UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON TECHNOLOGY

SPRING 2019 HDCS NEWSLETTER

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A MESSAGE FROM THE HDCS CHAIR

Welcome to another wonderful installment of our HDCS Newsletter where we showcase our faculty, students and staff contributions. As

a member of our



Dr. Holly M. Hutchins

Cougar family, I hope you will spend a few moments reviewing how your support of our department is making a difference in how we prepare our students for a successful career.

Since assuming the department chair position in January 2019, I have benefitted from immense support and guidance from our staff and former chair, Dr. Marcy Norwood. Mentoring is an important developmental resource, and I have the benefit of seeking guidance from many former administrators in our department. Sometimes it is a nudge and sometimes a reflection on historical context, but most times it is truly support and encouragement. I am very grateful for having "been raised" in a department that values people and relationships.

In my first 100 days, I set out to accomplish a few tasks concerning

enhancing our place, people and purpose:

• **Place** is important for innovation. We want a stimulating work environment for our faculty, students and staff. Our first step was updating and beautifying our internal and external building to include better lighting, landscape, technology, and office renovations. Please visit us and experience some of our building improvements.

• Our **People** are our most important resource! Our faculty are educators, role-models and encouragers for our students. One example of my focus on people is making sure that our adjunct faculty have the resources they need to thrive, which is why I have adjusted their compensation for teaching. All are experienced professionals, have 10+ years in industry, an advanced degree — many with doctorates — and bring innovations and networking opportunities to our students.

• Part of leading is understanding what people are good at, love to do and supporting them in this endeavor. Understanding my team's **Purpose** helps me to best support them toward success.

FORESIGHT

FORESIGHT ALUMNA ANNE BOYSEN TO TEACH DATA MINING

By: Andy Hines

One of the challenges in leading the Foresight program is keeping up with new tools and approaches to supplement the core curriculum. Perhaps no topic is receiving more buzz than big data and analytics and how they might influence the practice of foresight. During the 2018 Foresight Spring Gathering *"Scanning the Fringe"*, Foresight alumna, Anne Boysen, gave an outstanding presentation on *"Data Analytics for Scanning"*.



Anne Boysen

Based on that presentation, Boysen was asked if she would be willing to put together a summer course on the broader topic. The Foresight program is pleased to announce that she will be teaching a "Data Mining" course during summer 2019 at the University of Houston. Among the many interesting and relevant topics are:

- Using Rapidminer & R
- Data Mining in Exponential Times
- Decision Trees
- Neural Networks
- Text Mining and NLP
- Foresight in Machine Learning

The planned data mining course is sure to be a very valuable addition to the Foresight curriculum.

AMERICAN ALLIANCE OF MUSEUMS ESTABLISHES STRATEGIC FORESIGHT SCHOLARSHIP

By: Andy Hines

The American Alliance of Museums has awarded its first ever Alliance Scholarship for Strategic Foresight to Terrance Hunter. Terrance is project manager at the Holocaust Memorial Resource and Education Center of Florida. Terrance also serves as the history section chair for the Florida Association of Museums.

The scholarship was specifically established to promote one of the Alliance's strategic goals: To influence and inspire action in the field by cultivating a cadre of museum futurists to foster thought leadership around long term strategies museums will need to thrive in coming decades. The champion behind the scholarship, Elizabeth Merritt, founder and director of the Center for the Future of Museums, observes: "The American Alliance of Museums believes that strategic foresight is an essential skill for museum leaders. The fact that 28 people applied for our first scholarship demonstrates that our members agree!"

As the Alliance's 2019 Foresight Scholar, Terrance attended the April 29th – May 3rd, 2019 Strategic Foresight Seminar at the University of Houston. Terrance and other professionals from around the world had an opportunity to earn a Certificate of Strategic Foresight.



