

MARCH 2021

NEWSLETTER



OFFICE OF THE PROVOST &
DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
Faculty Success



Message from the Provost

Dear Faculty,

This year has been particularly challenging for our students as they have struggled to pay for school expenses. We all contribute to the costs of college; our faculty, for example, contribute when you decide on course materials. As faculty, you have a key role in the selection of effective, accessible and affordable course materials.

Student success in courses is strongly related to the choice and use of course materials. UNT is committed to supporting faculty in this process.



We recently announced several initiatives to promote the use of affordable course materials. Many faculty and departments have already taken steps to provide affordable options for students, but there's still more work that can be done. With this brief note I'm encouraging you to step back and take a look at textbook costs for your courses and see if there's any action you can take to make it more affordable.

With options ranging from open educational resources (free) to negotiated price reductions with commercial publishers, there are any number of ways to address the issue. The team in my office of Curricular Innovation and Academic Partnerships is working closely with the UNT Libraries to provide resources and support. For more information please see affordability.unt.edu or contact John.Martin@unt.edu or Jordan.Rogers@unt.edu.

Sincerely,

Provost Cowley

Upcoming Workshops and Trainings

Click on an event below to learn more and register. Be sure to check the [Faculty Success calendar](#) to see what else is coming up this semester.

Mar
29

[Promotion & Tenure
Workshop](#)

Mar
29

[Preparing for
Retirement Workshop](#)

Mar
30

[Non-Tenure
Promotion Workshop](#)

Mar 30 <u>ABCA Speaker Series: John Elder Robison</u>	Mar 31 <u>Faculty Work-Life Balance Workshop</u>	Mar 31 <u>Practical Resilience</u>
Apr 07 <u>Compassion Fatigue/Burnout</u>	Apr 08 <u>Morning Mindfulness</u>	Apr 08 <u>ABCA Speaker Series: Dr. Anneliese Singh</u>
Apr 09 <u>Gender & Sexuality Equity in the Workplace</u>	Apr 09 <u>Faculty Search Committee Training Session</u>	Apr 12 <u>Faculty Development Leave Workshop Session 1</u>
Apr 13 <u>Gender & Sexuality Equity in the Workplace</u>	Apr 13 <u>Faculty Development Leave Workshop Session 2</u>	Apr 14 <u>Practical Resilience</u>
Apr 14 <u>QPR Suicide Prevention Training</u>	Apr 15 <u>2021 Salute to Faculty Excellence</u>	Apr 16 <u>Leadership Fellows End of Year Reunion</u>

