

ILLUMINATING THE WAY FORWARD

*President's
Annual Report
2020*





President's Annual Report

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UNIVERSITY ON THE RISE

Leading the Pack

This year has undoubtedly been one of the most difficult in our 130-year history. But as always, the resilient, caring spirit of the UNT community has served as a beacon in these dark times, helping us to navigate uncharted territory. We've defied national trends and increased our enrollment to nearly 41,000 — an all-time high. We were designated a Hispanic-Serving and Minority-Serving Institution, saw 89 of our programs ranked among the nation's Top 100 and cheered as our institution was named one of the nation's Top 10 Public Universities on the Rise. In the spring, we completed the herculean task of moving 7,700 classes to remote instruction in little more than a week — a move that enabled our record-setting 10,000 graduates to stay on track to earn their degrees. The future is always uncertain, but if 2020 has proven anything, it's this: The UNT family's trademark tenacity and creativity have uniquely prepared us to tackle whatever challenges lay ahead.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Faced with unprecedented obstacles this year, our faculty and staff worked harder than ever to help students continue toward achieving their dreams. I have great admiration for the ways our UNT family has exhibited tenacity to continue moving forward, both in pursuit of individual and university goals.

We are making progress achieving goals outlined in our five-year strategic plan, especially as they are related to student success. We promoted access and affordability by expanding our catalog of high-quality online classes and degrees; reimagining Transfer Excellence Scholarships; growing our corporate partnerships to create stronger pathways to employment; and intensifying our retention efforts using powerful data-driven tools.

Our research enterprise continues to expand, with more faculty and students than ever engaged in funded research, and our collaborations with national laboratories and industry are on the rise. As one of only 16 Carnegie Tier One research universities designated a Hispanic-Serving Institution, UNT is proud to also have been designated a Minority-Serving Institution this year.

As we focus on moving forward together, we also are working to be a more caring, welcoming and accepting university. After conversations with students, faculty and staff, we unveiled a plan to ensure better incorporation of initiatives targeted at advancing diversity and inclusion on campus. We are taking concrete steps to create a more equitable campus and actively promote diversity as a core value.

The future of higher education is changing, and we're changing along with it to provide students with the resources and opportunities they need to achieve success at UNT and beyond.

UNT Proud,



Neal Smatresk, President
president@unt.edu

 @UNTPrez

ADAPTING TO CHALLENGES

Caring Culture Shines Bright and Resilient

OVERCOMING OBSTACLES

COVID-19 presented tremendous challenges this year, but UNT responded with resilience and a renewed commitment to caring for students as we prepare them to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

Campus departments worked together to design a robust contact tracing program and campus-wide health and safety campaign, including signage across campus, pictured middle right, enabling a safe return to campus for students, faculty and staff. And members of the Mean Green Family provided support to the UNT Cares Fund, to help our students persevere as they faced challenges with health, living and educational expenses. In true UNT spirit, the campus community rose to the challenge with kindness, compassion and ingenuity.



**7,700 CLASSES
MOVED ONLINE IN
LESS THAN A WEEK.**



FOSTERING SUCCESS

UNT launched initiatives like RaiseMe and the First Year Experience to help students develop a growth mindset and connect with the resources they need to build a strong foundation for academic success. We also launched UNT ELEVAR, a four-year inclusive education program for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and added UNT EPIC to our growing collection of support services for neurodiverse students. Both programs exemplify our commitment to fostering inclusion, understanding and connection, on campus as well as in the community.

Our students' needs are changing, and we're finding new ways to help them reach the finish line no matter where they start. As the school of choice for many transfer students in the North Texas region, UNT is making the transition as seamless and affordable as possible through Transfer Excellence Scholarships, a merit-based program that offers enhanced financial aid opportunities for transfer students from community colleges and other universities.

UNT continues to advance as an institution not only because of our innovative and industrious scholars and educators, but also because of our commitment to our values of creativity, caring and resilience. While many students are drawn to UNT for our internationally ranked programs, it's our vibrant and supportive community that helps them soar.



