



2020



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
AT ARLINGTON  
PRESIDENT'S REPORT





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## GREETINGS, MAV COMMUNITY

*“Our campus is filled with the best and brightest, preparing to shape the world with their ideas, innovation, and spirit.”*



As you will read in these pages, The University of Texas at Arlington continues to grow in prestige and excellence.

As a Carnegie R-1 research institution, UTA has a global impact in groundbreaking discovery and research. This is a testament to the research and academic dedication of our incredible students, faculty, and staff and to the invaluable commitment of our alumni and community partners.

That commitment shines through clearly in examples such as our success in making an unprecedented transition to online learning in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and preparing for a hybrid fall semester. Across the University, our experts have stepped up: creating testing centers on campus, performing research that is expanding our knowledge of the virus, and pioneering new methods in the world of online learning—further driving our global impact.

Our students have shown their Maverick spirit by not just persevering, but thriving despite the hardships of the COVID-19 world—as evidenced by rising graduation rates and student success metrics.

Our drive for excellence is not contained to research or academics only. UTA is committed to expanding access to higher education through an additional \$25 million in student scholarships and to making our University a welcoming place for all people. In fact, in recent months we have acted boldly to further these goals.

Recently, we launched eight new initiatives to expand our

commitment to creating a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive campus community. These steps are a starting point; in concert with stakeholders from across campus, our newly formed Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will work to recommend more ways for UTA to be a more inclusive university.

Our work to build a better campus also extends into the physical space. From the University Center to Trinity Hall to the new academic building that will house the School of Social Work and a state-of-the-art Smart Hospital, we’re building the infrastructure that UTA needs to continue our upward trajectory as a leading research university in the 21st century.

All of our work centers on our students: providing them access to a world-class education, creating opportunities for them to perform research and participate in experiential learning, and guiding them to become well-rounded individuals. Our campus is filled with the best and brightest, preparing to shape the world with their ideas, innovation, and spirit. They come here to learn, but more than that, they come here to prepare their minds and hearts for all the challenges that lie ahead.

Together, we will help our students succeed.

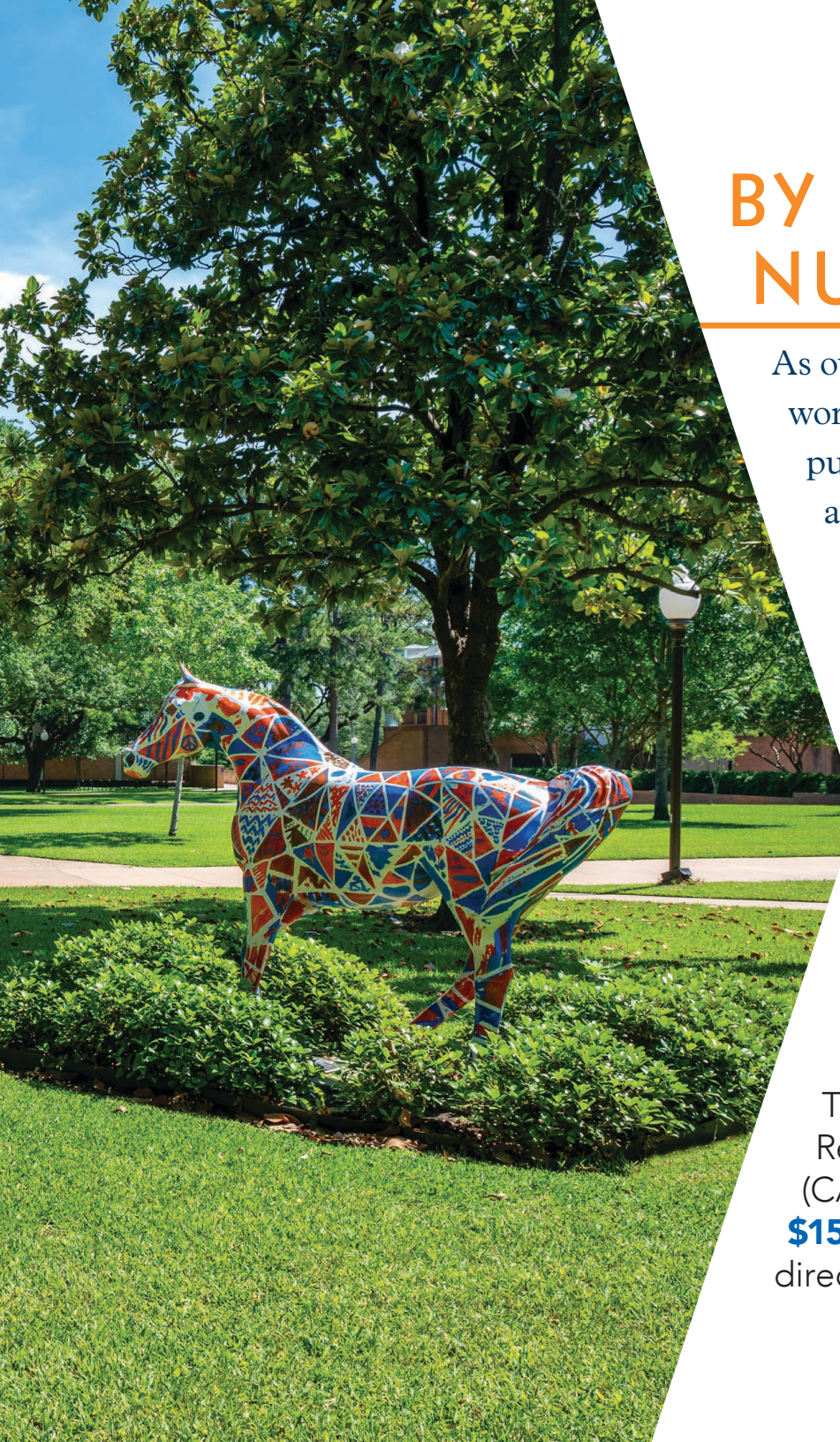
**Teik C. Lim, Ph.D.**

President *ad interim*

The University of Texas at Arlington



# BY THE NUMBERS



As our students, faculty, and staff work to advance knowledge and pursue excellence, honors and achievements follow. Our academic programs are highly ranked for their rigor, accessibility, and affordability.

