

# Currency Affairs

Winter 2020

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**"I enjoy the humanity  
of UFCU. I always feel  
heard and important."**

**Miranda B** | Member Since 2010

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Take Our Retirement Quiz, Understand Our Commitment to Education, and more inside...

# What a Great Year!

UFCU® saw many successes in 2019, and none of them would be possible without you!



## Education Champion

Named in the category of College and Career Mentoring/Experience by the The Austin Chamber of Commerce



## #1 Credit Union and #1 Mortgage Company

Ranked #1 in these categories for the fourth consecutive year by The Austin Business Journal



## Best Mortgage Lender and Best Bank

Voted the best in the 2019 Best of the Best Awards by Austin American-Statesman readers



## Top Credit Union

Designated as one of the top five credit unions in Texas by Forbes®

*Thank you for your membership, and happy new year!*



## President's Report

When the forward-thinking faculty and staff at The University of Texas at Austin™ chartered UFCU in 1936, they deeply embedded our roots in education. One of the seven cooperative principles that guide all credit unions is “Education, Training, and Information,” and perhaps because of our history, we have cultivated intense support for this value over the years.

We believe that planting seeds of knowledge for every Member, elected representative, leader, and employee of our cooperative is vital not only to each individual's success but also to the success of our communities. Like those ladies and gentlemen on the UT faculty more than 83 years ago, we hold education in the highest regard, and as a social purpose credit union, we strive to take it one step further: We're doing everything we can to educate and assist not only UFCU Members but every individual in the communities we serve.

Our financial health programs position us to serve Members and nonmembers alike in the form of seminars, educational content, and community outreach. We want to offer anyone interested in achieving the next level of prosperity a realistic path for getting there. It's a lofty goal, but a worthy — and we think achievable — one.

We made remarkable strides in 2019 toward that end. In addition to accolades from Forbes, the Austin Business Journal, and the Austin American-Statesman in the areas of how we deliver banking services and home loans, we received a new honor. The Austin Chamber of Commerce named us an Education Champion in the category of College and Career Mentoring/Experience. This recognition is an honor that motivates us to strive to new heights.

As our founders undoubtedly knew, the perennial growth of any community depends on the personal development of every individual therein, and education is at the heart of it. Wherever you are in your journey, we are here to assist you and to provide the products, services, and guidance you need to achieve that next level of prosperity. Please continue to let us know how we can be of service, and thank you for your membership.

**Warmest regards,**

**Tony C Budet**  
**President/CEO**



## Board of Directors & Executive Leadership

### Board of Directors

D Michael Harris, PhD, CPA.CITP, Chairman

C Cale McDowell, JD, Vice Chairman

Laura J Kilcrease, Secretary

Leslie L Blanke, PhD, Treasurer

Linus N Akanoh, Jr, CIA, CISA, CRMA, CGMS

Thomas J Ardis, MBA

Adriana R Cruz

Kathryn E Hoyt

Molly Beth Malcolm, EdD, LPC

John A Martin

David W Niesel, PhD

### Directors Emeritus

Carl E Hansen, PhD

Cynthia A Leach

Frank J Peters

Mary A Seng

### Supervisory Committee

Brady M Cole, RADM USN SC (Ret), Chairman

Christine A Plonsky, Secretary

Steven K Darnell, CPA, MBA

Dena Jansen, CPA

Ellen E Wood, CPA

### Principal Officers

Tony C Budet, President/CEO

Michael F Clifford, EVP Operations & Strategy

Michael E Crowl, CPA, EVP Member Experience

Heather M McKissick, SVP Community Impact

Laurie A Roberts, SVP Lending/CLO

Jim Brown, VP Lending

Rhonda N Hall, VP Human Resources

& Organizational Development

Chris Miller, VP Asset Protection

Ellen S Simpson, VP Enterprise Risk Management

Chris J Turnley, VP Retail

## Holiday Closings

UFCU will close in observance  
of the following holidays:



