UPCOMING EVENTS

Welcome Back Bash
Fri., August 28
5-8 p.m.
Front of Bayou Building

Alumni Celebration
Sat., October 17
6:30-9:30 p.m.
Space Center Houston

Alumni Coffee Tables
Mon., August 24
Wed., October 14
Mon., December 7
5:30-8 p.m.
Atrium II

CLASP Lecture Series:
NASA Mission Control – the Unheralded Men who Manned the Consoles in Mission Control
September 10, 2015
Bayou Bldg., Garden Room
See a complete schedule of CLASP lectures.

Alumni Association Executive Council welcomes new officers and members

The 2015-16 cohort of the Alumni Association Executive Council (AAEC) held their annual retreat earlier this summer to lay out plans for alumni activities and events for the upcoming year.

Lead by AAEC chair Tracy McKinley, ’12, vice-chair Patrick Cardenas, ’07, ’09 and communications officer Carla Bradley, ’11, new and returning members met for an afternoon of teambuilding as they got to know each other and learn more about what UHCL means to each of them as alumni. They also mapped out their calendar for the year, with activities and events geared towards getting more alumni involved with their alma mater. Read more...
CLASS NOTES

Michael McCormick, ’04 BA, ’13 MA, is the head coach for girls cross country team for Dickinson High School.

Elaine Parker Adams, ’00 MA, wrote a biography of her great grandfather, The Reverend Peter W. Clark: Sweet Preacher and Steadfast Reformer, which has been selected as a Louisiana Notable Book by the Louisiana Library Association.

Hilda Nañez, ’11 BS, received the 2015 Elementary Bilingual Teacher of the Year award from the Houston Area Association for Bilingual Education.

Phillip Lyons, Jr., ’88 BS, has been named dean of Sam Houston State University’s College of Criminal Justice and director of its affiliated Criminal Justice Center.

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

Alumni Celebration: October 17, 2015
Save the date for the annual Alumni Celebration honoring alumni and professors who have made a difference at UHCL and in the community. Support alumni by sponsoring a table or purchasing a seat!

2015 Alumni Association Award Honorees

University of Houston-Clear Lake’s Alumni Association, with university President William A. Staples, invite the community to celebrate the accomplishments of alumni and professors at the 2015 Alumni Celebration Saturday, Oct. 17, at Space Center Houston. Read more...

Alumni Coffee Table
Come hang out with alumni and friends to have some coffee, tea and snacks. Coffee tables are from 5:30-8 p.m. in Atrium II. See full schedule.
Alumni to Alumni: Everyone brings something unique

By Juan Traslaviña, ’87 BS, ’93 MS, ’12 Distinguished Alumni Sr. Software Engineer And Innovation Forum Leader, SAIC

Do you recall ever hearing a coworker say something like, “You are going to hate working for that company or working for that person?” Sometimes, when we first meet someone, we immediately make a judgment on how our relationship with this person is going to be. Before your first day on the job, you already have a preconceived idea about how your work experience is going to go. You may hear stories, shared with such conviction and certainty around the office, about a particular department, peer or manager. Many times, we immediately believe our own uninformed judgments or office gossip to the point that we are sure we will never be able to have success at our job or never be able to have a good experience working with a particular person or department. Read more...

CLASP: 2015-16 Lectures

Returning to this fall is “Visions in Our Midst”, a free distinguished lecture series that brings in speakers from around the Houston area to lead discussions on a wide variety of topics. For a complete schedule, visit www.uhcl.edu/clasp
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"The 2015-16 AAEC members have proven to be strong leaders with a contagious excitement for the coming year", says AAEC chair Tracy McKinley. "Members have contributed their time over the summer planning activities and working out details for new initiatives. As chair, I am most excited to witness the AAEC working together to make things happen."

Six new members joined the AAEC this year, including Justin Medellin, '14, who looks forward to continuing his volunteer service as an alumnus after being an active student leader at UHCL. "I am deeply honored to be extended the offer to join the UHCL Alumni Association Executive Council", says Medellin. "I am excited to be serving in a leadership position where I can assist in sharing ideas and planning events to keep our 50,000+ alumni base going strong. The students currently attending will be our alumni in the future, and we would like to see their involvement continue in the years to come. Additionally, we can also engage past UHCL alumni to become active by hosting events in the community."

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The UHCL Alumni Association is proud to announce the recipients of the 2015 Alumni Association Awards:

**Distinguished Alumni Award Honoree**
Anita Fogtman, ’85 BA  
Vice President of Program Management, Science Applications International Corporation (retired)

**Early Achievement Award Honorees**
Katherine Becker, ’03 BS, ’06 MBA/MHA  
Administrator, School of Nursing, UTMB

Marla Davis Chandler, BA ’96, ’01 MS  
Campus Technology Integration Specialist, Bonnette Junior High

Kanchana Weerasinghe, ’98 BS, ’00 MS  
Information Technology Manager, Artisan Network Services

**Outstanding Professor Award Honoree**
Ashish Chandra  
Professor, Healthcare Administration, UHCL School of Business

We will celebrate them, and all UHCL alumni at the 2015 Alumni Celebration on Saturday, Oct. 17, from 6:30 – 9 p.m. at Space Center Houston. For sponsorship and table information, please visit www.uhcl.edu/alumnicelebration.

We look forward to seeing you there as we celebrate the very best of UHCL.
Do you recall ever hearing a coworker say something like, “You are going to hate working for that company or working for that person?” Sometimes, when we first meet someone, we immediately make a judgment on how our relationship with this person is going to be. Before your first day on the job, you already have a preconceived idea about how your work experience is going to go. You may hear stories, shared with such conviction and certainty around the office, about a particular department, peer or manager. Many times, we immediately believe our own uninformed judgments or office gossip to the point that we are sure we will never be able to have success at our job or never be able to have a good experience working with a particular person or department.

Consider that your uninformed judgments or coworkers’ experiences about a particular person or group may not be accurate. It is to fine to listen to your inner voice and obtain input from peers, friends and family; however, you don’t have to accept your first impression or what someone tells you as factual. If you do, you may miss out on one of the best experiences of your life.

If you recall, people’s opinions, many unsolicited, have been shared since we were in elementary school. I remember when my daughter was about to start first grade. A week before school started, we learned who her teacher was going to be. Several friends told us to avoid this teacher; otherwise it was going to be a bad year for our daughter. They apparently did not like or had had a negative experience with this teacher. We listened but decided to keep our daughter in this class. We became involved in her class activities, volunteered to read for the kids, helped make copies for the class, etc.

This teacher and class turned out to be one of the best experiences for my daughter. We were so glad that we did not take the advice of our friends. My daughter, who was very shy, was able to grow and become more confident during this year and was exposed to both technical and creative ideas. Had we taken our daughter out of this class, she would have missed a great learning and self-development opportunity. Keep in mind that everyone is different. A particular subject or the teaching style may not be suited for a particular person, but it may be appropriate for you. Many times, the ideas and biases that we develop in first grade impact what we think; how we behave; and what we accomplish in college, the work force and in life.

Whether in school or work, with family or friends, don’t pre-judge. Start with a clean slate, give yourself and others permission to fail. Always bring your best to the table and believe in the best from others. Though this you will have great success in life. As a UHCL alumnus, you can look back and appreciate all the professors, administrators, family members and peers that contributed to your success throughout your education. This same appreciation for the people you work with helps you build new relationships.
and create innovations and professional accomplishments throughout your career.