Remembering Dr. Bertina Combes



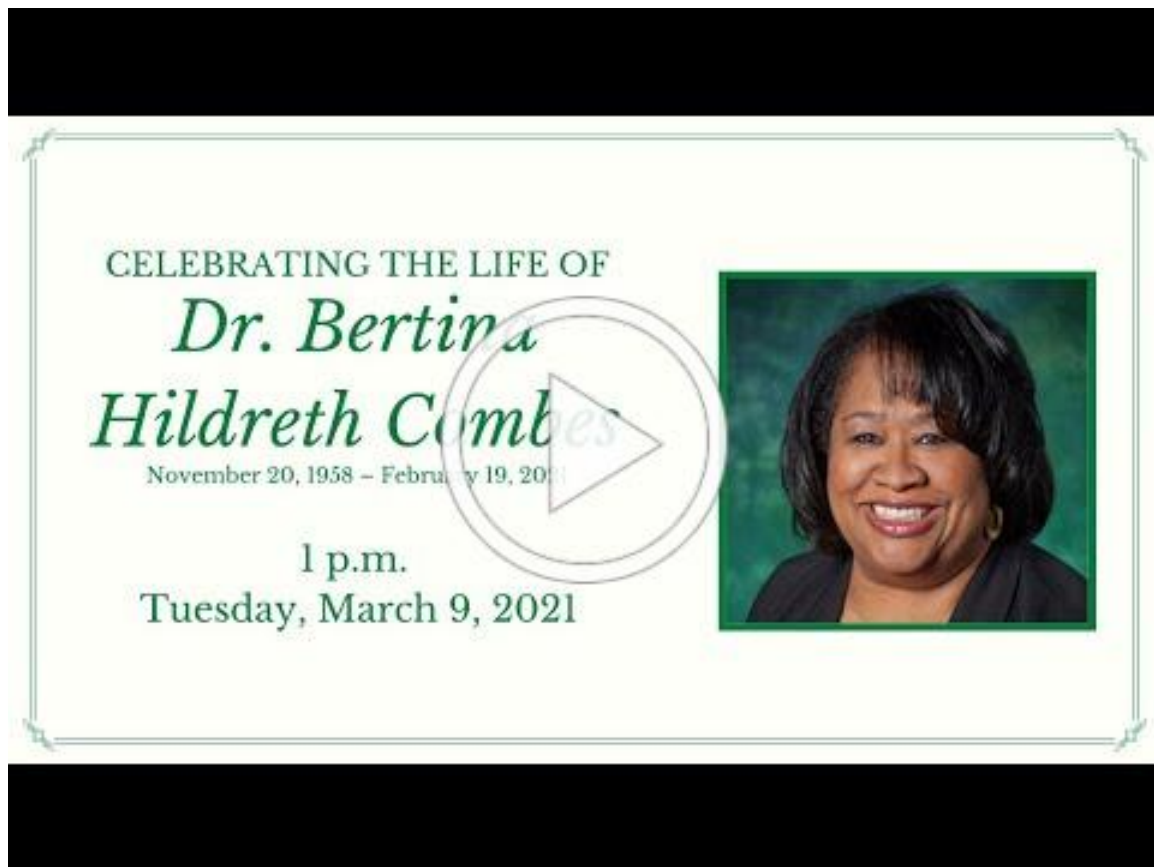
On February 19, 2021, UNT and Faculty Success lost one of its great leaders in the passing of Dr. Bertina Combes. While she served as professor as well as associate and interim dean for the College of Education, her post since 2020 was vice provost for faculty success and leader of Faculty Success. In that role she was instrumental in supporting this newsletter you are reading right now. During her brief time as vice provost, she began a number of initiatives, including the [Anti-Bias and Cultural Awareness Program](#). Members of the Faculty Success office recognize Bertina's contributions and leadership during a difficult period for UNT.

For Annie Garcia, assistant to the vice provost, "Bertina was a woman of God, amazing boss and friend. I will miss her gracefulness and empowering leadership. She knew how to mentor, support, understand the demands of her position and bring us together through the challenges of COVID-19 this past year. An exemplary boss who cared, was honest and worked endless hours to ensure that we all stay focused, offering direction where it was needed while having us feel good about it. I will surely miss her very much!"

Faculty Success sends its condolences to Dr. Combes' family, students and colleagues in this time of sorrow.

The recording of Bertina's Celebration of Life can be viewed below. The Youtube housing

contains the live chat as well, with several hundred comments saluting Dr. Combes:



More Remembrances

[View the reflections of colleagues in the *North Texan*](#)

[Read the UNT Faculty Senate's resolution honoring Dr. Combes](#)

[Donate to UNT's Bertina H. Combes Scholarship Fund](#)

Anti-Bias and Cultural Awareness Program

This semester, our goal is to support faculty, staff and academic administrators as they apply strategies for success and inclusion to their daily tasks and responsibilities.

Faculty and academic staff can access the training program through the UNT Bridge portal, as they did in the fall semester. The program will be marked as “required” for all full-time faculty and academic staff and will show up on your My Learning page. The due date for this semester is **May 31, 2021**.

Visit the [Anti-Bias and Cultural Awareness webpage](#) for more spring training options.

Being Different: Turning Childhood Disabilities into Adult Gifts with John Elder Robison

March 30, 2021

Join us as [John Elder Robison](#) describes how the differences of autism and ADHD, considered disabilities during childhood, can confer powerful competitive advantages upon us as adults. Through poignant examples from his own life, Robison shows how traits that limited him as a child actually facilitated some of his greatest accomplishments as an adult. He shares a new way to look at disability, difference and giftedness, and offers a different paradigm for educators, parents and neurodiverse people.