For each of the past three years, we graduated over 13,000 workforce-ready Mavericks.

Through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, UTA distributed **\$15.5 million** in emergency grants directly to **10,775 students**.

UT Arlington is **one of just 12 universities** nationwide to receive the Excellence in Assessment designation from the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment.

UTA's nursing program is **one of 17** nationwide to be named a **2020 Center of Excellence** by the **National League for Nursing**.

The 2020 *U.S. News & World Report* "**Best Online Programs**" rankings included **3 College of Education programs**:

- Online master's in education program for veterans: **No. 10 in the U.S.**
- Online master's in curriculum and instruction program: **No. 20 in the U.S.**
- Online master's in education program: **No. 35 in the U.S.**

UTA's College of Engineering was **one of 25 nationwide** that earned a Bronze Award—the **highest level of recognition**—from the American Society for Engineering Education's **Diversity Recognition Program**.

TMAC (formerly Texas Manufacturing Assistance Center) was **one of 10 recipients** of the **2020 Texas Environmental Excellence Award** (Pollution Prevention Category), chosen by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Gov. Greg Abbott.

**4** of the 38 new **Senior Members** of the **National Academy of Inventors** come from UTA, the most of any university in the nation.

For fall 2020, UTA enrolled its largest freshman class ever—**3,820 students**, a 6.8% increase in first-time-in-college students.

UTA conferred **228 PhDs** in the 2019-20 academic year, a **growth rate of 78%** over the past decade. The University also conferred a record-setting 4,970 master's degrees.

The 2020 *Dallas 500* list of **influential North Texas leaders** includes **12 UTA alumni**.

UTA University Crossroads provided free services focused on SAT preparation, college awareness, and financial literacy to more than **41,000 North Texas students** in grades 6-12 in 2019, with over **3,000 gaining acceptance** to postsecondary education programs.



# TEXAS TIER ONE

In 2009, the state of Texas established the National Research University Fund to provide emerging research universities like UT Arlington with a pathway to become nationally competitive, or “Tier One,” among public research universities. In the decade since, UTA has worked diligently to achieve all the benchmarks required to receive the coveted designation. Today, the goal of earning Texas Tier One status is within reach.

## THE PATH TO TIER ONE

UTA has successfully achieved and maintained the following criteria required to qualify for National Research University Fund (NRUF) funding:

- At least \$45 million in restricted research expenditures
- High-quality faculty; UTA currently has seven members of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine
- Designation as an emerging research university in the Coordinating Board’s accountability system
- At least 200 Ph.D.s awarded annually, something UTA has achieved for five consecutive years
- Membership in the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society
- A freshman class with high academic achievement, a criterion for which UTA consistently ranks the highest among universities in the running for NRUF designation

Pending official state review, UTA is on track to become just the fourth emerging research university to qualify for access to NRUF.

“Receiving allocations from NRUF as a Texas Tier One

university will not only empower continued expansion of the first-class research enterprise at UTA, but will also allow us to provide meaningful solutions to the industries, government, and partners that choose to invest in UTA,”

says Interim Vice President for Research James Grover.

Having Tier One status will cement UTA’s reputation as a preeminent research and educational institution—an appropriate reflection of our talented faculty and robust academic programs. It will also open countless doors for UTA’s future.

“This is a signal to the global higher education and research communities that UTA is a center for innovation and service through discovery,” says Dr. Grover. “It demonstrates that we are among the best of the best in our ability to propel people, industries, and communities forward.”

*“The achievement of Texas Tier One metrics is a reflection of the rigorous work and dedication of our students, faculty, and staff. Being a Carnegie R-1 and Texas Tier One institution cements UTA in the upper echelon of higher education and research institutions. It is an honor to work alongside all who made this possible.”*

—INTERIM PRESIDENT TEIK LIM





# STRATEGIC PLAN 2025

UT Arlington is a preeminent research university that inspires bold solutions with global impact through creative scholarship, transformative access, and collaborative learning. In 2019, UTA launched an update to the Strategic Plan 2025 designed to shape the future of higher education. To realize these goals, the University is focused on a framework of six fundamental guiding aspirations.

## GUIDING ASPIRATIONS

### STUDENT ACCESS AND SUCCESS

- Focus on student success
- Increase access to higher education
- Increase social belonging, pride, and lifelong connections with UTA
- Accelerate the use of digital technology in delivery of education
- Prepare the future workforce through the Maverick Advantage Program

### RESEARCH AND CREATIVE WORKS

- Increase student participation in research and experiential learning
- Enhance faculty and staff recognition nationally and internationally
- Improve reputation and rankings in research and creative activities
- Grow and develop impactful research centers, partnerships, and scholarly collaborations
- Strengthen the Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Innovation and the culture of innovation across campus

### A COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS

- Enhance the Center for Research on Teaching and Learning Excellence
- Establish the Center for e-Learning Support and Development
- Increase focus on the Women's Faculty and Staff Network
- Increase the number of tenure-stream faculty, including endowed professorships and chairs
- Enhance faculty visibility and reputation
- Invest in administrative and professional staff

### ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

- Increase engagement with university-industry, alumni, parents, and friends
- Establish a Corporate Service and Training Center
- Establish "Fast Track" advanced degree and certificate programs
- Develop a student employability plan inclusive of internships
- Expand partnerships and services to improve local, state, and regional economies

### A GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

- Increase UTA's position and reputation in global rankings
- Enhance the international market of the Corporate Service and Training Center
- Develop at least one key academic partner in each of the following regions: Indian Subcontinent, Southeast Asia, China and Pacific Rim, Middle East, South America, and Europe
- Host at least one major international conference per year

### INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE

- Establish a vice president-level Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion to engender a culture of belonging and inclusion throughout the UTA community
- Expand the scope of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
- Create a University-wide talent plan for recruitment, retention, and promotion of underrepresented faculty and staff
- Invest in more scholarships for low-income, first-generation, and first-time-in-college students







CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON TEACHING AND LEARNING EXCELLENCE'S GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT CONFERENCE

## EXCELLENCE HONORED

The innovative spirit and hard work of faculty resulted in a number of professional accolades, including:

- Zui Pan, Kytai Nguyen, Gabriela Mustata Wilson, and Hanli Liu named National Academy of Inventors Senior Members
- Ramón López named to the UT System Academy of Distinguished Teachers
- Ashley Lemke elected chair of the Advisory Council on Underwater Archaeology
- Stephanie Rasmussen and Ericka Robinson-Freeman received UT System Board of Regents annual Outstanding Teaching Awards
- Karabi Bezboruah received the 2020 United States Distance Learning Association International Excellence in Teaching/Training Award
- Edmund Prater appointed a National Academy of Sciences Jefferson Science Fellow

## GUIDING ASPIRATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

### BONE-MUSCLE RESEARCH CENTER

The College of Nursing and Health Innovation's Bone-Muscle Research Center, established earlier this year, features the work of multiple researchers with different areas of expertise in bone, muscle, neuronal, and vascular biology: Marco Brotto, Rhonda Prisby, Dan Trott, Venu Varanasi, Zui Pan, and Jingsong Zhou.

### NEW FACULTY

UTA continues to bolster its world-class faculty by adding new educators, researchers, artists, and innovators. For the 2020-21 hiring cycle, 93 tenure/tenure-track faculty positions have been approved. Among these new hires are Marion Ball, a member of the National Academy of Medicine, and Keith A. Anderson, the School of Social Work's new Cheryl Milkes Moore Endowed Professor and Ph.D. Program director.

### CRTLE AND COVID

UTA's Center for Research on Teaching and Learning Excellence (CRTLE) played a key role in the University's successful transition to fully online learning in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The CRTLE team developed and delivered seminars and certificate courses on effective teaching for faculty, with nearly 2,630 participants during the first two weeks after the campus shutdown.



KARABI BEZBORUAH

*“Continued growth in faculty excellence, attained through both the arrival of new faculty and the achievements of current faculty, is essential for maintaining and exceeding the standards for the Maverick student experience.”*

—INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH JAMES GROVER







# DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION INITIATIVES

During the summer of 2020, UTA launched a number of new initiatives aimed at enhancing its commitment to eradicating racial discrimination and creating a diverse and inclusive campus community. “These steps are a beginning,” wrote Interim President Teik Lim in a letter to the campus community. “Together, we will live up to the ideals set forth in our Principles of Community by ensuring that UTA is a safe, secure, and supportive campus for all.”

## PRESIDENT LIM LAID OUT EIGHT INITIATIVES

- 1** Create a new vice president-level Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion to lead UTA’s efforts to ensure that all students, faculty, and staff have an inclusive and welcoming place to work, learn, and live.
- 2** Reconstitute the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee to make recommendations to University leadership on ways UT Arlington can create a more supportive and fair environment for every member of our community.
- 3** Develop a University-wide plan to enhance the recruitment, retention, and promotion of underrepresented faculty and staff.
- 4** Immediately develop and implement diversity and inclusion training for all faculty and staff.
- 5** Create more scholarships for low-income, first-generation, and first-time-in-college students.
- 6** Incorporate diversity content into a required course for all new students.
- 7** Engage directly with the UTA Police Department to ensure its approaches to community policing are aligned with the core values of our University and free from unfairness and bias.
- 8** Add staff and programming in the Office of Multicultural Affairs to enhance the services provided to our students.

*“As a community, we are committed to becoming educated and action-oriented to create inclusive and equitable change.”*

—DIRECTOR OF MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS  
MELANIE JOHNSON

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION INITIATIVES

### ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY

In 2020, the issues of racial injustice, police brutality, and civil unrest took center stage in the American consciousness, prompting important discussions about equality, inclusion, and change across the UTA campus.

**TOWN HALL**  
Nearly 600 members of the UTA community participated in a virtual town hall discussing systemic change to make the University a more equitable place for underrepresented students, staff, and faculty.

**ARLINGTON UNITY COUNCIL**  
Jason Shelton, director of the Center for African American Studies, is leading the city of Arlington’s new Unity Council.

**CIVIL RIGHTS PROTESTS**  
Students, employees, and faculty marched across the UT Arlington campus in solidarity with demonstrators across the nation protesting against systemic racism, social injustice, and the oppression of minority groups.

**INDIGENOUS RIGHTS SYMPOSIUM**  
In October 2019, the Native American Student Association and the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice hosted a Missing and Murdered Indigenous Woman symposium.





