UNIVERSITY COLLEGE INSIDER

THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PROVOST
AND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Message from the Vice Provost and Dean

It may be hard to believe, but summer is here, and the UTSA Summer 2017 schedule of classes is here to help students both catch up, and maybe even get ahead.

Of course, many Roadrunners will be taking much needed time off from all things academic. Summer can often be a break between the hectic Spring and Fall semesters, allowing students a chance to earn extra cash at summer jobs; visit family and friends; or even enjoy some time away from San Antonio. Whatever your plans are, this newsletter contains information about the summer plans of University College, as well as the plans and achievements of your fellow students.

The University College’s primary focus is on all first-time in college students, all students with undecided majors, and MDST majors. The office is home to Testing Services, the Tomás Rivera Center, the University Health Professions Office, the Writing Program (including the Writing Center), the Multidisciplinary Studies Program (MDST), the Institute for Law and Public Affairs (ILPA), the Office of Scholar Development and Post-Graduate Advising, and the Core Curriculum.

On campus or off, University College would like to wish every Roadrunner a successful and relaxing summer.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lawrence R. Williams
Vice Provost and Dean

Introducing the Office of Scholar Development

The new Office of Scholar Development launched successfully in February of this year and has already begun serving a spectrum of UTSA students. Along with working to support 130 current Terry Scholars at UTSA, the Office helps students attain their academic and professional goals. In March, with assistance from the UT-System Archer Center, the Office selected 13 students – a record number -- to become UTSA Archer Fellows, who will study with other UT-System students in Washington, D.C., during 2017-18. In April, the Office prepared to welcome 14 new freshman Terry Scholars for fall 2017 and will be working through July to select 10-12 new transfer Terry Scholars for fall 2017. Throughout the spring semester, the Office also offered workshops on applying to graduate school, funding graduate school, writing personal statements for graduate school, and preparing for the GRE. Finally, the Office met with over 40 students to discuss research experience programs for undergraduates and placed nine of those students in summer research programs around the country. For more information visit the Office of Scholar Development website.
The TRC Celebrates First-Generation Roadrunners

The 1st Annual First-Gen Fest was held at the UTSA Main Campus on April 4th. This special event was an initiative of the university in recognition and celebration of the 11,000+ first-generation college students attending UTSA. The day consisted of music, food, information tables, and free t-shirts. Tomás Rivera Center staff from all programs attended the event and lent a helping hand by greeting students, passing out t-shirts, and providing information about TRC services. Thanks to everyone who came out and made the event a success!

Visit the TRC website for future events and services.

ILPA’s Summer Law School Preparation Academy

The UTSA Summer Law School Preparation Academy (SLSPA) will celebrate its 16th Opening Day Ceremony on May 30, 2017. Since its inception in 2000, the Institute for Law and Public Affairs has hosted the academically intensive program annually, allowing students to earn 12 credit hours over 10 weeks in courses that introduce them to the rigors of law school and prepare them for the challenges of the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT).

The SLSPA curriculum prepares students for law school and the LSAT by emphasizing analytical thinking, critical reading, and quality writing skills. The program also features seminars showcasing law school professors, admissions directors, and legal practitioners, to help better inform students of the decision to pursue legal education in addition to preparing them for the rigors of law school.

The academy incorporates two phases with students taking two three-credit courses in each five week session. Phase I starts May 30 and phase II starts July 7. Students who complete the SLSPA receive the Institute’s Certificate in Legal Reasoning.

The SLSPA was created to enhance pre-law educational opportunities and increase the number of Texas students who gain admission to and excel in high-quality law schools. SLSPA graduates have gained admission to more than 150 law schools including Harvard, Columbia, NYU, Michigan, UC Berkeley, University of Chicago and the University of Texas at Austin. In addition to the SLSPA, the Institute for Law and Public Affairs provides prelaw advising to UTSA students and alumni, and hosts events such as application workshops and the annual UTSA Law School Fair. For more information, visit the UTSA Institute for Law and Public Affairs website at www.utsa.edu/ilpa, email ilpa@utsa.edu, or call 210.458.2990.
**Winners of the Spring 2017 Freshman Composition I Scholarship**

The Writing Program has selected the winners for the Spring 2017 WC 1013 Freshman Composition I Scholarship

- Roshen Bagobe, "At the Edge of an Outlaw's Hope"
- Aashish Dhammani, "Escape from Imprisonment"

Each will receive a $2,000 scholarship.

