

# THE RIDER

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Gira nacional universitaria de movimiento Ayotzinapa dará inicio en UTRGV



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Fashn.Haus to host its first fashion show at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Pharr

## Legacy websites to shut down

Andrea Torres  
THE RIDER

More than a year into UTRGV, the university continues to move forward by letting go of the websites of its legacy institutions, UT Brownsville and UT Pan American.

“We sent out an email about a month ago, informing our stakeholders of the decommissioning and asked them if there was any information that needed to be transferred to the UTRGV site to let us know,” said Patrick Gonzales, UTRGV associate vice president for Marketing and Communications.

Gonzales, who is part of a group composed of staff from Information Systems and University Marketing and Communications, said they have been working the past year and a half to inform the university community of this change and migrate the information to utrgv.edu.

The migration, which started with the creation and transfer of the colleges’ and university divisions’ websites and information, is 75 percent complete, Gonzales said.

“Once we have the colleges and the divisions, then we can



MARIO GONZALEZ/ THE RIDER GRAPHIC

go into the departments that fall under those colleges or fall under those divisions,” he said. “As you can imagine, we have hundreds of departments.”

Among the information

included in these websites are the academic records of both legacy alumni and students grandfathered from UTB and UTPA.

“The termination of legacy

websites does not adversely impact students’ records,” said University Registrar Sofia Montes. “Student information systems do not reside on those websites and so there’s no loss

of academic records or access to them.”

UTRGV uses ASSIST, an online service where students can access their records on registration, financial aid, payment and grades, according to the university website. UTPA used ASSIST as well, but UTB used UTB Online, a service similar to ASSIST.

Active and registered students can access their academic records via ASSIST, however, an inactive student and alumni will not be able to access ASSIST because when a student graduates, that access is terminated since they have no active record, Montes said in a phone interview last Wednesday.

“Any student, whether they are legacy UTB, legacy UTPA or even previous graduates of UTRGV are still able to obtain their transcript online via a portal that resides outside of ASSIST,” Montes said.

This portal can be accessed through [www.enrollment.utrgv.edu/transcript\\_request/](http://www.enrollment.utrgv.edu/transcript_request/). The online transcript request form does not require a login, as ASSIST does. Personal information, including name,

See **WEBSITES**, Page 2

## Following through UTRGV with eyes toward the prize

Nathaniel Mata  
SPORTS EDITOR

There’s little time to stop and smell the flowers in the midst of the best start in volleyball D1 program history. Sightseeing and patting each other on the back doesn’t build toward a Western Athletic Conference crown, only more wins can do that.

An unprecedented road swing to start the season could have been the recipe to an underwhelming record. Following wins over Baylor University and Tulane University, on hostile

UTRGV freshman middle blocker Barbara Silva celebrates after the team scores a point against Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi at the South Texas Showdown game last Tuesday in the UTRGV Fieldhouse in Edinburg. UTRGV won 3-2 in sets against the Islanders.

SARAH CARVAJAL/THE RIDER

courts, during nonconference-tournament play, it was evident this team could be special. Instead, they were 9-5 the first time they played in front of the

It only took 17 games in 2016 to match 2015’s 12 total wins. UTRGV’s blazing start put the entire conference on warning. Then came some turbulence.

“It’s a good testament of how we come back from losses. It just shows that all the work we’ve been putting in and adjustments that we’ve made to our game to improve.”

Alisha Watson  
Right Side Hitter

home crowd. To close the month of September, the Vaqueros started the WAC season with three consecutive wins, each match by 3-1 scores. UTRGV was sailing by conference foes that they hadn’t had success against in previous seasons. Star outside hitter Bojana Mitrovic had a memorable game against Seattle University in this stretch, recording 24 kills in the win.

A game later, in their first test against front-runner and defending conference champions New Mexico State University, they came up short again, 1-3.

Consecutive WAC losses for a team that was rolling could have had a devastating effect on Todd Lowery’s squad. It set up for a rivalry match with big implications on how the season would continue in their next

See **VOLLEYBALL**, Page 9

## Flu season is coming: Get your free shot at UTRGV

Monika Garza  
THE RIDER



The UTRGV Health Services Clinics are administering free flu shots for the campus community from 8 to 11 a.m. and from 1 to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday while supplies last.

“Any time during that time period they can come by and get the flu vaccines updated,” UTRGV Physician Assistant Steven Machner said.

Nursing freshman Marlene Hernandez said she did not know where to get the flu vaccine and now that she knows that UTRGV is providing them, she will get it.

“It’s really helpful for people that don’t know where to [get] them,” Hernandez said. “Now that I know, I will take it.”

Flu is a contagious  
See **FLU**, Page 10



THE  
RIDER

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SPORTS EDITOR

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Azenett Cornejo

STUDENT MEDIA PROGRAM  
ADVISER

Carina Alcantara

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS

Anita Reyes

Ana Sanchez

CONTACT:

EDINBURG CAMPUS

1201 West University Dr.

ELABS 170

Phone: (956) 665-2541

Fax: (956) 665-7122

BROWNSVILLE CAMPUS

1 West University Blvd.

Student Union 1.16

Phone: (956) 882-5143

Fax: (956) 882-5176

Email: TheRider@utrgv.edu

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY  
Marketing Week

The **American Marketing Association** will host a series of events on the Edinburg campus in observance of **Marketing Week**: Bert Ogden Harlingen Manager **Cristal Hernandez** and Digital Marketing Director **Pete Lukjanov** will be guest speakers from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. today in Room 118 of the **Robert C. Vackar College of Business and Entrepreneurship**; **Oscar Ramos**, social media manager for the college, will conduct a **LinkedIn Workshop** from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday in Room 116 of the college; Shalimar Madrigal, director for the City of Hidalgo, will speak from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday in Room 118; **Jorge Ibarra**, a student assistant at the **Career Center**, will lead a **Résumé Workshop** from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Thursday in Room 1.106 of the **Academic Services Building**; and the **AMA** invites students to watch and analyze “**Shark Tank**” clips from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Friday in Room 118. For more information, call 534-7278.

Choral Festival

The annual **UTRGV Invitational Choral Festival** will take place at 7:30 p.m. at the UTRGV Performing Arts Complex Auditorium in Edinburg. The **UTRGV University Choir** will perform, as well as the **Johnny G. Economedes High School Choir, Edinburg North High School Choir and Robert Vela High School Choir**. At the conclusion of the concert, the combined choirs will sing two selections under the direction of **David Means**, director of the University Choir. Admission is free. For more information, call 882-7025.

Bra decorating

The **University Recreation Center** will host a bra-decorating event from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. today until Thursday in the **University Recreation Building**. Participants are asked to bring their own bra. Decoration supplies will be provided. Categories include most creative, most visually appealing and most UTRGV spirited. Winners will receive a UREC prize pack. Bras will be voted on at 8 p.m. Thursday during the **Zumbathon**. **Sigma Lambda Gamma** will sell the decorated bras for \$10 at the Zumbathon. Proceeds will be donated to the **Breast Cancer Research Foundation**. For more information, call 665-7808.

Tuesday

Leadership broadcast

The **National Society of Leadership and Success** will host a live-stream event with leaders, celebrities and best-selling authors where students can sit and listen from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Student Union PlainsCapital Bank Theater on the Edinburg campus. For more information, call 882-6756.

Fish and chips

The **Encounter Campus Ministry** invites UTRGV students to lunch at the Edinburg Chapel Lawn from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information, email utpacmi@aol.com.

Food Habit Workshop

The **Student Food Pantry** will host **Power of Planning** from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in Room 1.422 of the **Main Building** in Brownsville. Activities will include planning a healthy meal and preparing a cucumber salad recipe. For more information, call 882-8980.

Wednesday

Breakfast to go

The **Baptist Student Ministry** will provide free breakfast from 8 to 9 a.m. at the Main East front lawn on the Brownsville campus. For more information, call 383-7491.

Used Book Sale

The **Sigma Tau Delta-International English Honor Society** will host a book sale from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday and Friday at the University Center on the Edinburg campus. Books will range from \$1 to \$3 and will be of a diverse selection. For more information, call 665-8752.

Safe Zone Ally Training

**Student Involvement** will host **Safe Zone Ally Training** from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Student Academic Center on the Edinburg campus. It will be an interactive training with social activities to spread awareness on **LGBTQIA+** related topics. Participants can speak their mind, ask questions and be themselves. To RSVP, go to <http://utrgv.collegiatelink.net/form/start/92453>. For more information, call 665-7989.

