A new, student-centric college structure that prepares students to pursue careers in modern healthcare settings.

THE CHALLENGE

The university's human health–related programs are spread across three plus colleges, which negatively impacts attracting new students and navigability for existing students in health-related areas. Moreover, this structure is out of step with current models where diverse health care providers work together to deliver comprehensive health solutions to complex disorders such as obesity, diabetes and opioid addiction. The current structure also limits the visibility to potential community partners, as well as opportunities to create cross-cutting collaboration in research and program development.

THE IMPACT

Healthcare-related jobs in San Antonio are rapidly on the rise — more than 8,750 jobs were added in the last five years, and growth in various health-related programs at UTSA indicate a strong interest among our students to pursue these careers. The Human Health Initiative seeks to capitalize on UTSA's deep and broad expertise in health science and health policy to better facilitate student preparation and address health disparities. With the rich network of community partners, UTSA stands to accelerate collaborative work for the benefit to students, faculty, the San Antonio community and beyond.

OVERVIEW

UTSA is surveying the human health landscape to develop a college organizational structure that aligns health-related programs to enhance student success, career readiness, partnering opportunities, transdisciplinary research and funding competitiveness. An Advisory Task Force, composed of faculty and staff from UTSA, UT Health San Antonio and UTHealth School of Public Health, is using systematic data to inform the development of notional organizational structures, which then will be vetted for subsequent implementation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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INITIATIVE BRIEF
HUMAN HEALTH

A NEW COLLEGE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE FOR HEALTH PROGRAMS

» Focused on increasing student enrollment and success
» Logical, intuitive and centered around advancing human health from a transdisciplinary perspective
» No additional administrative overhead
» Enables research synergies and new team science among UTSA faculty and with external partners, increasing external funding opportunities

POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS
In addition to academic partners UT Health San Antonio and UT School of Public Health, the Human Health initiative seeks to partner with:

» Health-related community and service providers (e.g., Haven for Hope, BAMC)
» Employers
» Additional community, research and service delivery partners (e.g., SwRI)

SUCCESS METRICS

» Student enrollment
» Student retention
» Marketable skills
» Community and industry partnerships
» Funding for research and training