens when/if she gets pregnant?'"

This is a legitimate business question. Right or wrong, the fact is that men delegate mothering to women. And most women (thank God) want that job too — it's natural.

So, am I wrong to ask if that smart young lady who I'm about to invest in plans to start a family anytime soon and whether she will actually come back to work in six weeks after she gives birth? Or ever? I need to make plans otherwise. Allow me to ask that question," he wrote on Monday.

Marks raises a legitimate point, but the question is still entirely unfair. Asking women about their plans to have children

is both a breach in privacy and a form of gender discrimination.

For one, plans for pregnancy are a woman's business. She should not have to share them with her employer. Moreover, pregnancies can be accidental — should it only be females who suffer the consequences of this fact?

Being asked about plans for a family thus effectively urges women to ease back in their career ambitions and instead consider the burdens of child rearing. It discourages them from fighting to achieve both a career and raise a family. It stigmatizes the natural wish to have a baby. It segregates women in the workplace for wanting to do so, because it is possible to have it all.

CEO of Yahoo!, Marissa Mayer underwent unprecedented scrutiny when she was appointed to the position last year and announced soon after that she was also pregnant.

Having children, of course, can prevent a woman from progressing in her field. And it is true that pregnancy can affect a woman's job performance — more or less so depending on the job. (Jobs that demand physical labor, for example, could potentially be dangerous and ultimately involve companies in legal battles they would understandably rather enjoy.)

But more often than not, pregnancy should not be an issue when hiring.

If pregnancy is a serious consideration, employers should refrain from employing females. And if they do so, they will have reverted to the worst sort of gender discrimination. The question is particularly unfair because men are never asked this question — not even if they plan to become fathers.

(Health Fair continued from page 1)

cares about their well-being. However, Nguyen believes they couldn't have done it without the help of the community, more specifically a Houston based organization called El Centro de Corazon, a Houston-based providing primary care, pediatric, prenatal, mental health and dental services to the community.

"They were able to help us by getting vendors and speakers to attend the event. If it wasn't for El Centro De Corazon, Students Activities and the planning committee, there wouldn't be a Health Fair Event," he said.

Through the committee's involvement with the young professionals' group at El Centro de Corazon, they met the Outreach Coordinator, Dora Solis-Santillan, who was more than eager to help UHD in organizing the event.

"When [they] told us about the function they were planning, we gladly accepted the challenge and reached out to our contacts and people who have collaborated with us in the past," said Solis.

"It was a pleasure and an honor to be asked to a part of their endeavor," she said.

UHD's committee had been planning the event since last semester, and with the help of Houston organizations, like El Centro de Corazon, they were able to confirm the large amount of vendors and speakers that helped the success of the event.

Solis concluded by saying that the UHD's planning committee "did all the work, and they did an amazing job. I want to congratulate UHD and the young group who put this health fair together."

Students who took part in the organization of the event said they hope to have an even better health fair next year.

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# Former Army Sergeant Receives Medal of Honor

Alma Garcia  
Staff Writer

On Monday, February 11, 2013, President Barack Obama presented former Sgt. Clint Romesha with the Medal of Honor for his bravery in saving 44 men at a military base in Afghanistan.

On October 3, 2009. Around 6:00 a.m., 300 members of a Taliban group surrounded the Combat Outpost Keating in Afghanistan while most U.S. military officers were off base.

All four sides of the base were surrounded while explosion and gunfire filled the air. Romesha knew they were outgunned and outmanned. Only 52 soldiers stood to fend off their attackers, since the base was located in a valley that was an easy target from above.

Romesha and a fellow soldier, Sgt. 1st class Jona-

than Hill, devised a plan to secure the ammunition supply on the north side of the base, while another sergeant led a group to the south side.

The plan worked; Romesha and his men got to the supply and called for air strikes. It was then that they learned some of their fellow soldiers had been captured by the Taliban.

Romesha devised another plan to rescue the soldiers. They ran outside and started shooting, giving three captive soldiers time to run. Romesha could not leave the men who died behind, and thus held off the insurgents until help came. By late afternoon American helicopters and planes had come to their rescue.

Eight American soldiers died, and Romesha's thoughts are still with them. Romesha is the fourth living veteran from the Afghanistan-Iraq War to receive the medal of honor.



Sgt. Romesha receives Medal of Honor from President Obama (whitehouse.gov)

## More UK Horse Meat Found



(Google creative commons)

Tianna Thomas  
Copy Editor

One of the United Kingdom's largest retailers discovered significant amounts of horsemeat in store brand items.

Tesco, the famous UK-based retailer, released a statement Monday stating that they discovered over 60 percent horse DNA in their Tesco brand spaghetti Bolognese.

Tesco performed tests on the Bolognese after rumors that Findus, the France-based company which produces the meat for the Bolognese, was concerned about the presence of horsemeat in their products. Findus later alerted Tesco to pull the products from the shelves.

So far, tests on the drug brute-a painkiller used in horses that is banned from use on foods meant to be consumed by humans have returned negative.

A source within Tesco says that the company has quelled any further intentions to purchase meat from Comigel, the meat supplier. They stated that the high level of horse DNA is indicative of carelessness on the company's part.

Recently, the fast-food giant Burger King had a run-in with horsemeat after traces of it was found in patties used at their Irish and UK branches. To date, a significant amount of the company's products are not available in their British and Irish branches.

## North Korea Suspected of Testing Nuclear Weapons

Alma Garcia  
Staff Writer

The U.N. Security Council scheduled an emergency session after North Korea, who was banned from pursuing nuclear and missile technology by the U.N. Security Council, was suspected of testing a nuclear weapon in December.