Being Different: Turning Childhood Disabilities into Adult Gifts Presented by John Elder Robison



DATE: MARCH 30, 2021

TIME: 1PM - 2:30PM

VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

FOR MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION:

[UNTUNIO.TICKETS.UNIVERSITYTICKETS.COM/W/EVENT.ASPX?ID=1475](https://untunio.tickets.universitytickets.com/w/event.aspx?id=1475)

Join us as John Elder Robison describes how the differences of autism and ADHD, considered disabilities as children, can confer powerful competitive advantages upon us as adults. Through poignant examples from his own life, Robison shows how traits that limited him as a child actually facilitated some of his greatest accomplishments as an adult. He shares a new way to look at disability, difference, and giftedness, and offers a different paradigm for educators, parents, and neuro-diverse people. Anyone who is personally affected by autism, Asperger's, or ADHD will find this talk illuminating and inspiring.

SPONSORS



THIS PRESENTATION IS PRE-APPROVED FOR 1.5 HOURS OF CRC CEUS AND FULFILLS THE SPRING 2021 ANTI-BIAS & CULTURAL AWARENESS PROGRAM REQUIREMENT. PARTICIPANTS MAY REQUEST A CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE TO USE FOR OTHER CREDENTIALS.

Moving from Affirmation to Liberation: Supporting Queer and Trans Resilience and Challenging Heterosexism at UNT with Dr. Anneliese Singh

April 8, 2021

In this presentation, Dr. Singh will review the history of LGBTQ+ affirming approaches on university campuses as well as the extensive health inequities that queer and trans people experience in higher education that influence their overall well-being. Attention to the multiple interlocking systems of power, privilege and oppression will be addressed in order to identify advocacy and liberation strategies UNT community members can use to counter anti-LGBTQ+ bias as part of manifesting the beloved community on campus.

[Register Now via UNT Bridge](#)

Moving from Affirmation to Liberation:

Supporting Queer and Trans Resilience and
Challenging Heterosexism at UNT



DR. ANNELIESE SINGH

Dr. Singh is a Professor and Associate Provost for Diversity and Faculty Development/Chief Diversity Officer at Tulane University, as well as the co-founder of the Georgia Safe Schools Coalition and the Trans Resilience Project. Her scholarship and community organizing explores racial healing and racial justice, as well as the resilience, trauma, and identity development experiences of queer and trans people, with a focus on young people and BIPOC people.



TIME: 9AM - 11AM
DATE: April 8, 2021

VIA UNT BRIDGE



For more information & registration:
vpaa.unt.edu/events/abca-speaker-singh-apr2021

HOSTED BY FACULTY SUCCESS

2021 Salute to Faculty Excellence



Save the Date: April 15, 2021

Mark your calendar to join us as we celebrate the accomplishments of UNT's outstanding faculty! During this showcase event, we will honor the 2020-2021 faculty award winners for excellence in teaching, research and service.

[Register Now](#)

Faculty Spotlight

Karisma Morton

[Dr. Karisma Morton](#), Department of Mathematics education, was selected as a scholar member of the Institute in Critical Quantitative, Computational and Mixed Methodologies (ICQCM). She was invited to join their 2021 National Science Foundation QCM Scholars Cohort. Through her participation in this cohort, she will be among 35 early-career scholars nationwide who will be affiliated with the



ICQCM for two years.

During that time, she will participate in a number of professional development activities (e.g., training seminars, grant writing workshops, mentorships) designed to support scholars of color as they use, teach and critique the westernized application of quantitative, computational and mixed methodologies in research about Black, Latino/a/x and Indigenous communities. [Learn more about the ICQCM program.](#)

National Geographic Award Supports Citizen Science Project

National Geographic awarded a UNT research scientist a grant to support her work introducing middle school children to scientific research projects through citizen science.

[Dr. Kelly Albus](#) will lead an interdisciplinary team of faculty from [UNT's Advanced Environmental Research Institute](#) (AERI) for a project that invites teachers and students to [map air quality](#) in their own communities. Albus, in partnership with [Dr. Lu Liang](#) from the Department of Geography and [Dr. Sara Champlin](#) from the Mayborn School of Journalism, will utilize their expertise and a network of low-cost air quality sensors to engage classrooms across Texas in ongoing research.

Dr. Albus explained the coordinated approach by noting, "Dr. Liang is a geospatial scientist who will be heading up the air quality sensor network portion of the project, ensuring that we have high-quality data in real-time that is calibrated and ready to use. Dr. Champlin has a background in health communications research and will head up the project evaluation portion, collecting feedback and using emotion-tracking software to understand how teachers and students feel about topics such as air quality, citizen science, and the use of new technology in the classroom. With my work with citizen science groups, volunteer environmental monitoring, and teacher education, this has evolved into a really dynamic project, one that can help meet the needs of the communities we work with and also build innovative research."

