



MOVING AHEAD **TOGETHER**

2016 PRESIDENT'S REPORT



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Relationships strengthen University of Houston–Clear Lake. As we approach the end of our second year as a four-year university, we look forward to moving ahead together, a theme for this publication that emphasizes current success and future opportunities. Our focus incorporates five key areas that include student success, arts, health, K–12 education and STEM (Science,

Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

UHCL set another enrollment record in fall 2015, welcoming more than 8,900 students that included 273 freshmen and 420 sophomores. With a course completion rate of 94.5 percent and a retention rate of 70 percent for first-year students and enrollment growth in both freshman and sophomore student counts, we know that we have done something right. To further validate that assertion, UHCL received news

that, for the first time, it was ranked by U.S. News & World Report among its Best Regional Universities in the West, an honor we hope to improve upon in the future.

Recognizing the need to meet the demands of enrollment growth, state legislators approved capital construction funding for the addition of two new buildings: a STEM and Classroom Building at UHCL and a Health Sciences and Classroom Building at UHCL Pearland Campus. Furthermore, students' voices

were heard when they approved a referendum to add a third new building, a Recreation and Wellness Center at UHCL, showing their commitment to not only developing their minds but also strengthening their bodies.

Additional academic programs will give students more opportunities. Among these is a third doctoral program, the Doctor of Psychology in Health Service Psychology in UHCL's School of Human Sciences and Humanities. The doctoral program, the fourth of its kind in the nation and the first for the school, combines clinical psychology and school psychology with a focus on clinical practice. Graduates will be able to find careers in schools, human service agencies and hospitals.

By moving ahead together, UHCL continues to find its place among four-year universities, whether through a national ranking or the addition of a unique academic program. As a student-centered, community-minded and partnership-oriented university, UHCL relies on relationships to succeed, and you are instrumental to that success. Thank you.

William A. Staples

William A. Staples
President

POINTS OF PRIDE



NATIONAL RECOGNITION

For the first time in its 40-year history, UHCL has been listed in the U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges rankings. The ranking in the Best Regional Universities in the West marks a major milestone for the university, which became a four-year university in fall 2014 by adding freshman and sophomore coursework to its roster. UHCL continued its success in the U.S. News & World Report 2016 Best Online Programs by ranking 61 of 91 programs throughout the country in the Best Online Graduate Business Programs (non-MBA), and 81 of 163 throughout the country for the 2016 Best Online MBA Programs. These rankings reflect an advancement on both lists, six spots for the first and eight for the second.

ADDING PARTNERS

Medical students at The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston seeking to gain an edge with additional management and finance skills can obtain a Master of Business Administration at UHCL while working on their Doctor of Medicine degree beginning in 2016. The MD-MBA program was unveiled in December 2015.

VETERAN APPRECIATION

Victory Media designated UHCL a Military Friendly® university for the second consecutive year. Victory Media is a veteran-owned company committed to creating marketplaces where veterans can thrive and succeed following their service. For the 2015–2016 academic year, the Capt. Wendell M. Wilson Office of Veteran Services is assisting 797 veteran and veteran-dependent students.

STATE SUPPORT

The 84th Texas Legislature approved House Bill 100, which authorized two key UHCL projects to accommodate expected student growth. Outcomes included continued operational support for the university's transition to a four-year institution; exceptional item funding for UHCL's Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities; and capital construction funding for the addition of two new buildings, including a STEM and Classroom Building at UHCL and a Health Sciences and Classroom Building at UHCL Pearland Campus.

POINTS OF PRIDE

CONTINUED

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

SELF-STUDY

The John N. Gardner Institute for Excellence in Undergraduate Education selected UHCL to participate in a national higher education project. The comprehensive program brings together faculty, staff and students to develop and implement a strategic action plan to improve the student experience. UHCL and other universities selected to partner with the institute are conducting a self-study during 2015–2016 to develop its strategic plan, which will then be implemented in 2016–2017.

