Welcome to the College of Engineering and Computer Science: Your Gateway to a Better Life

It’s great to be a Vaquero Engineer and Computer Scientist at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. We are in one of the fastest growing areas of the world with a USA and Mexico regional population of 3.5 million people. The Valley is a center for culture and booming trade, and is one of the safest places in the USA with a low cost of living. We are indeed fortunate. As the saying goes: When you’re hot, you’re hot. And we are on fire with our afterburners lit up with nitro added for good measure.

As Engineers and Computer Scientists we advance the world with cutting edge high technology knowledge done with heart, creativity and, in particular, family values. Our region values family and you will join our Vaquero family as we embed ourselves in the tremendous Magical Valley communities that spread over 145 miles from the sea to deep inland, from South Padre Island, to Brownsville, to Harlingen, to McAllen, to Edinburg, to Rio Grande City and more regionally, nationally and internationally. We serve as a role model for diversity, community, and growth for the nation and world. You will become a leader where your Engineering and Computer Science (ECS) education will provide a path to a better life for you and those you touch.

Employers welcome Vaqueros because your education is top notch and ready made to contribute holistically with a wide-base of knowledge backed by practicality. Our evolving Strategic Plan, “The Sun Never Sets on UTRGV’s College of ECS,” maps out thoughtfully our roadmap to take you and our college forward with learning innovations, nimble academic programs united with research, and serving as a Gateway to the Americas. We are in careful alignment with the overall UTRGV founding strategic plan that is based on four areas of focus: 1. Student success, 2. Educational opportunity, 3. Medical education, and 4. Research on the issues impacting the region.

Our ECS programs are taught by world class scholars supported by expert staff geared towards student success. Not only that, but our noble purpose is to reduce the steadily increasing gap between those who know STEM and those who do not. This is a national priority, and so you will join an elite group of people who will be in demand for generations.
As Founding Dean of ECS, within the nation’s first emerging major research university with a medical school in the 21st century, I pledge to you a personalized education that is exceptional. We are part of a new university that formed from the strengths of two legacy institutions. UTRGV is already the 9th largest public campus in Texas in number of students with a UT System investment of $500 million. We are expanding traditional ECS programs in civil, computer science, electrical, manufacturing and industrial, and mechanical engineering, as well as efforts in biomedicine, transportation, materials, energy, water, agriculture, infrastructure, security, aerospace, health, business development, and much more with the innovative support of Academic Affairs under Provost Havidán Rodríguez and leadership of President Guy Bailey. Our ABET-accredited undergraduate to masters and developing doctoral programs provide a pathway for student success, and serve as a Gateway to the Americas with our partners spanning the globe. Your education will be a springboard to employability and connections in a global economy.

We are a community that cares and is embodied by such people as our Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Dr. Kelly Scrivner Cronin, who has this to say, “It has been truly inspiring to see the growth and success of UTRGV in our inaugural year. In Advancement, we are working with so many enthusiastic, generous supporters who are backing the initiatives of our university. Our goal is to keep that enthusiasm level high and continue to connect with donors who are eager to invest in our students and programs.”

As we expand, we recognize the needs of the region must involve all stakeholders and our Vice President for Governmental and Community Relations, Veronica Gonzales, notes, “The success of UTRGV and its School of Medicine has relied and continues to rely on the strength of our partnerships. Within our Division, we are continuously building and strengthening relationships with local, state and federal partners to highlight and meet the priorities of the university, secure necessary funding, and create impactful programs that will build a pipeline of success for all students, from those in K-12 to those pursuing a graduate or doctoral degree. Beyond this, the support of community leaders and residents of the Rio Grande Valley will continue to dictate the future success of the University and we hope to continue building an institution that provides a first-class educational experience for our students and a first-class economy and quality of life for our community.”
Our vision is one where we value creativity as central to our work, as well as making a difference for people in all walks of life and enabling prosperity. However, all this must be done with compassion for our fellow beings, which is in essence a driver for technology to fill needs in the way we all work, connect, and live. Intelligence without this driver can only put forth technology that may not be sustainable or profitable.

Your education from UTRGV in ECS will serve you well, and I invite you to contact me or any of our exceptional associate and assistant deans, department chairs, directors, faculty and staff. We welcome students directly out of schools and professionals who may want to stay current in their fields or be retrained. Better yet, connect with our students and their multitude of student organizations to learn about the College of ECS and the life of these fine men and women.

With best wishes,

Alexander Domijan, Jr., Ph.D.
Professor and Dean