Thursday

Treble Thrivers performance

The **Treble Thrivers** will host an acoustic session from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. at the Student Union on the Edinburg campus. The singing group will perform a capella and acoustic music. For more information, call 457-2494.

Cha Cha Zumbathon

The **University Recreation Center** will host a **Cha Cha Zumbathon** from 6 to 9 p.m. in the **University Recreation Building** to help raise donations for the **Breast Cancer Research Foundation**. Admission is free. The center will also cut hair for those who would like to donate their hair to **Locks of Love**. For more information, call 665-7808.

Art exhibit

**FonziStudios** will host “**Love Sex God**,” a master of fine arts thesis exhibit, from 6 to 9 p.m. in the **School of Art**. The exhibit speaks of the artist’s love-hate relationship toward men as well as illustrate the male-to-male attraction and conflict between homosexuality and God. All sculptures are nude. **FonziStudios** asks attendees to attend at their own discretion. Refreshments will be available and admission is free. For more information, call 665-3480.

Saturday

STEMS 5K and 1-Mile Run/Walk

The **South Texas Engineering, Math & Science Alumni Association Inc.** will host the 17th annual **STEMS 5K and 1-Mile Run/Walk** from 7 a.m. to noon at the Brownsville Events Center. For more information, call 882-5845.

Ballet San Antonio

**Ballet San Antonio** will perform at 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday at the Performing Arts Complex in Edinburg. Hosted by the Office of Public Art at UTRGV, it will be the premiere performance under the new **Performing Arts Complex Distinguished Artists Series**. **Willie Shives**, the new artistic director of Ballet San Antonio, is an Edinburg native. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$15 for seniors and \$10 for children and students with a UTRGV ID. They can be purchased at <http://patron.utrgv.edu/> or at the door. For more information, call 665-3881 or email [patron@utrgv.edu](mailto:patron@utrgv.edu).

Upcoming

The UTRGV **Collegiate Recovery Program** will hand out **Drug-Free Awareness Red Ribbon Pins** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 27 at the Student Union in Edinburg. The event is part of the department’s **Drug-Free Red Ribbon Campaign**. For more information, call 665-2674 or visit [facebook.com/utrgvcollegiaterecoveryprogram](https://facebook.com/utrgvcollegiaterecoveryprogram).  
--Compiled by Brenda Garza

POLICE REPORTS

The following are among the incidents reported to University Police between Oct. 3 and 9.



Oct. 3

**11:57 a.m.:** In the UTRGV Biomedical Building, a student complained of shortness of breath, chest pain, tachycardia and dizziness.

Emergency Medical

Services transported the student

by ambulance to be further evaluated.

Oct. 4

**12:14 p.m.:** A Texas Southmost College student reported one of the tires on the vehicle blew out while driving down Ringgold Road. A UTRGV officer assisted by directing traffic in the area. At a later time, an employee from the Brownsville Early College High School called the UTRGV Police Department and reported a student had been hit with a piece of tire while walking on the sidewalk on Ringgold Road. She reported the piece of tire hit her backpack and knocked her to her knees. The Brownsville Police Department was notified and an officer was dispatched to the scene because of

the location of the incident.

Oct. 5

**6:31 p.m.:** On the Brownsville campus, an adult and three minors were seen walking around the campus in wet clothing. UTRGV officers approached the group in a TSC parking lot. The man said they were lost and just crossed the Rio Grande. U.S. Border Patrol officers arrived and took custody of the group.

Oct. 6

**1:58 a.m.:** Officers stopped a driver, who displayed signs of intoxication, for driving without a front license plate on 300 block North Sugar Road. The driver was subsequently arrested on suspicion of DWI after performing poorly on the standardized field sobriety tests and was transported to the Edinburg Municipal Jail. At the jail, the driver agreed to provide samples of breath, which revealed a breath alcohol content of 0.050, and 0.049, respectively. The driver was released from custody and was issued a written warning.

all pertinent information from the appropriate student information systems,” Montes said in an email to *The Rider*.

Degree Works, an electronic tool that helps students determine their degree plan progress, is not active.

“Degree Works, actually right now, is dormant because we have been updating it with new and updated courses,” Montes said. “Degree Works is going to be revived by the end of this month. That would be a good opportunity for students to kind of see a comprehensive overview of their records, both from the legacy

Oct. 7

**7:25 p.m.:** A man backed up without safety, striking a woman’s vehicle, which was improperly parked in a fire lane. The vehicles sustained minor damage and no injuries were reported.

Oct. 8

**1:49 a.m.:** An officer stopped a driver for failing to stop at a traffic signal on the 1600 block of West Schunior Street. The driver had a suspended driver’s license. A record check revealed a warrant for unpaid fines. The operator was issued a court appearance citation for driving while license invalid and booked into the Edinburg Municipal Jail.

Oct. 9

**12:05 a.m.:** A student reported leaving her backpack in the Engineering Building. She said she did not secure the door after leaving the room at midnight and when she returned, her backpack was missing. Her camera, laptop and Social Security card were inside her backpack. The loss was estimated at \$1,050.

--Compiled by Megan Gonzalez

institutions and at UTRGV.”

For more information regarding academic records, contact the Registrar’s Office at [registrar@utrgv.edu](mailto:registrar@utrgv.edu) or call 882-4026.

Staff and faculty interested in migrating information from the legacy websites may contact IT at 665-2020.

Visit us online at  
**utrgvrider.com**



# Alcohol awareness: Starting the conversation

**Bryan Ramos**  
THE RIDER

The Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities (SRR) is observing Alcohol Awareness Week today through Friday by hosting events aimed at shedding light on the risks and dangers that come with drinking alcohol.

Debra Torres, a judicial affairs officer with Student Rights and Responsibilities, said the purpose of Alcohol Awareness Week is to start an open conversation about alcohol.

“Alcohol Awareness Week is an opportunity for us to start the dialogue of alcohol and responsible decision-making,” Torres said. “It encourages becoming educated and empowered about alcohol and what to do if you find yourself in situations that aren’t ideal.”

The events kick off with Alcohol 101: Popcorn and a Movie at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Unity Hall in Edinburg presented by SRR and Residence Life. The event is open to the public. There will be short educational videos about alcohol and binge drinking along with games to play.

On Wednesday in the Edinburg Student Union Commons, SRR is teaming up with multiple organizations to help raise awareness. SRR and the University Police Department are providing beer goggles to give the experience



LESLEY ROBLES/THE RIDER

The Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities will host events in observance of Alcohol Awareness Week at both campuses to start the conversation about safe alcohol use.

of what being drunk is like. The event, Inspire Others: Tell Us Your Story, allows students to anonymously share their experiences with alcohol for others to see. SRR and the Super Hero Project will host Chips with Tips, with alcohol factoids, or tips, attached to a

bag of chips. Alcohol and STDs, Synthetic Drugs and Alcohol Mixture, U in the Driver Seat will be sponsored by Student Health Services. The event will run from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. SRR will host the same event from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday in the Student Union

on the Brownsville campus. Alcohol Awareness Week concludes Thursday with Alcohol 101: Popcorn and a Movie at 7 p.m. in the Casa Bella clubhouse in Brownsville. Kristina Canfield, program coordinator of the Collegiate Recovery Program, said there

is one area in which society is failing young drinkers, and that’s why Alcohol Awareness is a great opportunity.

“One thing we do a bad job of is not asking young people about their drinking habits,” Canfield said. “Two-thirds of people between ages 18 and 39 saw a physician at some point in the last year. Only 14 percent of them got asked about their alcohol consumption. We need to start asking people about their drinking habits.”

Torres said young adults need to focus on decision-making when consuming alcohol.

“There’s no way we can prevent anyone from making the decision of drinking, but it’s all about becoming educated about what we’re putting into our system and making responsible decisions. If you’re over 21 and want to enjoy an alcoholic beverage, that’s OK. It’s getting into the car and making that decision to drive that’s dangerous,” Torres said. “We all know someone in our lives that has been affected negatively by alcohol. It starts the dialogue that you’re not alone and there’s so many people who have experienced what you’ve experienced.”

For more information regarding Alcohol Awareness Week and a schedule of events, follow the UTRGV Student Rights and Responsibilities-SRR page or Student Life page on Facebook.

## Why study abroad?

**Monika Garza**  
THE RIDER

Criminal justice senior Itxel Martinez went to Barcelona, Spain, through a study abroad program offered at UTRGV during the Summer II Session and said it was an experience she will never forget.

“What I liked the most was that I was able to speak my native language, which is Spanish, in a completely different side of the world,” Martinez said. “I was able to, in some way, relate to the people from Spain.”

