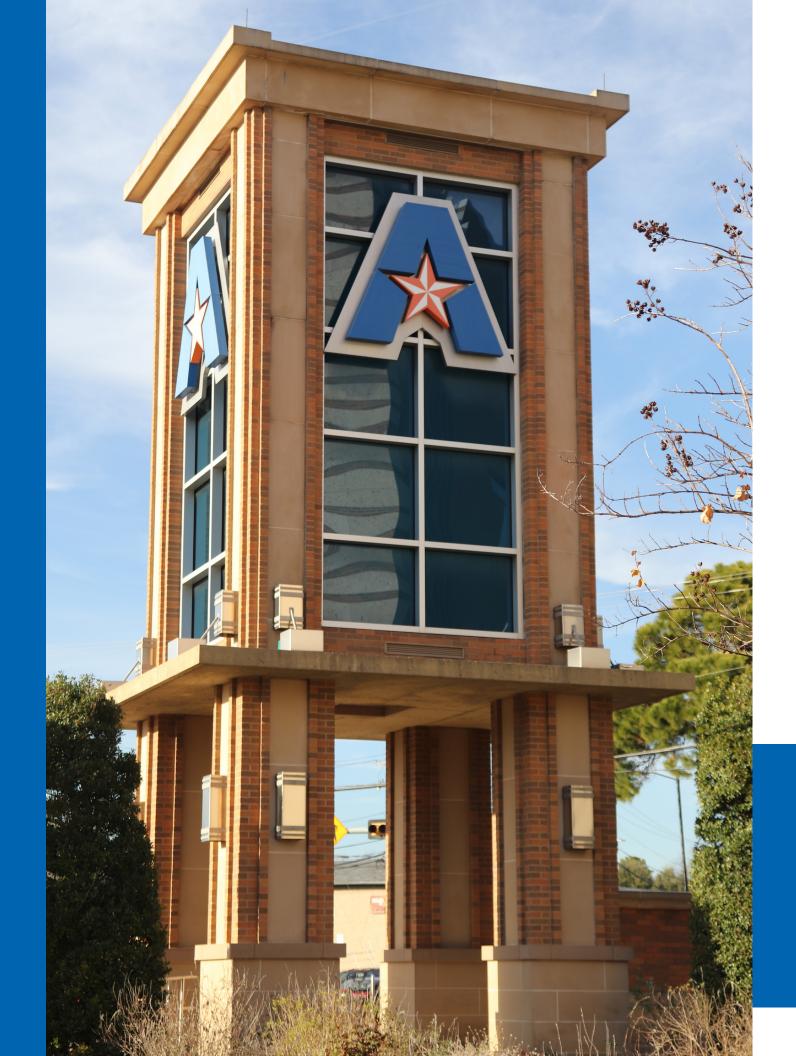






ELEVATING EXCELLENCE

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS PROGRESS REPORT





With Maverick Pride.

Lisa L. Nagy

Lie & Nagy

A MESSAGE FROM LISA NAGY

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

There's never been a more exciting time to be a part of Student Affairs at the University of Texas at Arlington. Our commitment to excellence within our core mission to serve our students remains strong, while we deftly navigate the challenges around us.

Our strategic goals clearly outline where we're going and all we've accomplished to support the success of our great students. Much of our work has been centered around improving the Student Experience, Career Preparation, Online Engagement and Access, and Health and Wellbeing for the campus community. I'm proud of the innovative strides we've made in these areas. I'm even more excited for the continued innovations we have planned in the years to come.

As we respond to the changing environment on campus and in our nation, our work has never been more important as we remain relentlessly dedicated to each and every student. Through it all, we approach each day with a resiliency and a desire to propel the university into the future.

At our core, Student Affairs provides fundamental training and services to challenge the status quo and navigate the challenges of the evolving environment in which we learn, live and belong. Our plans to develop a campus food pantry will help combat food insecurities and build a community that cares deeply for every student's health and wellbeing. Additionally, we strive to develop a home for all students as we finalize plans for a Learning Assistance Center, Fraternity and Sorority Life Community Center and Student Advocacy Services.