Following North Korea's suspected disregard of the Chinese warning not to risk a confrontation that would set off by weapons testing, the Chinese are warning that they may cut off North Korea's oil and aid depending on the result of the Obama administration's survey of the area.

The Obama administration will test the area by sending aircraft equipped with sensors that can detect traces of plutonium or uranium left in the air from the suspected weapons test.

Fears arose amidst the U.S. Geological Survey announcement of an unusual disturbance in the form of seismic activity in an area where earthquakes were unlikely, and, in 2006 and 2009 respectively,

North Korea had tested nuclear weapons.

This disturbance, which registered as a 4.9 on the Richter Scale, was recorded following the ratification of an amended North Korean constitution to formally proclaim itself a "nuclear state" under their new leader Kim Jong-Un.

North Korea only has enough plutonium for about six nuclear bombs, but it can produce enriched uranium for many years to come.

Jong-Un's North Korea does not have the technology to deliver a nuclear warhead capable of destroying the entire United States, but its December launch showed it had the capability to deliver a rocket that could travel 6,200 miles, putting San Francisco in range.



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# Alcohol on Sundays? Why, Yes...Yes Please

Curran Kelly  
News Editor

A current bill in the Texas Legislature is fighting to amend one of Texas' remaining "blue laws" preventing specific businesses from operating Sundays.

Backed by state Representative Senfronia Thompson, the bill will add another ten hours to the current 66 hour week for buying alcohol, along with an additional hour in the morning and evening, Monday through Thursday.

Estimated to bring in 3-7 million dollars more in tax revenue, Thompson says, "It's [also] a safety issue, it's a pro-consumer issue and it's a free enterprise issue." Sundays are the second most popular

shopping day. By allowing the purchase of alcohol on this day, Thompson feels the bill will decrease drunk driving by allowing consumers to take alcohol home, instead of getting behind the wheel after going to a restaurant or bar.

But while consumers and legislators may be in favor of the soon-to-be law, liquor stores greatly oppose it, saying it will cause no real increase of profits, and violates their company values.

"We're against it. We run a family company. And we have lots of families that work for us. And we think that they should have a family day off on Sunday." Herman Key, a spokesman for Spec's.

A similar bill died in session in 2011.



(photo courtesy of Google Creative Commons)

# Pretrial for 9/11 Suspects Recessed Over Privacy Issue



(photo courtesy of Google Creative Commons)

Curran Kelly  
News Editor

Monday, February 11 the pre-trial of the five suspects accused of plotting the attack on 9-11 went to recess due to a possible breach of privacy.

Defense attorneys in the war crimes court at the Guantanamo Bay US Naval Base called for a recess when it was believed nearby microphones were sensitive enough to pick up attorney-client conversations during the trial, allowing what was said to be included in the

official court transcripts.

The defendants were sent to Guantanamo in 2006 after four years of being detained, interrogated, and possibly tortured by the CIA. Accused of being responsible for the deaths of 2,976 people, the defendants now face the possibility of death themselves, should they be found guilty. Defense attorneys fear those who detained their clients are the ones listening in on defense table conversations, along with private meetings in the defendants' prison cells.

"Under the rule of ethics you can't have communications if

you aren't confident that they're confidential." David Nevin, attorney for alleged mastermind Khalid Sheikh.

National security agencies are monitoring the trial from outside the courtroom and could also be picking up confidential conversations.

The trial took an hour break before taking a recess until Tuesday. It waits to be seen just how closely the trial is being monitored.

# Pope Resigns, Addressing Globe with Cryptic Speech

Curran Kelly  
News Editor

As the first in 600 years, Pope Benedict XVI, the head of the Catholic Church resigned Monday, to be effective February 28th at 8:00 p.m.

With a billion members worldwide, the Catholic Church now battles scandals and loss of faith in modern times, and the resignation of the head of church is only the beginning.

Pope Benedict spoke in Latin addressing the globe, shockingly saying that he has examined his conscience and is no longer up for the challenge of leading the Catholic religion, though he will hold all appointments until the end of the day on February 28th.

It is said a new pope should be elected by Easter, and will probably be someone in favor of expanding Catholicism and reaching new horizons, rather than Pope Benedict XVI, who is more conservative.

Cardinals from around the world will soon descend to Rome to be locked away from the public with no cell phones or internet access, in order to discuss and properly choose the next global leader.

Presently, the public is looking to Angelo Scola, archbishop of Milan to be the preferred pick for the powerful chair. Though for the first time, there is talk of

an American Cardinal, Timothy M. Dolan, being in the running.

Pope Benedict was seen as a weak manager, not acknowledging modern times. The Vatican spokesman has said Benedict will have no say in his successor,

and will live out his life in a renovated monastery inside the Vatican.



Pope Benedict resigns from his position in the Catholic Church.  
(photos courtesy of Google Creative Commons)

# Students Accidentally Offered Full Scholarships to UVU

Tianna Thomas  
Copy Editor

A "technical glitch" has cost Utah Valley University quite a bit of money, falsely granting over 300 full ride scholarships to prospective students.

Utah Valley University officials are currently in a state of panic after the university accidentally sent letters to over 300 incoming freshmen stating that they had been granted a full ride to the university for four years. Only 40 of those 300 students should have qualified, since full rides are only offered to incoming freshman with a 3.7 GPA and at least a 27 on the ACT.

Officials recently released a statement directed to the recipients of the scholarship, stating that out of the 344 who received grant letters, only 40 were actually granted full rides. The university also expressed their intention to notify the recipients individually to avoid



further confusion.