Martin Luther King Jr Day..... Monday, January 20, 2020

Presidents' Day..... Monday, February 17, 2020

Memorial Day..... Monday, May 25, 2020

Independence Day ..... Saturday, July 4, 2020

## Here to Serve You

### Phone

(512) 467-8080

(800) 252-8311

### Mail

PO Box 9350

Austin, TX 78766-9350

### Web

UFCU.org

### Locations

Ben White ..... 130 E Ben White Blvd, Austin, TX

Brodie..... 9925 Brodie Ln, Austin, TX

Downtown..... 703 Lavaca St, Austin, TX

Galveston ..... 428 Postoffice St, Galveston, TX

Highway 79 ..... 120 Palm Valley Cv, Round Rock, TX

Lakeline..... 13860 North US Hwy 183, Austin, TX

Mueller ..... 1801 E 51 St, Austin, TX

N Guadalupe..... 4611 Guadalupe St, Austin, TX

Pflugerville..... 15116 FM 1825, Pflugerville, TX

San Marcos ..... 1190 Thorpe Ln, San Marcos, TX

Scofield..... 1500 W Parmer Ln, Austin, TX

S MoPac ..... 5033 US 290 W, Austin, TX

Southpark Meadows (Spring 2020).. 301 W Slaughter Ln, Austin, TX

Steck ..... 3305 Steck Ave, Austin, TX

Teravista ..... 571 University Blvd, Round Rock, TX

Trinity ..... 1601 Trinity St, Austin, TX

University..... 2244 Guadalupe St, Austin, TX

Victory Lakes ..... 2500 S Gulf Fwy, League City, TX

Westlake ..... 701 Capital of Texas Hwy S, West Lake Hills, TX

Whitestone ..... 3200 E Whitestone Blvd, Cedar Park, TX

**UFCU Plaza ..... 8303 N MoPac Expy, Austin, TX**

Mortgage Services™ ..... Suite A105

Insurance Services® ..... Suite A110 (by appointment only)

Wealth Management® ..... Suite A110 (by appointment only)



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# Helping Our Communities Thrive

At UFCU, service — that is, people helping people — is in our DNA. Over the past six months, we've continued on our journey toward positive change:

## New Opportunities

Through the dedication of many committed UFCU employees and partners, many students have benefited from scholarships, internships, mentorship, and financial health education via our UFCU Scholars program, and many women are closer to economic independence as a result of our Dress for Success drive.

## More Empowerment

When our employees step away from their desks and go out into the community, they learn more

about the financial health barriers our neighbors face and come back more engaged and ready to make a difference. Every month, dozens of employees visit our nonprofit partners to see the work they do first-hand and meet the clients they serve. Experiencing those a-ha moments grounds them in the important work that they do.

## Strong Partnerships

Our evolution to a social purpose organization requires strong relationships with partners who can help us make a difference when it

comes to guiding students toward graduation, assisting adults as they transition to careers, and helping families thrive in affordable housing. Our collaborative support for community-minded organizations including Foundation Communities, Breakthrough Central Texas, Communities in Schools, and Con Mi MADRE is just the beginning.

**Please join us in making the places we live, work, and play even better. Follow us on social media, and stay tuned to see what's next.**



**Save with a Purpose**



# Pay Yourself First!

We've heard it a lot: "Pay yourself first!" But what does that mean? If we were truly paying ourselves, wouldn't we pay ourselves more? And more often?

Kidding aside, this old saying indeed has staying paying power because it really is an effective way to save money. And who couldn't stand to save a little more money? Let's take a deep dive into what it means to pay yourself first, and how you can achieve this goal consistently.

## What It Means

Paying yourself first simply means prioritizing your savings over all else. When you prioritize saving, you will naturally spend less because you will have less to spend. This can be a lot less stressful than checking your balance every time you grab a latte. Essentially, any attempt at automatically rerouting money from

deposited into a 401(k), that's paying yourself first. When you deposit \$50 into your savings account with every paycheck, that's paying yourself first. Basically, any effort to remove some set amount of money from the equation before you tackle your budget and living expenses fits the bill.

