

F&ED BULLETIN

SPRING 2022



THE UNIVERSITY
OF TEXAS AT DALLAS



Office of Facilities & Economic Development

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Two years after the COVID-19 pandemic arrived in Texas, with all the economic, environmental and social upheavals that followed in its wake, The University of Texas at Dallas is still standing strong. This is due in no small part to the unity of the UT Dallas community and its willingness to persevere through uncertain times in the hope of a better tomorrow. The staff at the Office of Facilities & Economic Development have been doing their part to help the rest of UTD succeed in its mission of education, research and service amidst

rapidly changing conditions. Now that students have returned to campus and we dare to dream of a less drastic "different normal" just around the corner, F&ED is ready to support the University as it not just endures, but begins to grow and thrive once again.

Even as we celebrated the final phase in the construction of the Northside at UT Dallas ("Comet Town") mixed-use complex [page 3], we've broken ground on the Texas Instruments Biomedical Engineering & Sciences Building [page 2] and have drawn up plans to create the Athenæum Arts & Performance Complex [page 3] for housing our recently gifted art collections and staging cultural events.

We opened our doors to regional leaders in economics, business, government and education as we hosted an in-person Economic Development Summit [page 6], to foster collaboration and plan how North Texas can begin to move forward once we've hopefully passed the worst of the pandemic.

On a more personal scale, we are providing the UT Dallas community with greater variety in our dining venues [page 3], shadier places to walk [page 2], cleaner indoor air [page 12] and more options for a greener commute [pages 2 and 4].

We took time to honor our University's past [page 5] and prepared to power UTD's future [page 4].

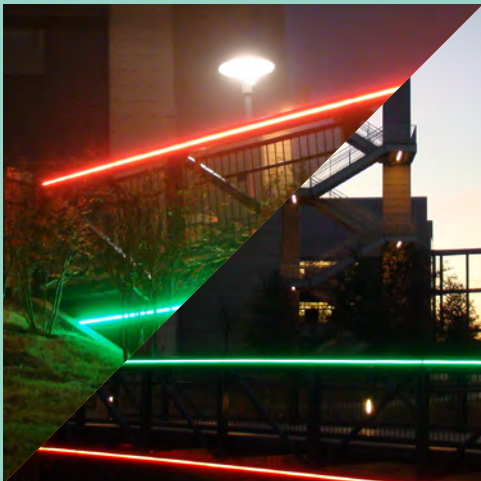
As you read through these pages about the things we've done in the last six months of a very trying two years, all I can add is this: Wait 'till you see what we do next!

The UT Dallas transformational journey continues!

*Dr. Calvin D. Jamison,
Vice President for Facilities & Economic Development*

ON THE COVERS

Two views of the new illuminated bridge spanning Cottonwood Creek between Callier Center Richardson and the Bioengineering and Sciences Building.



Texas Instruments Biomedical Engineering & Sciences Building Groundbreaking

In November, The University of Texas at Dallas and The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center took another step in the partnership of their biomedical engineering programs by breaking ground on a new project: the Texas Instruments Biomedical Engineering & Sciences (BMES) Building. This \$120M UTD-UTSW facility will connect faculty from both institutions as they work to convert cutting-edge medical technologies into clinical applications. Located on the East Campus of UTSW Medical Center in Dallas, four of the building's five floors will be dedicated to research laboratories. The rest of the space will be used for classrooms, conference rooms and offices. BMES will also become the new home of the Fabrication and Biodesign Center. The 150,000-square-foot facility is expected to open in 2023.



UTD DART Station

Work continues on the UT Dallas DART train station, which is expected to open as part of their new Silver Line commuter rail service in 2024. When completed, this station will connect the University with seven North Texas cities, DFW airport, and four other train lines.

Facilities Way

Facilities Way has seen a lot of recent improvements: repaving to support heavier traffic, speed bumps, the additional of a broad modern sidewalk with textured curb-cuts —and now trees. In time, this will become a more shady, more pleasant place to walk.





"Comet Town" Dedication

High winds didn't stop the dedication of Northside at UT Dallas (AKA "Comet Town"). The event included appearances by Temoc and the UTD Cheerleaders, tents offering free samples from Northside food venues and a ribbon cutting. This 1.37M gsf mixed-use complex offers 2,750 beds in 1,221 living units of various configurations just across the street from campus.

