



*Office of the President*  
**Dr. Antonio D. Tillis**

Good morning, Gators.

It appears that much of our immediate community was spared from Hurricane Laura's wrath. Still, I am hopeful that you and your families are safe and sound.

Occurrences such as this are no doubt disruptive to a semester, particularly during the first week of school. I am confident, however, that we will regain lost ground and remain on track for a successful semester.



I know some of you evacuated the area in preparation for Laura. Others may be checking on family members who were affected by the storm. Use this time to look after yourselves and your loved ones. By Monday, all of us should be recharged and ready to head back into Fall 2020.

Regardless of any storm or the ongoing pandemic, UHD will remain unhampered in its academic mission. Your resiliency will make the difference this semester, and I look forward to working alongside all of you to make Fall 2020 another proud moment for our institution.

As we move forward, let's keep those affected by Laura in our thoughts and prayers. While Houston was indeed fortunate to evade the hurricane, many are struggling as a result of this massive storm. If I have learned anything during my first few months on the job it's that Gators look after each other ... and also exhibit unconditional compassion and support for others in need.

Stay safe this week!

Sincerely,

Antonio D. Tillis, Ph.D.  
Interim President, University of Houston-Downtown