

# *Dateline: Downtown*

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Who will  
recoup  
UHD from  
2009?

**Know your  
candidates on  
the next page**

# CAMPUS NEWS

Do you have tips? Contact us at [Dateline@gator.uhd.edu](mailto:Dateline@gator.uhd.edu) for any tips, events, or story ideas to cover.

## UHD's Final Four: Know the Candidates



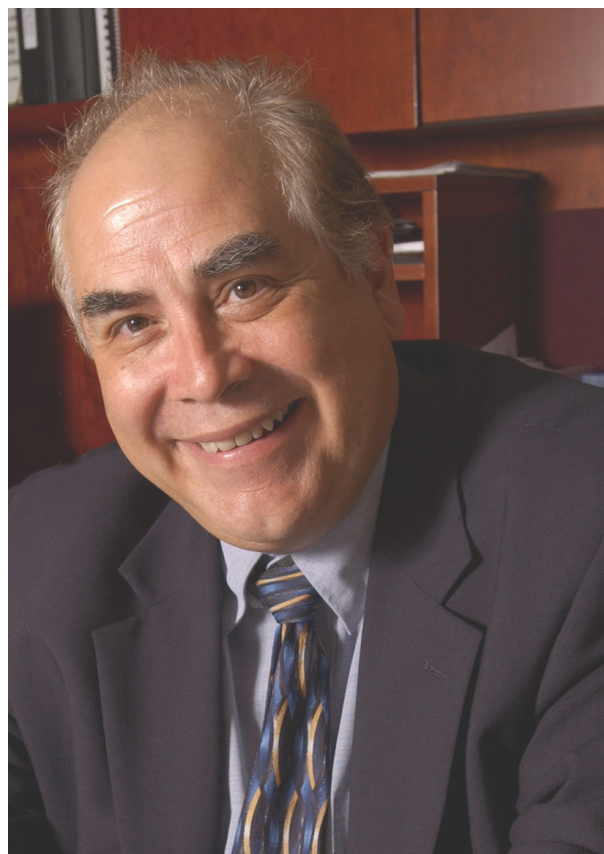
### Jeff D. Senese

With his educational background centered around criminal justice and multi-disciplinary social sciences, Dr. Senese has been a professor teaching classes in research methods related to criminology, statistics, and corrections. Along with his role as a professor, Dr. Senese is currently the President of Academic Affairs at Philadelphia University. His vision for UHD seems to include actions that improve academic quality and add “appropriate” curricula – perhaps an MBA program. His vision does seem to be split between the faculty and students. According to his curriculum vitae, he has highlighted his ability to raise rather significant sums of money for various state funded projects. He has also published numerous articles and editorials on topics such as faculty retirement, academic leadership, and criminal justice. He also has a claim to a published book concerning research methods in criminology. Like Dr. Sanborn, Dr. Senese seems to have a proven track record in raising funds for various types of public projects. This type of experience can prove to be useful to us students and faculty at UHD, depending of course on what he considers to be useful spending of the funds raised.

### Senese's Points

- Vice president for Academic Affairs and dean of faculty at Philadelphia University.
- Philadelphia University received a \$1.2 million grant to create an advanced textile center last year under his leadership.
- Added three graduate programs.

By the start of the 2009 fall semester, you, the students, faculty and staff of the University of Houston – Downtown will have a new president of our fine university. Unfortunately, you can't vote for your favorite candidate, who may or may not reflect and support your views on how a university like UHD should be run. However, you can catch a glimpse of each of the four remaining candidates from the brief profiles below. Then, you can contact the University of Houston System Chancellor, Renu Khator, and



### William V. Flores

A bit of a nervous speaker, but nonetheless a well-qualified candidate with a diverse background in various educational institutions and learned in political science, public policy and social theory. Dr. Flores currently holds the position of Deputy Secretary of the New Mexico Higher Education Department, an appointment made by the incumbent governor of New Mexico, Bill Richardson. Due to his active involvement in New Mexico's state-wide academic goal – to provide and enable access for all New Mexicans to the state's colleges, as well as workforce education, adult education and other community education projects – his current position is one that could be construed as recent relevant experience that a candidate should have in applying for the presidency of UHD. Dr. Flores has stated his belief that a successful president of any public university must be a visionary and one with good communication skills. It seems that Dr. Flores has the former, but lacks some refinement in the latter. Nevertheless, Dr. Flores' intentions seem to be in the right place. He seeks to translate his varied and diverse experience into a vision for UHD, a vision where he hopes to increase the exposure of UHD to the local and national communities. This vision is one that hopes to bring a more diverse array of students and faculty to UHD – a benefit that we all can share in.

### Flores' Points

- Appointed by Governor Bill Richardson for the New Mexico Higher Education Department
- From 1996 to 2001, Flores was the dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Science at California State University
- Oversaw post-earthquake reconstruction of college.

**Letters to the Editor:** Dateline welcomes letters to the editor from any member of the UH system. Letters should be no more than 250 words, include the author's full name, phone number or email address, and affiliation with the University, including classification and major. Anonymous letters will not be published. Deliver letters to Room S-260 Main Bldg; email them to [dateline@gator.uhd.edu](mailto:dateline@gator.uhd.edu); fax them to (713) 221-8119. All submissions are subject to editing.