I am so grateful to our Maverick community. We have a group of deeply resilient and engaged campus partners, ambitious students, devoted staff, loyal alumni, and generous donors and supporters. The achievements in this report are evidence of our shared vision and determination to continue transforming student lives.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS ARLINGTON



"OUR WORK HAS NEVER BEEN MORE IMPORTANT AS WE REMAIN RELENTLESSLY DEDICATED TO **EACH AND EVERY STUDENT."**

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS AT A GLANCE

MISSION

Student Affairs exists to **embody** the ideals of UT Arlington, **enrich** the student experience, and **empower** the world's next generation of leaders.

As a pillar of the Maverick community, Student Affairs remains strong in its mission to provide world class service to UT Arlington's unique, diverse, talented, and ambitious student population. Serving students from all walks of life, Student Affairs plays an integral part in UT Arlington's mission to prepare students for full, productive lives and informed and active citizenship.

Division of Student Affairs

uta.edu/studentaffairs 817-272-6080 studentaffairs@uta.edu



SUPPORT & ADVOCACY

Bystander & Behavior Intervention | uta.edu/mavsstandup | 817-272-3135 | bystander@uta.edu

Community Standards | uta.edu/communitystandards | 817-272-2354 | conduct@uta.edu

Dean of Students | uta.edu/dos | 817-272-6080 | dos@uta.edu

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus | uta.edu/lbgtqa | 817-272-3947 | lgbtqa@uta.edu

Relationship Violence & Sexual Assault Prevention | uta.edu/rvsp | 817-272-3947 | rvsp@uta.edu

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Campus Recreation | uta.edu/campusrec | 817-272-3277 | campusrec@uta.edu

Counseling & Psychological Services | uta.edu/caps | 817-272-3671

Health Services | uta.edu/healthservices | 817-272-2771 | healthservices@uta.edu

Movin' Mavs | uta.edu/movinmavs | 817-272-3410 | movinmavs@uta.edu

Spirit Groups | uta.edu/spirit | 817-272-1015 | spiritgroups@uta.edu

Student Access & Resource Center | uta.edu/sarcenter | 817-272-3364 | sarcenter@uta.edu

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT & SERVICES

Apartment & Residence Life | uta.edu/housing | 817-272-2926 | livingoncampus@uta.edu
Follett Student Leadership Center | uta.edu/leadership | 817-272-9220 | leadership@uta.edu
Fraternity & Sorority Life | uta.edu/fsl | 817-272-9234 | fsl@uta.edu
Involvement & Engagement | uta.edu/getinvolved | 817-272-2963 | getinvolved@uta.edu
Lockheed Martin Career Development Center | uta.edu/careers | 817-272-2932 | careers@uta.edu
Office of International Education | uta.edu/oie | 817-272-2355 | international@uta.edu
Student Activities | uta.edu/studentactivities | 817-272-2963 | studentactivities@uta.edu
Student Governance | uta.edu/studentgovernance | 817-272-0556 | studentgovernment@uta.edu
Student Organizations | uta.edu/studentorganizations | 817-272-2293 | mavorgs@uta.edu

SUCCESS & TRANSITION

Military & Veteran Services | uta.edu/vets | 817-272-3017 | va@uta.edu

Multicultural Affairs | uta.edu/multicultural | 817-272-2099 | multicultural_affairs@uta.edu

New Maverick Orientation | uta.edu/orientation | 817-272-3213 | orientation@uta.edu

Parent & Family Center | uta.edu/parents | 817-272-21280 | parents@uta.edu

Student Publications | uta.edu/studentpubs | 817-272-3188

Transition Services (Off-Campus Mavericks, Transfer) | uta.edu/offcampus • uta.edu/transfer | 817-272-3213 | offcampus@uta.edu • orientation@uta.edu

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE, IN THE OFFICE, OR ON THE PHONE.



MAVERICK COUNTRY

STARTING OUT

A Maverick is never alone. A new student's journey as a Maverick officially begins with Student Affairs through their experiences at New Maverick Orientation. Providing an exciting, welcoming, and inclusive beginning for the integration of new students is fundamental to Student Affairs' mission to keep the Maverick spirit burning bright.



