

UTRGV Transforming Our World Strategic Plan Action Planning Template for Institutional Goals

Section 1.

1.1 Initiative Title:

Provide a brief title that captures the essence of the strategy or initiative being proposed.

Increase the number and productivity of faculty and students engaged in research and creative work that positively impacts the RGV and beyond.

Build institutional capacity for externally funded research and creative work.

1.2 Short Description & Justification:

Provide a summary description of the overarching strategy or initiative that will help UTRGV make progress in advancing its mission and vision through the goals and objectives identified below. Explain why this intervention strategy or initiative is particularly important for achieving said expectations. That is, why should the university invest in such a strategy? What is the intention? What should we expect to achieve as a result?

This initiative is focused to promote, encourage, and provide assistance for research and scholarship and creative activities in all disciplines by the university faculty, staff, and students as well as build the institutional infrastructure that will enable faculty and students to conduct competitive research and creative work at the university to successfully compete for external funding for research and premier creative activities. The projected activity will help UTRGV within next 5-7 years to reach Emerging Research University metrics.

1.3 Initiative Lead:

Identify the person responsible for coordinating and documenting progress on this initiative

Dr. Karen Martirosyan, Associate Vice President for Research Enhancement, phone: 956 882 6736; email: karen.martirosyan@utrgv.edu

Section 2.

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

State the core priority(ies) or areas of focus outlined in the strategic plan to identify how this action plan connects to the Transforming Our World Strategic Plan

Research and Creative Work

2.2 Identify principal CPOAF subgoals and objectives:

Identify the primary subgoals and objectives that relate to the CPOAF identified above. These can be cut-and-pasted from the Goals, Objectives, and Metrics templates.

Sub-goal 1: Attract and retain faculty who will make significant contributions in research and creative work within the Rio Grande Valley and beyond.

Objective 1.1: Recruit outstanding faculty (ensure new faculty have the necessary tools and facilities to facilitate their success);

Objective 1.2: Retain successful faculty;

Objective 1.3: Provide leadership and growth opportunities for faculty;

Objective 1.4: Develop and promote new educational programs, research collaborations and Research Centers.

Sub-goal 2: Build a research enterprise, including shared equipment infrastructure, research services, graduate programs, and undergraduate research opportunities that empowers the generation of knowledge, discoveries, and creativity.

Objective 2.1: Build institutional capacity and enhance faculty competitiveness for external funding opportunities.

Objective 2.2: Increase the number of faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students engaged in externally funded research and creative work, and support their professional goals.

Objective 2.3: Increase peer-reviewed publications, intellectual property development, patents, licensing contracts, performances, presentations and awards for research, scholarship, and creative work.

Sub-goal 3: Enhance and expand scholarly development programs and support structures for faculty and students to increase their research opportunities, communications and leadership skills, and innovative capabilities.

Objective 3.1: Increasing opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students, post-docs, and research scientists/faculty to engage in externally funded research projects and creative activities.

Objective 3.2: Expand professional development opportunities for UTRGV stakeholders to advance their grantsmanship, research and artistic training skills, communication skills, and overall professionalism and integrity in the research enterprise.

Objective 3.3: Increase the number of external partners supporting UTRGV research and creative activities as well as the number of projects and ideas impacting the community at large.

2.3 Identify related CPOAF subgoals and objectives:

Identify subgoals and objectives of CPOAFs that intersect with this initiative. These can be cut-and-pasted from the Goals, Objectives, and Metrics templates.

Globalization:

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

Objective 2.1: Increase international research and scholarship.

Objective 2.2: Increase the visibility of work being done on international themes, through events and campus initiatives.

Sub-goal 3: Expand global partnerships, with a focus on Latin America.

Objective 3.1: Strengthen and expand ties with partner institutions for collaborative research.

Objective 3.2: Incentivize research, scholarship, creative works, and performance that address B3 initiatives.

Objective 3.3: Create research collaborations with community partners.