PARK PASSION

Sparked by a legacy gift from longtime university friends Pat and Wendell Wilson, a UHCL ceremony in 2015 recognized the dedication and naming of the Pat and Wendell Wilson Park. The enhanced park includes a native garden inspired by Wendell Wilson as well as a pond named Potter Pond to honor Patricia Potter Wilson, associate professor emeritus and a distinguished alumna at UHCL. The Wilsons have a vision to protect the university's natural setting.

PROGRAM DISTINCTION

UHCL's graduate physics program was recognized as an American Physical Society Bridge Program partnership site. The APS Bridge Program strives to prepare underrepresented minority students, particularly African-American, Hispanic and Native American students, for doctoral graduate work in physics.

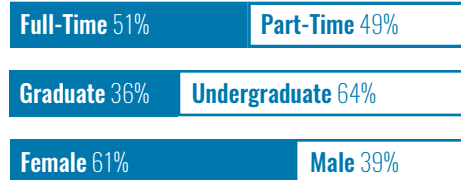
SMART AND FIT

Staying fit while attending UHCL will soon get easier since students voted in favor of the addition of a new Recreation and Wellness Center. Following the student referendum, UH System Board of Regents approved the addition of the new building, slated to open summer 2018. The facility will house recreational space, the graduate Exercise and Health Sciences program, and the undergraduate Fitness and Human Performance program. Faculty members look forward to the ways community services, research and teaching can expand with the new facility.

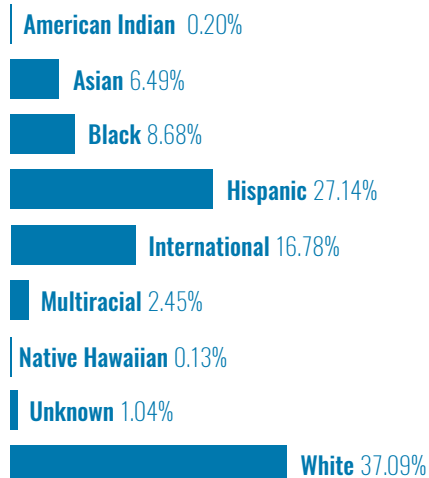
FALL 2015 STUDENT PROFILE

8,906 UHCL TOTAL ENROLLMENT

682 UHCL PEARLAND CAMPUS ENROLLMENT



TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT



22 UHCL moved from 35 to 22 among the Top 40 Master's Colleges & Universities Enrolling International Students

34 About 34 percent of UHCL's undergraduate students are Hispanic, qualifying the university as a Hispanic-Serving Institution.



MOVING AHEAD **TOGETHER**

Creating lasting impacts in student success, arts, health, K-12 education and STEM

What makes a university successful? Some might think it's the faculty, while others the students or alumni, and still others might think the administration or staff. In truth, it's a little bit of all those constituencies as well as community partners who work together to make the university a success. At UHCL, we have always understood that people, with many interests, abilities and backgrounds, are the foundation of our success. UHCL and all its constituents are moving ahead together to support five key initiatives that include student success, arts, health, K-12 education and STEM.

The people on the following pages share a passion to do better and be better, and this passion is shared with other UHCL students, faculty, alumni and community friends. Moving ahead together, UHCL will continue to be successful.

STUDENT SUCCESS



**“I WAS ‘JULIO’ TO MY
PROFESSORS AND NOT
JUST ANOTHER STUDENT.”**

Julio Olvera UHCL Freshman

Freshman college student Julio Olvera can breathe a sigh of relief now that he has successfully completed his first semester at UHCL. He proudly made it through the late-night study sessions and dreaded first finals, and he is happy to be at the university.

Attending UHCL might not have been a reality for him without help from the New Hawk Scholarship, the university’s first scholarship available only to freshman students.

Olvera had always expected to go to college, but knew the journey would come with its own hurdles as a first-generation student from a low-income household. When he received the scholarship news, he knew UHCL was the place for him, and the moment became celebratory, not just for him, but also for his family.

“The scholarship helped a lot because it meant my family did not have to worry about paying for my college or me having to get a job while attending

classes,” says Olvera. “I don’t have to stress about finances, and I get to focus on my schoolwork. It means a lot to us.”