American Alliance of Museums

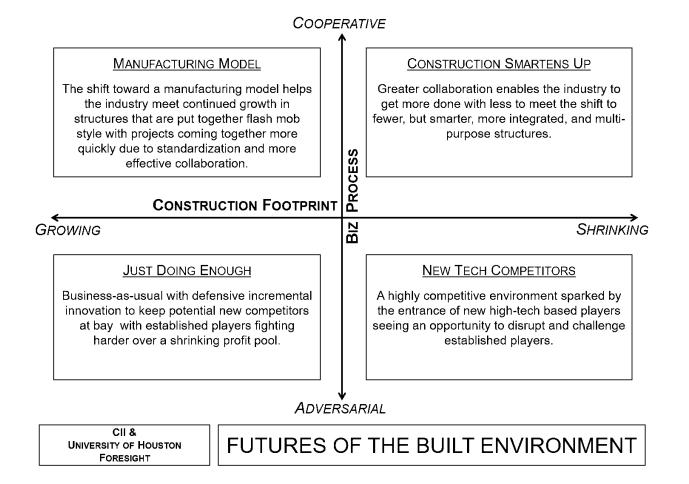
EXPLORING THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT FOR CII

By: Dr. Andy Hines

Dr. Andy Hines, assistant professor and coordinator of the Foresight graduate program, led a team to explore *"The Future of the Built Environment"* during the fall 2018 semester. The \$30,000 research award was with the Construction Industry Institute (CII), based at The University of Texas at Austin. Team members included University of Houston alumna, Maria Romero, and four current Foresight graduate students, Bes Baldwin, Hannah Kim, Collin Sledge, and Cindi Stuebner.

The team used scenario planning to explore possible futures for the built environment with the goal of identifying important emerging issues that the CII can research in service to its member organizations. The scenarios shown in the figure below are framed around the two critical uncertainties, the most important and uncertain factors regarding the future of the topic. These uncertainties frame the matrix, providing boundaries and focus for the set of four scenarios. The logic is to spend time thinking about the factors that are crucial to the future, especially those with least clarity or vision of how they might play out. This gives the organization the ability to design strategies, plans, and tactics that will enable it to strategically respond to whatever way the uncertainties unfold. This enables organization to feel confident that it is prepared for a full range of future possibilities.

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FORESIGHT _

EXPLORING THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT FOR CII

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These options provide a robust list of potential research projects for CII to consider. They sort into three themes:

- How business gets done: These options/issues revolve around the business of doing construction, how it's done, and who it's done with.
- **Technology:** These options/issues centered on potentially disruptive emerging technology with a particular focus on how they might be applied within the construction industry.
- **Environmental:** These options/issues consider how environmentally-related issues could have a disruptive effect on the industry.

EXPLORING THE FUTURE OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

By: Dr. Andy Hines

The Foresight graduate program explored the future of the circular economy for a Fortune 500 company during the spring 2019 semester. Dr. Andy Hines, assistant professor and program coordinator, worked with a team of two University of Houston alumnae, Maria Romero and Kimberly Daniels, and four current Foresight graduate students: Donna Harris, Hannah Kim, Tim Murphy, Natalie Pacheco, and Karen Rosenthal.

The team has used the Framework Foresight method

to explore possible futures for the circular economy, with the goal of identifying potential service offerings that the client could offer. The circular economy concept was popularized by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation. It involves rethinking how we use finite resources in order to create a more sustainable economic model. It is based on three principles: (1) Design out waste and pollution (2) Keep products and materials in use, and (3) Regenerate natural systems.

The team is looking forward to the challenge of working on this topic of key importance to the future.

RETAILING & CONSUMER SCIENCE RETAILING STUDENTS TAKE PART IN UH DAY AT THE CAPITOL

By: Matt Oltremari

On February 12, 2019, over 275 UH students, faculty, staff, and alumni, made their way to Austin as part of **UH Day at the Capitol**. The objective was simple in theory, but a challenge to carry out...state a case to Texas lawmakers to invest in higher education and the University of Houston.

Led by UH President Renu Khator and UH System Chairman Tillman Fertitta, the contingent of UH representatives spent the day visiting with legislators to outline areas of need for funding for the University system, including the new medical school, a Law Center building, and Hurricane Harvey relief, to name a few.

Among the UH contingent that convened in Austin were four students from the Retailing and Consumer Science (RCS) and Global Retailing (GRET) programs at UH. Blake Mudd (GRET), Sydney Morgan (RCS), Lorena Ramirez (RCS), and Loren Gorden (RCS) were in attendance as UH was recognized on both the House and Senate floors.

