I. Welcome, Introduction and Vice President’s Report – Dr. Jude Valdez

- Everyone in the room had the opportunity to introduce themselves. Dr. Valdez presented the mission and purpose of the council and discussed the importance of the term Community Engagement instead of Outreach. UTSA is part of the DNA of the Community. It was established to serve this region. We are involved in the community through all of our areas.
- Dr. Valdez highlighted the Journal of Higher Education, Outreach and Engagement as an important journal for the Council’s review. He will follow up with an email regarding how to access the journal.
- Last year we announce the award of the prestigious Carnegie Community Engagement Classification and we continue to build on this recognition.
- We celebrate our engagement through the Community Connect Magazine, which shares our collective impact with the community on an annual basis.
- We award annually faculty, staff and students who are involved in community activities. This year’s faculty award went to Dr. Jill Fleuriet for her work with non-profit organizations. Next year we will add an additional award for a non-tenure track faculty member.
- We made changes to the Handbook of Operating Procedures to reflect the importance of service-learning and community-based research initiatives, under Faculty Reappointment, Promotion and Tenure section of the HOP.

II. Blueprint 2020 – Community Engagement Spotlight – Sonia Martinez

- Sonia Martinez, Chief of Staff, Office of the President, presented on the importance of the community engagement piece is for this institution in our Blueprint 2020 in order to become a Tier One institution.
- There are five goals in the new plan. Goal number 3 is based on community engagement: We will enrich the quality of life and economic prosperity of the communities we serve.
- Four strategies will help us achieve this goal:
  - Provide the community with substantial human resources through the engagement of students and faculty in service-learning activities.
Create new, strategies public/partnership with educational institutions, industry, government and venture partners that strengthen the economic well-being of our community and enhances the ties with the University.

Serve as a catalyst in collaboration on economic development initiatives, technology commercialization research collaboration and partnerships.

Provide an optimal research enrichment for faculty by reducing the financial and administrative burden on colleges and departments.

The strategies and goals show that UTSA made sure that all elements of the community were thought about when developing this part of the Blueprint.

Blueprint 2020 Implementation Suggestion cards were passed out to all the participants so they can make additional recommendations.

III. Center for Civic Engagement – Brian Halderman

- Brian Halderman, Director of the Center presented on the following:

- What the Center is doing currently:
  - CRM database to track community partnerships.
  - Contests to harvest student engagement via social media.
  - Improved tracking of events open to public.
  - Improved RSO reporting on engagement.
  - UTSA Engaged (volunteer matching and tracking system).
  - SL Course designation.
  - Surveys on various engagement programs

  - How should we be preparing students for service-learning experiences in the community?
  - How can we encourage course designation of community engaged course offerings, how can we grow them?

IV. Faculty/Student Community Engagement Spotlight

- Rowdy Corps – Brian Halderman

- A new community-based work study program has initiated during the 2015-16 academic year called Rowdy Corps. The program allows work study eligible students to use those funds in community non-profits for valuable experiential learning placements.
  - Placed 16 work-study eligible students in community non-profit agencies.
  - Students attended four reflection sessions during the academic year.
  - Performance evaluations conducted with the students and agencies.
  - Rowdy Corps Member Spotlight (three students who have participated in the program were highlighted).

- There are plans to expand the program, because there are requests for more Rowdy Corps students by agencies and there is strong student interest.

- San Antonio Writing Project – Dr. Roxanne Henkin
The San Antonio Writing project, housed in the College of Education and Human Development is the local site of the National Writing Project and a collaboration between UTSA and area school districts.

Our Commitment is to great writing and improving writing. We are a resource for the community. Our principal work is to provide professional development to teachers of writing at all grade levels with the goal of improving student writing outcomes.

Every year there’s the Cuentos Project, April 2016. Kids interviewing their parents and grandparents to build and share their stories.

Kahani Project. People writing about their lives and sharing insights.

Writing Marathon.

SAWP Writing Camps. SAWP at UTSA for rising 4th – 12th grade. SAWP Good Sam Writing Camp. SAWP Mission Library Writing Camp, SAWP Nonfiction Writing Camp, SAWP Mission Writing Camp.

SAWP Super Saturdays. Once a month, free and open to the community.

SAWP Annual Conference. Free and open to the community.

Teacher Exchange from Limpopo, South Africa.

Haridward Writing in India.

Projects and Partners: Write for Texas, service in Area Schools and School Districts, Library Memoir and Bullying Projects, the Doseum, Good Samaritan Center.

- The next Outreach Council Meeting will be at main campus in Fall 2016.