

FIVE-YEAR REPORT | 2015-2020



OUR PERSISTENCE IS OUR SUPERPOWER





MISSION

HT nurtures a legacy of leadership and excellence in education, connecting knowledge, power, passion, and values.

VISION

A connected world where diversity of thought matters.

Accreditation

Huston-Tillotson University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award associate, baccalaureate, and master's degrees. Questions about the accreditation of Huston-Tillotson University may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling (404) 679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website (www.sacscoc.org).

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President and CEO**
(ex-officio)
Austin, TX

Our persistence is our superpower.



Colette Pierce Burnette
President & CEO
Huston-Tillotson University

As I write this message and reflect upon my six-year tenure as president and CEO of Huston-Tillotson University, five words reverberate throughout my mind to describe East Austin's intellectual heartbeat—our persistence is our superpower.

First established in 1875, Austin's oldest institution of higher learning and only HBCU has survived Reconstruction, Jim Crow laws, the Great Depression, two world wars, recessions, and a myriad of civil rights challenges.

Persistence is how we came to be Austin's oldest institution of higher learning and only HBCU, educating and transforming student lives for 146 years. Persistence is how we have formed and nurtured relationships with local and global community partners to elevate the hard work and the heart work of HT.

With persistence, we don't just graduate students; we graduate families. With persistence, we lifted an entire brick-and-mortar institution online in only two weeks, ensuring our students received exemplary classroom instruction and vital academic support services virtually. With persistence, our students reached the degree finish line during an unprecedented global pandemic. With persistence, we continue to embody our core values—IDEAL (integrity, diversity, excellence, accountability, leadership).

I am a firm adherent of the oft-cited African proverb, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." The unparalleled and extraordinary successes that the university has experienced throughout the past five years can be attributed only to our students' collective efforts and the persistence of HT faculty and staff, alumni, friends, and community partners.

This "Five-Year Report (2015–2020)" is our persistence personified, illustrating our unified triumphs, groundbreaking initiatives, and effervescent moments of joy. May every page exemplify the university's progression: launching our superlative MBA program, our designation as the only All-Steinway School in Central Texas, our African American Male Teacher Initiative with Apple, and so much more. May every story inspire you, encourage you, and unequivocally demonstrate that our persistence is our superpower.

As I look to the future, I am confident that HT will continue to propel to even greater heights with excellence. We have persistence fully on our side.

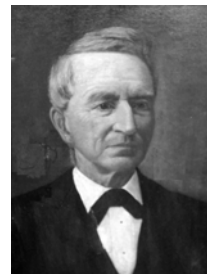
In Union we find our Strength,

Colette Pierce Burnette

Colette Pierce Burnette, EdD
President and CEO
Huston-Tillotson University

THROUGH THE YEARS

1875 | Rev. G. J. Tillotson establishes **Tillotson College**



Rev. G. J. Tillotson



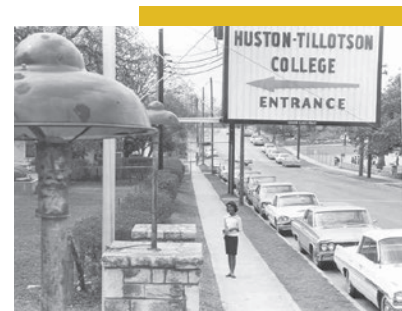
1877 | **Tillotson Collegiate and Normal Institute** is chartered

1879 | **Allen Hall**, first building on the Tillotson campus, is constructed



1930 | **Mary E. Branch** named Tillotson College's first woman president

1952 | **Huston-Tillotson College** created by the merger of Samuel Huston College and Tillotson College



2005 | Huston-Tillotson College becomes **Huston-Tillotson University**



2009 | **Record growth** pushes HT enrollment toward 1,000 students

2015 | **Colette Pierce Burnette** named the fifth president and the first woman president of the merged Huston-Tillotson University



2015 | **736 solar panels** are installed to support sustainability efforts, giving HT the most on-site solar power generation of any private historically black institution, and providing 8-10% of the University's total power needs.



2015 | Seventeen students enrolled in the **Adult Degree Program** are the first to receive an associate degree



2017 | Huston-Tillotson University joins the elite number of universities as an **All-Steinway School**

HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY



1876 | **Samuel Huston College** established in Dallas



Samuel Huston



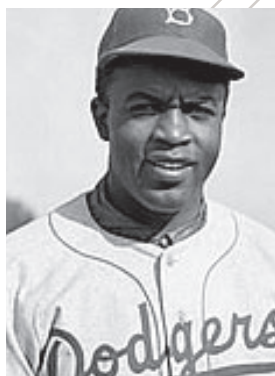
George W. Richardson

1878 | **Samuel Huston College** is moved to Austin



1913 | Students produce exterior cement blocks for the Old Administration Building, now **Anthony and Louise Viaer-Alumni Hall**

1944 | **Jackie Robinson** appointed as men's basketball coach of Samuel Huston College and also serves as athletic director



2000 | **Larry L. Earvin** installed as president



1965 | **John Q. Taylor King Sr.** becomes president, serving until 1988

2015 | The first cohort of students are enrolled in the **Master's in Educational Leadership** program with students graduating in 2016



2020 | The first cohort of students enrolled in the **Master's in Business Administration** program earn their diplomas



2016 | **The Sandra Joy Anderson Community Health and Wellness Center** opens on the campus to provide both medical and behavioral health care services in a primary care setting, making HT unique by housing a Federally Qualified Health Center on the campus



2020 | Huston-Tillotson University moves to **online classes** due to the worldwide coronavirus pandemic

2021 | University celebrates combined Class of 2020 and 2021 commencement.

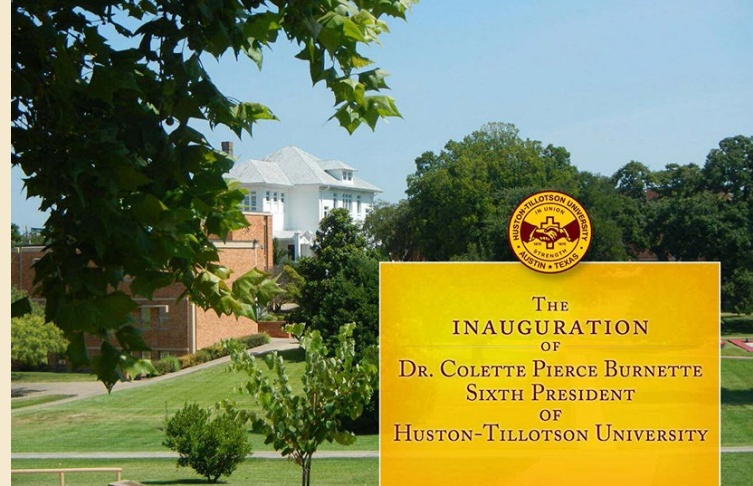
HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY, the oldest institution of higher learning in Austin, Texas, has roots dating back to 1875. HT is an independent, church-related, historically black, four-year liberal arts institution located on a 23-acre tree-lined campus near downtown in East Austin. Huston-Tillotson University's mission is to nurture a legacy of leadership and excellence in education, connecting knowledge, power, passion, and values. The University offers associate and master's degrees in addition to Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in more than 19 areas of study.



“IF YOU WANT TO GO FAST, GO ALONE. IF YOU WANT TO GO FAR, GO TOGETHER.”

—AFRICAN PROVERB

Huston-Tillotson University Completed the Installation of Sixth President Colette Pierce Burnette with Four Days of Events



THE HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY Board of Trustees announced Dr. Colette Pierce Burnette as the institution's sixth President and Chief Executive Officer, effective July 1, 2015. Burnette becomes the first female president of the merged Huston-Tillotson University and only the second female president in the institutions' 146-year history.



"Wheels Up" Huston-Tillotson University were the words conveyed by Burnette throughout her series of installation events that included the Investiture, reception, a community-service project, fine arts performance, musical concert, gala, and a worship service. Burnette, a United States Air Force retired Lieutenant Colonel military spouse, shared the airplane hyperbole with the crowd gathered in King-Seabrook Chapel as a way to express that Huston-Tillotson University was about to "take off."

With Texas Senator Kirk Watson to her right, City of Austin Mayor Steve Adler on the left, representatives from the higher education community, The United Methodist Church, the United Church of Christ, as

well as faculty, staff, and students who witnessed the historical ceremony, Burnette delivered a keynote speech during the investiture that addressed the institution's challenges while sharing the vision. "The challenges may seem daunting, but they are not insurmountable. This is a noble cause," Burnette said.

Referencing Huston-Tillotson University as the "intellectual heartbeat of East Austin," Burnette shared the vision of the institution with goals to ensure financial stability, grow the traditional enrollment, raise funds, as well as build friendships. "We are not a charitable institution; we are a wise investment," said Burnette, referencing the students matriculating at HT. A few students shared their road to HT during a video presentation at the Inauguration Gala.

The Gala also highlighted faculty and staff with 20 or more years of service that Burnette referred to as the "jewels" of the institution

Burnette brought her experienced leadership in higher education with a deep commitment to student success to HT. In 2012, Burnette served as interim President at Pierce College in Puyallup, Washington, leading the college within a district environment and working collaboratively with executive leadership to serve more than 30,000 students each year. Burnette had an extensive career at Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio, from 1999 - 2012 that scaled to Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer, providing financial, analytical, physical plant, auxiliary services, capital construction, and human resources leadership to achieve mission-based goals. In addition, at Central State University Burnette served as Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer.

Her educational accomplishments include earning an Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration at the University of Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia,



PA, a Master of Science Degree in Administration with honors from Georgia College in Milledgeville, GA in 1983 after completing a Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering from Ohio State University in Columbus, OH in 1980. In 2003, Burnette was accepted and completed the Harvard Graduate School's Education Management Development Program.

The 11th street beautification between Chicon Street and Chalmers Avenue, Step Afrika performance, musical concert, investiture, gala, and worship service held affirmations of the President's choice to guide HT.

Rousing HT concert choir performances included some of the president's favorite selections and appearances by Jenny Cruz, Donnie Ray Albert, and Roland Carter. Carter directed the HT concert choir with his arrangement of "Lift Every Voice and Sing" that ended with perfect pitch high notes by the choir that left the audience applauding and cheering.

"HT is a jewel in the violet crown of Austin and the great state of Texas," Burnette concluded. ▲



2016

**The Honorable Steve Adler
Mayor, City of Austin**

**Theme: Your Diploma Is a License to Fail
Make Lemonade Out of Lemons**

The 2016 graduation ceremony represents the first HT Commencement Convocation for President Burnette, the first ceremony conferring the master's degree, and the largest graduating class to date.



2018

Michael Gibson

Theme: Legacy and Impact: The Education You've Received from this Great University is Your Launching Pad to Do Something Great

Gibson has more than 25 years of experience creating, developing, and running successful corporations. He served as chair of Ebony Media. He is currently the co-founder and chair of CVG Group, with offices in Austin and Houston. CVG is the parent company of Transportation Demand Management, a motorcoach and transportations services company; Offisol, a professional staffing services company; and EBONY Media Operations, a full-service media company and home to the EBONY and JET brands, as well as their digital and print publications.



COMMENCEMENT: CELEBRATING THE GENIUS GENERATION

2017

Reverend Zan Wesley Holmes Jr., '56

**Theme: Are We Working on the Right
Assignment? God Who Has Brought Us from
a Mighty Long Way**

Holmes, Class of 1956, is pastor emeritus of the 6,000-member St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas, where he served for 28 years. He was adjunct professor of preaching at Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University for 24 years.



2019

Michele Thornton Ghee

Theme: Truths That I Have Learned

Ghee serves as co-founder and managing partner of the Stratechic Alliance, a consultancy that helps clients embrace, leverage, cultivate, and nurture their uniqueness in a way that drives and delivers results. She has managed more than a billion dollars in revenue for some of the world's largest media companies, including CNN, A&E, the History Channel, the Weather Channel, and BET Networks/BET Her. Ghee is a strategic force inside and outside the bounds of corporate America. This commencement ceremony was heartfelt for President Burnette, since it was the class that arrived when she came in 2015.



HT Celebrates Our Charter Day

2018



Matthew L. Morris, Class of 2018, is the inaugural recipient of the I.D.E.A.L. Alumni Award. Morris provides leadership and serves as an educator, trainer, and spokesperson across his network and

the larger community. He strives to maximize positive behavior support systems, culturally relevant instruction, and leadership in order to transform educational opportunities.

