

north

TEXAN



Special Edition 2019



**HELPING
STUDENTS
THRIVE**

*President's
Annual Report*





North Texan

The *North Texan* (ISSN 0468-6650) is published four times a year (in March, June, September and December) by the University of North Texas, 1155 Union Circle #311070, Denton, Texas 76203-5017, for distribution to alumni and friends of the university. Periodicals postage paid at Denton, Texas, and at additional mailing offices. The diverse views on matters of public interest presented in the *North Texan* do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the university. Publications staff can be reached at northtexan@unt.edu or 940-565-2108.

Postmaster: Please send requests for changes of address, accompanied if possible by old address labels, to the University of North Texas, University Relations, Communications and Marketing, 1155 Union Circle #311070, Denton, Texas 76203-5017.

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EXCELLENCE

RAISING THE BAR

It's been an extraordinary year, as the University of North Texas raked in big numbers and even bigger accolades. UNT achieved record enrollment this fall, building a community of 39,300 exceptional future leaders that consists of its largest-ever freshman class, a highly diverse undergraduate population that puts it one step closer to meeting the criteria of being designated a Minority Serving Institution, and a record 93 National Merit Finalists — and don't forget about the Fulbright Scholars, National Academy and Royal Society members who teach them. UNT solidified a partnership with the online educational company Coursera that all but guarantees its academic footprint will grow globally. And what a footprint it already is — the university now has 77 academic degree programs ranked among the nation's top 100, up from 72 just a year ago. UNT doesn't just say soar higher — it does it.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

What an incredible year we had at the University of North Texas! We welcomed our largest-ever freshman class, received reaffirmation as a Tier One research university, increased our research expenditures to nearly \$80 million, secured a record-high \$61 million in annual giving, graduated more than 9,600 students and impressively increased student retention, nearly hitting our 2022 goals two years early.

In addition, UNT also secured \$10 million in funding from the Texas Legislature for our Center for Agile and Adaptive Additive Manufacturing, completed construction on numerous buildings, including our Welcome Center and Joe Greene Hall, and unveiled the master plan for our UNT at Frisco campus.

The year also included development of a five-year strategic plan for the future. More than 90 meetings with faculty, staff, students, alumni and supporters helped us identify three priority areas that will advance our mission and support student success — Student Empowerment and Transformation, People and Processes, and Scholarly Activity and Innovation. Our comprehensive, deeply layered plan includes goals, metrics and action steps that crosscut the many ways we will build student success pathways and scholarly aptitude as a university. By embracing a culture of collaboration to solve important problems and make improvements, UNT will better transform students' lives.

As a caring, creative university that empowers students to thrive, our mission statement, at right, was revised this year with great thought to reflect our true university identity. We are committed to helping every student unlock their potential and achieve their dreams, and in the last year alone, we have gained incredible momentum.

UNT Proud,



Neal Smatresk

President

president@unt.edu

 [@UNTPrez](https://twitter.com/UNTPrez)



*At the University of North Texas,
our caring and creative community
empowers our students to thrive in
a rapidly changing world.*





Zain Ali, executive advisor at UNT at Frisco, works with freshmen who are enrolled in the new Project Design and Analysis Cohort. The cohort is a highly specialized track in the Bachelor of Science in Integrative Studies degree that can be achieved in just three years and provides students with project-based learning, internships, career-ready results and individualized attention.

HELPING STUDENTS THRIVE

CARING CULTURE TRANSFORMS STUDENTS' LIVES

It's only fitting as UNT moves into 2020 that students' goals remain sharply in focus. That's why the university initiated several programs this year to make sure they reach their dreams on time and within budget.

The Start Green Stay Green program unites the Dean of Students Office, Student Financial Services, Student Financial Aid and Scholarships, and the Student Money Management Center in the mission of ensuring students receive the financial assistance they require, from tuition and fee payment options to food to a place to stay.

UNT also unveiled the revamped Kitchen West this year (pictured below), which is only the second university dining hall in the nation to be completely free of the "Big 8" food allergens, ensuring students have a safe place to eat no matter their dietary restrictions.



Additionally, UNT remains on the forefront of esports, becoming the first public university in Texas to offer scholarships to gamers (to the tune of \$20,000). Add to that the university's unwavering commitment to its highly diverse student population, which once again garnered UNT a coveted Higher Education and Excellence in Diversity Award. And while there are plenty more examples, here's the short version: UNT cares about each and every student who steps foot on campus.

