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When I gave my annual State of the University address in September, there was much for the UTEP family to celebrate. For the past 15 years, UTEP has been far ahead of the curve in anticipating and meeting the educational challenges that are just now becoming a priority on the national agenda.

As the largest Mexican-American-majority research university in the United States, UTEP is a model for universities and colleges that find themselves playing catch-up in a changing America. The story is in the statistics: In 2000, Hispanics represented 32 percent of the total population of Texas, up from 25.5 percent in 1990, and demographic projections suggest that this rapid growth will continue. By 2005, minorities will constitute a majority of the Texas population, and Hispanics will comprise the largest group.

**People are our society’s most important resource.**

What is alarming is that the fastest-growing segment of America’s population has also been the least likely to pursue higher education. In Texas, the situation is more critical than in other large states because the overall college participation rate is lower than in those states, and that rate is actually declining. Higher education is far more than an individual benefit; it is critical to our social and economic development. If Texas expects to be competitive economically, more Texans — and especially more Hispanic Texans — are going to have to earn university degrees.

UTEP is already recognized for its success in providing higher education opportunities to first-generation Hispanic students. In this issue of NOVA Quarterly, you will learn about the substantial progress that UTEP has made in increasing student enrollment and progress toward graduation, in developing new academic programs, and successfully competing for research funding. The statewide goals outlined in the recent Closing the Gaps report of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board have long been a priority on this campus.

If there is agreement that Texas’ future rests on a better-educated population, UTEP and other public universities in Texas must be viewed as a major investment opportunity. We will join other higher education representatives in communicating that important message to members of the 78th Texas Legislature, who begin their work in January 2003. Although the state’s current revenue estimates may not be rosy, we cannot afford not to invest in higher education, for it represents the single most critical pathway to the future prosperity of Texas and this nation.

People are our society’s most important resource. All of us at UTEP are privileged to participate in the educational development of talented young people who come to us with their dreams. We know from the success of our graduates that we are making a significant contribution not only to their lives, but to the development of this region and beyond. There can be no more satisfying accomplishment than that!

— Diana Natalicio
The University shines year round, but the campus lights up each winter through the UTEP Alumni Association’s Season of Lights, a holiday tradition celebrating its 10th anniversary.

Cover design by Bobby Daniels.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
UTEP is ahead of the curve in anticipating and meeting educational challenges fast becoming part of the national agenda. To maintain that progress, however, the 78th Legislature that goes into session in January must be educated on our successes as well as our needs.

14 ATHLETICS
The UTEP women’s basketball coach pushes hard work and a “never say die” attitude. Plus: Texas-rooted Billy Gillispie is the new man on campus. The Miner’s 15th men’s basketball coach hopes to score in his first season. By Megan E. Baeza.

16 HIGHLIGHTS
Top-name concerts — from Shakira to Cher — come to UTEP for sold-out performances... The women’s soccer team and its coach end their season with top honors... UTEP’s Mother-Daughter Program and its director earn top honors for closing the gaps in education.

18 ALUMNEWS
Wanted: Distinguished alumni who inspire students and bestow pride on the University... Want one? The 2002 Collectible is now available.

20 ALUMNOTES
The UTEP and El Paso communities lose two of their own — advertising guru and civic leader Richard W. Mithoff and Jim “Bad News” Barnes, a leading rebounder and scorer for the Miner’s basketball team. The two former Miners leave their legends behind. By Walli Haley.

The university plays a critical role in strengthening the region’s economy, according to a recent study conducted by the UTEP Institute of Policy and Economic Development. UTEP employs more than 2,300 full-time faculty and staff and has an annual operating budget of nearly $200 million, becoming one of El Paso’s strongest economic forces. It trails only the El Paso and Ysleta independent school districts, Fort Bliss, the City of El Paso, Sierra Providence Health Network and the El Paso Community College.

The university also provides its more than 17,000 students an opportunity to earn an academic degree and in turn an opportunity to earn a higher income.

Directly or indirectly, UTEP’s presence increases local business revenue, contributes to household income, augments the lending capacity of local banks and generates additional employment in the region.

The IPED study, conducted last year under the direction of Dennis Soden, executive director of the institute, and David Schauer, associate professor of economics and finance, surveyed UTEP faculty, staff and students about their spending patterns.

Soden explains that UTEP - through direct purchases of goods and services and as a result of the “multiplier effect” - creates $348 million in local business volume. One way to describe the multiplier effect is by using an example of a UTEP employee who buys new clothes for her children. The money the store takes in as a result of the sale helps pay for the store’s employees’ salaries, rental space and property taxes.

The multiplier effect also applies to state funding. Given a state-funding base of $76 million, each $1 of state support to UTEP generates $4.60 in additional business volume/sales in the regional economy, said Soden.

In addition to this increase on sales volume, another $103 million in local business property and capital goods has been utilized as a result of UTEP’s role in the area economy. UTEP
employees also contribute to the available credit base in El Paso. Through savings and checking deposits, UTEP employees help to expand the local credit base by $35 million.

Additional impacts stem from the income and spending of UTEP, its employees and students. Overall, regional personal income increases $228 million and 4,871 full-time jobs are generated given the university's presence in the region.

As a result, UTEP accounts for approximately 1.5 percent of income and 3.5 percent of total regional sales volume in the local business sector. And, based on state appropriations to UTEP, area income increased $3 for every $1 of state funding.

But perhaps more crucial than boosting the region's economic power is UTEP's role in fostering what is known as "human capital."

"Using conservative estimates, the average UTEP graduate will add $419,000 to the global economy and $364,000 to the local economy as a result of the education she or he has received," said Soden.

"Based on UTEP's state funding formula per student, this is a 13 to 1 return for a student graduating after six years and staying in the region - an excellent investment of tax dollars."

Bob Cook, president and chief executive officer of the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce, said UTEP's contributions go beyond dollars.

"Beyond the impact of the university on the community, providing a portion of the community's workforce through graduates across all disciplines, UTEP's contribution extends to our region's cultural offerings. My wife and I have been to numerous plays, football and basketball games, which contributes to quality of life in El Paso."

The study also revealed that government plays an important role in providing UTEP valuable capital facilities and infrastructure, as well as a range of municipal services. Even after accounting for taxes paid by UTEP employees, and government...
entitlements granted to people in the region, the government provides an additional $16 million in ongoing services.

Local governments also provide infrastructure investments of approximately $35 million due to UTEP’s presence.

"While this appears significant, upon examination, we see that for every $1 of local government services, $21 of increased sales volume is generated, along with associated sales taxes. In addition, for every $1 of governmental capital investment, the local business sector acquires or increases its net capital investment by $3," Soden said.

UTEP’s growth also means growth for other area businesses. In the next three years, UTEP plans more than $45.5 million in new construction. These projects will create 606 new jobs - primarily in the construction sector - and will add $23 million to the gross regional product.

"As the university remodels and grows, these effects will continue to provide added value in the region," Soden said.

UTEP anticipates dramatic student growth as part of a statewide increase in college enrollments. With a target of enrolling more than 23,500 students by 2015, UTEP will add $97 million to the gross regional product, resulting in increases in almost all parts of the regional economy, and creating growth that results in 18,000 new jobs.

The Chamber’s Cook said the university has also worked with the community by creating programs needed to improve the city’s image and attract new businesses to it.

“UTEP is very responsive to the need to create an executive education program for entry and mid-level management. The university’s executive MBA program now getting established will really enhance the reputation of our community and give us another tool to recruit high-level industry and corporations to El Paso," Cook said. “When a university is sensitive to the needs of the business community, it has a great impact.”

The IPED study didn’t consider the impact of visitors to the region given UTEP’s sporting events and other ticket events; the impact of UTEP retirees in the region; or the value of UTEP with respect to externally funded research, or contributions to technology and industry partnerships. These activities are presently being examined by IPED and will be released in 2003.

### Projected Impacts

**Incremental Construction Impact through 2005.**

- $45.5 Million in Construction,
- 606 New Jobs, $23 Million in Additional Real Gross Regional Product

**Incremental Student Impact at 100% of Enrollment Estimate (23,621 by 2015)**

- 18,000 New Jobs, $97 Million in Additional Real Gross Regional Product

### Human Capital Investments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Addition to Global Stock of Human Capital per 2,000 UTEP Graduates</th>
<th>$838 million</th>
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<tr>
<td>Incremental Human Capital per Graduate</td>
<td>$419,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Incremental Global Human Capital/UTEP State Funding</td>
<td>15 to 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Addition to Regional Stock of Human Capital per 2,000 UTEP Graduates</td>
<td>$729 million</td>
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<td>13 to 1</td>
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Dennis Soden and Mike Acosta: Public Policy & Economic Development along the border

From small business lending in Texas to children’s health in El Paso, the Institute for Policy and Economic Development conducts research and gathers data to arm the public with vital information on issues that face the region.