Olvera’s decision to attend UHCL began with the scholarship and a passion for helping people. A degree in biology from UHCL will help him achieve the first step in his goal of becoming an anesthesiologist.

UHCL’s support for Olvera has gone beyond financial help, he says. It has provided opportunities at UHCL including one-on-one attention from professors and access to programs that have been important to his education.

Olvera is one of many students who relies on scholarships. After welcoming freshman students in fall 2014, UHCL expanded its scholarships to include the Hawk Advantage Scholarship, a needs-based scholarship that gives high school graduates like Olvera the opportunity to earn their degree from UHCL without delay and to help future professionals get the academic background they need to reach their goals.

K-12 EDUCATION

Kelly Tryer, '00 BS

Every teacher lives for the moment students finally “get it.”

“The way their eyes light up, and they get so excited, it’s worth everything: all the time and energy creating their lessons,” says Kelly Tryer, an elementary school teacher for 16 years and a UHCL alumna.


Tryer teaches at Parkwood Elementary in Deer Park Independent School District, which has had a close relationship with the university for many years. As a UHCL Bachelor of Science student in interdisciplinary reading, Tryer valued the hands-on, practical approach of her courses.

She strives to bring that exploratory experience to her own students as Parkwood’s lead teacher for the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) program.

In 2014, Parkwood Elementary and UHCL pioneered STEAM as a new way of teaching, adding fine arts into the traditional STEM curriculum. While continuing to follow state content guidelines, a team of experts from both the elementary school and the university develops curriculum focused on inquisitive and interactive learning. As the team refines the curriculum, they will work on producing all-inclusive curriculum kits so more teachers can benefit from the STEAM approach.

STEAM started in three kindergarten classes at Parkwood Elementary, and their academic performance will be compared to other students as they progress. STEAM also includes engineering classes with Tryer, where students tackle kid-level projects. At Parkwood, a Title I school where most students come from low-income families, the class is the first time many of the students have encountered engineering as a possible career.

As the partnership between UHCL and Parkwood grows, Tryer hopes they can offer even more meaningful learning experiences to students, creating more moments when their eyes light up.

A photograph of Kelly Tryer, a woman with blonde hair wearing a blue polo shirt, sitting at a table with a young girl with dark hair and a white bow. They are both focused on building a structure with red and yellow LEGO bricks. On the table are various small mechanical parts like gears and rubber bands. In the background, there is a wall with large black silhouettes of gears and the words 'STEAM' and 'TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING ARTS MATHEMATICS' visible.

**“STEAM IS THE NEWEST,
MOST INNOVATIVE
WAY OF TEACHING.”**

David Michael Moses, '12 BA

David Michael Moses traces his musical roots to UHCL. The amateur musician, who shares messages of his faith through original songs, fondly recalls much of his childhood spent watching performances in the university's Bayou Theater with his family.

"I remember going to events and always being excited about it," he says. "Being younger and coming to the theater – especially when the lights go out before the performance starts – there's a sense of anticipation, wonder and excitement about what's going to happen next."

What started as a way to educate and entertain a family has bonded the Moses family through the years to each other and to the university, says his mother Valerie Moses.

At the early age of 16, with two years of college behind him, Moses transferred to UHCL, which was a natural choice. He graduated in spring 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts in Humanities with a pre-law concentration at age 18.

Now a student in seminary, Moses says his immersion in the arts at UHCL inspired him to pursue music as a way to connect with God and with people. He primarily plays guitar, drums and the cajón, a box drum instrument he first heard performed by the Nuevo flamenco group, Garcia y Reyna, in the Bayou Theater when he was 12 years old.

More than 90 UHCL arts events that included Art Gallery exhibitions, Film and Speaker Series presentations and Bayou Theater performances during the 2014–2015 academic year resulted in approximately 37,000 visits from area art patrons. Proposed Bayou Theater improvements would enhance such programs, allowing the university to continue to share the arts with the community, especially budding musicians like Moses.



"MUSIC GETS TO THE
HEART OF WHO WE
ARE AS PEOPLE."



“...THE ONLY WAY TO BE
MARKETABLE WAS TO
GO BACK TO SCHOOL.”