EXPERIENCE ORIENTATION EACH YEAR

SUMMER ADVENTURES

The summer program isn't complete without Maventure Camp. This overnight experience offers incoming students the opportunity to learn about campus traditions and the Maverick Way – guiding principles that define what it means to be a Maverick. The camp has grown since its inception in 2018. Not even a pandemic could stop our Maventure Camp team, as they hosted the first virtual Maventure Camp in 2020 with nearly 300 participants!

MAVERICK STAMPEDE

FAMILY FUN

All families welcome. Through our Parent and Family **Programs**, Student Affairs doesn't just incorporate the student - we're here for the whole family. Through orientation and various sessions throughout the year, our Parent and Family Programs keep everyone involved. We're committed to serving students by serving families.



"IT'S NOT JUST A UNIVERSITY; IT'S A COMMUNITY AND **FAMILY WE ARE JOINING."**



"MAVENTURE WAS AN INCREDIBLE **EXPERIENCE THAT VALIDATED UTA IS THE BEST EDUCATIONAL DECISION I HAVE MADE."**

A WARM WELCOME

Our orientation programs are the launching pad for the official kick off - Maverick Stampede Welcome Weeks! The first two weeks of each semester are filled with welcoming activities to assist students as they meet people, make friends, join organizations, and build their support network around campus inside and outside the classroom. This energizing calendar of events brings all students, faculty, and staff together to officially welcome our incoming class and allow for time to reconnect with returning students.

SUPPORT FOR ALL STUDENTS

A student's transition to the University doesn't stop with Orientation and Welcome Week. Navigating a campus can be overwhelming, and each student has unique needs. Our support services are focused, intentional, and help students find their way at every turn.

SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED

UTA was voted as #1 Best for Vets by Military Times for our work to centralize services and support for Veterans and Military-Connected students – thanks in large part to the efforts of our Military and Veteran Services Program.

#1 IN THE NATION



INTERNATIONAL INTEGRATION

Annually, over **8,000** students are advised by our dedicated International Education team of advisors helping students navigate complicated visa rules and regulations. Advisors also ensure students gets the most out of their UTA experience by providing personalized and helpful support for international students.

FULL ACCESS

The Student Access & Resource Center helps students in need of accommodations associated with a disability. In addition, the Student Access & Resource Center is expanding and will be opening a Learning Access Center, one of the few in the nation of its type, which will provide academic support for students diagnosed with learning disabilities.

SMOOTH PATHWAYS

Transition Programs, a unit specifically designed to offer support for students transitioning to and through campus, provides programming and outreach for Transfer Students, Off Campus Mavericks, and First-Generation College Students. Transition Programs delivers specialized services aimed to address the unique needs of our students.





CELEBRATING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

One of our favorite transitions is from student to graduate! Coordinating commencement ceremonies for thousands of graduates each year is one of the most rewarding parts of our work in Student Affairs. Commencement is a time for students to celebrate with their family, friends, faculty, and staff. Even though the pandemic put some roadblocks in front of our traditional ceremonies, we developed new and innovative ways to celebrate our graduates with graduation boxes, an online celebration, and a plan to safety allow our 2020 graduates to cross the stage when the time was right.

YOU BELONG HERE!

Support, services, and resources are essential to student success, but we can't forget – students want to have FUN! Getting involved and engaged and connecting with other students is one of the most important and most memorable parts of the college experience. Student Affairs is at the core of campus pride and tradition.

UNIQUE TRADITIONS

Nothing makes students bleed blue and orange more than our longstanding traditions! Whether it's pushing wheeled beds down Maverick Stadium field at BedRaces, getting knee deep in mud during Oozeball, or experiencing Homecoming traditions like the Chili Cookoff, Street Festival, and Golf Cart Parade, Student Affairs is committed to preserving the past so we can march confidently into the future.



"GETTING INVOLVED MADE ME
FEEL CONNECTED, AND I LOVED
MEETING SO MANY AMAZING,
DIVERSE PEOPLE ALONG THE WAY."