For more information about UH Day at the Capitol, visit **stories.uh.edu/uhdayatcapitol/index.html**.



Retailing and Consumer Science student, Loren Gordon, shows her Cougar pride while on the trip to Austin for UH Day at the Capitol.



Global Retailing graduate student, Blake Mudd, and Retailing and Consumer Science student, Sydney Morgan, at UH Day at the Capitol.

RETAILING & CONSUMER SCIENCE STUDENT SUCCESS INITIATIVES HELP STUDENTS PREPARE FOR CAREERS

By: Matt Oltremari

The College of Technology at the University of Houston strongly believes in developing and carrying out student success initiatives aimed at increasing student achievement and supporting industry engagement.

During the spring 2019 semester, Retailing and Consumer Science (RCS) hosted two events to provide students with information and tools to prepare for them for the interviewing and internship/job search process. Both events focus on preparing career-ready graduates and establishing a refined pipeline for prospective students.

At the Interviewing Training Workshop, held on Wednesday, February 6th, students were invited to attend a series of sessions on the topics of dressing for successful interviewing, résumé writing, and interviewing techniques. In addition, the opportunity to sit down one-on-one with business professionals was offered during an executive table talks period.

Representatives from Caridas Consulting Group, Kroger, Sid & Ann Mashburn, Target, The Home Depot, and the

Students visit with Karen Ochoa (background/center) from Kroger and **Evangeline Caridas** (foreground) from Caridas Consulting Group during Executive Talks at the Interviewing Training Workshop.

Jason Hogue from Kroger gives students advice on interviewing techniques during a session at the spring 2019 Interviewing Training Workshop.







Cynthia Lopez, RCS undergraduate student, speaks with Leroy Ramirez from BCBGMaxAzria during her interview at the spring 2019 Movers & Shakers event.



Texas Retailers Association, took part in the interviewing training event and interacted with approximately 120 students that attended the various sessions.

The Movers & Shakers event, held on Wednesday, February 20th, provided RCS students the benefit of having potential employers come to campus to conduct interviews. By signing up for time slots, over 60 attending students were able to sit down for a brief interview with one or more of the companies on hand for internships and/ or permanent positions. Representatives from BCBG Max Azria, Buckle, Kroger, Target, Tenenbaum Jewelers, and Walmart visited with students throughout the morning.

Following the interviews, over 50 students attended a presentation by Aaron Stryk, Houston Division Director of Produce and Floral Merchandising at The Kroger Company, on "Redefining Grocery Retailing."

The Department of Human Development and Consumer Sciences would like to thank all of the students, companies and professional representatives for taking part in these two wonderful events!

RCS student, Carlos

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: THY MAI

By: Matt Oltremari

Thy Mai, a former UH student and current partner resources manager for Starbucks, recently sat down with us to share her career path since graduation and give her advice to students preparing for their careers.

Q: What did you major/minor in at University of Houston and when did you graduate?

I graduated with an undergraduate degree in Consumer Science and Merchandising in 2010. I believe it is called something different now [Retailing and Consumer Science].

Q: Where are you working now and what is your title?

I recently started a new role as a partner resources manager for Starbucks, which is essentially a regional or area HR manager. In this position, I provide HR leadership and support to roughly 200 store locations in the Houston market and surrounding areas.

Q: How do you think your major prepared you for the job you have now?

I think my major prepared me for the job I have now by helping me understand the foundation of retail operations. I believe this knowledge helps me better support my client group in the human resources area. My major has been particularly helpful throughout my career, as I moved from retail management and HR at Target to increasing levels of HR responsibility at Hilton and Starbucks because at the root of all these businesses is the ability to create the right customer experience in order to successfully sell a product. A major part of human resources is about finding and developing people to be successful in that capacity.

Q: What do you like about the work you are doing now? Describe your career path.

What I like about the work I am doing now is how I get to focus on talent development to build strong and successful teams. I enjoy working with a leadership team that has a clear vision for growth, community, and collaboration. In regard to my career path after graduation, I worked at Target for about four and a half years as an assistant store manager and store human resources manager. I then transitioned to the hospitality industry for about four years. At Hilton, I worked as an on-site HR manager at Hilton Post Oak and as a regional HR manager for a group of hotels on the east coast.



