

UNT SYSTEM™

HR HIGHLIGHTS

S E R V I N G . E M P O W E R I N G . T R A N S F O R M I N G .

UNT System HR Highlights is the Official Newsletter of UNT System.



FACULTY & STAFF

Spotlight

PRIYA BUI, DO FAAP

Chair, Clinical Chief, Associate Professor
Department of Pediatrics and Women's Health

UNT Health Science Center

Dr. Priya Bui has been the clinical chief of pediatrics with HSC since 2017 and has been with HSC since 2014. In May, the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine at HSC named Dr. Bui chair of Pediatrics and Women's Health. She is the first female chair of the department. Learn more about Dr. Priya Bui as she applies her knowledge, passion, and dedication within her role as doctor, teacher, and leader.

[READ MORE](#)

If you'd like to nominate a faculty or staff member to spotlight, please email communications@untsystem.edu.

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

UNT System Early Closure Announcement for Friday, December 23

UNT System Administration offices and UNT member institutions will close early on Friday, December 23, as a small token of appreciation to recognize your dedication and commitment to our continued success.

The UNT System Administration offices will close at noon on Friday, December 23, 2022, and reopen on Monday, January 2, 2023, for normal business hours. Each campus will distribute its own announcement detailing its early closure.

Instructions regarding how to record the closure hours are [detailed online](#) by Payroll Time & Labor. Please contact your supervisor with any additional questions.

Our Values

We started our journey to build a values-based culture earlier this year and over the last several months we've been hard at work laying the foundation needed to foster, and ultimately sustain, a values-based culture across the entire UNT System. I am pleased to share the [UNT System's core values and behaviors](#) that we will ultimately all agree to live by: **Courageous Integrity**, **Be Curious**, **We Care**, **Better Together**, and **Show Your Fire**. These core values, along with the behaviors associated with each, were clearly defined and stated during the Values Blueprint Workshop and agreed upon by your presidents, colleagues, and leaders. I'm confident our new values will guide us to a highly successful future. I am fully committed to living these values each and every day and invite you to join me.

With gratitude,

Dr. Michael R. Williams
Chancellor

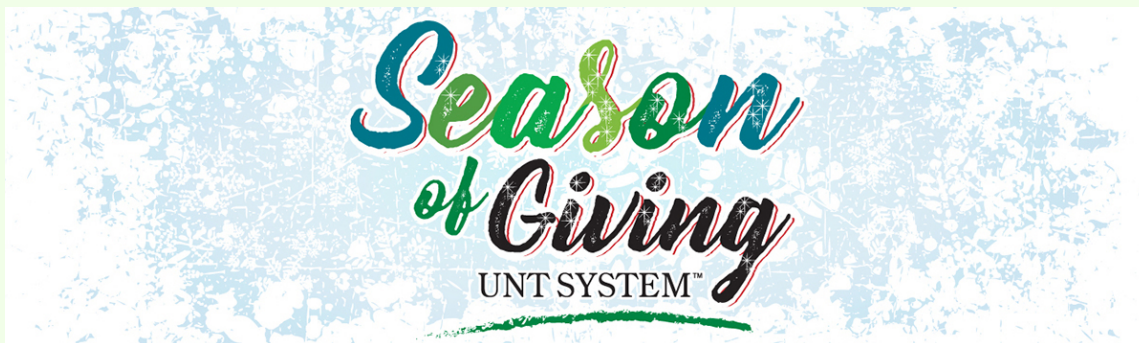
IMPORTANT NOTICES

Governor Abbott's Orders Action Against TikTok

Per Governor Abbott's order, all faculty and staff across all UNT member institutions and UNT System Administration, must immediately cease using or downloading **TikTok** on any institutionally issued and/or managed devices including cell phones, laptops, tablets, and desktop computers.

Additionally, all verified UNT member institutions' social media managers must freeze activity on all TikTok accounts immediately and until further notice. (There is no need to delete or inactivate accounts at this time.)

This is a mandatory request that will be strictly enforced by IT across all institutions.



The inaugural UNT System Season of Giving is underway.

This is an opportunity for us all, as One System, to express our gratitude through giving back to our campuses and communities. We've worked with each campus and several community partners to compile an exciting and rewarding list of volunteer opportunities to ensure there is something for everyone. You can view the ways to participate and make a difference this holiday season through our dedicated [2022 UNT System Season of Giving website](#).

2023 IRS Limits for Voluntary Retirement Savings Plans

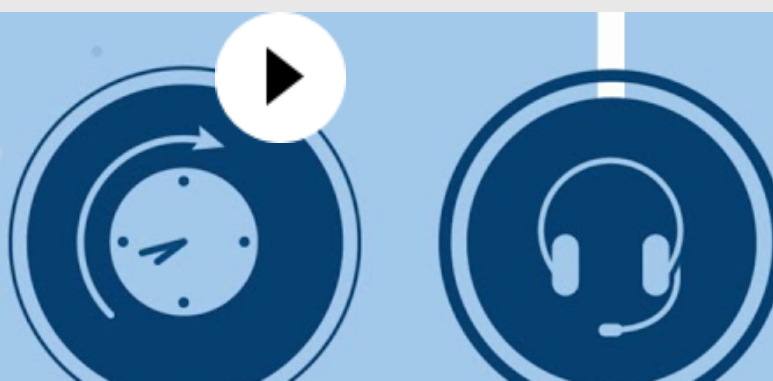
Don't forget **2023 tax limits increased** for Voluntary Retirement Savings Plans. If you are considering raising any contributions for 2023, and you want the new contribution amount on your January 1 check, complete that by **December 15, 2022**. [Learn more here](#).