IMPACTFUL INVOLVEMENT

We believe in preparing our students for the next level, which means encouraging involvement in a variety of ways. Every single student has the opportunity to build a professional-level portfolio while contributing in a meaningful way to the community around them. UTA's elite student institutions are supported by mentors and guides via the Maverick Involvement Team all along the way, freeing students to make a difference in one of the nation's most progressive collegiate environments. We believe in students making an impact here so they can make an impact on the world, a service that has never been more important than it is right now.





Keri DeCay's first job made one thing extremely clear: Her time at UTA was undeniably effective diversity training for the real world.

Immediately after graduating, DeCay, '17, took a job as a district manager at Aldi, which operates 55 grocery stores in the DFW area. DeCay was busy at UTA. She was a president of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, a UTA ambassador, Homecoming Queen, active in the Goolsby Leadership Academy, a student in the Honors College, and more.

The thread running through it all was the university's diverse population that DeCay maintains was a driver for her preparation for the real world

"UTA prepared me because it's been a lot of working with a lot of different people," DeCay said. "Even when I do my recruiting at schools, I mention that the diversity at UTA helped me to be able to manage so many different types of people when I was working in stores all over the DFW area. It's been great to experience."

FUTURES IN FOCUS

Preparing students for their future has always been central to the Division of Student Affairs mission.

MAVERICK ADVANTAGE

The higher education landscape has become increasingly focused on the development of marketable skills, and we have responded through the Maverick Advantage. The program increases opportunities for students to engage in meaningful experiences that develop key skills – communication, teamwork, conflict management, critical thinking, and more – to set them apart as they prepare for their careers. This campus-wide initiative, spearheaded by the Division, continues to expand through intentional collaborations with campus partners in Academic Affairs to ensure students can obtain these experiences within their coursework and activities outside the classroom.







COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



GLOBAL CONNECTIONS



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT



RESEARCH

CAREERS ACCELERATED

Our Lockheed Martin Career Development Center provides students and alumni with the skills needed to prepare for a successful career through individual career coaching, career preparation workshops, workforce competency training, employer-sponsored programs and events, and resume critiques. Students have access to professional staff trained to provide career support and assistance. They also offer multiple job fairs each year and an alumni mentoring program, allowing students to build their professional network.

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE

The #1 interest area for incoming students is internships! The Lockheed Martin Career Development Center utilizes Handshake to post internships for students, with more than 15,000 opportunities listed annually! Additionally, UTA offers dedicated opportunities through specialized programs such as Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) Leadership Academy.





STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Student Publications provides a real-time journalism laboratory for students. The Shorthorn, UTA's student newspaper, celebrated its 100th year in 2019 and continues to be a leader in the student journalism industry. With a weekly printed edition and daily online newsletter, students learn skills essential for success. These experiences and network offer a direct connection to internships and job opportunities.

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

UTA's diverse campus and programs designed specifically to enhance global perspectives provide another opportunity for students to develop marketable skills through global engagement initiatives. Every day, our students interact with others inside and outside the classroom who come from different backgrounds, allowing opportunities to learn about one another.



Continuing to advance UTA's strategic initiatives in relation to international education and intercultural learning, an average of 6,000 students participate in intercultural competencies and assessments, global engagement trainings, and event and language programs. In addition, UTA Study Abroad is focused on creating inclusive and accessible opportunities for students to create meaningful interaction with the world around them. Of recent study abroad participants, 63% identify as minority, 43% as first generation college students, and 20% with a learning disability. UTA is ready for future international travel post-pandemic with the addition of a student abroad success series, enhanced scholarships, and faculty-led program growth.

"I GOT TO KNOW PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT CULTURES, (UTA) WAS LIKE A DREAM COME TRUE TO ME."

LEADING THE WAY

One of the most important marketable skills students should acquire is leadership. The Follett Student Leadership Center offers workshops, retreats, training, and an academic minor, all where students develop their own philosophy and practice their skills. Students are leading organizations, serving in Student Government as Peer mentors, and, participating in fraternities and sororities – all of which are opportunities to learn and grow.