Executive Director Dennis Soden and Associate Director Mike Acosta spearhead the institute, a union of various organizations, including the Texas Center for Border Economic Development, Center for Western Hemispheric Trade, Public Policy Research Center, Regional Economic Modeling Project, NAFTA Intermodal Transportation Institute and the Survey Research Center.

The institute’s focus areas include economic development, technology and business, region modeling, trade and transportation, survey research and public policy research.

The institute serves as a “think tank,” working on research projects, including quality of life in El Paso studies; base mapping, housing inventory, population and land use of the city of Socorro, Texas; and the role of Fort Bliss in the regional economy.

“We provide one-stop shopping for the community,” says Soden. “Our role is to serve as a (research) broker between the university and the community.”

Acosta added that over the years, the institute has assisted the chambers of commerce in El Paso develop strategies for small businesses and introduced them to the latest in information technology products and services.

“We have integrated ourselves into the fabric of our business community,” says Acosta.

Both Acosta and Soden have connected with the El Paso and UTEP communities.

Acosta returned to his native El Paso and to his alma mater in 1994 after working with IBM for more than 20 years. He earned a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from UTEP in 1971.

Acosta has been instrumental in the El Paso community as a member of various organizations, including the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce. He also is a coordinator for the Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards Conference and co-founder of the El Paso Chapter of the Texas Alliance for Minorities in Engineering, a math and science youth outreach organization.

Acosta is about to complete a project for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development titled Border Development Alliance.

UTEP took the lead on a two-year study of industry with other Texas border universities, including the University of Texas-Pan American and the University of Texas at Brownsville. The study focused on declining industries, prospering industries and what the future holds for technology-led industry along the border.

“The community is responding to the fact that we have the expertise and that we can do a variety of socioeconomic projects. We are starting to get the flow of organizations — not only local, but state, federal and national organizations — coming to us with projects,” Acosta says.

Soden added that local government agencies and organizations often look to the institute for data to use in proposal and grant writing.

“If we don’t do anything but get the community using the same data, that is a major accomplishment,” Soden says.

Soden, a California native, came to UTEP from the University of Nevada at Las Vegas where he was also a research center director and an environmental studies professor. He earned his bachelor’s degree in natural resource economics in 1975 and his master’s degree in international relations in 1978 from the University of California-Riverside and the University of Southern California, respectively.

In 1985, Soden earned his doctorate in political science from Washington State University. He has had numerous book chapters and articles published in notable journals, including the Journal of Environmental Education and the National Social Science Journal.

“In time, we see the institute as becoming the economic development office of the university,” Soden says. “We have had a tremendous amount of support from the president (Natalicio). She has really let us run and take the lead, and define where we need to go.”
FALL CONVOCATION: STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY, FALL 2002

by UTEP President Diana Natalicio
CLOSING THE GAPS: UTEP AS A MODEL INSTITUTION

For years, The University of Texas at El Paso has been at the forefront of an educational movement coined “closing the gaps.” As the inequalities, or gaps, in education and income levels among diverse groups of residents reach a critical point, UTEP is representative of the issues — and more importantly, the solutions — facing the state and the nation.

MIRRORING DEMOGRAPHICS

For many years, we have claimed that UTEP is a model for what other higher education institutions must become in the future.

Recent analyses of data from the 2000 U.S. Census reveal trends in Texas, and indeed across the United States, that suggest that this is far more than a bold institutional assertion. The population of this state and this country is changing rapidly, and Hispanics represent the fastest growing segment.

In Texas, for example, Hispanics accounted for 25.5 percent of the total population in 1990; by 2000, Hispanics represented 32 percent, and demographic projections suggest that this rapid growth will continue. By 2005, minorities will constitute a majority of the Texas population, and Hispanics will represent 40 percent of the total.

These population trends have captured the attention of elected officials, business leaders, and educators throughout the country, not only because of the startling demographic shifts that they represent, but also because of their clear implications for future economic competitiveness and quality of life.

Indeed, one of the most sobering aspects of these data is that the fastest-growing segment of the population is also the lowest in educational attainment. In Texas, the situation is even more critical than in other large states. The overall college participation rate in Texas is lower than in those states, and that rate is declining. Steve Murdock, chief demographer of the Texas State Data Center, has observed that, “If participation and graduation rates remain low, the poverty rate in Texas will increase by 3 percent and the average Texas household income will decline by $3,000 in constant dollars by 2030.”

Closing the gaps

Recognizing the impending crisis in Texas if current trends are not reversed, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board issued a report titled, “Closing the Gaps,” which charts a statewide plan for meeting four major goals by the year 2015:

1. Closing the gaps in student participation by increasing higher education enrollment by 500,000;
2. Closing the gaps in student success by increasing the number of degrees, certificates and related higher education attainments;
3. Closing the gaps in research by increasing the level of federal science and engineering research funding to Texas institutions by 50 percent; and
4. Closing the gaps in excellence by substantially increasing the number of nationally recognized programs or services at Texas universities and colleges.

Many of the issues with which the state is now attempting to grapple have been on UTEP’s radar screen for quite some time. El Paso’s demographic changes were at the forefront of what is now occurring across Texas and across the entire nation. The UTEP 2001 Commission’s report in 1990 and UTEP’s ongoing strategic planning have consistently recognized these demographic trends, and we have worked to incorporate them into program and policy development on this campus.

What is interesting is how closely the coordinating board’s goals track what UTEP has worked so hard to achieve during the past 15 years. Although we did not coin the phrase “closing the gaps,” we have certainly been busy doing just that. Within the context of major demographic changes, UTEP has confronted issues of human and economic development, of competitiveness and quality of life, well in advance of other institutions and now serves as a model for them. We are not only at the forefront of demographic trends, but also leading higher education’s response to them.
Last year’s convocation focused on the university’s decade-long effort to respond to the goals expressed in the 1990 report of the UTEP 2001 Commission. Those accomplishments serve as a solid foundation upon which to build UTEP’s future, and they have provided us a head start in responding to the coordinating board’s goal of “Closing the Gaps.”

UTEP is strides ahead in achieving the four goals identified by the coordinating board — participation, success, research and excellence.

GOAL I: PARTICIPATION

Enrollment trends
UTEP enrollment has grown significantly during the past two years. Fall 2002 head count enrollment totals 17,232 — a 6 percent increase over fall 2001 and the highest enrollment ever at UTEP. This substantial increase in enrollment means that more residents of the El Paso-Juárez region are pursuing higher education, an absolutely essential ingredient to this area’s future development. From a “Closing the Gaps” perspective, fall 2002 enrollment has already surpassed the forecast for 2005, and is within 300 students of exceeding the total enrollment projected for 2010.

Reflecting the growing trend of women outnumbering men enrolled in higher education, 55 percent of UTEP students are female.

Graduate enrollment increased by 10.5 percent this year to a record-high 2,848, including 234 doctoral degree students.

Consistent with the demographics of the region we are here to serve, 81 percent of the university’s students come from El Paso County and 71 percent are Hispanic — contributing significantly to the state’s goal of encouraging more Hispanics to pursue post-secondary education.

UTEP accounts for approximately 13 percent of all Hispanic enrollments in Texas public universities, and is the only doctoral-research university in the United States with a Mexican-American majority student population.

UTEP’s enrollment also includes 1,749 students from Mexico, a 4 percent increase over last year. These students represent approximately 15 percent of all Mexican nationals enrolled in U.S. colleges and universities. This enrollment increase is all the more impressive because of the extraordinary challenges faced since 9/11 by the university’s Mexican students, most of whom commute daily. Crossing international bridges on a daily basis has never been easy, but added security precautions since 9/11 have created even more daunting challenges, including longer waits and changing regulations.

Recruitment and retention
Increased enrollment is the result of successful recruitment and retention. Students enrolled in elementary, middle and high schools throughout this region, whatever their ethnicity or financial means, must be encouraged to aspire to and prepare for higher education long before graduating from high school.

The El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence has been working for a decade to raise the academic achievement level of all area students and to close the achievement gap between Hispanic and Anglo children enrolled in area schools.

