GLOBE TROTTER
UT Arlington Encourages Students to Explore the World

For today’s college student, getting a global education is becoming increasingly important, as the world and its citizens become more interconnected.

“Employers are seeking people with a global perspective who are prepared to work in a multicultural workplace,” says Jay Horn, executive director of UT Arlington’s Office of International Education. “Studying abroad is a great way to develop those skills.”

The University has taken a bold step toward providing this kind of international experience for more of its students. Recently, UTA joined the Institute of International Education’s new Generation Study Abroad (GSA) initiative, which has the goal of doubling the number of American students who study abroad by the end of the decade. The program launched earlier this year and includes more than 240 colleges and universities from 46 states; Texas is among the top 10 of states with participating institutions.

The goals of GSA are increasing the diversity of the students who study outside the United States, ensuring quality, and removing barriers to participation. Among other commitments, partners to GSA agree to include new scholarships and financial assistance for students, as well as to launch new initiatives that reach out to underserved groups who traditionally haven’t had the chance to participate in study abroad programs.

Overall, about 250,000 students studied abroad in 2011-12 in credit-bearing and non-credit programs, according to a recent report by the Institute of International Education. Generation Study Abroad hopes to boost participation in study abroad programs so the annual total will reach 600,000 by the end of 2020. Approximately 250 UT Arlington students travel abroad to study each year, a number that the University aims to increase by 60 percent over the next five years.

“Studying abroad must be viewed as an essential component of a college degree and critical to preparing future leaders,” says Allan Goodman, president of the Institute of International Education. “Globalization has changed the way the world works, and employers are increasingly looking for workers who have international skills and expertise.”

Visit generationstudyabroad.org to learn more.

LAB RATS
New program gives freshmen hands-on research experience

This fall, a select group of UTA freshman majoring in science are experiencing what it’s like to do important research. The ASSURE program—Achieving Success through Undergraduate Research and Engagement—is a new initiative aimed at igniting a passion for inquiry among participants and raising their interest in pursuing careers in the STEM fields.

“These experiences improve persistence rates for science majors and help make sure we are building the skills needed to fuel tomorrow’s discoveries in vital fields,” says Ashley Purgason, assistant dean for undergraduate research and student advancement in the College of Science.

Twenty-four students are spending the fall semester studying research methods, which they will then employ in spring 2015. The group is working under the direct guidance of an experienced postdoctoral researcher, a graduate research assistant, and several undergraduate research assistants. Students will focus on drug-discovery research, while topics planned for the future include urban ecology, bioinformatics, and genomics.

SERVE AND PROTECT
Hometown Recruiting Program provides a path to law enforcement careers

High school students interested in law enforcement can now get a jump-start on their careers, thanks to a new program developed between three of the region’s largest public institutions: UT Arlington, the Arlington Independent School District (AISD), and the Arlington Police Department. Called the Hometown Recruiting Program, it builds upon early admission efforts that allow high school students to earn college credit toward criminal justice degrees.

“The Arlington Police Department has had a long-standing commitment to only hire officers who have achieved their college degrees,” says Arlington Police Chief Will Johnson. “This collaborative program will invest in the youth of Arlington, support our University, and help ensure that new generations of degreed officers will be available to serve our community at the highest level.”

The Hometown Recruiting Program allows high school seniors the chance to earn up to nine college credit hours toward a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice and criminal justice at UTA. Participants can also enroll in a new AISD Police Academy course that serves as a practicum in law and public safety. Once they complete their bachelor’s degrees, graduates of the program are guaranteed an interview with the Arlington Police Department, invited to participate in recognition ceremonies, and are given preferred consideration for employment opportunities in upcoming police academy classes. The Arlington Police Department, which has a force of 640 sworn personnel, typically hires a dozen or more officers each year.

“The network of UT Arlington alumni who have excelled in law enforcement is strong and growing,” says UTA President Vistasp Karbhari.
Popular early admissions program expands to Grand Prairie, Mansfield

Last fall, UT Arlington and the Arlington Independent School District launched Bound for Success, an early admissions initiative aimed at increasing the number of high-achieving high school scholars who ultimately earn college degrees. Now the program has expanded significantly to include both the Grand Prairie and Mansfield school districts. Altogether, the three represent 125,000 students and families.

“The Grand Prairie ISD Board of Trustees has placed an emphasis on college and career readiness for all students,” says Grand Prairie superintendent Susan Hull. “This opportunity is just one of the many efforts underway in our school district to connect students with success after high school.”

Dr. Anne Bavier as the new dean of the College of Nursing.

As dean of the UTA College of Nursing, Bavier leads one of the country’s largest and most successful nursing programs, with an enrollment of nearly 12,000 undergraduate and graduate students on campus and online. More than 90 percent of graduates pass their initial state licensure exam on their first attempt, and the College builds a community for students and instructors.