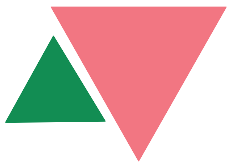
VISIONARY OPPORTUNITIES

Preparing for a Rapidly Changing World

UNT is singularly committed to ensuring our students have the skills necessary to excel in an ever-evolving workforce. That's why this year, the university added six new degree programs in fast-growing fields, including the first master's degree in artificial intelligence in Texas and one of the few nationwide. New cutting-edge degree programs include cybersecurity, engineering management, and geographic information systems and computer science, as well as an online M.B.A. in sport entertainment management and an M.B.A. in music entrepreneurship.

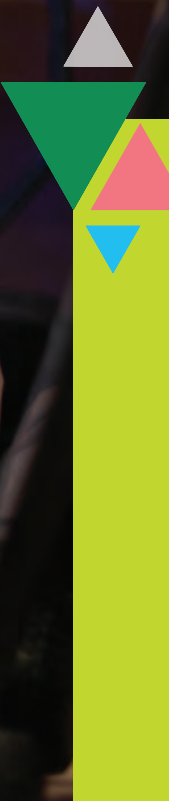
Additionally, through its partnership with the popular online learning platform Coursera, UNT this fall unveiled its 100% online bachelor of applied arts and sciences program, enabling students with diverse backgrounds — including those who have prior college or military credit — to earn an accredited bachelor's degree in the most streamlined way possible. And UNT's new partnership with Merit America offers a unique pathway for adults without bachelor's degrees to complete flexible, high-demand skills training that can help them accelerate their career or transition into a degree program to further their education.

The university's physical spaces also reflect our commitment to expanding access to leading-edge, real-world educational experiences. Construction is underway on a Frisco-based branch campus, allowing UNT to continue supporting innovative programs and partnerships in a region synonymous with industry growth. And the new Biomedical AI Lab, directed by Mark Albert from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, is home to collaborations on society-shaking projects such as improving the accuracy of wearable airbag systems, designing an electrocardiogram vest that can predict cardiac arrhythmias, and creating a visual dashboard system that can identify and reduce excessive sound exposure during music instruction.





**MORE THAN 10,000 STUDENTS
GRADUATED IN 2019-20,
A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR.**



INNOVATIVE IMPACT

Powerful Collaborations Tackle Pressing Issues

UNT's work to create sustainable solutions for the future intensified this year, with the launch of several interdisciplinary efforts — including the Center for Integrated and Intelligent Mobility Systems, as pictured left with autonomous vehicle researchers, and the Center for Racial and Ethnic Equity in Health and Society — along with an expanded focus in areas including urban water and artificial intelligence. Researchers continue making extraordinary advancements within UNT's Center for Agile and Adaptive Additive Manufacturing, collaborating across disciplines including cybersecurity, data and decision sciences, complex logistics and supply chain management, and high-performance computing. Additionally, since the arrival of Mark McLellan, vice president for research and innovation, UNT has seen a 14% increase in grant submissions and the commencement of its Washington D.C. Research Faculty Fellows program, which provides junior faculty an inside look at granting agencies and their review processes as part of a focused strategy to advance UNT's research standing. And even in the toughest of times, faculty researchers rose to the task of tackling the insidious side effects of COVID-19, proving their tenacious ability to problem solve — and pivot.



FIRST WESTHEIMER FELLOW

Giorgio Di Salvo ('20), a biomedical engineering senior, was selected to be the first-ever Westheimer Science Research Fellow. The fellowship is designed to support undergraduate research in UNT Mathematics' brand-new Dr. Linda Truitt Creagh Statistics Lab.



RECORD NUMBER OF NSF CAREER AWARDEES

This year, four UNT researchers in linguistics, physics, mathematics and engineering received prestigious Early Career Awards from the National Science Foundation for their research achievements and potential to serve as role models in research and education.

\$1M

CUTTING-EDGE COLLABORATIONS

A new collaboration between LaCore Labs and UNT includes a \$1 million gift eligible for matching funds from the Texas Research Incentive Program, a new laboratory, sponsored research, a license to UNT technology and real-world opportunities for students.



CREATIVE INGENUITY

Big Dreams Realized

Creativity is a way of life at UNT. The ideas and discipline that sprout in our classrooms can carry a lasting impact, whether it improves communities or makes the national news.

Our community won big. More than a dozen alumni and faculty received Grammy Award nominations. The One O’Clock Lab Band, pictured left, was one of only 10 bands invited to perform at the Jack Rudin Jazz Championship in New York City’s Lincoln Center. Communication design students earned the title of “Best of School Award” at the National Student Show & Conference 16. Liss LaFleur, an assistant professor of studio art, was named a 2020-21 Citizen Artist Fellow by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C.