The UTRGV Office of Global Engagement’s International Programs and Partnerships plans to offer about 30 study abroad programs next summer.

“We have two different ways of study abroad,” said Luis Alcocer, International Programs specialist. “We have short-term and long-term programs.”

UTRGV is now focusing on short-term programs, which normally last between two and four weeks.

“The benefits of studying in another country are that first, personally, you will open your eyes to new things,” Alcocer said. “Professionally, it will also give you a wider perspective on how to deal with other cultures.”

Long-term programs are for students who want to study abroad for one semester or a full academic year.

Students who are interested in long-term programs can schedule an appointment with the International Programs and Partnerships to review their application packet and select a location for study abroad.

“We will have many [classes] from the College of Arts, many from the College of Sciences and a couple more from the College of Business & Entrepreneurship,” Alcocer said. “Also, from the Department of Criminal Justice and we have one that is for doctoral students in [medicine].”

Countries where UTRGV students can study abroad include Peru, China, South Korea, Japan, Germany, United Kingdom, Costa Rica, Belize, Italy and Mexico.

The average cost for short-term study abroad programs is between \$4,000 and \$6,000, depending on the length of the program and the destination.

“The cost covers the accommodation; normally, breakfast is included, transportation on site and international insurance,” Alcocer said. “The flights, we normally encourage students to get them on their own.”



COURTESY PHOTO

UTRGV students traveled to China during Summer Session I to study Chinese Culture and Civilization.

Scholarships are available for students who want to study in another country, including the International Education Fee Scholarship.

Alcocer said applicants must be enrolled in UTRGV at the time of the program, with a minimum of 12 credit hours for undergraduate students or six credit hours for graduate students. A grade-point average of 2.5 or higher is required.

The International Women’s Board, which is affiliated with the university, offers scholarships to men and women, he said.

The deadline for the International Women’s Board Scholarship is Feb. 6 and Feb. 10 for the International Education Fee Scholarship.

UTRGV Communication Professor William Strong is planning to offer two programs in Mexico for students next summer; however, the programs are awaiting approval.

“The course will be Intercultural Communication and a Spanish course,” Strong said. “There’s several great ways of learning in life: Books is one, lectures is two and travel is another. Just the experience of traveling is an incredible learning tool.”

Students who want more information regarding study abroad programs may call International Programs and Partnerships on the Edinburg campus at 665-3572 and on the Brownsville campus at 882-8955 or email them at ipp@utrgv.edu.





What is your favorite horror movie? Why?



“My favorite horror movie is ‘Alien’ because it is such a great sci-fi movie and it’s a real classic and its special effects are really amazing and the directing is awesome in that movie. ‘Alien!’”

Michael Marks  
Music freshman

“Well, I like more exorcism movies. There is one that’s called ‘The Taking of Deborah Logan.’ I like them because that could happen to me, so like, it interests me. I can see how I can avoid it or what I would do in case that happens.”



Carolina Rodriguez  
Biology sophomore



“I really like ‘Silence of the Lambs,’ probably because you don’t know what’s going to happen next. You’re really on the edge of your seat the entire time while watching it, you know? I don’t know. It’s a good movie.”

Luis Gonzalez  
Chemistry junior

“My favorite movie is ‘The Mist’ because it messes with the viewers’ emotions. It gives them hope that everything is gonna be OK, but then the creator of the film takes that hope away and the feeling of ‘Oh, we can still make it through this.’”



Brissa Alva  
Computer science sophomore

--Compiled by Ana Cahuiche and Gabriel Mata

Now say something nice to each other.



Karl Becker

C. Becker 10/17

The road ahead



Oscar Castillo  
NEWS EDITOR

For more than four and a half years, I have driven to and from campus, tallying 266 hours on the road. But come this December, I will no longer make that 40-minute round trip.

As I make my final rounds to the Brownsville campus, I think of all the changes that have happened since I began college in 2012.

At that time, incumbent President Barack Obama was running for re-election. The Mayan prophecy of the end of the world was the hottest topic of conversation. (Ironically, whoever wins this election might make the prophecy become a reality.)

Back in 2012, things were simpler. Phones weren’t exploding. You could listen to Justin Bieber’s prepubescent changing voice as you charged your iPhone.

The refugee crisis hadn’t happened. The Boston bombing hadn’t happened. The Michael Brown shooting hadn’t happened. About 33,000 emails hadn’t been deleted. Bragging about sexually harassing women was seen as wrong and not just “locker-room talk.”

The Black Lives Matter, Blue Lives Matter and All Lives Matter movements hadn’t started.

Clowns weren’t seen as a threat to society. Harambe was still alive.

The world hadn’t been introduced to Magic! but everyone knew who LMFAO was. Aloe Blacc rose and fell and PSY broke the internet with “Gangnam Style.”

The University of Texas at Brownsville had just broken up with Texas Southmost College and began flirting with UT Pan American, teasing the idea of a possible “merger.”

“ Life’s about riding the road you have to drive to get to your destination. ”

With that being said, a lot of tragedies hadn’t happened. One would say things were a lot more beautiful back then. I say things just were.

It is easy to look at the rear-view mirror and think “Damn, I sure wish I was back

home,” but you can’t do that if you want to get to your destination. Life’s about riding the road you have to drive to get to your destination. It may not be the one you had envisioned; it may have a lot more potholes and stop lights than you would have wanted, but that’s just the one you have to take.

As someone who has driven for more than 266 hours, all I can say is keep your eyes on the road ahead.

I just hope that the road I take once I graduate is as fun as the one I’ve taken this last half decade.

Letter to the Editor

Represent the students



I regularly read the articles to know what is going on in my university and appreciate the continued relevant information coming from such a reliable source.

In the latest article about the Student Government Association’s meeting, [“SGA seeks more no-smoking signs,” utrgvrider.com, Oct. 6], I noticed a section that was subtitled “Financial Affairs Standing Committee.” In this, I read how Julian Verdream, Financial Affairs Standing Committee chair,

responded to a question asking why the application period was only 15 days. He replied, “... the committee does not want to extend the application period because then it will get inundated with requests, as it did in the last quarter.”

I quote this because I feel insulted by the response given by one of the members, who are supposed to be representing me. This member states that they don’t want to be “inundated with requests.”

This makes me feel like those who are supposed to be helping me achieve my goals are inconvenienced by my requests for funding to achieve said goals. If this is what I am to expect from my representatives, then all I see are a bunch of people who are in this association for their

résumés, instead of truly representing the student body.

The Student Government Association’s purpose is to assist us in resolving issues. To people applying for these funds, the issue is finances. The SGA members need to realize that this issue can be the difference between graduating employed and graduating unemployed as many of the conferences people applying for financing to attend are intended to help us network with companies that may offer said employment opportunities.

Juan M. Garza  
Biology sophomore

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# Alumni: Where are they now?



BRENDA GARZA/THE RIDER

Marcos Silva, co-founder of Border Kids Code and an Advancement Via Individual Determination- ACT Test Preparation educator at Idea Quest in Edinburg with his students.

**Name:** Marcos Silva  
**Age:** 29  
**Hometown:** McAllen  
**Degrees:** Master’s in educational leadership, bachelor in psychology with a minor in communication  
**Graduation year:** 2012  
**Current job:** Co-founder of Border Kids Code and Advancement via Individual Determination-ACT Test Preparation educator at Idea Quest in Edinburg and cohort of TED-Ed Innovative Educators.  
**How would you describe your college years?** “I would describe them as a learning curve. I came from a migrant family, so there was definitely this huge learning curve that I had to undertake just to understand how this whole place worked. So, that was very interesting in the beginning.”  
**What were your favorite things to do while in college?** “I was very involved with student government and the University Program Board and all of that, so I never had time to eat. Every time I remember college years, I always remember going to the Student Union and getting an oatmeal cookie with cream and that was my lunch.”  
**What do you miss most about college?** “The camaraderie. The years

that I was here I built a circle of friends. Luckily, it was a circle of friends that wanted more for themselves. We all did. So, when we left college, everybody kind of just went their own ways with their jobs. We had built this tight-knit circle and I miss that. I miss the late nights. Now we have to be adults.”  
**What motivated you to pursue your degree?** “I was always really intrigued with how people worked and how people would think. At a young age, I told myself that if I were able to understand that, everything else would come easy. In terms of teaching someone how to learn or having somebody be on my side of the team, I would have made more sense of the world if I learned individually how one person at a time would think.”  
**Did your degree prepare you for the real world?** “College prepared me for the real world; I don’t think that necessarily my degree did.”  
**Describe what you do in your job.** “As an educator I’m lucky that it’s an elective class and so, I have a lot of free say in terms of what projects I can work on. Right now, I’m working on the South Texas Idea Festival.