200 K FUNDRAISED BY FRATERNITIES AND SORORITIES FOR CHARITY

WORKING ON-CAMPUS

On campus jobs are essential for our students and for our Division. Our success is dependent on the students we employ in our departments. Each year the university employs more than 3,500 student employees, with nearly 600 students annually employed within our Division in various roles – student leader positions, front desk receptionists, peer mentors, peer educators, intramural officials, and so many more. Students who work on campus are more likely to graduate on time with an average 4 year graduation rate 17% points higher than the university average and a 6 year graduation rate that is 29% points higher.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Community engagement comes in all forms, and our students never cease to amaze us with their willingness to serve others. Through programs such as UTA Volunteers, Alternative Breaks, BIG Event, students go out into the community making impacts beyond UTA's borders.



21,731

AVERAGE HOURS

OF SERVICE BY STUDENT

ORGANIZATIONS PER SEMESTER



GOAL 2

Certainly COVID-19 has changed our world. It has led us to think deeper about the future and how we grow, learn, and interact. The Division was already focused on online engagement prior, but the progress was escalated and plans quickly turned into action during the global pandemic.

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

Suddenly isolation and separation were escalated on campus and around the world, but essential staff pivoted online to provide all services. Counseling and Psychological Services leveraged community partners to enhance their resources with apps, podcasts, Therapy Assisted Online, online outreach, and TeleHealth options for individuals.



INCREASED ACCESS

The growing online programs allow us to offer personalized and highly supportive services in the most accessible way, but not without breaking down barriers to meet the needs of all student abilities to learn. The Student Access & Resource Center has extended outreach to faculty. developed a new online platform, and provided access to platforms to support learning, including the newest components of the learning management system.

STUDENT LIFE ONLINE

Our student belonging initiatives have focused on developing online communities for students, parents and families, and student organizations, developing a foundation to meet students where they are, on-demand. Our traditional Activities Fair has expanded to offer year around opportunities to explore, network, and connect from across the globe and the Parent and Family Center has created a support network and resources without limitations of distance. Across the Division, support services have pivoted to online offerings to help meet the need during virtual learning, but also extend the reach for student life without limits.



AWARD-WINNING PROGRAMS

The award-winning campus newspaper, The Shorthorn, has flourished in online engagement through 1.1 million daily views, and being recognized by both the College Media and as the best amongst their peers. Another program that continues to see success online is eSports. Developed in 2018, the program has soared above the competition.



COMMUNICATION **TECHNOLOGY** CLASS OF '20

REESE OXNER

During his lengthy student career with The Shorthorn, UTA's century-old on-campus newspaper, Reese Oxner did a bit of everything. He wrote. He edited. He managed. He problem-solved. He made friends, many of which he'll keep long after his UTA career ended. He helped guide a student-run operation through a global pandemic. He learned how to have tough conversations, how to build bridges, how to be a professional.

"It was an incredible experience," Oxner said. "I wouldn't trade it for anything."

When the UTA campus shut down due to COVID-19 in March 2020, Oxner, '20, was The Shorthorn's managing editor. Oxner and the entire Shorthorn staff immediately got to work, cobbling together new processes, plans, and ideas to cover the campus. The processes Oxner helped establish led to nearly 800 articles during the campus shut-down and an article per day specifically on COVID-19's local, regional, and national impact.

Oxner maintains that The Shorthorn's rigorous professional development platform gave him and his colleagues the edge they needed to innovate and grow through a challenging time. Oxner turned that time into a full-time gig writing for the Texas Tribune, one of the state's premier news organizations.

After his Shorthorn experience? No sweat.



CARE THROUGH CRISIS

Our Division helped lay the framework with the Community that Cares task force and implementation of a campus culture around resources and intervention. Emerging from the work has been the Emergency Assistance Program. With a comprehensive set of resources to care for students in crisis, approximately 5200 students have received Emergency Assistance funding and granted support for housing, food, and other financial challenges.

