

Health Matters

What Matters to Your Health, Matters to Us

June 2020

Visit UT Health
RGV

Message from the Dean



As we reach the middle of the year, UT Health RGV and the UTRGV School of Medicine are still working diligently to provide the Rio Grande Valley with COVID-19 resources.

This month we have increased our COVID-19 testing capacity and have begun exploring antibody testing. I am proud of our healthcare professionals and faculty and staff who are working around the clock, leading the efforts and providing these much needed resources to our region.

We would like to remind everyone of the potential dangers that may still be present in the time of Coronavirus. We encourage everyone to continue practicing social distancing and to wear face masks to protect yourselves and those around you.

In addition to our front line efforts in combating the spread of COVID-19, this month we officially welcomed 55 new medical students for our class of 2024. We look forward to being part of their journey in becoming medical professionals.

We would also like to congratulate third-year medical student, Patrick Ojeaga on his new soon-to-be position as a student regent for the University of Texas Board of Regents by Governor Greg Abbott. Mr. Ojeaga has been an outstanding student during his time at our School of Medicine and is a tremendous leader at our university. I'm confident his dedication and work ethic will be mirrored in his new position as the new Student Regent on UT System's Board.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that the UT System Regents has approved a proposal for a new doctorate in Human Genetics program at the UTRGV School of Medicine. We thank our faculty and staff who have been on a mission to see this doctorate program through and we will keep you updated on the upcoming developments of this program.

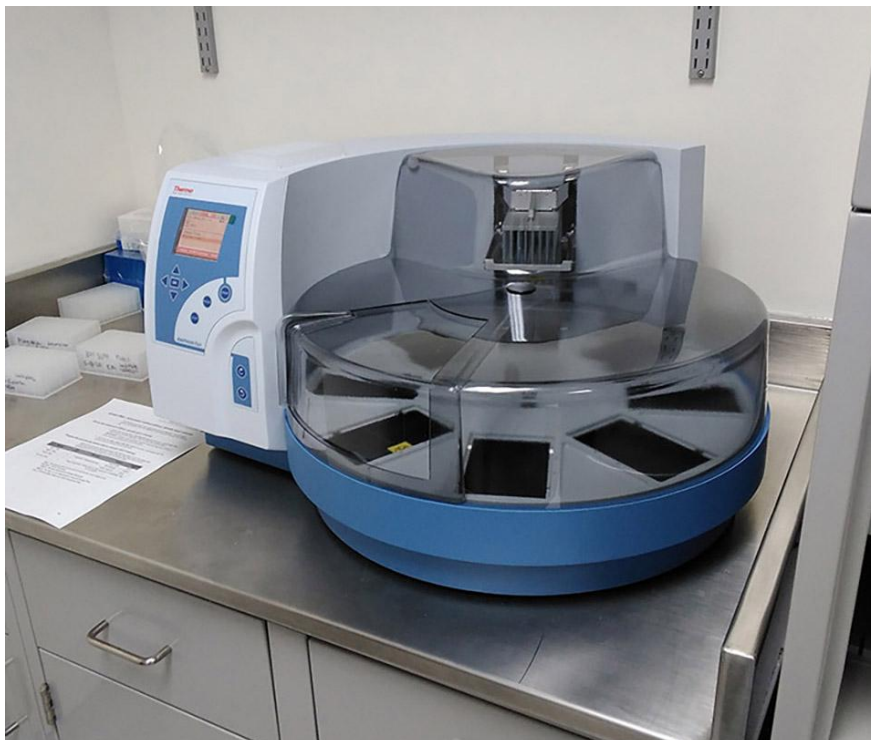
Sincerely,

John H. Krouse, MD, PhD, MBA
Dean, UTRGV School of Medicine
Executive Vice President, Health Affairs

About the
Dean

News and Events

UTRGV increases COVID-19 testing capacity from 150 to 1,000 daily



The UTRGV School of Medicine, through its practice plan, UT Health RGV, is substantially increasing the number of COVID-19 tests it can process in-house, via an automated extraction machine called the Thermo Fisher Kingfisher Flex.

The automation will allow the lab to process up to 1,000 tests each day, rather than the 150 possible with manual testing.

[Read More Here](#)

UTRGV School of Medicine matches with 55 students for Class of 2024



The UTRGV School of Medicine has matched with 55 prospective students for its Class of 2024.

The new cohort is comprised of 53 Texas residents who have matched, including 27 students from the Rio Grande Valley, further strengthening ties to the community. Two candidates are from outside of Texas.

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Texas governor announces intent to appoint School of Medicine student as UT System Student Regent



Texas Gov. Greg Abbott announced his intent to appoint Patrick Ojeaga, a third-year medical student at the UTRGV School of Medicine, to serve as the next student regent for the UT System Board of Regents.

Born and raised in McAllen, Ojeaga is the first UTRGV student to be selected as a student regent.

[Read More Here](#)

UT System Regents approve proposal for new doctoral program within UTRGV School of Medicine

The University of Texas System Board of Regents has approved a degree proposal for a doctorate in Human Genetics at the UTRGV School of Medicine.

The next step is for the Board of Regents to submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review of criteria and appropriate action the fall. If approved, the doctoral program will admit seven students per cohort starting fall 2021.

[Read More Here](#)

Giving

Sponsor a White Coat Today, Join us in Welcoming our Future Generation of Physicians

Thank you for Supporting a Future Physician



UTRGV |  **UT Health** | **School of**
Rio Grande Valley | **Medicine**

The White Coat Ceremony has become one of the most important traditions for the incoming medical class at the UTRGV School of Medicine. It creates an important milestone for students entering the medical profession. In the presence of family, friends, and faculty members, students will be presented their first white coats, marking the official start of their medical career.

Since its inception in 2016, the White Coat Ceremony has welcomed more than 200 of the Rio Grande Valley's incoming medical students. This white coat represents humanism and compassion and it is personally placed on each student's shoulders to welcome them into the most honorable, most respected profession in the history the world.

Join us in welcoming our future physicians and biomedical scientists by supporting a white coat. For \$150, you are providing a student with the universal symbol of the profession of medicine - the white coat. Your contribution shows students you believe in their ability to succeed and is a symbol of your commitment to the next generation of physicians. Your gift will have an immediate and meaningful impact on UTRGV and the lives of our students.

[Make a Gift](#)

Your gift to the School of Medicine supports our mission to educate a diverse group of medical students and future scientists to benefit the Rio Grande Valley and the world.

Great things are happening at the UTRGV School of Medicine. Learn more about the SOM Strategic Plan.

[UTRGV SOM Strategic Plan](#)

The University of Texas

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Us