## Why It's Effective

Most people who are staring an extra \$50 in the face will tend toward finding a way to spend that \$50. It's just human nature. But if you move that \$50 out of your checking account (before you have the chance to be tempted by it) and into an account that is earmarked for savings, most people will be able to hold onto it until they really need it for a rainy day.

## How You Can Achieve It

Like anything else, practice makes perfect. Often, the hardest part is getting started. Follow these easy steps to pay yourself first:

1. **Be mindful.** Decide exactly what your savings goals are so that you are saving with a clear purpose. It's easier to stay motivated when you know that you are not just saving for a rainy day, but specifically for airline tickets or spring break hotel accommodations or a new AC unit. You decide what you need.
2. **Automate a contribution to your savings account with every, single, paycheck.** Once you see how easy it is to go without,

say \$20 from every paycheck, it will get easier to increase the amount over time. Set up the payment to occur via transfer or direct deposit. If you can set it and forget it, your chances of success increase significantly.

3. **Monitor your savings, and check in with yourself.** Every few months, ask yourself, can I give myself a raise? Increase your payments to yourself as often as you can.
4. **Contribute to your employer-sponsored savings plan, especially if your employer has a matching program.** This is not only a great way to pay yourself first, but these plans often have the added benefit of tax breaks.<sup>1</sup>
5. **Keep the change.** Some people literally empty their pockets into a jar at home. Some people use fancy apps that round up to transfer pennies on the dollar to a savings account. Either way, this is an easy way to contribute a little every day to your savings account without feeling as though you're missing out.

*Essentially, any attempt at automatically rerouting money from your paycheck directly to a savings account is considered paying yourself first.*

your paycheck directly to a savings account is considered paying yourself first. When you have a percentage of each paycheck automatically

**Call (800) 252-8311, or stop by any financial center to chat with a representative. We can help you navigate direct deposit or automatic transfers via Online Banking, or review your savings habits with you on your journey to financial health.**

<sup>1</sup> UFCU does not provide tax or legal advice. For such guidance, please consult a qualified tax and/or legal advisor.

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# Seminars and Events

UFCU seminars and events are built upon four pillars of financial health designed to help you at every stage of your journey: spending, saving, borrowing, and planning.

Visit **UFCU.org/Events** to register or read complete seminar and event descriptions.

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FOCUS	DATE	TITLE	TIME	LOCATION
Borrow	Jan 16	Home Buying	6:30–8 PM	University
Borrow	Feb 5	Home Buying	5:30–7 PM	Highway 79
Borrow	Feb 20	Home Buying	6:15–7:45 PM	UFCU Plaza Event Center
Plan	Mar 2	Teacher Retirement System (TRS) 101*	5:30–7 PM	North Guadalupe
Plan	Mar 7	Shred Day	10 AM–noon or until truck is full	North Guadalupe
Plan	Mar 11	Planning for Long-Term Care <i>Protecting Your Life Savings*</i>	6–7 PM	Steck
Plan	Mar 19	Investment Basics*	6–7 PM	UFCU Plaza Event Center
Plan	Apr 8	Insuring Your Home	6–7 PM	UFCU Plaza Event Center
Borrow	Apr 8	Understanding Your Credit Score	6:30–7:30 PM	University
Borrow	Apr 22	Understanding Your Credit Score	6–7 PM	Pflugerville
Plan	Jun 1	Optional Retirement Program (ORP)*	5:30–6:30 PM	North Guadalupe
Plan	Jun 6	Shred Day	10 AM–noon or until truck is full	North Guadalupe
Plan	Jun 18	Optional Retirement Program (ORP)*	5–6 PM	Victory Lakes
Plan	Jun 23	Optional Retirement Program (ORP)*	5–6 PM	Galveston

\* Non-deposit investment products and services are offered through CUSO Financial Services, L.P. ("CFS"), a registered broker-dealer (Member FINRA/SIPC) and SEC Registered Investment Advisor. Products offered through CFS: **are not NCUA/NCUSIF or otherwise federally insured, are not guarantees or obligations of the credit union, and may involve investment risk including possible loss of principal.** Investment Representatives are registered through CFS. UFCU has contracted with CFS to make non-deposit investment products and services available to credit union members. CFS does not provide tax or legal advice. For such guidance, please consult a tax and/or legal advisor.