76% OF STUDENTS SUPPORTED FINANCIALLY CAN STAY ENROLLED

"IT WAS GREAT THAT UTA STILL **PUT IN EFFORTS TO HAVE EVENTS** (DURING THE PANDEMIC). IT MADE A DIFFERENCE FOR ME."

COORDINATED COVID RESPONSE

The global pandemic impacted campus, but the campus responded with swift supportive action for our students. The Division of Student Affairs was a leader in the campuswide efforts to provide a safe place for our students, including contact tracing, testing, quarantine and isolation housing, and operationalizing pandemic response plans.





THOUGHTFUL RESPONSE

Support comes in many forms for our students, and we can advocate for their diverse needs. Recently we added a confidential advocate to our Relationship Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention office, who can respond to a student's needs. Additionally, navigating the changing environment has been highlighted during recent racial injustice, discrimination, and civil unrest. Multicultural Affairs pivoted operations to support our students, faculty, and staff through facilitations, content development, and supportive community.



Navigating national policies has required our operational infrastructure and staffing capacity to adjust in response to our international student travel and residency requirements, undocumented student's education status, and LGBTQA+ student rights. The unsettled emotions of our students were met with care and concern.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Negative thoughts, self-doubt, anxiety, and depression are on the rise both locally and nationally for college students. Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) plays a critical role in both prevention and crisis mental health situations. To increase outreach services, CAPS has developed an innovative approach to meet students by embedding Residence Outreach Counselors within our on-campus communities. The program at its infancy hopes to extinguish stigma around asking for help through facilitations and access.



Taking care of students is essential for any university, and at UTA this is a top priority. In addition to our holistic approach to student wellbeing, our services help students persevere through any personal struggles that may be barriers to their success.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Health, wellness, and safety are critical components to student success at UTA. Student Affairs delivers the best-in-practice programs and services that meet the physical, mental, and emotional needs of our students. Prevention is key to empower students with the tools and knowledge needed to thrive, be well, and achieve lifelong success.

INTEGRATED WELLNESS

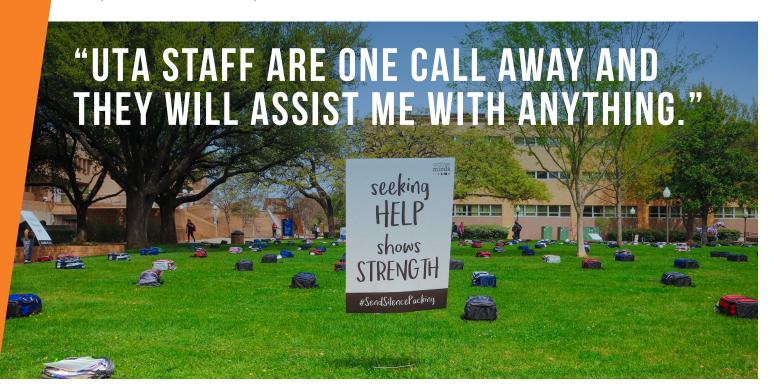
Campus collaboration has been one of the most effective tools for Student Affairs to leverage the expertise across campus and extend the reach of health and wellbeing programming. The Wellness Committee has done exactly that, by streamlining programming and messaging around wellbeing during the critical exam period. Our Health Promotions team incorporating peer educators focuses on socializing educational messaging and programming ranging from sexual health, substance abuse, and recently COVID-19 prevention tips. Our flu shot outreach reached an all-time high on campus in recent years and Health Services continues its efforts annually.



WE RESPONDED AS MASKED MAVERICKS, CHAMPIONS OF BOTH SAFETY AND SPIRIT

SUBVERTING THE STIGMA

UTA is currently working with the Jed Foundation to create campus-wide prevention and intervention strategies focused on the best-practice mental health policies, suicide prevention, programs, and services. Our commitment is to provide support services, but also change the conversations around mental health illnesses on campus. Recently, CAPS alongside the student group, Healthy Minds, brought a national Send Silence Packing display to campus to raise awareness about the incidence and impact of suicide, which inspired action by the Maverick Community.



