Creating Connections
Creating Opportunities

6th Annual Symposium
August 6-7, 2015
San Antonio, Texas
The University of Texas at San Antonio
Downtown Campus
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Registration

Thursday
Buena Vista Building, Lobby of Aula Canaria Auditorium

Friday
Durango Building, Outside SW Room 1.124
Thursday, August 6, 2015
5 – 6 p.m. Symposium Registration

6 – 7 p.m. Symposium Keynote Address
Aula Canaria Auditorium
Buena Vista Building, 1.328

7 – 8 p.m. Networking Reception
Assembly Room
Buena Vista Building

Friday, August 7, 2015
8 – 9 a.m. Continental Breakfast
Durango Building, SW Room 1.124

9 – 10:15 a.m. Session 1
Locations Vary

10:30 – 11:45 a.m. Session 2
Locations Vary

11:45 AM – 1 p.m. Lunch and Roundtable Sessions
Durango Building, SW Room 1.124

1 PM – 2 p.m. Poster Sessions
Durango Building, SW Room 1.124

2:15 - 3:15 p.m. Session 3
Locations Vary
Welcome

In a time of reduced funding, decreased educational equity and political agendas that question the value of the public good of higher education, the sixth annual Texas Higher Education Symposium provides a forum for higher education stakeholders and constituents to collaborate and create effective change. Through connections made at the conference we create opportunities across and beyond the traditional parameters of our profession. At the conference, we will consider what higher education can do for the public and how to create opportunities for students and higher education practitioners.

This year’s symposium is co-sponsored by Baylor University, Southern Methodist University, the University of Texas at San Antonio, and The University of Texas at Austin, The University of Houston, and Texas Tech University. The symposium is an opportunity to discuss Texas higher education issues with Texas higher education scholars, state and local government officials, students, and campus and local community members. Students, faculty, practitioners, and community leaders from across the state are afforded the opportunity to collaborate and generate new practices to enhance higher education in Texas. Passion and shared commitment to improving educational opportunity across the state have brought together this diverse group of people and creates opportunities that might not be realized or have as immediate an impact if worked in isolation.

Wynn Rosser, President and CEO of the Greater Texas Foundation will open the conference with a keynote address on Thursday, August 6 and presentation programming is organized for Friday. The mission of the Greater Texas Foundation (GTF) is to support efforts to ensure all Texas students are prepared for, have access to, persist in, and complete postsecondary education, with particular emphasis on helping underserved and disadvantaged populations. The GTF pursues its mission through partnerships, supporting research, sharing knowledge, and grant-making. With the GTF emphasis on partnerships and connections, Dr. Rosser, is ideally suited to open this year’s conference proceedings.

Friday’s programming has been organized into presentation sessions where researchers will share information and solicit feedback from other presenters and the audience. Poser and Roundtable sessions are available for more one-on-one interaction with the research community. You will find details for these programs in the following pages.

The 2015 Texas Higher Education Symposium highlights the interplay of research, politics, and education in a collegiate setting. We welcome your participation and thank you for participating in the conference and making it a meaningful experience for attendees and presenters alike.

Dr. Gerry Dizinno, Symposium Chair
Program Committees

Symposium Chair
Gerry Dizinno

Graduate Student Coordinator
Cynthia Rodriguez

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Chair: Vincent Carales
Sara Guajardo
Lizette Guerrero

Marketing & Communications Committee
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April Felan
Caresa Medellin
Sarah Price
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Website Design & Marketing
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Program Design
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Facilities
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Kate Loaiza
Cynthia McCowen

Food
Chair: Blanca Pokorney
Diana Espinosa
Cynthia McCowen
Latrice Owens
Cristina Trejo
Wynn Rosser is President and CEO of Greater Texas Foundation (GTF) in Bryan, Texas. He joined the foundation as Executive Director in January 2007 and was promoted to President and CEO in January 2012. GTF is a statewide funder (specifically focused on postsecondary completion).

