

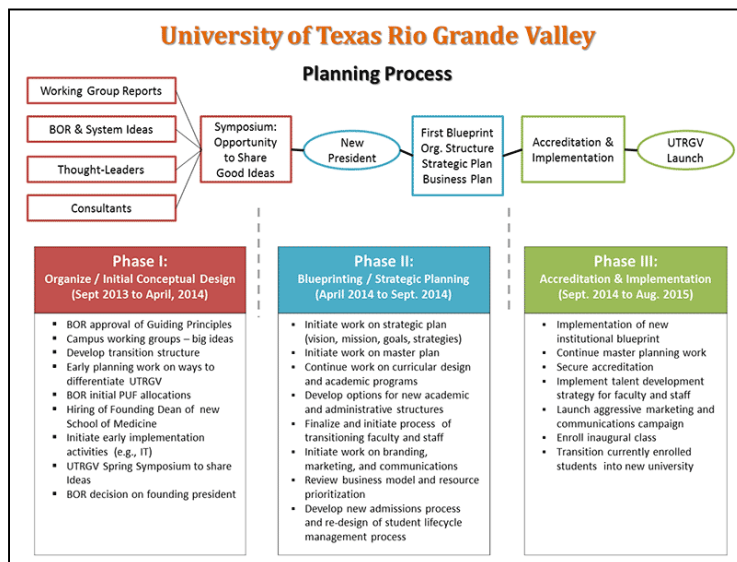


June 20, 2014

UTRGV Planning Process: Phase II

Now that UTRGV President Guy Bailey is on board, he has started Phase II of the UTRGV Planning Process (see diagram below).

Phase II, labeled “Blueprinting/Strategic Planning,” is scheduled to last until September 2014. With the assistance of the UTRGV Transition Team, external consultants and UT System executives, President Bailey has begun the strategic process of determining UTRGV’s vision, mission, goals and strategies; potential organizational, academic and operational structure models; business plan models; and prioritization of tasks.



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Other Activities Underway in Phase II

On parallel tracks, President Bailey will also oversee and direct during this phase other activities that are essential to the transition to UTRGV and to the start of operations in 2015.

Project Management

The launch of The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley will require the coordinated efforts for approximately 23 specialized groups of subject matter experts and experienced operator-managers. Each group's leadership has been carefully selected by campus provosts, medical school administrators and UT System leadership. Each group is a Project Management Group authorized and made responsible for the following:

- A. Creating a design for a general plan, no later than August 1, 2014, that will deliver the operating unit or units needed to perform the functions assigned in the new university in time to offer the first classes for the fall 2015 semester.
- B. Converting that plan, no later than October 1, 2014, into a sequenced series of specific steps or tasks with scheduled start and completion dates for each.
- C. Identifying the personnel and other resources needed, no later than October 1, 2014, to carry out these steps and tasks according to the schedule.
- D. Monitoring and reporting to central Project Management the real time progress of each step and task of the plan from beginning of implementation to initiation of the function and sustaining it through the first 90 days of operations.

Project Management Group

Academics

Athletics

Budgeting

Business Operations

Class-Start

Community Engagement

Institutional Advancement

Facilities

HR

IT

Legal

Library

Marketing & Communications

Medical School Operations

Accreditations

Security

SLM

Student Services

Change Management

Strategic Planning

Inter Campus Transportation

Student Information Services

Research

Inaugural Class Task Force

The final report of the Inaugural Class Task Force has been submitted to Executive Vice-Chancellor Pedro Reyes and Chancellor Francisco Cigarroa. President Bailey will present the proposed admissions criteria for UTRGV freshman and transfer students for approval at the July Board of Regents meeting.

Dr. Wanda Mercer, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, is developing a schedule for meeting with RGV high schools and community colleges to discuss the proposed admissions process and to seek their support in developing pathways for admissions for RGV students. Plans are also being developed to circulate and discuss the proposed admission criteria with faculty and staff at UTB and UTPA.

Communication and Marketing

The Committee on Communications and Community Engagement is composed of representatives of the relevant areas from both campuses and the UT system. After clarifying short-term and long-term issues related to UTRGV critical communication needs, they have put together a plan of action in four key areas:

1. Recruiting and enrolling students for the UTRGV 2015 inaugural class.
2. Building a comprehensive web presence for the university and the medical school.
3. Creating time-sensitive and content-rich materials for print, television, radio and digital dissemination.
4. Engaging in brand development of the new university to fulfill its role as a bicultural, bilingual university of the 21st century.