PHYSICAL HEALTH

Wellbeing encompasses multiple dimensions of support and resources, but the physical health of our students has been a focus by providing top quality facilities and programming through Campus Recreation. Whether it is inside the Maverick Activities Center, in the beautiful Architecture courtyard, or around the globe, Mavericks are staying active. UTA was one of the first 40 universities to help launch the Recreation Movement, cultivating a gamification of exercise for students to log, compete, and interact with peers online.



SOARING SPIRIT

The Movin' Mavs and Lady Movin' Mavs have continued to compete at the top tier of wheelchair basketball both nationally and internationally, including playing host to international elite and helping groom future and current Paralympians.





"BEING PART OF THIS VIBRANT COMMUNITY, SAFE AT HOME IS EXACTLY HOW I FEEL AT UTA!"

UTA Spirit Groups are also at the top of their game, winning 7 national titles in Cheerleading plus an average of 146 annual appearances of Dance, Cheer, Wranglers, and Blaze.





JOEL SAUCEDA SOCIAL WORK CLASS OF '19

On his first day walking the UT Arlington campus as a student, Joel Sauceda gazed at the university's grounds in awe.

"Coming as a first generation college student in my family, to not

only attend and graduate from high school and a community college but also to transfer and begin attending classes at a prestigious public university, I never thought in my wildest dreams."

Almost immediately, Sauceda connected with a community that would become the keystone to his time in Arlington: the LGBTQ+ Program.

The program opened an inclusive world Sauceda had been looking for but hadn't yet experienced. He took a leading role in the organization, working to plan events like the World AIDS Day County Fair and connect and work with local partners like the Resource Center of Dallas. Over the following two years, Sauceda was one of the program's brightest lights.

Sauceda's experience parlayed well into the career field. He's now a supervisor at an Amazon fulfillment center in the Metroplex, where he's using what he learned at UTA to build a better place to work.

POINTS OF MAVERICK PRIDE

COVID HEROES AMONG US

The pandemic brought significant change and challenge to our campus and the Division of Student Affairs was on the front lines of the campus pandemic response from the start. Our Director of Health Services, Dr. Angela Middleton, served as our campus medical expert, providing guidance, support, education, and strategy for how we could keep our campus community safe and healthy. Dr. Middleton's leadership was patient, calm, strategic, and flexible as the COVID circumstances changed on a daily basis. She and her team coordinated testing, advised on health policies, all while continuing to provide routine medical services for our campus community.



In addition to our medical team, Lisa Nagy, Vice President for Student Affairs, served as co-chair for the COVID Executive Task Force, providing leadership for campus policies, protocols, and response. As students continued to live on campus throughout the pandemic, our Apartment and Residence Life team was on the front lines providing support and engagement opportunities for students who remained on campus while also coordinating the quarantine and isolation housing program, ensuring students who tested positive or had close contact had a place to stay and food and supplies during their isolation/quarantine period. Over 2000 faculty, staff and students were supported by the UTA Contact tracing team and placed into quarantine.



HELPING STUDENTS

3774 students seeking emergency assistance received assistance through funding, financial aid, and emergency housing.



STAFF HONORED

James Kumm inaugural G.I. Jobs 2021 champion in Higher Education for incredible work with UTA veterans and their families.



EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES

Altenative Breaks
doubled in
opportunities for
students to travel
and serve the greater
community.



DIVERSITY AWARD

Doug Garner honored
as a leader In
Diversity by the Dallas
Business Journal as a
champion for people
with disabilities.



INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS

Food Pantry
launches in Fall 2021
as an on-campus
care center for
necessities to assist
Mavericks in need.



HIGHLY RANKED

Esports crowned grand champions of the Collegiate Esports Invitational presented by Geico.



INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Over 5000 students participate in facilitated conversations by social justice peer educators around Biases, Stereotypes, and Microaggressions semesterly.

HELPING MAVERICKS IN NEED

UTA students represent the future. Our donors understand that, and their generosity is helping to make educational pathways accessible for all Mavericks.

MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO DONATE:

uta.edu/eaf 817-272-6080 studentaffairs@uta.edu

