



DETERMINED.
DEDICATED.
DOWNTOWN.

UHD
University of Houston
DOWNTOWN



APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Minutes distributed – any corrections?

- **Motion to accept minutes? Second?**
- **Minutes accepted**

AGENDA

- Approval of July Meeting Minutes
- New Employee Announcements
- Edge Grant Winner(s)
- Employee Recognition
- Cynthia Vargas – Emergency Management
- Christian Purdy – Human Resources
 - Staff Development Update
 - AWA update
- Staff Council Business – Things To Share
- Upcoming Events
- Closing Comments

WELCOME NEW GATORS!



Name	Job Title	Department
Heather Davis	Director, Post Award Service for ORSP	Research & Sponsored Programs
Aalaina Newman	Administrative Assistant II	Accounting & Int'l Business
Marbella Serna	Program Assistant	Urban Education
Anthony Canada	Electronic Security Systems Technician	Police
Rebecca Walton	Coordinator, Memberships & Outreach	Sports and Fitness
Roberto Barrientos	Maintenance Repair Technician	Facilities Management
Daniela Martinez	Academic Success Coach I	Urban Education
Ruben Palomino	Administrative Assistant I	Office of the President

WELCOME NEW GATORS!

Name	Job Title	Department
Maria Benzon	Assistant Director, Assessment	Institutional Effectiveness



August Recipient



Cecelia Booty

The EDGE

Educational/Development Grant for Employees
Sponsored by the University of Houston-Downtown Staff Council

CONGRATULATIONS GATORS!



JULY KUDOS!

- **Advancement & University Relations**

- Noel Baldovino
- Hayden Bergman
- Noah Hester
- Debra McGaughey
- Gabriel Morales
- Jose Santos
- Meghan Sellers
- Ryan Thompson
- Javier Zambrano

- **Academic Advising**

- Tamia Brown
- Geneva Stubbs

- **Academic Affairs**

- Deborah Bordelon

- **Accounts Payable**

- Denise Bland
- Maria Carrillo

- **Arts & Communications**

- Jennifer Nava

- **Auxiliary Services**

- Jessica Harper

- **Business Affairs**

- Ideth Rivas

- **Ctr for Student Inv and LDRSP**

- Tremaine Kwasikpui

- **College of Business**

- Belinda Hernandez
- Vernon Gonzales

- **Career Services**

- Norberto Salazar

- **Comp, Telecom & Video Network**

- Francisco Lopez

- **Conference & Events Services**

- Karina Fajardo
- Tesha Koltys
- Monica Valencia

CONGRATULATIONS GATORS!



- **Counseling Services**
 - Timothy Coulter
- **Gator Success Center**
 - Heidi Flores
 - Emilee Umana
- **General Business, Mrkting & Sup Chain**
 - Ikea Jernigan
- **Humanities & Social Sciences**
 - Marlene Chavez
 - Karlyli Juarez
 - Jessica Ramirez
- **Information Technology**
 - Nancy Butler
 - Rose Martinez
 - Cassandra Millhouse
- **Office of the President**
 - Liza Alonzo
 - Kionna LeMalle



Kudos!

*Express
Your
Appreciation*

- **Human Resources**
 - Ashley Carter
 - Katalina Castillo
 - Carole Clerie
 - Jenifer Cortez
 - April Frank
 - Mike Guajardo
 - Bernice Guillen
 - Jackee Hester
 - Paula Jannett
 - Donald Kesterson
 - Chetiqua Matthews Herron
 - Brandi McInnis
 - Erica Morales
 - Gladis Moya
 - Christian Purdy
 - Tamika Small

CONGRATULATIONS GATORS!

- **Programming and Curriculum**

- David Ryden

- **Student Activities**

- Jose Vazquez

- **Student Business Services**

- Stephanie Porter

- **Student Success & Student Life**

- Kira Gatewood

- **Technical Services**

- Jr. Sears

- **Technology Learning Services**

- Nikhil Bhatt
- Thomas Genoso
- Albert Holden
- Kavon Samie

- **Undergraduate Admissions**

- Mandi Olivarez

- **User Support**

- Cheryl Robertson
- Ivan Saldivia
- Kendrick Salone
- Mark Samudio
- Syeda Sikandar

- **User Support**

- Quentin Arceneaux
- Adrian Bermudez
- Brittany Clark
- Israel Cordova
- Ruben Diaz
- Luis Guerra
- Janet Ibarra
- Wajid Iqbal
- Amanda Jones
- Matthew Jordan
- Thomas McBride
- Hitesh Patel
- Thomas Perez
- Michele Pineda



Kudos!

*Express
Your
Appreciation*

WAYS TO SEND KUDOS



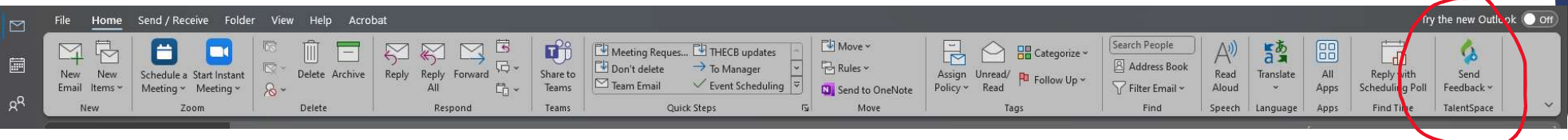
<https://global.hgncloud.com/uhd/ts/home>

1. Outlook

- Open Outlook
- Click on the Home Tab
- Click on the "Send Feedback" icon in the tool bar*
- Click on "Kudos and Recognition"
- Type the first and last name of the recipient
- Type your comments in the body of the email
- Click Send

2. My TalentSpace

- Login to [My TalentSpace](#)
- Click the menu icon (three stacked lines) at the top left corner of the page.
- Click on Performance
- Click on Kudos and Feedback
- Click the "New Feedback" button on the upper right side of the page
- Click Kudos and Recognition
- Type the first and last name of the recipient
- Type your comments in the body of the email
- Click OK



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- Hurricane Preparedness

Cynthia Vargas
Director, Emergency Management

Questions?



