

F&ED BULLETIN

SPRING 2023



THE UNIVERSITY
OF TEXAS AT DALLAS



Office of Facilities & Economic Development

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Our University just keeps growing! As of Fall 2022, we now serve over 31,000 students, plus all the faculty and staff hired to teach and support them. New facilities offering our campus community additional places to learn, live and play are currently under construction, with more being planned. In pace with our institution's physical growth, UT Dallas is increasing its role as a valuable resource in regional affairs, from the economic to the environmental. The Office of Facilities & Economic Development is here for all of it.

Our ongoing building projects include the Edith and Peter O'Donnell Jr. Athenæum, which promises to act as a magnet for the arts in North Texas, the Texas Instruments Biomedical Engineering & Sciences Building, soon to be the site of amazing UTD and UT Southwestern collaborations in the heart of the Dallas Medical District, and the UT Dallas stop on the upcoming Dallas Area Rapid Transit Silver Line, which will better connect the University to the world **[page 7]**.

We have acted as the host for summits and conferences that not only showcase the expertise of our own people, but UTD's ability to bring different parties together and facilitate cooperation for the benefit of our region. Two such events were the 4th Annual Economic Development Summit **[page 5]** and the first in-person RCE North Texas Annual Summit **[page 3]**. We also didn't forget to remind our long-time next door neighbors how much they've always meant to us **[page 2]**.

While we've sadly had to say farewell to some valued colleagues this past year, we are encouraged to see that our next generation of F&ED leaders are stepping up **[page 8]** to provide the University with the same level of service excellence it has come to expect from our office.

While UT Dallas' meteoric growth continues, our team welcomes the challenge!

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

ON THE COVERS

Front: Margaret McDermott Trellis Plaza
Back: The TI-BMES Construction Site





Community Appreciation Day

This February, F&ED and the Department of Athletics hosted UTD's neighbors from surrounding homeowners associations for an afternoon of collegiate basketball, burgers and reaffirming our special "town and gown" relationship. Pictured clockwise from above:

Guests were welcomed by University mascot Temoc the comet (left) and Dr. Richard C. Benson, president of The University.

A tense moment during the very close Comet Women's game against the visiting East Texas Baptist University Tigers, which resulted in 52 to 51 win.

UT Dallas' neighbors enjoy a lunch break in the Visitors Center atrium between the Women's and Men's games.



Homecoming Fashion Show

The Gaming Wall Lounge of the Student Services Addition was filled with fashion this Homecoming, as students and staff put on a runway show to model this season's finest in UTD gear. From activewear to casual clothes and hats to baby outfits, the University Bookstore's Spirit Wear department offered plenty of options for representing UT Dallas through your wardrobe. School mascot Temoc and several of the models even tossed out free samples from the runway to an enthusiastic crowd. As with any good fashion event, the show closed with a reception featuring photo opportunities, "mock-tails" and custom treats.

Pictured, from left: Finance Operations Coordinator Andrew Grant, an adorable pair of future Comets and Assistant Director for Parking and Transportation Elena Galli Grant all modeled the latest in UTD fashion.



UT Dallas Hosts RCE North Texas Annual Summit

The North Texas Regional Center for Expertise (RCE), a collaborative effort between UT Dallas and UT Arlington committed to the principles of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), held its first in-person summit this November at the Davidson-Gundy Alumni Center. During this two-day event, over 100 researchers, educators, government officials, business leaders and students shared information and explored possible solutions to local sustainability issues. The summit concentrated on the five SDGs that most relate to the lives of people of North Texas:

SDG 2: Zero Hunger

SDG 4: Quality Education

SDG 9: Industry Innovation and Infrastructure

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

SDG 13: Climate Action

Pictured: Eco Rep Eve Gersh leads an interactive experience featuring the Comet Honeybees. From within a mesh tent on the lawn of the Alumni Center, she demonstrated the structure of their hives and explained the importance of pollinating insects. Outside the tent, attendees sampled Comet Honey.



UT Dallas Hosts RCE North Texas Annual Summit - Continued

Pictured clockwise from above:

The Youth Network panel held a discussion on what intergenerational collaboration might look like and which skills are most important to a young sustainability leader. From left: Oriana Silva, former UNT Sustainability Intern; Tony Pham, Walkable Arlington Community Coordinator; Paulina Hruskoci, UTD student and former Eco Rep.

Dr. Joseph J. Pancrazio, vice president for Research & Innovation, addresses the summit attendees.

Dr. Janell Hills, director of Workforce Programs for the Interstate Renewable Energy Council, described her work on recruitment, education, training and job placement in the clean energy sector during the "SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure" panel.

Members of the "SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities" panel, from left: Benjamin Magill, associate vice chancellor of Economic Opportunity for Dallas College; Jennifer Harris, broadband program specialist for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth; Alex Pharmakis, sustainability manager for the City of Farmers Branch; Steven Duong, principal & AVP for Urbanism and Planning Practice, AECOM; Jennifer Sanders, executive director of the North Texas Innovation Alliance.





4th Annual Economic Development Summit

UT Dallas hosted regional business, academic and economic development leaders this November for a summit on the post-pandemic economic future of North Texas.