# COVID-19 RESPONSE

The 2020 spring and summer semesters were unlike any others in University history. Faced with the unique challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Maverick community banded together, standing strong and turning uncertainty into positive action. While much about the future remains unclear, one thing is true: The University will always be a force for good for the people and communities we serve.

## CAMPUS RESPONSE

### COVID TESTING

The North Texas Genome Center established on-site COVID-19 test processing to help provide for the safe repopulation of the UTA campus and to assist local public health agencies.

### MAKING MASKS

UTA Libraries used its FabLab facilities to create hundreds of face shields for John Peter Smith Hospital and smaller clinics in Arlington and Fort Worth. Staff also sewed more than 400 masks for the UTA community.

### FACULTY TRAINING

Training provided through the Center for Research on Teaching and Learning Excellence helped prepare faculty and graduate teaching assistants for the shift to online learning during the campus shutdown.



## COVID-RELATED RESEARCH

### MEDICATION SUPPLY CHAIN

Engineering Professor Erick Jones is collaborating with the city of Houston and the National Science Foundation to develop a rapid-response supply chain designed to quickly deliver COVID-19 medications—once they are available—to vulnerable urban populations in Texas.

### RAPID TESTING

Seong Jin Koh, professor of materials science and engineering, is developing a \$5 portable device that can deliver COVID-19 testing results on-site in about 10 minutes.

### TESTING TREATMENTS

Claudia Bigueti, assistant professor of research; Mauro Toledo Marrelli, associate professor of research; and Marco Brotto, George W. and Hazel M. Jay Endowed Professor, published a study that suggests using chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine on COVID-19 (SARS-Cov-2) patients can have dangerous side effects, especially for older adults.

### COVID ORIGINS

Todd Castoe, associate professor of biology, has co-authored two papers regarding the COVID-19 virus and its origins. The first disputes that the coronavirus jumped from dogs to humans; the second traces the evolutionary history of the COVID-19 (SARS-Cov-2) virus.





**STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND ALUMNI GIVE BACK**

**OFFERING EXPERT INFORMATION**

Epidemiologist Diana Cervantes ('99 BS, '02 MS, Biology) has emerged as an expert voice in the media. The assistant professor at UNT Health Science Center in Fort Worth speaks both English and Spanish, helping her message reach larger audiences.

**HELPING IN A HOTSPOT**

Recent graduate Elisabeth Berglund ('20 BSN) answered the call for medical personnel from the Special Operations Medic Coalition in New York City—a COVID-19 hotspot. The site, known as The Bubble, can treat up to 280 patients, with staffing by military and civilian health care workers.

"We are incredibly proud of Elisabeth for volunteering to go work in New York," says Karen Leigh Bravo, clinical assistant professor of nursing. "Students like Elisabeth are the norm at UTA, not the exception."

**PUBLIC HEALTH VOLUNTEERING**

A group of public health students

and recent graduates volunteered this summer to aid Tarrant County Public Health with COVID-19 case investigations, contact tracing, and data entry.

"I was thrilled for the opportunity to be at the forefront of this crisis," says Berford Moncriste, Master of Public Health student. "My peers and I are in a unique situation that will hopefully allow us to make a difference in our community and save lives even before receiving our degrees."

Erin Carlson, director of graduate public health programs, led the University's effort.

**PPE PRODUCTION**

Elizabeth Hahn ('13 BS, Architecture) responded to the shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) for health care workers by teaching herself how to make them at home. After finding a design for face shields that had been approved through a local hospital, she used her laser-cutter to craft the needed items.

"I can't imagine having the ability to help during such a critical time and not doing it," she says.

**DONATING TO THE EAF**

Almost as soon as the pandemic arrived in North Texas, members of the Maverick community asked how they could help. When Lei Testa ('93 BBA, Accounting) saw the call for

support, she was eager to do her part by making a donation to the Emergency Assistance Fund (EAF).

"More than ever, it's important we come together as a community to help one another," Testa says. "I felt compelled to do whatever I could to support my fellow Mavericks during these challenging times."

**FUNDRAISING FROM THE LIVING ROOM**

Dan Cavanagh, professor and associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts, hosted a live jazz concert from his living room in April. The hour-long event drew hundreds of viewers and raised more than \$2,500 for the EAF.

**DELIVERING MEALS**

Junior marketing major Eduard Simo is helping provide health care workers with support and encouragement through the donation of prepared meals. With Health Warriors, an initiative started by his friend, he has helped donate over 6,000 servings of food to 64 different organizations, including hospitals, prisons, and police and fire stations.



**DAN CAVANAGH**

"As public health practitioners, our main focus is always to empower the public to make good decisions for the safety of our communities," she says.

*"We go there and bring big boxes of food and they are just so happy. Every single doctor comes out and says thank you. They're doing like 12-hour turns, so it's the least we can do for them."*

— JUNIOR MARKETING MAJOR EDUARD SIMO





## NEW SCHOLARSHIPS AND ENDOWMENTS

The mission of UT Arlington emphasizes the importance of providing both academic excellence and collegiate access to highly qualified Texas students of all backgrounds. Key to our efforts to achieve this goal is the University's commitment to student scholarships—a commitment that was strengthened this year with the administration's pledge of an additional investment of \$25 million in scholarships over the next five years, beginning with the fall 2021 term. These awards will target the most academically talented students, along with first-generation college students, low-income families, and those facing challenges in the wake of COVID-19.

### HELPING STUDENTS SUCCEED

Many of our generous alumni and friends continue to support and establish scholarships and fellowships to help students achieve their academic goals.