# KNOWLEDGE IS POWER



**Preparing for life's changes and challenges is no easy task.** We're here to help you make smart financial decisions that push you to the next level of prosperity, and education is your best path to success.

Rely on us for honest, practical advice that can help you manage your money, invest and save, build good credit, buy a car or a home, and more. Whatever you're striving toward, we're here to help you get there.

Visit **[UFCU.org/Learn](https://UFCU.org/Learn)**, and get started today.



## Plan for Retirement



# Are You Ready to Retire?

## Ask Yourself These Seven Questions

After a lifetime of hard work, the lure of retirement is hard to resist. We imagine carefree days spent enjoying all the things we never had time to do before, but how do you know when you're ready? Ask yourself these seven questions to assess your retirement readiness:

### 1. Do you have health insurance?

At age 65, Medicare health care coverage kicks in, but Medicare typically only covers about half of a retiree's total health care expenses. You'll need to chip in for out-of-pocket expenses like Medicare Part B and other supplemental health premiums, co-pays, and dental and vision care. If you'd like to retire before 65, you'll need coverage to span the gap.

### 2. Do you need life insurance?

Now is a good time to review your other insurance needs as well. You may not need as much life insurance coverage as in your younger years, but you may want to add coverage for long-term care insurance or other specialized illness insurance.

### 3. Have you paid off your debts?

If paying off your debts is not possible before retiring, factor a debt-repayment amount into your post-retirement monthly budget, and don't forget to earmark emergency funds for unexpected expenses like unexpected car or home repairs.

### 4. How will you replace your paycheck?

Depending on how much you have paid over your career and at what age you begin collecting benefits, social security can provide a foundation for retirement income. You can check your social security estimated payments at [SocialSecurity.gov](https://www.ssa.gov). Then consider how much additional income you'll

need to live on after the employer paychecks end. That's where income from retirement accounts come into play. A financial advisor<sup>1</sup> can help calculate how much you'll need and guide you on ways to maximize your retirement income.

### 5. What about taxes?

Just because you no longer have earned income doesn't mean you won't pay income taxes. You will owe tax on any withdrawals from traditional IRAs and 401(k) plans. Social security income over certain levels is also partially taxable.

### 6. Where will you live?

Where you choose to live can have a big impact on your monthly expenses. Some retirees

downsize or move to retirement communities or nearer to their children. Others choose to retire in place. There is no right or wrong answer — nor does a decision have to be permanent. Compare the cost of living with each of your options, including taxes, utilities, groceries, and transportation.

## 7. How will you spend your time?

A happy retirement is about more than financial health. Emotional health and well-being has been proven to help us live longer, happier, and healthier lives. Before retiring, consider what you'll do with your newfound time.

Consider phasing into retirement, and spend your time on activities that keep you engaged socially, mentally, and physically. These tips won't guarantee you're ready for this big step, but it may make the transition easier.

**CUSO Financial Services, L.P.<sup>1</sup> at UFCU offers solutions that can help you prepare for whatever life brings next. Call (800) 252-8311 or (512) 467-8080 x21081 to learn more.**

<sup>1</sup> Non-deposit investment products and services are offered through CUSO Financial Services, L.P. ("CFS"), a registered broker-dealer (Member FINRA/SIPC) and SEC Registered Investment Advisor. Products offered through CFS: are not NCUA/NCUSIF or otherwise federally insured, **are not guarantees or obligations of the credit union, and may involve investment risk including possible loss of principal.** Investment Representatives are registered through CFS. UFCU has contracted with CFS to make non-deposit investment products and services available to credit union Members.

<sup>2</sup> CFS does not provide tax or legal advice. For such guidance, please consult a qualified tax and/or legal advisor.