Pictured from left: Dr. Inga Musselman, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs; Mr. Clyde Jackson, chairman and ceo of Wynne/Jackson, Inc; Dr. Richard C. Benson, president of the University; Ms. Imaan Razak Macchiwalla, vice president for Student Government; The Honorable Paul Voelker, mayor of the City of Richardson; Mr. Josh Smith, senior vice president of Balfour Beatty Campus Solutions; Dr. Calvin D. Jamison, vice president for Facilities & Economic Development.

Athenæum Arts & Performance Complex

Plans are being drawn up to create a new center for the arts at UT Dallas. The facility is envisioned as a place where a recently gifted art collection can be displayed and studied, where the performing arts can be practiced and where the surrounding community engages in cultural events. With the construction of such a complex, the University anticipates that it will act as a magnet for art lovers from throughout the DFW metroplex, attracting more visitors to UTD.

Pictured at right: a jade carving from the Crow collection of Asian art.



New Dining Option for JSOM

The east wing of the Naveen Jindal School of Management now features a new dining venue, Tradecraft Coffee & Tea Bar, which joins a recently expanded installation of The Market in providing more food and drink options for students between classes.



New Bicycle Racks and Repair Stations

As part of its commitment to being a Bicycle Friendly University, UT Dallas has installed more bike racks around campus. There are now 64 locations for parking your bicycle next to an academic building or a UTD facility, plus another 57 locations in and around University Housing. In addition, there are several bright orange bike repair stations spread around campus to help riders make minor repairs. All of these are listed in our on-line campus map, right along with every neighborhood bike lane and bike trail.

These amenities are part of a larger set of services which include bicycle ID etching by UTD Police and maintenance clinics run by the Office of Sustainability, and make it easier for students to use bikes in and around campus.



Replacing the Primary Electrical Distribution Unit

Over Winter Break, maintenance crews replaced UTD's Primary Electrical Distribution Unit with a newer model to better serve the power needs of the University's academic core. In the weeks leading up to the procedure, a temporary power source was set up and a power conduit was run in from the north edge campus, fenced off or covered with ramps to protect pedestrians. This temporary source was used to provide energy to critical ongoing experiments and other campus functions while the replacement was made. The new unit should help the University keep up with its energy needs for years to come.



Music Comes to the Physics Building

The Physics building has been filled with sound ever since its rooms were remodeled for use by UT Dallas music faculty and students. The facility was given a large ensemble space, a special percussion room, studio rooms, six practice rooms, and plenty of storage space for instruments.





Honoring Jack Kilby

Students passing by the fountains of Texas Instruments Plaza this Spring were greeted by a new bronze statue honoring Nobel laureate Jack Kilby. The statue, donated by Harlan Crow, shows Kilby holding up a model of his 1958 invention, the integrated circuit. It was his solution to the "tyranny of numbers" problem faced by computer designers of the day, who were hitting the limits of performance with the vast number of separate circuit components that needed to be wired together. Also known as the microchip, Kilby's idea for manufacturing components all at once on a single piece of semiconductor material became the building block of modern electronics, and paved the way for many of the devices we use today.



3rd Annual UT Dallas Economic Development Summit

The University hosted an in-person Economic Development Summit at the Davidson-Gundy Alumni Center this November, where regional recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic was still an important topic for many attendees.

Counterclockwise from upper right:

The keynote presentation and fireside chat. From left: Chris Nielsen, executive vice president of Product Support and chief quality officer, Toyota Motor North America; Rich Templeton, president, chairman and CEO, Texas Instruments; Dr. Richard C. Benson, president of UT Dallas and Eugene McDermott Distinguished University Chair of Leadership.



A panel discussion on the economic recovery in North Texas since the height of the pandemic. From left: Bill Sproull, president and CEO, Tech Titans and the Richardson Chamber of Commerce; Pia Orrenius, vice president and senior economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas; Stephen Neuman, vice president - Global Government Affairs, American Airlines; Dr. Inga Musselman, vice president for Academic Affairs and provost of UT Dallas, who moderated the discussion.

Dr. Joe Pancrazio (left), vice president for Research, and Dr. Stephanie Adams, dean of the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science, moderate a session on how UTD and the North Texas business community could partner to drive regional economic development.