#### AMONG THESE NEW AWARDS ARE THE FOLLOWING

The **Pat Brandenburg Endowment for the Center for Mexican American Studies** and the **Pat Brandenburg Endowment for the Center for African American Studies** fund student scholarships, student research, guest speakers, and student conference travel. The two endowments were established by alumna Pat Brandenburg ('49 AS, Business Administration).

The **Rear Admiral Grace M. Hopper, PhD, Scholarship Fund** supports deserving first-generation students who are in the second or third years of their degree program; are pursuing degrees in engineering, computer science, math, chemistry, or physics; and have demonstrated persistence, technical knowledge, and volunteer service.

The **Dean's Leadership Circle** awards scholarships to high-performing undergraduate and graduate students in the College of Business.

The **Advancing Healthcare in North Texas Endowed Scholarship Fund** supports students who have financial need and are enrolled in the pre-licensure BS in Nursing or BS in Exercise Science programs. It was established with a gift from North Texas Specialty Physicians.

The **Ahsan Family Endowed Scholarship in Civil Engineering** supports students with financial need who are majoring in civil engineering and, preferably, have an interest in pursuing a career in structural and/or bridge engineering.



*“Scholarships are a way to invest back in our students and help them continue their educations.”*

—VICE PRESIDENT  
OF ENROLLMENT  
MANAGEMENT  
TROY JOHNSON



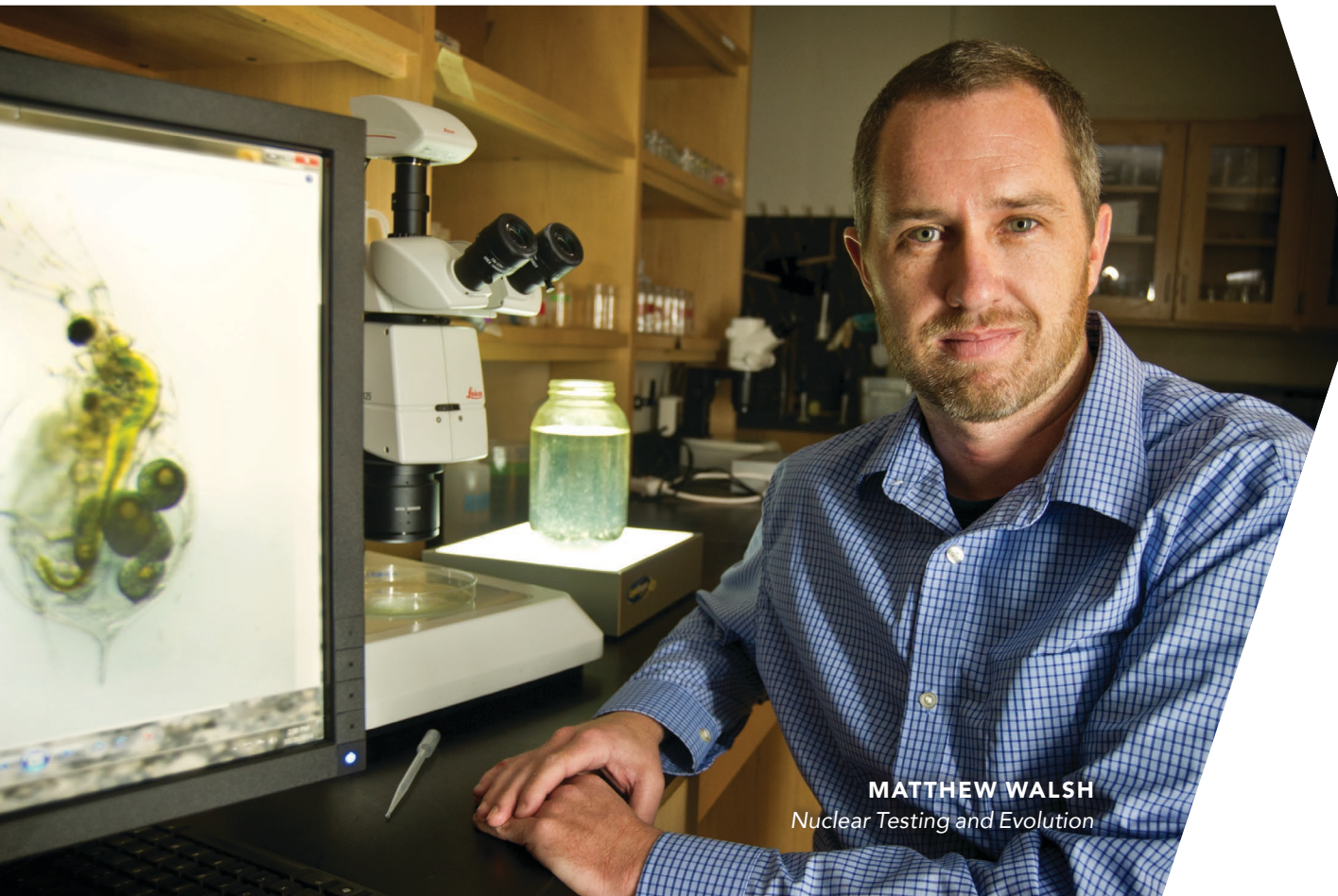


**MARION BALL**  
Health Informatics

# RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

As a Carnegie R-1 “very high research activity” institution, UTA is committed to improving the world we live in through the relentless pursuit of game-changing discoveries.

Students and faculty alike come here to learn, generate ideas, and advance knowledge while developing groundbreaking technologies. It’s this commitment to discovery that has cemented our status as an emerging research institution in the state, singularly focused on meeting society’s needs today, tomorrow, and well into the future.



