

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Vaquero Connection

Fall 2020 Edition

Connecting Students to Success

Special Message from Dara Newton

Associate VP Strategic
Enrollment

Can you believe it is November? Thank you all for your hard work and dedication in supporting the transition of our first-year students from high school and our transfer students from their two-year college to UTRGV. The first two and a half months have been packed with virtual activities, improved learning formats, and more. I want you to know that we are working hard to support your former students and are dedicated to ensuring their success in their first term at UTRGV. While it is exciting to note that UTRGV enrollment broke 30,000 students this fall (actually 32,000), the Recruitment and Admissions Teams are already hard at work recruiting and admitting the next entering class with goals of continued growth in our freshmen and transfer cohorts. I know this year is not going to be easy as our state and region continue to battle the coronavirus, but together, the partnerships we have built will allow us to continue to support our students and place them on a trajectory to obtain their college education. (encourage your students to take advantage of the opportunities the Recruitment team has outlined in this newsletter) I am extremely appreciative of your relationships with our Recruitment team, with me and the University. Together, we are building "The Future of Texas"!

A Note from the Director

The Office of Undergraduate Recruitment at UTRGV is happy to welcome you to our Fall 2020 Edition of Vaquero Connection. Our team is already hard at work connecting with you and your students. The **College Search Process** can feel overwhelming and stressful. We want to help make sure the class of 2021 finishes strong.

The Fall Edition of Vaquero Connection is specifically focused on the application process. In this newsletter you will find updates from the Admissions Office, information on Application Drives, Virtual Resources, Outreach Representatives, Fall Events and more.

If you ever need additional assistance, please feel free to contact us directly at recruitment@utrgv.edu.

We're Here for You

The Recruitment Team at UTRGV is a small but talented and mighty group of Outreach Representatives. We encourage you to get to know your Outreach Rep. If you do not know the rep for your school, visit our Texas Territories Map: www.utrgv.edu/findmyrecruiter.

In addition to you having a relationship with your rep, we know it is important for your students to know their rep. Please share your Outreach Reps name and information with your students and families along with some of the ways your students can connect. Visit www.utrgv.edu/virtualrecruitment to view opportunities or schedule an appointment. Here is a glimpse of what is available:

- **Virtual Appointments:** Click on "Book Virtual Appointment" to get started
- **Virtual Office Hours:** Jump into a quick Zoom meeting to chat with your rep
- **Virtual Presentations:** Missed a presentation? Recordings are available!
- **Download** the *UTRGV Viewbook*, *Applicant Checklist*, or *Admitted Student Checklist*
- **Videos On-Demand:** Quick instructional videos on the ApplyTexas, FAFSA and more.

Application and FAFSA Drives

Schedule a *Virtual* Application or FAFSA Drive with your Outreach Representative today! With the help of our Vaquero Squad (current students), staff can assist students through ApplyTexas and FAFSA/TAFA applications. Outreach Representatives can provide a quick introductory presentation on how to apply and work one on one with your students and families.

Schedule an *on-campus* time for your students to complete their Admission Application and/or FAFSA/TAFA. Undergraduate Recruitment understands the importance of face-to-face interaction and we are pleased to offer on campus opportunities for your students. Schedule a time for your students to visit the Edinburg or Brownsville Campus to complete their applications in a safe, socially distanced, and sanitized computer lab(s) during the school day or on a Saturday (limited seating and preregistration required). Contact your Outreach Representative for more information.



VaqueroConnection

A NOTE FROM ADMISSIONS

UTRGV and the Office of Admissions are starting to process and review applicants for fall 2021. Remember UTRGV reviews on a holistic basis, so it's important for students to connect with their Outreach Representative if they have any questions. If you need assistance with a student's application, please contact us at recruitment@utrgv.edu.

- UTRGV is Test Optional for spring, summer and fall 2021.
- Students can submit missing documents by logging into the [document uploader](#).
- Essays do not have to be submitted at the same time as ApplyTexas Application
- AP Test Scores and Dual Credit Transcripts can help in the Holistic Review Process

Deadlines and Reminders

- Scholarship Deadline (students must be admitted): December 1 (Freshman) and February 1 (Transfer)
- FAFSA Priority Deadline: January 15
- Vaqueros MD/PACT Application Deadline: February 1
- Tuition Advantage Deadline: March 1

Meet Your Recruiter



Andi Scott

Hello! My name is Andi Scott, and I am the Outreach Representative for North and Central Texas! I have worked in university recruitment for 12 years and am embarking upon my third year with UTRGV! I live in Fort Worth, Texas which allows me to better serve the students from this region. Cultivating relationships with and getting to serve as a liaison between students (and their families) and the University has been a uniquely rewarding experience for me. I love getting to see my Central and North Texas students thriving at UTRGV, and I can't wait to watch my first UTRGV recruit cross the stage at commencement!

Save the Date

This semester UTRGV Undergraduate Recruitment will host virtual events for students in all stages of the admission process. Students and their families are welcome!

More information is available at www.utrgv.edu/recruitmentevents

- Financial Aid Night
December 7 @ 7pm
- UTRGV Fall Preview Day
October 24 and November 14
- Honor's College Night
November 19 @ 7pm
- Counselor Quick Updates
(click dates for links)
 - [Oct. 21, 22, 23](#)
 - [Nov. 18, 19, 20](#)

Daily Campus Tours Are Open

- Students can attend in person or virtually
www.utrgv.edu/campus-tours/

The Charles Butt Scholarship for Aspiring Teachers

The Charles Butt Scholarships for Aspiring Teachers consists of \$8,000 in annual funding for up to four years, as well as ongoing training and development opportunities, mentorship from sitting public school educators, and participation in a statewide aspiring teachers' network facilitated by the Raise Your Hand Texas Foundation. www.utrgv.edu/cep/research-centers/current-grants-projects/charles-butt-scholarship

Application is opening soon! Contact Derek Perez for more details, derek.perez@utrgv.edu.

