



The University of Texas at Austin
Division of Student Affairs

The Hub of Student Life & Well-being



2022 – 2023 Annual Impact Report

A MESSAGE FROM THE VP

Hello Friends,

When I think about what I want to write to you all each year, I imagine what our beloved University might look like a year from now — a decade from now, two decades, a hundred years.

What will remain true? What will be different?

Change breeds new opportunities, but one thing remains constant – our unwavering commitment to our students. The Division of Student Affairs is there for our students throughout their entire academic journey. Their student experience begins and culminates with us. We are the center of student life.

We exist to challenge our students to reach their full potential. We cultivate a sense of belonging and well-being through our programs, spaces and support services. We improve access to resources and help clear the path to degree attainment. We're doing all this while providing an enriched, rewarding and fun college experience.

So, whatever our future as one of the world's finest universities, the work performed every day by our team will be an essential, guiding force to help students thrive in Austin and beyond.

Or to put it another way: **The Division of Student Affairs is the hub of student life and well-being at UT Austin.**

We tend to students' physical well-being, their mental health, their social life, their academic success, their post-graduation future, their food, their pastimes and so much more. In the pages ahead, you will read stories about our work during the 2022-2023 academic year. And when you finish, you will notice a theme has emerged: Our Division does so much and there's so much more we aim to do.

We're proud to be the hub of student life and well-being – helping our 52,000 students as they're living the Longhorn life – and we're honored to invite you to join us in making it even more incredible.

For students, we will!



Soncia Reagins-Lilly

Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students



Our Strategic Priorities

In May 2022, the University unveiled its 10-year strategic plan, *Change Starts Here*. In October 2022, we published our vision of the future for the Division of Student Affairs. Our strategic priorities will guide our work for at least the next five years — determining where we spend our time, resources and attention.

Furthermore, the *What Starts Here* fundraising campaign — the most ambitious in our university's and state's history — is critical to fueling the important programs and initiatives that develop from our strategic priorities. Investment from our alumni, friends and partners allow us to support the whole student on their academic journey. In the following pages, you will read about some examples of programs across the Division that underscore our commitment to the strategic priorities.

We believe if we dedicate ourselves to these five priorities, we will help ensure that The University of Texas at Austin becomes the world's highest-impact public research university.

PRIORITY 1
Maximizing the Longhorn Experience

PRIORITY 2
Health and Wellness

PRIORITY 3
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

PRIORITY 4
Talent Investment and Staff Support

PRIORITY 5
Technology and Resource Management



Influencing the Whole Student

Taking a more synergistic approach to student health and well-being.



Medical visit at University Health Services



Mya Olson after participating in Longhorn Run 2023

You could call sophomore Mya Olson a physical health, fitness and sports “fanatic” — she’s majoring in health promotion and behavioral science while working as a Recreational Sports fitness instructor. She grew up doing gymnastics, cross country and track, and even started a yoga club in high school.

“Fitness is my job because I love it, but personally, it helps me mentally and emotionally. I love being active and improving my health in all aspects,” explained Mya.

She isn’t alone. According to National College Health Assessment data, UT Austin students who participate in club or intramural sports reported higher levels of flourishing and resilience, and lower levels of psychological distress and stress. Mya was looking for a program to expand on these mental health benefits of physical activity.

Enter **Recreational Sports’** new Health Coaching Program, which launched in Fall 2022. The program pairs a student with a health coach for an initial consultation and eight one-hour coaching sessions. The sessions can help students increase their motivation and make health-behavior changes as they talk through and develop health goals, then monitor success.

“Sometimes when you have a lot of health goals and aspirations it can get very overwhelming. In my experience in seeing a health coach, I could talk about my goals and what I wanted my health journey to look like. I wanted someone to walk alongside me and hold me accountable for my goals,” she added.

This program is just one of the innovative approaches the Division of Student Affairs is taking to enhance students’ health and overall well-being. It also aligns with the University’s strategic plan to support the whole student and the Division’s strategic priorities.

And with the synchronicities between the University plan and Division priorities, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Soncia Reagins-Lilly saw a unique opportunity. She embarked on a vision to transform the Division’s work supporting student health and well-being. In January 2023, she created an enhanced portfolio within the Division bringing together Recreational Sports, the **Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC)** and **University Health Services (UHS)**. These departments now better intersect on the student components of well-being, physical and mental health services under the guidance of Chris Brownson, associate vice president for health and well-being.

Continued on next page



Counseling visit at the Counseling and Mental Health Center

Data* shows each of the departments currently make a significant impact in support of students' academic and personal goals.