Q: Please describe any internships you held that were helpful/relevant to your job search.

Thy Mai

During my last semester at UH, I worked as a buying intern for Tootsies, where I shadowed and assisted the dress buyer. It was a great eye-opening experience, as I got to work in a different side of retail. The second job that I held at the time was a sales ambassador for Tiffany & Co., where I got a snippet of operations in the luxury retail industry. From working these positions, it gave me a better idea about what I valued in a job while helping my resume as I was exploring career opportunities.

Q: What advice would you give current students to help them prepare for their career after graduation?

My advice to current students, to help them prepare for their career after graduation, is to be open-minded about your career path. Don't rule out positions in your mind that you won't do because it's not your "dream job". Sometimes the experiences you obtain and the connections you make will open doors, which may lead to your long-term goal. It's all a part of one's journey. Also, make use of all the resources on campus like the career center for resume and interview prep, or the job fairs held on campus. I received my first job offer a few weeks before graduation from attending a job fair for the retail students. Most importantly, try not to stress and have fun along the way!

RETAILING & CONSUMER SCIENCE RETAILING STUDENTS ATTEND NRF BIG SHOW

By: Matt Oltremari

Early in the spring 2019 semester, over 20 University of Houston (UH) retailing students were given the opportunity and privilege of attending the National Retail Federation (NRF) Foundation's Student Program 2019 at the Javits Convention Center in New York City. Held in conjunction with the world's largest retail conference, the NRF Retail's Big Show, the student program exposes college students to limitless, exciting and rewarding career opportunities available in retail.

The UH student group joined over 900 college students from more than 85 schools to learn about retail's diverse career paths, build relationships, and make connections with executives in the industry.

"My trip to New York City was one I will never forget," said Sydney Morgan, Retailing and Consumer Science (RCS) major. "I was introduced to a whole new side of the retail world that I am eager to be a part of. The conference really opened my eyes to all the career paths available to a student studying Retail and Consumer Science and even prepared me on how to land a job." it allowed us to connect with other students from different parts of the country, make professional connections and hear inspirational talks from company executives and industry leaders," adds RCS student, Veronica Glazunova.

More than half of the UH students that were able to attend the conference received funding for the trip through the generous contributions of the Texas Retailers Education Foundation (TREF), a charitable education foundation of the Texas Retailers Association. Four additional RCS students and six UH College of Technology Supply Chain and Logistics Technology students (via RCS) attended on full or partial support from the NRF. A few students attended using their own funds.

"It was a truly inspiring experience and I recommend anyone who is an RCS major and is confused on what career path to take should consider going to this conference," said Yasmine Samaniego, RCS major. "I am excited to see where my NRF networking connections will take me in my career."

For more information about the Student Program @ Retail's Big Show, visit **studentbigshow.nrf.com**.



UH retailing students, (*from left*) Sydney Morgan, Manuel Gutierrez, and Yasmine Samaniego, pose near the stage at the NRF Foundation Student Program 2019.



UH retailing students, (from left) Nicole Chemaly, Veronica Glauzunova, Cynthia Lopez, and Alexis Daniels, show their Cougar pride while visiting Manhattan during the NRF Foundation Student Program 2019.

"The NRF Big Show was a wonderful experience because

DESIGNHER CODE CAMP AIMS TO PROMOTE STEM TO MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS

By: Matt Oltremari

The College of Technology at the University of Houston has secured funding from the Texas Workforce Commission to help make a difference in the lives of middle school girls. The purpose is to foster interest in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. In partnership with the Houston Independent School District and charter schools in the Houston Third-Ward area, this grant will provide three week-long academic day camps for girls in 6th through 8th grade. Outreach priorities include youth in foster care, students with disabilities, students from low income families, and minority students.

Each of the three camps will serve 44 students divided in two-class cohorts for a total of 132 students in three weeks. Week one (June 10-14) will include students entering 6th grade, week two (June 17-21) 7th grade, and week three (June 24-28) 8th grade. The name of the camp, **DesignHER Code Camp**, highlights the opportunities for the girls to design their futures via coding skills and technology-based experiences.

