



## FACULTY WORKING GROUP

December 10, 2015

8:30-10:00

RAHC-Harlingen, Room 2.120

### Issues/Concerns and Recommendations Regarding Processes that Impact Teaching, Research/Scholarship, and/or Service

1. Computer encryption: Necessary to encrypt computers that do not/will not contain student records, confidential or proprietary information?
2. Need administrative access to be able to install software on computers.
3. Secure Doc only allows one user to login at a time.
4. Very limited IT availability over the weekend and evenings for university classes and events.
5. Long waiting periods for IT services.
6. IT Infrastructure at the Brownsville campus needs attention.
7. Hosting external websites at UTRGV.
8. IT services connecting campuses needs to be improved (e.g., ITV, etc.).
9. Development of websites for UTRGV. Possibility of hiring an external group to expedite process?
10. A/V issues with speakers in classrooms in addition to adding possible closed captioning functionality.
11. Increase travel and research support/funding. **Provost discussed opportunities available through the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs and Diversity, as well as the need to increase faculty externally-funded research to also cover these expenses.**
12. Status of new IDC Policy?
13. Status of allocation of IDC funds generated last fiscal year at UTPA? **Provost will follow-up.**
14. High faculty workload, specifically teaching loads as we move towards becoming an emerging research university. **Provost highlighted that workload distribution is determined at the department/college level with some oversight from the Office of the Provost.**
15. Student population is growing at a faster rate than faculty hiring.
16. Low Post Doc salaries and restrictive guidelines, particularly as it relates to limiting the number of years after the degree was earned to be eligible for a Post Doc position at UTRGV. **Dr. Maldonado was going to review the job description, salary ranges, and limitation on number of years. Dr. Maldonado has already shared documentation with the group.**
17. Library and computer access for individuals not employed by the university, but have a contributing relationship, or for adjunct faculty. How can this be facilitated/expedited? **Dr. Lozano was going to verify how her Center has done this as she has had no issues/problems.**
18. Limited University services and support for fully distance education students. At times, they are required to come to campus to obtain some University services.



19. Establish a Testing Service Center to proctor exams, thus allowing faculty more availability for research and service.
20. Recognitions, merit or exceptional merit to incentivize faculty. This would assist in retaining talented faculty.
21. Establish a "STAR" program to incentivize/retain UTRGV faculty.
22. Bridge STARs faculty with current faculty to foster collaborations.
23. Develop a repository of all ongoing faculty research projects to increase collaboration across disciplines.
24. Shutdown of accounts during the summer between fiscal years while faculty are trying to purchase items to conduct research.
25. Need to increase focus on student engagement and experiential learning.