- 95% of UHS patients said access to healthcare on campus minimized disruptions to academics.
- 98% of CMHC clients said their counseling/psychiatry has been helpful in addressing their concerns.
- 92% student participants feel that Recreational Sports contributes to their ability to maintain/improve their mental health.

"Imagine the possibilities now with this organizational shift and synergies! That's part of the reason we are excited to adopt this well-being model, which is a national trend on many university campuses" noted Jennifer Speer, Recreational Sports executive director. "Having more opportunities to collaborate with colleagues with this holistic approach will help drive innovation to support our students' success and academic journey."

Another example of how the Division is intentional about supporting well-being is through the **Office of the Dean of Students**. By providing services and programs that focus on student well-being and

**From the 2021-2022 UHS and CMHC satisfaction surveys; 2021-2022 Recreational Sports annual highlights.*

support, Executive Director Kelly Soucy and her team take a comprehensive approach to addressing students' needs and removing barriers to their success.

"Our team is equipped to help students when they face challenges and understands that each student may have unique circumstances. Our goal is to listen, then help to identify solutions and provide access to resources that will keep them on their academic journey. We want all students to thrive during their time as a Longhorn," shared Kelly.

From the fields to the exam rooms to the counseling services to off-campus living resources to myriad student support services, the Division's programs, spaces and resources are the hub of supporting students' health and well-being. And this new realignment is a strategic vision coming to life for students — a powerful way to influence students in living the Longhorn life.



Students from the Off-Campus Initiative host Spring Break Jeopardy in March 2023



Intramural soccer at the Charles Alan Wright Fields at the Berry M. Whitaker Sports Complex

Soldier-Scholar Finds Success

An Army veteran finds the resources and community he needs to excel in his next adventure.

For five years, existential threats were the focus of Esequiel “Zeek” Ortiz’s workday when he served as a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear specialist in the U.S. Army. Originally from Riverside, California, he trained in search and rescue operations, set up temporary medical facilities, practiced decontamination protocols and could run a mile at a decent clip. None of this really prepared Zeek to fit in on a college campus.

“It’s always tough being the oldest person in class,” Zeek shared, “and military experience isn’t really something the average college student can relate to.” So when he arrived on campus in 2019, he kept his head down and focused on his studies in anthropology and geography. The discipline he gained in the Army bolstered his academic success.

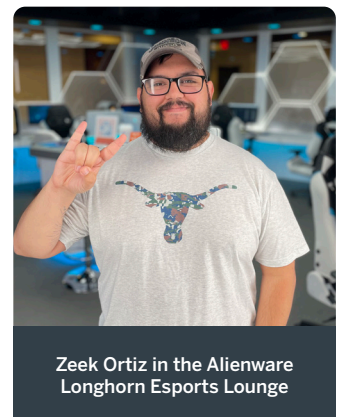
“There’s a level of resiliency and determination that helps veterans excel in the classroom,” explained Jeremiah Gunderson, the University’s director of Veteran and Military Affiliated Services in the **Office of the Dean of Students** and a retired Army combat medic.

As part of the Division of Student Affairs, Gunderson and his team are the intersection of specialized resources for an estimated 520 veteran students and between 1,200-1,500 military-affiliated students.

“While our veteran and military affiliated students value the support of professionals across the Forty Acres, they thrive thanks to the specialized team of fellow military veterans who speak their language and can advocate for them,” said Jeremiah.

Part of that advocacy involves outreach emails about services, events and announcements. It’s how Zeek learned about the Jean Perkins Foundation Scholarship, which awards scholarships and emergency bridge funds to student veterans to help them meet their academic and professional goals. He joins the 650+ veterans awarded more than \$3 million since the scholarship began on campus in 2011. The foundation awarded \$350,000 to veteran students in 2023 with awards between \$3,000-5,000. Zeek used his funds to purchase a high-powered computer to assist with research in Paleoindian archaeology.

Despite Zeek’s academic excellence, he missed the sense of belonging that defined his military experience.



Zeek Ortiz in the Alienware Longhorn Esports Lounge



Veterans Day Recognition Activities at Darrell K. Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium in November 2022

To branch out, he turned to a different skill he picked up in the Army: gaming.

“When you’re not training or working, you’re playing video games in the barracks — gaming is huge in the military,” Zeek said. “Gaming is also huge at UT Austin, thanks in part to Longhorn Gaming, a student organization founded in 2010.

“Many veterans that I speak with have a difficult transition after military life because they don’t know how to get from A to B without that structure and community,” he revealed. “Gaming is a safe, familiar, fun way to find a community again. It builds connection. When you think about anyone that feels like they don’t belong, like they want to give up — and this goes for veterans, college students, anyone — gaming can literally save lives.”