Several students publicly expressed their disappointment upon hearing the UVU statement. In an interview with Desert News, potential student Lisa Schneider

expressed her shock and elation upon initially receiving the letter. She stated that she had not applied to the university at the time the letter was received, but quickly rushed to apply in order to receive the scholarship. She was later informed that she was accidentally given a full ride.

The scholarships were valued at \$4,122 per year, a gift that would have helped many students hit by the pitfalls of the current economy.

Utah Valley's flub is the most recent in a long line of administrative glitches in university admissions decisions. In 2012, UCLA accidentally sent out acceptance letters to over 800 prospective freshmen, when in reality the students involved had been placed on the wait list. Perhaps the worst of the bunch, in 2009, the University of San Diego accidentally sent acceptance letter to all 46,000 applicants.

# Spring Arbor University Offers Unprecedented Loan Repayment

Tianna Thomas  
Copy Editor

In an unprecedented feat of generosity, one Michigan liberal arts university has made the decision to pay the loans of grads that are having difficulty repaying arrears.

Spring Arbor University officials released a statement recently that stated their intention to establish a program that will assist students whose financial situations are not conducive to loan repayments. The plan will cost the university \$12,000 per year for each student annually.

The loan repayment assistance program will seek to guarantee loan payments for graduates who work at least 30 hour a week and earn less than \$37,000 a year. As the students' income increases, the amount of payments made by SAU on their behalf will be reduced. The program will begin next fall and kick in for the fall 2013 freshman class.

University President Dr. Charles D. Webb says the purpose of the LRAP program is to assist those struggling financially as well as to grant peace of mind to students.

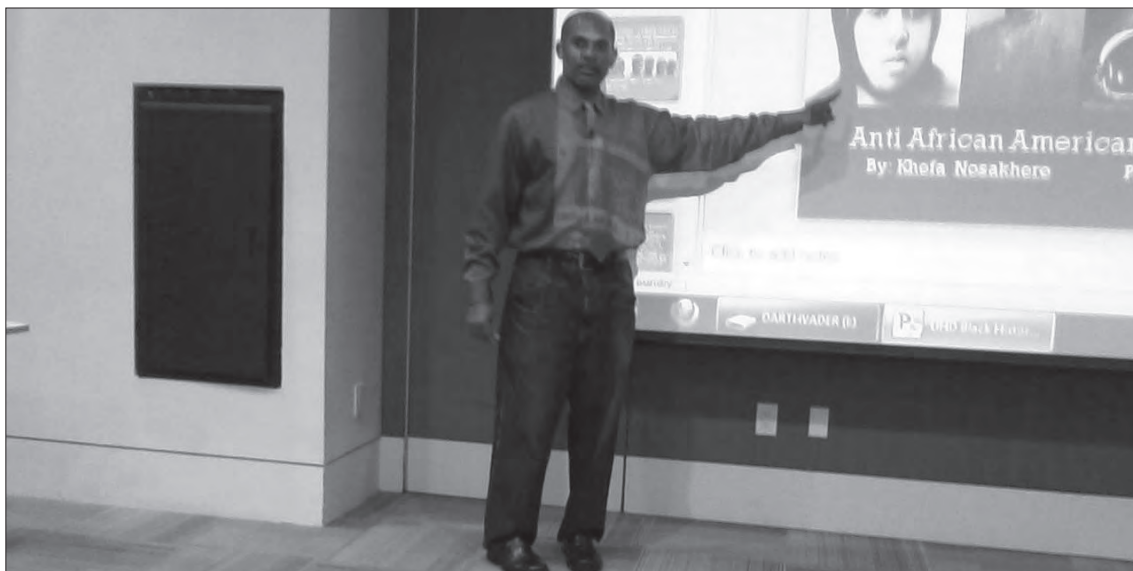
In an interview with WNLS News, Dr. Webb stated that the program enables students to live a quality

of life that will not only facilitate their transition from student to working adult, but will also grant them the opportunity to choose a vocation out of passion and not necessity.

Although the university's offer is generous, students must also commit to their part of the deal. Students are required to graduate from the university within six years and must be employed during the year that they apply for assistance. Students must also be U.S. citizens. Those who are self-employed or employed by family-owned businesses are not eligible for the award.

# The Origins of "African American"

## UHD's Black History Month Kicks Off



Khefa Nosakhere speaks on the origins of "African American"  
(photo by Wendy Williams)

Wendy Williams  
Staff Writer

Black History Month events began with guest speaker, Khefa Nosakhere, Wednesday, February 6, 2013 at UHD, as he discussed the origin of the term "African American", and offered facts about the content about the long lineage.

Khefa Nosakhere, born in New Orleans, Louisiana to a former Black Panther, is a business and

technical writer, mentor, speaker, and professor of African American History and English. Khefa obtained a BA of Science in English from the University of Southern California. He has 20 years of experience in English and writing, and will launch an online radio station, Kalimbaradio.com, this coming March.

The speaker grabbed the audience by presenting several photos of historic African Americans like Ida B. Wells and Bessie Coleman, whose

strength and perseverance have inspired many. He also included facts like: The continent of Africa is only 2 percent jungle, and happens to be the richest continent in the world. Several references were given to research and discovery of African culture.





# College Professor Invents Male Birth Control, College Students Everywhere Rejoice

Via Uwire

As U. Minnesota students reach for condoms to prevent pregnancy, one professor is on the verge of creating a male contraceptive similar to the female birth control pill.

The College of Pharmacy's Department of Medicinal Chemistry head Gunda Georg is working with a team of scientists to develop Gamendazole, a drug that may give males an alternative to condoms and vasectomies.