Dr. Randy Guttery, clinical professor in Finance & Managerial Economics and director of the Weitzman Institute for Real Estate, moderates a session on the effects of the coronavirus pandemic on the commercial real estate market in North Texas.





Clockwise from upper right:

Dr. Calvin D. Jamison, vice president for Facilities & Economic Development, opening the summit.

Dr. Richard C. Benson, president of the University, giving an update on the state of UT Dallas.

Local business, economic development, education and government leaders exchange ideas during a break at the summit.

From left: Dr. Calvin D. Jamison, Chris Nielsen, Rich Templeton and Dr. Richard C. Benson.

Dr. Inga Musselman, vice president for Academic Affairs and provost of UT Dallas, addressing the summit attendees before the start of a panel discussion.



28th Annual UT Dallas Scholarship Golf Tournament

Firewheel Golf Park
April 29, 2022

All Proceeds Benefit UT Dallas Scholarships



Register Your Team
alumni.utdallas.edu/golf

Volunteer
fed.utdallas.edu/tools/volunteer

Cody Gibbs

Economic Development Researcher & GIS Analyst

Rodolfo Arredondo (Interviewer): Where did you work before coming to F&ED?

Cody Gibbs: I have spent most of my professional career working in economic development across multiple sectors. In my previous role I worked in the economic incentives division of a commercial real estate firm, where I supported the efforts of our clients by helping companies in all stages of their site selection process. This included drafting financial pro forma and tax modeling to identify areas of opportunity, to the actual application and compliance process for grants, tax credits, and other incentives. Prior to that position, I worked for a local economic development organization here in the DFW area as an economic development researcher focusing on the department's GIS products.

Being able to leverage my private and public sector background is essential for this role. Knowing what metrics matter to key decision makers allows us to focus our efforts on items that are most impactful for our region and stakeholders.

RA: What does an Economic Development Researcher do at UTD?

CG: It says it in the name! The role of an Economic Development Researcher is to provide data and information to our partners in the University and local community. Our inboxes are open to anyone from the University, be it a department requesting a list of alumni working for a company or an advisor trying to find useful information to share with their students on the job market. We are here to help in any capacity that we can.

Beyond the University, our team also collaborates with members of the community to better understand their workforces and create new job opportunities. This not only helps uplift and enrich the greater community, but also provides opportunities for our students once they graduate.

RA: For those who aren't familiar with your discipline, what is GIS Analysis?

CG: Taken from Esri, Geographic Information Systems (or "GIS") is "a spatial system that creates, manages, analyzes, and maps all types of data." In simple terms, it is using digital mapping software to process information. As you can imagine, GIS plays a pivotal role in nearly every aspect of our lives. From the ads on your phone to the routing of



utilities and electricity to our homes, these systems have allowed us capture and use spatial data like never before.

In economic development, GIS typically has a narrower application – being used to either find a location for your business or to find the employees to staff it. As they say in real estate, it's all about “location, location, location.” Consider a business looking to move into DFW, they will have to weigh a multitude of geographic factors when picking a potential site. Perhaps it is a labor-intensive operation that would benefit from being closer to a busy highway system, or maybe a manufacturing plant that wants to be closer to their suppliers and customers in an industrial district, GIS allows us to not only map out these scenarios, but also analyze it and choose optimal results.

RA: What are some of the more memorable projects you've worked on so far?

CG: Selling the region as an economic powerhouse isn't very hard most of the time. When you look at the metrics, nine times out of ten you see Dallas-Fort Worth somewhere at or around the top. This makes for a wonderful challenge any time the script is flipped, and you have to find new ways to tell our story.

One of our ongoing projects is in support of a regional effort to attract more biotechnology and life science businesses to the area. Despite having some wonderful medical facilities and corporate headquarters for these firms, our area is not exactly known for being a hotbed of activity for this sector. So, the team wanted to understand why that is and what we could do to turn this trend around.

This led us down the path of developing skills transferability crosswalks, which looks to evaluate the workforce based on skills and educational backgrounds that could be used in this industry rather than the raw employment numbers. So instead of trying to look for the number of medical scientists in the area, we instead took a profile of that job and identified the number of workers in the area that could reasonably be trained to become a medical scientist.

What we ended up finding was that DFW has massive potential for this sector. There are thousands of people who could be hired into these roles and trained to meet industry standards – the only thing missing were places to employ them!

RA: How has the COVID-19 outbreak affected your team and the work that you do?