While veterans find different ways to address their individual struggles, socializing has been a therapeutic tool that contributed to Zeek’s well-being. Now he’s helping other students get involved at the Alienware Longhorn Esports Lounge and through his recent position as Longhorn Gaming’s vice president of

external affairs. He’s also fusing his experiences at Regiment, a national military-affiliated gaming community that combats mental health challenges. After graduation, he plans to merge his passions for archaeology and gaming.

BY THE NUMBERS

520
student veterans

1,200-1,500
military-affiliated students

\$350,000
in Jean Perkins Foundation Scholarships to student veterans in 2023

“I had a Marine Corps vet, UT alum and previous Jean Perkins scholarship recipient reach out who’s now at the gaming company EA Sports,” said Jeremiah, “and he was raving about this other veteran he met. Turns out it was Zeek. He’s already making an impact in the world.”

While existential threats no longer serve as the focus of Zeek’s day-to-day life, his hard work — along with support from the Division — have helped him redefine what it means to be all he can be.

Buddies Pay It Forward

In its first year, the Bevo Buddy program makes a mark on student success.

Jillian Chacon's transition to UT Austin was exciting – coming to the campus in the heart of the city from Dallas and pursuing a degree in exercise science. Like many freshmen, her first year on campus also presented new challenges. She needed that one-on-one connection to discover the many resources available to support her success and academic journey on such a large campus.

Fortunately, Jillian had an ally in Nickoll Garcia, a sophomore applied learning and development major from San Antonio and one of 86 Bevo Buddy leaders. The **New Student Services** peer support program led by Assistant Director Kayleigh Damphousse and her team launched in Fall 2022. It pairs freshmen and transfer students with Bevo Buddy leaders to help them transition to college life. Through 18 exclusive Bevo Buddy events including off-campus excursions and tours, 358 students enjoyed a more engaging college experience.

Sometimes it's about seeking advice, other times it's about finding resources at the intersection of the Longhorn experience. "My calculus course had me questioning if I was ready to be here," said Jillian, "but Nickoll connected me with the CalcLab and it not only helped me pass the class, but made me say to myself, 'Yes, I belong here.'"

Over the course of the Bevo Buddy program, Jillian came to feel more and more embedded in the Longhorn experience. She learned how and where to access resources, found her favorite study spots on the sprawling campus and, on occasion, helped her roommate navigate her transition to life at UT Austin.



Jillian Chacon and Nickoll Garcia



Bevo Buddy leaders and participants pose outside the Bullock Museum on the way to the Texas Capitol for a field trip in February 2023.

BY THE NUMBERS

18

exclusive events

358

student participants

90%

of participants feel more connected to UT Austin

She's not alone – 87% of participants agreed that because of the Bevo Buddy program they felt connected to UT Austin and 90% agreed it provided student opportunities to participate in engaging events. Proof that the sympathetic ear of a peer can make all the difference.

“Nickoll set such a great example. She showed how big an impact a peer leader can make. I want to be that person for someone else to help them feel more connected to the school,” Jillian added.

She and Nickoll agree that in its first year, the program showed it can transform the freshman experience into lasting success. They see the potential and how powerful it can be to have someone who will listen, reflect and guide as they navigate the Forty Acres.

“Freshmen are in this really uncertain place where they might not feel comfortable having these conversations with their parents, and they haven't had a chance to make friends they can talk to,” shared Nickoll.

During her freshman year, Nickoll joined Foundation Scholars and lived in the First-Generation Living Learning Community. These mentorship programs impacted her and she saw Bevo Buddy as a way to pay it forward, while also developing valuable leadership skills. The program builds those skills during 16 bi-weekly leader check-ins. In fact, 37% of the leaders are returning for the 2023-2024 year. And now, Jillian is following in that same path because of Nickoll's help maximizing her Longhorn experience.



Students at the Bevo Buddy Snowball Brunch in December 2022

Experiences Building Community

Campus was filled with live events this year. Behind the scenes, students running the show are gaining invaluable experience.

Jennifer Zamora and her team do big things.

As **University Unions** director of student programs overseeing Campus Events+Entertainment (E+E), Jennifer and a team of four advisors support 125 students across 10 committees. The students plan concerts, movies, lectures, cultural events, theater productions and trivia nights.

During the 2022-2023 academic year, E+E students hosted 102 events for 43,555 attendees. They push the renown of these events, attracting incredible artists from across the country. And, for the first time during the fall term, they hosted a signature concert on the Main Mall.

“Live music helps UT feel more connected to Austin,” said Jennifer, “and with so many famous festivals in Austin, the Live Music Capital of the World, we have to think even bigger.”