The College of Technology team that is the driving force behind the DesignHER Code Camp includes Dr. Carol Goodson, Susan Miertschin, Dr. Marcella Norwood, Sue Schroeder, and Dr. Barbara Stewart. The camps are presented by the University of Houston's College of Technology, Retailing and Consumer Science program, and the Texas Workforce Commission.

Each camp will engage students in hands-on experiences that provide challenging and innovative concepts in learning, problem-solving, and analytical skills, while fostering an interest in computer coding/programming. Girls will work side-by-side with female role models who are industry leaders in STEM fields. Workforce readiness and career preparation will be encouraged by exposing the students to careers that require STEM skills, yet are within areas of interest during the middle school years. As an example of the vast array of workforce fields requiring technologybased careers in retail fashion, which require coding and programming skills, will be highlighted. The intent is to draw girls toward STEM preparation

STEM skills,



by showcasing coding and programming applications related to fields in which they currently have interests, but may not consider as STEM or technology. For example, many middle school girls love fashion and clothes, yet, few would view fashion as being related to STEM fields. However, employment demand for tech-savvy individuals to drive fashion and retail fuels a critical shortage. The National Retail Federation (2018) reports that retail is poised to hire 15% of all computer science graduates. Campers will gain exposure to opportunities to use technology in a career related to something they love.

Key benefits of the program for the students:

- Close interaction with professional women employed in STEM fields;
- An extended view of potential STEM careers;
- Opportunities to explore STEM interests in a safe environment that eliminates comparison and competition;
- Builds self-esteem and confidence in STEM abilities; and
- Engaging in an on-campus, university experience as a readiness factor to encourage education beyond middle and high school.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT __ **HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD**

By: Matt Oltremari

Business, community and technical leaders from the Houston area and across the United States generously provide free advice and guidance for the various programs within the College of Technology. These allow programs in the College of Technology to stay closely allied with the real needs of the business and technical communities that they serve.

Comprised of executives from local, national, and international corporations, the Human Resource Development (HRD) Advisory Board is an invaluable group of individuals that collectively bring a tremendous amount of business experience and knowledge to the table. The HRD program relies on these business leaders to help shape the direction of the HRD programs (undergraduate and graduate level), determine how best to prepare students for their post-graduation careers, and support the student success initiatives of the department.

Emeritus Board Members (not pictured): Carol Jennings; Lloyd Richards, Jr. (2020 Foresight Executive Search Company); and Tracie Ybarra (Dell Technologies).

Goldie A. Arriola

HR Executive Bureau Veritas



Global Head of Career Development and Consulting Saudi Aramen



Chief Human Resources Officer Stewart



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Kolby Ivanhoe VP of Human Resources, Wood



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Kim Sullivan Vice President and Chief People Officer - KP Washington Region Kaiser Permanente



COLLEGE of TECHNOLOGY **Executive Human Resource Development**







GLOBAL HRD COURSE APPROVED FOR GLOBAL CITIZENS CREDENTIAL

By: Matt Oltremari

In early spring 2019, the HRD 3350 (Global HRD) course was approved and added to the list of global courses for the Global Citizens Credential (GCC). With the approval, Global HRD became the first course in the College of Technology to achieve such a status.

Through the University of Houston (UH) Office of the Provost, "the Global Citizens Credential allows UH students to enhance their undergraduate degrees with a set of core global competencies that distinguish them as global citizens. UH students who participate in GCC will gain global knowledge and skills and upon completion, can demonstrate their international expertise through a certificate. The GCC helps students stand out when applying to jobs or graduate school and also encourages students to increase their level of global engagement and responsibility on the UH campus, within local communities and beyond." To be considered for approval on the GCC list of courses, the course syllabus should reflect at least 25% global content, which means any international dimension, topics that address cultural awareness, communication, or problem-solving focused on 1) materials drawn from international sources or overseas locations, 2) crosscountry comparisons, 3) class discussions or presentations of real world issues, and/or 4) exams or research assignments requiring global awareness, knowledge, and perspectives.

