Dr. Clinton Purtell joined UNT World last year as an adjunct professor in the Department of Marketing, Logistics & Operations Management. He is now an associate clinical professor of management and entrepreneurship. He also serves as a coordinator for outreach, external relationships and strategic corporate partnerships for UNT @ Frisco/New College.

Q&A

What is your favorite aspect of your job?
I'm excited about every opportunity I have to be in a classroom or to work directly with students. I'm also passionate about research. I'm involved in UNT’s Center for Integrated Intelligent Mobility Systems (CIIMS) initiatives, particularly as it relates to autonomous drones and air taxi technologies, such as Uber Elevate. My other areas of interest -- both in the classroom and research -- are in the entrepreneurial process, particularly related to fundraising pitches, interactions between entrepreneurs and stakeholders, and new venture start-up strategies.

What employee benefit or activity would you like to see added to UNT World?
New employees, such as me, are peppered with bits and snippets about what is available in various presentations, such as new-hire orientation, individual department meet-and-greets, email news blasts, etc. It would be great if we had an indexed/organized tool that summarizes everything available to employees, with easy ways to directly access the various pages where more information exists across UNT, such as through hyperlinks.

What is your proudest work moment?
My personal mission is to “make a positive impact in at least one student every day.” My proudest work moment is each class, day or week I have a student approach me to tell me, unsolicited, that I have made a positive impact on them, inspired them, helped them think in new ways or considered a new perspective on a topic.

What is your proudest non-work moment?
This year, each of my three children set high goals and accomplished each of them. All three achieved straight A’s in school, and all three were selected to a join top select athletic organization (two in baseball and one in softball). My two daughters made the junior varsity and varsity softball teams at Allen High School, and my oldest daughter received an offer as a junior in high school to play collegiate softball at one of her top choices where she can also study in a pre-med program.

What fact about you might surprise your colleagues?
I am an Oklahoma Choctaw, the son of two United Methodist ministers and a true “Okie from Muskogee.”

WHAT’S YOUR FAVORITE...

Movie?: Top Gun
TV Show?: Yellowstone
If you’d like to nominate a faculty or staff member to spotlight, please email communications@untsystem.edu.

Let's Get Transparent: UNT System Is Launching a New Virtual Event Series, "Ask Me Anything"

Communications with UNT World employees has never been more important than it is today as many of us are working remotely and interacting virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With that in mind, UNT System Vice Chancellor & Chief Financial Officer Dan Tenney is launching a new virtual event series for faculty and staff across UNT World titled, "Ask Me Anything" on Oct. 22 from 2:30 to 4 p.m. The series is intended to provide an alternative communication construct based on relevant topics raised by employees from across the UNT World. The "Ask Me Anything" series is different from a town hall and will not include pre-developed materials. Instead, the series will seek to answer questions from employees that may be submitted ahead of time or during the event. The upcoming panel will include Tenney as host, UNT System Vice Chancellor for Facilities Steve Maruszewski, UNT Senior Vice President for Finance & Administration Bob Brown, UNT System Chief Procurement Officer Ron Brade and UNT System Assistant Vice Chancellor for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Wanda Boyd. A link to participate and watch the discussion live will be shared soon. Please join us ready to ask questions. Question may also be submitted in advance to communications@untsystem.edu.

Watch the video below for more details.
HIGH FIVE: National Science Foundation Awards HSC Graduate School Assistant Professor Dr. Scott Maddux
Congratulations to Health Science Center-Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences assistant professor Dr. Scott Maddux for receiving a $405,000 award from the National Science Foundation. His research will shed light on many issues, including the significance of human biological diversity and the potential implications of global environmental change. READ MORE to dig deeper into Dr. Maddux's exciting research.