His formal teaching experience has been a journey from Inclusion/Resource to English as a Second Language to Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID). For the past seven years, he has served as the AVID coordinator at Lake Highlands High School, Dallas, Texas, earning the 2017 Superior Teaching Achievement in the Richardson Independent School District (STARS) Teacher of the Year award.

He is privileged to work directly with students who benefit most from equitable and inclusive practices. He incorporates culturally relevant pedagogy into all facets of his professional

practice, ensuring that students and staff feel connected, included, validated, and empowered.

He earned his master's degree from Teachers College, Columbia University, upon graduation from HT with a bachelor's degree in history.

2019



Nancy P. Crayton-Jones, Class of 1953, is the 2019 recipient of the I.D.E.A.L. Alumni Award. She has advice for those connected to HT. "Stay focused, don't forget where you came from, and give back to help other students accomplish their goals in life."

In 1995, Crayton-Jones established the Adams/Williams/Jones Endowed Scholarship at HT. The scholarship, established in memory of former HT choir director Bert Adams, music director Nathaniel Williams, and her late husband, Vernal Orlando Jones Jr., provides Alumni scholarships to students majoring in music.

Crayton-Jones graduated from the originally segregated L. C. (Laurine Cecil) Anderson High

School in Austin in 1949, where she played in the high school band. She remembers Nathaniel "Nat" Williams's 1949 arrival at then Tillotson College, where he established the college's band program. Crayton-Jones, like her sister before her, was awarded a music scholarship because she had played in the Anderson High School band. The college's band started with 14 students, but by 1953 there was a symphony orchestra, the Hawks Jazz Band, a concert band, and a choir.

Crayton-Jones remembers her decision making at the time. It was a choice between getting a job at fifty cents an hour plus bus fare or going to college. Crayton-Jones chose HT. She remembers how the campus impressed her: the old halls such as the five-story Allen Hall that housed freshmen and sophomore women, the clay basketball court, the two-story cottage that was home to most of the athletes, the Evans Hall science building, and the college library that was originally located in the old administration building—now the renovated Anthony and Loue Viera-Alumni Hall. But what Jones remembers most is her HT education and her abiding relationship with former classmates and their families.

Among her proudest moments were her election as the 1994 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Outstanding Alumna, her service as secretary to the HT International Alumni Association, and her representing the alumni association on HT's Board of Trustees for nine years. Crayton-Jones is also HT's 1994 honorary recipient of the doctor of humane letters degree for her continuing support and perseverance.

Crayton-Jones knows about "doors of opportunity." Her music scholarship to HT in 1949 changed her world. Her pride in HT extends to the accomplishments of fellow classmates and HT alumni who range from serving in advanced governmental positions to inventors and noted scientists. "I'll never stop giving back!," she says.

2020



Joe Leonard Jr., Class of 1989, is the 2020 recipient of the I.D.E.A.L. Alumni Award. He serves as director of the Howard University Community Association.

Leonard previously served as the chief of staff to the senior advisor (Beverly Perry) for the mayor of Washington, D.C. He also served as assistant secretary for civil rights at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). He was nominated by Former President Barack Obama and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on April 2, 2009.

Under Leonard's leadership, the USDA achieved several historic accomplishments. To address longstanding allegations of past discrimination, Leonard spearheaded an effort to settle class-action lawsuits with Native American and African American farmers and ranchers. He also established a voluntary-claims process for women and Latinx farmers and ranchers, which provided payments of more than \$2.5 billion combined and more than \$118 million in debt forgiveness. Notably, during Leonard's tenure, there was an increase in civil rights trainings within USDA nationwide and a 25% decrease in farmer complaints nationwide.

Before joining USDA, Leonard served as executive director of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC). While at the CBC, Leonard managed the daily activities of the caucus and

helped guide the legislative policy for its 43 congressional members.

Prior to his role at the CBC, Leonard served as executive director of the Black Leadership Forum, an umbrella organization of 32 member groups that together work to develop and implement public policies for African Americans in urban and rural America.

He also served for five years as the Washington, D.C., bureau chief of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition and director of the Arthur Fleming Institute of the Center for Policy Alternatives.

Leonard is a native of Texas. He holds a Ph.D. in American history with a specialization in civil rights history from Howard University, an Master of Arts degree from Southern University, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from HT. Leonard and his wife, Natasha Cole-Leonard, are proud parents of a 18-year-old son, Cole. ▲

The **2019 Charter Day Convocation** honored the following alumni for their contributions:

**ALICE FAYE HARRIS, CLASS OF 1962,
AND ALVIN B. HARRIS, CLASS OF 1963**

CELEBRATING MORE THAN 55 YEARS of love and devotion, the Harrises also share a passion for community, church, and their alma mater, HT. Mrs. Harris, as a result of her HT education, enjoyed a 41-year career as an educator in the Houston Independent School District, teaching grades four through six and music education.

Mr. Harris, the first in his family to complete a higher education degree, left HT and pursued a managerial career at Sears, Roebuck and Company for 35 years, where he blazed the trail to open the doors of employment for African Americans, while the department under his supervision earned meritorious awards for outstanding service.

Mr. and Mrs. Harris established the Alvin Burnett Harris and Alice Faye Harris Endowed Scholarship at HT and continue to serve their alma mater through their

involvement in the Houston Chapter of the HT International Alumni Association. Mr. Harris was HT's honoree for the United Negro College Fund in 2010 in New Orleans and New York. The service and support of Mr. and Mrs. Harris to HT was recognized in 1994 when each received an honorary degree.

With their special focus on faith, community, and service, the Harrises are servant-leaders in society, in the church, and at HT. They are leaders who are theologically grounded, community minded, and committed. ▲



HT Recognized as the *Only All-Steinway School* in Central Texas

“This is really unbelievable for our students, our guests, and our community. The conversation to bring these incredible pianos here to Huston-Tillotson University started more than 20 years ago . . . this is thrilling.”

- STEPHEN BURNAMAN
Chair, Department of
Humanities and Fine Arts



A DREAM BECAME A REALITY in 2017 when HT received an \$800,000 donation to purchase Steinway pianos. The purchase made HT the only institution of higher learning in Central Texas, the fourth HBCU in the country, and the 196th college/university in the world to earn the coveted title of an All-Steinway School.

The pianos were unveiled during the Charter Day Convocation, featuring Steinway artists Marcus Roberts and the Marcus Roberts Trio and Estivan Alveraz. Roberts also conducted a master class for the music students and the community.

The reputation of the Steinway pianos is known around the world, with 98% of all pianists performing with orchestras worldwide that choose the Steinway piano exclusively. For more than 160 years, Steinway & Sons has been dedicated to making the finest pianos in the world, setting the uncompromising



standard for sound, touch, beauty, and investment value.

“Huston-Tillotson University has made a firm commitment to providing new opportunities for students and we are tremendously proud to welcome them into our family of All-Steinway Schools,” says Ron Losby, CEO of Steinway Musical Instruments.

“I can assure you that the same pride, passion, and purpose so very evident on the campus in Austin echoes through the halls of the Steinway factory in Astoria, where 300 craftsmen and women are dedicated to making the world’s best pianos. We offer hearty congratulations on attaining this remarkable milestone and look forward to celebrating our shared vision of excellence.”

The music program got its start when Samuel Huston College and Tillotson College originated in the early 1900s. The colleges’ two departments combined when Huston-Tillotson College was formed by the merger of Samuel Huston College and Tillotson College in 1952.

The addition of 15 Steinway pianos is an unprecedented complement to Austin’s oldest institution of higher learning and only HBCU. This places the University’s already flagship program in a category with other esteemed music programs around the country such as the Juilliard School, Yale University School of Music, and Oberlin College Conservatory.

The legacy of HT’s great concert choir directors and accompanists lives through the establishment of the Marcet

Hines King Endowed Chair Professorship. The choir’s accomplishments are also memorialized through the Adams/Williams/Jones Endowed Scholarship, established by Nancy P. Crayton-Jones in memory of choir directors Bert Adams, Nathaniel Williams, and her late husband, Vernal Jones.

Music is a force of good and well-being in the culture of the HT community. Through concerts and other performances, the benefits of the program have expanded around the globe. The university’s music program brings together students, faculty, alumni, and others to enjoy, experience, reflect, participate, and learn. It is a critical component of the institution’s mission to nurture a legacy of leadership and excellence in education. ▲



“We are building the program that includes elevating recruitment efforts, raising funds for scholarships, new instruments and software, and re-establishing the HT Jazz Combo.”

-DR. SAMUEL ROWLEY

The Re-establishment of our Renowned Band Programs

THE FRIENDLY RIVALRY between Samuel Huston College and Tillotson College encompassed many areas, ranging from academics to sports. Both institutions took pride in their music departments and in the number of graduates who became choir and band instructors throughout the country. The musicians contributed to the historical reputation that has been earned through the years.

Dr. Samuel Rowley joined the faculty to re-establish a respected and renowned collegiate wind ensemble, symphonic band, concert band, HT Ram pep band, and HT youth wind ensemble programs at HT. As the director of bands, he established a characteristic sound philosophy supported by a vision. This philosophy inspires music students to develop a greater love for music and its artistry.

The HT Band program experienced great success during the 2020-21 academic year. On February 19, 2021, the HT Jazz Combo finished in first place in the HBCU C2 Spring Academy Battle of the Bands. The HT Jazz Combo was also selected to perform at the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) Annual Conference. During this virtual conference, the jazz ensemble provided music entertainment for conference attendees during the “Serendipity” portion of the conference. On April 15, 2021, several band and choir students participated in the HT Minority Composers Symposium in collaboration with the Armstrong Community Music School. During this landmark event, students from Rowley’s orchestration



course were able to have their original compositions performed by professional musicians from the Austin area.

The band program also participated in several virtual performances hosted by the music program this past academic year. On May 6, 2021, the HT Band held its first virtual symphonic band concert. The performance marked the band program’s first symphonic band concert in more than 60 years. From July 26-29, 2021, the HT Band and choir will host its first HT/MISD All State Music Camp on the campus that will be an annual event. During this four-day event, students from the Manor Independent School District will have an opportunity to receive world class instrumental and vocal instruction from members of the HT music faculty.

Navigate to the University’s convocations and concerts on its Facebook page to hear musical performances. ▲



Huston-Tillotson University President Colette Pierce Burnette presenting a resolution to R. S. Lovinggood's grandson, Ken Lovinggood on December 17, 2019.

Agard-Lovinggood Auditorium is named for Dr. Isaac Merrit Agard, President of Tillotson College from 1905 to 1918, and Dr. Rueben Shannon Lovinggood, President of Samuel Huston College from 1900 to 1916. ▲



Downs-Jones Library Is the "Place to Be"

THE DOWNS-JONES LIBRARY is the central study space on campus and the source of literary programming, ranging from the launch of the President's Book Club, the longstanding Poetry on the Patio, and the book club of selected works available to download. Whether a reader is ready for a psychological thriller such as *The Good Sister*, a dark fantasy such as *The Prison Healer*, or a romance such as *Open Water*, the library is a go-to for a good read.

The library houses original documents such as the "Doctrines of Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church," full collections of magazines, and albums of past programs and meetings as part of the archives.

Located between the Davage-Durden Student Union, Evans Industrial Hall, and across from the Jackson-Moody Humanities and Fine Arts building, Downs-Jones Library is one of the campus wi-fi ("AirRam") hotspots with reliable high-speed internet. It is also a popular area for students to relax between classes, do research, read a magazine, check out a novel, or work on projects. The library is open to all students, faculty, staff, and to the general public for research, tours, and gatherings. The split-level library was completed in 1960 and is named for Karl Everett Downs, president of Samuel

Huston College from 1943 to 1948, and William H. Jones, president of Tillotson College from 1944 to 1952. Located on the main floor are general reading rooms, the computer laboratory, main stacks, and the circulation desk. The lower level includes media services, a classroom, and additional reading rooms. The library is ADA-compliant and now equipped with an elevator, energy-efficient lighting with sensors, new heating and air-conditioning units, upgraded window units, advanced technological enhancements, and a new roof with solar panels.

Three professional librarians assist students with exploring, using, and citing the library's print and online resources, as well as providing media equipment and technology to the campus community. The University archives contain University documents, artwork, photographs, articles, proclamations, and other artifacts of HT's history.