Our alumni put their creativity on display — on a USPS postage stamp designed by Dana Tanamachi (’07); in the articles that won a Pulitzer Prize for Kalani Gordon (’12) and the team at *The Baltimore Sun*; in the viral videos made by Tobe Nwigwe, who attended from 2005 to 2009; and on the No. 1 hit “Savage,” co-written by Bobby Sessions, who attended in the early 2010s.

Our alumni create solutions. When the pandemic kept people at home, Judge Emily Miskel (’99 TAMS) of the 470th District Court of Collin County oversaw the first online jury trial. Kelly Jacques (’20) aims to make drones more efficient, a quest that won her the U.S. Department of Defense SMART (Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation) scholarship. To teach students more about Black studies, Aicha Davis (’12 M.Ed.), pictured right, created a curriculum adopted by the Texas State Board of Education.



**TEXAS STATE
BOARD OF
EDUCATION
ADOPTS AICHA
DAVIS' (’12 M.ED.)
BLACK STUDIES
CURRICULUM.**

MEAN GREEN SPIRIT

Champions of Perseverance

2020 provided the Mean Green with less playing time than ever before, with many seasons cut short or delayed and championships canceled, but our teams persevered — even if just in practice. The men’s basketball team won the Conference USA championship and a spot in the NCAA Tournament, and the women’s basketball team was ranked in the top 25 nationally in several categories, including total rebounds, when the season ended abruptly. The fall seasons were pushed to spring 2021 for the soccer and volleyball teams, and a reduced number of fans filled Apogee Stadium to cheer for the Mean Green football team, who advanced to play at the Myrtle Beach Bowl. Our student-athletes proved to be well-disciplined off the field as well. Student-athletes boasted an 86% Graduation Success Rate — the best ever for UNT. And in light of 2020’s social justice issues, they showed how much they cared by taking part in a new UNiTy initiative that encouraged voting and promoted conversations about diversity, equality and inclusion.



RECORD-SETTING SEMESTER GPA

In the fall of 2020, Mean Green student-athletes combined to record their fourth consecutive semester of a cumulative GPA over 3.0. In the spring of 2020, all student-athletes combined to set an all-time best 3.46 semester GPA.



ALUMNI MAKE A SPLASH IN THE PROS

On the PGA Tour, Carlos Ortiz ('13) won the 2020 Vivint Houston Open, while Sebastián Muñoz ('15) scored in the top 20 at the Masters Tournament. Former Mean Green football athletes Jalen Guyton ('20), Craig Robertson ('10, '14 M.S.) and Jeff Wilson Jr. played for the National Football League.





Coca-Cola	
3 POINT SHOTS	2
UNT	4
GUEST	2
UNT	
YEAR TOTAL	61
Happy's Happy's	

NORTH TEXAS SUPER

Coca-Cola

26 7 8 0:26 10 10 0 4 20

26 7 8 0:26 10 10 0 4 20

INGREEN #GO

224

26

Ryan

WELLS FARGO

**STUDENT-ATHLETES BOASTED
AN 86% GRADUATION SUCCESS RATE
- THE BEST EVER FOR UNT.**

UNT IN THE NEWS

Making Headlines

The Dallas Morning News

BEHIND MY MASK

“English is not my first language, and I rely a lot on facial expressions.” — Samaniego Calderón, graduate student in UNT’s College of Visual Arts and Design, who with her husband Dan Heiman, assistant professor in the College of Education, wrote *Behind My Mask*, a bilingual book that helps kids be more comfortable with wearing a mask.

