



UNIVERSITY COLLEGE INSIDER

THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PROVOST AND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



Message from the Vice Provost and Dean

Welcome to the Fall 2016 semester, and the latest issue of the University College Insider: The Office of the Vice Provost and University College Newsletter.

This semester, nearly 4500 roadrunner freshmen will be beginning their academic career here at UTSA. Whether you are a first-time freshmen, a transfer student, or a returning student; living on campus or off; the fall semester is almost always a time of new beginnings and expectations. During [Roadrunner Days](#) (August 19th - 28th), both the main campus and downtown campus will have events for students, including the President's BBQ, an Explore Your Major event, and the Student Organization Showcase for those of you that are ready to jump right in and get involved. It is the perfect time to explore student life here at UTSA and get to know your school.

In University College, our primary focus is on all first-time in college students, all students with undecided majors, MDST majors, and ROTC cadets. The office is home to the Air Force ROTC, the Army ROTC, Testing Services, the Tomás Rivera Center, the University Health Professions Office, the Writing Program (including the Writing Center), the Multidisciplinary Studies Program (MDST), the Institute for Law and Public Affairs (ILPA), and the Core Curriculum.

We welcome you to this Fall 2016 semester, and wish you every success as a student here at UTSA.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lawrence R. Williams
Vice Provost and Dean

Expert Learner Series from the Tomás Rivera Center

The Expert Learner Series brought to you by the Tomás Rivera Center provides undergraduate students with an excellent opportunity to discuss and receive information relevant to your issues as academics. This Fall's theme will focus on Undergraduate Research.

- September 14th Getting Started with Research
- September 21st Finding & Reading Scholarly Sources
- October 5th Striving for Graduate Writing as an Undergraduate
- October 19th Citation Styles
- November 2nd Writing a Literature Review
- November 16th Communicating Your Research

*All times are 12:00-1:00pm

Main Campus: Ash Room (UC 2.03.06)

Downtown Campus: DB 2.114

Contact the [Tomás Rivera Center](#) for more information.



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Awards, Honors, and Grants for Writing Program Faculty

Awards/Honors

- **Josh Beach** served on a research team, Spring 2016, at Austin Community College led by Dr. Cook, Executive Vice President and Provost which reviewed system-wide practices at ACC and travelled to other exemplary community colleges across the country. The team wrote a report and recommended changes to the core curriculum and organizational culture at ACC.
- **Tim Braun** has been invited by Columbia University's Digital Storytelling Lab to work on the "Sherlock Holmes & the Internet of Things" project. He was selected from 1,000 other nominees and will be working with writers, game designers, hackers, and fans of Sherlock Holmes in 20+ cities around the world to build an interactive experiment with shifts in authors.
- **Mark Gifford** won the Platinum Remi Award for Work in Progress Short Film at the Houston WorldFest Film Festival. WorldFest is said to be the oldest independent film festival in the U.S., accepting both feature length films and short films.
- **John Helton** has been invited by the Our Lady of the Lake University English Department to be the Visiting Writer for the Fall 2016 semester. He will be co-teaching a graduate Creative Writing course on poetry and prose with Dr. Octavio Quintanilla. John will also be doing a public reading at Our Lady of the Lake University for all OLLU classes and the community of San Antonio. This is a grant funded program.
- **Greg Hazleton** received the 2016 President's Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching Excellence, Core Curriculum, NTT
- **Martha Smith** received the President's 2016 Distinguished Achievement Award for Excellence in University Service, NTT
- **Dixie Shaw-Tillmon** received the 2016 Quantitative Literacy Faculty Excellence Award

Grants

- **Christina Frasier** was awarded a UTSA Libraries Open Education Resource Mini-Grant for WRC 1013.
- **Darren Meritz** was awarded a Library Special Collections Faculty Grant.



The Graduate School and Research Building

Law School Fair from the UTSA Institute for Law and Public Affairs

The UTSA Institute for Law and Public Affairs (ILPA) and the Southwest Association of Prelaw Advisors (SWAPLA) will host the 12th annual UTSA Law School Fair in the McKinney Humanities Building galleria at the Main Campus on Friday, October 21, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event is free and open to anyone planning to attend law school.

Law school fairs provide prelaw students an opportunity to speak with representatives from American Bar Association approved law schools about admissions, financing, course offerings, student life, faculty, and program reputation. Law school fairs are an excellent resource for students who are thinking about law school.

Another great resource for those students considering law school is the Summer Law School Preparation Academy (SLSPA), offered by the ILPA. The program aims to enhance prelaw educational opportunities and increase the number of students who gain admission to and excel in high quality law schools. The UTSA program encompasses 12 credit hours of coursework that count toward a student's grade point average. The courses are designed to hone the analytical, critical-reading and writing skills that students need to perform successfully in law school. Students who complete the coursework receive the ILPA's Certificate in Legal Reasoning.



For more information, contact the [Institute for Law and Public Affairs](#) at 210-458-2990, or ILPA@utsa.edu.

Helpful Numbers

Advising

- Arts & Humanities
210-458-6513
- Business Studies
210-458-4562
- Downtown
210-458-2550
- Engineering
210-458-5525
- Honors
210-458-4106
- Interdisciplinary Education
210-458-4424
- Life & Health Sciences
210-458-4045
- Mathematical & Physical Sciences
210-458-6073
- Social Sciences
210-458-4900
- Student Placement
210-458-5170

Air Force ROTC

210-458-4624

Army ROTC

210-458-4011

First-Year Experience

210-458-7490

Health Professions Office

210-458-5185

Institute for Law and Public Affairs

210-458-2990

Multidisciplinary Studies Program

210-458-6877

Testing Services

210-458-4125

Tomas Rivera Center

210-458-4694

University College

210-458-5191

Writing Program

210-458-5363

Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
August 21	22 - Explore Your Major (3pm)	23 - First Day of Class	24	25	26	27
28	29 - Add/Drop Date, Waitlisting Ends	30	31	September 1	2	3 - UTSA vs. Alabama State
4	5 - Labor Day (No classes)	6	7	8 - Census Date	9	10 - UTSA vs. Colorado State
11	12	13	14	15	16 - UTSA vs. Arizona State	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 - UTSA vs. Old Dominion
25	26	27	28	29	30	October 1
2	3	4	5	6	7 - Last Day to Add a Class	8 - UTSA vs. Southern Miss
9	10	11 - Midterm Grades Dues (2:00pm)	12	13	14	15 - UTSA vs. Rice