

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.



HSC confirms Dr. Sylvia Trent-Adams as new president

Dr. Sylvia Trent-Adams has spent her entire career blazing new trails. She made history yet again when the UNT System Board of Regents named her the first Black woman to lead UNT Health Science Center at Fort Worth. Trent-Adams is the seventh president of HSC, succeeding Dr. Williams. Prior to being elevated to president, Dr. Trent-Adams served as HSC's executive vice president and chief strategy officer.

[READ MORE](#)

Photo credit: [Alexis Allison | Fort Worth Report](#)

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

UNT System Annual Gallup Survey To Be Distributed On Oct. 3

Dear Faculty and Staff of the UNT System,

As we work together to shape the future of UNT System, it is critical for our leaders to listen to our faculty and staff. With that in mind, the [Gallup Q12 Engagement Survey](#) will launch on October 3, 2022, for all employees across the entire UNT System.

The Gallup Q12 Engagement survey is a tool that measures performance management needs, employee motivation, and psychological commitment. This annual survey provides you with an opportunity to **anonymously** share input on what it's like to work for the UNT System or one of our member institutions.

This marks the sixth year for UNT System to participate in the Gallup survey – helping us continue to learn what's important to faculty and staff as we strive to be a "Best Place to Work." Using data from past years, high-performing teams in our system have utilized insights from Gallup to improve processes, develop professional development plans, and revamp how they approach performance management conversations. With your candid input, we can better understand our organizational successes, as well as opportunities for improvement.

You will receive a unique email from Gallup on Monday, October 3rd, and I ask that you please take a few minutes to complete it prior to Friday, October 14th. Your input is especially critical as we navigate the ever-changing impacts of the pandemic on our workplace and look ahead, planning for our future.

Remember, this is not just a survey, this is your chance to do your part in helping to make the UNT System a better place for you, your coworkers, our students, and community members. Engagement is not a quick fix, but a journey that will help us further our overall mission. As a reminder, all survey responses remain anonymous.

In the weeks ahead, you will receive communications on what to look for, how we plan to share the results, and resources to guide teams on what to do after they have received their results.

Thank you for your support,

Dr. Michael R. Williams
Chancellor

Join me at a Town Hall

I'm looking forward to hearing from many groups across the UNT System community. The tour will begin with a town hall at each campus and at the System Administration building. At these events, we intend to provide more detail on our values-based journey and how you can engage. However, most of the time will be dedicated to listening to you – your thoughts, your concerns, and most importantly, your ideas about the future possibilities for the entire UNT System as we work toward *One Team*.

These events will be hybrid, and the online option will be open to any member of the UNT System community – so please come to one or more than one! The dates are listed below and can also be found on a [new webpage – the Chancellor's Listening Tour](#) that will always contain the most up-to-date information about when members of my cabinet, or I plan to be on your campus. Additional dates will be announced on a rolling basis, as well as the links for virtual viewing and participation.

Our goal is to connect personally with as many students, faculty, and staff as possible, over the coming months. Then, I plan for our team to maintain a continuous presence on each campus, to ensure that our conversation continues.

UNT System Town Hall

Wednesday, October 5 – 2 p.m.
Location: 712A/B

UNT Denton Town Hall

Thursday, October 6 – 1 p.m.
Location: Jade Ballroom, Union 333

UNT Dallas Town Hall

Friday, October 14 – 9 a.m.
Location: Student Center, Campus Hall

I am eager to hear from each of you as we embark on this journey together.

Very respectfully,

Dr. Michael R. Williams
Chancellor

STRONGER TOGETHER



DE&I – Let's make a plan to act

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

While there are many holidays, observances, and commemorations to celebrate equity, varying diversity dimensions, and inclusion in September, the Office of **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)** would like to highlight **International Day of Peace – September 21**. Please follow the instructions and be sure to tag #IamDEI @untsystem on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter and/or YouTube with your teams' thoughtful participation on International Day of Peace or any participation, recognition, celebration, or activity throughout the month. We look forward to your involvement in our program.

This week, you can educate your team with collective participation by:

Watching the following 5-minute video, [The DNA Journey](#). Watch together, at the beginning or end of a team meeting. Assign to watch individually and then together and have an open discussion. Ask your DEI Program Coordinator to join and facilitate a team meeting with a discussion around the video. krystal.onyekwuluje@untsystem.edu or 214-752-8827

Next week, you and your team can participate in peace efforts by:

Hosting an intercultural and interfaith dialogue/chat with your team: You and your team can conclude your celebration in appreciation of peace by discussing ways you and your team can bring peace into the workplace; define what peace means to you/your team (take pictures and post on social).

Check your email for future information about each activity, and ask your DEI Program Coordinator to join and/or help facilitate any of these initiatives. krystal.onyekwuluje@untsystem.edu or 214-752-8827

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

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 in order to create an environment that fosters engagement by serving people, empowering teams and transforming lives.