Specifically, the library has evolved in the following ways:

- Enhanced its print book collection offerings
- Upgraded the library catalog to OCLC Worldshare Management Services (a cloud-based library management platform)

- Facilitated library programs for students, faculty, staff, and community
- Sponsored noted author visits
- Provided usage of study rooms for independent study and collaborative meetings
- Launched digital archival collections ▲

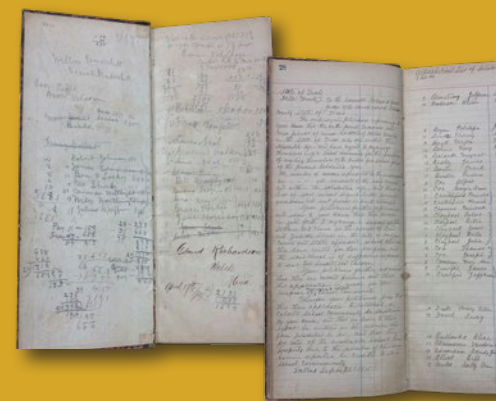


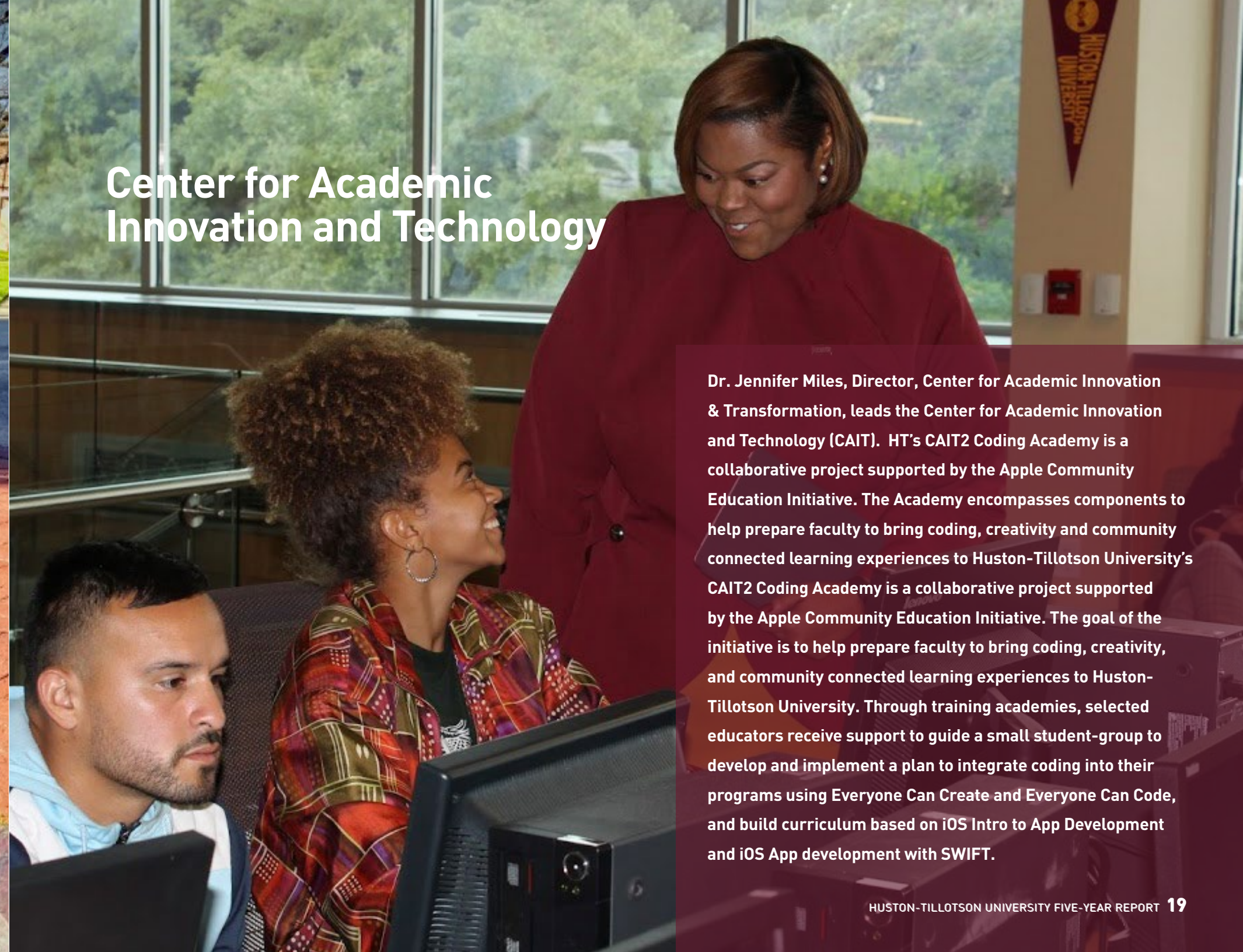
"During the pandemic the Downs-Jones Library provided virtual services to meet student academic needs. Library staff remained available online to support HT's

students, faculty, and staff via virtual chat services. We added academic video streaming services, digital magazines, and e-book/audiobook collections. We provided library orientations, information literacy, Juneteenth, and book club virtual programs. Additionally, the library created and provided tutorial videos that faculty could embed in their canvas courses to assist students in learning how to access library resources."



Reverend Canon James David Richardson presented original pages to President Burnette of ledger pages from his family's archives passed down from generation to generation that show the financial support for Samuel Huston College. The documents are housed in Downs-Jones Library. Reverend Canon James David Richardson is the great-great grandson of George Warren Richardson, founder of Samuel Huston College. He shared written records, as well as an oral account of the school's history. ▲





Center for Academic Innovation and Technology

Dr. Jennifer Miles, Director, Center for Academic Innovation & Transformation, leads the Center for Academic Innovation and Technology (CAIT). HT's CAIT2 Coding Academy is a collaborative project supported by the Apple Community Education Initiative. The Academy encompasses components to help prepare faculty to bring coding, creativity and community connected learning experiences to Huston-Tillotson University's CAIT2 Coding Academy is a collaborative project supported by the Apple Community Education Initiative. The goal of the initiative is to help prepare faculty to bring coding, creativity, and community connected learning experiences to Huston-Tillotson University. Through training academies, selected educators receive support to guide a small student-group to develop and implement a plan to integrate coding into their programs using Everyone Can Create and Everyone Can Code, and build curriculum based on iOS Intro to App Development and iOS App development with SWIFT.

HT and Apple Launch Groundbreaking African American Male Teacher Initiative

THE APPLE PRE-ED SCHOLARS PROGRAM, housed within HT's 100 African American Male Teacher Initiative funded by Apple, provides one year of scholarship support to high-achieving HT freshmen who intend to pursue a career in education. The African American Male Teacher Initiative is one of the many programs supported within HT's Apple Community Education Initiatives partnership.

Currently African American males make up less than 2% of all educators. The initiative supports teaching careers in the following fields: English, history, kinesiology, mathematics, as well as music and science with an education minor. Scholars are selected on the basis of financial need, academic performance, demonstration of leadership, commitment to service, and dedication to pursuing a career in the education field. The award covers all tuition, fees, room and board for an academic year with a three-year renewal scholarship, dependent on meeting scholarship requirements, persistence toward graduation, demonstrated financial need, and availability of funding.

HT was awarded a Certificate of Commendation from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for raising the percentage of prepared teachers who identify as teachers of color for the 2018–2019 academic year. This commendation from the TEA highlights the work of the University preparing African American teacher candidates. ▲



Meet Our Inaugural Apple Pre-Ed Scholars 2020

IN CELEBRATION OF COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION WEEK, Huston-Tillotson University announced it will become a community center for Coding and Creativity as part of Apple's Community Education Initiative and Tennessee State University's HBCU C2 initiative designed to bring coding and creativity experiences to historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and their communities.

"HBCU C2 (which stands for Coding and Creativity), affords HT the opportunity to empower both our students and community with a 22nd Century technological-based vision to experiential learning," said Dr. Burnette, "Powerful initiatives, such as our HBCU C2 Coding Center, help remove barriers, common amongst underserved communities, and create pipelines of educational equity and sustainable futures. HT is the intellectual heartbeat of East Austin. Having the opportunity to teach Apple's SWIFT programming language in a manner that promotes our community's rich history, will not only contribute to a strong in-demand workforce, but cultivate a perpetual legacy of student and community leaders, as well."

Faculty leaders from HT will participate in Apple's ongoing Community Education Initiative Learning Series to learn about coding and app

development. As part of that ongoing professional development, educators will explore innovative ways to engage with learners using Apple's comprehensive curriculum, which utilizes its easy-to-learn Swift programming language.

As part of its Community Education Initiative, Apple is supporting HT with equipment and professional development to help the University become the pre-eminent HBCU C2 community center to bring coding and creativity to Central Texas. ▲



Green Is The New Black™

HT'S GOAL IS TO BE THE GREENEST HBCU IN THE COUNTRY



HT'S CENTER FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (CSEJ) was created in 2014 to centralize and amplify efforts to improve the environmental sustainability of the campus. The Center also coordinates and supports academic and community-facing programs.

Innovative efforts include the installation of a 246-kilowatt rooftop solar array across three buildings and a solar charging station, helping to build student engagement. Elevating the University's sustainability efforts attracted support from entities such as the Texas Parks and Wildlife partnership to fund faculty/student research on Austin's urban wildlife in tandem with creation of an urban wildlife concentration within the biology program.

HT is also host for Earth Day Austin. The festival was the largest gathering on campus during its 2018 debut with more than 200 vendors. The long-lasting effects included transforming spaces for greening projects such as an organic food garden, rain garden, and bluebonnet restoration.

The Center also raises consciousness to address environmental issues, acknowledging the disproportionate impact that environmental degradation has historically had on marginalized communities and seeking to reform the systems that perpetuate that inequitable pattern.

Programs are in place that empower students to contribute to the construction of sustainable societies via

- **Environmental Justice Major**—The new bachelor's degree in environmental justice makes HT one of the only institutions in the country to offer this field of study at an undergraduate level. Students apply an interdisciplinary approach to address environmental issues with an equity perspective.
- **Building Green Justice Forum**—HT's annual environmental justice symposium brings together students, community members, activists, and researchers to enrich the intellectual life, and opportunity for shared action, for both campus and community.

The award-winning student group **Green Is the New Black™** engages students and their peers in education and outreach initiatives that link HT's sustainability efforts to environmental groups and schools throughout Austin. Students participate globally in events such as the Conference of the Parties with a HT student attending COP-21 held in Paris, France. Students are at the table at the HBCU Student Climate Collaborative run by the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice.

The Dumpster Project attracted worldwide attention, being an innovative program that turned a dumpster into a sustainable home. More broadly, the Dumpster Project is a way to engage and educate about sustainability and environmental awareness. More than 12,000 learners have interacted with the Dumpster Project program, which includes reservations for a night's stay. ▲



With a goal of diversifying the K-12 teaching pipeline, HT has collaborated with Apple as part the African American Male Teacher initiative to offer one-year scholarships—which covers tuition, room and board—to eligible first-year students planning to pursue an education career.

Our STEM Research Scholars Program Embodies Student Empowerment



HT'S SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS RESEARCH SCHOLARS PROGRAM empowers HT students to develop critical and scientific thinking, proficiency with new technologies, collaboration, teamwork, and communication abilities while they imbue their research projects with awareness of the societal impacts of research—a model called Science + Social Justice.

STEM Research Scholars conduct hands-on scientific research projects with faculty mentors at HT and collaborating partner institutions. Students develop the skills they need for a STEM career or graduate study as they research relevant scientific questions. Scholars receive stipends, mentorship, and the opportunity to travel to scientific conferences and external research labs.

Since the program began, more than 130 STEM Research Scholars have investigated topics including heart health disparities, prostate cancer, protein evolution, the indoor microbiome, affordable housing program impacts, environmental health, and urban

wildlife biology with mentors at HT, multiple departments at the University of Texas at Austin, the University of San Antonio Health Science Center, Texas State University, Merck, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), and the National Research Lab.

Scholars continue to present their work at external scientific conferences and at HT events, including HT's own annual STEM Research Scholars Symposium, the annual Digital Health Student Innovation Forum, and, most recently, a Community Engaged Research Forum. The scholars also host a campus STEM Week each fall.

