

impact on the Rio Grande Valley

The University of Texas-Pan American ★ The University of Texas at Brownsville

ECONOMIC IMPACT & DEVELOPMENT

The University of Texas System's two academic institutions in the Rio Grande Valley area — The University of Texas at Brownsville/Texas Southmost College (UTB/TSC) and The University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA) — provide an immense economic impact on the region through employment, personal income, taxes, construction, attraction of new industry and public service. Together, both institutions directly employ more than 5,200 faculty and staff members.

Since joining the UT System, both universities have served the students and residents of the Rio Grande Valley well. UT Brownsville has an annual budget of \$167.6 million and more than 2,100 faculty and staff. According to an Institute for Economic Development study, UTB was the second largest employer in Cameron County in the 2004 fiscal year and contributed \$148.3 million to the region's economy. With an annual budget of \$263.9 million and more than 3,000 faculty and staff, UT Pan American adds tremendously to the regional economy. According to a recent economic impact study, UTPA was one of the largest employers in the McAllen-Edinburg-Mission metropolitan area in FY2010 and had a total impact of \$492.8 million on the local economy, adding 5,873 total jobs as a result of operational and capital expenditures, and the expenditures of students, faculty and staff.

STUDENTS & ALUMNI

In the fall of 2010, UTPA had a total enrollment of 18,744 students and awarded 3,272 degrees in 2009-2010. A little over 13 percent of its students are in graduate programs. Hispanic students comprise 88.5 percent of UTPA's student body.

93 percent of UTPA's student body hails from the southernmost four counties of South Texas. Upon graduation, many of them continue to live in the local area and contribute to the community. Only four percent of the student body lives on campus.

From 2001 to 2010 UTB/TSC awarded more than 18,300 certificate, associate, bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees. In fall 2010, UTB/TSC's total enrollment was 15,223. There were also 2,713 high school students in dual enrollment classes. 76 percent of UTB/TSC students are first-generation college students and the majority live in Brownsville. More than 92 percent of the student body is Hispanic, and most are bilingual.

More than 4,000 students are enrolled in workforce training and continuing education courses. This includes graduates in the police academy, teachers certified to teach advancement placement classes in high schools and students in the High School Equivalency program.

ACADEMIC GROWTH AND SUCCESS

UT-Pan American is a comprehensive university with an emphasis on engineering, business, education, health-related fields and the sciences. UTPA has seven colleges which offer 56 baccalaureate programs, 57 master's programs, three doctoral programs and two cooperative doctoral programs.

UTPA has much to be proud of:

- UTPA ranked 32nd in the top 100 list for America's Best Public Colleges in Forbes Magazine. This list included only six public universities from Texas (*Forbes*, August 2009).





Fountains provide a serene atmosphere on the UTB campus

The University of Texas System

- UTPA is the 10th largest university in the state and the 5th largest in the UT System.
- According to *Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education 2011*, UTPA is among the top 100 best U.S. colleges for Hispanics including:
 - 3rd in the nation in the number of bachelor's degrees and 3rd in the number of master's degrees awarded to Hispanics.
 - 1st in English Literature, Foreign Languages, Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies and Biological and Biomedical Sciences.
 - 3rd in Mathematics/Statistics, and Homeland Security.
 - 4th in Business and Marketing, and Psychology.
 - 5th in Visual and Performing Arts.
 - 6th in Parks, Recreation, Leisure and Fitness, and Public Administration and Public Service.
 - 7th in Communications.
 - 8th in Engineering
- UTPA ranks 9th in the nation for providing Hispanic applicants to Medical Schools in 2009 (*Diverse Issues in Higher Education*, October 28, 2010).
- For Allied Health degrees awarded at all senior academic institutions in Texas, UTPA ranks 3rd for total degrees, 2nd for bachelor's degrees and 3rd for master's degrees (Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, FY 2010).
- The MBA program in the UTPA College of Business Administration is ranked as one of "The Best 301 Business Schools" by the *Princeton Review* (*Princeton Review*, 2010 Edition).
- UTPA has the only Physician Assistant Program outside a medical school and the only Bridge program for bachelor's to master's degrees for previous undergraduate Physician Assistant students in Texas (UTPA College of Health Sciences and Human Services, 2010).
- The Rehabilitation Counseling program ranks 17th of 98 in the nation for quality of program and faculty, tied with UT Austin (*U.S. News and World Report*, 2007 Edition).

