



UHCL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Alumni,

With recent weather-related events and particularly any impacts from Hurricane Beryl, UHCL's Alumni Board members genuinely hope those who might have been impacted have been able to transition back to

normalcy. Through general conversations throughout the community, we have found many still working through home repairs or insurance claims without any visibility to when their financial or family impacts might be relieved. As an individual(s) who grew up in the coastal areas, and being accustomed to numerous tropical storms and hurricanes, we can understandably suppress or soften the experience of these coastal storms until these violent storms remind us by inflicting damage and devastation.

As someone impacted this year from Hurricane Beryl, I am extremely thankful and proud to recognize the resiliency of our surrounding communities and friends. Various community individuals, many of those being members of our esteemed alumni association, have shown empathy, care, and support in helping one another and in sharing their own personal experiences for supporting and lifting each other up. We are truly blessed to have one another, and I could not ask for a greater alumni association, surrounding community, and its encompassing individuals.

With fall on the horizon, we are now in the final preparations for our prestigious annual event – Alumni Celebration. As such, I am excited to acknowledge that we have formally selected our 2024 alumni award recipients. Led by board member and committee chair Kanch Weerasinghe, this year's recipients prove to be another exceptional output of selected candidates. We are very thankful for all those nominated and honorees, acknowledging all individuals receive applause for their contributions and accomplishments, and are excited to honor those selected. We look forward to seeing each of you join us on October 19th, for an evening of celebration and friendship.

Another major alumni update is the recent request and submission for potential new board members. We received an overwhelming response from qualified candidates for nominations to our board. In adhering to our alumni mission and goals, the alumni board continues working alongside university leadership in accomplishing our objectives while aligning with university key initiatives. We are excited to share any upcoming news as our board restructuring continues to take shape and upon recognizing any new board members – bigger news to come.

Lastly, as the Summer begins to close and a new academic year begins, I hope each of you have had a chance to pursue and enjoy what you value most: UHCL alumni travel abroad trip, destination trip with family, hiking in the mountains, relaxing alone on the beach, or publishing that first book. Whatever your passions might be this summer, I genuinely hope you are/were able to pursue and achieve those. If these past 12 months have taught me anything; it is how precious life is, that the gifts we are provided should not be taken for granted, and that there is a strong network of friends and resilient people willing to support, if you simply reach out and are willing to listen.

On behalf of the board, we wish you all the best and look forward to a brighter future together.

Here's to another wonderful 50 years – onward & Go Hawks!

Sincerely,

Wayne Sallee, '12 BS, '15 MS
Chair, Alumni Partnership