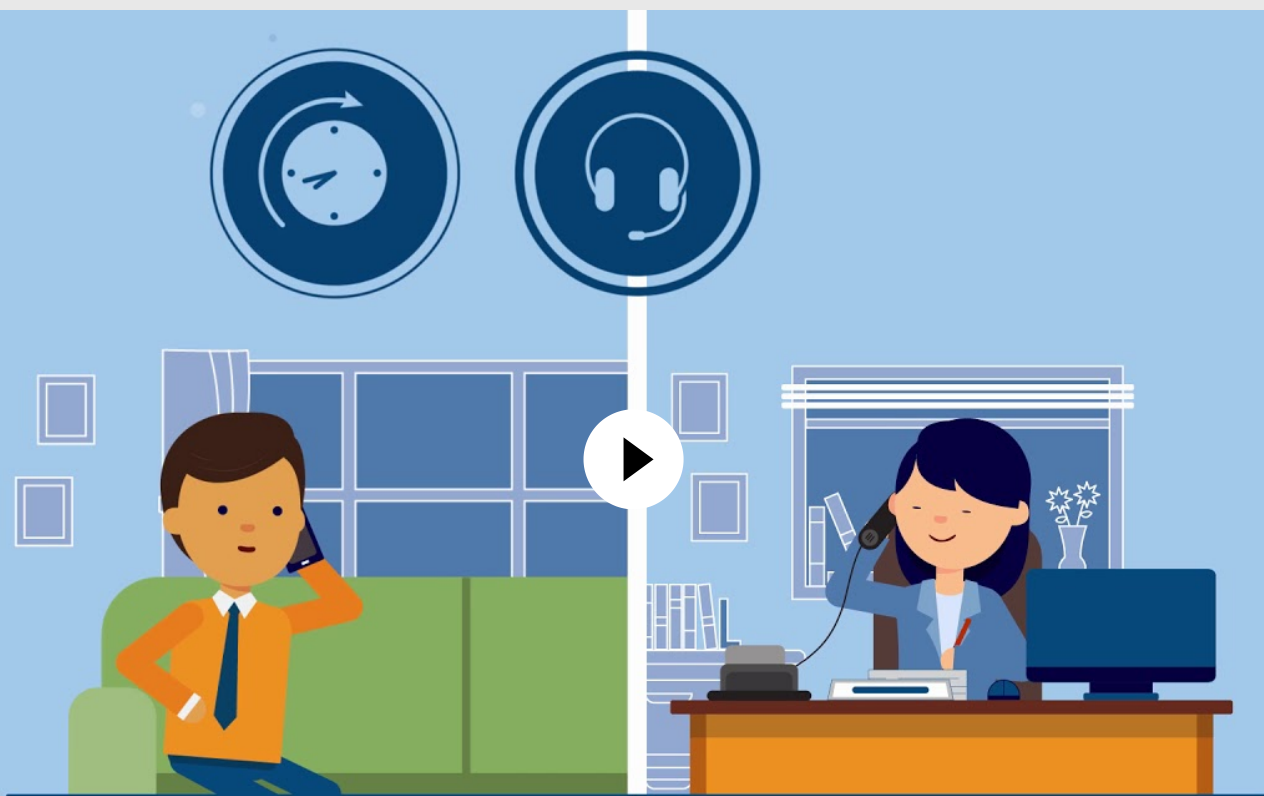
RESOURCES



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, elder care, moving to a new home, need legal guidance, and much more. Find more EAP benefits online when you log in 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 Guidance Resources Guidance Consultant at 855.784.1806.

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.





Career development resources

Looking for some quick career-building tips or professional development resources? We think of our [Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\)](#) as a great support resource for stress, grief, relationship issues, and short term counseling but it has even more to offer, including career development resources at your fingertips. Log in to your EAP and click on [Work and Education](#) to explore all the topics. Click on [Career Development](#) for resources about networking, creating your LinkedIn profile, business travel, creating a career plan, considering graduate school, and much more.

HIGHLIGHTS



UNT welcomes Brandi Everett as Vice Provost for Academic Resources

Brandi Everett, a UNT alumna who has worked at the university since her days in the G. Brint Ryan College of Business in 2010, has been named UNT's vice provost for academic resources. She's been an integral part of the Academic Resources team since 2019 and has been serving as interim vice provost for academic affairs since May 2022. Brandi will play a critical role in furthering university initiatives housed within the Office of the Provost, managing UNT's academic budget, and overseeing faculty hiring, compensation, and personnel issues.

Learn more: [UNT Notices](#)



UNT College of Science welcomes Kathleen Carter as Senior Academic Counselor

Meet our new COS Senior Academic Counselor. Kathleen earned her Master's in Education with a concentration in Higher Education Administration from the University of North Florida, and most recently worked with the College of Education at UT Arlington. She has an extensive background working with new college students and first-generation students, and was even nominated for instructor of the year at her previous job. Check out Kathleen's spotlight interview (link below). Be sure to contact our [Advising Office](#) and say hello!