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
* Metric 1: Number of STAR hires at all academic levels (contributes to Objective 1.1-1.2)	Selina Mireles selina.mireles@utrgv.edu	3	4	5	6

Metric	Metric Leader(s) (Contact Info)	Baseline 2017-2018	Benchmark 1 2018-2019	Benchmark 2 2019-2020	Final target 2021-2022
*Metric 2: Number of faculty hired with reduced teaching load due to research/creative activity (contributes to Objective 1.2-1.4)	Selina Mireles selina.mireles@utrgv.edu	7	8	11	15
*Metric 3: Number of faculty trained in best practices for Faculty Searches (contributes to Objective 1.1-1.2)	Selina Mireles selina.mireles@utrgv.edu	12	15	20	30
*Metric 4: The quantity of support (faculty startup package) for research infrastructure to faculty innovators to develop their ideas into programs and proposals for external support in conjunction with capital and fundraising campaigns. (contributes to Objective 1.2; 2.1-2.3)	Selina Mireles selina.mireles@utrgv.edu				
Metric 5: Number of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary collaborations including Research Centers and Institutes (contributes to Objective 1.4 and 2.3)	Karen Martirosyan karen.martirosyan@utrgv.edu	12	13	15	17
Metric 6: Quantity of external funding and annual expenditures for research and creative activities: Total annual research expenditures Restricted annual expenditure (contributes to Objective 2.1-2.3 and 3.1-3.3)	Rosalinda Salazar Executive Director, Research Administration rosalinda.salazar@utrgv.edu BRN: 956-882-7665 BBRHB 2.210A	\$26.1M \$13.4M	\$49.4M \$16.3M	\$52M \$18M	\$55M \$20M
Metric 7: Annual institutional research investment/expenditures for research/creative activity (contributes to Objective 2.1-2.3 and 3.1-3.3)	Rosalinda Salazar Executive Director, Research Administration rosalinda.salazar@utrgv.edu BRN: 956-882-7665 BBRHB 2.210A	\$3.8M	\$24.8M	\$28M	\$30M

Metric	Metric Leader(s) (Contact Info)	Baseline 2017-2018	Benchmark 1 2018-2019	Benchmark 2 2019-2020	Final target 2021-2022
*Metric 8: Number of peer-reviewed publications Number of presentations, performances and exhibitions at regional, national, and international conferences and venues (contributes to Objective 2.1-2.3 and 3.1-3.3)	Selina Mireles selina.mireles@utrgv.edu Should be captured from Faculty Portfolio Tool				
Metric 9: Number of intellectual property development, patents, licensing contracts, and royalty streams (contributes to Objective 2.1-2.3 and 3.1-3.3)	Fernando Gonzalez Director, Technology Commercialization fernando.gonzalez@utrgv.edu EBG: 956-665-3006 ELAMR 2.108	12 invention disclosures, 7 patent filings, 0 licensing contracts, 4 royalty streams	13 invention disclosures, 12 patent filings, 1 licensing contracts, 4 royalty streams	10 invention disclosures, 10 patent filings, 3 licensing contracts, 4 royalty streams	12 invention disclosures, 15 patent filings, 5 licensing contracts, 2 royalty streams
Metric 10: Number of funded research opportunities, such as research fellowships, for undergraduate and graduate students: Engaged Scholar awards Presidential Graduate Research Assistantships Graduate Sustainability Fellowships (contributes to Objective 2.1-2.3 and 3.1-3.3)	Rosalinda Salazar Executive Director, Research Administration rosalinda.salazar@utrgv.edu BRN: 956-882-7665 BBRHB 2.210A	78 - -	98 50 10	100 60 15	110 70 20
Metric 11: Quantity of investment in research-related space (contributes to Objective 1.1-1.4; 2.1-2.3 and 3.1-3.3)	Marcela Deleon marcela.deleon@utrgv.edu Director of Budget and Operations - Research, Graduate Studies and New Program Development	Science Building (E) Interdisciplinary Engineering & Academic Building (E) Music, Science & Learning Center (B)	Interdisciplinary Academic Building (B)	School of Medicine Team Based Learning Center (Under Construction) (E)	Neuroscience Institute
Metric 12: Quantity of investment in the facility infrastructure and equivalent in facilities and equipment for creative works to allow researchers to seek, discover, and	Rosalinda Salazar Executive Director, Research Administration rosalinda.salazar@utrgv.edu BRN: 956-882-7665 BBRHB 2.210A	\$0.645M	\$0.9M	\$1.2M	\$1.5M