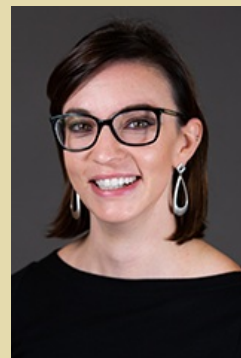
The project furthers the AERI's goal of applying innovative solutions to pressing global problems through multidisciplinary collaboration.



Kelly Albus, Adjunct Professor,
Department of Biological Sciences



Liu Liang, Assistant Professor,
Department of Geography and
the Environment



Sara Champlin, Assistant
Professor, Mayborn School of
Journalism

[Read more on UNT News](#)
[Read about the project on their website](#)

Faculty Resource Group Spotlight: La Colectiva

Originally a network for Latina faculty, La Colectiva now includes women faculty of color, as well as allies. Its purpose is to support women holistically, emphasizing tenure and promotion, research, and teaching. A central

part of La Colectiva involves collective mentoring that draws on the experiences and wisdom of women of color scholars. La Colectiva sponsors public lectures intended to inform the broader community and supports the efforts of other mentoring groups and departments on campus.

La Colectiva's mentoring model is discussed in a book chapter in the recently published edited volume [Counternarratives from Women of Color Academics: Bravery, Vulnerability, Resistance](#).

La Colectiva frequently sponsors guest speakers and events. They recently had Dr. Tanya Golash-Boza speak via Zoom about dis/investment and gentrification in Washington, D.C.

For more information, visit [La Colectiva's website](#) or contact [Dr. Mariela Nuñez-Janes](#).



About Faculty Resource Groups

A Faculty Resource Group is a group of faculty linked by a common background, purpose, ideology, or interest. They play a role in helping to ensure that UNT provides an inclusive environment where all faculty are valued, included, and empowered to succeed. Many of them receive funding and support from Faculty Success and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. The current Faculty Resource Groups are:

- [Women's Faculty Network](#)
- [Black Faculty Network](#)
- [LGBT Faculty Network](#)
- [La Colectiva](#)
- [International Faculty Network](#)

Career Connect, UNT Libraries and UNT Press Announce Funding Programs

Open Education Resources (OER) and Curricular Innovation and Academic Partnerships (CIAP)

Are you interested in learning about an active and inclusive approach to teaching and learning? Consider reviewing the recently added brief asynchronous Bridge course on [High-Impact Practices \(HIPs\) at UNT](#)! This course provides an introductory overview of HIPs along with key features of the pedagogy and actionable next steps for your teaching.



Thanks to funding from President Smatresk's Spring 2021 affordability initiatives, the UNT Libraries, UNT Press, and the VPAA Curricular Innovation and Academic Partnerships are pleased to announce [three revamped programs](#) to support full-time UNT faculty, including instructors and lecturers, in adopting, adapting, and creating affordable, accessible and effective materials for use in UNT courses.

Two of these programs are related to open educational resources (OER):

- [OER Summer Grants](#) – Task payments (supplemental salary) of up to \$5,000 are available for faculty who will adopt or adapt an openly licensed textbook or other

OER, or will adopt, adapt or create ancillary materials for an existing open textbook or other OER, during Summer 2021. **Applications are due April 1, 2021.**

- [UNT Open Texts](#) – This collaborative effort of the UNT Press and UNT Libraries supports faculty who wish to publish an open-access textbook, with financial incentives of up to \$10,000 for proposals submitted **before September 1, 2021.**

For questions regarding the OER Grants and Open Text proposal, contact ScholarlyCommunication@unt.edu.

A third program offers another approach in addressing affordability: While OER is a primary opportunity for addressing affordability, it is not an option for every course. VPAA Curricular Innovation and Academic Partnerships (CIAP) is offering task payments for faculty interested in adopting reduced-cost or curated course materials. Changing textbooks and digital materials requires a concerted effort with curricula changes and course structure revisions. CIAP will provide support resources for departments and individual instructors seeking to adopt less expensive course materials. Contact Jordan.Rogers@unt.edu for questions or visit the [website](#) to learn more about this opportunity.