UTB/TSC has six colleges, offering 19 certificates, 26 associate degrees, 34 bachelor's degrees, 21 master's degrees and one doctoral degree.

- The university was nationally ranked in the top 25 for bachelor's degrees and top 40 for master's degrees awarded to Hispanics.
- The university awarded its first two doctorate of education in curriculum and instruction degrees in December 2010.
- The master's degree in Spanish translation and interpreting is the only such degree program in Texas and the only completely online program in the United States.
- The Biomedical Research and Health Professions Building will open in fall 2011 and house the new Department of Biomedicine and selected programs in the College of Biomedical Sciences.
- Since fall 2009 the university has received more than \$15 million in new research grant awards.
- Students can join faculty members in research on artificial reefs, obesity, diabetes, radio pulsars and other subject areas.



The Bronc adorns
the Visitors Center at
UTPA

The University of Texas System

- The UTB/TSC Chess Program has qualified for three consecutive President's Cup, the "Final Four of College Chess" national championships.
- The UTB/TSC Master Chorale was the first choral program from south Texas to be chosen through a blind audition to perform at the 2011 Texas Music Educators Association Clinic/Convention in San Antonio.
- The South Texas Engineering, Mathematics and Science Program's NASA Space Science Days has expanded to sites in California, Connecticut and Utah.

RESEARCH

The two universities are greatly increasing their research funding efforts and brought \$15 million in research and development spending to the campuses in FY 2009.

Externally funded research at UTPA has increased 450 percent from 2001 to 2007.

- UTPA's South Texas Border Health Disparities Center and its Institute for Population Health Policy has received \$2 million dollars for projects on health disparities and health care use/access for uninsured and low-income minority populations living in U.S.-Mexico border regions, breast cancer detection, control and barriers to screening among Latinas, evaluation of health and disease prevention programs along the U.S.-Mexico Border and health literacy among adolescents and manufacturing plant workers.
- FibeRio is a perfect example of how effectively transferring and leveraging the knowledge and expertise from UTPA can enhance economic development in the South Texas region. FibeRio, a company launched on UTPA intellectual property, produces machines that use Forcespinning™ technology to produce nanofibers in greater quantities across a broader range of materials at less cost. The company has received both venture capital and TETF funding within the first year of its launch and employs 14 engineers and business professionals, including four UTPA graduates (BS, MS, MBA) and a former post-doc.
- The Rapid Response Manufacturing Center (RRMC) at UTPA is focused on regional, U.S. and North American competitiveness in the global marketplace through rapid response advanced manufacturing. The center provides research, engineering design, and production expertise to enable current manufacturers and businesses as well as budding entrepreneurs to scale production from a concept to finished goods as rapidly and effortlessly as possible.

Between fiscal years 2001 to 2006, UTB/TSC had a 712 percent increase in federal research funding expenditures. Increases in federal grants and contracts have resulted in the implementation of Centers of Excellence in Gravitational Wave Astronomy and Biomedical Studies and the establishment of partnerships to educate early childhood teachers.

- The university's International Innovation Center, designed to help promising new ventures get a solid start, has launched more than 40 companies providing more than 400 new jobs.

UT SYSTEM'S COMMITMENT

The core commitment of the University of Texas System is to education as a life-transforming experience. The System is dedicated to strengthening the entire education enterprise, from pre-kindergarten through post-graduate studies. UT System's 15 institutions are composed of thousands of people who are making a difference in Texas and in the global community.



Regional Academic
Health Center at
UTPA

The University of Texas System

facts at a glance

UT PAN AMERICAN

Year Established: 1927
Year Joined UT System: 1989
Enrollment: 18,744 (Fall 2010)
Degrees Awarded: 3,272 (2009-2010)
Faculty: 823 (Fall 2010)
Personnel: 2,242 (Fall 2010)
Budget: \$263.9 million (FY 2011)
Research Spending: \$8.7 million (FY 2010)
President: Robert S. Nelsen
For Information: 956-665-8872
Website: www.utpa.edu

UT BROWNSVILLE AND TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

Year Established: 1991
Year Joined UT System: 1991
Enrollment: 15,223 (Fall 2010)
Degrees Awarded: 2,391 (2009-2010)
Faculty: 734 (Fall 2010)
Staff: 1,463 (Fall 2010)
Budget: \$167.6 million (FY 2011)
Research Spending: \$6.9 million (FY 2010)
President: Juliet V. Garcia
For Information: 956-882-8200
Website: www.utb.edu

* Does not include student workers.



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