CG: Like many things, the pandemic rapidly changed the priorities of the economic development world practically overnight. To provide one of the most common examples, most economic development agreements are built around the creation of jobs at the project site. The motivating factor of an economic development organization to support this is in the hopes of employing their citizens or fueling local retail through an increased daytime population and traffic to the area. As you can imagine that entire dynamic goes out the window when a large percentage of that company's employees no longer show up to the office and are working from home.

The adoption of remote work as a normal staple of everyday life has forced economic developers to get creative in the way they approach projects. Best practices are still being established, and in our role, we are in a position to work with these communities to figure out what approach works for them.

RA: What part of your new job are you enjoying the most?

CG: We get various requests from both internally here at UT Dallas and externally from members of the community. Almost every one of these requests will be unique and require us to get creative with where we will find the data and how to process it to provide answers. It seems like every day I'm picking up something new, and as a life-long learner this is a really engaging part of the job for me.

Beyond that, I also love being back on UTD's campus. It is amazing to see how much the school has grown over the years and to get to be a part of that journey moving forward.

Avery McKittrick

Sustainability Coordinator

Rodolfo Arredondo (Interviewer): Where did you work before coming to F&ED?

Avery McKittrick: I was a student at the University of Texas at Austin working for their Office of Sustainability. I graduated in May 2021 with a B.S. in Environmental Science degree. The summer after I graduated and before starting this job, I biked across the country for 70 days with the nonprofit Texas 4000 for Cancer to raise money for cancer research and support services.

RA: What does a Sustainability Coordinator do at UTD?

AM: The Sustainability Coordinator is sort of a “catch all” position, so I do a little bit of everything. On any given day, I may be managing our six student Eco Reps, pulling weeds at the community garden, writing up BOMs, teaching students how to change a flat bike tire, managing our office social media and newsletter, or making Home Depot runs for farming supplies. Abridged, I usually say that I manage outreach and student programs.

RA: What will the new Eco Hub mean for UT Dallas students and the surrounding community?

AM: The Eco Hub is a game changer for food insecure students and other community members. Fresh produce is difficult for most food banks not only to obtain, since it is more expensive than other food options, but also to keep fresh long enough for clients to have access to it. The Eco Hub is going to be able to grow produce that is free of cost to food banks, large-scale, and that will stay fresher for longer since it has to travel only a few miles to its end destination of either the Comet Cupboard or North Texas Food Bank. Another crucial aspect of the Eco Hub mission is the development of student leaders. 66 student volunteers have been attending our bi-weekly farm workdays and tending to their plants in the off time. We’re so excited to provide this opportunity for students to learn, take ownership, and be leaders of their own plots while doing good for the community.

RA: What are some of the other memorable projects you’ve worked on so far?

AM: Two projects that really stand out are the Honey Helpers project and the Community Garden. For Honey Helpers, we’ve had the opportunity to engage students in the inspection, collection and processing of Comet Honey,



which is sold to the UTD community as a fundraiser for our office. Our office also co-manages the community garden in University Village with the Office of Student Volunteerism. Through the community garden, we get to teach students, staff, faculty, and alumni how to grow their own food that they get to take home while building a really excellent community.

RA: What part of your new job are you enjoying the most?

AM: The students are definitely the best part of this job. Not only do I have the pleasure of working with six incredibly talented student employees with our office, but our other events and programs allow me to meet so many talented individuals with bright futures. One of the most important functions of our office is to provide an outlet for students to gain sustainability knowledge. This job allows my personal impact to be compounded as these students then graduate and share what they’ve learned with their places of work, families and communities.

RA: How has the COVID-19 outbreak affected your team and the work that you do?

AM: Luckily, we have a small team, so COVID logistics have been pretty straightforward internally. We were able to meet in person for the first time since the beginning of the pandemic starting in September 2021, and all full-time and part-time staff is working on-site now. Externally, many of our events are still virtual, but we have been able to expand our options for in-person events, especially those that take place outdoors like Eco Hub volunteering, community garden workdays, campus clean ups and tree plantings.



Alejandro Melendez Navarrete

Parking & Transportation Manager

Rodolfo Arredondo (Interviewer): Where did you work before coming to F&ED?

