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April 2020



An Interview with Bron Clayton

Prior to joining UT Dallas in 1990, Bron Clayton owned and operated a cleaning company. As building services superintendent, Bron oversees the custodial staff and recycling efforts. [Read more](#)



Staff Council Facebook

Your Communications Committee is trying to promote issues pertaining to staff by way of our [Facebook page](#). If you have anything you'd like to share, including photos, please send to [Carrilaine Schneckner](#).

Cloth Face Covering Distribution



Many UT Dallas employees must remain on campus in order to continue fulfilling essential functions, such as providing dining services to students living in University Housing. In response to the face mask shortage, volunteers across campus have launched the Make a Mask project. The project aims to provide two reusable, washable face covers to employees who are regularly on campus for their jobs. [Read more](#)

OIT Remote Work Resources



The University's Office of Information Technology (OIT) has created pages that contain information and links to resources for working remotely.

Student Emergency Fund



Some UT Dallas students are experiencing food insecurity, job loss and other issues. Help students in need by donating to the UT Dallas Student Emergency Fund and Comet Cupboard.

Watercooler Wednesday



The UTD Campus Wellness Committee has launched Watercooler Wednesdays to help create a virtual social environment for the community. While social distancing, we do not bump into friends or colleagues in the hallway or the mall or anywhere on campus. While working at home, we communicate primarily with people in our departments. Hopefully, with Watercooler Wednesdays, we can help connect people.

Each Wednesday, we will present a Wellness Activity video via Microsoft Teams — like meditation sessions, yoga, short exercises, etc. — from 10-10:15 a.m. and from 3-3:15 p.m. Each session will start 10 minutes before scheduled so people can talk to each other. Mics will be muted for the 15-minute Wellness Activity; afterward, people can visit again for 10 minutes.

Texas HHS Launches Statewide COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line

Texas Health and Human Services (HHS) has launched a 24/7 statewide mental health support line to help Texans experiencing anxiety, stress or emotional challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This new resource offers COVID-19-related mental health support for all Texans. People can call the support line toll-free at 833-986-1919. [Read more](#)

Access to Virtual Fitness Classes

UT Dallas is offering two virtual ways to get moving. The first, VFit UTD is led by a team of UTD staff members who are also exercise enthusiasts/instructors. Students, staff and faculty are invited to join the livestream events Monday through Friday on Microsoft Teams.

Recreation Movement is the second option. Students, faculty, staff and alumni are able to participate in online workout classes from 40 different colleges and universities across the country. Digital fitness and recreation are great ways for people to connect, engage and stay healthy. [Register to gain access.](#)

Items of Note

McDermott Library Offers Online Resources

Although the library is closed until further notice to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus), the Eugene McDermott Library continues to offer students and faculty [services and support for learning and teaching remotely.](#)

Comets Giving Day

Comets Giving Day has been postponed until this summer. Details will be coming soon.

Employee Assistance Program

If you are an employee of UT Dallas seeking counseling help for yourself or a family member, you are eligible for the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Free and confidential services are available to assist you and your family with issues affecting home and/or work. For more information, visit the [EAP website](#) or call 866-327-2400.

MDLIVE

Online access to qualified health professionals is just a click away. Get care when and where you need it 24/7/365. Offered by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas in partnership with MDLIVE, virtual visits by a licensed medical provider are available for non-emergency medical issues, behavioral health and psychological health needs. Free visits (no copay) are available on your

computer, tablet or smartphone. [View more information on MDLIVE.](#)

UT Dallas Social Media Directory

UT Dallas maintains a list of known and active social media accounts. [See the list.](#)

Did You Know?

Make a Suggestion

Submit the form on our [suggestions page](#) to make your opinion count.

Find Your Rep

Discover who represents your district on the [Staff Council representative page.](#)

Tell Us Your News

Please [tell us your news](#) by filling out our staff update form.



The next Staff Council meeting will be at 9 a.m., Wednesday, May 13, and it will be online.

To attend the meeting, check the [Staff Council homepage](#) for meeting connection information. All are welcome to join the meeting.

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