

# **UTRGV Transforming Our World Strategic Plan**

## **Action Planning Template for Institutional Goals**

### **Section 1**

#### **1.1 Initiative Title:**

Expanding Global Perspectives at UTRGV through Research and Outreach

#### **1.2 Short Description & Justification:**

This is part of UTRGV's coordinated and intentional strategic plan for implementing comprehensive internationalization through research and outreach. OGE will advance these forms of globalization by identifying, creating, and supporting international initiatives while opening a range of opportunities and support for the faculty through two grant programs, Faculty Research Grants and Global Opportunity Grants. This initiative will expand and increase the level of international research by UTRGV faculty and help ensure that international research has a direct and concrete impact on the global culture of the university by supporting visiting scholars and research presentations on global themes.

#### **1.3 Initiative Lead and contact information:**

Dennis Hart, Associate Vice President of the Office for Global Engagement (OGE)

[Dennis.hart@utrgv.edu](mailto:Dennis.hart@utrgv.edu)

956-665-7887

Office of Global Engagement

### **Section 2**

#### **2.1 Identify core priority(ies) or other area(s) of focus (CPOAF):**

Globalization

#### **2.2 Identify principal CPOAF subgoals and objectives:**

**Sub-goal 2:** Support faculty and students engaged in outreach, initiatives, and research focused on international issues and themes.

**Objective 2.1:** Increase international research and scholarship.

#### **2.3 Identify related CPOAF subgoals and objectives:**

## Section 3

### 3.1 Key Metrics:

Metric	Metric Leader(s) (Contact Info)	Baseline 2017–2018	Benchmark 1 2018–2019	Benchmark 2 2019–2020	Final Target 2021–2022
# of grant applications received for OGE Faculty Research and Global Opportunity grants	AVP Dennis Hart	50 applications	56	60	65
# OGE Faculty Research Grants awarded.	AVP Dennis Hart	31 awarded, 9 denied	25 awarded, 12 denied	28 awarded, 12 denied	30 awarded, 13 denied
# OGE Global Opportunity Grants awarded.	AVP Dennis Hart	19 awarded, 2 denied	17 awarded, 2 denied	18 awarded, 2 denied	19 awarded, 3 denied

### 3.2 Stories of transformation

1. Steve Mead’s musical recital, an invited performer funded by a Global Opportunity Grant, “was an exciting two days of teaching and performances. Mead taught lessons and masterclasses on both campuses and performed a recital. The recital was well attended by the campus community as well as public school students from the entire RGV. This event promoted internationalization of UTRGV through exposure that the artist brought to the university. Steve Mead has a large following around the world and through social media he documented the visit thus bringing knowledge of the university to a world wide audience. This event achieved its goals of bringing an international artist on campus to expose students to the highest performance and teaching standards around the world.” Over 50 people attended the event.

2. Professor Mi-son Kim, Political Science and coordinator of the Political Science Colloquium, was able to organize a speaker series successfully by inviting four guest speakers in Spring and one more speaker who visited in Fall 2018 with the grant. “Thanks to the grant, we were able to expand the scope and recognition of the series by successfully holding the events on a monthly basis and inviting established speakers outside the University since Fall 2017 when our department first initiated the Colloquium series.” These talks drew 40-70 people in the audience including faculty and students on both Edinburg and Brownsville campuses.

3. By Professor Mijin Oh, the “Writing and Language Studies Program along with the Korean language class, and Asian Studies Minor held the 1st Asian Spring Festival. Because of the Global Opportunity Grant offered to us from the Office of Global Engagement, Asian Studies committee chair, we were successfully able to create a multifaceted event with many different student associations, including the Chinese language & culture association, Japanese language & culture club, Japanese animation club, Indian culture association. Four Asian countries (Korea, China, Japan, India) were represented, and more than 200 visitors enjoyed the event.”

4. By Professor Brent Campney, FRG funding helped support research that produced two refereed journal articles. His first article was titled: *“What we need here is another Crystal City” The Mexican American Civil Rights Movement in South Texas, 1963* published in the *New Mexico Historical Review*. A second article supported by a FRG was titled: *“A Bunch of Bad Hombres”: Police Brutality, Municipal Politics, and Rasism in South Texas*. This appeared in the *Journal of the Southwest*.

## **Section 4**

### **4.1 Activities**

Activity	Activity Status (proposed, in-progress, implemented)	Timeline for Implementation	Lead responsible (include contact info)
Expand awareness of OGE grants to faculty so as to increase applications for grants through expanded online and social media promotion and in-erson events. Will expand website/emails for FRG and GOG to promote awareness. Meet with academic departments to promote grants.	Proposed	2020	Student worker/ OGE AVP
Expand faculty committees for FRG and GOG (membership partly rotates annually). This will increase the awareness among a greater number of faculty of the grant opportunities, thereby expanding interest and applications.	Implemented	Continous	FRG: Mark Anderson, Sibin Wu, Young Rae Oum. GOG: Minhee Eom, Linda Belau, Bin Wang. All committee members hold UTRGV faculty positions.
Establish and host annual summer meeting with committee members to review previous year. This will increase expertise of committee members in grant process. Meeting will include teaching/coaching faculty on how to promote awareness of grants among colleagues and departments.	New	2020	OGE AVP and FRG/GOG committee members.
Expand logisitical support for grant and outreach activities. OGE will help arrange logisitics for grant related events so as to make such events more attractive to faculty and increase applications and impact of activities through better and more coherent event logistis. Logistical support will include, scheduling venue, food orders, marketing through social media/posters, handling travel arrangements of speakers, overseeing payments/financials.	Proposed	2020	OGE staff
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## Section 5

### 5.1 Key institutional actors

Unit/department	Justification	Key contact or position
Office of Global Engagement	Applications, processes, and funds are housed in OGE.	AVP Dennis Hart
Home college of faculty applicant.	Grant applications need a letter of support from Dean.	Deans of each college

### 5.2 Other supportive institutional actors

Unit/department	Justification	Key contact or position
Department chair of faculty applicant	Grant applications require support from chair.	Various

## Section 6

### 6.1 Fiscal impacts: Estimated costs and/or investments required for initiative implementation (net increase from current activity) and estimated net revenue gain or loss.

All costs associated with these activities are part of the routine operating expenses of UTRGV and are built into the annual OGE budget. FRG/GOG grants require applicants to seek matching funds from other sources.

### 6.2 Projected Outcomes

#### 6.2a Short-term (by September 2018)

Increased activity and interest by UTRGV faculty in international research as well as outreach to the campus and community. OGE will be able to find and subsequently collaborate with faculty who have international interests. This will lead to other, non-research initiatives, such as finding international partners, faculty exchanges, student recruitment, etc. OGE was awarded a Department of Education Title VI UISFL grant to expand and enhance international studies and foreign languages at UTRGV. OGE is administering this grant and will deliver over \$180,000 in support of these goals. Examples include: conferences, workshops, library acquisitions, international travel, performances, study abroad, and outreach to local schools and libraries.

### **6.2b Mid-range (by September 2020)**

Continued activity and interest by UTRGV faculty in international research as well as outreach to the campus and community. Multi-year projects should also be visible as research and outreach span over academic years. OGE will work with faculty to find additional grants from the Texas Humanities Commission, NEH, and Contex. Such grants will create new opportunities for faculty and students to engage in international research and learning.

### **6.2c Five-year impact (by September 2022)**

The increased activity and interest by UTRGV faculty in international research as well as outreach to the campus and community will have led to greater awareness of globalization at UTRGV. These will be recognized by the number and quality of global initiatives, such as research, finding international partners, faculty exchanges, student recruitment, etc.