Curricular Innovation and Academic Partnerships will be launching funded summer programs soon! To stay in the loop, [sign up to receive the announcements](#).

National Endowment for the Humanities Guest Speaker Event

SAVE SAVE SAVE THE DATE

NEH Awards and More:

Learn about funding
for digital projects

APRIL 27, 2021

10:00 AM

Guest Speaker:

JENNIFER SERVENTI
NEH Senior Program Officer



UNT

COLLEGE OF INFORMATION
Department of
Information Science



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES

Registration:

ci.unt.edu/neh

SPOT Survey



[Student Perceptions of Teaching \(SPOT\)](#) is the student evaluation system for UNT that allows students to confidentially provide constructive feedback to their instructor and department to improve the quality of student experiences in the course. SPOT opens **April 5** and closes **April 22**. [The faculty portal can be located here.](#) The portal allows faculty to add their own questions to their course evaluations, pull past term reports, and preview surveys created by the department [SPOT coordinator.](#)

Please encourage your students to participate. Instructions on adding the course evaluation link to your CANVAS page can also be found on the [SPOT website](#) under faculty resources. For more information, visit the [SPOT website](#) or email SPOT@unt.edu.

Building Student Resilience: Resilient Educators



Behind every resilient student is a resilient educator. With faculty and students straddling in-person and remote learning, it is vital that educators take time for their own self-care and reach out to connect with colleagues. Virtual opportunities to connect with peers and build faculty resilience are available.

Bi-weekly [Practical Resilience workshops](#) hosted by Counseling and Testing Services on Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m. are also available. Each thirty-minute workshop focuses on providing resilience strategies and techniques you can implement today.

Chief's Corner

Police Website Offers Overview of Our Service to UNT

Communicating clearly helps create a better understanding of how our department serves our community. Our website, police.unt.edu, is one way you can find information about who we are and what we do.

Under the Public Information tab, you will find:

- The Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, an overall guide for many safety and security policies at UNT that offers education and prevention programs that are open to all UNT community members. The ASFSR also provides crime and fire statistics for the past three years.
- The Crime and Fire Log, which details criminal and non-criminal incidents reported to UNTPD during the past 60 days.



Other areas of interest include campus safety programs, located under the Campus Safety Information tab. We offer a variety of programs ranging from self-defense and emergency readiness to identity theft training, and many can be conducted virtually.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please reach out to our Community Relations Officer, Ofc. David Causey, at 940-369-7691 or David.Causey@unt.edu. Follow @UNTPolice on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for proactive safety tips and information about our officers and department.

News from International Affairs

Meet UNT's Faculty Associate for Fulbright Programs

[Carol Anne Costabile-Heming, Ph.D.](#)

Professor of German

Department of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

Fulbright Scholar to Germany, 2002



The faculty associate for Fulbright Programs is a position created by [Faculty Success](#), [Toulouse Graduate School](#) and [International Affairs](#) to promote Fulbright opportunities to UNT faculty and students in collaboration with UNT's Fulbright Program advisor and scholar liaison. Learn more about [Fulbright Opportunities for Faculty](#) by contacting the [Fulbright scholar liaison or faculty associate for Fulbright Programs](#).

Fulbright Fridays

Attend an information session to learn about [Fulbright opportunities for faculty](#) to undertake research, teaching, consultation projects and other opportunities abroad.

- April 16 from 3 to 4 p.m.
- [Register for a session](#)

UNT Passport Office

The [UNT Passport Office](#) is open for passport services on Mondays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and for photo services on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Appointments are required and [can be scheduled online](#).

Newsletter Suggestions

Do have content you would like to share?

If you have an article or suggestion that you would like to include in the Faculty Success Newsletter, please contact us at Faculty.Success@unt.edu.



Stay in Touch with Faculty Success



FACULTY SUCCESS

Our office is responsible for and supports numerous programs to ensure that faculty at all levels are successful in their teaching, scholarly, and leadership endeavors.

We encourage you to explore our website for additional information on specific programming or contact us directly to learn more about the numerous opportunities available to UNT faculty. We are here to foster your success.

[Visit the Faculty Success Website](#)



OFFICE OF THE PROVOST &
DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
Faculty Success