Rosser earned an Associates of Arts from Kilgore College and completed his undergraduate degree in Agricultural Development, M.S. in Agricultural Education, and Ph.D in Higher Education Administration at Texas A&M. Active in professional organizations, Rosser is Chair of the Grantmakers for Education Board of Directors and is an alumnus of the Texas Lyceum. He is also a lecturer and member of the graduate faculty in the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University.

Rosser’s career path began in corporate sales. He later served as Director of Campus Programs for the Texas A&M University Association of Former Students, and also served as a visiting faculty member and undergraduate adviser in the Department of Agricultural Education. Rosser then joined the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs as assistant to the vice president and became assistant vice president for student affairs in September 2001. Rosser was appointed chief of staff and assistant vice president for student affairs in 2005, a position he held until joining the foundation in 2007. Rosser and his wife, Manda, have three children - a daughter and two sons.
SESSION I
9:00 - 10:15 AM

Programming and Student Success
Buena Vista St. Building 1.312
Facilitator: Saira Rab, University of Houston

Multidisciplinary Studies: A Creative Solution in an Uncreative Academy
Gregory Sansone & Gabriel Acevedo
University of Texas at San Antonio

Freshmen First Year Academic Success at the University of Texas at San Antonio
Michael Logan, Garry Castellanos, & Cynthia McCowen
University of Texas at San Antonio

The Long Term Benefits of Short Term Programs: Hosting International Students for the Summer
Obafemi Ogunleye
University of Texas at San Antonio

Access
Buena Vista St. Building 3.304
Facilitator: Amanda Hamm, University of North Texas

Sheff Goes to College: What the History of Racial, Economic, and Education Segregation in the Hartford Metropolitan Region Can Reveal About Climate, Access, and Completion at the University of Connecticut
Lisa Jasinski
University of Texas at Austin

“How Can We Best Serve this Diverse Population?”: A Study of Stakeholders Involved in Helping People Access College within a Unique “Melt- ing Pot” Ethnic Community in the South
Ah Ra Cho, Misherlae Pace, & Lamar Bryant
University of North Texas

Creating Connections and Opportunities: Empowering Male Students of Color Through Peer Mentoring
Jorge Segovia, Jr., Jose Del Real Viramontes, & Juan Lopez
University of Texas at Austin
SESSION I contiNued
9:00 - 10:15 AM

Hispanic Serving Institutions
Buena Vista St. Building 3.306
Facilitator: Pham NhunG, Texas Tech University

What’s in the Name? An Examination of Institutional Identity at a Hispanic Serving Institution
Nicole Alia Salis Reyes
University of Texas at San Antonio

How Does HSI Status Influence the Experience and Engagement of Latina/o Students?
Jennifer Nailos & Kevin Fosnacht
Indiana University

Leading with purpose: Senior Student Affairs Administrators perception of Latino Male students’ engagement at Four-Year Hispanic Serving Institutions
Susana Hernandez,
Texas A & M University

Mentoring and Engagement
Frio St. Building 3.520
Facilitator: Tricia Ryan, Texas Tech University

Finding A Voice And Taking Responsibility For Their Education: How Students’ Relate Online Course Anonymity And Distance To Their Engagement At A Campus-Based Research University
Jeffrey Mayo
University of Texas at Austin

UTSA Services Gateway: Take your own inventory. Discover a tailored UTSA experience
Mallory Plummer & Sarah Price
University of Texas at San Antonio

Creating and Supporting Effective English Language Learner University Mentoring using Social Media
Ingrid Graves
English Language Center
SESSION 2  
10:30 - 11:45 AM

The Community College Context  
Buena Vista St. Building 1.312  
Facilitator: Nydia Sanchez, University of North Texas

Recognizing the College Pathways, Challenges, and Resources for Asian American Community College Students in Texas  
Amanda Hamm, University of North Texas  
Charles Lu, University of Texas at Austin