HUMAN RESOURCES

- Staff Development Update
- AWA update



Christian Purdy
Manager, Projects, Compliance & Communications

STAFF COUNCIL BUSINESS

- FY24 Staff Council Accomplishments
- UHD Proclamation – August 20th - UHD Day
- Staff Council Committees Interest
- Gator Blue Fridays UHD garments (shirts, hats, etc.)
- Calling all Alumni
 - <https://forms.office.com/r/UVxkzzy85N>



UHD PROCLAMATION – CITY HALL

August 20, 2024 – Is
UHD day declared by
Mayor Whitmire.



STAFF COUNCIL FY24 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

For the Fiscal Year 24 (FY24), UHD Staff Council has been doing a lot of work to build morale, safety, and engagement among our staff members.

- Chartwells Resolutions
 - Right of First Refusal - \$100 to \$500
 - Cafeteria Hours of Operations – added an extra hour the café will stay open.
 - App Ordering – Removed Burger 713 from the app only scenario and allow everyone to walk up and order.
- Ombudsman Application and position being filled
- By-laws update
- Rebuilt the Staff Council website to include the Ombudsman page and create a more user-friendly environment with easier navigation.
- EDGE grant award increase from \$500 to \$1000
- Incorporated Staff Council representation in policies. This has included Staff representation in all shared governance policies to ensure staff has a voice. Such policies are PS. 01.A.01 and 01.A.03.
- Create a unique and exciting t-shirt for the university outlining all those great leaders who paved the way for our 50th year.
- We have built trust with transparency between staff members and our Leadership.

STAFF COUNCIL FY24 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Boosted morale of staff members through engagement
 - First meet OMB – 60 attended
 - Second meet CSP – 75 attended
 - Third meet MDCOB – 150 attended
- Digitized our workflows to DocuSign to include our election nomination forms and EDGE grant applications.
- Brought up a concern for safety among students and employees at UHD regarding the drop off location at Girard. Safety Railings have been installed to combat that long drop down from the pedestrian entrance/exit door of the garage.
- Boosted Staff Council general meetings attendance by 88%.
- Created a unique email with a positive message from the President, Dr. Blanchard, and Staff Council. This email is an anniversary email and gets sent out automatically on an employee's anniversary date. Collaborated with a student organization to provide refreshing drinks to our staff members during a Staff Council event.
- Organized a cross-campus event with USSEC (University System Staff Executive Council) to promote a work life balance initiative to improve health while we work. This event was a walk event that worked with main and Victoria campus staff councils to organize a walk. The event was #walkatwork2024 and was very well received by the campuses and its staff members.
- Hosted a July 3rd event with a turnout of over 300 staff members celebrating July 4th

STAFF COUNCIL BUSINESS

- Calling all Alumni
 - <https://forms.office.com/r/UVxkzyy85N>



UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 23, 2024: UHD's 50th Anniversary Dance Video
- September 2, 2024: UHD Holiday – Labor Day
- September 5, 2024: UHD Police Department Safety Conference
- September 10, 2024: Canvas Conference
- Save The Date
 - October 12, 2024 - 50th Anniversary Gala
 - October 31, 2024 - Boo Bash
 - November 1, 2024 - Chili Cook-Off
- September 18, 2024: Next Staff Council General Meeting

Did you know!

- August 4, 1790, President George Washington signed the Tariff Act to enforce trade and tariff laws to prevent smuggling. The organization was called Revenue Cutter Service and later renamed the U.S. Coast Guard. U.S. Coast Guard's official birthday celebrating 234 years of active service.
- August 21, 1959 - President Dwight D Eisenhower signed a proclamation admitting Hawaii to the Union as the 50th state.



Need to Contact Staff Council Representatives?

Email: uhdstaffcouncil@uhd.edu

Staff can review the agendas and minutes of missed meetings here:
<https://www.uhd.edu/faculty-staff/staff-council/membership/Pages/staffcouncil-minutes-archived.aspx>



Staff can register to attend the monthly general meetings here:
https://uhd.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2sHq1WGJTBqsg-kTiw0sdw

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Want to submit comments/suggestions *anonymously*? Use the link or QR code below:
<https://cmlink.me/2fR/s52436>



Submit events to be recognized and promoted! Use the link or QR code below:
<https://cmlink.me/2fR/s53628>



Share your good news so we can all celebrate together! Use the link or QR code below:
<https://cmlink.me/2fR/s46776>



Note that you do not have to log in or create an account to provide a submission.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Mission

Recognizing that staff is integral to the functioning of the University of Houston-Downtown, the Staff Council will be an advisory body to the President of the University and promote positive and meaningful communication among UHD staff, the President, and the University community in order to achieve the Staff Council's goal of providing UHD with a collective voice in staff-related University matters.