

Office of the Executive VP
for Research, Graduate
Studies & New
Program Development

INNOVATE

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR OUR REGION AND BEYOND

Convocation for our division was held virtually this Sept. 2020. [Watch the recording here.](#)

THE NEWSROOM

Have you seen this month's [research stories](#) and [other publications that featured UTRGV researchers?](#)

RESEARCH, INNOVATION, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION (RITC)

18
Grants Were
Awarded in July.
Congratulations
to the following
faculty and staff:

College of Engineering & Computer Science:
Dr. Marzieh Ayati
David Ortiz
Dr. Immanuel Edinbarough
Dr. Constantine Tarawneh
Finance & Administration:
Rick Gray, RN

College of Sciences:
Dr. Rupesh Kariyat
Dr. Karen Martirosyan
Dr. Hamidreza Ramezani
Strategic Enrollment:
Elias Ozuna
Griselda Castilla

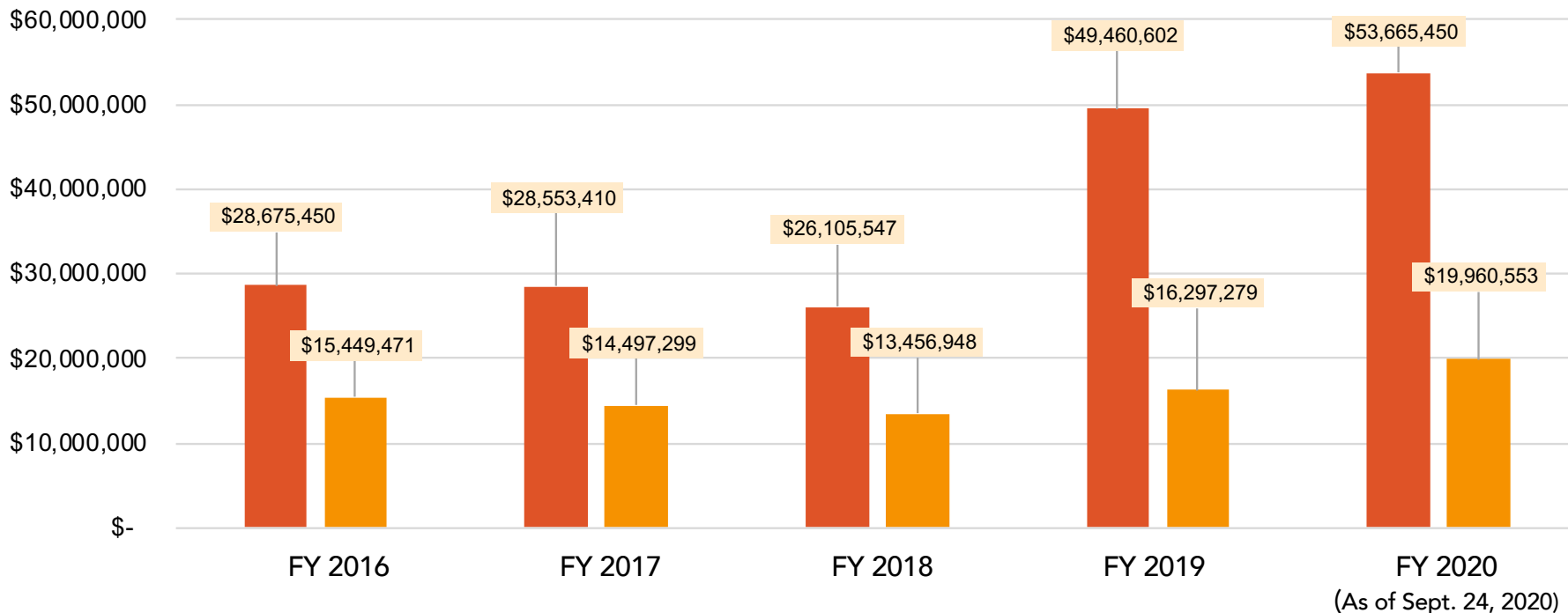
College of Education & P-16 Integration:
Dr. Rosalinda Hernandez
RCV College of Business & Entrepreneurship:
Dr. Russell Adams
Laurie Simmons

School of Medicine:
Dr. Lyuba Levine
Dr. Robert Nelson
College of Health Professions:
Dr. Sue Ann Chew
Dr. Upal Roy
Dr. Fidencio Mercado

Research Expenditures (Total & Restricted)

View details on the [Research website's reports page](#) including [research expenditure data](#) such as this graph.

■ Total
■ Restricted



University Libraries are fully functioning as an online/work from home hybrid.



5,521
WORKS
POSTED

146
STREAMS OF
NATIVELY-
HOSTED VIDEOS

56,599
DOWNLOADS

1,664
INSTITUTIONS AND
CORPORATIONS
CONTRIBUTE TO
READER/VIEWERSHIP

161
COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED IN
READER/VIEWERSHIP

\$41,970.17
Savings for materials
licensed by the library
for 5 courses that
moved to OER for Fall
2020

\$28,839.91
Savings for materials
licensed by the
library for Fall 2020,
representing 18
required e-textbook
purchases

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Continuing Education and Language Institute

\$1M+
REVENUE

97
COURSES OFFERED

***2,400+**
PARTICIPANTS SERVED

* LI serves international Students from over 18 countries including North and South America, Asia, and Europe.

