



## 2020 Winter Meeting and Program

### **Thursday, January 30**

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

**Reception at the home of Regent Nolan and Sandy Perez**

*Casual Attire*

For CCEC members arriving early, please join [Regent Nolan and Sandy Perez for a reception](#) at their Harlingen residence.

### **Friday, January 31**

**Chancellor's Council Executive Committee Program**

*Casual Attire*

[Friday's lunch](#) and afternoon events will be held on the Brownsville campus of UT Rio Grande Valley at the Brownsville Student Union (BSTUN) and the Life & Health Science Building: One West University Boulevard, Brownsville, TX 78520.

The Friday dinner event, and Saturday breakfast and CCEC business meeting will be held at the Courtyard by Marriott South Padre Island Hotel: 6700 Padre Boulevard, South Padre Island, TX 78597.

10:30 a.m.

**Shuttles loop between the two South Padre Island hotels and UT Rio Grande Valley Brownsville Campus**

For guests staying at the Hilton Garden Inn and Courtyard by Marriott Hotel or those who wish to use the shuttle service, CCEC participants will be transported from the hotels to UTRGV Brownsville campus. Shuttles will loop from 10:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., and then return at the conclusion of the afternoon program at 4:15 p.m.

CCEC members driving their own cars directly to UTRGV should park in Parking Lots B2 and B3 across from the Luis V. Colom Biomedical Research Facility: One West University Boulevard, Brownsville, TX 78520.

- 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **Check-In and Informal Lunch Buffet**  
The check-in table for CCEC members will be located in the El Gran Salon of the Brownsville Student Union (BSTUN). An informal lunch buffet, hosted by Rio Grande Valley area CCEC members, will also be provided in the same area.
- 12:30 – 1:15 p.m. **Opening Remarks and Meeting Overview**  
Brownsville Student Union (BSTUN), El Gran Salon
- Robert W. Shepard**, Chairman, Chancellor’s Council  
**James B. Milliken**, Chancellor, The University of Texas System  
**Guy Bailey**, President, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
- 1:15 – 1:30 p.m. **Break**
- 1:30 – 2:15 p.m. **Breakout Sessions, First Round\***  
Life & Health Science Building  
***\*You will have the opportunity to select and participate in two of six breakout sessions presented below. All topics offered in the first round will be repeated in the second round.***
- Information stations will be located adjacent to the Brownsville Student Union.
- Business on the Border**  
The border region shared by the United States and Mexico has far-reaching economic implications for both countries. UTRGV’s Center for Border Economic Studies (CBEST) is a public-policy research unit that focuses on studying a variety of issues unique to the U.S.-Mexico border economy. Learn more about the center’s most relevant research, including a look at the future of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and its impact on Texas.
- Confronting a Community Health Care Crisis**  
Type 2 diabetes is a major health challenge in the nation and especially among the Rio Grande Valley’s Hispanic community. UTRGV’s South Texas Diabetes and Obesity Institute (STDOI) is working to advance the health of the region through cutting-edge research on diabetes, obesity, and related disorders. Hear about the institute’s research, including additional initiatives of global relevance, like Chagas disease and Zika virus, that threaten the region.
- When Your Classroom is the Gulf of Mexico**  
From underwater exploration to discovery missions on the Ridley Floating Classroom marine vessel, UTRGV’s Coastal Studies Lab (CSL) provides an unmatched experience for students, faculty, and members of the community. Established in 1973, the lab helps address coastal and marine concerns in the Gulf of Mexico, including the preservation and protection of sea turtles. Get first-hand accounts of the center’s lively adventures on the Gulf and their educational and research opportunities.
- The Potential of the UTRGV School of Medicine**  
The expectation of the new UTRGV School of Medicine has been ambitious from the start: to transform health care in a historically underserved region that has half the physician-per-patient ratio of the United States. As the medical school prepares to graduate its first cohort of students next summer, its successes can already be counted, no more so dramatically than its number of applicants – 4,113 for 54 spots. Learn how the medical school and the new clinical practice, UT Health Rio Grande Valley, are providing a healthier future for the region.
- The Rio Grande Valley’s Role in the Civil War**  
The Rio Grande Valley is bursting with history, but did you know this region played a major role in the U.S. Civil War? Did you know that the Underground Railroad passed through this region, helping escaped slaves to freedom in Mexico? Hear about this unique history from UTRGV’s Community Historical Archaeology Project with Schools (CHAPS), a consortium of faculty, lecturers, staff and students that showcases local culture and natural history and its importance to the future of the Rio Grande Valley.