The drug has shown effectiveness in tests on rats, rabbits and nonhuman primates, Georg said.

The research team will soon begin requesting approval from the Food and Drug Administration to test the drug in a clinical setting.

Georg said the drug will be a "reversible" alternative to permanent vasectomies because men will be able to take the pill to temporarily minimize fertility and can regain it if they stop taking it.

The drug would give people another option to plan pregnancy, she said.

Gamendazole faces a long road to the pharmaceutical market because it's designed for healthy individuals, Georg said. Because of that, the pill is required to be completely free of side effects, like potential sperm damage, before being released onto the market.

"Usually when you develop a drug, it is for a disease, and certainly fertility is not a disease," she said. "This



drug has to be absolutely clean, and that's a very high hurdle to take."

Developing new male contraceptives has been historically slow because it's much more difficult to block sperm than eggs, Georg said.

Every milliliter of semen produced has 15 to 200 million sperm, she said.

"That gives you an idea [of] how difficult that might be to control as opposed to controlling one egg."

While there's a perception that men will not want

to use a contraceptive pill, Georg said, many men have responded to studies saying they would want to take it.

"I think that men are actually more willing to do this than a lot of people think," she said.

Some UM students said releasing a male birth control pill into the market could have a positive effect.

Mechanical engineering freshman Dan Sherman said men would probably take the contraceptive as another option to prevent unwanted pregnancy.

"It would make everything safer and better," he said.

Another UM student, Katie Hanson, said it would be more practical if both genders could take a pill.

"I think it makes sense for guys to take birth control," she said.

Other students showed concern about how people would respond to a new male contraceptive after years of having only the female birth control pill available.

UM student Tegan Martin said though she thinks male birth control pills are a good idea, she's not sure if people will change their contraceptive habits.

"I don't know how easily it will catch on," she said.

Shane DeGroy, a student in the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, said

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## "Gender Warfare" Conference to be Held at UHD in April 2013

Wendy Williams  
Staff Writer

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences will be hosting their 6th annual Gender Conference Thursday, April 4, 2013 from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. This year's conference is centered around the theme of 'Gender Warfare' and will address topics such as gender as it pertains to war and gender parity throughout society.

The conference is sponsored by the Cultural Enrichment Center, and will welcome Dr. Qwo-Li Driskill, a writer, activist, and assistant professor of women's studies at Oregon State, as the keynote speaker. However, Dr. Driskill will not be the only one in attendance presenting information, as the university is urging students to present 4-5 page papers and/or 8

minute presentation at the conference.

Any interested students submit a 200 word abstract or proposal to Dr. Dagmar Scharold via email (scharoldd@uhd.edu) by March 3rd.

Everyone has an opinion on the role gender plays throughout society, regardless of their own gender, and now is the time for that opinion to be heard and discussed. Any interested students wanting to brainstorm topics and discuss ideas can attend the writer's workshop being February 20, 21, 27 and 28. For more information of those workshops, including time and location, students are encouraged to visit the Writing and Reading Center's website at uhd.edu/wrc.



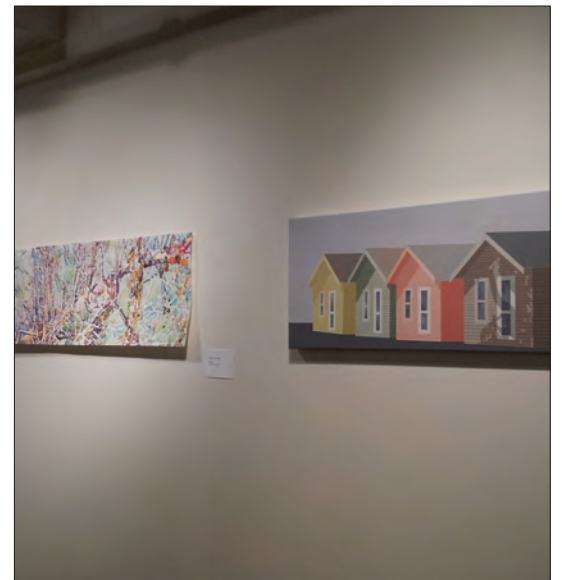


# SPOTLIGHT ON UHD'S O'KANE GALLERY

## NEW EXHIBIT, "TOWARD SUBSTINENCE", OPENS



O'KANE GALLERY



### CURRENT EXHIBITION

TOWARD SUBSISTENCE

PAINTINGS BY REBECCA HAMM AND CARY REEDER

(photos by Elpidia Medina)

Rocio Ortiz  
Contributing Writer

As the semester at UHD progresses, there are several great things going on around campus. This past Thursday, a few artists displayed their creative and unique art in the O'Kane Gallery. Many of the paintings were drawn from still life and given a unique painting structure to make them stand out. One of the artists, Rebecca Hamm, was able to attend the opening to talk a bit about the uniqueness of her artwork. Rebecca is a California native, and graduated from California Polytechnic Institute.

Hamm's lifelong career of painting has evolved over the past years, and she is always looking for creative ways to make her paintings stand out. She is not only a successful painter, but is the Arts Director for the Tierra Del Sol Foundation. She has also taught as an adjunct art instructor at three Southern California Universities.

Rebecca enjoys teaching others about her artwork through her famous art exhibitions throughout the region. She creates energetic, abstract visions that overflow with color and hidden life. Much of her artwork includes paintings made of watercolor and several different colors that give the entire picture life. If you are able to stop in at the O'Kane gallery to see her artwork, pay close attention to the details. Many people who visited the gallery said that they were fascinated by the illusions the paintings create.