See ALUMNI, Page 7

# 7 horror movies recommended by college students

Sergio Garcia  
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

- 1. “The Silence of the Lambs”**  
Ring a bell? No? Maybe this name might bring some memories: Dr. Hannibal Lecter. In an effort to catch a serial killer who’s been killing women in the U.S., FBI trainee Clarice Starling (played by Jodie Foster) seeks help from an incarcerated psychiatrist, Lecter (played by Anthony Hopkins). Known as “Buffalo Bill,” this serial killer not only kills his victims, he also skins them, making Lecter the perfect aid, for he was convicted of murder and cannibalism.
- 2. “The Texas Chainsaw Massacre”**  
“The Texas Chainsaw Massacre” is a series of movies that depict the unfortunate events of a group of friends who fall in the hands of a family of cannibals. The main character of the movies is “Leatherface,” whom you might remember as the big guy with the chain saw. The franchise has a total of seven movies and another one is expected to hit the big screen sometime this year. If you visit a haunted house this year, be on the lookout for that distinctive chain saw sound, for it might or might not be coming from one of the actors on stage.
- 3. “It”**  
If you are afraid of clowns, this movie might not be for you. Based on a horror novel by Stephen King, “It” follows the story of a demonic entity named “Pennywise” that takes the shape of a clown and hunts kids by exploiting their fears. King’s novel was published in 1986 and the story says that “It” hunts every three decades, so be careful this year.
- 4. “A Nightmare on Elm Street”**  
This movie probably ruined it for the all the people who had red sweaters with black stripes back in the ’80s. The antagonist is a sadistic serial killer who was burned to death on Elm Street, Freddy Krueger. Krueger haunts his victims in their sleep and kills them in a horrendous way. The thing is that if they die in a dream, they also die in real life. The teenagers in the movie avoid sleeping, for they know that as soon as they do, Krueger will try to kill them. I wonder if being haunted by Krueger might be a good excuse to sleep in class after a long night.
- 5. “The Exorcist”**  
Starring a zombie-looking, head-twisting, wall-climbing, demon-talking, long-distance vomiting, white-eyed possessed teenager, this movie has it all. The teen starts developing violent behavior when she begins playing with a Ouija board, so her mother seeks professional help. After psychiatric tests it is discovered that she is possessed by a demonic entity, thus deciding to perform an exorcism.
- 6. “Saw”**  
The seven-movie franchise is all about blood. The antagonist of the series communicates with his victims using a creepy marionette called “Billy the Puppet.” The name of the sadistic serial killer responsible for capturing and torturing his subjects is John Kramer, also known as Jigsaw. Every movie is different; however, all of them have one common plot, to “rehabilitate” people who, according to Jigsaw’s logic, don’t appreciate their life. These movies are full of mutilations, murder and blood, lots of blood.
- 7. “The Ring”**  
Having a total of two movies, “The Ring” is probably among the most popular horror movies out there. The plot is fairly simple: There’s a cursed tape that after watching, you die in seven days. The tape is full of surreal and horrid video fragments and images. As soon as the tape ends, you receive a phone call and as soon as you answer, a child whispers, “You will die in seven days,” and hangs up. You might think that this won’t happen nowadays, especially because VHS tapes have become obsolete; however, the franchise announced that a new sequel will be released sometime next year and according to the trailer, the video is transmitted via email.

# What should I major in?

Throughout this academic year, The Rider will explore the programs of study at UTRGV. This is the fifth in a series. The Rider interviewed Sibin Wu, Management Department chair, for information.

**Major:** Management  
**School:** Robert C. Vackar College of Business and Entrepreneurship  
**Chair of the Department:** Sibin Wu  
**Prerequisites:** None  
**What is management?** “Management is a broad term. So, when you think about overall management, you think of getting things done. You think about, in an organization, how do you get the organizational stakeholders together and get things done quickly, efficiently and effectively. If you ask me about it, that’s what I think when I think of management. Pretty much about how you plan things, and then you try to staff it, and then you get into organizing, and then you try to lead and evaluate if it’s working or not. You may be working on something, and it may not work, so you need to evaluate it to make sure if it’s working or not. In management, in order to get things done efficiently, it’s a process.”  
**Which classes can students expect to take?** “The university foundations, of course, history, English, etc. When you get into management, well, there are some required courses. For example, Principles [of] Management, Organization Management, Strategic Management, Organizational Behavior, Human Resources Management and Foundations of Entrepreneurship everyone has to take, no matter what you want to do. Beyond those, there are about six or seven other management courses that the student can choose that go with their interest. We have human resource management, such as recruitment and selection, training and development,



negotiation, compensation, things like that. If you want to go into operations, you can take like project management, purchasing. We have many different courses they can choose based off their own interest.”  
**What skills will students learn by the time they graduate?** “Communication is a very key part of it. In order to manage people, you have to be able to put your ideas out there. The other one would be critical thinking. Management is about planning and finding the best way to get something done. So, you do need to know how to think critically about other peoples’ decision and whether the plan is good or not. The student will also know their area of expertise, or core competence.”  
**What are some possible careers?** “They can be a human resource manager. They have different functions such as staffing, where you have to go through different criteria to determine who should be given an interview. They

can also be a recruiter or organization trainer, something like that. They can be a compensation analyst as well, where they deal with pay. The two big categories are human resource management and operation management. They can work for a manufacturing company and make sure they are purchasing the right materials for the right price. Or, they can manage the inventory and they can report when they need more inventory.

We sometimes encourage students to start their own business.”  
**Who are some possible employers?** “All the big companies hire people. The companies need HR, human resources. They need people and they need to hire the right people. They need to really motivate their employees to work more efficiently. Operations managers work more in manufacturing. They can be employed in most of the big companies as well.”  
**What salary can a student expect to earn after graduation?** “I would guess a midrange of \$40,000 to \$70,000 for HR managers. Operations managers tend to get a little bit higher.”  
**Are there any student clubs?** “We have SHRM (Society of Human Resource Management). We have two chapters now, one here and one in [Brownsville]. In total, we have about 40 students. The other one is called Enactus. The faculty adviser is actually from our department, but the students can be from throughout the whole university. They went to compete with other chapters all over the country last year. They were the regional champions and received the Rookie of the Year award.”  
**For more information:** email Wu at [sibin.wu@utrgv.edu](mailto:sibin.wu@utrgv.edu) or call 665-3559.  
--Complied by Sarah Carvajal

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**CAREERS IN STUDENT AFFAIRS MONTH**

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## Have you ever considered a Career in Student Affairs?

