Outreach Council Meeting Notes  
March 28, 2017  
Buena Vista Assembly Room


I. Welcome, Introductions and Vice President’s Report  
   Dr. Jude Valdez, VP for Community Services

a. Dr. Valdez began the meeting reminding everyone of the mission and purpose of the Outreach Council, which is to serve as a vehicle for disseminating, sharing and inventorying outreach activities throughout the institution, for promoting collaboration where outreach interest may overlap, for promoting community engagement, and for fostering the exchange of ideas so as to avoid duplication.

b. He noted that the UTSA Downtown Campus is an indication of our community involvement and that since its founding, its mission has been two-fold: 1) Academic 2) Serve as a center for community engagement and a place where people from the community and UTSA come together.

   One of our goals is to further develop the Downtown Campus. To achieve this goal, a task force has been created and charged with re-visioning the campus. Among many ideas discussed during Town Hall Meetings and surveys, one that surfaced is the idea of the UTSA Conference Center to have a place to hold community and academic events. The Conference Center space will include the Buena Vista Building, specifically the renovated and state-of-the-art theater, and the various rooms located on the 1st floor of the Durango Building, which will serve as breakout rooms.

c. Dr. Valdez proceeded to share a report on the outreach and impact made in 2015-2016 by the UTSA community. He highlighted that there were 961,300 community engagement activities, 400+ community organizations served by UTSA and 426,125 service hours completed by UTSA students.

II. Present Executive Summary of Service Center and Institute Annual Reports  
   Brian Halderman, LMSW, Director of the Center for Civic Engagement

Brian Halderman handed out and reviewed a consolidated report for academic year 2016 of the activities carried out through the 22 service centers and institutes that are part of UTSA Community Services and Academic Affairs. The report demonstrates that the impact these centers and institutes are having is far reaching. Eliot Howard brought forward a missing piece from the report: the number of UTSA students touched by the work performed in each center/institute. Brian assured him that the goal is to include that information in the next report.
III. Discussion and Feedback on Executive Summary aligned with Blueprint 2020

After reviewing the report, council members discussed how we can further align the service centers/institutes’ activities with the current strategic plan activities and feedback was written on adjustments and new initiatives to help us meet Strategic Goal 3 of Blueprint 2020. Among the many recommendations submitted are the following:

- Seek partnership opportunities for transitioning military-connected individuals to engage with educational opportunities, including certificate programs.
- Align service centers and institutes with city economic development priorities.
- Explicitly incorporate UT System Chancellor’s Leadership Competency development priority into 3.1 through new and expanded service learning opportunities.
- Many service centers work in parallel with academic units; it was recommended that they work together.
- Ensure the UTSA Institute for Economic Development is represented on Workforce Solutions Alamo Local Workforce Board.
- More collaboration between all entities.
- Themed alumni events at the DT Campus Conference Center.
- Enhance internal & external communication to inform others about what each center/institute accomplishes. What about a mixer with all service centers/institutes?
- Expand involvement by possibly engaging UTSA Junior Achievement volunteers with local non-profits.

Serafina De Los Santos, of Joint Base San Antonio, invited council members who are interested in expanding their work with families through outreach opportunities to please contact her.

IV. Faculty/Student Community Engagement Spotlight

*Center for the Well-being of Military Children and Families, Dr. Carmen Fies, Director*

Dr. Fies talked about the mission of the Center, which is holistic engagement with the often challenging circumstances families are faced with during and after military service. The center connects its stakeholders with various services, including but not limited to legal, education and health care. A number of community partnerships, an active advisory board and a variety of events allow the center to have a greater impact on the community it serves.

V. Adjourn