edscoop

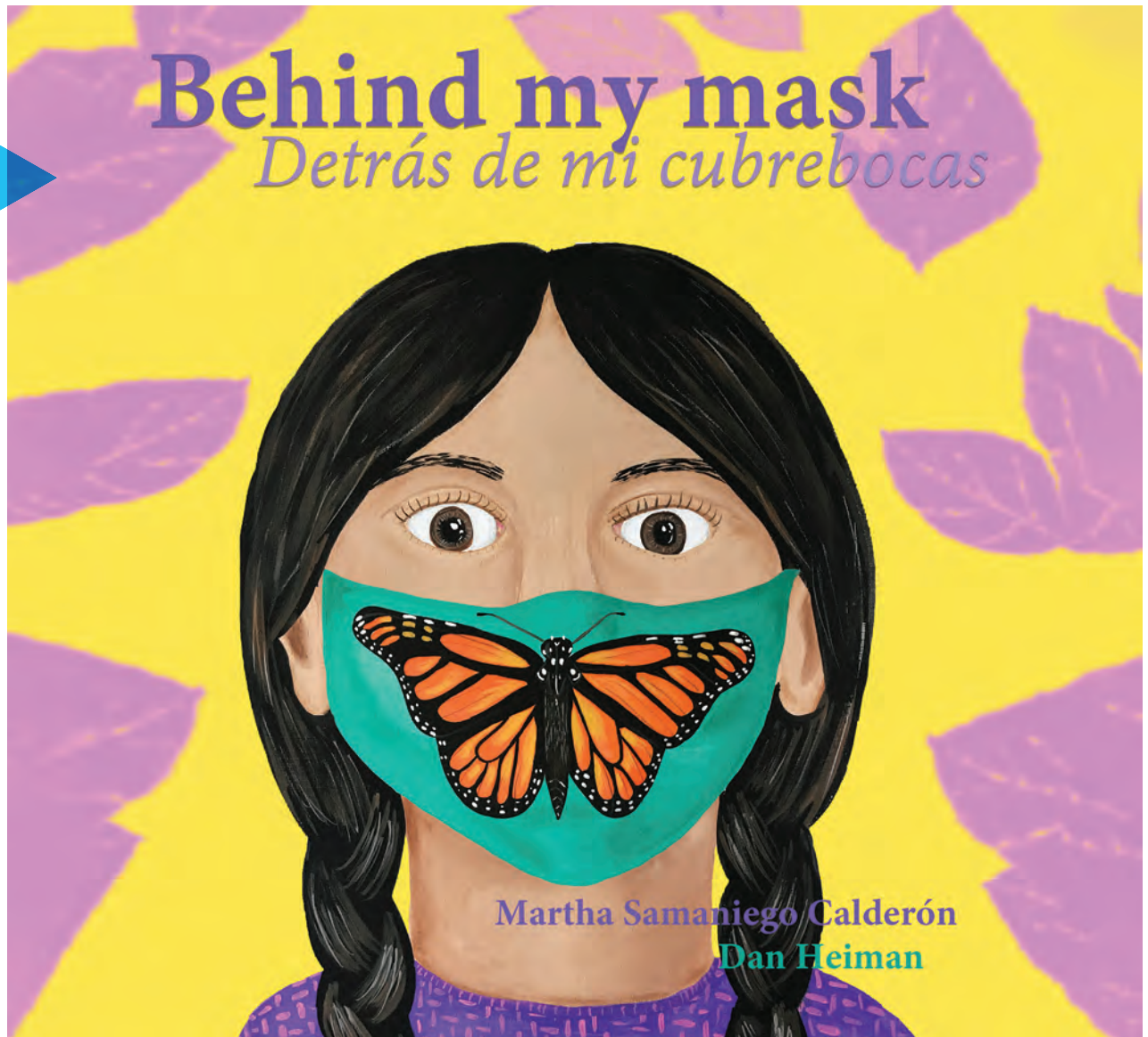
COVID CONVERSATIONS

“Competitions like this provide a clear sense of achievement that tests and quizzes don’t ... the better your model, the better the score.” — Mark Albert, assistant professor of AI, discussing his students using artificial intelligence to try to predict the spread of COVID-19.

PHYS ORG

VIRTUAL LABORATORY

“We designed videos whereby the TAs provided the hands to move through the experiment while the student watching had to record measurements and solve problems.” — Amy Petros, senior lecturer in the Department of Chemistry, on creating lab work students can complete from home.





ZOOM PERFORMANCE

“Remembering [Ruth Bader] Ginsburg in our *Anne Frank* performances makes perfect sense, as they both shared similar ideals, including a belief in the goodness of humanity.” — Andrew Harris, professor of theatre and the director of UNT’s production of Zoom performances of *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

BuzzFeed

PARENTAL ROLES

“For many families, in parenting, there’s just this ‘Mom is better at it’ narrative. But what might actually be happening there is: The more they rely on Mom, the better Mom gets at it, and Dad doesn’t have to.” — William Scarborough, assistant professor of sociology, discussing his co-authored study about the gender gap and roles during COVID-19.