HIGH FIVE II: UNT Dallas Professor Matt Houston Earns Accolade as an Under-40 Difference-Maker in Dallas
UNT Dallas School of Business professor Matt Houston earned Honorable Mention in the Juanita Craft Humanitarian Catalyst Award. Named after the famed Dallas civil rights leader, the award recognizes individuals who are under 40 and are making an impact in the City of Dallas by creating new initiatives and opportunities. Houston is a Principal of MLH Enterprises, a Dallas-based firm that provides education, professional development and leadership consulting to organizations across the country. READ MORE about Houston and the award. Houston recently authored a column in the Fall 2020 edition of UNT Dallas’ On The Move (Page 7) about the role UNT Dallas and the School of Business play in closing the city’s opportunity gap.
These Free Benefits Programs Make it a Great Time to Put Yourself First
Getting to a healthy weight can be a great way to improve your energy, mood and health. Your HealthSelect medical benefits include access to two online weight management programs. If you meet eligibility requirements, you can apply for enrollment in Naturally Slim® and/or Real Appeal® at no cost to you. Eligible participants may choose either program, but can only participate in one program at a time. Both programs offer courses, coaching and other virtual activities so you can use them when it’s most convenient for you. HealthSelect participants also have access to self-directed health and wellness courses through Well onTarget®, your online wellness portal. These courses can help you get started on healthy habits such as quitting tobacco, managing stress and improving your sleep. You can even earn Blue Points for participating in Well onTarget activities, which you can redeem for home workout equipment and more. READ MORE for additional information and registration.

Give If You Can: A Contribution to the State Employee Charitable Campaign Can Go a Long Way During Difficult Times
Now through Oct. 31, UNT System staff have a unique opportunity to make a collective difference in our community through the State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC). This annual fundraising effort gives state employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life of tens of thousands in the North Texas region and throughout the state. To donate online, click here and follow the easy, step-by-step instructions. Please note that one of the SECC’s included charities is the University of North Texas Foundation, which is searchable on the SECC website and has been assigned the code 286014.

It’s Never Too Late to Take These Steps Toward a Financially Secure Future
National Retirement Security Week (NRSW), a national event focused on the importance of financial security, begins Oct. 18. The event raises awareness about the importance of planning toward retirement to ensure a secure financial future. Did you know that by setting aside just $25 a month, you can significantly grow your savings over time? READ MORE for helpful advice and resources about your UNT World retirement plan benefits.

Team Work: UNT World is Transitioning to Microsoft Teams and We’re Ready to Show You the Ropes
Weekly one-hour Microsoft Teams virtual training sessions started this morning. Every Thursday from 9:30 -- 10:30 a.m., Microsoft trainers will conduct Teams 101 virtual workshops for all UNT World employees. Each week, training will focus on getting the most out of Teams in the areas of productivity, better meetings, accessibility and all the basics. All skill levels are encouraged to participate. To access these live online workshops, please click here.

Upcoming well-being opportunities from In The Green.
Follow us on Twitter: @UNTWorld. Visit our website: wellbeing.untsystem.edu

Get a Head Start: Retirement Savings  
October 16 at noon - CLICK FOR WEBINAR DETAILS

Stress Less with James L. West for Mindfulness  
October 19 at 1 p.m. - CLICK FOR WEBINAR DETAILS

Video: Enroll in Texa$aver

Cyber-Bullying Awareness in the Workplace
October 22 at 11 a.m. - CLICK FOR WEBINAR DETAIL

Video: Funding Your Future (Texa$aver)  
October 22 at noon – CLICK FOR WEBINAR DETAIL

Video: Enroll in Texa$aver
October 20 at 9:30 a.m. - CLICK FOR WEBINAR DETAIL
Communication in Early Stage Dementia

October 20 at 11 a.m. - CLICK FOR WEBINAR DETAIL
What is Real Appeal?

October 20 at 1 p.m. - CLICK FOR WEBINAR DETAIL
Suicide Prevention Webinar

October 20 at 2 p.m. - CLICK FOR WEBINAR DETAIL
Video: Texa$aver Savings Plan

October 21 at 10 a.m. - CLICK FOR WEBINAR DETAIL
Building Resilience Through Self-Compassion

October 20 at 11 a.m. - CLICK FOR WEBINAR DETAIL
What Students Want You to Know About Mental Health

October 22 at 2 p.m. - CLICK FOR WEBINAR DETAIL
Virtual Family Friendly Gardening

October 22 at 6 p.m. - CLICK FOR WEBINAR DETAIL
Dealing with Difficult Employee Behavior

October 23 (last day to view) - CLICK FOR WEBINAR DETAIL
HealthSelect Medicare Advantage Plan Q&A

October 22 at 9 a.m. - CLICK FOR WEBINAR DETAIL
Mental Health Awareness

October 28 at 9.m. - CLICK FOR WEBINAR DETAIL
Mental Health Awareness

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.