**Miranda B** | Member Since 2010

## Designing the Perfect Financial Fit

**When Miranda B landed her first job at age 15, she turned to UFCU for her first checking account. Two cities, two businesses, and thousands of miles later, Miranda has returned to Austin and turned to a UFCU Small Business Loan to launch her apparel business here.**

*"From a young age, I was obsessed with what I was wearing. I even named my clothes! In 2013, I started Miranda Bennett Studio (MBS) using a UFCU SBA loan. MBS is an apparel and lifestyle brand that features plant-dyed colorways, locally manufactured with a nonprofit dedicated to creating employment opportunities for Austin's refugee population. We cultivate our own dyes and all the relationships along our supply chain are local. I enjoy the humanity of UFCU. I always feel heard and important."*

**At UFCU, you're a Member — not an account number. Do you have a great story to share? We'd love to hear it! Visit [UFCU.org/MyStory](https://www.ufcu.org/MyStory), and tell us about your experience.**



**Borrow Wisely**



# Ready to Buy a Home?

## Here's What NOT to Do

It is finally time to buy your first home! You've saved and planned, and, before selecting a REALTOR® to guide your search, you need to gain lender prequalification for that mortgage loan. You've likely heard a lot of advice about what *to do* to prepare, but there's more to it than that. Before you begin looking at homes and negotiating a contract, you should know about some moves that could significantly hurt your chance of getting that home loan. Here are three things *not to do* when a new home purchase or even a refinance is in your future.

### Don't Change Jobs

Even if it's for a better salary, surprisingly, changing jobs can impact a mortgage loan in progress. Mortgage lenders typically require 30 full days of pay stubs for income verification. A job change can delay your loan closing until the lender has proof of 30 days of employment. If you're looking to go part-time or contract, or are getting ready to retire, hold off until your mortgage is closed. Because your lender will

use your current income to qualify you for the loan, any reduction in income or change in job security could cause the loan to be denied.

### Don't Disturb Your Credit

Your credit score is critical to getting the best rates, the best loan options, and the lowest cost for mortgage and homeowner insurance. Now is not the time to miss or be late on credit card or other monthly payments, such as car loans. Make all your payments on time during this critical period, and do not open or close any credit accounts or lines of credit. It's also a good idea to check your credit report. You can get a free copy at [AnnualCreditReport.com](http://AnnualCreditReport.com). If you notice unsolicited credit inquiries, use the 800 number provided in the report to stop them. Excessive credit inquiries, and opening and closing credit accounts, are sure-fire ways to lower your credit score.

### Don't Make Major Purchases

Part of the excitement of buying a home is furnishing it with new

furniture and appliances, but practice patience. Hold off on any major purchases until after your mortgage is closed. A new credit card account or loan to buy new furniture might be tempting, but it could cause your home loan to be delayed, or worse. If a major unexpected expense arises that cannot be postponed, talk to your lender for advice about the best way to handle it. Remember that even if you have been prequalified for your home loan, the lender will run a final credit check just before closing. Any changes that impact your debt-to-income ratio can be a red flag on your ability to qualify for, and repay, the loan.

**Bottom line:** Consult the mortgage experts. When planning to buy a new home, stay current on all your payments, and defer any changes to your financial picture until after you are settled in to your new home.

**Put Austin's #1 mortgage company to work for you. Call (800) 476-8409 or (512) 997-HOME (4663).**

## Making Homeownership Happen

UFCU is honored to be the #1 Mortgage Company in the Austin area for the fourth year running. Thanks to our Members for putting your trust in us, and congratulations to the hardest working mortgage team in the business!

Put Austin's #1 mortgage company to work for you. Visit [UFCU.org/Mortgage](http://UFCU.org/Mortgage), or call (800) 476-8409 or (512) 997-HOME (4663).



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## Spend Intentionally



**Bartosz and Kamila S** | Members Since 2002

# Five Behaviors for Finding Your Credit Zen

Much like our physical well-being depends on many factors (for example, nutrition, sleep, activity, and stress), our financial health is also complex and composed of many important parts. Understanding how to spend intentionally is one of them, particularly when it comes to credit.