Melvina LeBlue, '15 BSN

When registered nurse Melvina LeBlue wanted to move ahead in her career, she knew she needed to go back to school. UHCL's Bachelor of Science in Nursing, more often referred to as the RN-to-BSN program, was the perfect fit with face-to-face classes and flexible scheduling, but even LeBlue didn't anticipate how directly the program would advance her goals.


While conducting research for one of her UHCL courses, LeBlue discovered her nursing co-workers wanted education, support and professional development. They also needed a liaison.

LeBlue offered her findings to staff at DaVita Dialysis. After presenting her capstone project, she was offered a disease management position with VillageHealth, another department within DaVita. She walked the graduation stage in December 2015, and within weeks she was in training for her new position as a case manager and nurse advocate.

“Most of the nurses love what they do. We want to keep them passionate about their work, but also give them support,” she says.

LeBlue joined three other students in the inaugural graduating class of UHCL's RN-to-BSN program, which is designed for working registered nurses seeking to complete their bachelor's degree. Led by long-time nurse, Program Director and Assistant Professor of Nursing Karen Alexander, the program opened in fall 2014. It offers the credentials and skills for professional nurses to take on leadership roles in clinical care, education and healthcare administration.

The RN-to-BSN program is housed at UHCL Pearland Campus, which will open a new Health Sciences and Classroom Building in early 2019 after receiving \$24.6 million in funding from the Texas Legislature in 2015. The new facility will offer growth opportunities for the RN-to-BSN program and other health initiatives to help students like LeBlue pursue their goals.



“SCIENCE...IT’S A WAY OF
TRYING TO FIND TRUTH
IN THE WORLD.”

Walter Thompson UHCL Lecturer

UHCL Lecturer of Physics Walter Thompson received his first telescope in high school, and he’s never stopped looking up. Astronomy unifies beauty and math, aesthetics and physics, and this dichotomy brings science and non-science majors to his astronomy classes and labs.

Experiencing a night sky through a telescope for the first time is truly amazing, Thompson asserts. Even the long-familiar moon offers new revelations when viewed through a high-powered lens.

“It’s awe-inspiring when you think about the vastness of space or see the rings of Saturn through a telescope,” Thompson says. “It makes you think about your place in the world and your place in the universe.”

For physics and astronomy student Jacob Johnson, two stargazing experiences stand out: a lunar eclipse he witnessed at age 5 and a meteor shower he watched from the roof of a barn.

“It was amazing to me. This meteor is in your life for the next 10 seconds, but it’s been around for thousands, maybe billions of years. It could be from another planet,” he says.

While astronomy introduces stargazers to new wonders, Thompson believes it also teaches them a scientific mindset of using evidence and experience to make connections: a vital skill for solving problems on Earth and beyond.

A proposed observatory at UHCL would give many the chance to marvel at the night sky. The observatory’s planned location atop UHCL’s new state-approved STEM and Classroom Building, scheduled to open in fall 2018, would provide a new venue to see the night sky. From that vantage point, visual barriers such as trees, buildings and light pollution would be eliminated, allowing more in-depth study and greater accessibility to the night sky and giving students and community friends another reason to look up.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

474 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

291 COURSES WITH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY

DEGREES AWARDED

2,608 TOTAL DEGREES AWARDED

92% OF GRADUATING STUDENTS WOULD RECOMMEND UHCL TO A FRIEND

STUDENT SUCCESS

FIRST TIME IN COLLEGE RETENTION RATE (FIRST YEAR)

70%

TRANSFER RETENTION RATE (FIRST YEAR)

83%

TRANSFER GRADUATION RATE (FOUR YEARS)

69%

COURSE COMPLETION RATE

95%

COST OF ATTENDANCE

STATE APPROPRIATIONS PER FTE STUDENT **\$5,743**

EXPENDITURES PER FTE STUDENT **\$17,455**

AVERAGE ANNUAL COST OF ATTENDANCE **\$7,473**

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP



UHCL presented the 2016 Community Partnership Award to the Pearland Chamber of Commerce for its continued support of university initiatives. Since before the 2010 creation of UHCL Pearland Campus, the university forged many relationships through the assistance of the Pearland Chamber of Commerce.

