UPCOMING EVENTS

Alumni Coffee Tables
Monday, Dec. 5
Wednesday, Jan. 18
5:30-7 p.m.
Bayou Building, Atrium II

CLASP Lecture Series - Exploring Pluto: A Voyage of Discovery at the Edge of Interstellar Space
Thursday, Dec. 1
5:30-7 p.m.
Bayou Bldg., Forest Room
See a complete schedule of CLASP lectures.

CLASP Lecture Series - Apollo VII: The First of Five Giant Steps to the Moon
Thursday, Jan. 5
5:30-7 p.m.
Bayou Bldg., Garden Room
See a complete schedule of CLASP lectures.

Chili Cook Off
Monday, Dec. 5
Wednesday, Jan. 18
5:30-7 p.m.
Bayou Building, Atrium II
See more alumni events

UH-Clear Lake President William Staples Announces Final Year at UHCL

University of Houston-Clear Lake President William A. Staples announced that he will leave his position as president in August 2017. The announcement came during an annual university-wide meeting to update faculty and staff of budget plans, proposed new buildings, the addition of new academic programs, and other key initiatives in the new academic year.

During his tenure, Staples has overseen several major accomplishments for the university including the transition to a four-year university in 2014, the opening of the UHCL Pearland Campus in 2010, the approval of UHCL’s first doctoral program in 2007, entry into the Texas Medical Center with healthcare administration programs and the opening of the Student Services and Classroom Building in 2004.

Staples joined the university in 1979 as an associate professor in the then School of Business and Public Administration and was promoted to professor in 1984. In the school, he served as coordinator, program director, associate dean and dean before becoming president in 1995. He is the university’s longest-serving president with almost 22 years in the role. Read more...

UHCL Welcomes New Bayou Theater Director

UHCL’s new Bayou Theater Managing Director Alex Malone is passionate about creating engaging experiences. An arts enthusiast since childhood, Malone says live performance offers
CLASS NOTES

Phyllis W. Saathoff, '85 BS, was named the new executive director and CEO of Port Freeport. Read more...

Dr. Billye Smith, '88 BS, '95 MS, '13 EdD, Dickinson High School principal, received the Paul Harris Fellows award by the Rotary Club of Dickinson.

Evelyn Miralles, '92 BA, '12 MBA, Principal Engineer Innovator at Virtual Reality Laboratory, NASA Johnson Space Center, was named The Most Influential Latinos in American Technology by CNET en Espanol for the second year in a row.

Mark Amox, '05 MBA/MHA, chief operations officer at UF Health Shands Children's Hospital in Florida, was named CEO of El Paso Children's Hospital.

Ann Strouha, '12 MBA, owner Strouhal & Associates in Pearland, was named among the American Business Women's Association (ABWA)'s 2017 Top Ten Business Women of the Year. Read more...

Kevin Kwan's, '94 BA, bestseller novel "Crazy Rich Asians" was purchase by Warner Bros. for movie production. Read more...

Chasity Porter, '10 BFA, was recently interview with Pop Show America about her mobile art gallery, Dormaluo Project. Read more...

Karen Fiscus, '12 MA, UHCL Art Gallery Assistant Director, is one of 25 Houston artists showcased in the November 2016 ClayHouston members show "Ceramics Redefined."

Colleen Merritt, '11 MA, joined the City of La Marque as the Public Relations Specialist in October.

Connections between audiences and artists that are unmatched in other types of entertainment. Read more...

Giving Tuesday: November 29, 2016
Hawks near and far will come together to celebrate Giving Tuesday, a global day of giving. This is a chance to give back and support scholarships to impact current and future Hawks. Be one of the 100. Read more...

Alumni Celebration 2016 Recap

Alumni, friends and family gathered for an evening of sharing stories, memories and Hawk pride as a record number of attendees joined us to congratulate this year’s honorees at the 2016 University of Houston-Clear Lake Alumni Celebration on Saturday, Oct. 15 at Space Center Houston.

Each honoree shared their unique and personal story of their journey before, during and after their days at UHCL. Though the honorees’ career paths varied significantly from each other, they all spoke of their appreciation for UHCL and how it helped them achieve the success in their respective fields.

Marilyn S. Sims Leadership Award recipient Dr. Robert Hasson engaged the crowd when he closed out his comments with a new Hawk cheer:
Rob: "Hawks are great!"
Hawks: "Everyday!"
Rob: "Everyday!"
Hawks: "Hawks are great!"