### **Riding the Wave: UTRGV Scientists Collaborate on Groundbreaking Discovery**

When the 2017 Nobel Prize in Physics was awarded to researchers at CalTech and MIT for their detection of gravitational waves – ripples in the fabric of space-time caused when cosmic objects such as black holes collide – UTRGV also celebrated the triumph. That’s because scientists from UTRGV’s Center for Gravitational Wave Astronomy (CGWA) were directly involved in the Nobel-winning discovery that confirmed Albert Einstein’s theory of relativity. CGWA researchers will discuss the center’s role and how they’re advancing scientific research and education in gravitational wave astronomy.

2:15 – 2:30 p.m.

### **Break and Refreshments**

2:30 – 3:15 p.m.

### **Breakout Sessions, Second Round\***

Life & Health Science Building

***\*You may select one of the six sessions listed above.***

3:15 – 3:30 p.m.

### **Break and Refreshments**

3:30 – 4:15 p.m.

### **Closing Plenary Session**

#### **Spotlight on Student Success**

Brownsville Student Union (BSTUN), El Gran Salon

At UTRGV, ensuring that students receive the support they need to graduate, enter the workforce and succeed is the No. 1 priority. Students have access to numerous opportunities, but one of the most effective ones starts long before future Vaqueros set foot on campus. At Harlingen CISD’s Early College High School (ECHS), students can earn up to two years of college credit – at no cost – at UTRGV.

Recognized this year as one of the best schools in the nation by U.S. News & World Report, ECHS is open to any student who lives in the Rio Grande Valley and offers a curriculum focused on education, engineering and computer science. UT System Regent Nolan Perez, who also is president of the Harlingen CISD Board of Trustees, will be joined by Harlingen CISD Superintendent Art Cavazos, HCISD Administrator for Organizational Development Veronica Kortan, and UTRGV leaders to talk about the impact of the school in raising high school graduation and college retention rates.

4:15-4:30 p.m.

### **Program Concludes and Shuttles Depart to South Padre Island hotels**

At the conclusion of the general session, buses will load in front of the Student Union to return to the South Padre Island hotels for some relaxation before dinner.

6:45 – 7:30 p.m.

### **CCEC Reception**

Courtyard by Marriott South Padre Island Hotel

*Casual Attire*

7:30 – 9:15 p.m.

### **CCEC Dinner and Program**

Courtyard by Marriott South Padre Island Hotel

*Casual Attire*

### **Performances by Folklorico Tizatlán and Guitar Denizens**

#### **A conversation with Chancellor Milliken and author Stephen Harrigan**

Join Chancellor James B. Milliken and Stephen Harrigan for a lively discussion about Harrigan’s latest book, *Big Wonderful Thing: A History of Texas*, which Kirkus said is “as good a state history as has ever been written and a must-read for Texas aficionados.” Harrigan, a 1970 graduate of UT Austin, taught at UT Austin’s James A. Michener Center for Writers for 20 years. He is a longtime writer for *Texas Monthly* and the author of 10 books of fiction and non-fiction, including *The Gates of the Alamo*, which became a *New York Times* bestseller and *Notable Book* and received a number of awards, including the Spur Award for Best Novel of the West. Harrigan is the recipient of the Texas Book Festival’s Texas Writers Award, the Lon Tinkle Award for lifetime achievement from the Texas Institute of Letters, the Texas Medal of Arts award from the Texas Cultural Trust and has been inducted into the Texas Literary Hall of Fame.

**Saturday, February 1**

**Chancellor's Council Executive Committee Program and Business Meeting**

*Casual Attire*

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

**Hot Breakfast** (served continuously)

Courtyard by Marriott South Padre Island Hotel

8:30 – 9:15 a.m.

**Morning Program**

**Welcome**

**Robert W. Shepard**, Chairman, Chancellor's Council

**Introductions**

**Guy Bailey**, President, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

**Meet the Champs of UTRGV**

Did you know that the UTRGV chess team beat Harvard in what's known as the Final Four of College Chess this past year? It's just one example of how UTRGV is cultivating student leaders by providing them opportunities and resources both inside and outside the classroom. A panel of student champions – including a member of UTRGV's chess team, a representative of the UTRGV team that won first place in an international stock trading competition, and a student government and medical school leader – will discuss UTRGV's winning ways.

9:15 – 10:30 a.m.

**CCEC Winter Business Meeting**

10:30 a.m.

**Meeting Adjourns** (with time to check out of the hotel afterward)