Credit can be an excellent tool for helping you achieve financial health, but it requires insight and discipline. Many consumers have landed themselves into overwhelming debt that might have been avoided, had they been able to master the art of intentional spending. If you'd like to reap the rewards that come with credit cards, and there are many — low interest rates, cash back, travel perks, rewards, fraud protection — consider these five behaviors we've identified as milestones on the journey to Credit Card Zen.

### 1. Borrow Wisely

Remember when you pay with a credit card, you're spending money, but you're also borrowing it. Do your research, and take the time to find the right credit card for you. Choose a card that is well suited to your lifestyle and will reward

you with perks that can make a difference to your long-term goals.

### 2. Budget Your Spending

That's right. You need to mindfully budget your spending, especially when you're spending on credit. Make a plan for what and how much you'll spend on your card every month and how much you'll pay off. Also be sure you know when you can cash in on rewards and when any annual fees are due.

### 3. Balance Your Wants and Needs

And bypass the guilt while you're at it. Make sure your budget prioritizes your obligations but also includes some simple items for the sake of joyful living. If you've made a solid budget and are sticking to it, you should be able to enjoy a treat every now and again, while also making progress toward your goals.

### 4. Build Your Credit

Good credit opens doors to more opportunity and improved financial health. Done right, it can be well worth the effort. If you're taking care of behaviors 1–3, this one should naturally follow. Our top tip for building a good credit score? Pay your bills on time, every time.

### 5. Breathe

Have patience, and understand that financial health is a long-term, if not life-long, goal. Make choices you can make peace with today that will position you for success tomorrow.

**Visit [UFCU.org/Cards](https://UFCU.org/Cards), call (800) 252-8311, or stop by any financial center to learn more. A representative can review your credit score, answer any questions, and help you find your path to credit card zen.**

# Annual Meeting and Election of Directors

An election for four places on the Board of Directors is scheduled on April 6, 2020, in conjunction with the UFCU Annual Meeting.

Chairman of the Board D Michael Harris appointed a Governance/Nominating Committee chaired by Molly Beth Malcolm, EdD, LPC. The Committee nominated the following Members to serve as UFCU Directors for three-year terms, respectively: Thomas J Ardis, MBA, Leslie L Blanke, PhD, D Michael Harris, PhD, CPA.CITP, and David W Niesel, PhD. UFCU bylaws permit other nominations by petition if signed by 500 qualified Members and, together with a statement of qualifications and signed certificate stating the nominee is agreeable to such nomination and will serve if elected, is submitted to the office of the Director, Assurance Services by 5 PM Central Standard Time on February 6, 2020. The election will be conducted by mail ballot only if there exists one or more petition candidates. Bylaws do not allow nominations from the floor at the annual meeting when one or more candidates exist for each open position.

For more information about the election process, including how to obtain related documents, please contact the office of the Director, Assurance Services at (800) 252-8311 or (512) 467-8080 x 22312.

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## Annual Meeting

Monday, April 6, 2020 | 5:30 PM

UFCU Plaza Event Center | 8303 N MoPac Expy, Austin, TX

The following candidates are nominated to fill three-year terms, set to expire in 2023:



**Thomas J Ardis, MBA**, is President of SUMMAWeb, an internet domain name registrar. Formerly a Registered Investment Advisor, Ardis was also business manager for The University of Texas at Austin, The University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, and The University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. A UFCU Member since 1979, Mr Ardis has served nine years on the Supervisory Committee, eight as Chairman. He has been a Member of the Board of Directors since 1996, serving as Chairman and on the Executive, ALCO/Budget, Technology, Governance/Nominating, Futurist and Banking for Good committees. Mr Ardis favors a strategic balance between dividend and loan rates and expanded investment in both physical locations and electronic services to maintain the highest-quality Member experience. He encourages continued, controlled growth to expand membership. He actively supports initiatives by the national credit union community to thwart efforts by commercial bankers to restrict credit union membership.