Playing its role in the collaborative, UTEP has worked hard to increase the production of teachers and to ensure that future teachers are well prepared and more likely to remain in the profession. Both the undergraduate teacher education and the alternative teacher certification programs have grown in enrollment, as UTEP attempts to meet the demand for teachers in regional school districts. Consistent with national trends, the demand for teachers continues to grow as local teachers leave the profession long before their expected retirement.

The collaborative’s success has become a national model for school-university partnerships. It is regarded as one of the few preK-16 partnerships that has been successful.
in improving student performance over a sustained period of time. UTEP is recognized as an institution that early on understood the importance of closely working with school districts and the El Paso Community College from which it draws the majority of its students.

**Financial aid and scholarships**

Complementing the collaborative’s work, UTEP staff and faculty are attempting to underscore with teachers, parents, and middle and high school students the importance of completing the recommended high school curriculum, which not only better prepares students for success at the university, but also determines eligibility for TEXAS grants.

These grants, sponsored by the Texas Legislature, provide students who qualify for federal financial aid with additional support to attend Texas colleges and universities. The socioeconomic background of most UTEP students makes them eligible for TEXAS grants if they successfully complete the recommended high school curriculum.

To spread the word about TEXAS grants and related financial aid, UTEP staff members in the admissions and recruitment, financial aid, and scholarships departments conduct workshops at high schools throughout El Paso County each year. Last year, 54 workshops were conducted at 34 high schools for more than 4,700 students and their parents.

The key message is that lack of financial resources should not be a barrier to enrollment at UTEP. The university awarded $48.5 million in financial aid during the past year, including $4.2 million in TEXAS grants alone. In addition, UTEP also awarded $4.9 million in scholarships during the past year.

Special attention has been focused during the past year on increasing scholarship support for students who transfer to UTEP from EPCC. Most scholarship support has traditionally been directed at incoming freshmen students, and students who choose to begin their post-secondary education at the college have not been eligible.

To encourage more EPCC students to pursue a bachelor’s degree, UTEP began in 1997 to interest donors in creating scholarships for transfer students with outstanding academic records at the college. Early support was received from Coca-Cola Bottling and Bank of America. More recently, the RGK Foundation has supported these efforts, and this year for the first time, UTEP received a generous commitment from the Wolslager Foundation.

**UTEP Financial Aid Summary Fiscal Year 2002**

**Fiscal Year 2002**

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<td>Federal/State Loans</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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The performance of EPCC transfer scholarship winners at UTEP has been outstanding. Of 64 recipients prior to this year’s awards, 27 have graduated and 37 are still enrolled — a 100 percent retention rate. Moreover, of the 27 who have already completed their bachelor’s degrees, 13 are enrolled in graduate school at UTEP.

Increased scholarship support is only one aspect of UTEP’s efforts to partner with EPCC to ensure a seamless higher education experience for the students we share and to encourage more students to pursue a degree.

**REACHING OUT**

Recruitment efforts focus on special populations that might not otherwise consider pursuing a degree. UTEP has a portfolio of highly successful outreach programs that help raise the educational aspirations of talented young people in high-risk populations: Upward Bound, High School Equivalency, Educational Talent Search, GEAR UP, Comprehensive Youth Services and National Youth Sports. Participation of another important group of students, the children of migrant farm workers, will be encouraged through the newly funded College Assistance for Migrants Program.

**GRANTS & AWARDS**

Many new grants were awarded to UTEP faculty and staff, representing a range of activity that is supported by federal agencies, foundations and corporations.

- Dr. Maria Amaya in the College of Health Sciences and Drs. Jorge Gardea-Torresdey and Nicholas Pingitore in the College of Science received a $1.8 million grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Science to conduct a broad-based study of lead levels in the blood of children in El Paso and Ciudad Juárez.
- Dr. Ryan Wicker in the College of Engineering was awarded a highly competitive $1 million grant from the Keck Foundation in Los Angeles to create the Border Biomedical Manufacturing and Engineering Laboratory, and to greatly expand the bioengineering capability of UTEP.
- The Rio Bosque Wetlands Park project near Socorro in El Paso’s Lower Valley, under program coordinator and manager John Sproul, was awarded more than $375,000 to help develop an education resources and visitor center, new hiking paths and parking facilities. The grants were awarded by the Meadows Foundation, the Paso del Norte Foundation, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and the Cinco Horas Foundation.

Technology has granted full accreditation to its Engineering and Computer Science programs through 2008.
offers noncredit enrichment programs to El Pasoans

ENRICHING LIVES

Chamizal treaty, shared the remarkable story of the peaceful resolution to the long-standing dispute between the United States and Mexico.

ENRICHING LIVES

CULTURE, CONCERTS AND MORE

UTEP is a major provider of cultural and arts programs to the El Paso-Juárez community.

- This year, the Dinner Theatre recorded the largest attendance in its highly successful 20-year history: 4,850 patrons attended its production of "The King and I."
- Gross ticket sales for UTEP events totaled $4.5 million last year, in spite of the post-9/11 downturn in the entertainment industry.
- UTEP recently attracted big-name concerts, and sold out three top acts: Enrique Iglesias featuring Paulina Rubio; two performances by Shakira; and Cher featuring Cyndi Lauper. Cher is scheduled to return to the Don Haskins Center on Feb. 2.

PROVOKING THOUGHT

The Millennium Lecture series has brought an interesting group of speakers to the UTEP campus to share their expertise and provoke thinking. Dr. Walter Persegati of the Vatican Museum in Rome spoke on the Sistine Chapel restoration to a standing-room-only crowd. Ambassador Frank Ortiz, architect of the Chamizal treaty, shared the remarkable story of the peaceful resolution to the long-standing boundary dispute between the United States and Mexico.

ENRICHING LIVES

UTEP's Center for Lifelong Learning, which offers noncredit enrichment programs to El Pasoans over the age of 50, has become the

continue their education. The university and college recently signed two agreements, one that authorizes a joint admissions application, both paper and Web based, and the second that permits full-time financial aid for students who are enrolled part-time at both institutions.

Another special population that has been the focus of attention this year is teacher aides in area schools. A year ago, UTEP joined with the community college in surveying teacher aides in all local school districts to ascertain their interest in pursuing degrees and becoming certified teachers. The response was overwhelmingly positive, and the two institutions then began the task of working with each of these teacher aides to develop a program matched to their prior educational experience and goals. This fall, 175 teacher aides are enrolled at EPCC and UTEP. We expect this program not only to increase the higher education participation of a group whose employment and family challenges previously precluded it, but also to help meet the demand for additional teachers for area schools.

Levels of degrees

New degree programs also contribute to increased participation. During the past year, UTEP has received approval to add several new programs at the bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree levels. At the bachelor's degree level, for example, UTEP is offering for the first time this fall a new degree in music theatre.

At the master's degree level, UTEP is offering a new program in the rapidly growing field of bioinformatics. A grant from the Sloan Foundation supported this cross-disciplinary program. New certificate programs were established in areas such as international manufacturing, Latin American studies and women's studies.

Three new doctoral proposals — in English, international business and civil engineering — were developed during the past year and recently approved by the U.T. System Board of Regents. They will be reviewed this year by the coordinating board, with an expectation that they will enroll their first students in fall 2003 and bring UTEP's total doctoral degree programs to 13.

Close attention to class scheduling has also contributed to increased participation at UTEP. The Provost's Office has worked with deans and faculty to develop more flexible class schedules that enable UTEP students to attend classes at times that may be more compatible with their often daunting family and employment responsibilities. Increased evening and weekend course offerings, such as engineering master's degree courses offered on Saturdays, enable working professionals to pursue their education and career goals.

Maymester and Wintermester courses, as well as a completely revamped summer calendar, offer students more enrollment options and enable them to move more efficiently toward completion of their degrees.

Although there is still work to be done to spread course offerings across the entire day, much progress has been achieved — and increased student participation is the result.

Technology has also helped enhance student participation at UTEP, primarily through the UT Telecampus. UTEP played a key role in developing and offering the online MBA program and the master's degree in kinesiology. This fall, a total of 282 students are enrolled in distance learning courses at UTEP, nearly 100 more than were enrolled last fall.

Increased student participation is also fostered through efficient and integrated student academic services. Significant progress has been achieved in consolidating enrollment and financial services through the University College. Although there is still much work to be done, particularly on the policy front, great strides have been made to design efficient and user-friendly procedures. Planning for the new Academic Services Building near Schuster and Hawthorne streets is well underway, and its location and reconfigured layout should enhance these consolidation efforts even more.