Past/current grant support during the past five years totals \$1.3 million from funders including the United Negro College Fund, National Science Foundation, Department of Defense, Department of Energy, Hogg Foundation, St. David's Foundation, Good Measure, Merck, the TPWD, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The program is directed by Dr. Amanda Masino, HT associate professor of biology and chair of natural sciences. ▲



Project Highlights from the STEM Research Scholars

▶ **HT/Merck STEM Research Scholars:** HT biology and computer science students worked with HT faculty and subject matter experts from Merck on the Heart Health Disparities project. Student teams used big-data approaches to investigate why African American and Latinx patients have higher rates of disease and/or worse outcomes when compared to non-Hispanic White patients.

▶ **HT/TPWD STEM Research Scholars:** This collaborative research project with the TPWD focuses on urban coyotes. Students conduct field and lab work to better understand urban coyotes' diet, behaviors, and roles as environmental sentinels. HT student interns work at various TPWD units over the summer, including wildlife, marketing, outdoor education, and information technology.

▶ **HT/Measure/Capacity Catalyst STEM Research Scholars:** HT collaborated with nonprofits Measure and Capacity Catalyst and co-created a Community Engaged Research course to train scholars in interdisciplinary and equity-informed research methods, including an investigation of the history of racism in research. Students applied their skills to assist five area nonprofits (Black Women in Business, Change1, DJ Bling Foundation, Goodwill Excel Center, and Texas Justice Initiative) with their real-world data challenges.

St. David's FOUNDATION SCHOLARS PROGRAM

THE ST. DAVID'S FOUNDATION SCHOLARS PROGRAM, funded by the St. David's Foundation, is an exclusive program for HT students intending to pursue a health care career and work in a medical setting. The program includes a scholarship of \$7,500 per academic year for up to four years; an instant network of peers and professionals; a focused seminar experience; priority access to volunteering, research; and internship opportunities; and a dedicated pre-health academic coach

The St. David's Foundation Scholars program was launched in 2016 and graduated its first cohort of students in 2020. Eligible career tracks include medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, physical therapy, optometry, nursing, physician assistant, radiology, medical technology, biomedical engineering, and other allied health professions. The partnership between HT and the St. David's Foundation strives to bridge the deficit in our health care system through intentional support of the next generation of health care professionals and by providing diverse opportunities in social justice and health equity.



African Americans make up 13% of the U.S. population, but only about 5 percent of doctors are black, while Latinx individuals account for about 18% of the population and yet only 5.8% are doctors. This initiative increases our investment in the education and support of future health care professionals who reflect their communities. ▲



The Honorable Robert G. Stanton, '63, engaged with students during a tour of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum in Austin. Stanton served as the Director of the National Park Service (NPS) and Regional Director of the National Capital Region in Washington, D.C.

The University's legacy is influenced by our graduates who embody our core values while making outstanding contributions to their profession and community.

Several alumni who have exemplified the University's core values, known as I.D.E.A.L., have been recognized through the years.

INTEGRITY

We believe in honesty, sincerity, and responsibility.

DIVERSITY

We recognize and value the differences that enrich our educational environment.

EXCELLENCE

We are committed to the highest standards of expectation and achievement.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We believe in taking responsibility for our actions and our outcomes.

LEADERSHIP

We set an example and provide an environment that cultivates tomorrow's leaders.



Master's Graduates Charting New Paths

THE MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION degree was launched in 2019 with five students completing the 12-course, 36-credit hour course designed for working individuals. The MBA graduates are: Juanita Budd, Sulipsa Luque, Ashley McClary, D'Janae Robinson, and Thomas St. Julien.

Solution is a comprehensive provider of workforce development services in North America guided by a mission changing lives, advancing economies, and helping communities thrive. She previously the Executive Director of Austin Free-Net (AFN) where she led the

strategic direction of AFN, ensuring that the organization stayed relevant with the rapid changes in the technology industry. The MBA program "enhanced my leadership and executive management skills." ▲



Juanita Budd



Sulipsa Luque



Ashley McClary



D'Janae Robinson



Thomas St. Julien

Juanita Budd graduated with "High Distinction" honors. Budd was offered and accepted a new job immediately upon graduating with the MBA degree. She is the Director Project Management at Equus Workforce Solutions, located in Arlington, Texas. Equus Workforce

Meet Mpho Alice Lethoba



LETHOBA EARNED HT's bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a concentration in accounting. She earned a business analytics master's degree from Bentley University, located in Boston, MA.

Lethoba established her leadership skills on campus as the Student Government Association

treasurer, Toastmaster's International president, National Association of Black Accountants vice president, Golden Key International Honours Society vice president, was a member of the Delta Mu Delta International Honors Society, and served as a University Ambassador. The Kingdom of Lesotho native is employed with SALT Tax Associate – PwC. ▲

#IAmThePipeline – HT Prepares Male Students for the K-12 Classroom

INCREASING THE NUMBER OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALE TEACHERS is one of Huston-Tillotson University's top priorities. The undergraduate programs serve as a natural pipeline with the Master of Education Degree in Educational Leadership with Principal Certification elevating the goal to the administrator level.



Gabriel Russell, '18

Recent male graduates Raoul C. Howard, '06; Corey M. Wiggins, '06; Gabriel Russell, '18; and Jared Breckenridge, '21 are just a few examples of graduates changing the classroom dynamic.

Mentor Russell was living his calling through the Kealing Men's Mentorship Program while enrolled at HT. Young men looked up to him, especially when he was in his business suit, crown of rubies, and sparkling sash across his chest as Mister Huston-Tillotson University. Russell launched his career with the Austin Independent School District as a teacher at Barbara Jordon Elementary School.

Wiggins has six years of teaching experience working with students and parents of Title 1 campuses and is currently the Eighth Grade Assistant Principal at Sarah Lively Middle School within the Austin Independent School District. He stated, "As grade level team leader, I have fine-tuned my leadership skills, mentoring new teachers and planning logistics of campus grade level activities. My growth as an educational leader has afforded me the opportunity to serve as director of After-School Targeted interventions Director for Math and Language Arts." ▲



HT's first Master of Education in Educational Leadership with Principal Certification graduates pictured left to right are: Mariana Hansen, Raoul Howard, Shereen McKenzie, and Corey Wiggins.

Austin's Faith Community Champions Huston-Tillotson University

SUSTAINING THE GRIT AND RESILIENCE OF OUR FOUNDERS

SUSTAINING THE GRIT AND RESILIENCE OF OUR FOUNDERS

Tillotson College Established - 1875 - The United Church of Christ

Samuel Huston College - 1876 - The United Methodist Church

Huston-Tillotson College - 1952 - In Union, Strength

Huston-Tillotson University - 2005

Intellectual Heartbeat of East Austin - Serving the Genius Generation

The HBCU Experience

Undaunted

Unassailable

Unshakeable

Unafraid.

HT'S DR. THEODORE FRANCIS, assistant professor of history, shared words of inspiration during the end of the year-long virtual instruction due to the coronavirus.

Francis shared that Rev. George Richardson, a white Methodist minister from Minnesota, came to Dallas, Texas, in the 1870s with hopes of establishing a school for freed African Americans. Richardson soon met Rev. Jeremiah Webster, an African American Methodist preacher. With Webster's help and contacts, the two men started a schoolhouse for Blacks in 1875.



Sadly, the Ku Klux Klan burned down the school, and when Richardson and Webster rebuilt it, Dallas instituted teacher exams that were intentionally difficult to pass, so the school could not legally reopen. Worse still, Webster passed away during this troublesome period.

After dealing with racial violence, legal resistance from Southern racists, and the death of his friend and colleague, Richardson easily could have quit his dream of developing a school for African Americans.

Instead, Richardson relocated the school to Austin, Texas. He later received funding from an Iowa philanthropist, Samuel Huston, allowing Richardson's small school to blossom into Samuel Huston College.

The struggles facing Richardson and Webster were daunting, yet they faced them courageously and remained committed to their goals of maintaining a school for African Americans.

During the Austin relocation, classes of the predecessor institution, Samuel Huston College, were housed in the basement of Wesley United Methodist Church, established in 1865 during the Civil War era. Wesley, currently under the guidance of Pastor Sylvester Chase, and its congregation have remained steadfast, supporting students with housing, scholarships, financial donations, and spiritual comfort. HT celebrates that union annually through a shared University Day worship at Wesley that spotlights the concert choir and features the president as the keynote speaker. The day culminates with a fellowship reception.

Congregations such as Austin Stone Community Church who supported the COVID-19 fund in excess of \$100,000; and Gethsemane Lutheran Church, led by Pastor Karl A. Gronberg,



have extended their community outreach ministries to ensure that HT students have the resources needed to attend mission trips. Experiences in Washington, D.C., New York, and Belize have provided opportunities for students to serve and enrich the lives of others.

Pastor Joseph C. Parker Jr. leads David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church and provides comfort and care to the HT family. David Chapel has been a leader in their financial commitment to the University with national United Negro College Fund recognition and acknowledgment of their support. The president's investiture was held at David Chapel.

The Black College Fund

One of the most significant ways The United Methodist Church helps make quality education accessible to all is through the Black College Fund (BCF). The fund supports Huston-Tillotson University and 10 other historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs)



related to the church — the largest number of black colleges and universities receiving funding from any church body in the United States.

These 11 institutions play an indispensable role in shaping diverse young leaders for the church and the world. UM-related black colleges and universities offer a chance to everyone with a dream and a commitment to excel – regardless of race, class, gender or ethnic heritage. They also extend important educational opportunities to countless underserved and first-generation college students who might not be able to pursue a degree otherwise, despite their talents, skills and passions.

Greater Mount Zion

Greater Mount Zion, under the leadership of Pastor Gaylon Clark, serves the community through their relevant Bible teaching with an aim to ensure that those that they reach know God and grow spiritually. Greater Mount Zion is a staunch financial supporter of the University, investing \$50,000 in the W.E.B. DuBois

Honors program, in addition to opening their doors to host HT convocations. The 2019 Honors and Commencement Convocations were held in the beautiful Greater Mount Zion sanctuary.

First United Methodist

The First United Methodist Church is an inclusive faith community of Christian believers in the heart of downtown Austin. Whether extending its support to causes such as Black Lives Matter, or ensuring that HT students have the financial resources needed to succeed, First United Methodist Church, under the leadership of Senior Pastor Taylor Fuerst believes in and supports the HT mission. First United Methodist Church paid off all student balances with a \$451,989 investment during 2020 Fall to Spring semesters, ensuring student persistence in the middle of the pandemic as “an opportunity for transformation in all our lives and the community that binds us together.” ▲



Meet HT Star Assistant Professor Jennine Krueger

“**PROFESSOR KRUEGER** is one of my star faculty,” said Dean of College of Arts and Sciences Michael Hirsch. She continues to be a student and faculty favorite being voted best faculty four times in the last five years either for homecoming or end of the year awards by the students. She was then voted by her colleagues to represent HT as this year’s nominee for the Minnie Stevens Piper Professor award.

Krueger often talks about how we gain strength from our flaws in the writing process, the same way flaws are called quirks and superpowers in an anime called *My Hero Academia*. She also considers those same powers in different ways when talking about racial inequities; she looks at invisibility and hypervisibility as how society sees people of color. She has discussed immigration and assimilation while using Superman as the example.

She guides students to self-analyze their strengths and weaknesses by exploring their own backstory when writing a personal narrative. As a spoken word poet and playwright, Krueger often sees teaching as being on stage, so she also presents instruction dramatically and animated to keep students engaged. She has even written poems that she performs to introduce topics such as a poem called “Deductive Reasoning,” that

showcases contradiction in persuasive arguments. In addition to first-year writing courses, she also teaches creative writing. She gaged student interests and developed new Topics in Writing courses in Playwriting, and Poetry and Performance.

Krueger also proves to be exemplary outside of campus by being a leader in the community through activism around equity and inclusion, and she is a scholar exploring creative ways to include activism in her poetry, playwrighting, and librettist projects.

Students and the community enjoy success in the literary world thanks to Krueger’s coaching. In HT’s first offering of Introduction to Playwriting, Krueger secured 16 memberships into Scriptworks Austin, an organization to nurture playwrights and provide resources and opportunities for submissions and publishing. She also coached the Austin Poetry Slam to a second-place finish at Ink Slam in Los Angeles, CA. The community Wakanda Council held in HT’s King-Seabrook Chapel in 2008 engaged students via a panelist bringing together black leaders to discuss making our community a Wakanda. That same year, she led the Austin Comic Con workshop by hosting and organizing a panel on black superheroes.