Take a look at how some of our current UTRGV staff chose Student Affairs

<b>Francis Galvan</b> Accountant II Student Life	<p><b>Where did you get your undergraduate/graduate degree and what was your major?</b> I completed a double major in Accounting and Management from The University of Texas at Brownsville. I am currently pursuing an MBA at UTRGV.</p> <p><b>How did you get interested in Student Affairs?</b> I was ready for change! Before joining Student Affairs, I worked under a different division within UTRGV and previously, our legacy institution UTB, however, it was not directly related to my background. I jumped at the opportunity to become part of another division and little did I know that I was going to love it.</p> <p><b>What advice do you have for students who are considering a career in Student Affairs?</b> If they like to help others, this is the place to be. Student Affairs is a fun environment and at the same time offers support to students to ensure their academic success. Helping students achieve their academic goals is definitely a very rewarding experience.</p>
<b>Massiel Muñoz</b> Assistant Director Student Union	<p><b>Where did you get your undergraduate/graduate degree and what was your major?</b> Undergrad in Hospitality Management from The University of North Texas. Pursuing MBA at UTRGV.</p> <p><b>How did you get interested in Student Affairs?</b> I was a Resident Assistant for 3 years and really enjoyed working with students and the Housing Department. I encountered the opportunity to work with ResLife many years later and fell in love with Student Affairs.</p> <p><b>What advice do you have for students who are considering a career in Student Affairs?</b> Student affairs, like many other careers, is a lifestyle and a way of life. To like it, you must love it! You will have the opportunity to meet bright and aspiring students and will become the mentor to many of them. You will be part of their worse and best days; both of these scenarios can be very special. It is a very rewarding career! Results and change come with time; always be patient with yourself. Every day is different and exciting, that's my favorite part.</p>
<b>Annette Livas</b> Associate Director University Recreation	<p><b>Where did you get your undergraduate/graduate degree and what was your major?</b> Undergraduate: UT-San Antonio, Bachelor of Science in Health. Graduate: University of West Florida, Master of Science in Health Education</p> <p><b>How did you get interested in Student Affairs?</b> My first job was in collegiate recreation as an intramural official during my time at UT-San Antonio. My passion for sports quickly turned into a passion for Collegiate Recreation and its impact on a college campus. My passion has continued ever since.</p> <p><b>What advice do you have for students who are considering a career in Student Affairs?</b> If you have a passion for learning, I highly recommend a career in higher education. If you have a passion for helping to influence student development and enjoy a collegiate environment, Student Affairs is the best career path.</p>
<b>Jorge Muñoz</b> Counseling Specialist Counseling Center	<p><b>Where did you get your undergraduate/graduate degree and what was your major?</b> Undergraduate: UT-Brownsville, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Graduate: UT-Pan American, Master of Science in Social Work</p> <p><b>How did you get interested in Student Affairs?</b> I got involved in Student Affairs as a student and was amazed to see how many university employees helped me along my academic journey. It felt great knowing that someone was there for me – to guide, instruct and at times “pull my ears.” I have no doubt in my mind that without their support, my academic career would have been more difficult and perhaps unsuccessful. It was their behavior towards me that inspired the desire to stay within Student Affairs to assist others like myself. The thought of being able to impact someone's life and consequently the lives of their families is an enormous incentive within itself. So why am I in Student Affairs? It is to inspire and motivate students.</p> <p><b>What advice do you have for students who are considering a career in Student Affairs?</b> Please get involved, ask questions, challenge yourself and accomplish your goal.</p>
<b>Jerry Martinez</b> Associate Registrar University Registrars	<p><b>Where did you get your undergraduate/graduate degree and what was your major?</b> Undergraduate: UT Brownsville Political Science.</p> <p><b>How did you get interested in Student Affairs?</b> As a student worker in the Counseling (Advising) Center, it became apparent how vital a well-run Student Affairs component was to the success of students. Additionally, the Student Affairs Administrators were always willing to listen to student needs. This encouraged me to join various student campus groups. I was hoping to bring to light issues students were having, issues that I witnessed when they visited the Counseling Center. One particular group I was encouraged to join was UTSSAG, now UTSSAC (UT System Student Advisory Council). This group was tasked at identifying student issues directly related to the student life cycle. This laid the foundation for me and how I currently approach student-related issues. Essentially, Student Affairs fosters student engagement. Students can transform their universities working with/through Student Affairs.</p> <p><b>What advice do you have for students who are considering a career in Student Affairs?</b> If you want to create change from within, be a part of Student Affairs.</p>



# Shake your groove thing



GABRIEL MATA/THE RIDER PHOTOS

Students, staff and faculty dance during Bachata Night, hosted by Sigma Lambda Beta last Thursday at the Student Union in Edinburg. Participants learned dance moves courtesy of Rhythm Room dance studio in McAllen.



Bachata Night was the final event celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month at UTRGV. Sigma Lambda Beta partnered with Rhythm Room dance studio in McAllen to host the event.

# Taking care under good hands



MARIO GONZALEZ/THE RIDER PHOTOS

Texas Southmost College vocational nursing senior Aron Arevalo administers an insulin test to Sonia Quintero during the Accessibility Awareness Information Fair, held Wednesday in the Main Building courtyard on the Brownsville campus. The insulin test was provided by Valley Regional Medical Center. Informational booths were set up by student organizations and health-related businesses in observance of Accessibility Awareness Month.



Exercise science senior Pamela Garcia receives information regarding breast self-exams and a pink ribbon from Planned Parenthood Patient Navigator Maria Del Carmen.

## ALUMNI

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

With my business or my program, I've created an organization that is pushing the fundamentals of computer science through coding and programming and we are doing it in a very different approach than the rest of the country. We are going through educators instead of just student interests. In my business, I oversee the program, the curriculum and the contracts that we have with the school districts around here."

**Do you do something else besides your current job?** "I just joined the cohort of TED-Ed Innovative Educators. I am one of 30 educators from around the world who are part of this program. There are people from Pakistan, Canada and all these different places, and we reimagine the education system in our heads and in our own ways try to develop programs that positively affect our community."

**What experiences have you had that you would say are out of the ordinary?** "I think that when

graduating I left to Vermont and worked for this camp. I was in charge of eight kids with Asperger and in the camp itself was 120. Mental health was just not what I expected. I studied psychology, so I should have been exposed to it, but it wasn't embedded in my culture to really understand what it was. So, being submerged into that was a complete shock, but it was beautiful in terms of being able to learn and have hands-on, so that definitely was one. And then, being part of this global community and thinking, 'Oh, I'm from the Valley, I shouldn't be part of this.' I think that there needs to be more sense of pride to who we are and just understanding that we are in our own community, like, a self-brewed, different type of people. We should be proud of that. We shouldn't shy down from opportunities just because of that."

**What is the most memorable moment of your career?** "I worked on a program with the Mission Economic Development Center, Sullivan Center

and Border Kids Code and we submitted for the Bright Spots for Educational Excellence for Hispanics and we got recognized by the White House. So, that was a little surreal and I didn't even think they would pay attention, so that was kind of cool."

**What are your motivations that keep you pushing forward?** "I'm going to have to say, as cliché as it might sound, it's probably my mom. When we moved over here, and this is something I always share with my students, I was never taught how to be an American. I think I was taught that I was here to get educated. And so, as an older, now contributing factor to the community, like I've learned what a school board is now, you know what I mean? I never understood those structures and those systems and now when I reflect on it, you know, my mom and dad came over here with one laser focus and this vision and that was to get their kids educated. So I attribute a lot of that to them, they started this whole story."

**What's next, careerwise?** "Definitely putting the Valley on the map, in terms of just global awareness. We live right next to the river and we are caged in by Border Patrol. We've created this Tex-Mex new way of living and I think we should expose that and we should bring resources that the rest of the country has back to our community but do it in a very community-based effort. Really, I just want to make a name for the people out here and make it a movement."

**What advice do you have for anyone pursuing your degree?** "Own the fact that you belong. They are in here for a reason and stop questioning whether you can make it or not. I think that you should just own the fact that you are who you are and push from that. Accept your place and own it and just grow from it. Grow yourself, your intellectual abilities, your interests and your knowledge, and on your way up, just grab someone with you and take them with you."

--Compiled by Brenda Garza



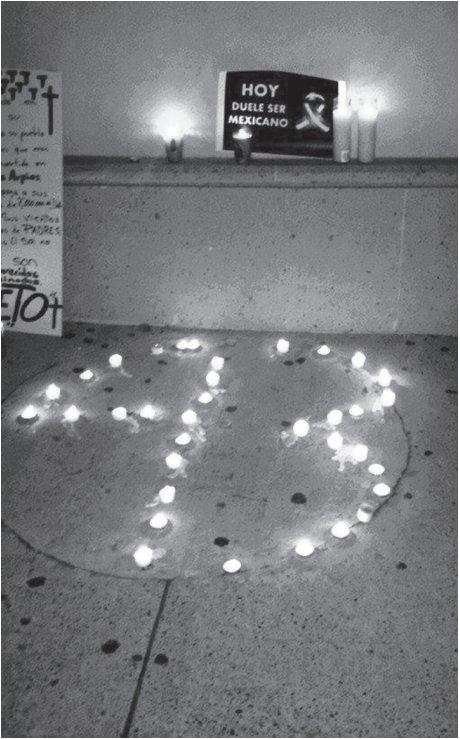
# Ayotzinapa: Gira nacional universitaria



Participantes del movimiento “Todos unidos por Ayotzinapa” marchan frente al consulado mexicano en McAllen durante el evento conmemorativo del año pasado. FOTO CORTESÍA MONICA ALVAREZ

**Rebeca Ortiz**  
EDITORIA DE ESPAÑOL

El Centro de Estudios México Americanos, (CMAS) por sus siglas en inglés, presentará la Plática con los Padres de los “43 de Ayotzinapa” donde compartirán sus testimonios sobre la desaparición de los estudiantes normalistas en Iguala, Guerrero, México. El evento se llevará a cabo martes a las 6 p.m. en el International Room del edificio ITT en el campus de Edinburg. A dos años de uno de los acontecimientos más graves de México y el cual ha polarizado a la sociedad mexicana, representantes de la comunidad Ayotzinapa viajarán por todo Estados Unidos para concientizar sobre los hechos que están causando el desorden social y político en México durante la administración del actual presidente Enrique Peña Nieto. Algunos de los temas que se van a tocar son la reforma educativa y energética, así como una actualización sobre los 43 estudiantes desaparecidos la noche del 26 de septiembre del 2014,



