



Undergraduate Student Support

College of Sciences

OVERVIEW

The University of Texas at San Antonio's College of Sciences (COS) is a community of world-class scientists, passionate students, and dedicated staff with an overarching goal to ensure that students are prepared in both their personal and professional lives as they graduate from UTSA. To that end, the COS is committed to providing a rich and challenging academic environment that provides its more than 5,000 undergraduate students with invaluable opportunities to interact closely with their professors and mentors through innovative programming and hands-on research. No matter their career aspirations, state-of-the-art academic and research facilities provide them access to the inspiring and rewarding activities that will propel them toward their goals and prepare them to be compassionate scientific thinkers who contribute to communities throughout the world in a meaningful way.



CHALLENGE

The success of UTSA students is of utmost importance to the COS and the college is committed to providing them access to hands-on experiential learning opportunities, impactful student support services, and rewarding extracurricular activities. With this commitment comes an obligation to develop the resources necessary

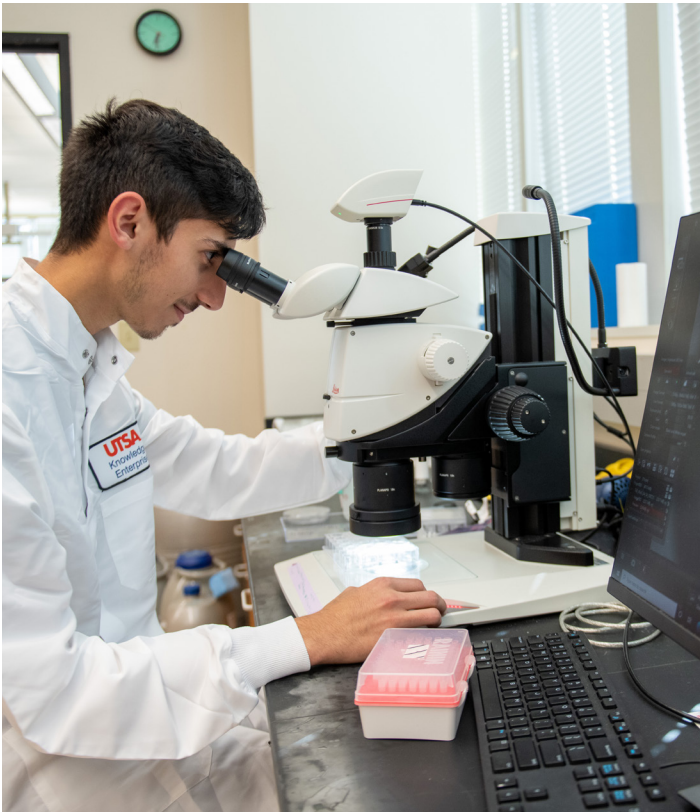
to support a robust and challenging academic environment across its 40 different degree programs. To address the most pressing needs of the college's undergraduate students, it must build a well-funded scholarship endowment and expand the many in-demand programs and services.

The College of Science's immediate priorities include:

- General Scholarships to recruit and retain high-achieving students and position them to be able to complete their degrees in four years without the burden of debt.
- Retention Scholarships to support high-performing undergraduate students who indicate that they are not returning to UTSA due to financial circumstances. These "bridging the gap" scholarships will provide excellent students the opportunity to succeed.
- Honors Scholarships to provide an enriched academic experience to help the most high-achieving students become even better and increase their opportunities for admission to top graduate programs.
- Student Success Center to serve as a portal to academic and personal success. More than 80% of the COS students now use the current center. The college's goals for retention and graduation rates will only be met when it can provide what students need to graduate on time, equipped with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to enter the workforce or advanced academic and professional programs.

IMPACT

While the current retention rate of first-year students in the College of Sciences is at 80%, only 40% of those first-year students graduate with a four-year degree, and only 20% of those first-year students graduate with a COS degree. By making sure that its more than 5,000 students have the appropriate financial resources and support to help them succeed, the college can significantly increase its graduation rate from its current 20% to 30% over the next five years, which will in turn increase the overall UTSA graduation rate. The college's continuing efforts to recruit, retain, and advance its students to timely graduation will be greatly improved by the addition of more scholarships and by the expansion of the Student Success Center, which aims to empower all COS students to take ownership of their learning experiences. Enhanced programming and services, such as academic coaching and career counseling also will allow for more interaction among students, faculty, and staff from our various disciplines. With over 40% of the college's enrolled students being the first in their families to attend college and more than half from under-represented minority groups, the potential beneficial impact of this increased support and programming will be transformational.



PHILANTHROPIC OPPORTUNITIES

The University of Texas at San Antonio has launched a comprehensive campaign to support UTSA's 10-Year Strategic Vision introduced by President Taylor Eighmy in 2017. **Be Bold: A Campaign for Our Future**, which also extends 10 years and has a working goal of \$500 million, is focused on providing the infrastructure and resources needed to become a model for student success and research. There are several philanthropic opportunities within the College of Sciences.

Scholarships make a tremendous difference in helping UTSA attract and recognize high-achieving students. Endowed Faculty Positions help foster excellence in research and support efforts to recruit and retain highly qualified educators, researchers, and administrators. **Capital Projects** provide the necessary spaces to stimulate learning, research, creativity, and collaboration among students and faculty.

Annually, endowments at UTSA generate these awards:

- \$25,000 investment generates approximately \$1,125 in scholarship support.
- \$50,000 investment generates approximately \$2,250 in scholarship support.
- \$100,000 investment generates approximately \$4,500 in scholarship support.

UTSA has multiple avenues available to make a significant impact. Gifts made annually can provide scholarship, research, and programmatic support across all areas. Gifts made through certain assets also have many benefits and include stock, IRAs, donor advised funds, real estate, life insurance, intellectual property, collectibles, matching gifts, in-kind gifts, estate gifts, and more.

NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

The University of Texas at San Antonio also welcomes the opportunity to discuss a naming opportunity that can provide support beyond bricks and mortar. Supporting a naming opportunity can allow for major academic and programmatic transformations that will elevate UTSA to greater levels of excellence and increase its competitiveness on a global scale.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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