Krueger can invoke jaw-dropping reactions when she takes the stage, which is why she is an award-winning lyricist. She is the 2017 recipient for the Brian Turner Literary Arts Prize in Spoken Word. The Original Coven debut at Frontera Fest @Hyde Park Theatre, was co-written by Krueger who was also an actress in the production. The production closed the Frontera Fest voted by the audience as Best of Fest in 2016. ▲



OUR DEEP-ROOTED MISSION AND STRONG VALUES SERVE AS THE SPRINGBOARD FOR THE **INTELLECTUAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE RAM FAMILY.** HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY OFFERS ACADEMIC AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS THAT **PREPARE AND NURTURE OUR UNIQUELY INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS** TO BECOME DIVERSE SCHOLARS AND **LEADERS OF THE GENIUS GENERATION.**

Faculty Mentoring, Outreach, and Research Inspire Exceptional Student Achievements



Dr. Katherine Durham

FACULTY TEACHING within and beyond the classroom has elevated Huston-Tillotson University's profile to award-winning levels and moved students into stellar careers in their chosen fields.

English Department faculty forged a relationship with Writers' League of Texas to offer free memberships to HT students. Professors **Ashley Nash**, **Jennine Krueger** and **Dr. Katherine Durham Oldmixon** as sponsor presented "Black Literature Matters: A Conversation on Writing and Race" during the League's event at BookPeople to a standing-room only crowd.



Shawanda Stewart

Professor **Shawanda Stewart** and colleagues planned, coordinated, and hosted a four-day UNCF/Mellon Teaching and Learning Institute, titled "Centering Students in the First Year Composition Classroom: Engagement, Improvement and Pedagogical Practices."



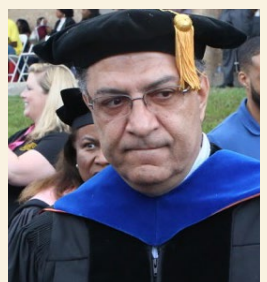
Dr. Anne Cirella-Urrutia

Adjunct instructor of French, **Dr. Anne Cirella-Urrutia**, joined **Dr. Alaine Hutson** and **Cale Carter** (history major) on a three-day research trip to Archives Nationales d'OutreMer (ANOM) in Aix en Provence, France, to conduct Carter's research on a French pilot of World War II, Roger Sauvage.



Dr. Carlos M. Cervantes

Dr. Carlos M. Cervantes, Chair of Kinesiology, was the recipient of the 2019 Michael E. Fassiotto Scholar-In-Residence Fellowship from the Faculty Resource Network. Dr. Cervantes is a fellow for the Obesity Health Disparities (OHD) Research PRIDE Program by the University of Mississippi Medical Center. He received training in community-based intervention to address obesity disparities. He is a requested presenter at numerous conferences.



Dr. Ahmad Kamalvand

Dr. Ahmad Kamalvand, Chair of the Mathematics Department, ensures student success through efforts that support the Math Center, which provides tutoring. In addition, he provides mathematics students the opportunity to attend conferences to connect with their peers.



Dr. Rosalee Martin

Dr. Rosalee Martin was awarded a 2016 Sam Taylor Fellowship to develop poetry to be used in sociology classes captured in a book, titled "The Human Condition in Poetry: From A Sociological Perspective," containing student and alumni poems.



Dr. Azubize Okpalaeze

Dr. Azubize Okpalaeze, computer science faculty was awarded a \$492,200 grant from the Department of Defense to conduct research to identify key safety issues within the Human-Robots Interactions. The research focuses on developing advanced robotic systems to assist people in their homes and at their work.



Dr. Michael Hirsch

Dr. Michael Hirsch, Dean of the College Arts and Sciences, was the lead author of the paper, "Looking Back on Five Years of Evaluating U.S. – Pakistani University Exchanges" that he presented at the Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology where he received the William Julius and the Alex Boros awards. In partnership with the honor society Pi Gamma Mu, the chapter hosted the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Freedom Riders on the HT's campus.



Dr. Lorraine Samuels

Dr. Lorraine Samuels, Chair, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, participated in the DiscoverLaw Plus Project in collaboration with the Law School Admissions Council (LSAC) and The University of Texas in Austin. Students take part in law school forums/fairs and spend time with admission directors and others from a host of law schools. Samuels also participated as a panelist in a student-led forum on human trafficking.



Dr. Debra L. Murphy

The Empowerment and Prevention Implemented Through Campus Community Collaboration (HT EPICC) directed by **Dr. Debra L. Murphy**, Professor of Psychology, engaged the campus in assisting with significant peer-led evidenced based alcohol abuse screening and brief intervention through the Texans Standing Tall TX Dot grant. She also received the "Conference Legacy Recognition" award by the Central Texas African American Family Support Conference for her contribution as a founding member.



Meet Dr. Monique Carroll, An HT First

PROGRAMS FOR MORE THAN 300 ATHLETES—including men's and women's basketball, outdoor track and field, soccer, men's baseball, cross country, and women's cheerleading, softball, and volleyball—is managed by newly hired Athletic Director Dr. Monique Carroll.



Carroll is the University's first black female athletics director and has already introduced her vision with new concepts such as E-Sports and the launch of HT's online market of clothing items. She started her tenure during the pandemic, managing the Red River Athletic Conference by following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for gatherings. "We've made some tough decisions," she says, "but definitely the right decisions to rebuild."

Carroll got her start in intercollegiate athletics as a compliance volunteer

at the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff (UAPB). A three-sport athlete, she was a member of the UAPB volleyball, track and field, and bowling teams. Carroll also attended Langston University (LU), where she was a member of the track and field team. During her time at LU, she set four school records in the indoor high jump, outdoor high jump, outdoor triple jump, and women's heptathlon.



Her recognitions and organizational memberships include National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I National SAAC Representative for the SWAC, NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics, NCAA Effective Facilitation workshop, Women Leaders in College Sports, National Association of Athletic Compliance (NAAC), Black Women in Sport Foundation (BWSF), and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated. She was recently

selected to serve on the board of the Austin Sports Commission.

A native of New Boston, Texas, Carroll received her BS in secondary health and physical education from UAPB, an MS in sports management at the United States Sports Academy in Daphne, Alabama, and a Ph.D. with an emphasis in sports management from Northcentral University. ▲



Meet Our Championship Volleyball Team – Lady Rams Finish 1st in the RRAC

THE HT VOLLEYBALL TEAM

finished the 2019 season as the Red River Athletic Conference (RRAC) Tournament champion for the first time in the institution's history.

The Lady Rams entered the tournament as the number seed and showed their grit and toughness before enjoying a tournament respite as they prepared to take down their last opponent for the title.

The University of the Southwest (New Mexico) and Jarvis Christian College battled it out in the opening round of the RRAC Tournament on November 8, 2019. Southwest ended up prevailing to face HT in the semifinals taking place the same day.

The Rams went on to defeat Southwest in straight sets (25-18, 25-15, 25-17)

to advance to the finals for a second straight season. They had a team hitting average of .204 with Tiara Thompson and Briana Domino leading the charge with 10 kills apiece, and Mir Tillman totaling 19 digs on the defensive end. In the tournament finale the following day, they would meet up with the number-three seed and tournament host the Saints of Our Lady of the Lake University (OLLU).

It was a thrilling final game as the Saints and Rams battled it out on the court. OLLU took the first set, 25-19, with a balanced offensive attack. Six Saints registered a kill in the first set with Anyssa Rivera and Natalie Fazio leading the way with four kills apiece and Anissa Tamez chipping in with 16 assists.

HT took set two by a score of 25-



The Lady Rams entered the tournament as the number one seed and showed their grit and toughness.

20, with seniors Tatyana Tyson and Thompson leading the offensive charge with three kills each and Alysia Garcia adding in two service aces.

Set three was the closest set of the day, with OLLU taking it 25-22. With OLLU leading two sets to one, HT went on to rally and win the next two sets by scores of 25-16 in set four and 15-11 in the final set. They won the match three sets to two and took home the Rams' first RRAC Tournament championship under the leadership of head coach Dan Behnke.

The Rams' offense was led by Thompson with 16 kills, Domino with 15, and

Savannah Garza with 11, while Valencia Barrett added 21 assists and Anabel Bustamante had 24.

On the defensive side of the court, the Rams were led by Tillman, who tallied 25 digs and Alysia Garza adding 16. Adna De Andrade had 11 blocks while Tyson added eight and Keyonna Ganious finished with five.

Domino, Bustamante, and Tillman were named to the All-Tournament Team along with Tamez and Alyssa Marquez from OLLU. Wiley's Alexia Souza and Southwest's Martinique Larvingo rounded out the All-Tournament Team. ▲



Mary E. Branch Gymnasium

VICE PRESIDENT'S SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Archibald W. Vanderpuye Advances HT's Academic Efforts

JULY 2021 will mark a decade of service to HT by Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Archibald Vanderpuye. Vanderpuye arrived on HT's campus grounds with one singular goal – "Impacting the lives of young minds for a better future." Throughout his HT tenure, Vanderpuye has unequivocally delivered on his overarching goals. Specifically, during the 2015-2020 academic years, HT graduated 42% more students compared to the previous 5-year period. Also, HT experienced a 4% increase in first-time freshman retention which was in addition to a 4% increase during the 2010-2015 academic years. Vanderpuye attributes the aforementioned successes to the incredibly hard working and mission driven HT faculty and staff. Retention rate increases were partly due to dividing the first-year experience course into two semesters. Incoming HT freshmen are now enrolled in both a fall semester and a spring semester first-year experience course. Vanderpuye has found this course change transformative, ensuring students successfully transition to college life, "one semester is not enough. Students need that second semester oversight of a faculty member who serves as an advisor to encourage, remind, and help them continue to navigate successfully in the college environment." Vanderpuye also credits HT's student retention increases to the efforts of all the staff of The Center for Academic Excellence and HT's entire campus for "continuously checking in on our students and encouraging them to do better."

Throughout the past five years, Vanderpuye has collaborated with the HT academic leadership to develop and orchestrate a myriad of initiatives at HT. He is incredibly proud of the

following three initiatives: (1) HT's inception of master's programs – M.Ed. in Educational Leadership with Principal Preparation in Spring 2015 and MBA program in Fall 2019; (2) Establishing the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CEI), HT's first off-site campus located at the Center for Social Innovation (CSI) on Springdale Road in East Austin, to offer entrepreneurial education, provide incubator services, and help women, minority students and the community at large launch new business ventures through classroom instructions and experiential learning and partnerships; and (3) HT's pursuit of being one of the greenest HBCUs in the country, with the largest solar array of any private HBCU – the 240 kW array provides 8-10% of the campus power needs, producing over 300 MWh of electricity annually, the equivalent to 27 homes' energy use for one year.

What's next for Vanderpuye and the HT academic leadership? HT looks forward to launching an Environmental Justice undergraduate program that will illuminate "justice, the environment, and policies that negatively impact minorities;" a Global Studies undergraduate program that acknowledges HT students inhabit a global village and therefore must receive crucial exposure and awareness to global issues; M.Ed. in Language and Literacy; developing a 100% online Associate's degree and Business Administration Bachelor's degree; and collaborating with Tesla on an engineering program for HT's undergraduate students.

The past five years have reinforced Vanderpuye's love for working at Austin's oldest institution of higher learning and



Dr. Archibald W. Vanderpuye, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

only HBCU – he is inspired by President Burnette's unwavering dedication and championing of HT students "working hard to remove barriers to make our students successful and working closely with faculty and staff, helping everyone contribute their best to the university."