Trends in Number of Degrees Awarded

- Undergraduate
- Graduate

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Campus growth

Attractive campus facilities are also a factor in increasing student participation. Visitors repeatedly comment that UTEP's long-term commitment to Bhutanese-style architecture has created one of the most beautiful campuses in the United States.
During the past year, we have been quite busy acquiring property, completing construction, and planning for future development that will increase campus capacity for anticipated enrollment and research growth. UTEP recently purchased 4-1/2 acres of property between Sun Bowl Drive and Mesa Street. When vacated by Rudolph Chevrolet later this year, this property will provide much needed land for future expansion. We also completed the purchase of the Sun Bowl from El Paso County for $1,600, in what has already become a legendary real estate transaction. A highly satisfying byproduct was a partnership between UTEP and County Commissioners to award 10 scholarships each year to highly meritorious young people in El Paso County.

An extraordinary new building was added to the university this past year. The Larry K. Durham Sports Center has given a superb face lift to the north end of the Sun Bowl Stadium and created one of the finest intercollegiate athletics and kinesiology facilities in the country.

We have also engaged in extensive planning of new facilities during the past year, and the U.T. System Board of Regents recently approved three major construction projects. In addition to the Academic Services Building, we will begin construction next spring on a new Biosciences Building, which will be located adjacent to the current Biology Building. The new Biosciences Building will provide greatly needed research and teaching space for one of the fastest-growing fields on this campus and nationally. A major renovation of Seamon Hall, which was originally constructed in 1927 as a chemistry building and expanded with WPA funds during the 1930s, will be undertaken during the coming year to create new exhibition and studio space for the Art Department. In addition, we will soon request approval for the design of a major addition to the Engineering Building as we seek to expand teaching and research space for the growing programs in that college.

Finally, with significant input from students, faculty and staff, consultants have completed the Campus Master Plan, which will serve as a template for future development. Special attention will be directed this year at parking and traffic issues, which with enrollment growth, will become increasingly critical.

GOAL II: SUCCESS

Building on its participation goal, the coordinating board’s success goal calls for increasing the number of degrees and certificates awarded by Texas institutions. It is not enough to enroll more students, we must also work to ensure that a higher percentage of them successfully complete their educational programs. Indeed, a recent Pew study suggests that Hispanics in the United States participate in higher education at rates that exceed those of other ethnic groups, but their success in completing degrees falls far below that of their non-Hispanic counterparts.

Retention and graduation

Translated into the UTEP context, that means we must continue to provide support services to increase retention and develop strategies to increase efficiency in the completion of degrees and certificates. Many of the strategies that have already been mentioned as keys to increasing participation also serve to enhance student retention and degree completion.

For example, the flexible academic calendar and class schedule options that increase participation also enable working students, who are the vast majority of UTEP’s enrollment, to access the courses they need to make steady progress toward their degrees. The orientation, advising, and University Seminar features of the University College program not only encourage participation, but also help ensure that UTEP students have the support required to build a solid foundation for academic success.

Facilities can also play a role in fostering student retention and graduation.

Miner Village, the student apartment complex that opened a year ago, is filled to capacity this fall, confirming the projections of student demand. These attractive on-campus living accommodations provide students with all amenities, including access to the UTEP technology network and proximity to all campus facilities, as well as to the commercial and entertainment options in the neighborhood. Students’ lives can be far more efficient when they live on campus, and their full-time presence helps foster a more active campus climate for all students. Numerous visitors from other universities have confirmed that UTEP now has one of the most attractive and student-friendly residence hall complexes in the country. The complex has been so successful that there is already talk of Miner Village, Phase II!

Other on-campus services and activities also contribute to retention and success by helping students maintain balance in their lives and develop the interpersonal and leadership skills needed to succeed in our increasingly competitive world.

NURSING TEST SCORES

UTEP’s nursing graduates have had a 93 percent success rate on the Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses during the past year and a 100 percent success rate during the past three quarterly administrations.

IMITATION AS FLATTERY

UTEP programs also serve as models that other institutions seek to emulate. It is said that imitation is the highest form of flattery.

- The Undergraduate Learning Center facility and the programs that are conducted there by Evelyn Posey, Henry Ingle, and the CeTAL staff are regularly visited by delegations from other universities, including most recently Jackson State, Tuskegee, and the Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua.
- The El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence is regularly cited by federal agencies such as NSF, education reformers such as Governor Jim Hunt of North Carolina, and major publications such as Education Week, as the preeminent preK-16 partnership model in the United States.
- The Center for Civic Engagement and the Institute for Community-Based Teaching and Learning have gained national recognition for UTEP as a model for integrated service learning.
- UTEP’s Law School Preparation Institute is being replicated at UT Pan American and UT San Antonio.

ANNUAL GIVING

While building its endowment, UTEP succeeded in increasing its annual giving for current operations and capital purposes.

Increases in Annual Giving

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Years</th>
<th>Capital Purposes</th>
<th>Current Operations</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
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<td>91-92</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>12.65</td>
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<td>92-93</td>
<td>1.94</td>
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<td>12.94</td>
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<td>01-02</td>
<td>3.27</td>
<td>35.00</td>
<td>38.27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

UTEP is recognized as an institution that early on understood the importance of closely working with school districts and the El Paso Community College from which it draws the majority of its students. The El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence has become a national model for successful school-university partnerships. Other partnerships include:

- Center for Civic Engagement
- Center for Environmental Resource Management
- Kellogg Institute for Border Community Health Education
- Center for Law and Border Studies
- The Mother-Daughter and Father-Son programs
- Family and Closely Held Business Forum
- Franchise Center
- Texas Manufacturing Assistance Center

ENGINE NO. 1

The past year marked the departure of Engine No. 1, the Civil War vintage locomotive that for 40 years occupied the lawn to the south of the Centennial Museum. Two massive cranes lifted it from its shell and placed it on a trailer that then took it to a warehouse where it is being restored. Its ultimate placement in the downtown Union Plaza area should give this rare locomotive the visibility it deserves.

skills. Among these are the Student Development Center and Leadership Development programs, student organizations, recreational sports, Campus Activities Board and the Student Health Center. The beautiful and expanded Swimming & Fitness Center now averages more than 17,000 visits per month. Installed near the Center is a new Challenge Course (also known as a Ropes Course), developed through the cooperative efforts of the recreational sports and student affairs departments and the kinesiology program.

UTEP students also have access to an ever-increasing number of civic engagement opportunities, which not only provide them with access to learning through community service, but also help shape their academic and career goals and strengthen their resolve to complete their degree programs. UTEP is at the forefront of service learning programs nationally. Students have opportunities to serve their community through activities ranging from restoration of the Socorro mission to literacy training programs in a variety of settings.

Recent data confirm that UTEP is making steady progress in responding to the coordinating board’s goal of increasing student success. First-year student retention — the number of full-time freshmen who return for the second year — has increased. Because the freshman year is considered to be the most vulnerable, first-year retention is a strong predictor of future graduation. Last year, 63 percent of UTEP’s graduates were the first in their families to earn a degree.

UTEP ranks among the top universities nationally in the graduation of Hispanics, and was first among all U.S. universities last year in the number of Hispanic engineering graduates. These students’ success in earning degrees impacts not only them and their families, but the future development and competitiveness of the community, state and nation.

Beyond a bachelor’s

Another highly positive sign of student success at UTEP is that more students are aspiring to continue their education beyond the bachelor’s degree. Many of them are encouraged in these aspirations by federally funded programs which create opportunities for students to work with faculty mentors on research projects that give them the confidence to pursue graduate education.

UTEP’s Contribution to the Education of U.S. Minority Populations - FY 2000

Total Number of Bachelor’s Degrees Awarded to Hispanics in All Academic Disciplines - Top Texas Universities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>University</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1</td>
<td>UT Pan American</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2</td>
<td>#21 Southwest Texas State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#3</td>
<td>UTEP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#4</td>
<td>#31 Texas A&amp;M - Kingsville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#5</td>
<td>UT Austin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#6</td>
<td>#33 UT Brownsville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#7</td>
<td>UT San Antonio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#8</td>
<td>#44 Texas Tech University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#9</td>
<td>#32 Texas A&amp;M - Corpus Christi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#10</td>
<td>University of Houston — University Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#11</td>
<td>#48 Texas A&amp;M - International</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Equally positive is the fact that graduate and professional schools compete aggressively for UTEP graduates. They are enrolled in growing numbers at graduate programs at major research universities throughout the country. In fact, a recent study reported that UTEP ranked first among all universities in the United States in the number of Hispanic bachelor’s degree recipients who have gone on to complete doctoral degrees in science and engineering. On the professional school front, competition for UTEP graduates is equally intense. For example, of 34 UTEP students who completed the Law School Preparation Institute last year, two-thirds received offers from Top 25 law schools including Berkeley, Harvard, Columbia and Michigan, and 17 of the 34 were admitted to the UT Austin School of Law.