HR RESOURCES



Find your balance with your benefits

We're all juggling what feels like a million different things between work and life, and it can all feel overwhelming at times. Your UNT System benefits can help. Through our [Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\)](#), you'll find [Work-Life](#) benefits that can help with childcare, elderly care, moving to a new home, legal guidance, and much more. Find more EAP benefits online when you login or register at [guidanceresources.com](#). Registering for the first time, when prompted for your Web ID, enter UNTS. To talk to a rep about your specific needs, call the EPA Guidance Resources Guidance Consultant at **855.784.1806**





The holidays can be joyful *and* stressful.

Many people struggle with feelings of loneliness or being overwhelmed. Financial stresses, emotional stresses, and juggling work and family can make the holidays a difficult time for us. Our [Employee Assistance Program \(EPA\)](#) has many free resources from articles to podcasts and webinars to help. It also provides short term counseling at no cost:

- [Healthy Holidays - resources from your Employee Assistance Program](#)
- [Grateful for Gratitude This Holiday Season - by Compsych Guidance Resources](#)
- [Well-Being Calendar seminars](#)

UNT System Human Resources has numerous programs and tools available at no cost to assist you with health or well-being issues, work-life balance, financial issues and more. Explore your [UNT System benefits](#), and follow this space for tips, programs and promotions.

CONGRATULATIONS



UNT faculty named among the world's most cited researchers

We applaud our 64 researchers at UNT, who were among the top 2% of more than six million scientists worldwide within their specialty areas throughout their careers, being recognized for their investigations. The impact of scientific research is often measured by citations – how many times a researchers' work is cited by another scientific paper and ranked by data collected from 1996 to 2021, covering 22 major fields and 176 subfields.

Learn more: [UNT College of Science News](#)



UNT's Dr. Martinez-Ebers receives a Mentor Award in Political Science

Congratulations to our very own Dr. Valerie Martinez-Ebers, Professor; Director, Latino/a and Mexican-American Studies for receiving the 2022 Adaljiza Sosa-Riddell Mentor Award for exemplary mentoring of Latino/a graduate students in Political Science! We are very proud! The Adaljiza Sosa-Riddell Mentor Award is presented annually by the APSA Committee on the Status of Latinos y Latinas in the Profession to recognize the exemplary mentoring of Latino y Latina students and junior faculty each year. The award is named in honor of Adaljiza Sosa-Riddell, the first Latina to earn a PhD in political science.

Learn more: [PoliticalScienceNow.com](#)



HSC named winner of D CEO 2022 Achievement in Medical Research Award

D CEO revealed its Excellence in Healthcare winners for 2022, chosen from Dallas-Fort Worth's leaders and healthcare innovators. Dr. O'Bryant, the executive director of the ITR and a professor at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, received the honor on behalf of HSC.

Learn more: [HSC Newsroom – Our People](#) | [D CEO](#)



UNT Dallas awarded \$625,000 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration

UNT Dallas was awarded a five-year, \$625,000 Mental Health Awareness Training grant from the U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The grant will allow Dr. Syeda Jesmin, Principal Investigator and Associate Professor of Criminal Justice and Sociology, along with her colleagues at UNT Dallas to provide Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training free of charge to a broad range of individuals, increasing their ability to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental illness, de-escalate a crisis, and identify resources available in the community.

Learn more: [UNT Dallas News](#)



UNT Dallas hosts new US Citizens naturalization ceremony

During a meaningful and emotional morning at UNT Dallas, 35 individuals from 17 countries took their oath of citizenship during a ceremony led by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). On hand to cheer them on were proud family members, USCIS directors, and consul generals from various countries. UNT System Chancellor Dr. Michael Williams and UNT Dallas President Bob Mong offered congratulatory remarks to the group for achieving this milestone. The event was organized by UNT Dallas Spanish Program Coordinator and USCIS Citizenship Ambassador Dr. Mara Joseli Queiroz Vaughn.

Learn more: [UNT Dallas News](#)

WELL-BEING CALENDAR

For all current and upcoming well-being opportunities from UNT System. Visit our [website](#).

Journey to Wellness: HealthSelect Wellness Benefits Overview

Organized by BlueCross BlueShield of Texas

[Wednesday, December 21, 2022, 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM \(CST\)](#)

Exercise at your desk

Organized by ComPsych EAP

[Wednesday, December 21, 2022, 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM \(CST\)](#)

Gratitude Challenge - Day 5

Organized by ERS

[Friday, December 16, 2022, 9:00 AM - 9:15 AM \(CST\)](#)

Winter Holiday Break

[December 26 - 30, 2022](#)

STRONGER TOGETHER



As we bring 2022 to a close and prepare for a new year, the Offices of DEI & EO would like to wish you and your loved ones **a safe and happy holiday season!** We have just touched the surface with laying the foundation for DEI and are excited about what a new year brings in this world of work for 2023!

From The UNT System Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)

Wanda S. Boyd, PHR, SHRM-CP; Assistant Vice Chancellor of DEI

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Krystal Onyekwuluje, Ed. D.; DEI Program Coordinator

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HOLIDAYS & OBSERVANCES

Learn about more December's cultural celebrations at [The Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion \(DEI\) Event Calendar](#)

CAMPUS NEWS

[Click our member institutions' logos for the latest news](#)



If you have an HR question or topic you'd like covered in the newsletter, please email HR@untssystem.edu.



Miss an issue of HR Highlights? [CLICK HERE](#) to catch up.