Hometown: Accra, Ghana

Favorite Book: *Good to Great* by Jim Collins

Favorite Food: "Pinnekjøtt" – Norwegian Christmas meal

Favorite Music: Smooth jazz

Favorite Vacation Spot: London, England

VICE PRESIDENT'S SPOTLIGHT

A Dream No Longer Deferred – VP/COO Wayne Knox

IN 2008, Vice President/Chief Operating Officer Wayne Knox was a student enrolled at Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio. His title then was Student Government Association President and Escort for Miss Central State University and in his biography for the university's coronation he shared that he "wanted to be the COO for a university, a black college" when he grew up. Fast forward 13 years later, Knox's career aspiration is no longer a dream deferred – he is the VP/COO for Austin's oldest institution of higher learning and only HBCU – Huston-Tillotson University. VP/COO Knox prayed fervently and worked diligently for the opportunity to serve HT in this administrator capacity. He is "grateful for the opportunity to be able to serve the black college and playing a role to ensure that this institution has the same level of relevance and prowess 100 years from now because of the work that I've done here today at Huston-Tillotson University."

One of VP/COO Knox's biggest points of pride is when he "arrived at HT, we were just shy of 900 students. Now, within my five-year tenure, we are just shy of 1,200 students." VP/COO Knox attributes this remarkable growth, nearly a 33% increase in student enrollment to several key factors: (1) HT's Career Pathways Initiative (CPI) program, which provides students with a hyperfocus on how their degree as a liberal arts student directly aligns with their desired career outcome, while simultaneously ensuring our corporate partners are a part of their success; (2) Collaborating with colleagues in academic support such as The Center for Academic Excellence to cultivate a rich and robust first-year experience so that

"students really understood the notion of four quarters – each quarter representing an academic year – encouraging students to aim for doing four quarters and no overtime;" and (3) Intentionality of our corporate partners to "walk alongside us to help put the exclamation point on the sentence as it relates to the University's value proposition because both the student and their family are able to see our corporate partners being a part of the total HT experience from freshmen programming to seeing students graduate from the institution and subsequently being hired by our corporate partners."

When asked to relay the three initiatives that he is most proud of implementing, during the 2015-2020 academic years, VP/COO Knox cites the following endeavors: Student Affairs and Athletics departments' massive retooling of the student experience outside the classroom – intentionally "rooting the student experience in our institution's core values of I.D.E.A.L. (Integrity, Diversity, Excellence, Accountability, and Leadership);" Enrollment Management meeting our enrollment target year-over-year, "culminating with our University's record enrollment for first-year students in 2018-2019 where we exceeded our target by 24 students;" and "the significant gains we've been able to accomplish with improving the digital infrastructure across campus – Information Technology has been able to deploy great technology to shore up our campus via offerings such as Canvas for our new LMS (Learning Management System) and Office 365 for our new productivity system, which enables students to access information on-demand regardless of where he or she is on the globe."



Wayne Knox, Vice President/Chief Operating Officer and Clerk of the Board

"What happens to a dream deferred?" Knox is embodying his dream from 2008 as SGA President of Central State University – a dream firmly grounded in the "mission of this institution and black colleges specifically because the work that we do will touch lives for generations – it won't just be a drop in the bucket for either five or ten years – this work will make an impact for generations."

Hometown: Cincinnati, Ohio

Favorite Book: *The Souls of Black Folk* by W.E.B. DuBois, *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho, and *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Favorite Food: Grilled salmon with creole seasoning

Favorite Song: *Got to Give it Up* by Marvin Gaye

Favorite Vacation Spot: Marrakesh, Morocco

AUSTIN'S MAYOR NAMED
FEBRUARY 1, 2019 AS **HT
CONCERT CHOIR DAY.**

HT IS HOME TO AUSTIN'S ONLY
EARTH DAY EVENT AND TO
**SISTER MOSES: THE STORY OF
HARRIET TUBMAN, SOUL FOOD
TRUCK FEST,** AND THE **URBAN
CULTURAL FEST.**

**SXSW EVENTS ON THE HT
CAMPUS** INCLUDE HUSTLE
HOUSE AS THE FIRST IN
ADDITION TO HBCU@SXSW.



INVESTING IN OUR MISSION AND OUR STUDENTS



Huston-Tillotson University a Global HBCU

THE DEMOGRAPHIC NATURE of Huston-Tillotson University makes it one of the most diverse campuses in Central Texas. Expanding the enrollment of international students is an important component of the University's global efforts. Since Fall 2015, students from at least 28 countries have attended HT. Currently, 1.7% of HT's total student enrollment is comprised of international students.

Internationalization helps transform our students into global citizens. Interacting with international students via education abroad or as classmates enables HT students to see the world with a different perspective from which they are accustomed. Importantly, internationalization gives students, faculty, and staff the opportunity to increase their knowledge about new cultures and countries.

The University has set a goal of increasing the number of students who experience education abroad from its current 1.4% annually.

The global trip affords students the opportunity to practice the global knowledge that they acquired in the classroom through fieldwork with visits to country-specific organizations in the host country.

The University sees the internationalizing of the curriculum as critical to the campus internationalization plan. Several faculty members have collaborated on research projects with university faculty in Mexico, Nigeria, and Pakistan. The University's academic curricula offers more than 20 international courses with an explicit focus on international issues. Several of the international courses are in the social sciences and

humanities, including political science and history. The Department of Business Administration has an entire curriculum of international business courses. Look for a new degree program within the College of Arts and Sciences titled, Global Studies.

HT's global efforts shows the high graduation rates for international students, that the majority complete their degrees in four to four and a half years, most secure jobs in their disciplines, a vast majority have jobs paying high salaries, and many earn their master's degree within two to three years after earning the undergraduate degree.

The University provides scholastic opportunities for international students through the Presidential Scholarship, W.E.B. DuBois Honors Scholarship, and numerous private and academic departmental scholarships. The Presidential Scholarship is awarded to students who demonstrate exceptional academic achievement. W.E.B. DuBois Honors Scholarship applicants must demonstrate academic strength, leadership qualities, and engagement in the community. They also, must have grade point average of at least 3.5 for acceptance and continuation in the program. ▲

Frost Bank and Spurs Give Partner to Award Huston-Tillotson University \$100,000 Grant

FROST BANK AND SPURS GIVE partnered to award Huston-Tillotson University a \$100,000 grant. This grant is a continuation of Frost Bank and Spurs Give's commitment to "Operation Renovation," which strives to enhance facility infrastructures that provide our students with safe places to play and learn, while acquiring the valuable life lessons gained through teamwork and competition.

HT will use the funding to renovate existing areas and create new spaces that promote physical, mental and emotional well-being for students. Updates include resurfacing the outdoor basketball and tennis courts, along with new equipment for players and seating for fans. These improvements will be open to students and the community so they can practice and compete in

tennis, basketball and other outdoor matches. Additionally, the project includes creating areas on campus that will promote mental and emotional wellness. Spaces inside and outside residence halls will be transformed into therapeutic and meditative areas for the campus community. Outdoor seating, hammocks, lighting and improved aesthetics will also be installed.

"From the very beginning of my presidency, Frost Bank and the Spurs organization have been invaluable partners in supporting our students and our mission," said Dr. Burnette. "This grant is yet another anchoring of that partnership, another indelible investment in our students and is greatly appreciated."

Spurs basketball player Derrick White surprised the members of men's

basketball team in February to share news of the announcement during a Zoom meeting. They talked about the grant, White's basketball journey

from college to the NBA, and how he inspired youth to continue to work hard toward their dreams. ▲



HT Opens the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation

A MAJOR MILESTONE under the Huston-Tillotson University administration of President Burnette is the creation of the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CEI). In fall 2018, CEI officially opened its doors at Springdale General on Springdale Road in East Austin. The 6,600-square-foot building is just five minutes from HT’s campus and 10 minutes from downtown Austin.

The goal of CEI is to empower women and people of color through entrepreneurial training. By offering workshops and business education classes, CEI assists in making dreams of starting a new business come true for this target demographic. CEI is designed to be a one-stop destination for entrepreneurs looking to take their business concepts from idea to launch to success.

President Burnette noted the significance of CEI’s location when she remarked that, “it is in historic East Austin and provides space for non- and for profits. Just like HT, each organization located in the Springdale General complex is exploring solutions to social issues, including education, access to health care, and poverty.”

CEI provides space for community organizations. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, CEI was very active with many community events including Latinitas and its four-week summer coding camp for young girls. Also, Life Development of California has sponsored a Startup Pitch Competition Workshop every spring. Additionally, the City of Austin located its Challenge Studio in one of the spaces at CEI. The Challenge Studio aimed to direct the community’s entrepreneurial vigor toward meaningful opportunity projects such as improving food access for all and environmental quality.

In addition to providing space to community groups for various entrepreneurial-related events, CEI offers co-working office space to community organizations. Several organizations, including the Black Professional Alliance (BPA), have utilized space at CEI for their regular monthly meetings.

The CEI reopening in Fall 2021 fuels training of the next generation of women and people of color entrepreneurs and innovators. ▲



In Union, There is Strength – Keeping our Campus Beautiful



THE ACADEMIC MISSION OF HT is supported though grant funding efforts that provide resources for a variety of teaching and learning endeavors. Preserving the beauty of the historical campus is paramount for its buildings, grounds, and overall campus aesthetics.

Making our Mark

Projects range from our new marquee that sits strong on the Bluebonnet Hill, signaling to the thousands of vehicles and pedestrians on the highly travelled Seventh Street corridor from the airport to downtown that we ARE Huston-Tillotson University. In addition, the new campus lighting continues to illuminate not only the campus pathways but the splendor of the elevated landscape under the night glow. The new entryway signage and perimeter fencing maximizes the University’s curb appeal. ▲





Diamonds in the Outfield
SCHOLARSHIP
GALA

SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 2017
HILTON AUSTIN
500 E. 4th Street

BLACK TIE
& SNEAKERS



2017 Diamonds in the Outfield Scholarship Gala

HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY paid tribute to baseball during this gala with Jim Gideon and Trennis Jones providing a vision to honor the members of the Negro Baseball League. Downs Field is home to our own baseball team that brings memories of a field of dreams when teams such as the Austin Black Pioneers, Austin Greyhounds, Austin Indians, Austin Palominos and players such as Satchel Paige, Willie Wells, and Buck O'Neil made their marks. Before signing with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1945, Jackie Robinson was the Samuel Huston College basketball coach. Robinson later returned to serve on the Huston-Tillotson College Board of Trustees.

A Glimmer of Hope Foundation
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Austin Revitalization Authority
City of Austin
Colette Pierce Burnette
Donald Fleming, Ronald J. Fleming, Bishop Robert E. Hayes, Jr.
In Memory of Seth Dockery, Jr., Class of 1950
Katrine Formby
George, Brothers, Kincaid and Horton
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Hawkins Public Policy Consulting
Helix Education
Huston-Tillotson University International Alumni Association
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Scott Schmidt and Carol L. McDonald
The Austin Area Chevy Dealers
University Federal Credit Union (UFCU)
University of Texas Division of Diversity and Community Engagement
Wells Fargo Bank

Alumni Awardees | 2017 DIAMONDS IN THE OUTFIELD SCHOLARSHIP GALA

Many HT alumni have been stalwart in their support of the university. During the **2017 Diamonds in the Outfield Scholarship Gala**, these alumni were recognized for their longstanding contributions in their professions and to the university:

Michael Robertson is HT's Baseball Hall of Fame inductee. Robinson is a 1987 alumnus who thus far is the first and only coach to have won Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) championships at two different universities and the only coach to have won SWAC Western Division titles at two different universities.

Coach James Wilson enjoyed a stellar career at HT that began in 1953 when he became a student and an accomplished athlete, lettering in three sports during his four years. He served as the HT athletics director for 44 years, growing the department from three to eight men's sports programs and adding seven women's programs, guiding 26 All Americans, and winning numerous championships.

Coach Alvin Moore collected more than 600 wins during his career as the HT baseball coach while serving as a mentor to hundreds of athletes. His athletes have been drafted by the Atlanta Braves, Cincinnati Reds, Cleveland Indians, Houston Astros, Kansas City Royals, Los Angeles Dodgers, New York Mets, and Texas Rangers. He was also featured in a local production, "District Days at Historic Downs Field," as part of a community-wide celebration of culture, legacy, and baseball.

Coach Charles Dubra immediately began his teaching career at J. E. Johnson High School in Prentiss, Mississippi. After graduating, he coached boys' basketball, and divided his time between Johnson High School and Prentiss Junior College as the choral director. He left Prentiss in 1969 to return and join the staff at Huston-Tillotson College as the men's assistant basketball coach. He wore many

other hats at HT, including Interim athletic director, mailroom director, security director, director of admission, dean of enrollment services, coordinator of biweekly payroll, and head baseball coach. He later introduced and coached the first women's sports program on campus, women's basketball.