The HRD 3350 (Global HRD) course looks at national and international trends and initiatives regarding human resource development, with a focus on the influence and impact of the diverse global workforce.

For more information regarding the Global Citizens Credential, visit **uh.edu/global-credential**.

HUTCHINS AWARDED FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

By: Matt Oltremari

Dr. Holly Hutchins (professor and interim department chair for Human Development and Consumer Sciences, and coordinator of the Human Resource Development undergraduate program) was recently presented with the Richard A. Swanson Research Excellence Award for the Best Paper published in Human Resource Development Quarterly in 2018. The article entitled "What imposters risk at work: Exploring imposter phenomenon, stress coping and work outcomes" was written by Dr. Hutchins, along with Lisa M. Penney from University of South Florida and Lisa W. Sublett from the University of Houston – Clear Lake The award was presented to Dr. Hutchins during the 2019 Academy of Human Resource Development (AHRD) International Research Conference in the Americas in Louisville, Kentucky.

Congratulations, Dr. Hutchins!



Dr. Holly Hutchins receives her research excellence award during the 2019 AHRD conference.

By: Kamille Byrd

On Tuesday, February 12th, Dr. Holly Hutchins, Dr. Consuelo Waight, Dr. Tomika Greer, and 13 Human Resource Development (HRD) graduate students, in the HRD 6304 course (Research in HRD), set off for the week-long 2019 Academy of Human Resource Development (AHRD) International Research Conference in the Americas in Louisville, Kentucky. Upon arrival, the graduate student attendees were able to participate in a two-day, pre-conference research colloquium, where they critiqued doctoral students' dissertations and enjoyed panel discussions where their textbook authors, Dr. Greer, Dr. Waight, and other scholar practitioners, discussed HRD topics across many industries. Dr. Hutchins also conducted a pre-conference workshop titled, "Overcoming Your Inner Critic: A Faculty Workshop On Managing Imposter Cognitions". Following the colloquium, students were able to participate in many conference activities such as special interest group meetings, doctoral student poster sessions, and conference symposiums.

Dr. Greer, who serves on the board of directors for AHRD, gave two presentations during the conference. The first focused on transforming the way we respond to challenges in academia and the second, along with Dr. Waight, on adaptive performance. The conference concluded with a presidential banquet. Overall, the conference was a great way to see HRD in a different light.

"The 26th AHRD annual conference included leading scholars and practitioners reporting their cutting-edge research and theorizing. The program comprised of blind, peer-reviewed submissions that offered a diverse range of topics, perspectives, and research paradigms. In addition, the conference included several types of non-refereed sessions that provided excellent opportunities for participants to engage in generative learning through both formal and informal interactions about topics of mutual interest".

- Academy of Human Resource Development







UH HRD students and faculty (along with other attendees) at the 2019 Academy of Human Resource Development (AHRD) International Research Conference in the Americas

A MESSAGE FROM THE HDCS CHAIR

(Continued from first page)

I held individual meetings with our full-time faculty and staff to learn more about what they love about their job and how I can help support them. I love these visits, and learn so much about who and why we are educators. Here are a few excerpts that I heard across conversations:

- I love to teach students about math and statistics which is really about teaching them how to solve problems.
- I love helping students believe in themselves!

• I find energy in helping student see themselves in a career through internships and our professional development events. We are also in the process of hiring two new faculty members to our team. As to be expected, our national search has brought forth an outstanding slate of candidates and I look forward to introducing them in the fall 2019 column. Until then, fellow Cougars and supporters, have a wonderful semester and summer. I appreciate your continued support of our department, college and to the University of Houston. Feel free to share your ideas or check-in with me anytime at **hmhutchins@uh.edu**. We love to hear about your successes. **Go COOGS!**

UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

COLLEGE of TECHNOLOGY Department of Human Development & Consumer Sciences

Outlook is published by the Human Development and Consumer Sciences Department as a means of informing the HDCS community about departmental and campus news.

HDCS Office 713.743.4110 hdcs@uh.edu Dr. Holly Hutchins - Interim Department Chair

ENDOWMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Contribute to our permanent endowment, which provides long-term support for student scholarships and HDCS program enrichment. To find out how you can help, contact Margarita Perez at mperez47@central.uh.edu.