

UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

DEAN OF STUDENTS

COUGAR PARENT *connection*

vol 9, :: May 2007

Calendar of Events

:: **May 31 - June 1** Freshman Orientation conference.

:: **June 4** Last day (4th class day) to drop a course without hours counting towards the Enrollment cap for Texas residents (Summer Session I, II, III).

:: **June 5** Last day (4th class day) to drop a course without hours counting towards the Enrollment cap for Texas residents (Summer Session IV).

:: **June 14** Q grade eligibility period begins (SS I).

:: **June 20** Last day to drop a course or withdraw (SS I). Q grade eligibility period ends (SS I). Q grade eligibility period begins (SS II, III).

:: **June 22** Last day to file University application for graduation (SS I, II, III, and IV).

:: **June 27** Last day to drop a course or withdraw (SS II). Q grade eligibility period ends (SS II).

:: **June 28** Last day of class (SS I).

:: **June 29-30** Final Examination period (SS I).

:: **June 30** Official Closing of Summer Session I.

Dean of Students Spotlight



Safety on Campus: Comments from Dr. Gogue

April 17, 2007

Yesterday was filled with shock and horror as word spread of the shootings on the campus of Virginia Tech University. Today, we know more about what happened and about the events that led up to this tragedy. Knowledge, however, does not always help us make sense of the senseless.

It is very possible that some members of our University of Houston family have relatives, friends, or colleagues at Virginia Tech. If that is the case with you, please know that all of us here at the University of Houston hold you in our thoughts and prayers, just as we hold the victims and their families in our thoughts and prayers.

I have asked that we lower the university's flag at noon today, at which time I hope that you will join Susie and me in a moment of silence.

The university's Counseling and Psychological Services is available if you would like to talk with someone. To schedule an appointment, you may call 713-743-5454, or you may stop by their front desk during regular business hours. You can get more information about Counseling and Psychological Services at www.caps.uh.edu.

Dr. Jay Gogue
President, University of Houston
Chancellor, University of Houston System

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

CAPS joins the rest of the UH community in expressing our sadness and comforting thoughts to the Virginia Tech community, and to everyone at UH who is affected in any way by this tragedy. We encourage our diverse UH community to come together and support each other during this very difficult time.

CAPS provides quality mental health services to the UH campus community and helps clients develop the skills necessary for personal, academic, and social success. CAPS services include:

- Crisis Intervention
- Individual, Couples, and Group Counseling
- Career Exploration and Testing
- Learning Disabilities, ADHD, and Personality Assessment
- Outreach and Consultation
- Workshops

What To Do If You Are In Crisis

An individual experiencing a crisis can come to CAPS at any time during office hours and receive an in-person evaluation. In the event of an after-hours crisis, call the University of Houston Department of Public Safety at (713)743-3333 and ask to be transferred to your therapist or the Counselor on Call.



We would like to welcome a new staff member to the Dean of Students Office: Kelly Kilgore, Web Developer 3.

Kelly came to us from the department of [Campus Activities](#) here at UH, where she was responsible for the recent redesign of their Web site.

She also advises the University of Houston [Student Video Network](#).

Message from the Assistant Dean

Dear Parents and Family,

We have had a change in personnel, and we are happy to have Kelly Kilgore on board as our new Web Developer. Read more about Kelly in the "Spotlight" section.



The University of Houston celebrated its annual [Frontier Fiesta](#) last month. Despite one day of inclement weather, a great time was had by all (photos above).

More recently, WalkAmerica took place on campus and was hugely successful, once again, in generating funds for the March of Dimes (photo at right). Over 40,000 attended the walk.

In the "Message from the President" section we have remarks from Dr. Gouge concerning the tragedy at Virginia Tech. Information regarding [security on campus](#) can be found in the "Cougar Parent Connection Spotlight" section.

Look for the *Cougar Parent Connection* next month with more news and updates on what's happening at the University of Houston.

Liz Frederick
Assistant Dean of Students
713/743-5470



Cougar Parent Connection Spotlight

In his message, President Gouge expressed all of our sorrow and distress at the horrifying events at Virginia Tech University.

We understand that this tragedy may raise your concerns about our own emergency systems for notification of the University of Houston community in times of crisis.

Our emergency website, <http://www.uh.edu/emergency>, is hosted by the PIER system (Public Information and Emergency Response). It is physically located off-campus to ensure that it can continue working even if our email and Web servers are down. That site is activated in the event of ANY emergency, even localized flooding. Information on any emergency will be posted on that site immediately and updated frequently as information is available.

PIER now also will be used to reach out to all faculty, students and staff to provide immediate emergency notification through email, telephone voice mail, and text messaging. We are loading all University phone and email information into PIER so that we can notify the campus for any emergency during working hours. Once we have the on-campus notification operational, we will send out instructions on ways you can individually add your home phone, email and cell phone numbers to the system for notification away from campus.

Our campus security is continually being assessed and upgraded.

- We have greatly expanded our monitored camera system to more than 300 sites.
- We have police patrols on foot, bike and car all day and every day watching our campus.
- UH has upgraded the lighting across the campus, and we just held the annual night walk across the campus to identify additional areas needing lighting upgrades.
- The emergency notification call-box system also has expanded and been upgraded over the past few years.
- As a state police agency, we have strong partnerships with area police departments to quickly respond to an emergency that might require significant reinforcements.

The safety and security of every member of our campus community is of utmost importance to the University and to every member of the UH Emergency Management Team. We will continue to work to identify additional ways to keep our community safe, to notify people when an emergency occurs, and to keep everyone informed of the ongoing situation.

Spotlight on Orientation

The Dean of Students Office will be holding New Student Orientation Conferences for Freshmen and Transfer Students beginning May 18th.