A bigger stage. A bigger headlining act. A bigger impact on Longhorns.

The stage was one of the largest ever erected on the Main Mall. The headlining act was award-winning rapper Wiz Khalifa. The crowd

BY THE NUMBERS

102
events hosted

43,555
total attendees

30
years hosting the Forty
Acres Fest



Forty Acres Fest in April 2023
Photo Credit: Jeremiah Do

was 5,500 Longhorns. The impacts of the dazzling marquee event on the Main Mall — which saw the UT Tower illuminated with custom projections made by **College of Fine Arts** students and professors — will be felt long after the concert ended.

It's a night Jeremiah Do won't forget. The sophomore aerospace engineering major from Garland, Texas, served as a student photographer. He's had the opportunity to photograph other E+E events over the past two years including Forty Acres Fest, a campus tradition that celebrated its 30th anniversary in April 2023. These experiences are helping him build career skills alongside his fellow students who plan and staff these events.



Fall concert crowd on the Main Mall

“Overall, I learned a lot about time management. As I become a more successful photographer, I’ve been blessed with more and more opportunities which require being well organized to ensure proper timing and scheduling for all my shoots,” Jeremiah shared.

Those learnings that go on behind the scenes set the stage for success beyond graduation. “On the surface, it looks like our student leaders are just learning about stage production and event management,” noted Jennifer, “but the skills they glean go way beyond that.”

Weekly performances at the University Unions’ Cactus Cafe, for example, are run by students with support from the E+E team. During the fall and spring, the Cactus hosts 8-12 events per month ranging from singer/songwriter showcases to open mic nights to comedy shows.

Now, the E+E team is setting their sights on adding another marquee concert in the spring of 2024. The potential concert would capitalize on the energy and momentum created by Spring Welcome hosted by **New Student Services**. This series of events at the beginning of the spring term expanded in Spring 2023 to include all 52,000 students (not just incoming students as in the past), resembling Longhorn Welcome at the beginning of the fall term.

“It’s a great feeling to know that I’m welcomed back on the Forty Acres. These events help create a stronger

bond with UT and a sense of belonging to the community,” said Nerissa Nguyen, a sophomore biology major from Katy, Texas, who is also an orientation advisor and Bevo Buddy leader.

For our Division teams working across departments to inspire this sense of belonging for our students, Spring Welcome is a great opportunity to collaborate and envision more. “This isn’t just about music,” Jennifer proclaimed. “It’s about giving students the opportunity to live out their passion while connecting it to their future profession. And if they happen to have some fun along the way, even better.”



Welcome Bash on the Main Mall in January 2023

Learning Life Skills

Summer internships are in high demand. They don't look like they used to.

When she was an undergraduate at UT Austin studying English, Rachel Cohen-Ford took just about every internship, job and leadership opportunity she could. That included being a resident assistant, University Residence Hall Association president and a volunteer in the University's community gardens.

"I grew so much in each of those roles," she said. "I became confident in presenting, learned how to delegate and learned how to work on a team."

These Division of Student Affairs opportunities intersected into a career path. Rachel, BA '15, MEd '19, is now the assistant director of Texas Leadership



Rachel Cohen-Ford

Education and Development in the **Office of the Dean of Students**. She oversees the Summer Internship Program, crafting positions with skills that align with "competencies" laid out by the National Association of Colleges and Employers. "It's a framework for gauging career readiness," explained Rachel, "but I see it as bigger than that. It's life readiness."

That's one of the reasons Victoria Vo chose to intern with the Division's Living the Longhorn Life programming team. While she wanted to enhance her resume, the junior communications and leadership major from Houston shared, "I cared more for what I could learn and how it would apply to my skills in future organizations and positions. It was important to me to broaden my understanding and way of thinking when planning and coordinating many events."

Mission accomplished. Victoria led two successful summer events from inception to execution: Summer Splash Pool Party and Craft with Us! Lantern Edition. She also assisted with the Silent Disco program at New Student Orientation, serving nearly 3,000 students.

"Victoria's high energy and strong work ethic helped immensely in the creation and execution of summer events. She also gave us input which helped shape some of our fall and spring events," noted Kaycee Armstrong, a



Internship Kickoff Brunch in June 2023

BY THE NUMBERS

170
interns for summer 2023

53
internship sites for
summer 2023

126
internship titles

Living the Longhorn Life program coordinator and Victoria's supervisor.

The impact of internships like Vo's inspired a big expansion of the program, up from 19 paid internships when the program started in 2019 to 170 in 2023.