Metric	Metric Leader(s) (Contact Info)	Baseline 2017-2018	Benchmark 1 2018-2019	Benchmark 2 2019-2020	Final target 2021-2022
document the most advanced discoveries in their fields (contributes to Objective 2.1-2.3)					
Metric 13: Quantity of investment in support Major Research Instrumentation maintenance and repair (contributes to Objective 1.2; 2.1-2.3; and 3.1)	Karen Martirosyan karen.martirosyan@utrgv.edu	-	-	\$50k	\$200k
Metric 14: Number and funding amount of graduate student assistantships and fellowships as necessary to attract and retain top students and support UTRGV's graduate programs (contributes to Objective 1.2; 2.2-2.3; 3.1)	Veronica Ramirez veronica.ramirez@utrgv.edu	Graduate assistantship 468 (\$5,548,811) Graduate fellowships -	Graduate assistantship 670 (\$6,291,531) Graduate fellowships (\$85,000)	Graduate assistantship 700 (\$6,800,000) Graduate fellowships (\$95,000)	Graduate assistantship 750 (\$7,000,000) Graduate fellowships (\$100,000)
*Metric 15: Number of professional development opportunities, including grantwriting workshops, research trainings, and continuing education. (contributes to Objective 1.2-1.3; 2.1-2.3)	Karen Martirosyan karen.martirosyan@utrgv.edu Selina Mireles selina.mireles@utrgv.edu	6	7	20	25

*Numbers need to be corrected

3.2 Stories of transformation

1. Every month, UTRGV research faculty and staff go through the external funding process to fund their research, community outreach efforts, and student opportunities. We recognize the individuals and teams who are successfully awarded external grants and awards here <https://www.utrgv.edu/research/reports/2019-grants/index.htm>.
2. UTRGV awarded grant for anti-HIV drug research: Researchers at Department of Health and Biomedical Sciences are working to develop a next generation of anti-HIV drugs that are more effective and have fewer side effects <https://www.utrgv.edu/en-us/about-utrgv/news/press-releases/2018/august-03-utrgv-awarded-grant-for-anti-hiv-drug-research/index.htm>
3. UTRGV Hosts NANOSMAT 2018 Conference <https://www.utrgv.edu/innovation/news/2018/nanosmat-conference/index.htm>
4. UTRGV Hosts International Math Conference <https://www.utrgv.edu/innovation/news/2018/jsps-conference/index.htm>

Section 4.

Activities	Activity Status (proposed, in-progress, implemented)	Timeline for Implementation	Lead responsible (include contact info)
Faculty Grant Award Incentive Program (Contributes to Metric 1-3, 5-9; 12, 13)	Developed	Implemented	Marcela Deleon marcela.deleon@utrgv.edu
Established internal proposal electronic approval process by implementing Proposal Transmittal form, (PTF) to route pre-award grant administration and external proposals submission. (Contributes to Metric 5, 6)	Developed	Implemented in Spring 2019	Mari Perez Director, Sponsored Programs ELIBR 1.120 Phone: 956-665-3002 mari.perez@utrgv.edu
Tenure Track Faculty Research and Professional Development Program “ Keys to Research ”. (Contributes to Metric 1-5)	Developed	Implemented in Fall 2019	Dr. Karen Martirosyan karen.martirosyan@utrgv.edu
Developed processes, procedures and practices in human subject protections and the Institutional Review Board (IRB) reviews (Contributes to Metric 1-9; 12; 15)	Developed	Implemented in Spring 2019	Glorimar Colon, J.D. Executive Director, Research Compliance & Export Control, ELIBR 1.120 EBG: 956-665-3008 glorimar.colon@utrgv.edu
Develop PeopleSoft Pre-award and Post award Database to track research proposals and external grants/awards to open assess to proposal, award and expenditure information and generate research reports by different data points. (Contributes to Metric 1)	In-progress	Research Administration is testing the program to implement in Fall 2019	Rosalinda Salazar Executive Director, Research Administration rosalinda.salazar@utrgv.edu BRN: 956-882-7665 BBRHB 2.210A
Implement Post Approval Monitoring in the areas of human subjects and animals research (Contributes to Metric 5, 6)	In-Progress	Research Compliance & Export Control is working to implement it in Spring 2020	Glorimar Colon, J.D. Executive Director, Research Compliance & Export Control, ELIBR 1.120 EBG: 956-665-3008 glorimar.colon@utrgv.edu
Implemented Presidential Graduate Research Assistantships and Graduate Sustainability Fellowships (Contributes to Metric 4, 10 and 14)	Implemented	Graduate College	Veronica Ramirez veronica.ramirez@utrgv.edu
Implement changes to the identification and management of Potential Conflicts of Interest in Research and Sponsored Projects with the intent to improve the process and close compliance gaps.	In-Progress	Research Compliance & Export Control is working to implement it in Spring 2020	Glorimar Colon, J.D. Executive Director, Research Compliance & Export Control, ELIBR 1.120 EBG: 956-665-3008 glorimar.colon@utrgv.edu

(Contributes to Metric 1-9)			
Develop process to support Major Research Instrumentation maintenance and repair. (Contributes to Metric 1-9 and 13)	Proposal in preparation	To be implemented in Spring 2020	Dr. Karen Martirosyan karen.martirosyan@utrgv.edu

Section 5.