“Dr. Bavier will lead us into a new era of national recognition and influence,” says President Vistasp Karbhari.

Kirk King, president of Texas Health Arlington Memorial Hospital, played an integral role during the University’s national search for a new dean. “Dr. Bavier has a proven track record of engaging her stakeholders and building collaborative relationships that lead to establishing a nationally recognized academic program,” he says. “We are excited about the many new possibilities she will bring to both the academic and health care communities.”

“He will lead us into a new era of national recognition and influence,” says President Vistasp Karbhari.

The University of Texas System became an edX member in 2012, and several edX courses were provided through UT Austin in 2013. The new, nine-week course offered by UT Arlington—called “Data, Analytics, and Learning”—will begin October 20.

“Data analytics and how they can be used to improve teaching and learning are some of the most active areas in education research,” says Pete Smith, vice provost for digital teaching and learning. “UT Arlington is taking a leadership role in learning analytics with the opening of our new Learning Innovation and Networked Knowledge, or LINK lab. We are proud to kick off campus participation in edX with this course.”

To learn more about edX and the “Data, Analytics, and Learning” MOOC, visit edx.org/utah/utarltonx.

First MOOC offered this fall at UT Arlington

UT Arlington will become the second University of Texas System institution to provide free Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) next month when it offers its first edX online classes.

MOOCs have caught the attention of millions of learners in the last couple of years. EdX, founded by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard, has been one of the leaders in the field, teaming with universities in the United States and abroad to offer more than 175 online courses with unlimited participation and open access via the Internet. In addition to traditional course materials such as reading assignments and problem sets, a MOOC provides interactive user forums that help build a community for students and instructors.

President Vistasp Karbhari has set a goal of reaching 1 million high school students and families.

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“He will lead us into a new era of national recognition and influence,” says President Vistasp Karbhari.

For more information, visit RideTheMAX.com or follow the University on Twitter.

MAX IMPACT

Metro Arlington Xpress now provides service to Entertainment District

In its second year of operation, the MAX (Metro Arlington Xpress) continues to provide economical and convenient transportation for UTA students and employees, area commuters, visitors, and local residents who travel from points along the DART and TRE lines to the DFW Airport and destinations around the region. Now MAX has added a bus stop at the intersection of Andrews and Collins Streets in the Arlington Entertainment District, with close access to Lincoln Square, AT&T Stadium, Globe Life Park, and Six Flags Over Texas.

A single round-trip pass is $5, which takes riders anywhere within the DART and TRE systems. Half-price fares are available to K-12 and college students, the disabled, or those over 65.

For more information, visit RideThemAX.com or follow them on Facebook and Twitter.

**GUEST STARS**

**Maverick Speakers Series season debuts**

The seventh season of UT Arlington’s popular Maverick Speakers Series will kick off on Monday, October 20 at Texas Hall with political commentators James Carville and Mary Matalin. Known for their diametrically opposed viewpoints, the husband-and-wife couple will discuss politics from both sides of the aisle. They will be followed on November 4 by Admiral James Stavridis, an internal security expert who will offer a discussion of personal safety and security in the cyber age.

The spring lineup features Michio Kaku—a renowned theoretical physicist who is attempting to complete Einstein’s unified field theory—and Henry Cisneros, a two-term mayor of San Antonio who has made a career of advocating for unified field theory. Theoretical physicist and futurist Michio Kaku will take the College Park Center stage in late spring. The longtime Olympian host will discuss the role of sports in America.

All lectures begin at 7:30 p.m. and feature book or autograph signings. Maverick Speakers Series events are free, but tickets are required. Preferred packages are available for purchase and include reserved seating at the front of the venue, front-of-line passes for the autograph signing, and reserved parking.

Free and preferred tickets are available online at utatickets.com. For more information, visit uta.edu/maverickspeakers.

**COMPELLING CONVERSATIONS**

See Who’s at the Mic Tonight

James Carville and Mary Matalin
Political commentators
Oct. 20, 2014
7:30 p.m., Texas Hall

Ret. Admiral James Stavridis
U.S. Naval Institute board chairman and international security expert
Nov. 4, 2014
7:30 p.m., Texas Hall

Michio Kaku
Theoretical physicist and futurist
Feb. 19, 2015
7:30 p.m., Texas Hall

Henry Cisneros
Urban planning expert
March 26, 2015
7:30 p.m., Texas Hall

Bob Costas
Sports commentator, Olympics host
Date TBA
7:30 p.m., College Park Center

**HEALTH MATTERS**

National health care education leader joins UT Arlington

This fall, UT Arlington welcomed nationally recognized health care leader Anne Bavier as the new dean of the College of Nursing. Previously, Dr. Bavier served as dean of the University of Connecticut’s School of Nursing and as a program director in the National Institutes of Health’s National Cancer Institute. She is also president-elect of the National League for Nursing, which boasts more than 39,000 members.