**MATTHEW WALSH**  
Nuclear Testing and Evolution



### CURB APPEAL QUANTIFIED

Sriram Villupuram, associate professor in the College of Business, led a study that determined curb appeal in residential housing could account for up to 7% of a home’s value when sold. The research was published in *The Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics*.



### NUCLEAR TESTING AND EVOLUTION

Matthew Walsh, associate professor of biology, is examining the evolutionary effects of nuclear testing on preserved water flea eggs.



### INFRASTRUCTURE INSPECTION

UTA and the city of Coppell are collaborating on robotic inspections of sewer pipelines. Ali Abolmaali, professor and chair of the Civil Engineering Department, leads the project. This is the fifth city in which Dr. Abolmaali has used the robotics system to inspect pipes, with the intent of prioritizing which ones need to be replaced and which can be refurbished.



### HEALTH INFORMATICS

The University took a major step toward fulfilling its goal of becoming a leader in health informatics by establishing the Multi-Interprofessional Center for Health Informatics at UTA. The center is headed by Professors Marion Ball and Gabriela Mustata Wilson.



### ATLAS UPGRADE

Physics Assistant Professor Haleh Hadavand is supervising part of an upgrade to the ATLAS experiment, the largest general-purpose particle physics project at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN in Switzerland. Her work will allow the LHC to gather more data in shorter timeframes, therefore enabling researchers to answer fundamental questions about the nature of the universe.



### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Rachel Voth Schrag, assistant professor in the School of Social Work, published an important study in the journal *Violence Against Women* about educational sabotage, an overlooked form of psychological abuse that directly affects a survivor’s efforts to obtain educational credentials.



### THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION

A team from the College of Engineering and School of Social Work is developing a comprehensive vision of what the Texas transportation system should look like in 25 years. The two-year project is funded by the Texas Department of Transportation and led by Steve Mattingly and Anne Nordberg.

### PILLARS OF SUPPORT

Use the key to see which stories correspond to the pillars of UTA’s Strategic Plan.

Sustainable Urban Communities



Data-Driven Discovery

Global Environmental Impact



Health and the Human Condition

*“UTA is making a real impact on society through research and innovation that tackle real-life issues. This is part of the value we bring to the North Texas area and to the nation.”*

—INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH JAMES GROVER





# STUDENT SUCCESS

Helping students realize their full potential is fundamental to UTA's mission to educate tomorrow's leaders. For students to have a transformational learning experience, they need a supportive environment where they can grow as scholars and citizens of the world. Access to opportunity is key, because when you give bright, forward-thinking students a chance to pursue their dreams and achieve their goals, success will follow—in and out of the classroom, wherever their passion takes them.

ASHLIE DEVENNEY



UTA'S ESPORTS TEAM FOR THE ROCKET LEAGUE TOURNEY

## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

### NEW DEGREES

In fall 2020, UTA launched two new degree programs:

**BA in Philanthropy (College of Liberal Arts and College of Business)** for students who seek careers in philanthropy and nonprofit organizations, as well as roles in the business and government sector.

**BS in Business Analytics (College of Business)** to provide the tools and technologies needed to bring value-added decisions to the strategic goals of an organization.

Several more degrees are slated to launch in fall 2021, pending approval:

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| BS in Sustainable Urban Design (Architecture, Planning, and Public Affairs) | BS in Resource Engineering (Engineering) | MS in Learning Analytics (Science)   |
| BS in Substance Use Treatment (Social Work)                                 | BS in Data Science (Science)             | MS in Sustainable Building Technology (Architecture, Planning, and Public Affairs) |
|   | MS in Data Science (Engineering)         |  |
|   | MEd in Special Education (Education)     |  |

### PRE-LAW CENTER

The University's Pre-Law Center received a \$15,000 grant from the Texas Bar Foundation to support experiential learning activities. Earlier this year, the center opened its Adelfa B. Callejo Courtroom.

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Architecture graduate students designed canopies, pods, and other seating options for an outdoor Innovation Zone at the new East Arlington Rec Center & Library.

## STUDENT RESEARCH

### AMELIA EARHART FELLOW

Doctoral student Katiyayni (Kati) Balachandran was chosen as one of 35 Amelia Earhart Fellows for 2020. Her research focuses on modeling the shape and estimating the attitude of space objects.

### MEDAL FOR EXCELLENCE

Chia-Ching Lin, an aerospace engineering doctoral student, earned the Leo Beranek Student Medal for Excellence in the Study of Noise Control from the Institute of Noise Control Engineering of the USA.

### SCIENCE RESEARCH PROGRAM

Physics graduate student Hector Carranza is one of only 62 students nationwide to be selected for the

Department of Energy's Office of Science Graduate Student Research program. He will spend a year conducting research on light-mass dark matter searches at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory.

### PRESTIGIOUS PROGRAM

The National Science Foundation selected three graduate students and one recent alumnus to participate in its prestigious Graduate Research Fellowship Program. UTA's winners are Melissa Orr, chemistry; Joseph Michael Cloud, robotics and computer vision; Israa Qasim Jaradat, computer science and engineering; and alumnus Iretomiwa Esho ('18 BS, Mechanical Engineering).

## OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

### CROSS COUNTRY

UTA's Women's Cross Country program received the NCAA 2020 Public Recognition Award, given to teams with an NCAA DI Academic Progress Rate in the top 10% of all squads in their respective sports.

### ESPORTS

UTA's esports team won the first-ever Electronic Gaming Federation

Rocket League tournament. They also placed second in the Collegiate League of Legends Tournament.

### INTERNSHIP

Undergraduate Ashlie Devenney won a competitive internship opportunity with Living Tongues Institute for Endangered Languages, a leading research organization dedicated to preserving minority languages.