NEXT GENERATION LIVING & LEARNING

HOME AWAY FROM HOME

To accommodate its growing creative community of scholars, artists and innovators, UNT has added several new facilities this year, each thoughtfully designed to empower students to succeed.

The conveniently located Welcome Center — which greets future students and their families when they arrive to tour campus — is the front door to the university, and includes a model dorm room and other information students need to envision themselves on campus. Joe Greene Hall, named for the alumnus and legendary NFL star, is the campus' new 580-bed residence hall that features double occupancy rooms primarily for freshmen (pictured bottom right). The beautifully designed space inspires students to call UNT their home away from home.

UNT's 175 buildings include 361 research labs and non-classroom creative spaces.





BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

As a hub for innovation, UNT provides researchers the tools and infrastructure that will help spark ideas and give rise to produce more groundbreaking work.

The newly opened biomedical engineering building at Discovery Park boasts open-concept labs, high-tech equipment and a virtual dissection table that bolster collaborative, state-of-the-art research. Also at Discovery Park, researchers reconstructed a native Texas tall grass prairie on four acres of land at the Pecan Creek Pollinative Prairie to promote conservation and sustainable urban landscaping of native habitats for declining pollinator populations.

The College of Visual Arts and Design building, in addition to being the most technologically advanced art facility in the world, features an open-concept plan to encourage collaboration and inspiration (pictured top right).

And UNT student-athletes now have new spaces constructed last year that allow them to hone their winning ways. The North Texas Track and Soccer Complex features an eight-lane track and sand-based soccer field while the Lovelace and McNatt Families Practice Facility, made possible as a result of the largest-ever gift to Athletics, lets student-athletes practice indoors with a full-length football field and track practice lanes (pictured middle right).



INNOVATION IN ACTION

TIER ONE OUR WAY

Considering the campus is full of cutting-edge thinkers, it's little surprise that UNT was reaffirmed this year as a Tier One research university by the Carnegie Classification — but it's a tremendous achievement all the same, and one that only 131 other elite research institutions in the nation share. Not only has the university's interdisciplinary approach to research garnered national attention, so has its commitment to shaping the future. More faculty than ever are engaged in funded research, and collaborations with national laboratories and industry are on the rise. The recent opening of the university's Additive Manufacturing Laboratory and Biomedical Engineering Building are indicative of growth in emerging areas of research. And UNT recently appointed a new vice president of research and innovation, Mark McLellan, to lead the university in developing and implementing new strategies to transform and expand UNT's research portfolio, as well as oversee UNT's Strategic Plan for Research and advance its goal to become a recognized National Research University. All of these efforts and more are focused on furthering the university's core research mission: to help faculty and student researchers push the boundaries of their fields.

\$78.4M

RECORD-BREAKING EXPENDITURES

UNT's commitment to changing the world through interdisciplinary research contributed to a record-setting year in research expenditures, totaling \$78.4 million. The university has a broad base of research and scholarship across 230 academic programs.



CHILE PROGRAM RECOGNIZED

The Chile-based Sub-Antarctic Biocultural Conservation Program received a 2019 Ocean Award from Boat International for its creation of the Diego Ramirez-Drake Passage Marine Park, the largest marine-protected park in Chile.

\$10M

LEGISLATURE FUNDS CAAAM

The 86th Texas Legislature awarded \$10 million to the Center for Agile and Adaptive Additive Manufacturing, which provides students like Ph.D. candidate Saket Thapliyal, pictured right at one of CAAAM's 3D printers, with hands-on educational opportunities in new technologies.





The fall production of *Don Giovanni* was the perfect example of innovative collaborations between UNT's various colleges. The College of Music, under the direction of professor Jonathan Eaton, reimagined the opera so that it took place in the 21st century, touching on social themes such as the #MeToo movement. The clothes took a contemporary turn as well, with fashion design students in the College of Visual Arts and Design — led by assistant professor Barbara Trippeer (pictured) — using 3D printing, laser cutting and other digital fabrication techniques. And the set design was envisioned by Donna Marquet, senior lecturer in the Department of Dance and Theatre.

CELEBRATING CREATIVITY

IMAGINATIVE APPROACHES FUEL DISCOVERY

More than ever this year, the world has taken notice of UNT's creative footprint, particularly the out-of-the-box thinking of students, faculty and alumni.