The program received over 2,800 applications from 891 students in 2023. Staff worked with campus partners to place interns in areas ranging from communications to operations to programs, giving greater access to the transformative power of experiential learning.

Interns are paid \$15 per hour for 19 hours of work per week, including one hour designated for a weekly professional development workshop. Students can also apply for housing assistance either on or off-campus, making their internship even more cost effective.

The additional internships have been a game changer. "The jump in summer internships has energized all of us," added Rachel. "If we had the resources, I'd love another increase. We're helping students take control of their lives and believe in themselves. What can be more important than that?"

Living the Longhorn Life Internship

Victoria Vo, Communication and Leadership



Responsibilities

As part of my internship, I was to create events to put on around campus to connect UT students to the UT community.

I've researched into social media marketing tools and how Instagram's interface and algorithm affects its users as well as research how to improve follower count and engagement.

I've learned about the aspects of events that are important in order to engage with students.

I've also learned and operated Canva to update and make flyers for events.



Takeaways

Career Understanding

I've started to understand how much needs to be prepared in order to properly execute events, especially when executing at least 1 event a week. As well as the huge importance in social media attention and engagement to improve event attendance.

I think I would like a career incorporating events that interact with people, as I've really enjoyed being in a high energy environment no matter how tired I am at the end of the day. They're always something different being able to communicate with others and the students.

Events

I put on a live and am planning a July event as I'm currently creating this.

I've learned about how to understand OOUF forms as well as understand how to budget event materials, especially when budgeting and anticipating the quantity of food I needed to provide for students who attend.



For my June Event, I had hosted a pool party. I had gone through the process to communicate with RecSports and follow the guidelines necessary to host the event.

For my July Event, I will be hosting a crafting event to make museum jar lanterns. I've been in the process of trying to collaborate with the Longhorn Wellness Center.

Other Duties

During orientation, Living the Longhorn Life hosts Short Discos which allows students to dance and meet friends during the event. I assisted my supervisors to pass out and teach attendees how to use Short Discos headphones.

I was able to operate the call ring that allowed all longhorns and communication with UT students. At the time of making this, I will be adding an Instagram post to post and engage with our audience showcasing our Short Discos experience.



Personal development


Growth

I've been reminded constantly the importance of time management as well as multitasking.

Balance has also been something I really strive to maintain in order to be able to execute the tasks I have at hand. Time management is key to being able to manage everything you would like to do and ensure you have fun.

Future plans

I did more internships that filled me and what I do and don't like continue my path from there.



Victoria Vo at the Summer Internship Program poster presentation in August 2022

A Conduit for Careers

Former students discover their path and purpose through Division opportunities.



Cecilia Lopez Cardenas in
Gregory Gym

Cecilia Lopez Cardenas, BA '10, MEd '12, likes a challenge.

She relishes any chance to learn something difficult, build something from scratch or work with new people. Little did she know that when she became a student at UT Austin, those interconnected challenges would evolve into a career path thanks to opportunities in the Division of Student Affairs.

It all became clear during her senior year after various student leadership experiences. Conversations with a career counselor and mentors in the Division confirmed her decision to pursue a career in student affairs – the hub of student life and well-being at UT Austin.

A graduate internship with the **University Unions** provided the foundation. While pursuing her masters in higher education administration, Cecilia developed usage guidelines and worked with student organizations producing events in the Black Box Theater inside the newly opened William C. Powers, Jr. Student Activity Center. The internship gave her experience in facilities, event planning and student development.

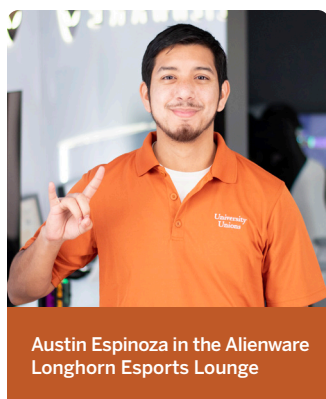
“That internship propelled me into my career at UT,” shared Cecilia.

It led to her first full-time job at the University leading Hogg Memorial Auditorium and its reopening as a student-centered facility. She oversaw facility operations and event production, and worked together with student staff creating a framework for their development. She’s since held progressive leadership roles at **Recreational Sports**, now serves as associate director of communications and recently celebrated 10 years of university service to UT Austin.

“The common thread through every role I’ve had has been my commitment to serving students and elevating the student experience on the Forty Acres. I’m grateful for the mentors, leaders and teammates who through every step believed in my potential to do just that.”