Relive the celebration on our Flickr page and join us once again as we congratulate this year's recipients: Distinguished Alumni Award Honorees, Christine (Christy) Harper and Evelyn Miralles; Early Achievement Award recipient Kristi Koncaba; Marilyn S. Sims Leadership Service Award recipient Robert C. Hassen and Outstanding Professor Award recipient Lisa A. Jones.

Make Your End of Year Gift by Dec. 31st!
Randy Weber, ’03 BBA, two-term incumbent, was re-elected to the District 14 seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Pamela O'Rourke’s, ’95 BBA, company, Icon Information Consultants was ranked at 50th place and realtor David Moore’s, ’91 BS, Innovative Realty Group was ranked 38th in the 2016 Houston Business Journal Courgar 100.

Jerri Stephenson, ’15 MA, NASA scientist, spoke at the Wylie High School Bulldogs Education Foundation dinner to raise money toward scholarships and grants and help raise awareness about STEM courses.

Dwight Garey, ’80 MBA, was appointed as the executive director of the Commercial Banking Program in the Mays Business School at Texas A&M.

Derek Coy, ’10 BA, was named New York State Health Foundation’s Veterans’ Health Officer.

Submit your class notes by sending an email to alumni@uhcl.edu or by completing this online submission form.

As we inch closer to year-end, think about making a tax-deductible contribution to support a favorite program, initiative or area of greatest need at UHCL. Find out more details.

Advancing Your Career with These Simple Steps

One thing ambitious people want to know is how do I advance my career. One of the key factors that I have found is have face time with decision makers. If you have a job where you work from home that is great. Working from home is a great benefit but you could find it hard to advance in your career because none of the decision makers in your company know who you are. It is important to have time in the office and to let someone other than your direct manager know what you bring to the table. Read more...

Don't Miss This CLASP Lecture: Apollo VII: The First of Five Giant Steps to the Moon
Col. Walter Cunningham, former NASA astronaut, will discuss his 1968 eleven-day flight on Apollo 7, being one of the third group of astronauts selected by NASA. For a complete schedule, visit www.uhcl.edu/clasp
One thing ambitious people want to know is how do I advance my career. One of the key factors that I have found is have face time with decision makers. If you have a job where you work from home that is great. Working from home is a great benefit but you could find it hard to advance in your career because none of the decision makers in your company know who you are. It is important to have time in the office and to let someone other than your direct manager know what you bring to the table. I know that there are some workplaces that prefer employees to work from home but if there is a “hoteling” position in the office it does not hurt to make use of it once or twice a week. If that is not an option, then make sure you are in attendance for the “all hands” meetings or big quarterly meetings. Making time to be present around decision makers when the opportunity arises is a great way to advance in your career. If you are in the office on a daily basis make sure you are heard in meetings as a participant not just an attendee. Add value to conversations regarding tactics and strategies.

The second way to advance is to become the company resource on any given topic. This is a matter of personal professional development. In my company one of our core values is growth. We want the company to grow but we also want our employees to grow personally and professionally. One of the best ways to make yourself more valuable and marketable is to continuously improve your skills. If you are an accountant take CPE’s that expand your knowledge not just that meet your requirements. If you’re a manager attend some leadership seminars, join organizations that will expand your knowledge of your industry. Networking groups are not only a way to expand your professional networks but they are also ways to expand your knowledge of what is going on in your industry. People love to talk about their business and what makes it great or what their challenges are and you can learn from both. One area that lead to people advancing in their companies recently was the Affordable Care Act. No one wanted to learn about this legislation and everyone hoped it would just go away. If as an employee you went to classes and seminars on the ACA and were able to come back to work and explain how to keep your company in compliance without having to hire consultants and outsourcing human resource functions at great expense how much value did you just add to yourself. As an accountant if you become the go to on sales taxes in your office you are more valuable than the accountant who just completes their assignments. Knowledge is power and a willingness to learn increases your value and marketability.

One final thing I would add is remember that no one gets where they are by themselves. Always remember those in your life who have helped you get to where you are. It will keep you humble and grounded. Always remember the help and sacrifices others have made for you. Thank your spouse, parents, siblings, teachers, mentors or anyone else who has helped you get to where you are.