Don't forget to select two page spread on Adobe Acrobat. It is located on the bottom right corner of the screen.----->



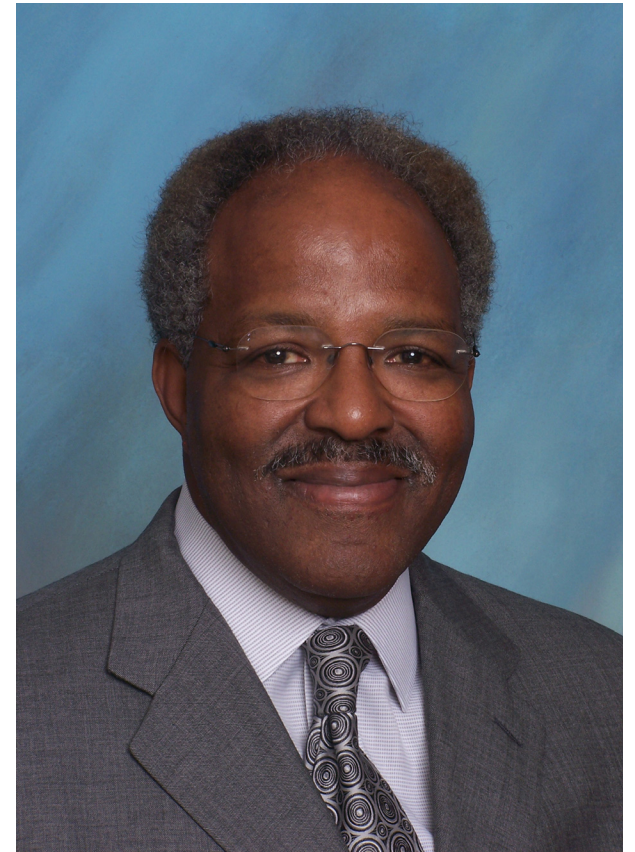
# Running for UHD President

Peter DeGraaf  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

## Johnson's Points

- Interim vice president for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs at CSU.
- For 30 years Johnson was the executive vice provost for Academic Affairs at Syracuse University.
- Other positions he held at Syracuse include interim dean of the Graduate School.

A rather soft-spoken individual coming from a rather different educational background compared to the other candidates, Dr. Johnson's mathematics education can be perceived as more individualistic than public service oriented. As with the other candidates, Dr. Johnson also holds a diverse background in service to higher education as exemplified by his current position as the interim Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs at Chicago State University (CSU) where he has sought to be an integral part of the student-oriented university by emphasizing collaboration between students and faculty. However, he seems to believe that any university cannot be successful in achieving its unique goals unless the faculty is fully supported and strengthened. He has published numerous books on teaching mathematics to elementary and middle school pupils as well as some articles concerning diversity in graduate education and educational policy. His experience as a tenured full professor at Syracuse University and the University of North Texas coupled with his experience at a rather heavily student-oriented university makes him a strong contender for this presidential search at UHD.



Howard C. Johnson

share your opinion with her as to who might be the strongest candidate since she will be the one to recommend a finalist to the UHS Board of Regents, who will then decide by majority vote who will lead our coveted university into the 2nd decade of the 21st century.

*Also, let The Dateline Downtown know who should be the next UHD president by taking our poll online by clicking the link on the last page and by tearing off a vote slip which is also located on the last page.*

## Sanborn's Points

- President and CEO of Children at Risk
- Taught at UHD as a lecturer since 2007.
- Vice president for Enrollment and Student Services at the University of Tulsa from 1999 to 2000 where he oversaw the creation of a new orientation program.
- Speaks Spanish fluently.

Another well qualified candidate with a diverse background in education, as well as political science, Dr. Sanborn is quite adept in performing public speaking duties. He is charismatic, intelligent, and has a good sense of humor; all good qualities for a president of any sort of institution. However, his vision for UHD might perhaps be too narrowly focused as displayed by his rather strong affinity for first generation college students since he was included of this demographic back in his college days. Although this affinity for such a constituency is admirable, his rather constant reference to this at the open forum back in May 12th does seem to omit other constituencies; particularly the faculty. I asked Dr. Sanborn if he had a sense for some of the more important issues facing current faculty and students. His reply, "You have to ask them", leads this contributing writer to believe that although he is skilled at leading many diverse educational institutions and skilled in the art of rhetoric, his promises seem to be somewhat empty. And his inability to answer questions such as the "how will...?" questions posed by the faculty and students in attendance at the forum presents a probable stance that he is seeking this position only as a stepping stone towards the goal of adding another worthy name like UHD to his résumé. On the other hand, if a successful president is defined as one who can raise money for the university, then he might be the right choice albeit we don't have any knowledge on what he or the administration will spend it on.



Robert D. Sanborn

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# DATELINE POLLS

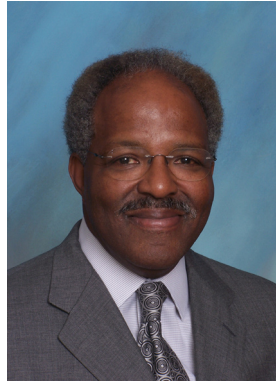
## Which Candidate Should Become the New UHD President?



Jeff D. Senese



William V. Flores



Howard C. Johnson



Robert D. Sanborn

You can tear this sheet off and submit it to S-260 or go to this poll online by clicking here.

## How are we doing?

- I love reading The Dateline Downtown
- Great
- Average
- Below Average
- Poor
- Can I make a suggestion...

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Suggestion \_\_\_\_\_

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