Lopez Cardenas (left) with Hogg Memorial Auditorium student staff at the 2014 Texas Revue



Austin Espinoza in the Alienware Longhorn Esports Lounge

Austin Espinoza, BA '20, experienced that same freedom to explore and learn about himself through the Division's Summer Internship Program. Serving as **University Unions'** esports intern was the springboard into his career. During his undergrad, he led Longhorn Gaming, the

popular student organization known as the central hub for casual gaming and esports at UT Austin. After graduation, he pursued a career in the industry and is now back at the University Unions as the esports program coordinator.

"Definitely was a dream come true. When I started my first job outside of college with Tribe Gaming, a local esports company in East Austin, I told them I would quit as soon as there was a full-time job in esports at UT Austin," he shared.

This "dream" job became a reality with the launch of the University's first dedicated esports space in August 2022: the Alienware Longhorn Esports Lounge. **University Unions** teamed up with UT Austin's longtime corporate sponsor Dell Technologies to construct the state-of-the-art facility in the Texas Union. Dell's iconic gaming brand Alienware collaborated on the design and invested in the technology, and the space opened in August 2022 with 13 gaming stations.



Students in the Alienware Longhorn Esports Lounge



Espinoza representing Longhorn Gaming at the 2019 In-Game Leaders Esports Summit

The space offers students a place to game, but also build valuable career skills like project management in a fast-paced environment. Behind the scenes there are videographers, broadcasting professionals and marketers. It's a fast-growing industry with an expected value of \$5.48 billion by 2029 (currently \$1.44 billion). Not surprising considering a recent report on collegiate programs throughout the country found that 86% of college students engage in gaming behaviors. And likely many more Longhorns will explore their future careers in this unique space.

In fact, all of the Division's programs, spaces and resources are incubators for students to discover their best selves and embark on the pathway to finding their purpose. This reach goes beyond the Division's hundreds of student employees to thousands of other students who intersect with the many exciting possibilities and opportunities.

BY THE NUMBERS

13
gaming stations in
Alienware Longhorn
Esports Lounge

\$5.48 billion
expected value of the
gaming industry in 2029

86%
college students who
engage in gaming
behaviors





Dinner with 16 Longhorns

How a simple meal has expanded
to an important, beloved tradition.

Bill Frisbie (second from left) with student, staff and donor participants of the February 2023 dinner at his house



April 2023 dinner at Bill Frisbie's house

Bill Frisbie grew up on the UT Austin campus. His dad, Parker, was a world-renowned sociology professor who directed the Population Research Center to international prominence. On Saturdays in the 1970s, Parker would bring his young son to the Forty Acres, hand him a dollar and set him loose to explore campus unchaperoned.

"Some of my earliest memories were walking along the Drag (Guadalupe Street)," Bill said. "UT was the only school I wanted to attend."

He earned a journalism degree in 1984 — the first milestone in a prolific, eclectic career that includes 20 years as a Methodist minister, educator, reporter, professional storyteller, author of a book about Longhorn football, stand-up comic and philanthropist. Still, there was more he wanted to do for the students at his beloved University. So, he added "Host of Dinner with 16 Longhorns" to his resume.

A relatively new intersection for connection, the Dinner with 16 Longhorns has fast become a popular tradition on the calendar of the Division of Student Affairs. Dinner is served to 16 students in the home of a UT Austin alum or supporter. The students are randomly selected from a field of applicants. Then, small groups of students have organic conversations.

"I think we all left the dinner realizing that we, as Longhorns, are more similar than we are different," said Nabil Yusufali, a junior aerospace engineering major from Fort Worth who attended the dinner at Bill's house in February 2023.

The popularity of the dinner has been growing since it began in 2018 with two dinners. During the 2022-2023 academic year, the Division hosted eight dinners, building on the six dinners hosted the academic year before. For the February 2023 dinner, 66 applicants vied for 16 slots and there's still more to come with satellite dinners in Houston and Dallas over the summer. The goal is to meet students where they are and still provide this platform to connect.

"This generation of students is incredible," reflected Bill. "They're diverse, and they're comfortable with diversity. They're thoughtful. They think globally. They strike me as unselfish, and I hear them discuss their futures in terms of the meaning and impact of their work, not how much money they want to make."

No doubt there will be more engaging conversation topics at future dinners. The Division's purpose includes helping ensure every student can easily discover new friendships and join new communities, and a simple dinner together is one way the Division helps students do just that.

BY THE NUMBERS

2018

Vice President for Student Affairs and Ombuds Office launched pilot program - Dinner with 16 Longhorns

16

dinners hosted since 2018

450

applicants for dinners hosted in 2022-2023

Philanthropy Across the Division

The Vice President for Student Affairs office and the Division of Student Affairs' departments honor students and staff in a variety of ways. Below is a list of our awards, recognitions, scholarships and programs supported by philanthropy.

