

# 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

**LIZ SKELLAM, PH.D.**

Assistant Professor

Department of Chemistry & BioDiscovery Institute

Department of Biological Sciences

**University of North Texas**

Dr. Elizabeth Skellam grew up near Liverpool, UK. After following an academic journey across Great Britain, Europe, and the U.S.A., in the Fall of 2020 Dr. Skellam joined UNT's Department of Chemistry and BioDiscovery. Please click the link below to learn more about Dr. Skellam and her impressive background as her team explores alternative methods for future medicine to be delivered through plant seeds.

[READ MORE](#)

If you'd like to nominate a faculty or staff member to spotlight, please email [communications@untsystem.edu](mailto:communications@untsystem.edu).

## SHAPING OUR CULTURE

# JOIN THE JOURNEY

UNT SYSTEM



hsc

UNT | DALLAS

**Reminder to take our Values Poll before it closes [November 4!](#)**

Everyone is invited to participate in the Values Poll as we continue our system-wide journey to build a values-based culture. If you were unable to attend a Join the Journey session, you can watch the sessions [here](#). The values poll responses are anonymous and the results will assist us in creating the foundational information for the [Values Blueprint Workshop](#) taking place November 7-8. The Values Blueprint Workshop is the next phase where submitted data is gathered to create the vision for our ideal workplace. Selected team members will represent each campus, and you can find a full list of selected Values Champions [here](#). They will be your contact if you have any questions or suggestions as we move forward in our values journey.

## HR RESOURCES



### Wellness videos on demand

Make sure you register for our [Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\)](#) program. To register, please include Web ID, UNTS. It will provide a [variety of on-demand wellness videos](#); [Emotional Eating, the Connection between Mood and Food](#); [Balancing Work and Life](#); [Exercise at Your Desk](#). There are multiple topics and themes to explore; [click here to join](#) the programs to achieve your fitness goals.

*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.*

## HIGHLIGHTS



### UNT named Lisa Maxwell as interim vice provost for student success

Lisa Maxwell has been appointed interim vice provost for student success as the search for that position is restarted later this fall. She has held advising and administrative roles at UNT for more than 20 years and has served as the assistant vice provost for student success since February, when she also assumed oversight of the Texas Success Initiative.

Learn more: [UNT Office of the Provost News](#)



### HSC elected Dr. Kendi Hensel to the Board of Directors for the Osteopathic International Alliance

Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine's Dr. Hensel was elected to serve on the board of directors for the Osteopathic International Alliance (OIA), filling the American Osteopathic Association's seat on the board. The OIA is the leading organization for the advancement of global unity. OIA unifies osteopathic medicine by connecting schools and regulatory bodies, as well as regional, national, and multi-country groups across five continents. Dr. Hensel is the first representative of TCOM and HSC to serve on the OIA Board of Directors.

Learn more: [HSC Newsroom](#)



## UNT Dallas has named Tony Sanchez as New Chief Human Resources Officer

We welcome Tony to the team. Since 1993, Sanchez has worked in the healthcare sector, serving large, diverse organizations. He began a higher education journey at Lamar University in January 2021. Prior to Lamar, Sanchez served as the Vice President of Human Resources and Change Management at Prospect Medical Holdings - Nix Health System, a multi-campus Acute Care and Psychiatric Regional System in San Antonio. Over the past two decades, Sanchez also held senior leadership positions with National Nursing Rehab, Tenet Healthcare and HCA.

Learn more: [UNT Dallas News](#)

## CONGRATULATIONS



## UNT awarded Texas Veterans Commission's Education Excellence Gold Award

Governor Greg Abbott and the Texas legislature recently honored Texas public institutions of higher education with the 2022 Veteran Education Excellence Recognition Award by the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC). This award recognizes universities and colleges providing excellence in education and related services that significantly contribute to the academic success of student veterans and military-connected students. TVC awarded three levels (Gold, Silver, and Bronze) for recognition of services provided to veteran students and their families. University of North Texas is a top 2022 Gold winners.

Learn more: [Office of the Texas Governor | News](#)



## UNT, Bell, and a team of contributors tests emerging Advanced Air Mobility technology

UNT researchers and a nationwide partnership of companies and government agencies took a successful live flight test using a specially designated *air corridor* between Alliance Texas Flight Test Center in Justin and the University of North Texas' Discovery Park. The University of North Texas' portion of the research is part of the [Center for Integrated Intelligent Mobility Systems](#) (CIIMS).

