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

Somewhere there’s a tongue twister about Ashley Penny in the payroll office, but it’s certainly easy to say that she keeps everyone’s favorite department running as smooth as a crisp new dollar bill. She joined UNT World a little more than two years ago and oversees several teams, from Payroll Production to Payroll Tax to State Reporting. She practically grew up on the beach and over the last decade her husband’s jobs have had them moving 11 times between the beautiful beach-boasting states of California and Florida. We’re betting beach vacations will now suffice to keep her around our parts. Maybe the two kiddos that arrived during those moves will be reason to plant roots and enjoy a North Texas lake or two. Click below and get to know Ashley Penny.

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

UNT System HR brings you UNT World experts with this periodic and always timely installation called “Ask An Expert.” So, let’s ask...

EXPERT: Mary Atkins, UNT System Human Resources Benefits Advisor, has the answers to all your HR-related questions. The start of a new year always generates numerous calls to the HR department for questions on everything from retirement and retirement plans to health insurance deductibles and co-pays to how to make a family status change to benefits. We figure if one person is calling with a question, there’s probably plenty more out there with the same question who just didn’t call or maybe don’t know who to call. That’s why we enlisted Mary. She gathered the questions she gets asked most this time of year and provides us with expert advice -- as well as how to reach HR experts at each campus for more info. So, click the button below and let’s get started...
Benefits available to UNT World faculty & staff

Yep, Valentine's Day is just around the corner -- and you know you better not show up empty-handed. Maybe you never associated your UNT World benefits with Valentine's Day, but as sure as Cupid's arrow, you most certainly should. Go to the UNT System HR website, hover over "Benefits," click on "Perks" and then "Beneplace." After logging in or signing up, enter "Valentine's Day" in the search bar and fall in love with the savings. Find UNT World discounts on flowers, desserts, fresh fruits and gourmet gifts and more. Whether for your spouse, mom, sibling, friend or special co-worker, we've got you covered. We also advise against procrastination.

HIGH FIVE: UNT History professor provides expert commentary on gripping Netflix WWII series

A frequent contributor to several shows on the History Channel, Geoffrey Wawro, UNT Department of History professor and Director of the Military History Center, brings his knowledge and expert commentary to the new Netflix series, WWII in Color: Road to Victory. The 10-part series delivers amazing, colorized footage never seen before. The gripping footage and commentary give detailed insights into the leading figures and decisive turning points of World War II. This is a must-see series for all. While on the topic of world wars, don't miss Wawro's latest book, Sons of Freedom: The Forgotten Soldiers who Defeated Germany in World War I, which chronicles America's decisive role in turning the tide of the war and ultimately leading to an Allied victory.
Monika Ehrman is the principal investigator of a multi-institutional team recently awarded more than $450,000 by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. Her team will study the effects of a clean energy transition on certain petroleum-producing Native American communities and community members. The grant research focuses on historically marginalized Native American tribes, which are currently addressing important issues such as climate change and energy poverty. Ehrman joined UNT College of Law in August 2021. Prior to that she was professor of law at the University of Oklahoma College of Law, where she was also faculty director of the Oil & Gas, Natural Resources and Energy Center.
Upcoming well-being opportunities from UNT World HR.
Follow us on Twitter and Facebook; Visit our website

HealthSelect Wellness: How to Take your Health Assessment
Feb. 2, 10 -- 10:30 a.m.

Fitness Connect Community Discussion: Excuses Debunked
Feb. 8, 10 -- 10:15 a.m.

Weight Management Benefit Highlight: What is Real Appeal?
Feb. 9, 11 -- 11:30 a.m.

Matters of the Heart with Michael Harper M.Ed.
Feb. 10, 10 -- 11 a.m.

Deepak Chopra, MD: The Future of Well-being (FREE Center for Brain Health Event): Feb. 10, 7 -- 8:10 p.m.

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.