PEWD Initiatives

Sustainability Student Leadership Program

Serves Sustainability Fellows to become leaders in their chosen profession.

Presidential Graduate Research Assistant (PGRA) Professional Development Program

Focused on connecting PGRA students to resources on campus and professional soft skills needed to succeed.

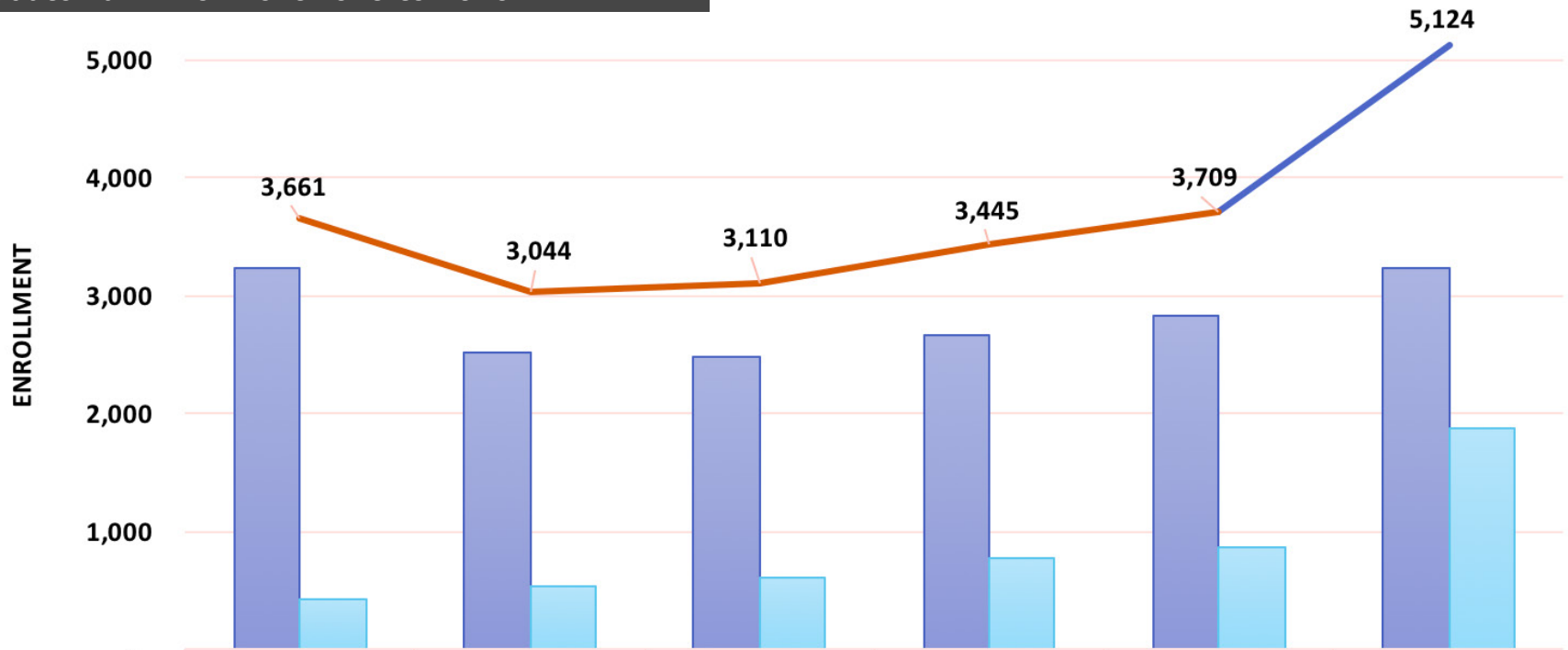
Campus Food Security Initiative (CFSI)

Partnership between Office of PEWD and Baptist Student Ministry (BSM) International to eliminate hunger and foster healthy eating habits and enhance access to locally grown/ sourced fresh produce and plant-based meals.

Graduate Fall Enrollment 2015 to 2020

Source:
Strategic
Enrollment
Report as of
Census Date

Enrollment
Includes
Traditional Fall
Semester and
Fall Module I
headcount



| | Fall 2015 | Fall 2016 | Fall 2017 | Fall 2018 | Fall 2019 | Fall 2020 |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Traditional Semester Enrollment | 3,234 | 2,512 | 2,492 | 2,670 | 2,838 | 3,240 |
| AOP Fall Module I Enrollment | 427 | 532 | 618 | 775 | 871 | 1,884 |
| Total Enrollment | 3,661 | 3,044 | 3,110 | 3,445 | 3,709 | 5,124 |

#1

Fastest Online Master of Public Administration
greatbusinessschools.org (2020)

