

Happy Holidays!



Message from the Dean

Season's Greetings from the RGV!

As 2022 comes to a close, we have many achievements to celebrate in RCVCOBE this year. We began the year with a scheduled peer review team visit as part of our five-year maintenance of Association to Advance Colleges and Schools of Business (AACSB) accreditation. The college received many laudatory remarks from the team for the college's commitment to its mission and extraordinary progress in its research enterprise as maintenance of accreditation was secured. That commitment to our mission was recognized on multiple fronts as the RCVCOBE family showed its resilience during the challenges of the pandemic. The student organization ENACTUS was recognized by AACSB as one of 24 global business schools with **Innovations the Inspire** in diversity, inclusion, equity and belonging efforts. Those efforts in the college were further strengthened by the new Kemper Scholars program launched this year. Dr. Giorgio Gotti, Director of the School of Accountancy, received the Outstanding Accounting Educator Award for the State of Texas. The success of our students continues to be at the center of our mission.

And as our peer review team noted, the research productivity continues to grow at a rapid pace as faculty scholars make their mark as subject matter experts in their fields. Among them being Dr. Hale Kaynak who was recognized by Stanford University for being in the top 2% of cited scholars in her field. And the citations for many faculty members in the college continues to climb as more elite and high impact journal articles are published. The SCOPUS citation count for RCVCOBE faculty has already topped 5,500 this year with a few days to go. That count was under 3,000 three years ago. To almost double the citation impact of a college in three years is a rare feat. And the faculty want to extend their impact to our undergraduate students with a

new undergraduate research program. This also fulfills our primary mission of placing our students and their success as our primary goal. Whether academic scholars or merely scholars in life, our graduates will possess the critical skills to evaluate problems they encounter in a scientific manner.

These achievements are made possible by the sense of teamwork and commitment of the RCVCOBE family. A dean could not be more proud of how this family has come together to serve our mission and generate positive social impact. Here is to celebrating the success of 2022 and looking forward to many more in 2023.

Happiest of holidays-
Lance

2022-Year in Review

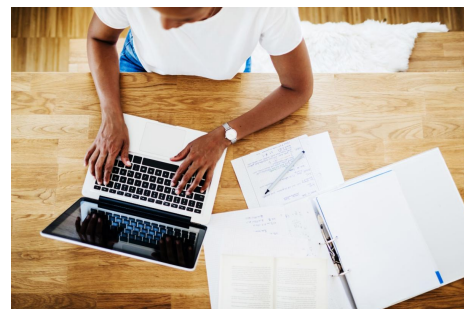
RCVCOBE Achieved AACSB Re-Accreditation in 2022



Despite the disruption and adversity caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, RCVCOBE faculty and doctoral students continue to produce high quality research. During the 2022 calendar year, RCVCOBE faculty and doctoral students had **30 elite and high impact journal articles accepted for publication**. What's more impressive is that some of the publications are in the **Financial Times (FT) Top 50** journals such as *Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science*, *Journal of Corporate Finance* and *Journal of Business Ethics*.

A Year of Scholarly Resilience

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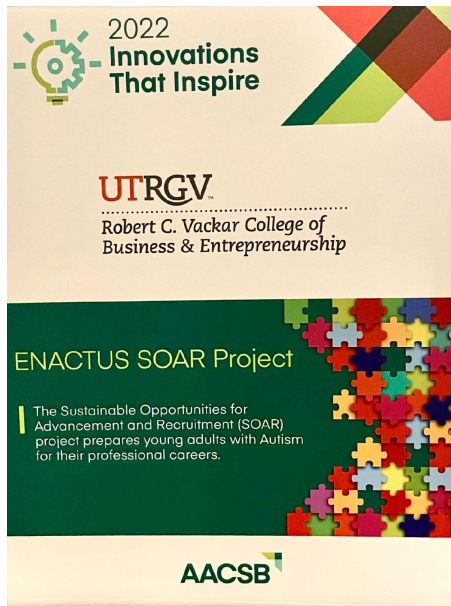
What's more impressive is that some of the publications are in the **Financial Times (FT) Top 50** journals such as *Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science*, *Journal of Corporate Finance*, and *Journal of Business Ethics*. Additionally, faculty and doctoral students had **29 papers accepted for presentation in top academic conferences** such as the American Accounting Association (AAA), Academy of Management (AOM), American Marketing Association (AMA), and American Finance Association (AFA), among others.