GOAL III: RESEARCH

The “Closing the Gaps” report sets statewide goals for increasing externally funded research activity at universities and health science centers. Texas ranks a disappointing sixth among all states in federal R&D expenditures.

Within this context, UTEP has begun to be recognized as a contributor to achieving the coordinating board’s research goal. At the present time, UTEP’s portfolio of 340 active awards for research and sponsored activities totals more than $122 million. These are projects that have been funded by external sources in response to proposals submitted by UTEP faculty and staff members.

Among UT System institutions, UTEP ranks second in federal research expenditures, after UT Austin. Among 35 public universities in Texas, UTEP ranks fourth, with only Texas A&M, UT Austin and the University of Houston ahead of us. These rankings are surprising to many people across the state, because for many years UTEP’s blip on the federal research funding radar screen was quite small. In 1988, for example, UTEP’s research expenditures were in the neighborhood of $3 million annually. Today, thanks to the competitiveness of UTEP’s faculty and staff, that number has grown to...
One of UTEP’s most remarkable research funding statistics is the ratio of federal-to-state dollars. Among the five top public Texas institutions in research funding, UTEP generates approximately seven federal dollars for every state dollar invested in research. This high yield is a reflection of both UTEP’s greatly enhanced competitiveness for funding at the federal level, and the state’s failure to invest adequately in UTEP’s research enterprise.

For example, in 2001, Texas invested only $3.2 million in research-related activity at UTEP, compared with $16 million at Texas Tech, while Texas Tech’s federal funding of $17.4 million was substantially less than UTEP’s $23 million.

The past year has been a very active one in the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects. Nearly 400 proposals were processed seeking external funding of $176 million. Success in generating new external funding also continues to be impressive. New grant awards during the past fiscal year totaled $33.3 million.

**GOAL IV: EXCELLENCE**

Although we hear a lot about excellence, measuring it presents interesting challenges. Traditional measures of excellence in higher education have tended to focus on institutional or student affluence, or inputs. Measures such as the size of the institution’s endowment, the amount of alumni giving, the average SAT score of the entering student population and the six-year graduation rate have historically been regarded as key indicators of excellence.

Although financial resources, well-prepared students and full-time enrollment are clearly desirable, the changing demographics and related demands being placed on higher education suggest that other measures of quality and excellence are greatly needed. This is especially true if we hope to educate populations that have been traditionally underrepresented in higher education, such as low-income and minority students.

The “Closing the Gaps” report acknowledges that continuing to do business as usual in higher education will not enable us to achieve the state’s goals. It recognizes the importance of differentiating institutional missions and defining excellence measures that are compatible with them.

The coordinating board’s recognition that excellence must be viewed as multidimensional and that measuring the quality of each university must be context-sensitive is consistent with what UTEP has been attempting to do for the past 15 years.

**The measure of success**

We have sought to understand the needs of our constituents, clearly define and articulate our institutional mission and measure our success. We must achieve that not by comparing ourselves to institutions whose missions and student populations are totally different from ours, but rather by seeking alternative ways to measure our success in contributing to the development of this binational region, this state and this nation.

Developing a national reputation in specific areas is also critical to achieving excellence, and UTEP is well on the way toward doing just that. Within the framework of the UT System Strategic Plan, UTEP has been designated as a Center of Excellence in U.S.-Mexico Border Studies. Our faculty expertise and academic, research and outreach programs, ranging from environmental science and engineering to culture and arts, are gaining national prominence.

Although we believe strongly that institutions that have traditionally been committed to access can also achieve excellence, and that UTEP is making major strides toward that goal every day, the specific measures that will allow us to demonstrate our progress too often remain elusive.

**The final analysis**

In the final analysis, one measure of excellence stands out as absolutely fundamental to evaluating all universities: the quality of the institution’s graduates.

**Federal/State Research and Development Expenditure Ranking**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>State Funding</th>
<th>Federal Funding</th>
<th>Ratio Federal to State</th>
<th>Ratio Ranking</th>
<th>Total Dollars Generated</th>
<th>Total Dollar Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M and Services</td>
<td>105,707,672</td>
<td>152,421,987</td>
<td>1.44</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>256,129,659</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT Austin</td>
<td>47,309,232</td>
<td>202,440,085</td>
<td>4.28</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>249,749,317</td>
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<tr>
<td>Univ. of Houston</td>
<td>22,393,521</td>
<td>24,227,166</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>46,620,687</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas Tech</td>
<td>16,053,320</td>
<td>17,394,677</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33,447,997</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>UTEP</td>
<td>3,277,907</td>
<td>22,872,682</td>
<td>6.98</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>26,150,589</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT Arlington</td>
<td>5,735,774</td>
<td>9,224,210</td>
<td>1.61</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>14,959,984</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Univ. of North Texas</td>
<td>4,660,923</td>
<td>8,284,082</td>
<td>1.78</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>12,945,005</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>UT Dallas</td>
<td>4,110,532</td>
<td>8,781,295</td>
<td>2.14</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>12,891,827</td>
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<td>Univ. of Houston-Clear Lake</td>
<td>550,007</td>
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<td>19.72</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11,393,899</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>UT San Antonio</td>
<td>3,060,793</td>
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<td>2.62</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>11,093,583</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Head coach Keitha Green had definite goals in mind while preparing her basketball team after she joined UTEP in 2001. "It was a transition year for me in several ways: Getting adjusted to being at the Division I level, moving from Kansas to El Paso, and working with a group of young ladies who had been with the program before my arrival," Green says. "It was a learning year for me within the WAC conference. My strategy was to learn as much as possible, and recruit hard for the future."

Green was successful in establishing herself with the team and recruiting for it. She had nine new players to prepare for this season, including six junior college transfers and three freshmen.

"I want to instill that worker's mentality — that hard work pays off — and to push the 'never say die' attitude," Green says. "I look at each player and learn what motivates them best."

Among the core of her team are guards Vaida Zagurskyte and Noni Wharame and forward Angie McGee, all of whom highlight the recruiting class.

Zagurskyte averaged 15.7 points for the NJCAA Champion Seward County Community College last season. Wharame was the co-MVP of the Kansas Jayhawk Eastern Division, averaging 14.4 points and 6.6 rebounds. McGee was the co-Freshman of the Year in the Kansas Jayhawk Eastern Division.

UTEP also has four returnees with Romie DeAnda, Sunny Guild, Mira Vidic and Dragana Zoric. An all-around player, Zoric led the team in rebounds (8.0 rpg) last year and comes back as the top-returning scorer (13.5 ppg).

"My focus is much more clear because I'm not going through the transition this year that I went through last year," Green says.

In addition to strengthening the team roster, Green named Darren Brunson assistant basketball coach this summer. Brunson comes to UTEP with 13 years of experience as a coach, athletic administrator and educator while at Independence Community College in Independence, Kan.

Gillispie Named Men’s Basketball Coach

UTEP Director of Athletics Bob Stull named Billy Gillispie as the Miners’ 15th men’s basketball coach in October. Gillispie came to UTEP after a two-year stint as assistant coach at Illinois under head coach Bill Self.

Gillispie also worked with Self at Tulsa. Gillispie is originally from Graford, Texas, and received his bachelor’s degree in education from Southwest Texas State University, where he began his coaching career as a graduate assistant from 1983-85.

He brings with him a reputation as being a top recruiter in the Southwest. During his eight years as a Division I coach, Gillispie recruited 24 players from eight states, including 11 from Texas. Seventeen were high school standouts, and seven were junior college players. His efforts on the recruiting trail helped Illinois land one of the nation’s top 10 signing classes in 2002. Gillispie has a clear vision for the Miners.

“We have a Hall of Fame coach (Haskins) here, who I am going to use as a resource,” he says. “There are a lot of great players in the state. We’re going to try to get some of those guys to come here. We’re only going to sign unbelievable players who have a chance to do good things here. We’re not going to sign players just for the sake of signing them. But the players who are here right now are the most important guys.”
The Spirit of Sharing

By Erica Martinez

Former professors Eugene Porter and Clarence Sharp Cook have left a notable mark on the university reaching beyond the students they taught. The two men and their families are major donors whose contributions support the university and its students.