TexasMonthly

ELECTION EXPERTS

UNT professors were featured experts in more than 160 pre- and post-election news stories. Among them included political science professors Valerie Martinez-Ebers, cited in *Texas Monthly*; Kimi King cited in MSN National News Network; and Matthew Soha-Eshbaugh, cited by the *Dallas Observer*.



HISTORIC FASHION

“The oldest piece we have is a pre-Colombian textile fragment that’s around 1,000 years old.” — Texas Fashion Collection Director Annette Becker offering a peek into the on-campus collection during a segment picked up by more than 30 television stations.



DECRIMINALIZING BLACKNESS

“Not just not being racist, but actually anti-racist. Taking that active stand, I think, is one of the most important things we can do right now.” — UNT History Lecturer Kerry Goldmann on a conceptual “Decriminalizing Blackness” syllabus put together by UNT’s Department of History.



LUCKY SIGHTING

“Whenever someone sees Lucky, a crowd quickly forms.” — Erik Trevino, UNT grounds manager, in a WFAA story about our campus albino squirrel said to bring students good fortune. The light-hearted story featured Lucky and was picked up by outlets across the country.



FINANCIALS

Fiscal Responsibility and Giving Impact

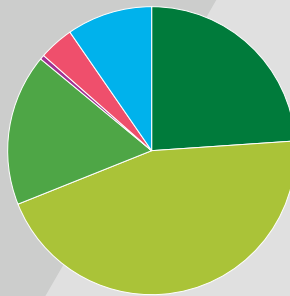
As one of the state's top universities for graduating students, UNT uses its dollars wisely to give students opportunities and support to achieve their dreams. In addition to generating an economic impact of \$1.65 billion in the Dallas-Fort Worth area annually, UNT fuels the social and cultural vitality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

OPERATING AND CAPITAL SOURCES

(\$ in the millions)

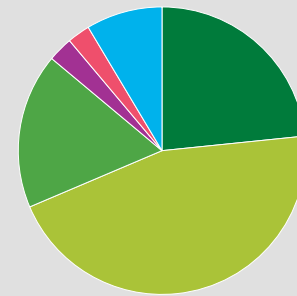
2016

- State of Texas \$157.78
- Tuition & Fees \$296.91
- Federal, State, & Private Grants & Contracts \$112.41
- Endowment & Interest \$3.32
- Sales, Services & Other \$25.72
- Auxiliary \$63.38



2020

- State of Texas \$180.17
- Tuition & Fees \$348.56
- Federal, State, & Private Grants & Contracts \$134.66
- Endowment & Interest \$21.57
- Sales, Services & Other \$19.65
- Auxiliary \$66.10

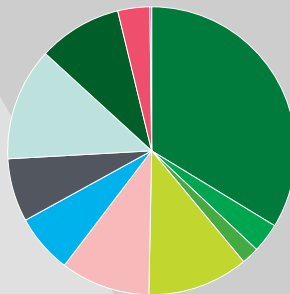


OPERATING AND CAPITAL USES

(\$ in the millions)

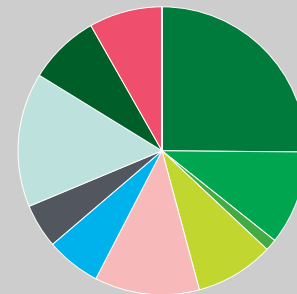
2016

- Instruction \$186.14
- Research \$18.25
- Public Service \$10.85
- Academic Support \$62.60
- Student Services \$55.46
- Institutional Support \$36.65
- Operation & Maintenance of Plant \$39.27
- Scholarships & Fellowships \$70.02
- Auxiliary Enterprises \$51.98
- Capital Outlay \$19.85
- Other \$1.08



