The UTSA Honors College (HC) has a curriculum designed to amplify their students’ professional and personal development through internships, community-based service learning, cultural exploration abroad, undergraduate research, and skill development. Already home to the university’s Office of Nationally Competitive Awards and Fellowships, which assists students in identifying and applying to prestigious programs, the college envisions a Center for Civic Leadership to greater connect the many facets of its highly customizable curriculum. A major goal of the center is to build an endowment to fund an increased number of scholarships for students to engage in competitive internships in Washington, D.C., Austin, and San Antonio through the Archer, Legislative Scholars, and Citymester programs.

OVERVIEW

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CHALLENGE

Students enrolled in the Honors College are encouraged to apply and participate in special programs like Citymester, which provides selected students with a semester or summer of engaged learning through working with non-profits, businesses, and other agencies in San Antonio. This Legislative Scholars program offers students the opportunity to serve as interns in the Texas House of Representatives during regular legislative sessions in Austin. Meanwhile, the coveted Archer Fellowship in Washington, D.C. matches students with internships related to their field in government institutions, non-profits, and other organizations. Honors students can also participate in study abroad programs, where they can intern, learn foreign languages, and conduct research. Though these experiences are subsidized by scholarships, the full cost of participation is often beyond the financial reach of many of our valued students. More than 50% of Honors College students are unable to take advantage of these highly rewarding programs because of financial barriers.
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 discovery. There are several philanthropic opportunities within the Honors College.

**Undergraduate Scholarships and Graduate Student Fellowships** 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. Our endowment levels include:

- $2,000,000+ Distinguished University Chair
- $1,500,000+ Distinguished Chair
- $1,000,000+ Chair
- $500,000+ Distinguished Professorship
- $250,000+ Professorship
- $100,000+ Faculty Fellowship
- $25,000+ Undergraduate or Graduate Scholarship

UTSA has multiple avenues available to make an incredible 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.

**IMPACT**

Experiential learning is an essential element of our Honors College students’ curriculum and has been proven to accelerate learning and increase critical thinking, problem solving, and decision-making skills—a valuable combination for students who are already highly motivated and whose curiosity goes beyond the theories taught in the classroom. By coordinating the various experiential learning opportunities available to its students from a new HC Center for Civic Leadership, the Honors College will be able to provide its students with more access to internships in policy, politics, legislative offices, and other opportunities that will expand access to essential networks for their success, both in school and after graduation.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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