Participantes de “Todos unidos por Ayotzinapa” encendieron veladoras por los 43 normalistas desaparecidos durante la marcha del año pasado.

cuando estos iban en caravana hacia las manifestaciones conmemorativas de la masacre de Tlatelolco en la ciudad de México. Autoridades del gobierno mexicano se negaron a entregar toda la información documental, videográfica y fotográfica que tenían en su poder, dijo el Grupo Interdisciplinario de Expertos Independientes (GIEI) en el *Informe Ayotzinapa II, Avances y nuevas conclusiones sobre la investigación, búsqueda y atención a las víctimas*, publicado el 24 de abril de 2016. Felipe de La Cruz Sandoval y Mario César Gonzáles Contreras, padres de dos estudiantes de Ayotzinapa y miembros clave del movimiento, planean hacer una gira por diversas universidades de Estados Unidos durante el otoño del 2016. “La razón por la que nos estamos enfocando en instituciones de nivel superior es para atraer a los estudiantes que influenciarán al futuro público y política económica, así como a docentes y académicos que son parte de las investigaciones para los cuerpos legislativos”, dijo en un comunicado, Julio César Guerrero, coordinador nacional de la caravana43, el cual de acuerdo al sitio, Democracy authors, es una red de apoyo internacional para las familias de Ayotzinapa cuando estas dieron su gira por los Estados Unidos el año pasado. Cruz Sandoval y González Contreras asistirán a una conferencia de prensa el día de hoy a medio día en el Rainbow Room de la biblioteca de South Texas College en McAllen. Después de visitar UTRGV el martes, la gira se dirigirá a Texas A&M University-Kingsville el próximo jueves. “Esta gira de los padres de Ayotzinapa [...] tiene como propósito que los padres viajen a través de los Estados Unidos y hablen de sus experiencias, con la esperanza de que el público y los medios de prensa, los medios de comunicación, estén mejor informados y esto tenga un

impacto en los gobiernos de México, y en los Estados Unidos”, dijo la profesora Edna Ochoa, quien además será uno de los panelistas en dicho evento. Ochoa hace énfasis en el rol de los medios de comunicación, pues “es la esperanza de que se presione para que no se cierre el caso”. Por su parte, la estudiante de post grado y coordinadora del evento, Mónica Álvarez, resalta la importancia de crear consciencia pues “desgraciadamente es algo de lo que no se habla mucho de este lado de la frontera”. “Y sea lo que sea, somos mexicoamericanos, somos mexicanos”, dijo Álvarez, quien también participará como panelista. “Hay que solidarizarnos con los padres, y con los problemas que están afectando al otro lado de la frontera, porque de una manera u otra también nos afectan a nosotros”. E l l a también dijo que creando consciencia es como p o d r í a n proporcionar “ese granito de arena en el que podamos aportar algo, alguna línea de investigación [...] para que se le dé seguimiento y se encuentre justicia”. La gira de los padres de Ayotzinapa que es organizada por una coalición de diversos grupos y organizaciones tiene como demanda principal el regreso de los estudiantes desaparecidos y la renuncia de Peña Nieto. “Esta caravana es más que nada para las instituciones educativas, para que los muchachos, los estudiantes sepan también de esta realidad”, dijo Ochoa, quien define el evento como uno académico. Al preguntarle si la meta de la presentación era crear consciencia en los jóvenes, respondió que esa era solo una de las partes. “Primero es informar y concientizar de toda la represión que hay, de toda la desaparición forzada que hay, de toda la

“ Esta caravana es más que nada para las instituciones y para los centros educativos, para que los muchachos, los estudiantes sepan también de esta realidad. ”

**Edna Ochoa**  
Profesora de literatura y estudios culturales

violencia que hay en México”, dijo Ochoa. Los padres de los 43 estudiantes se apoyan en el Grupo Interdisciplinario de Expertos Independientes (GIEI), nombrado por la Comisión Interamericana de Derechos Humanos, el cual está investigando el paradero de sus hijos. Cabe resaltar que el año pasado, Ochoa organizó el evento cultural, “Todos unidos por Ayotzinapa”, apoyada por la comunidad del Valle, el cual tuvo lugar en la ciudad de McAllen y culminó en una marcha frente al consulado. Este año, el evento tomó lugar el domingo en el Cine El Rey de McAllen, el cual fue presidido por los representantes del movimiento de Ayotzinapa. “Dentro de estas actividades de apoyo solidario a los padres, la comunidad del Valle ofrece un evento cultural, que se llama, ‘Todos unidos por Ayotzinapa’, donde va a haber poesía, arte y activismo”, dijo Ochoa. En el evento, en el que participaron poetas, músicos, artistas visuales y activistas locales, se realizó una rifa y venta de playeras con el fin de recaudar fondos para los padres de Ayotzinapa. Ochoa subraya la importancia de estos sucesos en México, pues “nos afecta a todos de muchísimas maneras”, tal como la vinculación comercial que hay entre McAllen y México. El calendario tentativo de la gira de los padres de Ayotzinapa es el siguiente: Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi y Del Mar College, el viernes; Teatro Bilingüe de Houston, el sábado; Cesar Chavez Legacy Center, Oct. 24; St. Edward’s University, Oct. 25; University of Kansas, Oct. 27; Inter-Faith Committee on Latin America (St. Louis), Oct. 28; Indiana University (Indianapolis), Oct. 31; University of Dayton, Nov. 1; Ohio State University, Nov.2; y Wayne State University (Detroit), Nov. 3. También, University of Michigan (Ann Arbor), Nov. 4; Michigan State University (Lansing), Nov. 5; Grand Valley State University (Grand Rapids, Mich.), Nov. 6; Northwestern University (Chicago), Nov. 9; University of Washington (Seattle), Nov. 10; University of Oregon (Portland), Nov. 14; Woodland Community College (Sacramento, Calif.), Nov. 15; University of California (Berkeley), Nov. 17; y Anahuacalmecac International University (Los Angeles), Nov. 21.



# Swinging through the fall

## Golf teams continue building together



GABRIEL MATA/THE RIDER PHOTOS

Freshman Michael Rizzo prepares to drive a ball off a tee during practice last week at Los Lagos Golf Club in Edinburg.

### Bryan Ramos

THE RIDER

Golf is a game of focus, precision and execution. In the second year at UTRGV, the men and women’s golf programs are locked in on playing the game they love.

“One of our overriding themes is to love it,” Men’s Golf Head Coach Philip Tate said. “If you can’t love playing college golf, if you can’t love going out to the golf course each day and hanging out with eight friends, it shouldn’t be stressful, it shouldn’t be a hassle, it should be a fun ride. Within reason, we try to keep a loose, fun environment. Within

that atmosphere, you get a little more work out of people.”

Entering the second year as UTRGV, Tate and Women’s Golf Head Coach Risë Alexander were tasked with rebuilding the golf program. Alexander is in her third year at the head of the program while Tate is in his second year as the men’s head coach. Alexander, who before joining UTRGV spent 24 years as the women’s head golf coach at Oregon State University, said the transition to rebuilding a program was one she enjoyed.

“Having four seniors and a sophomore in my first season, last year was the first year I was able to really rebuild and also the first year as UTRGV,



Michelle Moroles, a sophomore and Sharyland High school graduate, practices her putt at Los Lagos Golf Club last week. She is one of three South Texans on the women’s golf team, but the only one from the Rio Grande Valley.

so it was a nice transition,” Alexander said. “I think it’s really important in women’s golf, in particular. We’re an individual sport that in college competes as a team, so we’re able to build relationships in the team that are respectful and lend themselves to a team atmosphere. We work really hard on putting first things first, taking care and being accountable towards each other.”

The two teams are in the middle of their four-tournament fall season. With two tournaments down and two to go, the teams are using this time to build their game and get a good feeling of where they

stand against top competition throughout the nation.

Freshman Michael Rizzo, who hails from Brantford, Ontario, Canada, talked about the opportunity the early season tournaments provide.

“We’re playing in these big tournaments, which gets our name out there,” Rizzo said. “We play against them and we can see how we rank up against them. If we do well, it gives us confidence and at the same time, we know what we have to work on. Playing against those big-name schools is good for us because it lets us know where we stand.”