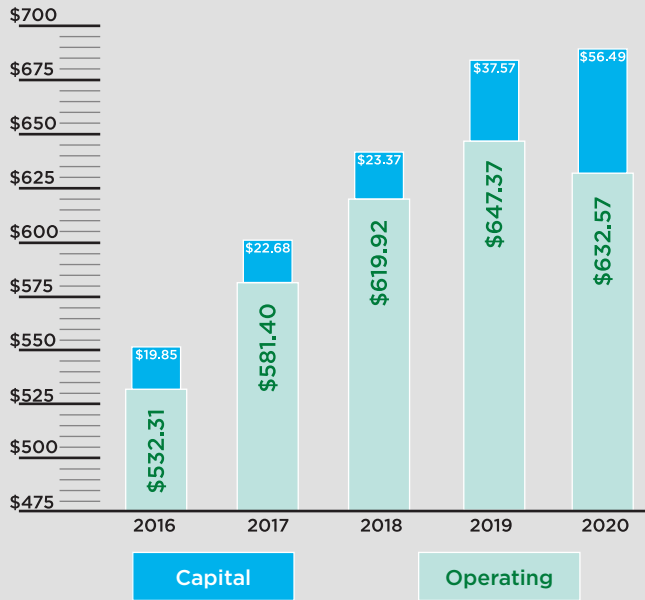
2020

- Instruction \$173.15
- Research \$72.79
- Public Service \$9.06
- Academic Support \$60.74
- Student Services \$81.12
- Institutional Support \$42.39
- Operation & Maintenance of Plant \$34.17
- Scholarships & Fellowships \$103.85
- Auxiliary Enterprises \$55.15
- Capital Outlay \$56.49
- Other \$0.14



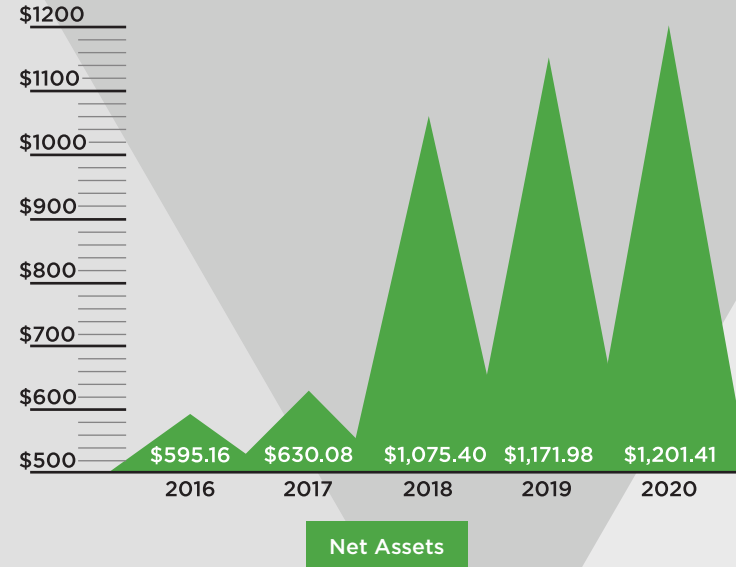
OPERATING AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

(\$ in the millions)

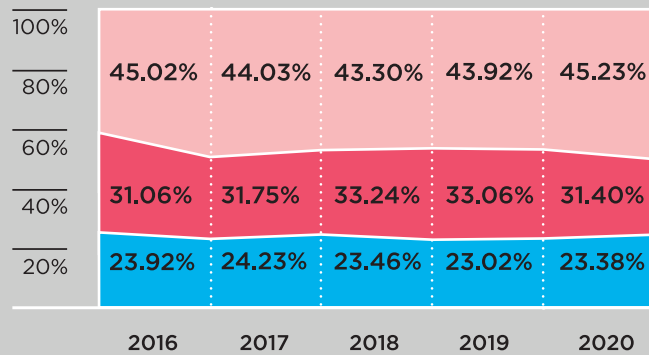


TOTAL NET ASSETS

(\$ in the millions)



KEY REVENUES AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL REVENUE



Tuition and Fees

All Other

State Support

SUCCESSFUL YEAR OF FUNDRAISING

Despite the challenges of COVID-19, UNT raised \$29.5M for fiscal year 2020.

- UNT received a 10% increase in new donors.
- UNT received the impactful gift of \$6M from the estate of late Euline Brock ('74 Ph.D.), former Denton mayor, and Horace Brock, Professor Emeritus of accounting.
- Launched UNT Cares Fund to provide critical direct support to students with \$506,767 raised.
- UNT Alumni Association membership is up 2%, with 15,842 members; engaged thousands of alumni virtually through Facebook Live and Zoom platforms showcasing UNT Alumni Live to highlight alumni talent and expertise.



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