# MAVERICK ENTREPRENEURS

UTA is dedicated to fostering an environment where the biggest ideas not only thrive, but reach as many people as possible. Over the years, the University has developed a strong innovation pipeline, where faculty, students, and alumni can connect with the resources and people they need to succeed. The result is an entrepreneurship ecosystem that benefits all—from the people creating the ideas to the society that stands to benefit from them.

## CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ECONOMIC INNOVATION

Earlier this year, UT Arlington established the new Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Innovation to enable the University to engage more meaningfully with local companies and businesses. The center, led by Associate Vice President for Research Kimberly Mayer, will also serve as an engine for economic recovery and growth in Arlington and the North Texas region. Among its top priorities are supporting students and faculty throughout the innovation process and developing an incubator that can offer services to fledgling UTA-led businesses.

## MAVS 100

The College of Business held its first MAVS 100 event in 2020, honoring the top 30 fastest-growing Maverick businesses, based on average revenue from their last three years. CAET Project Management Consultants LLC, founded by alumna Molly Sandlin ('14 MBA), came in at No. 1. The 30 highlighted companies have all made a tremendous impact on North Texas and beyond, representing over \$680 million in annual revenue.

## MAVPITCH 2020

The Maverick Entrepreneur Program and Award Fund completed its Phase II MavPitch contest in August. The top prize winners, receiving \$25,000 each, were:

**PATTURN**

a software company that empowers retailers to improve their returns processing capabilities.

**U-STAFF**

an app that helps businesses fill temporary staffing needs on a day-to-day basis without the long-term commitment.

**ETHEREAL FLOW**

a biotech medical device company that specializes in developing cutting-edge medical devices for alternative therapeutics and diagnostics for a range of diseases.

**FRANKLY GOOD**

a company that produces 100% plant-based cookies, brittle, muffins, and other sweet treats.

**TINKABOX**

a startup that creates quality practical STEM projects designed specifically to empower students of all ages to become creators of technology.

*“A lot of students at UTA are working to put themselves through school. In essence, they’re already entrepreneurial. It’s not a surprise that many of them go on to start their own companies. We want to reward and support them.”*

—EDMUND PRATER, PROFESSOR AND MAVS 100 COORDINATOR



# INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRESS

UTA is committed to empowering the work of faculty, staff, and students by providing a strong physical infrastructure and technological advancements that best support the University’s central goals: advancing research, supporting academic achievement, and providing an enriching environment where campus life can thrive. UTA has benefited from extraordinary growth in recent years, and the campus footprint reflects that. Infrastructure highlights include a remodeling of the University Center, the construction of a new faculty and staff support building, and plans for a health complex that will boost the life-changing work conducted in both the School of Social Work and the College of Nursing and Health Innovation.



UNIVERSITY CENTER NORTH ENTRY ADDITION

## UNIVERSITY CENTER NORTH ENTRY ADDITION

The north entry of the University Center was renovated to add a new formal drive and pedestrian mall, presenting a more welcoming gateway for the community and visitors to the University.



## TRINITY HALL

The new building will provide space for faculty services and university analytics.



## HEALTH COMPLEX

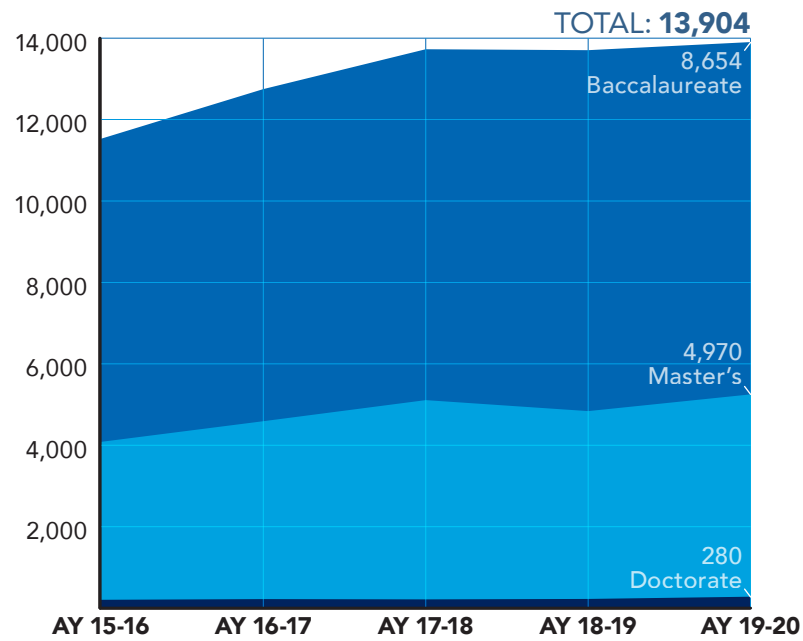
This facility will host the School of Social Work and the College of Nursing and Health Innovation’s Smart Hospital. It will feature classrooms, labs, counseling rooms, a simulation theater, offices, common areas, and more.