Center for Students in Recovery

Carol Weikman Farnsworth & James Walter Farnsworth Endowment for Students in Recovery

Center for Students in Recovery Alumni Endowment

Center for Students in Recovery Fund

Center for Students in Recovery Scholarships

Cullen Trust for Higher Education Endowed Fund for Students in Recovery

Dawn & Greg Crouch Endowed Excellence Fund for Students in Recovery

Donna Stockton-Hicks & R. Steven Hicks Endowed Excellence Fund for the Center for Students in Recovery

Erin Elizabeth Spurgin Endowed Excellence Fund for the Center for Students in Recovery

Jennifer and Paul E. Heath Endowed Scholarship

Max, Gene Alice and Lynn Sherman CSR Endowment

Richard B. Dyke Endowed Presidential Scholarship in Communications

Counseling and Mental Health Center

Brandon Folkes Endowed Excellence Fund

Brian and Randi Schwartz Community Wellness Initiative

Brian L. Harlan Memorial Endowment

Carolyn and Karl Rathjen in Support of Innovations in Data Informatics

Excellence Fund for Student Mental Health Access

Orange Jackets Endowment for Voices Against Violence

Paul Martin Compton Endowed Excellence Fund for the Counseling and Mental Health Center

SHIFT Program

New Student Services

Cristi Biggs Orientation Leadership Fund for Orientation Advisors

Foyt Family Endowment for Student Affairs

Gerald E. Hawxhurst & Susan St. Denis Endowed Presidential Scholarship

Maralyn S. Heimlich Scholarship for Orientation Advisors

Shawn and Kara Wells Endowment for Horns Helping Horns

Tom and Bitsey Hail Endowed Presidential Scholarship

W. Ralph Canada, Jr. Endowment for Horns Helping Horns

Office of the Dean of Students

Barrington McGregor Endowment for Veterans

The Bryant and Shari T. Truitt Veterans Scholarship

C. Thomas Behrman/Tejas Scholarship

The David L. Shull Memorial Scholarship

Dean Byron Fullerton/Tejas Scholarship

Dean's Dozen Award

Delta Gamma Foundation Endowed Lecture Fund in Values and Ethics

Ending Food Scarcity Endowment

Eyes of Texas Student Government Academic Endeavor Fund

Fleming Fellowship Scholarship

Fleming/Tejas Scholarship

Glenn Maloney Memorial Scholarship

Gregory E. Lucia/Tejas Scholarship

Haruka Weiser Endowed Excellence Fund for Campus and Student Safety

Ingram Lee Endowed Scholarship

Jean Perkins Foundation Veteran Scholarship

Jessica Michelle Fertitta Excellence Fund for Student Advocacy & Civic Engagement

Jim Fenner Fund

Judge Harley Clark/Tejas Scholarship

Judge Royce C. Lamberth/Tejas Scholarship

Judge Zeke Zbranek/Tejas Scholarship

Marion B. Buescher Memorial Scholarship

Pillars of the Forty Acres Recognition Program

Rebecca H. Carreon Scholarship Fund

Renee and Delio Ortegon Student Emergency Fund

Sean N. Bourgeois Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Senate of College Councils Endowed Scholarship Fund

Senate of College Councils' William Powers Jr. Endowed Scholarship

Sgt. Tyrell Seth Williams, U.S. Marine Corps Endowed (USMC) Scholarship

Sorority and Fraternity Life Awards

Student Emergency Fund

Student Government Endowed Excellence Fund

Student Organization Development Fund

Swing Out Awards

Texas Cowboys Endowment for UT Students

Theodore Henry Strauss Student Award for Exemplary University Service

TISTA Tech Veteran Academic Leadership Awards

Transforming Texas Greeks Endowment

Recreational Sports

Acacia Fraternity Endowed Scholarship

Betty A. Thompson Endowment for Recreational Sports

Bill Frisbie Endowed Scholarship

Bill Patman Endowed Scholarship

Bobby Drew Abercrombie and Matthew Emmitt Abercrombie Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Charles and Carolyn Spence, James and Kathryn (Spence) Nance, and William (Spence) and Edith Nance Endowed

Scholarship Honoring Michael Monsoor
DeDe and Joe Bill Watkins
Endowed Scholarship

Delta Tau Delta Endowed Scholarship
Intramural Endowment

John M. Childs Scholarship for
Intramural Referees

Kenneth Ford Family Endowed Scholarship
Lubbock Endowed Excellence Fund for
Handball in Honor of Pete Tyson

Mark L. Hart, Jr. Endowed Scholarship
Nelson Puett, Jr. Endowment for
Recreational Sports