Manifold superintendent Jim Vazquezakas adds: “This represents an impressive collaboration in our community and provides an amazing opportunity for our students.”

Each school district can tailor the program to meet the unique needs of their students. In Arlington, for example, Bound for Success identifies students in the top 20 percent of their class at the end of their sophomore year for pre-admittance to UT Arlington, contingent on completing the requirements for high school graduation. University admissions counselors are available weekly at each of the AISD high school campuses to help those students maximize opportunities for early college credit and overall college readiness.

“College education provides students with a spirit of discovery, creativity, and community—all of which enable them to survive and to thrive in a rapidly changing world,” says UTA President Vistasp Karbhari. “Bound for Success is a warm welcome from UT Arlington to each and every student who aspires to a level of achievement and success that only a college degree can provide.”

**WEB WONDER**

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MAVERICK SPIRIT

Homecoming festivities open to all

Homecoming at UT Arlington features a variety of exciting events for the community to enjoy. On Friday, November 21, the University will hold its annual Distinguished Alumni Awards, where noteworthy alumni are recognized for their individual achievements, contributions to their industries or professions, service to their community, and demonstrated loyalty to UT Arlington. The event also generates significant scholarship funds for students.

Saturday kicks off at 10 a.m. with the Homecoming SK. Later that afternoon, everyone can head to Spanishol Drive starting at 3:30 p.m. for a street festival with family-friendly activities designed to prep you for the evening ahead. The Homecoming parade follows at 5:45 p.m., after which you’ll be treated to a pep rally led by the national champion UTA cheerleaders and marching band before you head inside College Park Center. The men’s basketball team will tip off against Houston Baptist at 7:30 p.m.

For a complete schedule of events, visit the official website, uta.edu/homecoming, which will launch the first week of October.

FAN FRENZY

Catch basketball and volleyball games at College Park Center

Cheer on your hometown Mavericks as the men’s basketball, women’s basketball, and volleyball teams journey toward the post-season. Maverick volleyball is well underway, so don’t miss out on the action. Big conference rivalries at home against Texas State, Appalachian State, Arkansas Little Rock, South Alabama, and Georgia State are coming up in the next few weeks.

Meanwhile, the Maverick men’s basketball team will play its first home game on November 11 against Houston Baptist at 7:30 p.m.

For ticket sales and other info, visit utatickets.com.

EXPLORE College Town

PARTY TIME

Fall events provide family fun

Celebrate the fall season with your whole family while enjoying two annual campus traditions. On Saturday, October 25, from 7-11 p.m., experience live music, family-friendly activities, carnival-style games, food, and more at the Fall Festival. The event, which is held in conjunction with UT Arlington Parent and Family Weekend, is free and will be held inside the E.H. Herndon University Center. On October 30, join students as they host Trunk or Treat with the Greeks along Greek Row. Visit uta.edu/events for more information.

DO YOUR DUTY

Early voting at UTA

Registered voters in Tarrant County can conveniently cast their ballot early for the November general election at the UT Arlington polling site located in the Maverick Activities Center, 500 W. Nedderman Drive. It will be open for early voting October 27-30 between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., with free parking available just north of the MAC.

SAVINGS CENTER

Texas Trust opens in College Park

Texas Trust, one of the largest credit unions in North Texas, opens a new branch this fall in College Park District. The District branch, one of six in Arlington, features both indoor and outdoor ATMs, interactive plasma kiosks, and a full staff to assist the campus and community with their banking needs.

As the official credit union of UT Arlington Athletics, Texas Trust offers 10 spirited Maverick debit card designs. UTA fans can earn rewards that benefit student scholarships with every swipe of their debit cards.

The branch will be located at the corner of First and Center Streets. Free visitor/customer parking is available in the College Park District garages and in the parking lot just south of the UT Arlington Bookstore.

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

Rock this Town

Green River Ordinance played to a packed crowd on September 5 at the Levitt Pavilion for UT Arlington’s Night on the Town. Following the concert, guests kept the fun going by lingering at the many downtown Arlington restaurants.

Red, White, and You

UTA President Vistasp Karbhari and wife, Lisa, joined students, staff, and alumni on the University’s float during this year’s Fourth of July parade in Arlington.

Serving the Community

Each spring, students, staff, faculty, and community members join together for a day of service at area nonprofit agencies and public parks. Nearly 1,000 people participated in the 2014 Big Event, volunteering at over 50 locations.

Warm Welcome

Volunteers, parents, and fellow students helped move freshmen into their on-campus residence halls and apartments during UT Arlington’s annual Move-In Day in late August.