International Students at Community Colleges: An Analysis of their Academic Behaviors and Pathways  
Moumita Mukherjee  
University of Houston

Do Psychosocial Factors Predict Community College Student Persistence? A Meta-Analytic Investigation  
Carlton J. Fong, Yughi Kim, Lauren Marriott, & Corinne Davis  
University of Texas at Austin

Choices in Majors & Careers  
Buena Vista St. Building 3.304  
Facilitator: Richard Drum, University of Texas at San Antonio

Does it Make a Difference? Undergraduate Career Preparation and Student Involvement and the Impact on Post-Graduate Careers  
Kathy Hubbard & Linda Perez  
Southern Methodist University

From Open Door to Limited Access: Transfer Students and the Challenges of Major Choice  
Glenda Droogsma Musoba, Veronica Jones, & Tekla Nicholas  
Texas A & M University

Factors Affecting Choice of STEM and non-STEM Majors  
Denise Carr, Ashley Jones, DeAna McCusky, & Frank Hernandez  
University of Texas at Austin
SESSION 2 continued
10:30 - 11:45 AM

Faculty Perceptions and Impact
Buena Vista St. Building 3.306
Facilitator: Cynthia McCowen, University of Texas at San Antonio
Faculty buy-in to assessment: Challenges and Recommendations
    Nhun Pham
    Texas Tech University
Leadership Among Academics: Every Engineer, Scientist, Technician and Teacher is a Leader
    Lisa Thiem
    University of Texas at San Antonio
Experiences of Higher Education Faculty and Staff in a Homegrown Leadership Development Program
    Ginnifer Cie Gee
    University of Texas at San Antonio

Veterans and Graduate Students
Frio St. Building 3.520
Facilitator: Anna Drake, University of Texas at Austin
Veteran College Students: Exploring Factors Contributing to Persistence and Graduation
    Vanessa Sansone & Jennifer Tucker
    University of Texas at San Antonio
The Development of RA/TA Graduate International Students. Importance, Challenges, and Stages
    Mhd Hasan Almekdash & Valerie O. Paton
    Texas Tech University
The College Choice Process for Prospective Graduate Students: A Qualitative Inquiry
    Shannon Samson
    Texas Tech University

Lunch
11:45 - 1:00 PM
Durango Building, Southwest Room 1.124
ROUNDTABLES
11:45 - 1:00 PM
Durango Building, Southwest Room 1.124

1: Collaboration with the Environment to Decrease Study-Related Stress: A Study on Places of Respite in Graduate Student Class Room
Fatma Jobran, Texas Tech University

2: Organization Leaders’ Moral Capacity: What Can Business Schools Do about It?
Van Thanh Phan, Texas Tech University

3: Division and Departmental Progress Cards Case Study of the University of Houston
Moumita Mukherjee & Pamelyn K. Shefman
University of Houston

4: Making Connections To Create Opportunities: Exploring the Transfer Conditions for Latina/o Community College Students in Texas
José Del Real Viramontes, Jorge Segovia, Juan Lopez, & Mike Gutierrez, University of Texas at Austin

5: The Politics of Higher Education in Texas
Michael McClendon, Baylor University
Luisa del Rosal, Southern Methodist University

6: A Case Study on Internationalization: Online Learning Experiences of International Students
Saira Rab, University of Houston

7: Examination of International & Domestic Graduate & Undergraduate Students’ Participation Behavior in terms of Posting Quality
Semra Baki, Texas Tech University

8: Examining Student Veterans’ Transition into Higher Education: Challenges and Recommendations for Support
LaTricia Phillips, Texas Tech University

9: AfroLatina/o Students, Overlooked No More
Claudia García-Louis, University of Texas at Austin

10: Service-Learning: A Teaching Method that can help Foster Student Engagement
Lillian Huerta, Austin Community College