Junior Besnik Abrashi won the International Clarinet Association Young Artist Competition, while Hayley Knight ('19) and senior Kaarthik Tharmiya's film *Boots, Beer and Baseball: The Story of Nacona*, shot as part of their media arts class, captured the True Texas Travel Experience documentary category award sponsored by *Texas Highways* magazine.

Class projects kickstart students' careers, and faculty inspire creativity beyond the classroom walls. Media arts students made a TV pilot called *The Fairview Chronicles*, which led to not only a course credit but also an Internet Movie Database credit. For the play *The Memory Project*, theatre students drew on stories from men and women born in the 1920s through 1940s. Scott Tixier of the College of Music performed the violin for *The Lion King* live-action remake, while history professor Geoffrey Wawro frequently appears in national publications and Netflix programs.

Alumni also are making an impact. Phillip Kennedy Johnson ('03 M.M.), a trumpet player and sergeant first class in the prestigious U.S. Army Field Band, is a graphic novelist whose *Last Sons of America* will be made into a Netflix show. Sarah Broom ('02) won the National Book Award for her memoir *The Yellow House*, a project that began as notes she took as a student at UNT. And Urban Decay Cosmetics founding partner and chief creative officer Wende Zomnir ('89) returned to campus to dispense her unique brand of charmingly no-nonsense, industry-disrupting wisdom to a packed house as part of the UNT President's Lecture Series, followed by class visits.



“Nurture your own revolutionary point of view, because even if you don’t realize it yet, you are going to change the world.”

- **Wende Zomnir ('89)**, founding partner and chief creative officer of Urban Decay Cosmetics, offering encouragement to UNT students in classes as they discussed creativity and entrepreneurship



CHAMPIONS: WE MEAN GREEN

WINNING RECORD FOR EVERY SPORT—A UNT FIRST

Momentum is at an all-time high for UNT Athletics, with every 2018-19 team achieving a winning season for the first time in university history. The 350 Mean Green student-athletes secured 134 victories and a winning percentage of 61.6% overall, with men's cross country, soccer and softball all winning Conference USA championships. Many athletes won unprecedented honors, including cross country's Florian Lussey, who recorded the fastest-ever time by a Mean Green runner at the NCAA Championship; tennis players Maria Kononova and Tamuna Kutubidze, who earned UNT's first NCAA Doubles Championship berth; and volleyball's Valerie Valerian, the only Conference USA player selected to the U.S. Women's Collegiate National Team. Led by first-year head coach Rodney DeLong, UNT's softball team recorded the most wins in program history. And student-athletes aren't only achieving on the field, but also in the classroom, with a record-high Graduation Success Rate of 83% and perfect Academic Progress Rate scores in seven sports. UNT Athletics is building champions and preparing leaders for a lifetime of success.



APOGEE ATTENDANCE RECORD

A record-high crowd of 30,123 Mean Green fans filled Apogee Stadium during Family Weekend to watch head coach Seth Littrell and quarterback Mason Fine lead the Mean Green against Houston.



WINS FOR WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Led by head coach Jalie Mitchell, the women's basketball team had back-to-back winning seasons for the first time in nearly 20 years and secured three wins while competing in the Women's Basketball Invitational, its first nonconference postseason tournament since 2001-02.



Mother and daughter Emma and Kathy Earhart, pictured at UNT's new Welcome Center, make quite the story. At 14, Emma was able to enroll in community college after earning a high enough SAT score. A semester later, Kathy joined her at North Central Texas College. Now, two years later, they've both transferred to UNT as biology majors with the goal of becoming doctors. That story proved irresistible to media outlets around the nation, as *CBS This Morning*, *Inside Edition*, *Southern Living* and others featured the Earharts.

UNT IN THE NEWS

MAKING HEADLINES



URBAN AIR FILTERS

“The University of North Texas has found that two oak tree species, post oak and live oak, that are widespread across the U.S. South remove black carbon from the urban atmosphere.” — In a story stating geography associate professor Alexandra Ponette-González’ recent research findings may offer a natural way to improve climate and air quality



A ‘WOW’ MOMENT FOR GREENE

“... having my name on a dorm, having a statue, is way beyond the realm of possibility. You don’t think about those things ... that is special.” — UNT alum and Pro Football Hall of Famer Joe Greene on having a residence hall named for him



RARE TOLKIEN BOOK RETURNS

“... people return unremarkable books, ones that have weird damage, but in my 14 years working for libraries this package was the most strange.” — Head of collection development Laurel Crawford after a 1938 first American edition of J.R.R. Tolkien’s *The Hobbit* was anonymously returned to the UNT library after 45 years