UTA.EDU/COLLEGETOWN
TWEET, POST, LIKE

UT Arlington embraces social media

How do you keep up to date with news about the University between issues of College Town UTA? In this internet age, there are plenty of options for you to choose from. Whether you prefer microsites like UTA DNA, online publications like Inquiry, e-newsletters, or social media apps, information about UT Arlington is only a click away. To help you find the right mix, check out this handy guide.

UTA DNA
This microsite provides an engaging and highly visual presentation of current University academic and research activities, organized by key themes.
uta.edu/dna

UT Arlington Magazine
The alumni magazine of UT Arlington, this publication includes a variety of stories about student, faculty, and alumni activities. Published in print and online twice a year.
uta.edu/utamagazine

Inquiry
This magazine is dedicated to creative and research activity at UT Arlington and features in-depth articles about innovation across the curriculum. Published in print and online twice a year.
uta.edu/inquiry

Around Town
A comprehensive, weekly e-calendar of all the events the University hosts and sponsors.
uta.edu/collegetown

Facebook
uta.edu/facebook

Twitter
uta.edu/twitter

LinkedIn
uta.edu/linkedin

YouTube
uta.edu/youtube

Flickr
uta.edu/flickr

Pinterest
pinterest.com/utarlington

Instagram
instagram.com/utarlington

For a listing of additional social media sites affiliated with UT Arlington, visit uta.edu/social.

DON'T MISS A THING AROUND TOWN

We know you don't want to miss anything happening in College Town! So we created this newsletter. Here are some tips on how to ensure that you don’t miss a single educational, athletic, or cultural event on campus. To subscribe, email us at maverickcommunications@uta.edu and include “Subscribe me to Around Town” in the subject line.

College Town CALENDAR

There’s so much to do in College Town UTA! Here’s a small sampling of the of activities, exhibitions, plays, concerts, lectures, athletics, and more.

OCTOBER

EVERY FRIDAY, NOV. 21: MAVERICK SPIRIT FRIDAYS
The Parks Mall at Arlington

OCT. 3: SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT
Irving Convention Center

OCT. 4: THE DOBBIE BROTHERS, PRESENTED BY TEXAS HEALTH RESOURCES/ARLINGTON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
College Park Center

OCT. 10: FRIENDS OF LIBRARY PRESENTS ANDREW HALL
Central Library South Floor Parlor

OCT. 15-19: COMIC POTENTIAL
Mainstage Theatre

OCT. 17: WIND SYMPHONY CONCERT
Irving Convention Center

OCT. 17: ARTIST TALK AND OPENING RECEPTION WITH PHILIP VAN KEUREN AND LIZ WARD
Gallery at UTA

OCT. 20: MAVERICK SPEAKER SERIES: JAMES CARVILLE AND MARY MALATIN
E.H. Hereford University Center

OCT. 24-26: PARENT AND FAMILY WEEKEND
E.H. Hereford University Center

OCT. 25: FALL FESTIVAL
E.H. Hereford University Center

OCT. 25: CASTING CROWNS
College Park Center

OCT. 27-30: EARLY VOTING ON CAMPUS
Maverick Activities Center

OCT. 30: TRICK OR TREAT WITH THE GREEKS
Central Library Sixth Floor Parlor

NOVEMBER

NOV. 4: MAVERICK SPEAKER SERIES: JAMES STAVRIDIS
Texas Hall

NOV. 7: FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY PRESENTS KATHLEEN KENT
Central Library South Floor Parlor

NOV. 16: SYMPHONIC WINDS AND SYMPHONIC BAND
Irving Convention Center

NOV. 18: DECK THE MALL HOLIDAY LIGHTS
Central Library Mall

NOV. 20-23: A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE
Mainstage Theatre

NOV. 20: FALL JAZZ CONCERT
Texas Hall

NOV. 21: DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS
Bluebonnet Ballroom, University Center

NOV. 22: HOMECOMING PARADE AND GAME
College Park Center

NOV. 23: JAZZ ALUMNI CONCERT
Irving Convention Center

DECEMBER

DEC. 5: FRIENDS OF LIBRARY PRESENTS CHANTS ENCOUNTERS
Central Library South Floor Parlor

DEC. 6: ARLINGTON HOLIDAY LIGHTS PARADE
Downtown Arlington

DEC. 11-13: FALL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES
College Park Center

ONGOING

ATHLETICS
uta.edu/athletics

COLLEGE PARK CENTER
utacollegepark.com

CONTINUING EDUCATION
uta.edu/ced

THE PLANETARIUM AT UTA
uta.edu/planetarium

All events are subject to change. Please visit uta.edu/events for the complete calendar of events, times, and ticket information.