Learn more: [UNT News](#)



## HSC's Dr. Stacey Griner honored with ASTDA Young Investigator Award

ASTDA awards recognize individuals epitomizing the association's mission to foster scientific knowledge, develop leadership and champion practice in the field of sexually transmitted infections. [Dr. Stacey Griner](#) received the prestigious 2022 Young Investigator Award from the [American Sexually Transmitted Disease Association](#). Dr. Griner is an assistant professor of Health Behavior and Health Systems and director of the SPH Maternal and Child Health MPH program at the UNT Health Science Center at Fort Worth's [School of Public Health](#).

Learn more: [HSC Newsroom](#)

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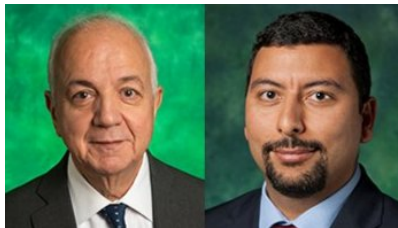


## UNT at Frisco readies to open collaborative campus

In Spring 2023, the University of North Texas will debut the first building of a 100-acre branch campus serving Frisco and the surrounding areas. It will be the first time Collin County has a Tier 1 Carnegie research institution. When it opens, it will showcase a design intended to promote collaboration and communication between students, but also provide a hub for growth opportunities through supporting programs and partnerships. It will be able to serve at least 5,000 students.

Learn more: [Community Impact Newspaper](#)

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## UNT adds Industrial Assessment Center with \$1.75M Department of Energy Grant

Funded through a \$1.75 million U.S. Department of Energy's [Industrial Assessment Center \(UNTIAC\)](#) program grant, the new center is housed in UNT's [Department of Mechanical Engineering](#) at Discovery Park. Nourredine Boubekri (pictured on the left), professor of mechanical engineering, is the founder, director and principal investigator. Huseyin Bostanci (pictured on the right), associate professor of mechanical engineering, is assistant director. UNT is one of 37 universities nationwide to participate in the U.S. Department of Energy's Industrial Assessment Center program.

Learn more: [UNT Research News](#)

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## HSC's Dr. Teresa Wagner selected as part of first AIM-AHEAD Leadership Fellowship Cohort

Dr. Wagner, an assistant professor in lifestyle health sciences at the UNT Health Science Center and interim director of SaferCare Texas, was selected to be part of the first cohort for the Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning Consortium to Advance Health Equity and Researcher Diversity — [AIM-AHEAD](#) — Fellowship in Leadership program. The AIM-AHEAD Coordinating Center is based at HSC and works to close the gaps in the diversity of researchers and data in artificial intelligence and machine learning.

Learn more: [HSC Newsroom](#)



## UNT Dallas Caruth Police Institute (CPI) partners with South Texas College to offer high-level training

South Texas College and the UNT Dallas CPI have entered a first-of-its-kind partnership offering law enforcement leadership training for departments across the Rio Grande Valley at the college's Regional Center for Public Safety Excellence in Pharr, Texas. The first cohort of about 20 law enforcement agents started executive-level training through the leadership development series.

Learn more: [UNT Dallas News](#)

## STRUGGLING WITH ADDICTION?

### Don't fight your battles alone.

The misuse of substances such as drugs and alcohol can affect anyone, regardless of age, sex, ethnicity, social and income status, or lifestyle.

If you believe that a family member, loved one, or close friend has a substance use disorder, show that person you care by reassuring them you are trustworthy and can assist them if needed. If you suspect your child is misusing substances, immediate intervention is key to finding suitable treatment. When approaching a loved one who is misusing substances, consider these tips:

- Remember that it is not your job to change anyone or treat an individual with a substance use disorder yourself. The individual with a substance use disorder must be willing to seek treatment. If a minor child has a substance use disorder, the parents or guardians of the child are responsible for seeking treatment for the child.

#### Resources:

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse & Alcoholism: [niaaa.nih.gov](https://niaaa.nih.gov)

Drug & Alcohol Use Disorder Information: [recovered.org](https://recovered.org)

Alcoholics Anonymous: [aa.org](https://aa.org)

Al-Anon/Alateen: [al-anon.alateen.org](https://al-anon.alateen.org)

Here's our **Employee Assistance Program (EPA)** number at **ComPsych** when you need us.

