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Nearly 900 graduates celebrated at Fall Commencement

UAH awarded an estimated 889 degrees during two commencement ceremonies held Monday, Dec. 15. The ceremonies honored summer and fall 2025 graduates from all six colleges.

“Graduation is one of those rare moments in life that manages to be both an ending and a beginning,” said Dr. Rhonda Gaede, associate provost for undergraduate education and associate professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Meet a few of the graduates:

- **Delaney Enlow** (B.S., mechanical engineering) finds collaboration between academic disciplines builds a path to success
- **Heath Hudson** (B.S., cybersecurity engineering) receives a cybersecurity degree from UAH and leaves behind a bright Charger Blue legacy

- **Bryan Rogomentick** (M.A., teaching) is on track to return to classroom teaching after military service
- **Diana Sontay** (B.S., secondary education), a first-generation college student, is eager to help her students reach ‘aha!’ moments

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Honoring impact, leadership and legacy: UAH debuts Sapphire Excellence Awards

UAH has introduced the Sapphire Excellence Awards, a new annual program recognizing alumni, partners and supporters whose leadership and service advance UAH and its impact locally and beyond.

The awards span five categories, including Distinguished Alumni Fellows, Graduate of the Last Decade (GOLD), Presidential Community Award, Charger Champion Award and Research Impact Award.

“This program reinforces our commitment to celebrating excellence and the powerful contributions of the Charger community,” said Kelly Myers, director of Alumni Relations and Special Events.

Nominations open Jan. 15 and close Feb. 20. Honorees will be recognized at a campus gala on April 3.

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UAH launches Southeastern Quantum Collaborative

UAH recently announced the formation of the Southeastern Quantum Collaborative (SQC), a regional initiative uniting universities, industry and government to accelerate quantum information science and technology in the Southeast.

The SQC will focus on quantum sensing, communications, networking and computation, leveraging the region's defense expertise and contractor base. It launched on Jan. 1.

"The challenges of quantum science are too big for any single institution," said Dr. Charles Karr, UAH President. "The Southeastern Quantum Collaborative brings together universities, industry and federal partners to create a coordinated, regional engine that builds technologies, talent and opportunities that will benefit the entire region. As the founding institution, UAH is proud to lead this effort and help drive our region's position as a national hub for quantum innovation."

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Dr. Shankar Mahalingam retires

Dr. Shankar Mahalingam, Dean of the UAH College of Engineering and Distinguished Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, has retired following 15 years of distinguished service at UAH.

"Dr. Mahalingam's leadership helped transform the College of Engineering into a more research-intensive, student-centered institution with deeper regional impact," says Dr. David Puleo, UAH provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. "He promoted faculty excellence, expanded student opportunities and elevated the college's national reputation. His contributions to the college and university will endure."

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[Register Now! Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Leadership Breakfast](#)

UAH will host the 2026 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Leadership Breakfast on Wednesday, Jan. 14, at 7:30 a.m. The theme, “Shaping the Healthcare Community of the Future,” will explore Dr. King’s timeless leadership principles and highlight those in our community working to build a healthier, more equitable tomorrow.

The event will feature Catherine Coleman Flowers, founding director of the Center for Rural Enterprise and Environmental Justice (CREEJ), as keynote speaker.

Sponsorships and individual tickets are available now!

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Save the date: UAH Alumni Night with Huntsville Havoc is Jan. 30

Join UAH Alumni Relations for a night out at the Huntsville Havoc game! The Huntsville Havoc will take on Peoria at 7 p.m. As an added bonus, the team will be celebrating Havoc mascot Chaos' birthday, and Charger Blue will be in attendance to celebrate!

[GET TICKETS](#)



Military Appreciation Night is Feb. 7

UAH Athletics is excited to celebrate Military and Veterans Appreciation Night during the Gulf South Conference men's and women's basketball doubleheader at SportsMED Arena in Spragins Hall on Saturday, Feb. 7. We will welcome local military leaders and groups for special celebrations throughout both games.

The women's game tips off at 2 p.m., while the men's game begins at 4 p.m. Limited reserved seating is available through [HomeTown Ticketing](#). General admission seating upstairs is free courtesy of Bentley Buick GMC.

GET TICKETS



Save the date for Homecoming: Feb. 18-21

Be part of the tradition that brings the UAH community together to celebrate Charger Spirit! Homecoming 2026 will be held **Feb. 18-21**. Stay tuned for details!

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Click the link below to check out a list of other upcoming events across campus!

See All Events

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