The chamber's ongoing advocacy of UHCL Pearland Campus was critical to the success of UHCL's 2015 legislative agenda, which resulted in funding for the addition of a Health Sciences and Classroom Building at UHCL Pearland Campus.

Pictured are Pearland Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors (l to r, standing) John Lyle VIII, chair; Brett Brinkley, vice chair; Kristofer Schoeffler, chair-elect; Charity Ellis, vice chair, governance; Patrick Larkin, past chair; Phil Lloyd, vice chair, member relations; (l to r, seated) Michelle Colombo, secretary treasurer; and Carol Artz-Bucek, president and CEO.

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PRESIDENT'S CABINET

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Pat and Wendell Wilson
Nancy Wright

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\$10,000+

The Bill and Helen Crowder Foundation
Fred and Mabel R. Parks Foundation
Houston Arts Alliance
Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo
Lubrizol Foundation
Susie Bean Gives

CORPORATE & FOUNDATION PARTNERS

\$5,000-9,999

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ExxonMobil Corporation-Baytown Refinery
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LyondellBasell Industries
Jersey Mike's Subs
Joan Hohlt and J. Roger Wich Foundation

\$1,000-4,999

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Texas Association of Environmental Professionals
Texas Forestry Association Educational Fund
Ann and Dick Trask Charitable Gift Fund
UHCL Student Parent's Association
Pat and Wendell Wilson Charitable Gift Fund

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El Dorado Mexican Restaurant
Houston Area Chapter Association Certified
Fraud Examiners
San Antonio Water System
Texas Association for Improvement of Reading Inc.
UHCL Art Association

PRESIDENT'S CABINET HONOREES

UHCL Distinguished Alumnus Robert C. Garcia and his wife, Jane, received the 2016 President's Cabinet Leadership Award from UHCL President William A. Staples. Building on their previous support for veteran scholarships at the university, the couple took a leadership role in the Liberty Bell and Constitutional Literacy Projects, which aim to inspire civic education and engagement.



LEADERSHIP
AWARD

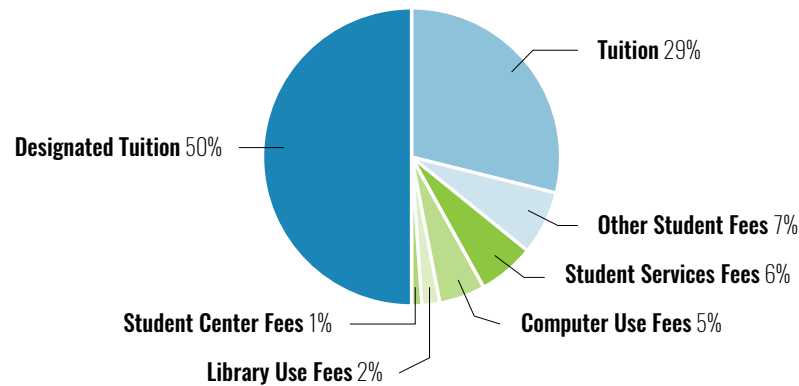


PHILANTHROPY
AWARD

UHCL President William A. Staples presented the 2016 President's Cabinet Philanthropy Award to UHCL Distinguished Alumna Mary Ainslie. The Mary E. Ainslie Hawk Advantage Scholarship Endowment provides need-based aid for incoming freshmen, and Ainslie was the first donor to invest in this top university priority.

