# Provost's Council February 20, 2013 2:00 – 4:00 PM MB 3.106 Regents' Room

#### **AGENDA**

### LPR (PERMANENT RESIDENCY )

Julius Gribou, Executive Vice Provost & Senior International Officer, informed the Provost Council that UTSA would begin outsourcing applications for green cards/permanent residency to a local law firm that has the expertise in processing the applications. On average, UTSA typically processes 10 applications a year at a cost of around \$10,000 per application. The law firm will charge \$3,500 to the requesting college/department. The fee may increase if the application has to be expedited. Mr. Gribou stated that his office, specifically, Chuck Crane, Executive Director of International Programs, will serve as the point of contact between UTSA and the law firm.

### UNIVERSITY EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Rebecca Luther, Director of Communications, announced to the Council the continuation of the "Prize "Patrol" for the upcoming University Excellence Awards Ceremony winners. She will contact the respective Deans and Department Chairs to accompany her, and others who are interested, in surprising the award winner. The video will be shown at the April 9<sup>th</sup> University Excellence Awards ceremony.

### **LAPTOP ENCRYPTION**

Ken Pierce, Vice Provost for Information Technology and CIO, informed the Council that his office has successfully encryption 95% of the laptops, per UT System policy enacted last summer. Mr. Pierce mentioned that he will send out a list to each Dean regarding any laptops that still need to be encrypted. He also reminded the Deans that they can log onto the Insight program to see which laptops need encrypting. Mr. Pierce went on to say that new security policies are being reviewed at UT System and we will need to comply with those policies. If a laptop is not encrypted, or received an exemption, by Summer 2014, access to the UTSA network may be denied. Mr. Pierce also reminded the Council that OIT has encrypted flash drives and can be obtained for free by sending in a request to OIT.

### **COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS**

Dr. Michael Gargano, Vice President for Academic, Faculty and Student Affairs at the UT Health Science Center, attend the Provost Council meeting to discuss collaborative programs that would benefit both institutions. He would like to have representatives from UTHSCSA attend UTSA orientation

programs to discuss graduate programs at the Health Science Center. He would also like to enter into an agreement to admit students into programs once they complete their bachelor or master's degree.

Dr. Gargano mentioned that he would like to see about the possibility of creating a PhD in Hospital Administration. Other collaborations/new program that he would like to see created is one in bioinformatics which would be used to create and interpret data. He would also like to see our two institutions submit a proposal to the Lumina Foundation or the State to create a summer institute for STEM. The target audience would be high school sophomore and juniors, especially first generation, low-income students.

Dr. Gargano also mentioned that he would like to see our institutions stream-line processes for tuition and fees. He stated that UMass had a consortium that allowed students to take courses at all five institutions. The students would pay the tuition at their home school, but would not pay fees to the other institutions. He believes this process would balance itself out and it would be a seamless transition for the students. Dr. Rich Diem, Dean of the Honors College mentioned that he has several students that are already working with faculty at the Health Science Center. Dr. Dorothy Flannagan, Vice Provost & Dean of the Graduate School, mentioned that UTSA has reciprocal agreements in place with the Health Science Center is Biomedical Engineering and Translational Science. She suggested that we reach out to those groups to see what works and what doesn't work.

Dr. Gargano further stated that it's a real possibility that UT Austin will be approved for a medical school and that UT Brownsville and UT Pan American will probably merge. With these two items on the horizon, he felt that now is the right time to develop these collaborations. He also mentioned that a merger between UTSA and the Health Science Center could come up again in the future, but for now he doesn't anticipate a merger taking place.

### **RESEARCH ETHICS BROWN BAG**

Mickey Stevenson, Assistant Vice President for Research, talked with the Provost Council about scheduling brown-bag sessions for researchers at UTSA (doctoral students, post-doctoral fellows, faculty and administrators) to discuss ethical issues that arise during the research. These sessions would complement the Responsible conduct of Research workshops that are currently held. The Deans mentioned that most PhD programs have seminar classes that cover topics on plagiarism, peer review standards, research misconduct, responsibilities of scientists, protection of intellectual property, etc. They suggested that these workshops be linked to the seminar classes or work through the Research Service Centers. Dr. Flannagan, Vice Provost & Dean of the Graduate School, mentioned that her office also organizes seminars for doctoral students and would be happy to help advertise the brown bag series. It was also suggested that these workshops should also include researchers in the humanities area as well as undergraduate students. It was suggested that research ethics could be a part of the new academic inquiry class for incoming freshman.

## **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

Marjie French, Vice President for External Relations, updated the Council on the capital campaign. She stated that we began this campaign in mid-2009 and in two weeks will announce that UTSA has raised

over \$120 million. She further stated that although we thought it would take until 2015 to raise these funds, we have reached certain milestones and have new goals to meet. The breakdown is as follows:

- Access to Excellence: the goal was to raise \$24 million; raised \$48.9 million
- Creating Knowledge/Faculty Support: the goal was to raise \$36.8 million; currently have raised \$31.3 million
- Serving Society: the goal was to raise \$26 million; currently have raised \$13.8 million
- Enriching Experiences (football, facilities, etc.): goal was to raise \$29.9 million; currently have raised \$21.3 million

Dr. Frederick mentioned that we need to find funding for the graduation rate improvement plan project along with money to fund the Top Scholar Program, graduate fellowships and faculty endowments for chairs and professorships. He stated that we have allocated \$500K for Top Scholar. Dr. Diem mentioned that the Terry Scholarships have increased. We currently have 16, but could possibly be in line for an additional 10 scholarships.

Ms. French mentioned that some had feared adding football would take over fundraising, but that hasn't happened. The addition of football has allowed us wonderful opportunities to get our story out to the community.

Ms. French was asked if TRIP funding was still available. She said that it is, but it's a first come first serve program. She said that we need substantial funding that would then move us up in the queue.

### **COMMENCEMENT**

Dr. Frederick announced that commencement would take place on Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. We will have two ceremonies at the Alamodome. The first ceremony will be at 2:00 pm for the Colleges of Sciences, Engineering, Liberal & Fine Arts and Public Policy. The second ceremony will begin at 7:00 pm for the Colleges of Architecture, Business, Education and Human Development and University College. He further stated that there would be limited parking at a cost of \$10. However, buses will be provided to transport faculty/staff/students to the Alamodome. Dr. Diem mentioned that the Honors College commencement will take place on May 11<sup>th</sup> in the UC Ballroom at either 2:00 or 4:00.

### ORIENTATION/CONVOCATION & ROADRUNNER DAYS

Dr. Frederick said that there will be changes to Orientation/Convocation and Roadrunner Days this summer. Because of the space issue in the Convocation Center, we will move to 2 ceremonies—one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The Presidents' Picnic will move from Wednesday to Monday following the first Convocation ceremony. He would also like the Deans to rethink agendas for Orientation and Roadrunner Days and to not repeat topics that occur at one or the other event. He also stated that he believes the Roadrunner Days and Convocation should be more fun—use it as a time to inform the students about what is fun about your college/major, tell them about student clubs/organizations, etc. Orientation should be geared toward providing academic information.