Pictured counter-clockwise from upper right:

From left: Dr. Richard C. Benson, president of the University; featured guest Bob Jordan, CEO of Southwest Airlines; Dr. Calvin D. Jamison, vice president for Facilities and Economic Development.

Bob Jordan (left), and Dr. Benson hold a "fireside chat" about the challenges faced by Southwest Airlines during the pandemic, the choices his company made in that difficult climate and the lessons they learned in the process.



The panel on evaluating North Texas' strength as a site selection destination. From left: Tom Luce, founder and chairman of Texas 2036; Mike Rosa, senior vice president of Economic Development for the Dallas Regional Chamber; Mike Berry, president of Hillwood; Kim Moore, executive managing director of Newmark.

Hasan Pirkul, dean of the Naveen Jindal School of Management, and Ronnie Spellman, president of the Southern U.S. Region for PlanetMagpie, moderated a breakout session on bridging the gap between UT Dallas, local industry and regional economic development professionals.

Dr. Joseph J. Pancrazio, vice president for Research and Innovation, makes a presentation at a breakout session on how North Texas can become a leader in "onshoring" key industries. The session was moderated by Dr. Pancrazio and Vish Madhugiri, president and CEO of SAAZ Technologies.





4th Annual Economic Development Summit - Continued

Jenny Mizutowicz, outgoing manager of Economic Development Initiatives, and Rose Hasham, managing member of Rosegold Hotels, share a moment during the post-summit happy hour.

Some of the F&ED staff that helped put on the summit. From left: Dee Lambert, director of Administration & Operations; Rodolfo Arredondo, manager for Web & Communications; Brett Roby, accountant; Benjamin Hong, assistant director of Business Services; Cody Gibbs, interim manager for Economic Development and analyst; Illiana Rodriguez Huerta, student assistant.



Edith and Peter O'Donnell Jr. Athenæum

Anyone passing through campus on the south side of the Naveen Jindal School of Management has probably seen the unique crossed pillars that will elevate sections of the University's newest arts facility, the Edith and Peter O'Donnell Jr. Athenæum. This promises to be a special building which will bring the beauty of the surrounding campus into its space, blurring the boundary between indoor and outdoor. When completed, the Athenæum will give UTD more space to study and display its art collection, and hopefully become the first phase of a larger arts and performance complex.



UT Dallas on the DART Silver Line

Just north of the park in Northside at UT Dallas, construction continues on the University's stop along the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) Silver Line. When completed, the train will provide UTD with convenient connections to four other rail lines, seven North Texas cities and DFW International Airport. Commuters will be able to hop off the train, cross the street, and be right on campus.



Texas Instruments Biomedical Engineering & Sciences (TI-BMES) Building

A joint UT Dallas and UT Southwestern research facility in the heart of the Dallas Medical District is closer to completion. Dubbed the Texas Instruments Biomedical Engineering & Sciences Building in honor of that company's generous contribution to the project, it will give staff from both universities more opportunities to collaborate on turning cutting-edge medical technologies into clinical applications. The building will house the Fabrication and Biodesign Center and four floors of laboratory space.



Did You Know?

While most vending machines on campus offer snacks, drinks and even light ready-to-eat meals, there's now one machine just outside the UTD Bookstore that's dedicated to dispensing pens, testing sheets, thumb drives, USB cables and other modern school supplies.





Doug Tomlinson Retires

After a long career at UT Dallas, Doug Tomlinson, associate vice president for Facilities Management, retired to pursue the life of a full-time farmer. Well-wishers honored him with a retirement party this December. During the celebration, Tomlinson was presented with a photo collage highlighting several high-profile projects from his time leading Facilities Management—and his fondness for Dr. Pepper sodas.

Farewell, Jenny Mizutowicz

At the conclusion of a successful Economic Development Summit [page 5], Jenny Mizutowicz, manager for Economic Development Initiatives, bid farewell to the University as she left to promote economic development in Richardson.

Pictured, from left: Jenny Mizutowicz cuts herself a slice of a cake which reads "Thank You and Best Wishes, Jenny" as Paul Voelker, mayor for the City of Richardson, looks on.



Hello, 2023

Staff in the Office of Facilities & Economic Development were enthusiastic about the challenge of serving the University this year during our New Year's Kickoff, where past accomplishments were celebrated and several outstanding employees were recognized during a buffet lunch.

Pictured, from left: AVP for Auxiliary Operations & Economic Development Bob Fishbein, Manager for Parking & Transportation Alejandro Melendez Navarrete, VP for F&ED Dr. Calvin D. Jamison. Melendez Navarrete received this year's award for Service Excellence.

Welcome Back, Comets

New and returning students were welcomed back to campus at the beginning of the semester by staff volunteers who provided directions, information on campus resources and the opportunity to play games that tested their knowledge of Comet traditions. Stationed at several locations around the University, UTD staff were able to interact with students on a more personal level as they distributed snacks and drinks between classes. It was also an opportunity for students to learn about the people who help support the operation of UT Dallas.





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800 W CAMPBELL RD, AD 24
RICHARDSON, TX 75080-3021



fed.utdallas.edu