UNITED METHODISTS VOTE

“If you’re a traditionalist, you don’t like that language will be taken out and changed and if you’re progressive, you’re not satisfied because there’s nothing new that affirms any other sexualities.” — Political science professor Elizabeth Oldmixon, on the intersections of religion, politics and LGBTQ identities



HYDROPONIC GARDEN

“UNT grows ‘mean greens’ farm to table right on campus as UNT harvests 700 to 900 heads of lettuce weekly to feed students from its own hydroponic garden.” — In a report about the special garden in a refurbished freight trailer behind Mean Greens Café, the first all-vegan dining hall in the nation



SEED BANKING

“You’re in one of the most biodiverse places on the planet, and you’re on the North Pole ... a profoundly moving experience.” — University Distinguished Research Professor Dornith Doherty on being inside the Svalbard Global Seed Vault preserving 980,000 seed samples from around the world



NASA SUITS COMPETITION

“My fascination was for me to literally look at the stars and let my mind go free.” — UNT student Juan Ruiz on helping to develop new technology for NASA space suits as part of an engineering student team that became finalists in the NASA Suits Competition



MAGELLANIC WOODPECKER

“The Magellanic Woodpecker needs to get on the global conservation list because if nothing is done ... it will be gone like its larger relatives, the Imperial and Ivory-billed Woodpeckers.” — Ph.D. candidate Amy Wynia on her search in the forests of southern Chile for the Magellanic Woodpecker



THE MEMORY PROJECT

“I’m glad these stories don’t have to leave with them.” — UNT student Phillip Burton, who portrays an African-American woman who grew up in times of segregation, on the experimental performance that captured tales from members of what’s often referred to as “the greatest generation”

FINANCIALS

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND GIVING IMPACT

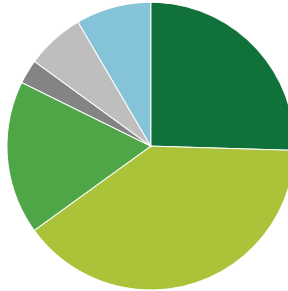
As one of the state's top universities for graduating students, UNT uses its dollars wisely to give students opportunities and support to achieve their dreams. In addition to generating an economic impact of \$1.65 billion in the Dallas-Fort Worth area annually, UNT fuels the social and cultural vitality of the North Texas region and world.

OPERATING AND CAPITAL SOURCES

(\$ in the millions)

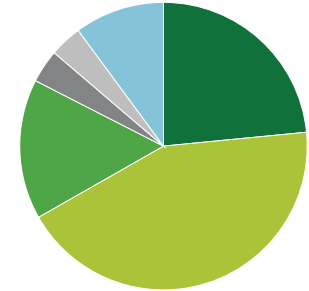
2014

- State of Texas \$158.13
- Tuition & Fees \$245.59
- Federal, State, & Private Grants & Contracts \$107.15
- Endowment & Interest \$16.92
- Sales, Services & Other \$40.62
- Auxiliary \$52.37



2018

- State of Texas \$170.91
- Tuition & Fees \$315.48
- Federal, State, & Private Grants & Contracts \$114.81
- Endowment & Interest \$27.20
- Sales, Services & Other \$26.52
- Auxiliary \$73.64

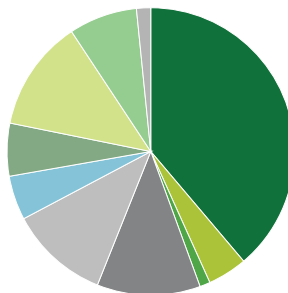


OPERATING AND CAPITAL USES

(\$ in the millions)

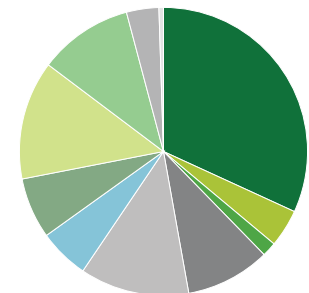
2014

- Instruction \$206.91
- Research \$23.69
- Public Service \$6.24
- Academic Support \$61.98
- Student Services \$59.71
- Institutional Support \$26.55
- Operation & Maintenance of Plant \$31.65
- Scholarships & Fellowships \$66.82
- Auxiliary Enterprises \$41.02
- Capital Outlay \$8.50