Another great artist who displayed their artwork Thursday was Cary Reeder. She is a Houston-based painter that focuses on the quiet, secret, and mundane aspects of the world. She worked as a graphic designer and typesetter back in the early '80s before Desktop Publishing and Photoshop were invented. She studied painting at Glassell School of art and now works from her home studio, as well as Winter Street Studios.

The Houston Heights inspired her neighborhood-painting series, which gives off an old, work type of look. Due to the increase of modern neighborhoods, she has not always been able to enjoy great images like those seen in the Heights. She was quite fascinated by the mysteries held behind the closed door and drawn blinds.

Many people may think art is just for the talented, but these great artists have shown us that art is for those who have imagination and a unique eye.

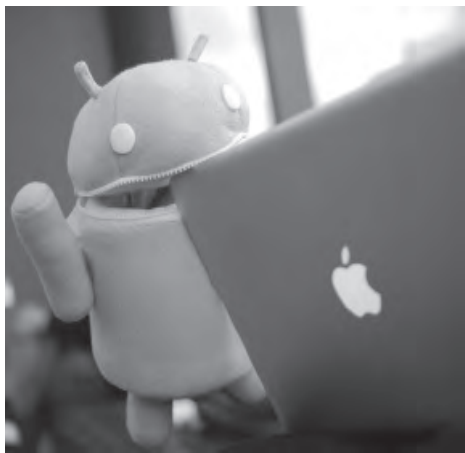
# The Great Online Class Debate

Jacqueline Reyes  
Staff Writer

With UHD's massive 7.8 percent enrollment increase, an influx of online classes have been added to the previous traditional options as a feasible solution to the growing numbers. UHD is not the only university to solve the class dilemma by heading toward an online-based method; many universities are now incorporating the less traditional method of teaching to broaden the available classes and allow students the flexibility of a classroom without walls. Despite their popularity, are online classes really all they're cracked up to be? We set out to find the answers.

While some students may find it difficult to adjust from the traditional setting to an online classroom, Elizabeth Joseph, an interdisciplinary major, said she enjoys it and is even doing better than in her traditional classes. Elizabeth believes her convenient schedule allows her to volunteer at various hospitals and become more involved with organizations on campus, which ultimately build toward her career goals.

Although there are students who flourish in that environment, there are also students who believe online classes are just "a cost cutting measure" that



the university is utilizing to tailor around the growing numbers of enrollment, but feel that it lacks the same quality of a traditional classroom. For example, a student, who wished to remain anonymous, explained that sometimes the online classes has too much complex material, especially in the science and mathematics subject are traditionally taught in a classroom setting.

The idea of "teaching yourself" doesn't appeal to many students, and many feel that if in fact you are to be "teaching yourself" the online classes shouldn't cost the same as traditional classes.

Some students also voiced concern with the lack of face to face interaction in online classes that one would otherwise receive in a traditional class.



They feel the professors and the other classmates contribute to the overall experience of college, and it's not just what you learn from the material, but what you learn from others as well.

Dr. Preuss, President of the Faculty-Senate and Professor in the Social Science Department, agrees that online classes aren't for all students. However, he argues that you must always teach yourself, no matter the learning environment. "It's like the old story of taking the horse to drink water, but you can't make the horse drink...In education it is the same, it's a two-way street."

Elizabeth explains that online classes do take a lot of initiative and self-motivation on her part. "I depend on the instructor more in a traditional class to constantly remind me of my assignments, test and readings. With online courses you know you have to be self-motivated and take initiative, otherwise you will fail." She believes the good habits she has developed from taking online classes will help later in her life.

"When it comes to anything you can't complete it without self-motivation. Online classes definitely push you to do things on your own," she said.

Due to the advancement of teaching methods and the high demand of online classes, UHD has embraced online classes as the faculty-senate seeks ways to improve them.

"We have to be aware of what is going on with online courses...the way we teach is always changing and this is a new change," said Dr. Preuss. He proceeded to explain ideas for areas of improvements and some concerns the university has. "We do need more faculty development...there needs to be more training, and more guidance. The faculty senate wants to put together a task force to look into these things."

Faculty like Dr. Branham, a Professor in the Social Science Department, think traditional classes surpass online classes in quality, no matter how good the online class is. "It's impossible. Two minus one never makes two," he said when a comment was

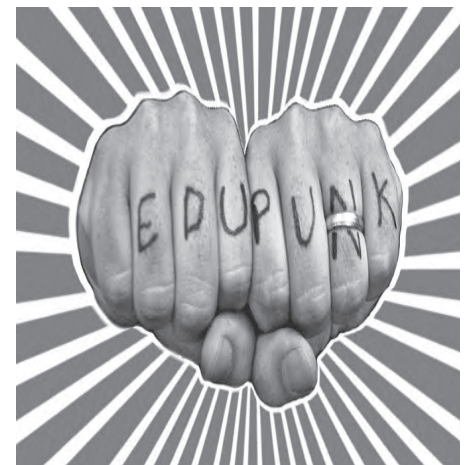
made about online classes being better than traditional classes.

He explained that anything that can be done in an online class can always be done in a traditional class, but not the other way around. The only possibility of an online class being better than a traditional class is if traditional classes are just "worthless."

"Students like [online classes] because they don't go to class; faculty likes it because they don't have to teach a class, the university likes it because they don't provide a class, so it's a win-win. Except it's not a win-win because the classes aren't as good but we won't see that until further down the line. It just cost less, they don't have to air condition the building," he continued.