The men’s squad is young but

**See GOLF, Page 10**

## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



LESLEY ROBLES/THE RIDER

**Name:** Alex Ochoa  
**Sport:** Soccer  
**Position:** Defender  
**Classification:** Senior  
**Major:** Business  
**Age:** 21  
**Hometown:** Houston

**Who is your favorite athlete?** “My favorite athlete has always been Patrice Evra [soccer] because he plays the same position I do, so I always looked up to him.”

**Who is your role model?** “I think my dad because he’s real hardworking and an honest man.”

**What was the best advice you’ve been given and by whom?** “I think it’s from my mom. She told me to work hard in everything you do whether it be soccer or academics, so I just always took that to heart.”

**When did you begin playing soccer, and why?** “I started when I was 4 or 5 because my dad introduced me to a team, and it just took off from there.”

**What’s your favorite place to hang out on campus?** “I would say the union because you have all types of food, and then the game room upstairs, you have Xbox, PlayStation, pool tables and other stuff. It’s just a fun place to be.”

**What are your academic goals?** “Just try to get the highest [grade-point average] I can.”

**How do you feel about being part of this team?** “It’s an honor, you know, being able to play, and get an education.”

**What are your personal goals for this season?** “Make it as far as we can in the WAC tournament, and hopefully get into the NCAA tournament.”

*--Compiled by Sarah Carvajal*



SARAH CARVAJAL/THE RIDER PHOTOS

Senior right-side hitter Alisha Watson spikes the ball against two Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi blockers at the South Texas Showdown game last Tuesday in the UTRGV Fieldhouse in Edinburg. UTRGV won 3-2 in sets against the Islanders.

### VOLLEYBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

appearance.

Last Tuesday, UTRGV hosted Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi in a nonconference match with postseason intensity. It was the third and final meeting this year between the two teams that have met 38 times before.

UTRGV’s win in the maxi sets marked not only the first win

over TAMU-CC this season, and it was also the first time UTRGV/UTPA had defeated the Islanders since the 2007 season. A 17-match losing streak came to an end that players and coaches described as a “monkey on their back.”

Breakout seasons from individuals all over the court have contributed to the 14-7 record.

Sophomore Rangı Knudsen is one of those having a breakout year, recording her third match

of 20 kills or more. She said the whole team deserves praise.

“It makes us better, this game we played as a team and we won as a team so it made us better,” Knudsen said. “I feel ready. We worked so hard this season and we’ve come so far.”

Coach Lowery implied that it would help build momentum for their next set of conference games.

“I think this is great going into this weekend. We had kind of a rough couple days on the road in the WAC, some ups and downs with the team,” Lowery said. “I thought practice was great on Monday and it carried into today.”

It is still too early to tell the long-term impact of the home victory over the Islanders. But the Vaqueros did intend to use the win over a strong opponent as a motivation.

Four-year senior Alisha Watson drew plenty of positives from midseason tilt. She said adjustments after losing matches, or within matches during stretches of poor play is a product of hard work.

“It’s a good testament of how we come back from losses. It just shows that all the work we’ve been putting in and adjustments that we’ve made to our game

to improve,” the Round Rock native said. “It’s really hard to play teams in the middle of the season. Everyone’s getting film and making adjustments to you, so you gotta work that much harder.”

Coach Lowery said the second half of WAC, which begins Oct. 20, will provide not only a challenge but also an opportunity to play tough foes for a second time.

“We got some tough ones coming up still,” Lowery said. “We played really well against Seattle and Utah Valley here; those are going to be tough games on the road. On the flip side of that, we are excited to get [Cal State] Bakersfield here on our home court.”



Sophomore setter Dubravka Vukoja goes up to block a hit from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi middle blocker Madeleine Doud.



# Meet Katrina Newell

**Name:** Katrina Newell

**Position:** Communication lecturer

**Degrees:** Master's and bachelor's degrees in communication from UT Pan American

**Where are you from?** "I was born and raised in Michigan, but I moved to Texas in 2000, unsure of my life kind of thing. I have family who are Winter Texans and that is what brought me down here and, in fact, I have brought more family down and more of them are now Winter Texans. Little by little, we have migrated this way. I started here as an undergrad student in 2003. I was actually a transfer student because I went to school in Ohio for a couple years. I graduated, finally, in 2007 with my bachelor degree in communication from UTPA. I went right into grad school the following semester and finished in 2009 with my master's degree from UTPA. I worked at [South Texas College] for a little bit as an adjunct instructor and then they hired me here full time and so I am a lecturer and I have been here since 2010 as an instructor. I am a graduate of the undergrad and master's program here in this department, but now I, of course, I work here for UTRGV. So, I have stayed on through UTPA, now UTRGV. So, I'm from here, sort of a product of our department."

**How do you like the Valley?** "I joke that it is like quicksand. It sucks you in and then you don't want to leave. I like the slower pace of life. I love the weather, the heat doesn't bother me. You won't find the culture and the food anywhere else. It's just such a unique place. I love the identity of the Valley. I have a daughter and she is 11, so this is definitely her home as well. The things that people complain about, like the heat, etc., I find amenable and they are things that I like, especially since I came from Michigan, from a freezing cold climate. So, yeah, I love the Valley."

**What made you pursue teaching?** "Actually, it wasn't until I was wrapping up my undergraduate degree. I was working full time as a service manager at Texas Roadhouse in McAllen and feeling like I was going to get sucked into food service and managing that restaurant and that was going to be my career path, but I felt like it took up too many hours of my day. At the



LESLEY ROBLES/THE RIDER

time, my daughter was 2 and as a single parent I didn't want to be away from her for that long. At that point, I thought, what if I went back? And so I came back that following semester for my master's degree and got hired as a graduate assistant, and that was my job at the time. I got to sit in and help teach some of these classes under Dr. [Timothy] Mottet, who was a professor here at the time, and I just fell in love with teaching. Something I thought about as a child and then hadn't thought about in all these years growing up, and then once I started doing it here as a graduate assistant, it was just so fun. I think I found my passion because I get really excited and really motivated. I feel like teaching is more than just imparting knowledge, but in helping students learn how to think, helping them see their lives and shape their lives in the context of a broader society, and understanding and taking responsibility for what they do and it's exciting to see students. It feels like I am a cheerleader, and a teacher and a mentor and all of those things wrapped into one. And so I get a lot of personal satisfaction in having the ability to help students learn or understand that they can do some-

thing. So, that's kind of what sucked me in and I kept going."

**What brought you to UTRGV?** "So, I graduated from UTPA and stayed. I like the culture. I like the unique aspect of the students. There are a lot of nontraditional students; students who live at home, or commute, or have families already, and I think that brings a lot of diversity into my classroom. People have all these unique experiences. If I ever left to teach somewhere else I would miss that aspect of teaching here. I don't know if you would find another university with so many students who are parents already, how that informs their life choices makes a difference. When you are a parent, you are suddenly motivated because of your children. It really has been enriching for me as well."

**What classes do you teach?** "So, I teach Research and Theory; I teach a Training and Development course where students become corporate trainers in various contexts. I teach the research class, which includes statistics and methods. Theory is really fun as well. It's really good for persuasion and mass comm. I teach the Lying and Deception course, which has been

incredibly popular with outside majors, especially the criminal justice majors. I teach interviewing in the summer. I teach an Introduction to Speech class oftentimes. I have taught almost everything in our department, but now I am pretty consistent with what I teach. I teach Lying and Deception, Interpersonal, Research and Theory, most falls and springs."

**What was the last book you read and what are some of the songs on your playlist?** "Right now, I am obsessed with listening to Fleetwood Mac. I know it's very old, but I love it. It's kind of my summer playlist. The last book I read is a book by Nicolas Carr called "The Shallows," and I am not even quite finished with it, but it's the last book I have been reading. It's about how the internet is changing our brains. It's looking at how we don't actually retain as much information as we used to because information is readily available at our fingertips. It actually reshapes the neural network in our brains. It involves neurology plus social change and I find it fascinating. I mean, it looks at the introduction of maps in society and how that changed people's brains because we didn't have to think about how to get to somewhere anymore since we have maps. Also with the introduction of clocks, we do not have to think about where the sun is in the sky to tell the time. It talks about how each of these new technologies created a shift, and he argues how the ubiquitousness of the internet means we remember less and use that reliance for information and then our neural networks change again. I think that is very interesting, and it makes us shallow is what he says."

**Would you like to add anything else?** "Take me for class! We have a lot of fun! Try a communications course; it can only help."

--Compiled by Lesley Robles

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ANA CAHUICHE/THE RIDER

A UTRGV student receives a flu shot last Thursday at The Tower on the Brownsville campus. Flu shots are free for students; faculty and staff must bring their insurance card. The immunization is available from 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday at its clinics, located in Cortez Hall 237 on the Brownsville campus and at 613 N. Sugar Rd. on the Edinburg campus.

## FLU

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness and at times can lead to death, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website.

Machner said the best way to prevent contracting the flu virus is to get vaccinated.

"If you don't get the flu vaccine, keep your distance from anybody that is coughing, sneezing and looks ill, and wash your hands frequently," he said.

Most of the time, flu activity peaks between December and March, although activity can last as late as May, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website. However, Machner said the earlier you get vaccinated, the better.

The UTRGV community is encouraged

to get vaccinated at the Health Services Clinic, located on the Edinburg and Brownsville campuses.

"The flu vaccines are free to UTRGV students while supplies last, so it's better to get it sooner. Staff and faculty can also get theirs updated through Health Services. We just need a copy of their active insurance card," Machner said.

Annual vaccination against influenza is recommended for those six months or older, according to the Cameron County Department of Health and Human Services website.

Flu symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, body aches and headaches.

Those who think they have the flu should distance themselves from other people and get tested.

"It's important to get tested early because it helps to reduce the effects of the flu," Machner said. "So, get into a clinic and get tested."

## GOLF

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

already has a second-place finish under its belt after an all-around performance at the Roadrunner Invitational hosted by California State University, Bakersfield in September. The team is made up five freshmen and four returning student-athletes. The fall tournaments help prepare the team for the spring season and the finale, the Western Athletic Conference tournament.

"The fall season is a great opportunity to get everyone in the lineup and see everyone in competition," Tate said. "The fall is good for confidence. Already, we've moved up in the rankings and the guys are feeding off that. Hopefully, the fall will give us the fuel to make it over the break and stay motivated and committed."

The women's team is coming off a seventh-place finish at the New Mexico State University Aggie Invitational and is gearing up for another trip to test its skills.

"We're really becoming more adept at playing at different places with different grasses and trees," Alexander said. "It's important for the first four tournaments we go to--Portland, New Mexico State, Arkansas State and Hawaii--so all these different venues really helps them become better at their own game because they work on different shots and different

strategies."

Michelle Moroles, a sophomore and Sharyland native, begins her second year with the team.

"It's good to go to the local courses and see the high school kids that are now freshmen who I knew when they were in junior high," Moroles said. "I see them out there and ask them how they're doing and they ask me how I'm doing and I get to tell them the places golf has taken me. It's good to give back when we volunteer in the community."

As the Vaqueros finish up the fall season and begin to prepare for the spring season, they are focused on improving day by day and moving the program forward.

"We just have to stay committed mentally and physically to keep a steady game to work to where we want to be," Moroles said.

The women's team will be back in action today and Tuesday as it takes part in the Lady Redwolves Classic in Jonesboro, Ark., hosted by Arkansas State. It closes out its fall season with a trip to Wahiawa, Hawaii, for the Rainbow Wahine Invitational hosted by the University of Hawaii.

The men's team will be in New Mexico today for the Herb Wimberly Intercollegiate, hosted by WAC rival New Mexico State University. It will close out the fall season with the "Give Em 5" Invitational hosted by the University of Texas at El Paso.

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# Fashion never looked so good

**Brenda Garza**  
THE RIDER

Fashn.Haus is a McAllen boutique that rents racks to local artists called pop-up shops. The boutique houses pop-up shops for young entrepreneurs on a tight budget who want to dabble in business

and fashion. The boutique will host its first fashion show at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Valencia Event Center, located at 3012 Jackson Rd. in Pharr. Ashley Vasquez, owner of Fashn.Haus, said the show will promote Valley artists.



PHOTO COURTESY OSCAR SALGADO

Disc jockey Stephanie Gold will perform at the Fashn.Haus Fashion Show at 7 p.m. Wednesday. The Los Angeles native, who is also a model and blogger, will make her debut in the Rio Grande Valley. Gold has an Instagram account, @stephiestaygold.

The boutique has been open only for eight months but has already added 12 pop-up shops to its showroom.

A pop-up shop helps young entrepreneurs showcase their clothing and is a new concept for up-and-coming artists.

Overhead expense, such as rent, can pose a potential threat to the profit margin of a new business.

Fashn.Haus' rack rents range from \$150 to \$200 per month and include mentoring and marketing for the business owner.

"They are their own store," Vasquez said. "They have an online store, but I'm just an outlet for them to be able to sell in a store without paying so much overhead."

The show will consist of 12 pop-up shops, which will feature Vala, Medusa, Shop Monarch, GiBoss, Oh Chic and Love Atchley Boutique, among others. Each pop-up shop will have eight looks; Models will showcase a total of 96 different styles.

"Every boutique has a different style. Some are more edgy, some are more casual and some are more going out," said Marie Atchley, owner of Love Atchley Boutique. "There is something for everyone."

Genesis Flores, a public relations and political science senior at UTRGV, will be the master of ceremonies. Flores is an intern at Fashn.Haus and is helping promote the show on social media.

"The fashion shop is helping promote the local designers," Flores said. "Most go to the mall to purchase an outfit instead of helping the local artist."

Ashley de Luna, a sophomore marketing major at UTRGV, is also part of the show. She has been passionate about fashion and clothing since she was 4. At age 19, she opened her "Girly Meets Edgy" online store, [www.shopmonarch.com](http://www.shopmonarch.com).

After a year with her online shop, she decided that having her own rack at a store would give her an opportunity to showcase her clothing and get her more customers. It also gave her the chance to run her own business and attend school at the same time without the added stress.

Asked how she got involved with Fashn.Haus, de Luna replied: "Since I'm in college, it was going to be hard to do both. [Vasquez] gave me the opportunity to do both since I was only doing it online."

Vasquez said that of all start-up businesses within the boutique, five are run by entrepreneurs under 25 years old. In fact, Hailey Palacios, a high school student and owner of Oh Chic, won a Fashn.Haus competition and was awarded \$2,000 to start her own business.

"We are obsessed with new entrepreneurs," Vasquez said. "We help them with marketing and we help them grow."

The show will feature fashion styles that range from comfortable and casual to edgy and high-end, and even some grungy, trendy looks.

"We are fashion kids that don't want to play it safe," Vasquez said. "We don't play by the rules. The second half of the show will be a little bit more explicit. Very New York."

Tickets are \$15 and available at Fashn.Haus, located at 1217 N. 10th St. in McAllen, and at the door. Doors will open at 7 p.m. The show will begin at 7:30 p.m. and end at 9:30 p.m.

For more information, call Vasquez at 627-1192.

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## 'Addams Family' comes to the Camille Playhouse



MICHELLE ESPINOZA/THE RIDER PHOTOS

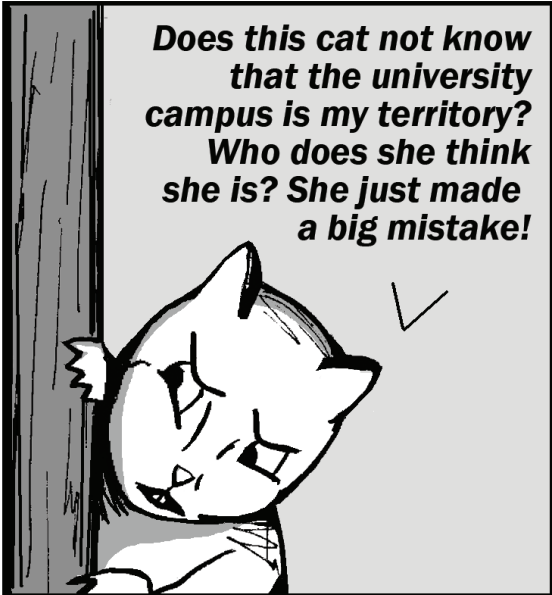
Chris Ikner, executive artistic director of the Camille Playhouse, announces the dates for the "Addams Family" musical comedy during the "Crazy, Quirky, Cranky Cabaret" Oct. 7 at El Hueso de Fraile in Brownsville. The musical will take place Oct. 21 through 30. For more information and ticket purchases, visit [www.camilleplayhouse.net](http://www.camilleplayhouse.net).



Sofia Esteve (left) and Ben Melendez sing a duet during the "Crazy, Quirky, Cranky Cabaret" Oct. 7 at El Hueso de Fraile in Brownsville. The cast and creative team of "The Addams Family" entertained the audience throughout the night.

## Ride Along

By Clarissa Martinez





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