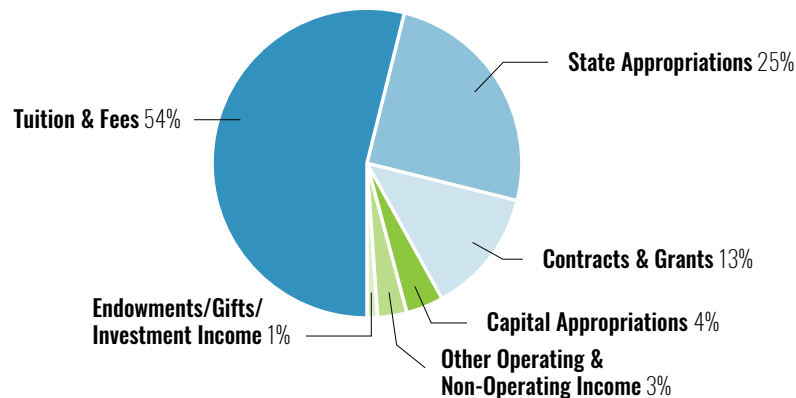
TUITION AND FEES

Tuition	\$19,274,752.16
Designated Tuition	\$32,556,877.62
Student Services Fees	\$4,081,368.95
Student Center Fees	\$626,124.50
Computer Use Fees	\$2,908,446.95
Library Use Fees	\$1,368,792.80
Other Student Fees	\$4,822,300.08
TOTAL	\$65,638,663.06



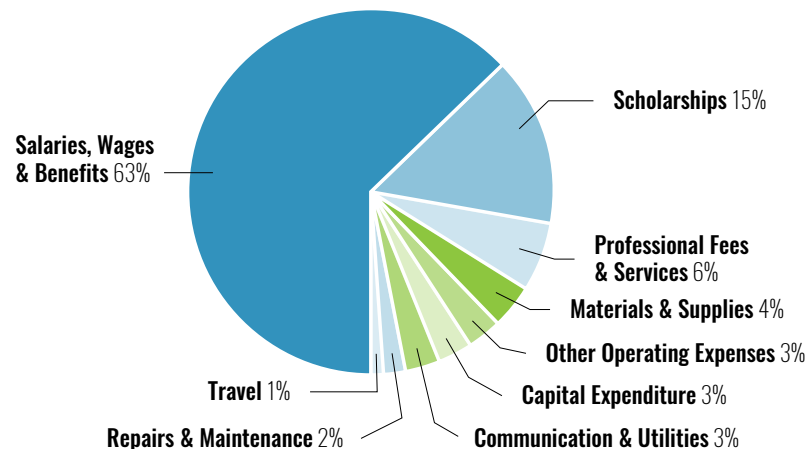
MAJOR SOURCES OF REVENUE

Tuition & Fees	\$65,638,663.06
State Appropriations	\$30,788,658.57
Capital Appropriations - HEAF	\$5,214,167.00
Contracts & Grants	\$15,443,385.89
Endowments/Gifts/Investment Income	\$1,611,208.31
Other Operating & Non-Operating Income	\$3,448,344.84
TOTAL REVENUE	\$122,144,427.67



UNIVERSITY EXPENDITURES

Salaries, Wages & Benefits	\$73,631,934.93
Scholarships (Financial Aid/Financial Assistance)	\$17,671,971.24
Professional Fees & Services	\$6,960,749.57
Capital Expenditure	\$3,178,926.74
Materials & Supplies	\$5,041,490.96
Communication & Utilities	\$3,028,930.17
Repairs & Maintenance	\$2,207,785.62
Travel	\$777,806.99
Other Operating Expenses	\$3,912,839.59
TOTAL UNIVERSITY EXPENDITURES	\$116,412,435.81



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ON THE COVER

UHCL Assistant Professor of Art and Design Clay Leonard leads a group of students in his Advanced Ceramics class, held in one of the university's art studios in the Arbor North Building. The class is just one of the art classes offered in the Bachelor of Fine Arts program at UHCL, which gives students hands-on skills necessary to exhibit their work, teach art and contribute new and innovative ideas to the arts industry.

SUPPORT YOUR UNIVERSITY

UHCL's key initiatives in student success, arts, health, K-12 education and STEM are possible through the financial and personal support of university friends. Fueled by donors' generosity, the UHCL community is moving ahead together in these important areas.

Help strengthen the university's ability to serve students and generate funds for specific initiatives by contacting the Office of University Advancement at 281-283-2021 or gifts@uhcl.edu.

The donor honor roll reflects contributions made between January 1, 2015, and December 31, 2015. Every effort was made to ensure accuracy. In instances of omission or misidentification, report corrections to the Office of University Advancement at 281-283-2021 or gifts@uhcl.edu.



University
of Houston
Clear Lake

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