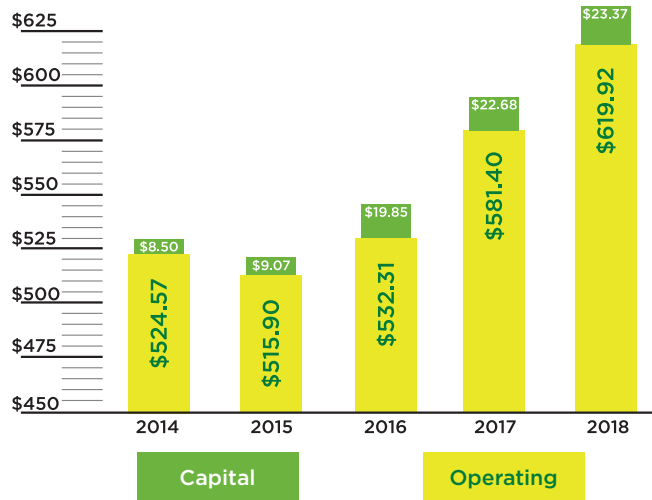
2018

- Instruction \$204.84
- Research \$27.26
- Public Service \$10.40
- Academic Support \$61.05
- Student Services \$78.91
- Institutional Support \$36.31
- Operation & Maintenance of Plant \$44.00
- Scholarships & Fellowships \$85.77
- Auxiliary Enterprises \$68.11
- Capital Outlay \$23.37
- Other \$3.26



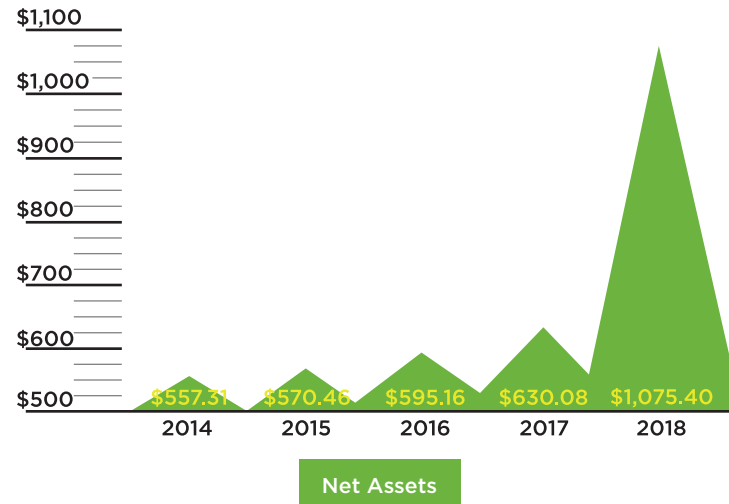
OPERATING AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

(\$ in the millions)

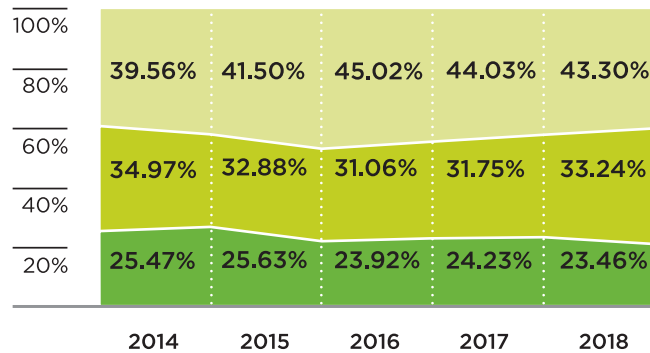


TOTAL NET ASSETS

(\$ in the millions)



KEY REVENUES AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL REVENUE



Tuition and Fees

All Other

State Support

UNT'S RECORD YEAR OF FUNDRAISING

For the third consecutive year, UNT achieved record-breaking fundraising efforts, setting a new all-time high of \$30 million for a single gift and bringing in a total of \$61 million for fiscal year 2019.

- UNT received a \$30 million transformational gift — the largest gift in university history — from alumnus G. Brint Ryan ('88, '88 M.S.) and his wife, Amanda, to create the G. Brint Ryan College of Business
- New gifts to endowments rose 38.4% to \$21.8 million and increased the value of the UNT endowment to a record high of \$215 million
- Legacy giving is at a three-year high, with more than \$8.5 million in new commitments
- The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of North Texas (OLLI at UNT) received a \$1 million grant for an endowment and a \$50,000 bridge grant from the Bernard Osher Foundation
- Foundation partnerships that support students, programming and faculty research are up 10% to more than \$6.2 million



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