However, there is also concern about the IT maintenance behind the online courses. As the university increases the number of online courses, the IT maintenance will also have to keep up to speed, which can become costly.

UHD is built on the idea of providing an opportunity to non-traditional students thus, the "Major Opportunity" campaign. For this reason,



nontraditional students who work fulltime have a family and/or other responsibilities seek UHD for their higher education. This provides an opportunity for students who otherwise wouldn't be able to seek a degree.

In the case of Elizabeth, who doesn't have such responsibilities, online classes can lend flexibility toward her career goals and help her to learn to take initiative with the different facets of her life.

Despite the overall acceptance, much debate exist in many aspects of online classes, such as the overall quality of the course, how students adapt to online courses, whether students are maintaining integrity when taking online courses, and how important of face to face interaction is.

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editor.dateline@gmail.com



# Hey, Check it Out! A Call for Papers!

**6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHSS  
GENDER CONFERENCE**

**APRIL 4, 2013**

## **GENDER WARFARE CALL FOR PAPERS**

**All UHD students are invited to present four-to-five-page papers or eight-minute presentations on the topic of gender.**

**We seek papers from students in all majors.**

**All topics are welcome; here are some sample topics:**

- Gendered representations of the military and war, post-war culture, or memories of war
- Gender parity in education, economics, politics, religion, or health
- Gender disparities in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math)
- Gender and globalization
- Gender and race
- Gender and class

**200 WORD ABSTRACTS DUE  
MARCH 3, 2013**

Email Abstracts and/or Questions to : Dr. Dagmar Scharold,  
scharoldd@uhd.edu

Sponsored by The Cultural Enrichment Center

(Valentine's Day Auction continued from page 1)

of change for a single date. Isaac Valdez, current President of the EVC, said last year a single student was auctioned off at 210 dollars.

After the auction was over, the highest bidder had the opportunity to take the person out on an actual date. The EVC also thought ahead about the safety of such dates, as the bidder could be a complete stranger to the person auctioned off or vice versa.

"You will not be set up on an individual date with a complete stranger. In actuality, once individuals have been auctioned off, we'll go on a group date a week after the date auction is conducted," said Valdez. The date took place in a public setting with the other bidders and students auctioned off on a day after Valentine's.

The club frequently hosts volunteering events open to the entire student body. The club has recently hosted the "Houston Arboretum", where students planted trees in a nearby park, and the "BARCS Animal Shelter Volunteer and Orientation Day."

They are always interested in having new members join their organization, but also appreciate those who want to volunteer. As stated on their Orgsync page, [orgsync.com/27049/](http://orgsync.com/27049/) chapter, "together, we are working to elevate the consciousness of our community toward more earth-friendly practices and policies that can benefit our environment."

If you are interested in joining or volunteering with the Environmental Club please email them directly at [uhd.evc@gmail.com](mailto:uhd.evc@gmail.com).





## The Dateline is Hiring!

### Dateline Seeks Editor

Editor for UHD student newspaper needed for 2013-2014. The Student Publications Advisory Committee is seeking applicants for the position of editor for Dateline: Downtown, the student-run bi-weekly newspaper at UHD. Flexible beginning date, but candidates must commit for the entire 2013-14 academic year.

Duties include working cooperatively with student business manager and student adviser, developing and managing a stable of student freelance writers to cover news and events on campus, and assertively managing staff and producing newspaper approximately every two weeks. Must know page-making software program Adobe InDesign. The paper needs stories on events of interest to students, including student life, academics, university administration, and student government, as well as cultural coverage of theatre, film, music, and the arts. Typical commitment is 20 hours/week.

Qualifications include at least sophomore standing; at least one semester at UHD; successful completion of basic writing and/or communications courses; and the maintenance of at least a 3.0 GPA. Applications are sought immediately and will be accepted until April 17 or until the position is filled. To apply, contact Dr. Anthony Chiaviello, at [Chiaviello@uhd.edu](mailto:Chiaviello@uhd.edu), then download and complete electronic application from UHD web site, and forward it as an attachment to an email.

### Dateline Seeks Business Manager

Business manager for UHD student newspaper needed for 2013-14. The Student Publications Advisory Committee is seeking applicants for the position of business manager for Dateline: Downtown, the student-run bi-weekly newspaper at UHD. Successful candidate will begin on-the-job, paid training ASAP. Candidates must commit for the entire 2013-14 academic year.

Duties include managing business and financial matters for the paper, in cooperation with the student editor and adviser, and selling advertising space in the paper, including businesses in the campus neighborhood of NoDo. Will train on PeopleSoft accounting system for payroll and accounts. Typical commitment is 20 hours/week, monthly salary plus 15% commission on ad sales. Qualifications include at least sophomore standing; at least one semester at

UHD; successful completion of basic business courses; and the maintenance of at least a 2.5 GPA.

Applications are sought immediately and will be accepted until April 17 or until the position is filled. To apply, contact Dr. Anthony Chiaviello, at [Chiaviello@uhd.edu](mailto:Chiaviello@uhd.edu), then download and complete application from UHD web site, and forward as an email attachment.

## Jumpstart the Gut Removal (Visit Sports and Fitness!)

Rocio Ortiz  
Staff Writer

Some people find it difficult to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle due to excess work or lack of time, which can certainly be the case for full time college students that also work.

Overcoming these obstacles is the key to obtaining your goal. A perfect place to get started is the University of Houston-Downtown Sports and Fitness Center where classes, clubs, and personal trainers are offered to help you jumpstart your resolution.

Some of these classes include boot camp, yoga, step aerobics, the popular zumba dance class, and my personal favorite "the Butts and Guts" class.