In addition to the coaching staff, these individuals were also recognized during the Diamonds in the Outfield Scholarship Gala.

1941 Alumna, Ada Cecilia Collins Anderson

1944 Alumna, Wilhelmina E. Perry

1945 Alumna, Bertha Sadler Means

1950 Alumna, Octavia L. Smith

1953 Alumna, Nancy P. Crayton-Jones

1956 Alumnus, Zan Wesley Holmes Jr.

1958 Alumna, Billie Fai Adams Ball

1962 Alumna, Lynn Ray Ellison

1963 Alumnus, The Honorable Robert G. Stanton

1967 Alumna, Gertie Elizabeth Oliver

1981 Alumna, Mary E. Kearsse Ashford

2018

HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY BLUES *in the Night* SCHOLARSHIP GALA

Grammy-Award Winner Gary Clark, Jr., the grandson of HT's Earnestine Strickland, was the featured entertainment during this sold-out gala that also showcased the Peterson Brothers.

GOLD LEVEL SPONSORS

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Nancy P. Crayton Jones
The Austin Area Chevy Dealers

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In Memory of Seth Dockery, Jr. Class of 1950
John P. McGovern Foundation
Kathryn S. Page
Katrine Formby
Scott Schmidt and Carol L. McDonald
"Donald J. Fleming, Ronald J. Fleming,
Bishop Robert Hayes, Jr."
Colette Pierce Burnette
George Brothers Kincaid & Horton, L.L.P.

PRESENTING SPONSORS Catina and David Godsey

FOLLOWING GRADUATION, Class of 1994, Godsey started a career as an insurance claims adjuster with Progressive Insurance Company. After three years as an adjuster, he was promoted through four levels to the managerial level and ended his career as the Dallas office branch manager. After which, he enrolled at Texas Wesleyan School of Law in Fort Worth.

As a law student, he was initiated with honors into Delta Theta Phi law fraternity and was the first African American student there to serve as vice president of the Moot Court Honor Society, as well as the first to earn the honor of First Oralist in the school-wide Moot Court competition.

Godsey eventually built what is now known as Godsey Martin, the largest African American-owned personal injury law firm in the state of Texas. He prides himself on providing not only expert legal counsel but also on delivering a

greater level of compassion and understanding to suffering clients.

In addition to his efforts in the legal field, Godsey is proud to be involved in many community-related matters. He and the firm give away hundreds of bicycles and car seats every year to families in need. Godsey has also given scholarships, laptops, and iPads to high school and college students, and consistently donates each year to countless community organizations and programs. He also serves on the board of directors of the Heart of a Warrior Charitable Foundation, a total-enrichment program for underserved children in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Godsey is active at his alma mater, where he underwrote the title sponsorship for HT's 2018 scholarship gala, and is a supporter of HT's Supply Chain Management Program. ▲



Donor Roll FY/2015-2020

Philanthropic contributions from corporations, foundations, churches, alumni and friends of Huston-Tillotson University help to further the impact of scholarship support, valuable internship experiences, and technology to enhance learning and classroom research, and innovative and life-changing courses to nurture the love of learning.

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 The Robert A. Welch Foundation
 The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club
 The Texas A&M Foundation
 Third Coast Activist Resource Center
 Thomas, Albert C.
 Thompson Facilities Services
 Thompson, A.L.
 Thompson, Cathy
 Threatcare
 Tippen, Carl S.
 Toliver Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
 Tom Joyner Foundation
 Trelis Company
 Tulsa Community Foundation
 TXOGA Insurance Agency, Inc.
 Umoja Peace Center
 UNCF

United Church of Christ
 United Methodist Higher Education Foundation
 United Methodist Women
 University Area Rotary Club
 University Federal Credit Union
 University of Pennsylvania
 University of Texas at Austin
 University of Texas at Austin - IPSI
 University of Texas at Austin - School of Law
 University of Texas at Austin, Office of the President
 University of Texas at San Antonio
 University United Methodist Church
 UNT Health Science Center
 UPS Education Assistance Program
 Vanguard Charitable
 Varner Sr., Cal E.
 Vasquez, Dorothy
 Vaswani, Sandy
 VFW Post 1533
 Vista Equity Partners, LLC
 Vista Ridge High School Navy
 Vistra Energy
 Waco Chamber of Commerce
 Wade, Mary E.
 Wallace, Larry
 Walter, David
 Waring, Bobbie J.
 Warner Bros. Television
 Watkins, Angela H.
 Watson, Kirk P.
 Watts, Mikal C.
 Wayland Baptist University
 Welland, David R.
 Wells Fargo Bank
 Wesley United Methodist Church
 White, Frances L.
 White, Olivia M.
 White, Vance A.
 Wick, Audrey
 Wilhite, Doris M.
 Williams Kherkher, LLP
 Williams, Barbara E.
 Williams, Bilty T.
 Williams, Doris F.
 Williams-Hunter, KatharineG.
 Wilson, James R.
 Wilson, JoAnn
 Wolff, David
 Worldwide ERC Foundation for Workforce Mobility
 Worsham Ph.D., Murray E.
 WP Engine
 Wright, Helen J.
 Yancy, Howard C.
 YourCause - Corporate Employee Giving Program
 Youth Financial Literacy
 Zachry Industrial, Inc.
 Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church
 Zion Rest Missionary Baptist Church



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Civic Engagement and Outreach Opens the Campus to the Community

CONVERSATIONS, CALLS TO ACTION, TRUTHS REVEALED, LIFTING A CAUSE, AND JUST PLAIN OL' FUN

THE UNIVERSITY, with its 145-year history, opened its doors to the broader Central Texas community, and the response has been awe-inspiring.

The director of the Center for Civic Engagement and Community Outreach, Linda Y. Jackson, not only manages campus events but also serves on boards, attends neighborhood meetings, visits schools, and networks at galas, ensuring that HT's voice is heard while lifting the profile of the campus.



Long-term partners such as the Austin Area Heritage Council—which plans the annual Martin Luther King Jr. March and Festival—provided a framework for new partnerships with planners of Earth Day. Combined with Black Lives Matter, Stop Asian Hate, and transgender rallies, more than 50,000 guests visited the campus with organizers who were not looking just for space to host an event but seeking that legacy of

leadership and excellence in education that HT typifies in its mission to connect knowledge, power, passion, and values.

Even as groups such as Measure Austin and the East Austin Rotary Club find that their strategic planning works best knowing that they can meet monthly on campus, other organizations—such as E3Alliance and the Austin Area Urban League—find that the central location and amenities provide a framework for success.

HT is also home to the Louis Gregory Symposium on Race Unity, Green Justice Forum, New Story Festival, Sister Moses: The Story of Harriet Tubman, and the Urban Cultural Fest. In addition, the University is an election-day voting location. The Black and Brown founders brought Hustle-House@SXSW, and Rodney Sampson brought Opportunity HUB or OHUB, another SXSW event, to HT to connect 200 HBCU students across the country with technology-industry experts right here on campus. The Greater



Nikole Hannah-Jones

Austin Area My Brother's Keeper initiative brings young men to King-Seabrook Chapel annually for an empowerment day, and Students with a Graduation Goal (SWAGG) brings 500 Austin Independent School students to campus to get them college-ready during a day-long session.

Opportunities to broaden one's thoughts came through speakers such as Nikole Hannah-Jones, New York Times author of The 1619 Project, who shared the framework around race and race relations, dating to slavery. Several conversations on race occurred were lifted by several organizations. The former president

Continued

of Nigeria, H. E. Olusegun Obasanjo, shared his ideas; a panel of international journalists made a profound impression on the audiences gathered in the Agard-Lovinggood Auditorium; and former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder chatted with then Dallas representative Eric Johnson, now mayor, about the perils of redistricting.

HT's own virtual discussion, "Answering Questions, Dispelling Myths, and Telling Truths," featured Barney

S. Graham, chief of the Viral Pathogenesis Laboratory at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), and Kizzmekia Corbett, who recently joined Harvard's T.H. Chan School of Public Health but previously served at NIAID, where she was instrumental in research that led to the development of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. Onyema Ogbuagu—associate professor of medicine at Yale School of Medicine, who worked on the COVID-19 clinical trials—and Stephanie Hayden—Austin's assistant city manager for health,

environment, culture, and lifelong learning—rounded out the discussion with comments from Jerome M. Adams, the 20th surgeon general of the U.S.

Whether hosting schoolchildren during a field day or a holiday tradition such as The Icons of Broadway—featuring Mela Sarajane Dailey, Gregory Cash Durham, and HT students as part of the musical ensemble—opportunities are plentiful for the enrichment of the community and the University. ▲



Save The Date
 FEB. 2019
 FRI, 8th-
 SAT, 9th
 7-30 p.m.

HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY
 Presents
Sister Moses
 THE STORY OF HARRIET TUBMAN
 Dance Drama

FEATURING: The historic Tillotson University Concert Choir, under the direction of Dr. Gloria Quinlan

RIVETING! A powerful program that moves and changes audiences!

History is brought to life on stage through movement, dramatic narration, African drums, melodious string sounds and traditional spirituals. With local dancer/choreographer, BENE DAVIS as Harriet Tubman and RENEE MORGAN BROOKS as the voice of Harriet Tubman. Special guest appearance by Ballet Afrique under the direction of China Smith

For more information visit SisterMosesDance.org or info@sistermosesdance.org

This project is sponsored in part by the Cultural Arts Division of the City of Austin Economic Development Department.

HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY
Community Easter Egg Hunt

Sponsored by the
 Huston-Tillotson University Ambassadors
 Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 4 p.m.
 In case of rain, event will be held on Monday, April 17, 2017

The meaning of Easter story time
 Age divisions
 Prize eggs
 Candy
 Scholarship prize egg
 Fun for the entire family
 Bring your own basket
 No charge

Map to campus

Huston-Tillotson University
 900 Chicon St. Austin, Texas 78702-2295
 512.459.8623 • www.htu.edu

EXPLORING THE SOLAR SYSTEM
NASA SPACE SCIENCE DAY

Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM) together in our place! Come join the adventure and have fun with NASA Space Science!

COMMUNITY NIGHT - EVERYONE WELCOME!
 SPECIAL NASA SPEAKER!
 APRIL 1, 2016
 HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY
 KING-SBAROOK CHAPEL
 6:00 PM-8:00 PM

NSSD EVENT - 4TH-8TH GRADE STUDENTS AND TEACHERS ONLY!
 HELD AT HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY
 SATURDAY APRIL 2, 2016
 8:30 AM-4:00 PM

WHO?
 4th-8th grade students and their teachers.

FREE EVENT
 GUEST KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
 FROM NASA
 JOHNSON SPACE CENTER

HANDS ON ACTIVITIES TEKS BASED

- Laser Displays
- Engineering Challenge
- Early solar system formation
- Asteroids and comets
- Robotic science Mission Design
- Careers in space science
- Current field research
- NASA Discovery Mission activities
- Be a planetary explorer
- Portable Planetarium

http://www.nasa.gov/

Rally to
#STOP ASIAN HATE

SATURDAY APRIL 17, HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY, 8:00P
 SPEAKERS 4:30P - 5:30P, VILL'S 5:30P - 6:00P
 HOSTS: HTU/HTU

New Story Festival
 1-Day Experience: November 3, 2018
 3-Day Festival: March 29-31, 2019
 Austin, Texas

Announcing the New Story Experience
 1-Day Celebration of Creativity, Spirituality, and Social Action

WITH

Brian McLaren
 Micky S. Jones
 Mona Haydar
 Amparo Garcia-Crow
 Gareth Higgins

Music, Art, and Stories
 Inspiring Speakers and Practical Workshops
 Laughter and Dancing, Mindfulness and Reflection
 Authentic Conversations and New Friends

Saturday, November 3, at Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon St. Austin, Texas
 Visit us at www.newstoryfestival.com

Facebook: NewStoryFestival
 Instagram: NewStoryFestival
 Twitter: @NewStoryFest

Greater
Austin BLACK CHAMBER
 PRESENTS

AFRICA TECHNOLOGY SUMMIT

TECHNOLOGY IN DEVELOPING AFRICA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH
 NATURE & ROLE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR

SEPTEMBER 24
 3PM - 7PM

featuring
H.E. OLUSEGUN OBASANJO
 Former President of Nigeria
 Co-Chair & Chairman

LOCATION
 King Casbrook Chapel
 Huston-Tillotson University
 900 Chicon St. Austin, TX 78702

CO-SPONSORED BY
 HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY
 N.L.V.E.R.S.I.T.Y.

