College of Sciences
The University of Texas at San Antonio

OVERVIEW
Contributing to critical advances in science while providing a challenging and robust academic environment for its more than 5,000 undergraduate and graduate students is the goal of the UTSA College of Sciences (COS). Its faculty engage in world-competitive research across a broad range of computational, life, physical, and mathematical sciences. Specific strengths include advanced materials at the nanoscale, brain health, cybersecurity, drug discovery for precision medicine, earth and planetary science, ecology, infectious disease, neuro-inspired artificial intelligence, supermassive black holes in distant galaxies, and water sustainability. The college’s greatest impact comes from instructing, training, and mentoring students to become future science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workers and leaders for industry and academia. That impact is especially critical for our majority Hispanic cohort, many of whom are also first-generation students. Through its co-equal priorities of instruction and research, the College of Sciences plays a pivotal role in UTSA’s contribution to the local, state, national, and global communities.

CHALLENGE
With UTSA on an upward trajectory toward achieving National Research University Fund (NRUF) eligibility and maintaining Carnegie R1 Classification, the COS must continue to enhance its own considerable research efforts. The more successful our scientists are in addressing some of society’s greatest challenges, the greater the need becomes to remain competitive in attracting other outstanding faculty to join in conducting cutting-edge research. This extraordinary human capital must also be equipped with teams of post-doctoral fellows and graduate and undergraduate students to assist with research. This is in addition to the latest scientific instrumentation and laboratory facilities. The College of Sciences faculty and graduates must increasingly secure their places in the local, national, and global scientific and policy arenas to better position the college to compete for government agency funding, private investments, and partnerships and collaborations that will advance the important work being conducted in the laboratories and classrooms.
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.

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:

- $3,000,000+ Distinguished Chair
- $2,000,000+ Chair
- $1,000,000+ Distinguished Professorship
- $500,000+ Professorship
- $250,000+ Faculty Fellowship
- $100,000+ Graduate Fellowship
- $25,000+ Undergraduate Scholarship

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.

IMPACT

Advancing scientific literacy, research, and discovery is what guides the College of Sciences’ work. Conducting cutting-edge research to expand the frontiers of science and mathematics, establishing broad partnerships to enhance scientific competence at all levels, providing leadership in the education of underrepresented and disadvantaged groups, and supporting the engagement of faculty and students in global partnerships are central to the COS mission. As the college increases its national and international prominence, the competition for faculty and students to contribute to this mission will continue to grow. Additional endowed chairs, professorships, and faculty fellowships will be key to ensuring success in faculty recruitment. The same will be true as the college positions itself to recruit top students into both its undergraduate and graduate programs, with financial assistance often being a deciding factor for students selecting a university. Robust endowments to fund undergraduate scholarships, graduate fellowships, and graduate level research support will make an enormous difference in the college’s ability to attract and retain the brightest minds who will help create a rich academic environment.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Taylor Bird
Director of Development
Taylor.Bird@utsa.edu