

Student Enrollment 411

8/27/2015

[Volume 1, Issue 4]



Now Open: U Central!



I am very excited to announce the new name of the Student Service Centers: **U Central!** At U Central everything is in one convenient place; it's all about you; and it's all about the new UTRGV. Our students will know without question that their success is our priority.

We are sending an email to students announcing U Central by the end of the week. I also want to give a big "thank you" to everyone for your hard work during the payment deadline.

Director Spotlight: Jiving with Jeff

What most excites you about UTRGV? I'm excited for the opportunities for our students. I'm also excited to build something new, to start fresh, and to make an impact on a part of the state and nation that have been neglected and overlooked for a long time. More than anything else, I'm thrilled for student success to be the underlying principle for our decision making.

What are your thoughts on U Central? What is most exciting is the opportunity to focus on a more strategic direction for the Registrar's team. It will allow us to improve our services to students and faculty by allowing the front counter to handle the upfront traffic.

Tell us a bit about your team. We have been through a lot of transition and I know it's been hard on everyone, but I'm excited. We have folks from a lot of different backgrounds and disciplines. That will give us the history and experience we need, but also the different perspectives we need. I'm very excited to bring the team together and take steps forward to increase the services we can offer students.

How do you spend your free time? Outside of work, I have 2 passions. One is my kids and being a good dad. Second is my running. I did my first ultra-marathon back in March (50k, 31 miles), and I'm training for a 50 mile race that I'm going to do this fall. My personal goal is to run and complete a 100 mile race. My eldest son turned 21 in June. He's on a mission trip in Durban, South Africa and will be a senior at Howard Payne University this fall. My youngest son is 17. He will be a senior this year in high school, and he's currently taking dual credit courses through Navarro. My daughter is 8 and she is a voracious reader. She's a girly girl and a daddy's girl. She and I love to have Nerf gun wars at our house.

What kind of music do you like? I have pretty eclectic music taste. I'm a big fan of 80s rock and 80s music. I also like classical music and a little bit of country. I listen to classical to unwind, and if I'm in the zone, I listen to rock or country. I also listen to the comedy channel because it lets me laugh.

What's something people may not know about you? My dream vacation would be to run a marathon in Kenya. If I lived in an alternate universe, I would be flying F-16 fighter jets. When I was younger, I wanted to fly fighter jets. I'm an airplane nerd. I know the Military Phonetic Alphabet because of it. One of my favorite places to go with my 2 boys is the Pima Air & Space Museum in Tucson, Arizona to see all the old airplanes. If I had the time and the money, I would get my pilots license. The only other thing I'd say is hair is overrated.

Construction Update

Below are photos from Edinburg and Brownsville. I encourage everyone to visit both campuses in the coming months!

EDINBURG



BROWNSVILLE



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Registrar Rundown: An update from Dr. Rhodes

Below are some Registrar highlights from Jeff:

- Our continuing students from UTB and UTPA will be allowed to continue their UTB or UTPA degree plans until 2019 or until they graduate, whichever comes first.
- The new incoming students are the only ones on the UTRGV degree plan.
- There has been some immediate growth in the number of sections being offered. Over 5,000 different sections are available across all campuses. That is more than the previous combined number of courses between UTPA and UTB!

Maggie's Messages: Summer Fun!

It's been a very busy summer, and I appreciate your patience and hard work as we transition to UTRGV. I also hope you are taking time for yourselves to enjoy some fun and relaxation this summer. Check out the links below for inspiration!

- [37 Ridiculously Awesome Things To Do In Your Backyard This Summer](#)
- [35 Texas Secrets To Having The Best Summer Ever](#)

Meet the Student Enrollment Team

Associate VP for Student Enrollment: Maggie Hinojosa

Admin Manager: Nicole Luna

Admin Associate: Edna Reyes

Admin Associate: Letty Vega

Admin Assistant II: Cassie Alvarez

Assistant Director: Mario Salinas

Business Analyst IV: Rudy Ybanez

Business Analyst IV: Xinmin Chen

Business Analyst III: Antonio Diaz

Business Analyst II: Carlos Ireta

Business Analyst II: Ruben Garza

Business Analyst II: Roger Rodriguez

Business Analyst I: Julio Ibarra

Meet the Registrar Team

University Registrar: Jeff Rhodes

Coordinator of Academic Records: Amanda Lerma

Business Analyst III: Cesar Pastore

NCAA Certification Coordinator: Debbie McMillin

Scheduling Coordinator: Dena Edge

Records Associate I: Elma Galvan

Assistant Registrar: Esteban Martin

Records Associate II: Ginger Luna

Associate Registrar - Brownsville Operations: Jerry Martinez

Coordinator of Academic Records: Michelle Madrid

Records Associate II: Miriam Garcia

Records Associate II: Norma Luna

Assistant Registrar: Polly Lorenz

Coordinator of Academic Records: Sylvia Martinez

Associate Registrar: Vanessa Valdez

Administrative Assistant II: Wistana Balderas

Consideration Corner: Articles and Videos

Article

- [The 7 Things Great Teams Execute Flawlessly](#)

Video

- [How to manage for collective creativity](#)