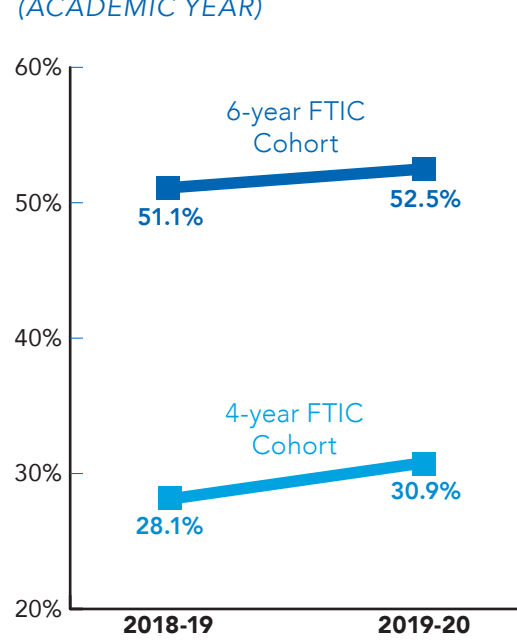


# METRICS

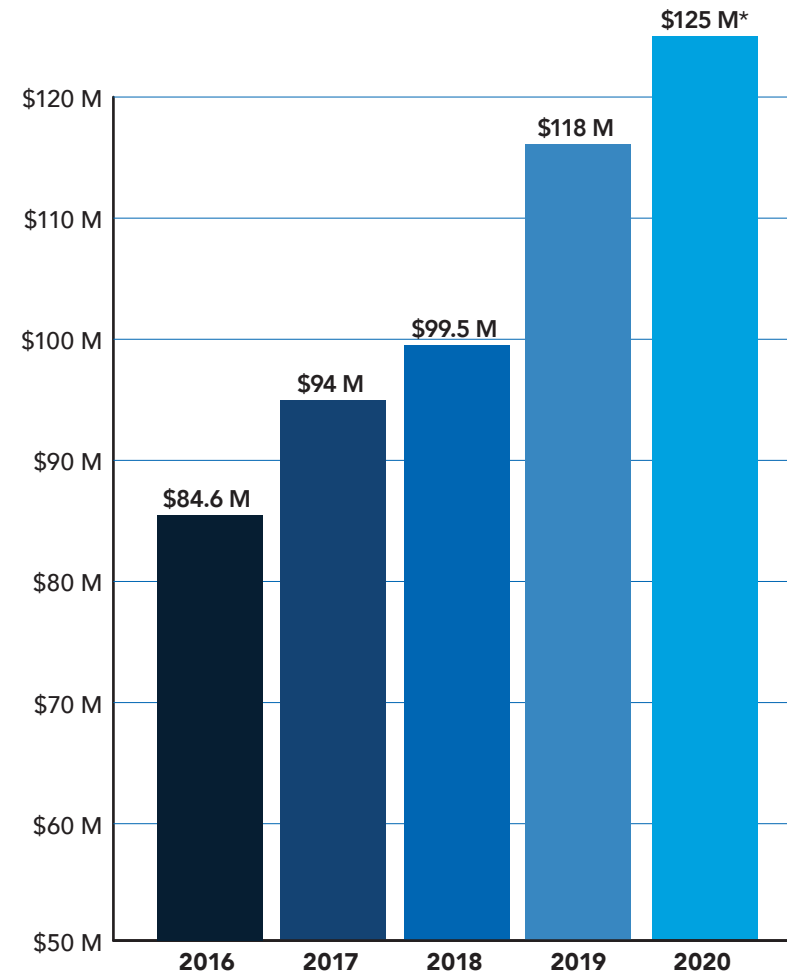
**DEGREES AWARDED** (ACADEMIC YEAR)



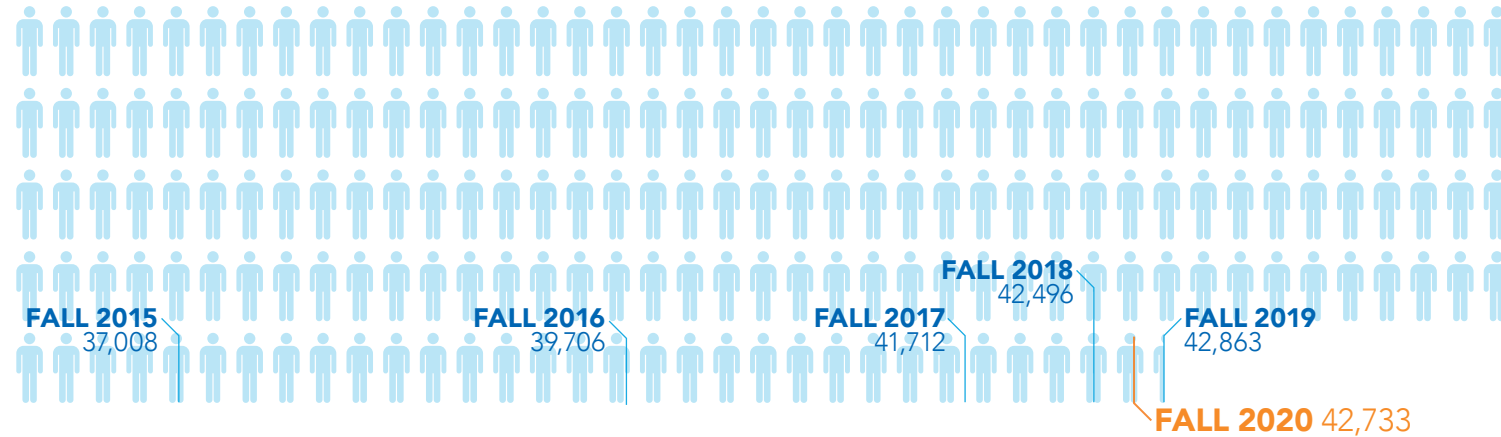
**GRADUATION RATES** (ACADEMIC YEAR)



**RESEARCH EXPENDITURES** (FISCAL YEAR, AS REPORTED IN THE THECB RD EXPENDITURE SURVEY)



**ENROLLMENT** (ACADEMIC YEAR, THECB)



\* PRELIMINARY DATA



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