The scholarly impact of our faculty continues to trend upward as evidenced by

growing SCOPUS citations (157 for 2022, and more than 1700 since the pandemic began in 2020).

Outstanding Student Engagement

2022 was another successful year when it comes to student engagement. RCVCOBE students, undergraduate and graduate alike, have been actively involved in their student organizations and professional associations. Some even won various awards and recognition for their outstanding work. We thank the faculty advisors for supporting these amazing students! Here are some highlights:



RCVCOBE's **ENACTUS** student organization was recognized in Spring by **AACSB** as one of its **Innovations that Inspire** program for their **Sustainable Opportunities for Advancement and Recruitment or SOAR** project.



RCVCOBE Students Picked as Kemper Scholars

In Spring 2022, three of our students in Accountancy and Finance were selected for the inaugural **Kemper Scholars program**. With this program, the Kemper foundation provides scholarships to high-performing students in minority-serving institutions such as UTRGV. This program has since been expanded to include seven new scholarship recipients this fall. Pictured above are the selected students with their faculty advisors.

An Undergraduate Research Program was Launched in Fall 2022

The **Vackar Student Scholars (VSS) program** is an undergraduate research initiative at the Robert C. Vackar College of Business & Entrepreneurship (RCVCOBE). It is designed to provide eligible



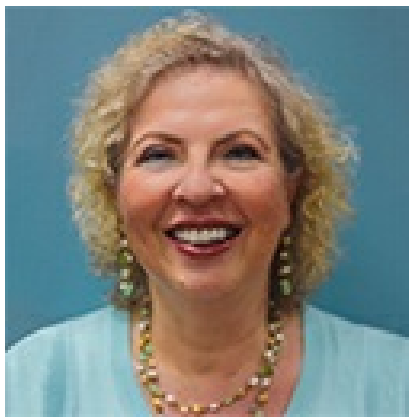
RCVCOBE's undergraduate students with an opportunity to conduct research projects in collaboration with faculty mentors.

Eleven students were selected to participate in this program this fall and will work with their faculty mentor on a research project during fall and spring semesters. The program concludes with a presentation of their findings in the spring semester. In addition to learning about research, selected students will also learn about our PhD program and possible career opportunities in academia. Pictured above are the inaugural cohort of students and their faculty advisors.

Award-Winning Faculty

Professor Gotti Received Outstanding Accounting Educator Award

Professor Giorgio Gotti, Director of the School of Accountancy, received the **Outstanding Accounting Educator** award in Summer 2022 from the **Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants (TXCPA)**. Congratulations, Giorgio!



Professor Hale Kaynak Included in Stanford's Most Cited Researchers

Dr. Hale Kaynak, a Professor of Operations Management, was included in the 2022 **Stanford University's report of top 2% most cited scientists in the world**. This recognition is a testament to Professor Kaynak's thought leadership and impactful research over the years. Congratulations, Hale!

In Memoriam

Remembering Dr. Marcie Sariol

In November 2022, the RCVCOBE family lost one of its own. **Dr. Marcie Sariol** was a 2016 graduate of our PhD program in Management. Upon graduation, she held tenure-track faculty appointments as Assistant Professor of Management at the University of South Dakota, and recently at Valparaiso University in Indiana.



Those of us who worked with her remember her dynamic and infectious personality, impressive work ethic and research productivity. She collaborated with our faculty in several high quality research projects that were published in high impact journals.

Marcie was not just a productive scholar, she was also an outstanding colleague, and an all-around decent human being.

She was a generous mentor to her fellow doctoral students. Marcie was also a beloved colleague at the PhD Project, and fully committed in supporting the professional success of minority doctoral students and faculty in every chance she gets.

Most importantly, she was a mother of a beautiful six year old boy Liam whom she loved so dearly.

May she rest in peace! Marcie will be missed! Our deepest condolences to her family!



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