UNT College of Science: [Advisor Spotlight](#)



UNT Dallas welcomes two new team members

Heather McCormick joins the Distance Learning and Instructional Technology (DLIT) department as our new Instructional Designer. In this position, Heather is responsible for the systematic design and development of hybrid/online courses, as well as related training and faculty support at UNT Dallas. Heather is an experienced instructional designer and project manager, with experience as a K-12 educator as well. She is currently working on her Ph.D. in

Instructional Systems and Workforce Development at Mississippi State University and will begin working on her dissertation on distance education beginning Spring 2023.

Jason Neenos joins the Distance Learning and Instructional Technology (DLIT) department as our new Instructional Technology Specialist. In this role, Jason is responsible for serving as our Canvas system administrator, maintaining all 3rd party applications that integrate with Canvas, conducting related training, and providing faculty and student support at UNT Dallas. After 5 years of K-12 teaching, he left the classroom to join the growing field of educational technology.



UNT Dallas welcomes Dr. Milan Sevak as Executive Director of the CSME

As the inaugural Executive Director of the Center for Socioeconomic Mobility through Education (CSME), Dr. Sevak will develop hyper local projects to increase quality of life and sustainable living wage careers for students living in low-income neighborhoods in the University's service area. The CSME shares the same mission as UNT Dallas – to empower students, transform lives, and strengthen communities.

Learn more: [UNT Dallas News](#)

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

CONGRATULATIONS



UNT's Dr. Dorothy Bland chosen for Distinguished Teaching in Journalism award

The [Society of Professional Journalists](#) (SPJ) has chosen [Dr. Bland](#) as recipient of the [Distinguished Teaching in Journalism Award](#). Bland is a professor at the [Mayborn School of Journalism](#). Each year, SPJ honors an outstanding journalism educator and recognizes their exceptional teaching abilities and commitment to upholding the profession's highest standards. Bland won this year with detailed letters from faculty, professional colleagues and former students that acknowledged her diverse background and commitment to uplifting her students.

Learn more: [SPJ Press Release](#)



HSC and MedStar Mobile Healthcare expand partnership

UNT Health Science Center at Fort Worth and MedStar Mobile Healthcare are working together to promote health in North Texas. Leaders from the two healthcare entities recently signed a memorandum of understanding that outlines a formal working relationship enhancing health education, training, research, and the delivery of healthcare services in the community. The pairing of patient-centered care, community health outreach, and innovation are at the heart of both organizations' missions and values.

Learn more: [HSC Newsroom](#)



HSC partnership with JPS results in new interpersonal violence training for health providers

To support Tarrant County victims of intimate partner violence, UNT Health Science Center at Fort Worth program has now developed a free, online, self-guided health provider training that addresses the intersection of IPV and sexual health, specifically HIV. The program operates in collaboration with JPS Health Network, other local health providers, and community service agencies that can now offer free, online, self-guided health provider training that addresses the intersection of IPV and sexual health, specifically HIV.

Learn more: [School of Public Health](#)



UNT Dallas Caruth Police Institute spotlights the Texas Law Enforcement Peer Network

On September 9th, in conjunction with National Suicide Prevention month, officials from law enforcement, the Texas Legislature, and the UNT Dallas Caruth Police Institute gathered at the event to raise awareness of the [Texas Law Enforcement Peer Network](#) (TLEPN), an innovative, potentially life-saving resource that is available to Texas' law enforcement officers. Dallas Police Chief Eddie Garcia, UNT Dallas Caruth Police Institute Vice Chair Zachary Flores, State Senator Royce West, TLEPN State Director Dustin Schellenger, and the University of North Texas at Dallas President Bob Mong spoke at the event.

Learn more: [UNT Dallas News \(TLEPN\)](#)

WELL-BEING CALENDAR

September is Suicide Prevention Month

Get more information and additional [resources here](#).

If you or someone you know is in crisis, call The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800.273.TALK (8255) or call 911 immediately.

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

Am I eligible for Public Service Loan Forgiveness? How can I apply? Ask the experts at Trellis
[Thursday, September 15, 2022. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM \(CDT\)](#)

Journey to Wellness: HealthSelect Wellness Benefits Overview
Organized by ERS
[Wednesday, September 21, 2022. 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM \(CDT\)](#)

Mindfulness and your Brain
Organized by ERS
[Thursday, September 22, 2022. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM \(CDT\)](#)

Developing Grit: Strategies for Success in Work and Life
Organized by ComPsych EAP
[Thursday, September 22, 2022. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM \(CDT\)](#)

Am I eligible for Public Service Loan Forgiveness? How can I apply? Ask the experts at Trellis
[Wednesday, September 28, 2022. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM \(CDT\)](#)

Sleep Well! Understanding Sleep & your Brain
Organized by ERS
[Thursday, September 29, 2022. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM \(CDT\)](#)

Fitness for Self Care

Organized by BlueCross BlueShield of Texas

[Tuesday, October 11, 2022. 10:00 AM - 10:15 AM \(CDT\).](#)

Keep Moving Through the Holidays

Organized by BlueCross BlueShield of Texas

[Tuesday, November 8, 2022. 10:00 AM - 10:15 AM \(CST\).](#)

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.



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