Porter was a history professor at UTEP from 1940 until his retirement in May 1969. Cook, otherwise known as C. Sharp, was a physics professor at the university from 1970 to 1985. Both were professors emeriti until their deaths in January 1975 and June 2001, respectively. Their spouses, Mary Ellen Porter and Marian Cook, were also strong supporters of the university.

The Porters

Helen Haley, a close friend of the Porter family, says that before Mary Ellen’s death in June, she had decided to leave the estate to the university since she and her husband had no children. The estate is still being administered.

“(Mary Ellen) said, ‘That’s what Gene would’ve wanted,’” Haley says.

The Porters met at Ohio State University. He was a student teacher and she was his student. Mary Ellen earned her degree from Ohio State and soon after married Porter. She was active in various civic groups and was president of Planned Parenthood of El Paso and a member of the National Society of Arts and Letters.

“She was so full of life. She had a joke for every occasion,” Haley said.

The Cooks

Prior to their deaths, Cook and Marian made various gifts to UTEP and endowed the Dr. C. Sharp Cook Distinguished Professorship in Physics to attract a nationally recognized physicist to El Paso. Through a bequest from Marian’s estate, the distinguished professorship will be raised to the level of a chair. An endowed chair requires a minimum contribution of $500,000.

“The Cooks are remembered with great affection as loyal and supportive members of the UTEP family,” says UTEP President Diana Natalicio. “Their generous gifts continue to provide scholarships to talented students, and help support research projects in the physics department.”

The Dr. C. Sharp Cook Distinguished Professorship in Physics allows a physics faculty member to pursue activities such as research.

Physics professor Ramon Lopez is recognized with the distinguished professorship. “Dr. Cook and his family created a wonderful legacy with the professorship, and it is an honor to hold this position. Dr. Cook’s endowment is supporting department activities as well as my own research,” Lopez says.

Cook served as chair of the physics department from 1970-1972 and again from 1980-1983. Previously, he served in various ranks at the U.S. Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory in San Francisco, including branch head and head of the radiation physics department.

He earned his bachelor’s degree in physics and mathematics from DePauw University in Indiana, and both his master’s and doctoral degrees in physics and nuclear physics, respectively, from Indiana University.

He authored more than 100 scholarly articles, encyclopedia entries and books, and was a member of numerous organizations, including the American Geophysical Union, American Physical Society, Board of U.S. Civil Service Examiners and the El Paso Solar Energy Task Group. C. Sharp gave various lectures in South Africa, Australia, Iceland and Asia. He also was selected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1981.

Marian often accompanied her husband in his travels and contributed time to numerous civic organizations, including the El Paso Radiation Center Foundation and the Women’s Auxiliary at UTEP.

“My parents, were very loving and generous people,” says their son Wayne Cook. “Both were very generous with their time and resources, and were both very involved with improving the health services in the El Paso area.”

Wayne says that his parents were active supporters of math and science.

“Dad was very involved with science education in the El Paso area. He loved math and physics and wanted to share that love with as many people as possible,” Wayne says.
Tinajero named Texas Professor of the Year

Josefina Tinajero, interim dean of UTEP's College of Education, has been selected as the 2002 Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching Texas Professor of the Year.


This is the second year in a row that UTEP wins this award. Robert Webking, professor of political science, was the 2001 recipient.

Tinajero was chosen for her impact on and involvement with undergraduate students; scholarly approach to teaching and learning; contributions to undergraduate education in the institution, community, and profession; and support from colleagues and current and former undergraduate students.

"I am delighted, honored and humbled," she said. "I've had an extraordinary opportunity to make a difference in students at UTEP and I'm thankful for the opportunity to teach, learn and serve."

The State Professors of the Year Award Program selects outstanding educators in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

"All of us at UTEP are proud of Dr. Josie Tinajero's many accomplishments, and most recently, this well-deserved national award from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as the Texas Professor of the Year," UTEP President Diana Natalicio said. "UTEP students are privileged to have professors like Dr. Tinajero who care deeply about them and work hard to help them succeed."

Women's Soccer: Kicking into high gear

The UTEP women's soccer team has finished its season with top honors for five players and coach Kevin Cross, who was named the Western Athletic Conference Coach of the Year.

Showing one of the greatest improvements in NCAA history, the Miners were 15-2 and 6-2 in conference. UTEP began the season 12-0 and leads the nation in goals per match (4.53) and total goals (77).

Holly Cohen, Kelly Parker, Miranda Cuthbertson, Kat McShane and Kaletia Roberts were named to the All-WAC teams.

Cohen and Parker were each selected to the first-team all-league. Cohen, who broke the school's single-season records for points and goals, ranks fourth in the nation in points (2.81 ppm) and sixth in goals (1.19 gpm). Parker is tied for the national lead with 17 assists and ranks 12th in points (2.29 ppm).

The honors for Cohen and Parker are the second of their careers. Cohen was second team in 2001, while Parker was second team in 2000. Cuthbertson, McShane and Roberts were all named to the second team.

Cuthbertson, who has scored 18 goals and tallied seven assists, is in the national top 10 for points and goals. McShane has been the key to UTEP's defense, allowing only 0.94 goals per game. Roberts, a freshman from Dallas, has four goals and seven assists for 15 points.

Empowering our Daughters

Program honored for excellence, success

UTEP's Mother-Daughter Program has been honored with the Texas Higher Education Star Award for its work in closing the gaps in education.

Under the direction of Josefina Tinajero, the program was cited as exemplary by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The finalists for the award were chosen from among 83 applicants.

"UTEP is proud of this and so many other innovative programs developed by dedicated faculty and staff," says UTEP President Diana Natalicio. "This is a well-deserved recognition of these outstanding efforts."

To receive the award, a program must demonstrate an outstanding contribution toward the goals established in the coordinating board's Closing the Gaps by 2015 plan.

The goals include having at least two years of successful outcomes with benchmarks that allow progress to be monitored and evaluated, and having a history of excellence in academic instruction, student support services, and/or partnerships with other institutions, businesses or the community at large.

The innovative Mother-Daughter Program was developed at UTEP in 1986 to empower and encourage young female students — with the support of their mothers — to complete their education through college. Between 200 and 300 mother-daughter teams meet monthly, beginning when the girls are in the sixth grade.
The Don Haskins Center has recently sold out a variety of the hottest musical acts, including divas Cher and Shakira and Latin heartthrob Enrique Iglesias. Shakira had two sold-out concerts on Nov. 15-16 before more than 20,000 fans combined. Shakira debuted her first English record, "Laundry Service," in what was her first world tour, "Tour of the Mongoose."

Cher's "Living Proof: Farewell Tour" jammed the Haskins Center with more than 10,000 fans — also for a sold-out performance. Cyndi Lauper opened for Cher on Nov. 20.

"It's an amazing thing to see a legend like Cher and a super-talent like Shakira perform within 72 hours of each other," said Carol Roberts-Spence, director of special events.

Iglesias and opening act Paulina Rubio captivated more than 9,000 fans on Oct. 6 during Iglesias' sold-out "Don't Turn Off the Lights" tour stop in El Paso.

On Oct. 11, Mexican singers Rocío Durcal and Marco Antonio Solís also took the stage with their various renditions of rancheras and love ballads, performing before more than 4,000 fans.

The alternative music band Kom also brought its "Pop Sux!" tour to the center on Nov. 6. El Paso was Kom's second stop after releasing its album "Untouchables" in June. Kom gave a sold-out performance to more than 9,000 people.

The Don Haskins Center also showcased former New York City Mayor Rudolph "Rudy" Giuliani on Nov. 17. The event promoted by the El Paso Holocaust Museum and Study Center brought together more than 4,500 people.

The Don Haskins Center, also known as "The Don," is about 127 feet by 84 feet at center floor and can seat more than 12,000.
2003 Board of Directors
The 2003 UTEP Alumni Association Board of Directors and officers were recently selected. They are:
Tony Woo, president
Richard Gutierrez, vice president for membership
Kay Mooy, treasurer
Marilyn Munden, vice president for communications
Mike Rosales, vice president for scholarship
Mike Bernstein  
Elizabeth Dahl  
Norma De La Rosa  
Clara Duncan-Adams  
Ron Harvey  
Harold Kelley  
Debbie Koch  
Jack Johnston  
Tess Limberg  
Janice Munden  
Diana Origel-Gutierrez  
Pete Payan  
Felipa Solis  
Jack Underwood  
Scott White  
Hector Willars

Alumni Association on the Web
Stay up-to-date with the Alumni Association by visiting the Web site at www.utep.edu/alumni. The site contains information on membership, chapters and upcoming events. Sign-ups for free permanent e-mail addresses are available at alumni@utep.edu. Under this system, e-mail addresses remain the same no matter how often users change Internet providers.