#1

Best Online Physician Assistant Programs
Edumed.org (2020)

#1

Most Affordable Online Masters in Social Work
eduref.net (2020)
socialworklicensure.org (2019)

See more rankings in our division's **Fall 2020 convocation presentation!**

New Programs Started in Summer/Fall 2020

Traditional/Online Programs:

- Applied Statistics and Data Science (Traditional and Traditional Online)
- Graduate Certificate in Disaster Management and Sustainability (Traditional)
- Graduate Certificate in Bilingual Counseling

Accelerated Online Programs:

- MBA Specializations in Accounting, Business Analytics, Entrepreneurship, and Marketing
- Kinesiology, MS
- Engineering Management
- Curriculum and Instruction, MED
- Content Specializations– Math, English
- Criminal Justice, MS
- Social Work, MSSW – 63 Hours
- Teacher Leadership, MED (AOP)
- Health Sciences, MS with a concentration Health Professions Education and Technology

Graduate Certificates via Accelerated Online Programs:

- Clinical Laboratory Sciences
- Health Science Nutrition
- Higher Educating Teaching
- Advanced Business Administration
- Entrepreneurship
- Online Instructional Designer
- International Sustainability Management
- User Experience & User Interface Design
- Post Master's Certificate in Family Nurse Practitioner

CENTER FOR ONLINE LEARNING AND TEACHING TECHNOLOGY (COLTT)

COLTT Supported UTRGV's Transition to Remote Teaching/Learning due to COVID-19 Pandemic:

1,000+
Faculty Trained in Online Teaching

300+
Courses Blueprinted

51
Professional Development Sessions Provided in 2 weeks

812
Faculty In attendance

OFFICE FOR SUSTAINABILITY

12,811
STUDENTS, STAFF, FACULTY AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS REACHED

UTRGV IS A:
COOL SCHOOL
(Sierra Club Report)
SUSTAINABILITY UNIVERSITY
(UI Green Metric)
GREEN SCHOOL
(Princeton Review)

17
Sustainability Graduate Student Fellows

12
Projects Guided By OFS Mentors

15
Staff Professional Development Trainings

34
Faculty Professional Development Trainings

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

International Programs and Partnerships launched a Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) program at UTRGV. COIL is a high-impact learning practice that fosters intercultural understanding between students from different countries. Three UTRGV faculty received training from a national expert on COIL. They are paired with professors from Argentina, Colombia, and Mexico:
Dr. Maysam Pournick - Mechanical Engineering
Maria Leonard - Management
Marcela Hebbard - Writing & Language Studies

80K
Scholarships for International Students

673
International Students

263
International Graduate Students

57
Countries Represented

33
Major Cultural Events

2,661
Students/UTRGV Community Members Impacted And Educated

CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE & RURAL ADVANCEMENT (SARA)

\$850K
in Grant Funding for Operations

23
Jobs Created

71
Training Events Provided

5
Rural Business Start-ups Incorporated

1,106
Training Event Attendees

128
Start-up Farms and Gardens Established

CENTER FOR GRAVITATIONAL WAVE ASTRONOMY

4,650

Meters above sea level
(the highest American optical
telescope in the world)

TOROS: Transient Optical Robotic Observatory of the South

Construction has finished in February of our wide Field-of-View telescope to follow-up optical counterparts of gravitational wave events.

The vast majority of them expected to be collisions of binary neutron stars or a neutron star and black hole.

Located in Cerro Macon in the province of Salta in northwestern Argentina, the site is part of the Atacama plateau in the Andes mountains.



CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN STEM EDUCATION (CSTEM)

2,000+

K-12 students reached
through C-STEM, HEB
Planetarium, & Mobile
Lab

3

Virtual Summer
Math and Coding
Camps for high
school students

Dr. Cristina Villalobos, Founding Director, was awarded the following honors:

White House Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring
Richard Tapia Achievement Award for Scientific Scholarship, Civic Science, and Diversifying Computing

CENTER FOR ADVANCED RADIO ASTRONOMY

19 Mexican energy sector startup companies trained in technology entrepreneurship

CARA's STARGATE Technology Launch Pad (STLP) organized a 3-week training program with the Mexican Energy Council (COMENER), partnered with UTRGV's Entrepreneurship and Commercialization Center (ECC) and Texas Manufacturing Center (TMAC)

STARGATE Rapid Prototyping Spacecraft Tracking, and Space Environment Testing Facility: \$1.38M of equipment

Additive & subtractive prototyping: powder bed laser fusion 3D printer
Space environment simulator for materials & instruments
Radio-frequency shielded anechoic test chamber
Laser fiber splicer for high-power lasercomm/lidar/metrology
Printed circuit board fabrication
20-element phased-array spacecraft tracking station

CENTER FOR VECTOR-BORNE DISEASE

Ongoing grant: CDC Western Gulf Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases

4

Newly awarded
grants

2

Grants pending
award set up

5

Grants ended in
AY 19/20

3

Guest speakers
invited for Fall
2020 seminars

3

Publications with
the center byline