



URBAN EDUCATION INSTITUTE

The University of Texas at San Antonio

UEI Research News

2024-2025 Issue 1

Welcome to our first issue of UEI Research News. Many of you have innovative ideas and special interests that would make for compelling research projects. This newsletter is not meant to replicate the communications we currently receive on federal research opportunities. UEI will focus on providing you with state and local opportunities. We plan to produce 1-2 newsletters per semester or when innovative opportunities appear. Keep an eye out for our next issue!

Sharon L. Nichols, UEI Director (<https://education.utsa.edu/centers/uei/>)

UEI Mission

The Urban Education Institute provides equity-focused and impactful research, evaluation, and training in collaboration with community-based research-practice-policy partnerships on issues that inform and influence educational and workforce-related policies, experiences, and outcomes.

Key Research Areas:

- Texas educational accountability
- Education-to-workforce pipeline
- Student development, motivation, and learning
- Teacher effectiveness and retention

Things We Do:

- Provide mixed-methods expertise to empower evidence-based decision-making for San Antonio, the region, community partners, and researchers.
- Provide training opportunities to students, fostering the development of quantitative and qualitative methodological skills through applied research experiences.
- Provide administrative support to help researchers develop and implement sponsored project proposals.

Why Engage With Us?

- To learn about the state-wide educational dataset available for researchers to study key research questions related to Pre-K-to-workforce pathways.
- To brainstorm ideas, co-design research/projects, and leverage UEI's expertise to enhance your research projects.
- To seek support for grant submissions and administration.

Don't Know Where to Start? Just Ask! Sharon.nichols@utsa.edu

UEI Announcements

Congratulations to Research Fellow, Dr. Ian Thacker! Dr. Thacker was recently awarded \$395,995.00 for a four-year grant with the Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture, ***PBS-DIRT Don't Hurt: How Place-Based Soil Data Interpretation and Research in Texas Can Support Learning and Motivation for Diverse Learners***. Dr. Thacker is partnering with Co-PIs Dr. Rebecca Schroeder, School of Data Science, and Dr. Sara Shields-Menard, College of Sciences.

Dr. Thacker also received a \$50,000.00 award through the Spencer Foundation. This is a nineteen-month grant under which Dr. Thacker will partner with co-PIs Dr. Han Bum Lee and Dr. Joseph Cimpian, Professor of Economics and Education Policy at NYU, on the project ***Understanding Students' Pursuit and Attainment of STEM Degrees Across Race and Gender Intersections***.

Let us also congratulate and celebrate Research Fellow Dr. Alonzo Flowers for successfully submitting a grant application, ***Empowering Tomorrow's Healers: Unraveling the Journey of Medical Professional Identity Formation in Black Men in Texas—Confronting Systemic Racism in STEM Education*** to NSF.

State, Local, and Other Research Opportunities

We check these websites daily for new research opportunities:

State:

- [Office of the Governor](#)
- [Texas.gov eGrants](#)
- [Texas Education Agency](#)
- [Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board](#)

City:

- [City of San Antonio](#)

Non-profit Foundations and Organizations:

- [Greater Texas Foundation](#)

- [San Antonio Area Foundation](#)
- [Charles Butt Foundation](#)
- [H.E. Butt Foundation](#)
- [The Meadows Foundation](#)
- [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#)
- [Russell Sage Foundation](#)
- [Texas 2036](#)
- [UP Partnership](#)
- [Communities in Schools](#)
- [The Center for Young Minds](#)

CURRENT RFP: The Department of Human Services (DHS) is seeking the professional services of a consultant to produce a crisis nursery feasibility study and business plan for the San Antonio community. San Antonio City Council budgeted an award of up to \$100,000 for this study. The data and research in the plan will be used to develop the scope for a proposal to fund a crisis nursery and help guide the City on expected outcomes and sustainability practices. A Pre-Submittal Conference will be held at 2:00 p.m. Central Time, on Wednesday, 11/6/2024 via Webex call-in.

<https://sanantonio.webex.com/sanantonio/j.php?MTID=mdce428cd41ee31d5e0ea264e8c879e25>

A UEI representative will be attending the Pre-Submittal Conference.

The Russell Sage Foundation has upcoming funding opportunities. Foundations can have 2-3 application cycles in a year. Browse their website to determine if any core programs or special initiatives interest you.

<https://www.russellsage.org/how-to-apply/application-deadlines#project>

Let us know if you have additional websites you would like us to monitor. Contact us with any questions you may have: rosa.arzola@utsa.edu

In this Issue



The H.E. Butt Foundation partners with organizations that serve families and children in San Antonio. This includes a capacity-building initiative designed to help nonprofits band together to become more effective and efficient in their work, a mental health initiative leading research at the intersection of mental health and faith communities, and storytelling efforts to raise awareness and inspire action on behalf of vulnerable communities to help Texans understand neighborhood segregation, inequity, and poverty.

Values

- Stewardship
- Hospitality
- Unity
- Excellence

Special Initiatives

The H.E. Butt Foundation organizes and forms partnerships to address critical needs and cultivate wholeness across San Antonio.

Current Special Initiatives Projects

- Supporting financial security for families
- Helping congregations become a continuum of care for mental wellness
- Upstream support for the one in five youth who struggle with mental illness

Community Partnership

The H.E. Butt Foundation funded the Urban Education Institute's two-year (2021-2023) study on teacher wellness and the effects of an on-campus support program maintained by Communities in Schools San Antonio and Clarity Child Guidance Center.

Scan the QR Code to access [The BaseCampus Report](#).



How to approach the H.E. Butt Foundation for grant funding

Do you already have a project concept? Contact them at 830-315-9240 or email Perri Rosheger, Vice President of Community Engagement at prosheger@hebfdn.org. You can discuss your idea and determine whether it aligns with their special initiatives.

However, if you are interested in having a thought partner to explore ideas or if you would like to collaborate with the Urban Education Institute, then please contact us at Sharon.nichols@utsa.edu.

Information obtained from <https://hebfdn.org/>