Association calls for Distinguished Alumni nominations
Complementing the selection of these honorees is the designation of outstanding alumni — Gold Nuggets — by each of the university's six colleges.

The UTEP Alumni Association is seeking nominations for the 2003 Distinguished Alumni Award and the Gold Nugget Awards. Nominations will be accepted through March 31, 2003. For more information, please visit www.utep.edu/alumni or contact the Alumni Relations Office at 915-747-8600, 1-866-GO-MINERS, or alumni@utep.edu.

Durham Center collectible now available
The 2002 UTEP Collectible, which features the Larry K. Durham Sports Center and the Sun Bowl, is now available from the Alumni Association for $15. The 2001 collectible featuring the UTEP campus can also be purchased for $10. For information, contact the Alumni Relations Office at 915-747-8600, 1-866-GO-MINERS, or alumni@utep.edu.

NEWS ABOUT YOU...
Name ____________________________

Year Graduated __________ Degree ____________________________

Address ___________________________________________________________

e-mail: ____________________________

Please keep your news to 50 words or less.
Alumni Relations Office
de Wetter Center
500 West University Ave.
El Paso, Texas 79968-0724

or contact the Alumni Relations Office at
915-747-8600, 1-866-GO-MINERS or alumni@utep.edu
Life memberships help fund scholarship endowment

To help bolster the UTEP Alumni Association’s Endowed Scholarship Fund, life member contributions will now be added to that fund.

The contributions help increase scholarships and the number of students who benefit from them, such as UTEP junior Vanessa Dominguez, who received the 2002-03 Alumni Association of UTEP Endowed Scholarship.

Other 2002-03 recipients of scholarships funded completely or in part by the association are freshman Jennifer Tarin and seniors Veronica Almeida, Brenda Thomas and Dolores Martinez.

Life memberships are $500 per person or $750 per couple and may be paid in installments of $50 per quarter. Senior life memberships are available for alumni over the age of 60 for $250 per person or $375 per couple.

For more information, contact the Alumni Relations Office, 915-747-8600, 1-866-GO-MINERS, or alumni@utep.edu.

Season of Lights celebrates 10th anniversary

On Dec. 5, UTEP was transformed into a winter wonderland with the Alumni Association’s 10th annual Season of Lights.

The turn of a switch lighted more than 200,000 white holiday lights around campus.

This year’s program at the Union West parking lot included seasonal music by the El Paso Children's Choir and the UTEP Jazz Singers.

The display is open to the public and will remain lighted nightly through Jan. 6.
Carlos A. Bustamante (B.S.C.E. '52) was inducted into the White Sands Missile Range Hall of Fame following 43 years of service as an engineer and consultant.  

Weldon Donaldson (B.A.A. '58) is a member of the board of trustees of the Zoological Society of San Diego, which operates the San Diego Zoo and the San Diego Wild Animal Park.  

Philip H. Duran (B.S. '59; M.S. '70) is dean of science and mathematics at Northwest Indian College in Bellingham, Wash., where he also directs the Tribal Environmental and Natural Resources Management Program.  

Rosa E. Guerrero (B.A. '57), founder of the Rosa Guerrero International Folklorico—the first ballet folklorico company in El Paso—received the Premio Ohlald award for her work in dance from the Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, Consulado General de México. The honor is conferred by Mexico to those that live abroad and who have made significant contributions to Mexican communities.  

Phillip E. Cervin (B.B.A. '84) is vice president for collections at Texas Guaranteed in Austin. TG is a public, nonprofit corporation that administers the Federal Family Education Loan Program.  

Nicholas J. Costanzo (B.B.A. '87), assistant manager of El Paso Water Utilities, is responsible for operations, technical and support services and finance.  

Linda Lawson (B.S.N. '87) is administrative director of cardiovascular services at Del Sol Medical Center in El Paso.  

Steven G. Lutz (B.B.A. '82) is serving a three-year term on the Better Business Bureau board of directors in El Paso. He is the senior vice president and controller for Government Employees Credit Union of El Paso and chairman of the credit union's asset and liability committee.  

Gerardo “Gerry” Licon (B.S.C.E. '86; M.S.C.E. '89) of Licon Engineering Co. in El Paso has been appointed to the Texas Engineers Homeland Security Taskforce, which serves to improve the state’s awareness and response to homeland security issues.  

Mary Alice Melendez (B.S.Ed. '85) received the Milken National Educator Award for excellence in the classroom and for inspiring young people to become teachers. She is an English instructor at Socorro High School in El Paso.  

Sandra Rason (B.S.N. '81), an administrator of Desert Home Healthcare in El Paso, is a member of the Texas Association for Home Care board of directors.  


Lorena Salas (B.A. '82), a second-grade teacher at Bill Childress Elementary School in Canutillo, is the 2002 Region 19 Elementary Teacher of the Year.  

George Ayala (B.A. '91) earned an M.Ed. degree in counseling at Sul Ross State University and was inducted into Who’s Who Among American Teachers. He is a fourth-grade dual language teacher at Carroll T. Welch Intermediate School in Clint, Texas.  

Mark A. Oueinette (Ph.D. '95) is the head of the Department of Geological Sciences and director of the Environmental Management Program at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene.  

Cindy A. Stout (M.S.N. '94) is the administrative director for medical-surgical services at Del Sol Medical Center in El Paso.  

David Torres (B.B.A. '00) is an economist with El Paso Water Utilities.  

Debra J. Little (B.S.Ed. '73; B.S.C.E. '82; M.P.A. '01) was recognized by the Federal Executive Association of El Paso for her dedication to excellence and public service beyond the normal requirements of her position. She also was recognized as Outstanding Supervisor/Manager/Offcer from the International Boundary and Water Commission where she serves as principal engineer of the Engineering Department.

Donald M. Kiely (B.S.M.E. '64) Nov. 18, 2001. Kiely was a longtime resident of Palestine, Texas, where he was the founder and owner of Industrial Technical Services. Prior to starting his company, he was employed with ALCOA.  

Durrett Wagner Nov. 21, 2001. Wagner was a resident of Evanston, Ill. After a teaching and administrative career at Kendall College, he ran Swallow Press and Historical Picture Service, a picture archive. He also was a consulting editor of Catalyst: Voices of Chicago School Reform.  

Wendell Hamilton Gregg (B.A. '71) Feb. 6, 2002. Gregg, a resident of Flower Mound, Texas, had retired from Argonaut Insurance Co. as director of claims management, and also was retired as a major from the U.S. Army. He was a member of the Lewisville Lake Symphony and a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.  

Mary Scott “Scottie” Hunnicutt Irwin (B.A. '39) April 1, 2002. She was a resident of San Antonio.  

Eric L. Markowitz (B.B.A. '76) June 5, 2002. Markowitz was manager of specific services at Lucky’s Food Equipment Co. in Chesterfield, Mo. He had held management positions in sales and manufacturing for both Seco Products Corp. and Southbend and Land, and also had many years of multi-unit food service operations management experience. He was a certified food service professional and had served as a vendor member of the American Correctional Food Service Association’s board of trustees.  

Robert R. Winters (B.A. '52) June 17, 2002. Winters, a resident of Platoro, Colo., served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War and also was in the U.S. Naval Reserves. He retired as vice president of Associated Insurance Agency Inc. in El Paso and was a volunteer for Alcoholics Anonymous.  

Constance “Connie” Flota Ross (B.A. '51) July 6, 2002. Ross, a longtime resident of El Paso, was a librarian for the Christian Science Church.  

Jacquelyn Lewis Coleman (B.A. '86) July 7, 2002. Coleman was a librarian at Presa Elementary School in El Paso. She was a member of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority.  

Anne Gottlieb Lieberman (B.S.Ed.'62; M.Ed. '66) July 13, 2002. Prior to receiving her undergraduate degree from Texas Western College (now UTEP), Lieberman worked as a bookkeeper, stenographer and as personal secretary to the commanding general of Fort Bliss. She was instrumental in bringing Kappa Delta Pi, a national honor society for education professionals, to the Texas Western campus and served for several years on the national board. As a teacher in El Paso, she taught regular and special education programs at Lamar, Western Hills, Highland and Hawkins elementary schools. She retired in 1984. She also worked briefly with Region 19 Education Service Center, and was active in the B'nai Zion Sisterhood, Hadassah and the National Council of Jewish Women.  

