

2020 IN REVIEW

JANUARY

UTRGV Earns Carnegie Foundation's Coveted Community Engagement Classification for 2020



We have come together to accomplish so much, despite a challenging year. Throughout the rapid shifts caused by COVID-19, the Office of Community Engagement (CE) continued to move resolutely forward in pursuit of connecting students, faculty, and community partners to community engagement opportunities.

As we look ahead to 2021, we remain motivated and inspired by hope for a better tomorrow.

Thank you for your perseverance and your continued commitment to our office.

Dr. Christian Corrales, Assistant Vice President
Dr. Doris Mendiola, Director
Beverley Gonzales, Administrative Coordinator

FEBRUARY

Carnegie Reception for Faculty, Staff, and Community Partners

CE celebrated and recognized the hard work of the faculty, staff, and community partners in achieving the Carnegie designation.



MARCH

CE Partners with UTRGV Texas Manufacturing Assistance Center



The UTRGV Nonprofit Resource Center partnered with TMAC to train nonprofits in project management.

APRIL

CE Collaborates with UTRGV Staff Senate

Staff members learned how to incorporate community engagement strategies contributing to institutionalizing engagement.



MAY

2020 Community Engagement Faculty Recognition Award



Constantine Tarawneh, PhD, Mechanical Engineering professor was recognized for his efforts in community engagement.

JUNE

CE Partners with UTRGV School of Medicine and La Union del Pueblo Entero (LUPE)

This virtual information session provided critical health and social updates regarding the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.



Grant Writing and Development 101 for Nonprofits



In partnership with BBVA, CE provided a virtual workshop on grant writing techniques for nonprofit organizations.

JULY

Dr. Corrales Serves on Virtual Programming Committee

The Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities (CUMU) established a working committee consisting of 12 higher education member institutions to develop a virtual conference and year-round programming.

AUGUST

CE Works with UTRGV Departments for National Nonprofit Day

CE collaborated with the Office of Engaged Scholarship and Learning and Student Involvement to highlight and recognize nonprofit agencies in the Rio Grande Valley.



SEPTEMBER

Dr. Mendiola Facilitates Presentation with Engaged Scholarship & Learning and the Center for Teaching Excellence

Thirty-one faculty members from across disciplines and colleges at UTRGV attended the first of a two-part series presentation related to best practices to implement community engagement efforts in the classroom during a pandemic.

OCTOBER

Presentation of UNIDOS and UTRGV Ambassador Program Partnership to CUMU

Dr. Christian Corrales led a best practices presentation focused on fostering partnerships to more than 30 participants from other CUMU university members.

25 UTRGV Faculty and Staff Participated In CUMU's 2020 Virtual Conference

The Office of Community Engagement endorsed UTRGV faculty and staff members to participate in the 2020 CUMU Virtual Conference, which offered advice about community engagement and provided networking opportunities with experts from other universities.



NOVEMBER

All Faith's United Thanksgiving Prayer

Dr. Mendiola fostered a relationship between the Proyecto Desarrollo Humano and the UTRGV Center for Diversity and Inclusion which led to a virtual community gathering that allowed for the inclusion of all faiths to come together to share commonalities and a moment of prayer in gratitude.



DECEMBER

Familiar Faces in New Spaces

The Office of Community Engagement moved to a new location on the UTRGV Edinburg campus. Our new offices are located on the 4th floor of the Student Services Building.