**Leslie L Blanke, PhD**, is an Adjunct Professor of Economics at St Edward's University and the Concordia University MBA program. Dr Blanke received a BA in Economics from Tufts University and began her career in product-level financial analysis for Hallmark Cards. She completed her PhD in Economics from Southern Methodist University and, after graduation, began a litigation consulting practice through the Forensic and Litigation Services Practice of KPMG. Dr Blanke is the current UFCU Board treasurer and chair of the Asset and Liability Management Committee, and she has served on the UFCU Supervisory Committee. She is the former chair and former treasurer of the St Michael's Catholic Academy Board of Trustees, and the former chair and a current Member of the Assets Committee at St Michael's. She is the former chair of the St Austin Catholic Parish Investment Committee and former co-chair of the local Tufts University Alumni Admissions Network chapter. Dr Blanke believes in listening to the voice of the Member. She encourages progress through innovation and has a passion for providing service to our Members and our community outside of traditional norms.



**D Michael Harris, PhD, CPA.CITP**, is Managing Member of Harris Queza & Company, PLLC, a public accounting firm with clients across the country and abroad. Formerly a tenured Professor of Accounting at St Edward's University, Dr Harris joined St Edward's after a business career of almost 30 years, serving primarily as senior financial executive in a variety of companies across several industries. Dr Harris has served on UFCU's Board of Directors since 2007. He is a Director of several privately held companies and donates his expertise freely with pro bono tax consulting as well as serving as President and Director for Stanley Hills Homeowner Association in Estes Park, Colorado. He also serves as Director and Treasurer of the nonprofit Susan Poorman Blackie Ovarian Cancer Foundation, and Director and Treasurer of the nonprofit Texas Beta Students Aid Fund. He served on the UFCU Supervisory Committee before his election to the Board of Directors.



**David W Niesel, PhD**, is the Senior Vice President and Dean and Associate Chief Research Officer of The University of Texas Medical Branch Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. He was chairman of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology for 14 years, during which time he led his department to a top 10 ranking among Microbiology and Immunology departments, nationally. Dr Niesel is cocreator of Medical Discovery News, a national and international radio show that is broadcast weekly on more than 100 radio stations. A weekly column is also published in four Texas newspapers (Galveston, Corpus Christi, Abilene, and Del Rio). He is an author of more than 65 publications and holds four patents. As Associate Chief Research Officer for the university, he helps manage all aspects of the \$140 million biomedical research enterprise at UTMB. Dr Niesel has been a UFCU Member since 1980, and has served on the Board of Directors of UFCU since 2014. Board committee service includes the UFCU ALCO/Budget Committee, Futurist Committee, Governance and Nominating Committee, and Ad Hoc Social Purpose Committee. He believes in the philosophy and outlook of the credit union movement and its Members-first focus. Dr Niesel is dedicated to helping UFCU advance as a leader in Texas and the country.

# Committed to Community Prosperity

At UFCU, our vision is a financially healthy community. Here's what we've been working on to help our communities thrive:

- A new instant-issue debit card solution that allows Members to receive new or replacement chip-enabled debit cards that are fully functional within one business day.
- A modernized online loan application with a streamlined process that delivers an immediate approval response and 24/7 access to proof of financing.
- An expanded financial health program that delivers seminars, educational content, and community outreach.
- Our new Southpark Meadows location (opening in Spring 2020).

And here's what others had to say about us in 2019:

- The Austin Business Journal ranked us the #1 Credit Union and #1 Mortgage Producer for the fourth consecutive year.
- The Austin American-Statesman readers voted us "Best Mortgage Lender" and "Best Bank" in their 2019 Best of the Best Awards.
- Forbes® designated UFCU one of the top five credit unions in Texas.
- The Austin Chamber of Commerce designated UFCU an Education Champion in the category of College and Career Mentoring/Experience.

None of it would be possible without our outstanding Members. Thank you for your membership!



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