Alejandro Melendez Navarrete: I originally started working at UT Dallas as a student worker in the same office I work for now. My first job here was as a Comet Cab driver. It was one of the best jobs I could have possibly had since I loved to be outside, meet people, and drive around campus. I got to see the different events and happenings around UTD and it made me feel closer to the University. After graduation I went to work temporarily as an Appliance Specialist at Home Depot while I searched for something more permanent—I know more about kitchen appliances than I let on! Soon after, I moved to Georgia and began working as a store manager at a Panda Express, but I realized that the food industry was not my true calling, and began looking for another job. I found out that the Parking & Transportation office at UT Dallas was looking for a full-time staff member and thought I would be a good fit.

RA: What are some of the more memorable projects you've worked on so far?

AMN: I would put my vote on Commencement. While it is not necessarily a project, it is in fact quite memorable. This is one of the few events on campus that involves the entirety of my office, from staff to students. It is possibly our busiest day since graduation also involves many students, staff, faculty and visitors coming to campus, riding the buses, and needing directions. Half our staff and almost all our stu-

dent workers are out in the field assisting in every way we can, while the rest stay in the office to answer phone calls and emails from those who require assistance making it to campus. Seeing everything come together, not just with our office, but with the campus as a whole always makes commencement a memorable experience.

RA: What part of your job do you enjoy the most?

AMN: Being able to see the growth of our student workers. We provide them with extensive training for whichever position they work, and we continuously challenge them to do better every day. I often see our students promoted to higher level positions, and being able to watch them lead, teach and show the ropes to the newer students is something that brings a lot of joy to my job. I always enjoy hearing from our past students who have graduated and moved on to bigger and better opportunities.

RA: How has the COVID-19 outbreak affected your team and the work that you do?

AMN: The biggest change that COVID-19 brought to us was the push for virtual services. For example, anything and everything related to permits can now be done entirely on-line. Refunds, returns, upgrades, downgrades, or purchasing permits can be completed without anyone having to make the trek over to our office. We were also coincidentally—and fortunately—in the final steps of implementing the DART virtual GoPass. Students no longer have to walk to the Parking & Transportation office and wait in line to get a physical pass. Our staff did face many challenges when we were first sent home, but I am happy to say that I am surrounded with very talented staff who made it all work.

New Staff Members

Please welcome the newest members of the F&ED team:

Facilities Management

Jose Figueroa
Rafael Franco
Flavio Landeros
Jimmy Morris
Daniel Ochoa
Patrick Peachee
Mural Speed
Vincent Taylor
Preston Webb

Inventory

Cary Myers

Mail Services

Jack Finley
Sebastian Nixon

Parking & Transportation

Eric Palmer



Holiday Cookies Bring Holiday Cheer to UTD

Near the end of the Fall semester, University pastry chefs really got to flex their skills and take their desserts to another level, as Dining Services catered holiday events for organizations throughout UT Dallas.

Pictured at left: Pastry Chef Tessa pulling trays of Chocolate Mint Pinwheel cookies out of the oven and onto cooling racks.

Appreciating Facilities Management Staff

Facilities Management staff were treated to a Winter Appreciation Lunch this December, complete with a buffet and a "Charlie Brown Christmas Tree." Dr. Calvin D. Jamison, vice president for Facilities & Economic Development, reminded everyone at the event about the FM staff who stayed on campus 24/7 to keep critical infrastructure operating during last year's unusual winter storm, and about the staff members who remained at the University in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic to keep UTD functioning.

Pictured from left: Jorge Navidad, Jose Benitez, Omar Sanchez, Emiliano Carrion, James Johnson, Javier Maldonado, Dale Bufkin, Rafael Mancera, Jose Ortiz, Jaime Ayala, Francisco Rodriguez, Selvin Segil, Jose Figueroa.



Did You Know?

98% of the 269 classrooms at UT Dallas are now served by HVAC systems with air filters rated at Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV) 13 or better, something agencies from the EPA to the CDC recommend for capturing the types of airborne particles which can carry the COVID-19 virus. The remaining 2% of our facilities use a MERV 8 filter combined with a pre-filter plus HEPA air purifiers inside the rooms themselves. Since the beginning of the pandemic, Facilities Management has been busy converting the air handlers on our oldest buildings to accept better filters. So long as they follow all of the CDC's other recommendations, Comets should be able to breathe easy while on campus.



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
AT DALLAS

OFFICE OF FACILITIES
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