PROMOTIONAL PARTNERS
 BlueCross BlueShield of Texas
 UFTOUHouston.com
 UFTOUHouston.org
 UFTOUHouston.com

www.austinblackchamber.org
 512.459.1181

March 1, 2016 Joint Primary Election
VOTE EARLY

Huston-Tillotson University
 Early Voting on:
 Thursday, February 18
 8 am - 6 pm

For other Early Voting locations or more information, Call the Travis County Clerk's Office at 230-VOTE (8683) or Visit our website: www.TravisCountyElections.org
 Election Day is:
Tuesday March 1, 2016

HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY PRESENTS
**ANSWERING QUESTIONS
 DISPELLING MYTHS
 TELLING TRUTHS**
 DISCUSSION ON THE PANDEMIC VACCINE ROLLOUT IN THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2021 | 6 - 7:30 PM
 WATCH LIVE FROM WWW.HTU.EDU

Speakers:
 Vice Admiral Jerome M. Adams, M.D., M.P.H. | 20th Surgeon General of the United States
 Barney S. Graham, M.D., Ph.D. | NIH National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Chief, Viral Pathogenesis Laboratory
 Stephanie Hayden, M.S.W. | Director of Austin Public Health
 Onyema Ogbuagu, M.B.Ch.B., FRCR, FRCR (A) | Yale School of Medicine Associate Professor of Medicine (AIDS) and Infectious Diseases Specialist
 Moderated by Amanda Medina, Ph.D. | Huston-Tillotson University Chair of Natural Sciences, Associate Professor of Biology

Navigate to <http://bit.ly/HTRolloutPanel> to join the webinar and direct questions to communityengagement@htu.edu.

TEXAS TRIBUNE EVENTS

A Symposium on Health Care

Presented by BlueCross BlueShield of Texas
 Sponsored by UFTOUHouston.com
 UFTOUHouston.org
 UFTOUHouston.com

Monday, May 4, 2015
 8 AM - 3 PM

Huston-Tillotson University
 900 Chicon St., Austin, TX 78702
 Complimentary breakfast & lunch included

ATTENDEES @TEXASTRIBUNE

THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. MARCH & FESTIVAL
 MONDAY
JANUARY 20, 2020

The Annual Community March celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King's legacy while uplifting diversity and multi-culturalism in our city. All businesses, non-profit organizations and individuals are invited to march and celebrate Dr. King's legacy.

MARCH & FESTIVAL 9 am
 UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS campus | MLK Statue
 The MLK Community March kicks off on Monday, January 20, 2020 at 9 am with a short program at the MLK Statue on the University of Texas campus. At the conclusion of the program at the MLK Statue, we will march to the south steps of the Capitol for a rally and performance by the HT Choir. After the Capitol program, the march will proceed to the historic Huston-Tillotson University where evening activities are planned.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
 Facebook: HTU.edu
 Instagram: HTU.edu
 Twitter: HTU.edu

"Honoring Our Home"
Earth Day ATX
 Saturday, April 13th
 12pm-6pm

Sponsored by
 HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY
 HTU.EDU
 H-E-B
 APPLIED

The
 Second Annual
**Building Green
 Justice Forum**
 Cultivating Food Justice

Huston-Tillotson University
 900 Chicon, Austin, TX 78702
 Thursday, September 24th
 8:30am-4:00pm

Presented by
 BlueCross BlueShield of Texas
 Sponsored by
 UFTOUHouston.com
 UFTOUHouston.org
 UFTOUHouston.com

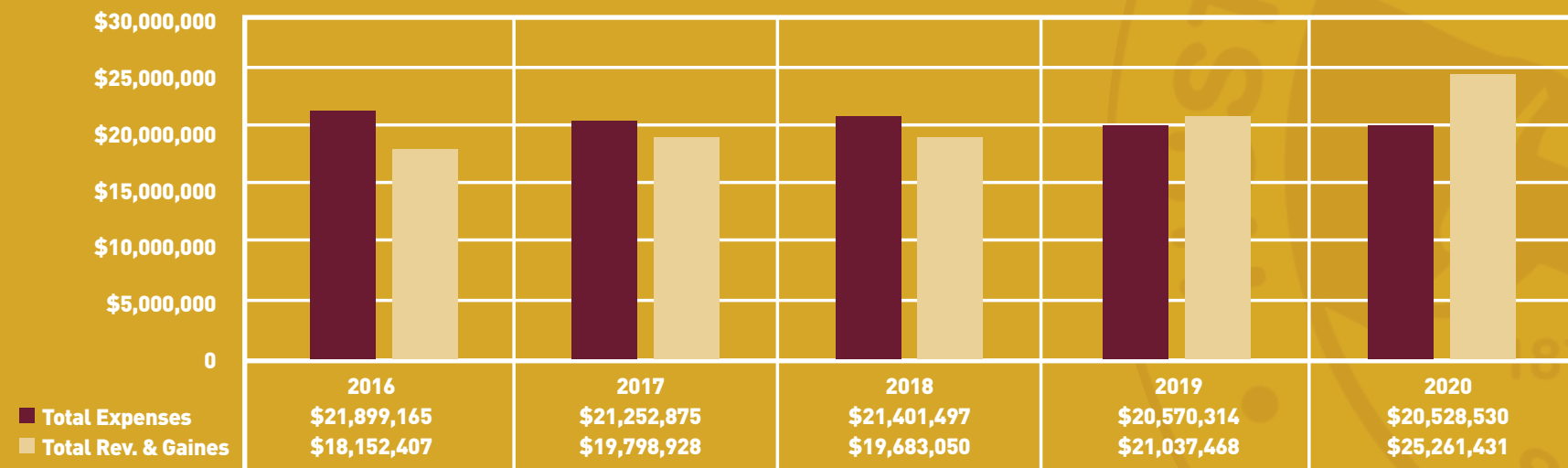
Monday, May 4, 2015
 8 AM - 3 PM

Huston-Tillotson University
 900 Chicon St., Austin, TX 78702
 Complimentary breakfast & lunch included

ATTENDEES @TEXASTRIBUNE

THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

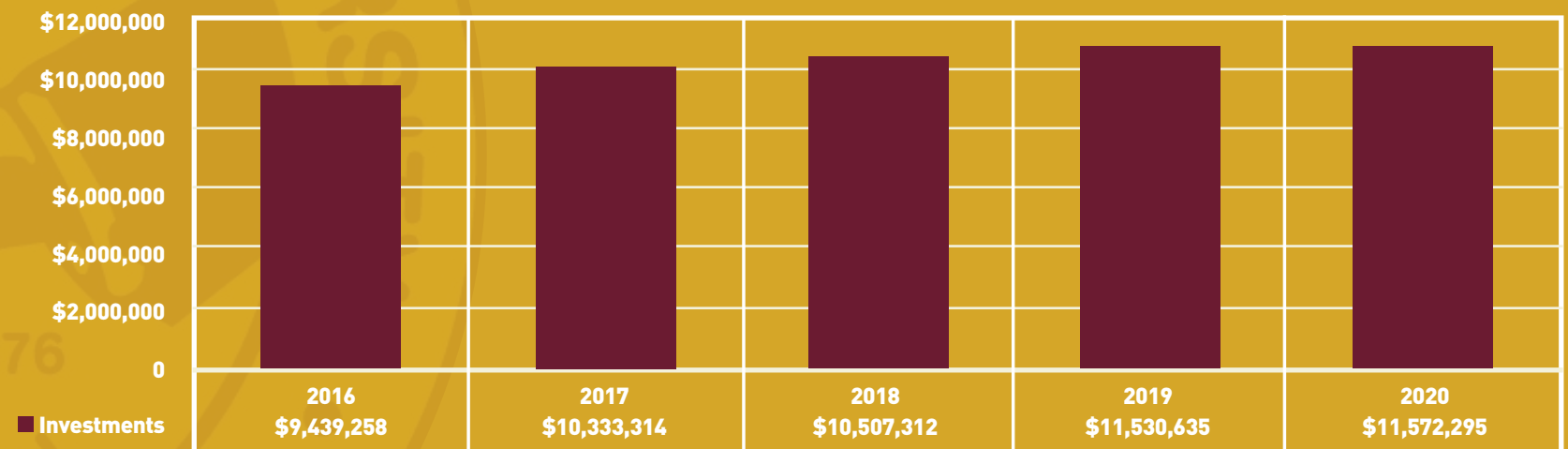
Huston-Tillotson University 2016-2020 REVENUE & EXPENSES



↓
TOTAL EXPENSES
FY 2016: \$21,899
FY 2020: \$20,529
6% DECREASE

↑
TOTAL REVENUE
FY 2016: \$18,152
FY 2020: \$25,261
39% INCREASE

Huston-Tillotson University 2016-2020 ENDOWMENT



↑
ENDOWMENT
FY 2016: \$9,439,258
FY 2020: \$11,572,295
23% INCREASE

OUR CAMPUS IS STRONGER

COVID-19 RESPONSE

The health and safety of our entire campus community is paramount. We remain steadfast in our vigilance to protect ourselves and others. We must stay mindful and practice preventive measures at all times.

February 28, 2020

Huston-Tillotson University President Colette Pierce Burnette called a **Pandemic Preparedness Plan** meeting with key faculty and staff support and names a Pandemic Coordinator.

February 28, 2020

Huston-Tillotson University teams (Academic Affairs, Facilities Management, Administration and Finance, Communications, Information Technology, Campus Safety, Human Resources) began crafting and executing pandemic plans.

March 6, 2020

President Colette Pierce Burnette sent the **Coronavirus alert** to the HT community with how to be safe instructions.

March 12, 2020

President Colette Pierce Burnette declares all Huston-Tillotson University **residence halls closed**.

March 13, 2020

President Donald Trump declares a **national emergency**.

March 15, 2020

President Colette Pierce Burnette **extends spring break** to allow faculty time to prepare for online instruction.

March 18, 2020

Huston-Tillotson University's **Commencement Convocation is postponed**. Huston-Tillotson University's **Honors Convocation is cancelled**.

March 19, 2020

Texas Governor Greg Abbott issued a **COVID-19 Executive Order, implementing social distancing**.

March 23, 2020

President Colette Pierce Burnette announced on campus **Essential Personnel to manage operations through the pandemic** as follows:

President; Provost; Vice President/Chief Operations Officer; Vice President Administration & Finance; Vice President Institutional Advancement; Accounts Payable Specialist; Associate Provost; Central Services Officer; Dean, College of Arts & Sciences; Dean, Enrollment Management; Dean, School of Business & Technology; Dean, Student Affairs; Director, Campus Safety; Director, Center for Academic Innovation and Transformation; Director, Community and Civic Engagement; Director, Counseling and Consultation; Director, Facilities; Director, Food Services; Director, Human Resources; Director, Information Technology; Director, Intercollegiate Athletics; Director, Library; Services; Director, Marketing & Public Relation; Executive Assistant to the President; Hall Coordinators; Housekeeping Staff; Information Technology Technician; Maintenance Technician; Management Analyst; Staff Accountant

March 30, 2020

Huston-Tillotson University successfully moved **all instruction and campus services online**.

March 31, 2020

Texas Governor issued a **COVID-19 Stay-at-Home order**.

April 12, 2020

Individuals residing in residence halls were **provided masks**.

April 13, 2020

City of Austin Mayor Steve Adler **extended stay home, work safe order** to May 8, 2020, instructing essential businesses to require face coverings.

April 13, 2020

Huston-Tillotson University, as an essential business, instructed personnel to **post face covering flyers at key locations**, implementing the 6-ft distance rule or face covering.

16 Months Later - August 7, 2021

Huston-Tillotson University **plans Commencement Convocation for the Class of 2020 and the Class of 2021**.

August 23, 2021

Huston-Tillotson University **Fall semester planned with in person instruction and full reactivation of campus**.





OUR PERSISTENCE IS OUR SUPERPOWER



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

900 Chicon Street | Austin, TX 78702

Support

AUSTIN'S OLDEST INSTITUTION OF
HIGHER LEARNING AND ONLY HBCU

Invest in HT

INVEST.HTU.EDU

HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY

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