Many of the classes given at the UHD Fitness center are absolutely free as long as you are a UHD student.

There are various professional instructors to deliver intense and effective classes that produce fascinating results. There are also several other activities to choose from, such as utilizing the gym, attending health classes, or just shooting hoops with some friends.

It doesn't matter if you are just starting your new year's resolution of getting in shape, trying to find more effective ways to intensify your workout, or just having fun; the UHD Sports and Fitness center is a perfect place to start, and you might just find your new favorite hobby.



**Have a Tip on College Life at UHD?  
Send it to us, and we'll check it out!**

**[editor.dateline@gmail.com](mailto:editor.dateline@gmail.com)**



# The Tech Files



**iWatch**  
Because style is timeless

Michael Avila  
Tech Guru

## Smart Brain App

A new lab test has been developed to determine which part of your brain you use more often, now available in app for your phone, requiring simply a few minutes of concentration.

According to Norwegian psychology researcher Josef Bless, "smart phones can be used as a tool for psychological testing which opens up a wealth of exciting new possibilities". Bless first came up with the idea to create a brain test app a few years ago while listening to music on his phone. The language app called iDichotic is free software for iOS devices and has been downloaded more than 1,000 times since its launch in 2011.

In 2012 Bless and his colleagues decided to analyze the first 167 results from volunteers. They compared the results from people tested in Australia and Norway, determining the results from the app are just as reliable as those from the lab. The app will make it possible to gather large amounts of data easily and inexpensively.

Separated into two parts, the user will answer a questionnaire before spending three minutes listening to a series of sounds through headphones, responding to the sound that is more prominent. The second part requires the user to focus on sound coming from either headphone.

The results are shown after five minutes and the user can then send them to researchers anonymously. Psychologists are hopeful the future will bring more wide-

spread testing.

## Apple's iWatch

Apple is recently reported to be experimenting with a new product, referred to as the 'iWatch', a Bluetooth-enabled wristwatch with a 1.5 inch OLED screen.

According to a Chinese blog dated last December, Apple partnered with Intel to develop this iOS wristwatch. Rumors of the watch were recently confirmed.

In 2011 Apple encouraged its consumers to wear the iPod Nano on their wrists with wristbands. Now, it seems Apple wants to make an actual watch for its consumers to wear, with the added convenience of having music and applications on their wrists.

Although no competition currently exists for the iWatch, Apple must continue research to find new and better features for its new product in order to continue its success.

## Alarm Clock Toothbrush?

If you've ever had a hard time getting up in the morning, the Wayki alarm clock and toothbrush may be the answer. David Hawkins, the creator for the Wayki alarm clock and toothbrush, invented an alarm clock that goes off by brushing your teeth. Instead of having to turn off your alarm clock and go into another room to brush your teeth, you can just plug-in the toothbrush portion and you're done. Although the Wayki alarm clock and toothbrush is not available in stores, Hawkins is gaining funding to compete with similar products.

Other products include Ramos clock and the Sleep If U Can Android alarm app, both of which make it harder to ignore alarm setting. The Ramos clock makes you go into another room to turn it off, and the Sleep If U Can alarm app makes you take a picture before the alarm stops. When the Wayki alarm app makes you take a picture before the alarm stops. When the Wayki alarm clock and toothbrush become available the general public, it will be great for those of us who have a hard time waking up.

(Male Birth Control continued from page 6)

having another option to minimize accidental pregnancy would be helpful, but it would work best if both genders took responsibility for birth control.

"If a guy still thinks it's the woman's job to do it," DeGroy said, "I'm not sure [men will use it]."

While researchers continue developing the male birth control pill, University students turn to condoms as their main source of contraception.

Among sexually active University students, almost half reported using a condom the last time they had vaginal intercourse, according to Boynton Health Service's 2010 College Student Health Survey report.

Condoms are the most common method used by University students to prevent pregnancy, followed by the birth control pill, according to the report.

"Sexual health is an important part of health care," Student Health Advisory Committee member Lauren Beach said. "It's important that we raise awareness over ways that people can protect themselves."

Health and wellness junior Amy Whitburn said it's important to educate students on sexual health care products because not every student comes to college aware of them.