The committee has engaged the services of Stamats, a national firm, to assist in the marketing and branding efforts. Stamats has a national higher education presence, with rich data, experience and breath of services that meet the needs of UTRGV.

Board of Regents Investment in South Texas and UTRGV

So far, as the chart below shows, the Board of Regents has committed nearly \$350 million to the creation of a new university and medical school in the Rio Grande Valley.

South Texas and UTRGV Investments 2012-2014	
Investment	Amount

<p>South Texas</p> <p>Investments in South Texas to increase residency programs, support biomedical programs in obesity and diabetes, recruit exceptional faculty, build a clinical simulation facility, enhance the UTeach program to develop more graduates in math and science, and fund more science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) programs.</p>	\$30 M
<p>UTRGV Medical School</p> <p>Investment over the next 10 years to accelerate the transition of the Regional Academic Health Center into a school of medicine. This will be extremely important in recruiting necessary leadership, to recruit additional medical school faculty, to enhance biomedical research, and to work with our hospital partners to establish core residency programs throughout the Valley.</p>	\$100 M
<p>UTRGV Initial Transition Budget</p> <p>Initial transition budget for UTRGV to hire special advisor, fund campus visits to best practice institutions across the country, and fund ideas from national experts.</p>	\$3 M
<p>Science Building on Edinburg Campus</p> <p>Construction of a 120,000-square-foot building on Edinburg campus, with classroom and lab space for disciplines such as biology, physics, chemistry, math, pre-med and environmental studies.</p>	\$70 M
<p>Academic Building on Brownsville Campus</p> <p>Construction of a 140,000-square-foot academic building to alleviate the need for leased academic classroom space at Brownsville campus.</p>	\$54 M
<p>UTB-TSC Separation</p> <p>Investments to help pay UT System costs for facility acquisitions needed from UTB-TSC separation needed as steps toward separate accreditation for TSC, as well as UTRGV.</p>	\$18 M
<p>Medical School Building</p> <p>Construction of 88,000-square foot medical school facility on Edinburg Campus, including an auditorium, digital library, clinical skills center, and dean and faculty offices.</p>	\$54 M
<p>New Student Information and HR/Finance Systems</p> <p>Investments to create and implement a new student information system (SIS) at U. T. Rio Grande Valley, including implementation services, hardware/software, support, initial hosting, and disaster recovery and to expand the human resource and finance enterprise system to include and support U. T. Rio Grande Valley. Embedded in this investment is costs associated with implementation of similar systems at UT Permian Basin.</p>	\$14 M
<p>Communication, Marketing and Branding of UTRGV</p> <p>Investments to provide resources for recruiting and enrolling students for the inaugural 2015 class of UTRGV; building a comprehensive university and medical school Web presence; creating time-sensitive and content-rich materials for print, television, radio and digital dissemination; and engaging in brand development for UTRGV to fulfill its role as a bicultural, binational, and bilingual institution of the 21st century.</p>	\$ 5 M
TOTAL	\$348 M

Medical School

President Guy Bailey will address the Board of Regents in July to:

1. Seek approval to establish a Doctor of Medicine degree at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley; and
2. Submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action.

In the meantime, UTRGV School of Medicine Dean Francisco Fernandez is proceeding with the process of seeking accreditation for the new medical school. A consultant has been engaged to assist with the self-study for accreditation by the Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME). An LCME site visit will be scheduled as soon as possible to allow for matriculating the inaugural class that will start as planned in the summer of 2016.

Recruitment of faculty and senior managers for seven clinical departments is under way, and, with the assistance of existing clinical and basic science faculty, work is proceeding on curriculum development.

Another important aspect of the creation of the new medical school is the transfer and transition from the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio to UTRGV of the many facilities, operating procedures and personnel that support the Valley Regional Academic Health Centers (RAHC). The UTHSCSA and the UT System are working to coordinate the proper integration into the UTRGV transition and planning process.

Respectfully submitted,

Julio S. Leon

Special Advisor to the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
The University of Texas System