5.1 Key institutional actors

Unit/department	Justification	Key contact	Title	Email
Office of Research, Innovation and Technology Commercialization Program Development	This Office leads research related activities	Karen Martirosyan	Ass. VP Research Enhancement	karen.martirosyan@utrgv.edu BBRHB 2.210
Research Administration	This office assists various research units with cost center/project reconciliations, award reports, financial reports, hiring processes, travel arrangements, requisitions, timecards, technology issues, and other special financial requests.	Rosalinda Salazar	Executive Director,	rosalinda.salazar@utrgv.edu BRN: 956-882-7665 BBRHB 2.210A
Technology Commercialization	This unit is investigating, creating, protecting, and commercializing research and intellectual property (IP) at UTRGV.	Fernando Gonzalez	Director	fernando.gonzalez@utrgv.edu EBG: 956-665-3006 ELAMR 2.108
Office of Sponsored Programs	This office facilitates efforts in research by faculty and staff to help seek and administer both internal and external funding for research, scholarship, creative activities and public service- related projects.	Mari Perez	Director,	ELIBR 1.120 Phone: 956-665-3002 mari.perez@utrgv.edu
Office of Faculty Success & Diversity	This office offers a wide range of programming and support services to promote faculty excellence and to	Selina Mireles	Senior Associate Vice President for Faculty Success & Diversity	selina.mireles@utrgv.edu Phone: 956-665-7899

	ensure their personal and professional success through the following key goals and initiatives including FPT database.			
Office of Student Academic Success	This unit is responsible for Engaged Scholar Award for Undergraduate Research and Creative Works	Ming-Tsan P. Lu	Interim Director	mingtsan.lu@utrgv.edu
Graduate College	This unit is responsible for graduate education and operational management of graduate programs	Veronica Ramirez	Executive Director	veronica.ramirez@utrgv.edu
Division of Research, Graduate Studies and New Program Development	This division will quantify of investment to the research related space	Marcela Deleon	Director of Budget and Operations - Research, Graduate Studies and New Program Development	marcela.deleon@utrgv.edu

5.2 Other supportive institutional actors

Unit/department	Key contact	Title	Email
N/A			

Section 6.

6.1 Estimated costs and/or investments required for initiative implementation (net increase from current activity)

All costs associated with these initiatives are part of the routine operating expenses of UTRGV. Additional fund of \$0.2M per year are required to support Major Research Instrumentation maintenance and repair program.

Projected Outcomes

6.2a Short-term

If progress is made on implementing the initiative outlined above, what changes should we see by the beginning of the 2018–19 academic year?

Together, these activities help to support scholars engaged in research and creative work and enable them to attract research funding to address regional, national, and global challenges. Every

month, UTRGV research faculty and staff go through the external funding process to fund their research, community outreach efforts, and student opportunities. In this link, we recognize the individuals and teams who are successfully awarded external grants <https://www.utrgv.edu/research/reports/2019-grants/index.htm>.

6.2b Mid-range

If progress is made on implementing the initiative outlined above, what changes should we see by the end of the 2019–20 academic year?

Further increase about 10% of the total annual research expenditures and further assist scholars engaged in research and creative work (both long-term and short-term faculty lead) to compete for external funding and developing productive research programs.

6.2c Five-year impact (by September 2022)

If progress is made on implementing the initiative outlined above, what changes should we see by the conclusion of the five-year period?

The activity will maximize our collective success for external funding by better leveraging campus knowledge and expertise of federal and state agency priorities, building on successful programs for grant and professional development, and making unique campus strengths. As more faculty and students engaged in research and creative work a strong research enterprise with a total annual research expenditure of \$55M will be achieved comprising shared equipment infrastructure, research services, new graduate programs, and undergraduate research opportunities that empower the generation of knowledge, discoveries, and creativity.