Call: 855-784-1806

Online: [guidanceresources.com](https://guidanceresources.com)

## WELL-BEING CALENDAR

Upcoming well-being opportunities from UNT System. Visit our [website](#).

Learn how get Well on Target Personalize Coaching

Organized by BlueCross BlueShield of Texas

[Wednesday, November 2, 2022, 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM \(CDT\)](#)

Daylight saving time

Ends at 2:00 AM on

[Sunday, November 6, 2022](#)

Being Adaptive in Order to Thrive in Our Ever-Changing World

Organized by ComPsych EAP

[Monday, November 7, 2022, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM \(CST\)](#)

Keep Moving Through the Holidays

Organized by BlueCross BlueShield of Texas  
[Tuesday, November 8, 2022. 10:00 AM - 10:15 AM \(CST\)](#)

#### Inside money: managing and debt

Hosted by TIAA  
[Tuesday, November 8, 2022. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM \(CST\)](#)

#### Power of savings

Hosted by TIAA  
[Wednesday, November 9, 2022. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM \(CST\)](#)

#### Financial housekeeping for now and later

Hosted by TIAA  
[Thursday, November 10, 2022. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM \(CST\)](#)

#### Sharpening investment skills

Hosted by TIAA  
[Thursday, November 10, 2022. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM \(CST\)](#)

#### HealthSelect Wellness Benefits Overview

Organized by BlueCross BlueShield of Texas  
[Wednesday, November 16, 2022. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM \(CST\)](#)

#### Marketproof your retirement

Organized by BlueCross BlueShield of Texas  
[Wednesday, November 16, 2022. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM \(CST\)](#)

## STRONGER TOGETHER



*The UNT System DEI  
honors our connections*

*"Achieving true peace requires the building of societies where all members feel they can flourish. It involves creating a world in which people are treated equally."*

### Celebrating our connections

During November, the Office of [Diversity, Equity & Inclusion \(DEI\)](#) is highlighting **Native American Heritage Month**. Be sure to tag #IamDEI @untsystem on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, and/or YouTube and encourage your teams' thoughtful participation, recognition, celebration, or activity throughout the month.

#### Native American Heritage Month, November 2022

Let's honor the traditions, languages, and stories of Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and Island communities and ensure their rich histories and contributions continue to thrive with each passing generation. It is a time to renew our commitment to ensure every community has the future they want and deserve.

#### We suggest a fun field trip

With your team, encourage a day trip as a group or individually and [visit the Spirit Lodge: Mississippian Art from Spiro](#) exhibit at our very own **Dallas Museum of Art**. This little-known Native American society was once as powerful as the Aztecs and Incas. Share your photos by tagging #IamDEI @untsystem on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, and/or YouTube.

The exhibition explores one of the most exceptional societies in North America, characterized by the construction of large earthen mounds that served as important cultural and ceremonial centers. Spiro in Oklahoma is the only known ancient site in North America where thousands of extraordinary ritual objects from across the Mississippian world were amassed together (around the year 1400) in a hollow chamber dubbed the Spirit Lodge.

The Spirit Lodge display was organized in close consultation with the Caddo Nation and Wichita and Affiliated Tribes.

#### The Dallas Museum of Art hours

Closed Monday | Tuesday–Thursday: 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. | Friday: 11:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday: 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

(Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day)

Holiday hours: Closed at 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve

### Ticketing

Free general admission entry to the DMA requires a ticket secured for entry. Visitors are encouraged to reserve tickets online in advance. Walk-ups are welcome and will be accommodated, but please note that you will be directed to the Guest Services Desk at either our Ross Avenue Entrance or the Main Entrance without a ticket. Visit <https://dma.org/visit> for more information.

Please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Krystal Onyekwuluje ([krystal.onyekwuluje@untsystem.edu](mailto:krystal.onyekwuluje@untsystem.edu) or 214-752-8827) should you need help facilitating any DEI programs or activities. She is happy to help in any way (even host)!

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

*Wanda S. Boyd, Assistant Vice Chancellor*

*DEI strongly believes in being a valued strategic partner accessible to everyone, regardless of race, gender identity/expression, age, nationality, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, or diverse perspectives. Its goal is to create an environment that fosters engagement by serving people, empowering teams and transforming lives.*

## HOLIDAYS & OBSERVANCES

Learn about more November'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@untsystem.edu](mailto:HR@untsystem.edu).



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