Jack DeVore (B.A. '72) July 18, 2002. DeVore, a resident of Austin, served as press secretary to U.S. Sen. Lloyd Bentsen in Washington, D.C., from 1972 to 1993. He oversaw the press office operation of the Senate Finance Committee while Bentsen chaired that committee. He also served as assistant secretary for public affairs and as public liaison at UTEP.

During World War II, Mithoff served as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army. In 1946, he joined his father's advertising agency, eventually assuming leadership of the business and building it into one of the largest and most prestigious agencies in the Southwest. He also served as international chairman of Worldwide Partners Inc., a marketing network, on the governing boards of the American Association of Advertising Agencies; as president and director of the Southwestern Association of Advertising Agencies; director of the American Advertising Federation; and was a founding member and president of the Advertising Federation of El Paso.

Mithoff was a prominent civic leader, playing an active role in such organizations as the Rotary Club of El Paso, the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce, the Sun Bowl Association and the El Paso Museum of Art. A longtime friend of UTEP, he was a member of the university's 75th Anniversary Committee, president of the President's Associates and an associate member of the Board of Communication. An endowed scholarship fund he and his agency created in honor of his father, Warren J. Mithoff, supports students majoring in communication, advertising and public relations.

Jim "Bad News" Barnes, one of UTEP's all-time Miner basketball standouts, died Sept. 14, 2002, in Silver Spring, Md. He was 61.

Barnes was one of the nation's leading scorers during the Miners' 1963-64 season, averaging 29.2 points per game. He led UTEP, then Texas Western College, to a 25-3 record that season. Barnes also was a member of the 1964 gold medal-winning U.S. Olympic team and the first player selected in that year's NBA draft, chosen by the New York Knicks. He played on the 1968-69 NBA champion Boston Celtics team, and also played for the Baltimore Bullets, the Los Angeles Lakers and the Chicago Bulls.

He remains UTEP's all-time leading rebounder and is still eighth on UTEP's all-time scoring list, despite playing only two seasons. He also remains in first place on the UTEP career-scoring average list at 14.2 points per game.

Former UTEP Basketball Coach and Hall of Famer Don Haskell, who recruited and coached Barnes, told the El Paso Times that he credits Barnes for "anything good that happened to me... He left a big, big footprint here."

the U.S. Department of the Treasury, an appointment by President Clinton. DeVore returned to Texas in 1995 to serve as a senior advisor at Public Strategies Inc., an international public affairs and communications firm.

William Sikorski (B.B.A. '62; M.Ed. '70) July 22, 2002. Sikorski, a resident of El Paso, was retired from the U.S. Army as a lieutenant colonel. A veteran of World War II and the Korean War, he was a recipient of the Army Defense Service Medal with Clasp, the European-African-Middle East Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the Army of Occupation Medal (Germany), three Overseas Bars, the United Nations Service Medal, the Korean Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the Combat Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal and the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation.

Dorothy May Strub (B.A. '77) July 23, 2002. A resident of El Paso, she was a teacher with the El Paso Independent School District.

Felicia Nocete Cobalis (B.S.Ed.'83) July 25, 2002. Cobalis, a longtime resident of El Paso, was a professional educator and organist who also sang baritone with the women's quartet, Sweet Adelines and Celebration. Cobalis taught at San Jacinto Adult Learning Center and Aoy and Hart elementary schools, and was a member of Roncalli.


Joseph William "Bill" Bombach (B.A.A.'71) July 26, 2002. Bombach, a lifelong resident of El Paso, was a commercial real estate broker throughout the Southwest and a member of the El Paso Board of Realtors.

Franklin Wayne Templeton (B.S. '53) July 26, 2002. Templeton, a resident of Fort Worth and a retired professional petroleum geologist, served in the U.S. Marine Corps in the Pacific Theater during World War II. He was a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the Petroleum Club of Fort Worth and the Sons of the Republic of Texas.

Fannie Fae Brown (M.A. '53) July 28, 2002. Brown, an El Paso resident, was a teacher in Texas schools for 41 years, including 31 years in the Ysleta Independent School District where she was a kindergarten teacher and supervisor.


William "Bill" Kinkead (B.A. '74) Aug. 3, 2002. Kinkead served in the U.S. Navy for four years, then joined the U.S. Army, retiring as a colonel after 24 years of service. He earned the Navy Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the European-African-Middle Eastern Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the World War II Victory Medal, the American Defense Service Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal. He also was a member of the El Paso Community College board of trustees.

Louis Baumwoll (B.S.Ed. '70; M.Ed. '74) Aug. 6, 2002. After serving in World War II and the Korean War and surviving Europe's Battle of the Bulge, Baumwoll retired from the U.S. Army as a lieutenant. He worked for the Socorro Independent School District as a librarian and after retirement volunteered for the El Paso Zoological Society and the Richard Burges Branch of the El Paso Public Library. He was a member of the Friends of the Northeast Library and the Paso del Norte Chapter of Mensa.

Dennis Crawley (B.A. '74; MA. '90) Aug 7, 2002. Crawley, an art and computer graphics teacher for more than 25 years, taught at Ysleta, Bel Air and Riverside high schools in El Paso.

Robert "Boh" Schreibstein (M.Ed. '76) Aug. 8, 2002. Schreibstein, a resident of Safety Harbor, Fla., was a World War II veteran of the Normandy Invasion. Awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious achievement during the Korean War, he also served in Panama prior to World War II. Schreibstein retired as a Signal Corps lieutenant colonel in 1964. He also worked as an Army civilian at the Vietnamese Language School and at the Sergeants Major Academy at Biggs Army Airfield. He was a 32nd degree Mason, a Scottish Rite Shriner and a member of the Disabled American Veterans.

Alfred Joseph "Joe" Carpenter (B.A. '40) Aug. 11, 2002. An El Paso resident, he had worked for the Fabens Motor Co. and McCormac Tractor and Implement Co. Retired from the U.S. Navy as a lieutenant commander, he had served aboard the USS Murphy DD-603 during the Invasion of Normandy, including the bombardment of Cherbourg in June 1944. Carpenter moved to Pecos, Texas, in the early '50s where he owned the Ginger Blue Ranch until the early '70s. In Pecos, he was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post, the American Legion, the Pecos Gun and Rifle Club and Leroy's Coffee Club.

Samone Swift Willgrubs (B.S. '85) Aug. 12, 2002. A resident of Spring, Texas, Willgrubs was president and founder of Advocate Associates for the Disabled, and a member of the National Association of Disability Representatives and the National Association of Social Security Representatives.

Mary Patricia Rafferty Roderick (B.A. '71) Aug. 13, 2002. She was a longtime resident of El Paso and before retiring was in charge of the El Paso Public Library Bookmobile, which operated from the Lower Valley Branch Library.

Hong Law (B.A. '58) Aug. 15, 2002. Law, a lifetime resident of El Paso, had served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He was a partner in Plaza Grocery and the proprietor of a Food Basket grocery store in El Paso.

John Robert Daniel (B.A. '72) Aug. 20, 2002. He was a marketing coordinator and DECA sponsor at Hanks High School in El Paso. He was a football coach at Hanks from 1979 to 1987 and taught with the Ysleta Independent School District for 26 years. He was active on the Sun Bowl Team Host Committee for 12 years, was involved with the Senior All-Star Bowl Football Classic, served as vice president of the Southwestern International Livestock Show and Rodeo, and was a member of the United States Team Roping Championship and the Ysleta Rough Riders.
This long-awaited reprint of Riders Across the Centuries: Horsemen of the Spanish Borderlands contains 100 drawings by José Cisneros, a 2001 National Humanities Medal Recipient, and a biographical introduction by John O. West. Riders Across the Centuries was the final collaboration of José Cisneros and internationally-known book designer Carl Hertzog, and is the last Texas Western book to bear the distinctive Hertzog colophon. 8x11, 200 Pages, 100 black and white, and color illustrations. ISBN 0-87404-209-7, $35.

The Carvajal Family: The Jews and the Inquisition in New Spain in the Sixteenth Century is a modern translation of Alfonso Toro’s classic story about the Spanish Inquisition in Mexico. The Carvajal Family captures the tragedy and courage of Jews who chose to die rather than renounce their faith. Frances Hernandez has simplified the diction and syntax of this treasured Mexican classic, while maintaining the integrity of the original work. 6x10, 550 Pages. ISBN 0-87404-247-X, $50.

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