Orientation has two major objectives:

1. To assist you with pre-enrollment activities for the semester (placement testing, required academic advising, course selection and registration, and tuition and fee payment procedures).
2. To acquaint you with student support services and student life activities that will familiarize you with the university.

To register for an Orientation conference, or if you have questions regarding this event, click on the buttons below.

REGISTER NOW!

HAVE QUESTIONS?

*Click here
to learn more about Orientation*

Get Involved!

:: **May 11** Book signing - "Windows Into My World: Latino Youth Write Their Lives,"
May 11

:: **May 12 - July 28** The [Blaffer Art Gallery](#) will be showcasing the following exhibitions:

- Miguel Angel Rios: Aqui



- Katrina Moorhead: A Thing Called Early Blur



:: **May 15 2007** Staff Excellence Luncheon

Academic News

It is the time of year when outstanding faculty are recognized. The following is a list of this year's award winners:

:: ESTHER FARFEL AWARD

The Esther Farfel Award, the university's highest faculty honor, recognizes a professor who demonstrates excellence in teaching, research and service. The recipient receives a \$10,000 prize and a trophy.

- [Fazle Hussain](#), Hugh Roy & Lillie Cranz Cullen Distinguished Professor of Mechanical Engineering

:: JOHN AND REBECCA MOORES PROFESSOR

The John and Rebecca Moores Professor is a five-year renewable award that carries a \$10,000 annual stipend and is given to faculty who are outstanding in teaching, research and service.

- [Randolph Thummel](#), professor of chemistry
- [Lois Parkinson Zamora](#), professor of English

:: TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Recipients of the Teaching Excellence Award receive a trophy and a \$5,000 check. Nominees must demonstrate excellence in teaching.



Klieman

- [Richard M. Alderman](#), Law Center associate dean for academic affairs, Dwight Olds Chair in Law and Consumer Law Project director
- [Jim Johnson](#), associate professor in the School of Theatre & Dance
- [Kairn Klieman](#), associate professor of history
- [Robert A. Ragazzo](#), UH Law Foundation Professor of Law

:: EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

:: **May 19** Cystic Fibrosis Walk-A-Thon - "Great Strides: Taking Steps To Cure Cystic Fibrosis"

:: **May 20** Houston Boychoir Spring Concert: The Sons of Orpheus, HBC Chamber Choir, Preparatory Choir Edgar Moore, Carol Nelson and Holly Holt, directors.

:: **May 27** Houston School Of Dance And Musical Theatre Dance Recital

:: **June 13 - 29** School of Theatre & Dance presents the [Children's Theatre Festival](#):

- The Princess Who Could Not Be Heard, by Jerry Bock and Sidney Berger, directed by Chelsey Santoro Krohn
- Goldilocks and the Three Bears, adapted by S. S. Leonard, directed by Brian Byrnes

:: **July 4** - Independence Day - University Closed

:: **July 27 - August 11** School of Theatre & Dance presents the [Houston Shakespeare Festival](#):

- Love's Labor's Lost, directed by Sidney Berger
- Romeo and Juliet, directed by Carolyn Houston Boone

Parent Day



Plan to Attend Parent Day on Sept. 29!

The [Dean of Students Office](#), in conjunction with the Departments of [Athletics](#), [Campus Activities](#), [Residential Life and Housing](#), and the [University Center and Associated Facilities](#), invite all parents and families of University of Houston students to campus on September 29, 2007.

There will be a free tailgate party before the University of Houston Cougars take on the East Carolina Pirates at 6:00 p.m. at Robertson Stadium.

More details will follow in upcoming issues of the *Cougar Parent Connection*.

Three Awards for Excellence in Research and Scholarship are given each year to faculty who have achieved a substantial record of outstanding research, scholarship or creative activities in their field. Each award carries a \$5,000 stipend and a plaque.

- [David J. Francis](#), professor and chairman of the Department of Psychology
- [Rigoberto C. Advincula](#), associate professor of chemistry
- [Steven Baldelli](#), assistant professor of chemistry

:: TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD: PROVOST'S CORE AWARD

The award consists of \$5,000 and a trophy. Nominees must demonstrate excellence in teaching a core curriculum course. Two awards are given.

- [Peter Copeland](#), associate professor of geosciences
- [Brian K. McFarlin](#), assistant professor of health and human performance

:: INNOVATION IN INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

The award for outstanding faculty who have demonstrated innovative teaching in a course using instructional technology carries a \$5,000 prize and a trophy. Nominees must have recently taught a course using instructional technology. One award is given.



Subhlok

- [Jaspal Subhlok](#), associate professor of computer science

:: NONTENURE

This award recognizes outstanding teaching by faculty instructors, clinical faculty, research faculty, artist affiliates and lecturers. The recipient receives a \$5,000 prize and a trophy. Nontenure track faculty nominees for this award must have been on the faculty at least half-time for three years prior to nomination. One award is given.

- [Michael Newman](#), visiting assistant professor of accountancy and taxation

:: GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT

Teaching excellence awards of \$1,000 and a trophy are presented to two graduate students. Nominees must have been teaching assistants or fellows for at least two semesters. Two awards are given.

- [Douglas E. Hughes](#), graduate teaching assistant in the C.T. Bauer College of Business
- [Ana-Maria Medina](#), graduate teaching assistant in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages



Medina

:: FACULTY AWARD FOR MENTORING UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

The \$5,000 award honors the practice of mentoring undergraduate research and scholarship.

- [Kenneth L. Brown](#), professor of anthropology

:: PROVOST FACULTY ADVISING AWARD

The Provost Faculty Advising Award carries a \$1,000 check and a plaque and is given to faculty who demonstrate excellence in student advising.

- [Betty J. Barr](#), associate professor and undergraduate adviser in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

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