Phi Gamma Delta Endowed Scholarship
Play Golf America University Endowment
in Recreational Sports

Recreational Sports Divisional Endowment
Recreational Sports Endowed Scholarship

Robert G. Childress Endowed Scholarship
Robert L. Dewar Golf Scholarship

Susan and Mark Baletka
Endowed Scholarship

Sylvie and Gary Crum Endowed Scholarship
Texas Men's Lacrosse Endowment

Texas Taekwondo Alumni Association
Endowed Excellence Fund

Thomas W. Dison Endowed Scholarship

Texas Parents

Parents' Association Student Services
Endowment Fund

Texas Parents Mike Wacker Award

Texas Parents Outstanding Student Awards

Texas Parents Staff Merit Awards

University Health Services

Healthy Student Organization
Award Program

Phanta "Jack" Phoummarath
Endowed Scholarship

University Housing and Dining

Alys Jones Bodoin Centennial
Endowed Scholarship

Floyd B. Hoelting Quality of Residence
Life Award

George Kinsolving Endowed Memorial
Student Services Fund

National Residence Hall Honorary
"Of the Month" Awards

National Residence Hall Honorary Induction

University Housing and Dining Residence
Life Leadership Awards

University Unions

C.C. "Jitter" Nolen Spirit Award

Events + Entertainment
"Chair of the Year" Award

Events + Entertainment Lasting
Legacy Award

Events + Entertainment Star Award

GRants for Active Student Participants
(GRASP) Endowment

J.J. "Jake" Pickle Citizenship Award

Margaret C. Berry Student Activities Fund

Pal—Make A Difference Award

Shirley Bird Perry Leadership Award

Student Activity Center
Program Endowment

Student Endowed Centennial Lectureship

Texas Cowboys Centennial Lectureship

Texas Union Advisory Council Program

Texas Union Building Fund

Texas Union Lectureship in
Student Leadership

Texas Union Permanent Art
Collection Endowment

Texas Union Student Awards Endowment

Texas Union Student Programs Endowment

Texas Union-University Co-Operative
Society Presidential Medallion Endowment

William Andrew Smith, Jr. GRASP Award

Vice President for Student Affairs

1999 Bonfire Unity Endowed
Presidential Scholarship

Abigail "Abz" Zeitler Memorial Fund

Arno Nowotny Medal

Harrison Brown Endowed Excellence Fund

James W. Vick Academic Bridge
Fund Endowment

Margaret Alexander Steiner Endowed
Scholarship Fund

Merryman/Revell Excellence Endowment

NOW Fund – Fund for Immediate
Student Support

Sharon H. Justice Leadership
Scholarship Endowment

Soncia Reagins-Lilly Award for
Administrative Excellence

Tany Norwood Staff Appreciation
Award Endowment

Texas Blazers Endowed Excellence Fund

Influencing the Longhorn Life

We hope you enjoyed reading through the 2022-2023 Impact Report and learning about the many ways the Division of Student Affairs is helping students live their best Longhorn life!



As parents of students, and alums ourselves, we knew we wanted to be part of the important work that impacts the everyday lives of all students. For most of us, when we think about the college experience, academics are top of mind. But what about the non-academic factors that will influence a Longhorn's life while at UT Austin? We joined the Longhorn Family Leadership Council as co-chairs to support the center of student life that is the Division of Student Affairs. We believe in the Division's leadership and we remain in awe of the multi-faceted programs that provide direct benefits to students.

One of the key initiatives led by our Council is to build awareness and help with fundraising programs that support the whole student. We are specifically passionate about supporting the mental health and well-being of all students. In a setting as large as The University of Texas at Austin, one of our goals is to meet students where they are and provide opportunities for them to connect in personal and authentic ways.

We are excited about a new permanent fund we've helped establish that supports student success programming, so generations of Longhorn students will benefit and have the resources they need to maximize their Longhorn experience and well-being. Programs like Dinner with 16 Longhorns give students the opportunity to meet other students and engage in meaningful conversations over dinner in an alum's home.

Each one of our 52,000 students follows a unique path. The Division of Student Affairs provides life-enhancing initiatives to influence the Longhorn life and ensure they are prepared for what's next.

Will you join us?

Tony, BBA '88, MBA '95, and Kristin, BA '90, Schell

Make a Difference!

Your financial investment matters to our students. Give online at:
bit.ly/GivetoDivisionofStudentAffairs

Or contact Vice President for Student Affairs Development directly at:
vpsadevelopment@austin.utexas.edu
or by calling (512) 475-6134.



Living
The
Longhorn
Life

Living
The
Longhorn
Life

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Division of Student Affairs