11: Have Passport Will Research: Perspectives and Strategies for Conducting Higher Educational Research Abroad
Coreen Davis, Lisa Jasinski, & Genevieve Countryman
University of Texas at Austin
Poster Sessions
1:00 - 2:00 PM
Durango Building, Southwest Room 1.124

1: Higher Education Pathways of Latino Males in the United States: The Narratives of Latino Federal Legislators from Southwest Border States
   Florencio U. Aranda, III
   Texas Tech University

2: Vertical Transfer at Hispanic Serving Institutions
   Tricia Ryan & Valerie Paton
   Texas Tech University

3: ¿Quiénes Somos?: A Portrait of Graduate Student Success and Institutional Capacity Building Using Title V Funding
   Carlos de Leon, Jessica Mesa, & David Ortiz
   University of the Incarnate Word

4: A review of the challenges and best practices for the Health Professions Pathways (H2P) grant: A Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grant.
   David Barrientos
   Dallas County Community College

5: Issues Negatively Affecting Persistence in Higher Education
   Sarah Schwintz
   Texas Tech University

6: Crafting a Culture of Early Majority Customer Adoption
   Vanessa Kenon, Rosalind K. Ong De Treviño, & Yuri Martinez-Ramos
   University of Texas at San Antonio

7: Massive Open Online Courses: The Future of Higher Education Conception, Perceptions, and Expectations
   Gracie Villarreal
   University of Houston

8: Servant Leadership in Higher Education
   Sarah Schwintz
   Texas Tech University
Session 3
2:00 - 3:15 PM

Faculty and Instruction
Buena Vista St. Building 1.312
Facilitator: David Barrientos, Dallas Community College

The First Year: A Teacher’s Experience
Catherine Robert
University of Texas at San Antonio

Trends and Differences in Faculty Tenure Status by Institutional Characteristics at Public Universities in Texas
Denecia Spence & JoHyun Kim
Texas A & M University - Commerce

Multimedia Message Design: Examining the Effects of Modalities and Instrumental Background Music on Retention, Comprehension, and Motivation
Van Thanh Phan
Texas Tech University

Transitions
Buena Vista St. Building 3.304
Facilitator: Hasan Almekdash, Texas Tech University

Students’ Perceptions of the Transition from an Early College High School to a University
Krystal Peralez
University of Texas at Austin

College Readiness and School to College Transition: School Leader Practice and Strategies in an Evolving Context
Maricela Oliva & Majed Hajj
University of Texas at San Antonio

Voices From The Field: How Student Affair Practitioners Perceive First Year Latino Male Students’ Transition Into Community College
Leticia Palomin
Texas A & M University
SESSION 3 CONTINUED
2:00 - 3:15 PM

Administration
Buena Vista St. Building 3.306
Facilitator: Shannon Samson, Texas Tech University
Advising from all Angles: Using Schlossberg’s Transition Theory to Advise Students in the Transitional Periods of Freshman and Senior Year
Andrea Kraus-Lozano & Shannon Rios
University of Texas at San Antonio

Student Veterans: Easing the Transition from Military to Academic Life
Lisa Johns, Stefanie Gonzalez-Lopez, Shannon Sczech, & Heather Frazer
University of Texas at San Antonio

To Sequence or Not to Sequence: An Investigative Study of the Higher Education Administration Graduate Program at The University of Texas at San Antonio
Andrea Kraus-Lozano, Brandon Cruz, Diana Espinoza, Brandon Anderson, & Cynthia Davis
University of Texas at San Antonio

Educational Policy
Frio St. Building 3.520
Facilitator: Ah Ra Cho, University of North Texas

Getting Paid & Giving Back: Findings from a Case Study of Low-Income College Students
Nydia Sánchez & Missy McCormick
University of North Texas

Conceptualizing College Affordability in Texas: Changes in Financial Aid Policy after Tuition Deregulation
Anna Drake
University of Texas at Austin
NOTES
Notes
Thank You

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