The papers were written for Darren Meritz's Freshman Composition I class, which focused on using the UTSA Library Special Collections.

Students in the course examined correspondence from the 1930s to the 1950s chronicling the relationship between a wealthy San Antonio socialite and poet and a man on death row for shooting and killing a city police detective outside a Piggly-Wiggly.

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**The TRC Presents Two Summer Workshop Series**

The Tomás Rivera Center Academic Success Coaching program is pleased to announce two undergraduate workshop series this summer. No registration is necessary. For more information, contact Heather Frazer at Heather.Frazer@UTSA.edu or call (210) 458-7117.

**The Expert Learner Series**

Tuesdays, 1:00-2:00pm
Nueces Room (UC 2.216)

The Expert Learner Series is designed to assist undergraduates in sharpening their research and writing skills.

June 13th
Getting Started with Your Research

June 27th
Grad Writing as an Undergrad

July 18th
Presenting Your Research

**The Foundations for Success Series**

Thursdays, 1:00-2:00pm
Magnolia Room (UC 2.01.30)

The Foundations for Success Series aims to help students improve their foundational study skills, such as Time Management and Goal Setting, as well as Note Taking and Reading strategies.

June 15th
The Balancing Act: Tools for Time and Life Management

June 29th
Take Note! Strategies for Note Taking & Reading Your Textbook

July 13th
Go For It! Goal Setting for Personal Success

Can't make it to a workshop? Call (210) 458-4694 or stop by MS 1.02.02 to schedule an appointment with an Academic Success Coach!

As a reminder, The TRC Academic Success Coaching program will be open and serving all UTSA students during the summer sessions! Academic Success Coaches are professional staff who work with students in individual appointments to overcome academic challenges such as time management, goal-setting, procrastination, test preparation, etc. During the initial meeting, the coach and student determine a student's academic strengths and weaknesses to devise a success plan based on preferred learning methods. The goal is to help students understand and use effective learning strategies appropriate for their needs to become effective, self-regulated learners. To schedule an appointment, call (210)-458-4694 or come to MS 1.02.02. Our office is open Monday-Thursday from 8am-6pm and Fridays from 8am-5pm.
Spotlight: TRC ACE Graduate is First Gen Success Story

My name is Kelsey Badillo, I am the first in my entire family to graduate with my bachelor’s degree. It has been such an honor to be a participant in the 2013 ACE cohort. I have had amazing experiences being under Leticia Longoria-Fisher’s care. She always guided me and provided me with experiences and opportunities that I will always cherish. The ACE Scholar Program really prepares and gives students an insight on how college life is before you actually start. Being a recipient of the ACE Scholar Program provided me informational sessions that taught me valuable lessons that will help me throughout my life; managing your money, time management and networking are a few examples. As a first generation student, I was so clueless about college and navigating through my post-secondary education. Today, I am proud to say that I have earned my Bachelor’s Degree in Communication. I am forever grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of The Access College and Excel Scholar Program (2013 Cohort).

Dr. Williams to Retire After 34 Years of Service

On Wednesday, April 26th, UTSA honored Vice Provost and Dean of University College Dr. Lawrence Williams with a retirement party celebrating his 34 years of service at UTSA. Current and former faculty, staff, and students, as well as Dr. Williams’ family, were in attendance for food, cake, and speeches from Dr. Nancy Martin, Associate Vice Provost for Core Curriculum and QEP; Dr. Sandy Norman, Department Chair of Mathematics; Dr. Mauli Agrawal, Interim Provost; and even Dr. Williams’ wife took to the podium before the guest of honor himself.

Dr. Williams will not retire until August 31st, allowing the UTSA community one more summer of his wisdom and counsel.
### Summer Academic Calendar

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