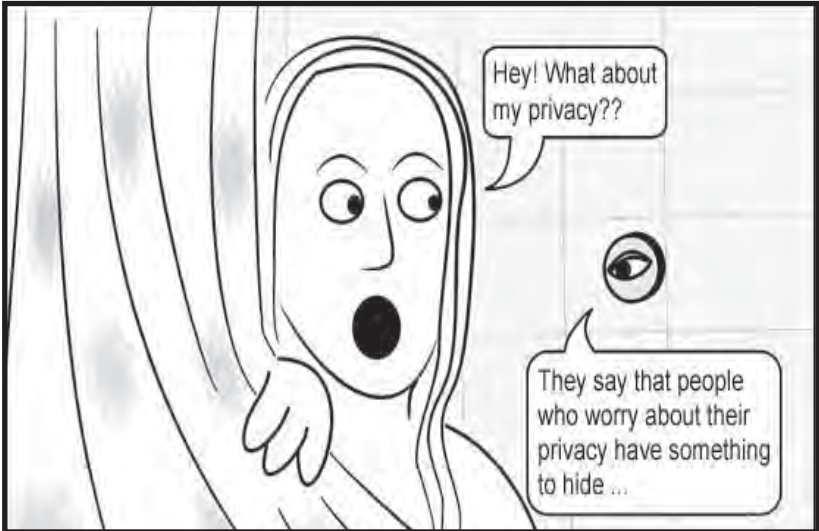
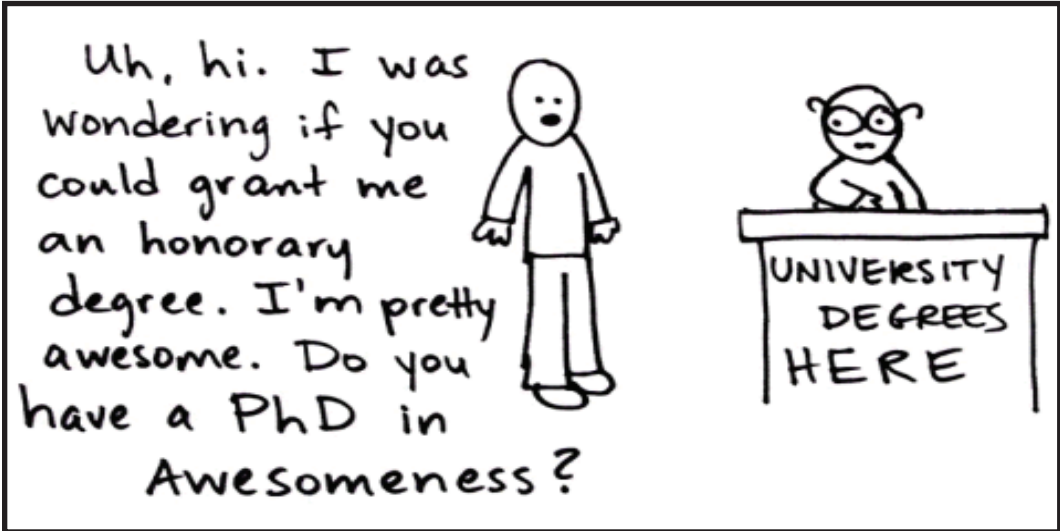
"A lot of people come from high schools or places that they don't have comprehensive sex [education], and in college people are starting new experiences," Whitburn said. "If they haven't had a condom demo or they haven't have some sort of experience with sexual health ... that can lead to a lot of issues."

Whitburn works as a coordinator for Sexual Health Awareness and Disease Education, a Boynton-sponsored group that works to inform students on sexual health.

During 2011-12, SHADE handed out more than 100,000 condoms to students on campus.

"The fact that it's that popular of a program demonstrates that it's an incredibly important part of public health outreach and services on campus," Beach said.





King's Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 Pickle holder
- 4 React in horror
- 8 Anything but that
- 12 Past
- 13 Concept
- 14 Stroll
- 15 Medium-sized dog
- 17 Without acting
- 18 To-do list
- 19 Every last crumb
- 21 Stimpy's cartoon pal
- 22 Lassie, e.g.
- 26 Pavarotti's range
- 29 A mere handful
- 30 Toss in
- 31 Nerve cell process
- 32 Carte lead-in
- 33 Turned blue?
- 34 Gas stat
- 35 Wall climber
- 36 Deep-voiced singer
- 37 "French" dog
- 39 Shriner's chapeau
- 40 "— the fields we go ..."
- 41 Anti-elderly prejudice
- 45 Satchmo's genre
- 48 Large terrier

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
18								19	20			
			21				22			23	24	25
26	27	28				29				30		
31					32				33			
34				35				36				
37			38				39					
			40				41			42	43	44
45	46	47			48	49						
50					51					52		
53					54					55		

- 50 Burn soother
- 51 Pesky insect
- 52 Silent
- 53 Night light?
- 54 Tackles' teammates
- 55 Crony
- 7 Cure-all
- 8 Dungaree, for one
- 9 Owned
- 10 Under the weather
- 11 Heavens
- 16 Company that went under in 2001
- 20 Depressed
- 23 Pringles competitor
- 24 Bad day for Caesar
- 25 Taro root
- 26 Pack (down)
- 27 World's fair
- 28 "Forget it"
- 29 Aviate

DOWN

- 1 Actress — Pinkett Smith
- 2 Quite enthusiastic
- 3 Judicial garb
- 4 Construction piece
- 5 Madison Avenue worker
- 6 Vast expanse

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King's Crossword Solved:

J	A	R		G	A	S	P		T	H	I	S
A	G	O		I	D	E	A		W	A	L	K
D	O	B	E	R	M	A	N		I	D	L	Y
A	G	E	N	D	A				A	L	L	
				R	E	N			C	O	L	L
T	E	N	O	R					F	E	W	
A	X	O	N		A	L	A		D	Y	E	D
M	P	G		I	V	Y			B	A	S	S
P	O	O	D	L	E				F	E	Z	
				O	E	R			A	G	E	I
J	A	Z	Z		A	I	R	E	D	A	L	E
A	L	O	E		G	N	A	T		M	U	M
N	E	O	N		E	N	D	S		B	R	O

Magic Maze "Things We Brush"

Y A X U R P M J G D A X V S Q  
N E K I F D A X V T Q O M E J  
F I N G E R N A I L S L H S F  
C A Y M W I U R H T E E T R P  
N L J H I A F D B Z L R O O X  
V T R Q O H M K Y S T R S H I  
H F D B Z Y C S R E T A E W S  
W V T R Q G O O T N O B H L M  
K I H F D C O T S A B N S Z U  
X W V U S L R D A Q S U I T R  
O N M K F J I H P C F G D E D

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

- Bottles
- Cat
- Chimney
- Dishes
- Dog
- Drums
- Fingernails
- Floors
- Gun barrel
- Hair
- Pastry
- Shoes
- Suit
- Sweaters
- Teeth

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Magic Maze Solved:

