

Alumni Newsletter

VOLUME I/ISSUE III

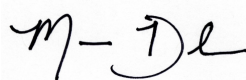
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DEAR ALUMNI,

In this third issue, we are proud to announce the appointment of eight remarkable individuals as our inaugural alumni ambassadors—each a living legacy of excellence. These ambassadors are more than representatives; they are embodiments of the university's enduring impact, carrying their education into the world with purpose and pride.

This pioneering group includes three men and five women, each bringing unique perspectives shaped by varied levels of experience across industries—from counseling and

business to healthcare, finance, and marketing. Together, they reflect the full spectrum of our academic programs to our growing alumni network. Their stories are a testament to the transformative power of our institution—and a beacon for what lies ahead.



Masac Durlouis, MBA - Recruiter & Alumni Coordinator

SHARE YOUR SUCCESS!

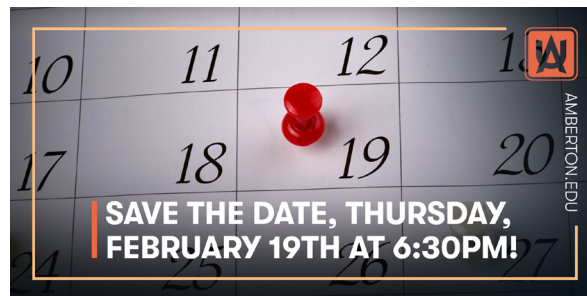
We would love to hear about your new job opportunities, promotions, and career success! Your achievements not only inspire fellow Amberton alumni but also enrich our community by showcasing the diverse paths our graduates take. Whether you've landed a new role, received a well-deserved promotion, or embarked on an exciting new venture, sharing your story can motivate others and strengthen our network. Please take a moment to update us on your professional milestones; we are eager to celebrate your accomplishments and highlight them in our upcoming communications. Your journey is a testament to the impact of our shared experience, and we can't wait to share in your success!

Alumni@Amberton.edu



UPCOMING NETWORK EVENT

SAVE THE DATE! The next alumni networking event will be held on Thursday, February 19th at 6:30pm. Specific event details will be released in January. Visit www.Amberton.edu/alumni/ to learn more about how you can stay informed and get involved!



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

INTRODUCING OUR INAUGURAL ALUMNI AMBASSADORS



ALUMNI AMBASSADOR



MS. ALISON ROSS-HOOKER

AMBERTON ALUMNI - M.S. HUMAN RELATIONS & BUSINESS / '08
M.A. PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING / '19

A two-time Amberton graduate, Alison Ross-Hooker exemplifies the power of lifelong learning and professional excellence! As Manager of Risk Intelligence Compliance for the London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG), Alison leads initiatives that strengthen regulatory compliance, fraud prevention, and identity authentication—skills sharpened through Amberton’s career-focused programs in Professional Counseling and Human Relations & Business. Her leadership journey includes over a decade of experience spanning compliance management, customer operations, and corporate risk intelligence. Alison credits Amberton’s flexible, high-quality education with equipping her to lead teams, build trusted relationships, and approach challenges with both analytical precision and empathy. Her deep commitment to professional growth and faith-driven service extends beyond the workplace through her involvement at Trinity Christian Worship’s Pathfinder Bible Study.

Alison seeks to serve as an Alumni Ambassador to help others discover how Amberton University transforms ambition into achievement—empowering working adults to advance, lead, and give back.



MR. ROBERT BRALEY

AMBERTON ALUMNI - B.S. HUMAN RELATIONS & BUSINESS / '19
M.B.A. STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP / '20

A two-time Amberton graduate, Robert Braley, Executive Director of The Preserve at Spring Creek in Garland, Texas, exemplifies compassionate leadership in senior living. With more than 13 years of experience, Robert has devoted his career to creating purposeful, person-centered communities, drawing inspiration from his grandfather’s battle with Alzheimer’s disease. A Certified Dementia Practitioner and Montessori-styled lifestyle trainer with two degrees from Amberton University, he has guided teams with integrity, empathy, and strategic vision. As a proud graduate of Amberton University’s MBA in Strategic Leadership program—and part of a true Amberton legacy, with both parents earning MBAs and his wife, Kaycee Braley, completing her bachelor’s degree at Amberton—Robert credits the university with equipping him to lead with purpose and heart. His story demonstrates how Amberton empowers working professionals to transform passion into impact.

Robert’s desire to serve as an Alumni Ambassador is driven by his gratitude to the university that helped shape his leadership journey and his passion for inspiring the next generation of Amberton graduates.



MS. SARAH TIRMENSTEIN

AMBERTON ALUMNI - M.A. SCHOOL COUNSELING / '24

For Sarah Tirmenstein, Amberton University is more than an alma mater—it's part of her family's story. As the daughter and granddaughter of longtime Amberton staff members, she grew up witnessing the university's dedication to lifelong learning and service. That legacy inspired her own pursuit of higher education at Amberton, where she deepened her understanding of human behavior and compassionate leadership. Today, Sarah serves as a School Counselor at Huffman Elementary and is the author of *The Fabulous Life of Pineapple: Based on True Events*, a children's book that reflects her creativity. Amberton's values of integrity, purpose, and balance continue to guide her both personally and professionally, shaping how she connects with students and the community.

Sarah plans to serve as an Alumni Ambassador to honor her family's legacy, give back through mentorship, and help strengthen the Amberton University community.



MS. ANN MARIE GOMEZ-BURRESON

AMBERTON ALUMNI - M.B.A. STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP / '23

Ann Marie Gomez-Burreson exemplifies the drive and perseverance of Amberton University graduates. With an accomplished career in marketing and healthcare leadership, she has held key roles, including Senior Director of Marketing at Healthcare Highways, Program Director of Marketing Growth at Southwestern Health Resources, and Director of Digital and Integrated Marketing at Methodist Healthcare System. Her strategic insight and expertise in digital engagement, data analytics, and brand development have helped organizations achieve measurable success. Ann Marie was inspired to pursue her MBA after watching her husband, Erick Burreson, complete his graduate degree at Amberton—a testament to how the university's supportive and flexible programs empower working professionals to reach new heights. She describes her Amberton experience as both transformative and deeply rewarding, providing the confidence and skills to lead with vision and purpose.

Ann Marie Gomez seeks to serve as an Alumni Ambassador to share her experience with prospective students, participate in university events, and represent Amberton professionally with pride and enthusiasm.



MS. ELSY CARRANZA

AMBERTON ALUMNI - M.B.A. STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP / '11

For Elsy Carranza, Amberton University was more than a place to earn a degree—it was a lifeline of opportunity. Fourteen years ago, as a young mother balancing a full-time job, a newborn, and a preschooler, Elsy discovered Amberton's flexible and affordable programs at a time when online education was rare. The university's innovative model made it possible for her to complete her degree on her own schedule, without sacrificing her family or her goals. Today, Elsy serves as Bursar at Amberton University, bringing her story full circle. Her career includes leadership and consulting roles with Dallas College, Regions Electric Inc., and LC Business Group, where she continues to empower others through financial education and business development. An immigrant who sought refuge and built a successful career through education, Elsy is a true testament to perseverance and purpose.

Elsy seeks to serve as an Alumni Ambassador to share her journey, support working adults, and proudly represent Amberton's mission of accessible, life-changing education.



MR. PAUL TOOKE

AMBERTON ALUMNI - M.S. HUMAN RELATIONS & BUSINESS / '25

Paul Tooke embodies the spirit of lifelong learning that defines Amberton University. Drawn to the M.S. in Human Relations and Business program for its unique mix of communication and business courses, Paul expanded his professional toolkit while deepening his passion for connecting with others. Paul is also part of our Amberton staff! He began his Amberton career as an Academic Advisor and now serves as a Recruiter and Enrollment Management Specialist—roles that allow him to guide and empower working adults to achieve their educational goals. Paul credits Amberton's organized, real-world curriculum and exceptional faculty for shaping his professional confidence and problem-solving abilities. Beyond work, he continues to channel his creativity as a drummer and community contributor.

Paul seeks to serve as an Alumni Ambassador to share how Amberton's flexible, career-driven programs empower working professionals to advance their education and transform their lives—just as he has.



MS. DAWN JAMES-RUSSELL

AMBERTON ALUMNI - M.S. HUMAN RELATIONS & BUSINESS / '18
M.A. MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPY / '23

Dawn James-Russell is a proud two-time Amberton University graduate whose decade-long academic journey—spanning from 2012 to 2023—reflects her deep dedication to growth and lifelong learning. Through Amberton's flexible and student-centered approach, Dawn found not only academic excellence but meaningful mentorship from professors such as Dr. Ken Johnson and Dr. Don Hebbard, who inspired her both professionally and personally. Her leadership and entrepreneurial spirit led to her selection by Dr. Steven Tidwell and Dr. Blair Stephenson to serve on Amberton's Business Advisory Board, a testament to her lasting contributions to the university community. Beyond Amberton, Dawn is the founder of Glow Girl Global and owner of A Second Chance Class, initiatives that empower individuals to rebuild and thrive.

Dawn seeks to serve as an Alumni Ambassador to advance Amberton's mission, share its transformative impact, and represent the university's excellence throughout the DFW Metroplex.



MR. CHUCK KOBDISH, D.C.

AMBERTON ALUMNI - M.S. HUMAN RELATIONS & BUSINESS / '96

For Chuck Kobdish, Amberton University was the spark that turned ambition into achievement! Earning his M.S. in Human Relations and Business in 1996 provided the foundation he needed to grow as a professional, a leader, and a business owner. Today, Chuck is the Board Chair of the Greater East Dallas Chamber of Commerce and a successful chiropractor whose work reflects the same values Amberton instilled—integrity, purpose, and lifelong learning. Balancing a full-time career and family, he found Amberton's flexible, affordable programs to be the perfect fit for working adults seeking advancement without compromise. Nearly three decades later, Chuck continues to credit his Amberton education as the turning point that gave him the tools and confidence to serve his community and lead with impact.

Chuck seeks to serve as an Alumni Ambassador to help strengthen Amberton's alumni network, support fellow graduates, and share how the university empowers working professionals to achieve their goals.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

MS. LAMETRA OFF

AMBERTON ALUMNI - M.S. HUMAN RESOURCE TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT / '17

Stepping away from her office and executive suite clients, alum and life coach, Lametra Off showed up in a way many of us can use as motivation—volunteering with the Amberton University staff. This year's service event took place at Trusted World, a non-profit in Garland, Texas, that supports people and organizations in need. A veteran, Lametra knows a thing or two about coming dressed to serve. Wearing her company-embroidered t-shirt, destroyed jeans, and bright sneakers fitting her personality, she injected energy and charisma into helping organize clothing donations into proportioned bundles of hope. **The United Way, a sponsor of Trusted World, reported in 2019 that 42% of Texas families fail to make enough to cover the basics.** Often overlooked is how offsetting expenses for clothing can help budget constraints on childcare, food, healthcare, and transportation. In less than two hours, our team had done enough to help 20 households! Amberton University is taking another approach to strengthening local communities. In the spring, we launched **new non-profit management courses** with the goal of preparing individuals to create, manage, and strategically lead these organizations. Visit our course guide to view all of our latest offerings.



NEW CERTIFICATE IN GERIATRIC HEALTHCARE

Did you know that Amberton University offers over 30 certificates?



Geriatric Healthcare Graduate Certificate

The Graduate Certificate in Geriatric Healthcare is ideal for Amberton students who desire to enhance their personal and workplace influence in the Healthcare field with a focus on geriatric care. The curriculum focuses on the fundamental skills necessary to understand and convey the appropriate use of healthcare for patients of advanced age.

Courses Required

HCA5910	Population Health	3 Hours
HCA5930	Quality Improvement	3 Hours
HBD6768	Aging with Dignity	3 Hours
PSY5735	Perspectives on Death & Dying	3 Hours

AMBERTON UNIVERSITY MERCHANDISE

We have a new source dedicated to selling alumni merchandise, allowing graduates to showcase their school pride with style. This merchant offers a diverse range of products, including polos, tees, and hoodies, as well as accessories that reflect the spirit of Amberton University. Our hope is that our alumni can find unique items that resonate with their experience here at Amberton. Whether you're looking for casual wear or commemorative pieces, this site encourages alumni to "wear it proudly" and celebrate your academic achievements.

<https://www.spiritshop.com/my-shop/amberton-university-alumni>



AMBERTON UNIVERSITY IN THE NEWS

1. <https://portlandnews.com/amberton-university-continues-to-redefine-higher-education-for-working-adults/>
2. <https://miamiwire.com/amberton-university-integrates-ai-into-each-course-after-new-curriculum-update/>
3. <https://texastoday.com/ambertons-third-president-ushers-in-a-new-era-of-accountability-and-innovation/>
4. <https://nywire.com/amberton-university-a-practical-approach-to-revitalizing-higher-education/>
5. <https://cagazette.com/reviving-common-sense-in-higher-education-the-leaders-behind-amberton-university/>
6. <https://theamericannews.com/amberton-university-launches-applied-ai-degree/>
7. <https://wallstreettimes.com/amberton-universitys-new-president-leads-thoughtful-revamp-of-programs-and-priorities/>
8. <https://usreporter.com/amberton-university-continues-to-redefine-higher-education-for-working-adults/>
9. <https://lawire.com/amberton-university-leads-the-way-for-working-adults-seeking-flexible-degrees/>
10. <https://sanfranciscopost.com/amberton-university-tackles-rising-tuition-and-irrelevant-degrees-with-a-smarter-model/>
11. <https://usinsider.com/amberton-university-becomes-a-fully-ai-literate-campus/>
12. <https://nyweekly.com/education/no-tenure-no-fluff-how-amberton-university-is-redefining-student-value/>
13. <https://atlwire.com/reviving-common-sense-in-higher-education-the-leaders-behind-amberton-university/>
14. <https://thechicagojournal.com/amberton-university-expanding-texas-mental-health-education-excellence/>



Alumni Questionnaire

SURVEY SAYS—At Amberton University, your voice matters. Be among the first to fill out the survey on the Alumni Association page. Your feedback can help shape the future of this organization and how we recognize the achievements of our graduates. We value your input and look forward to hearing from you!

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Connect with us on social media! Following our official accounts is a fantastic way to stay updated on the latest news, events, and projects here at Amberton University. By joining us online, you can engage with fellow alumni, share your experiences, and celebrate the successes of our institution together. Your support helps us foster a vibrant network that continues to thrive long after graduation. Don't miss out on the opportunity to be part of our community—follow us today and stay connected!

<https://linktr.ee/AmbertonUniversity>



FUN CORNER

Amberton University will be the university of choice for working adults, offering high-quality, flexible, and accessible education through career-focused certificates, bachelor's, and advanced degree programs—empowering students to succeed without the burden of student debt.



CLOSING REMARKS

With so much to celebrate—from our brand new Alumni Ambassador Program and the latest academic offerings, to the exciting alumni networking event coming up on February 19th—it's truly an energizing time for our university.

Amberton University is proud of its amazing 50-plus year history, built on a foundation of academic excellence, integrity, and service to students. While we honor this tradition, we are passionately committed to building upon it—adapting and pivoting to meet the ever-changing demands of today's industry and the needs of our students. By developing innovative programs and staying deeply connected to workforce trends, Amberton continues to equip graduates for success in the modern professional world. There are many more exciting changes and additions ahead!

Thank you for being such wonderful representatives of our academic community. Your enthusiasm, support, and pride help make Amberton the special place it is. We can't wait to see what we accomplish together in the future. I hope to see many of you in person soon!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Carol A. Palmer".

Dr. Carol A. Palmer - President

