

# THE RIDER

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017



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# THE FEAR OF UNCERTAINTY

## UTRGV to host DACA information forums Tuesday and Wednesday

**Jesus Sanchez  
and Eric Montoya**  
THE RIDER

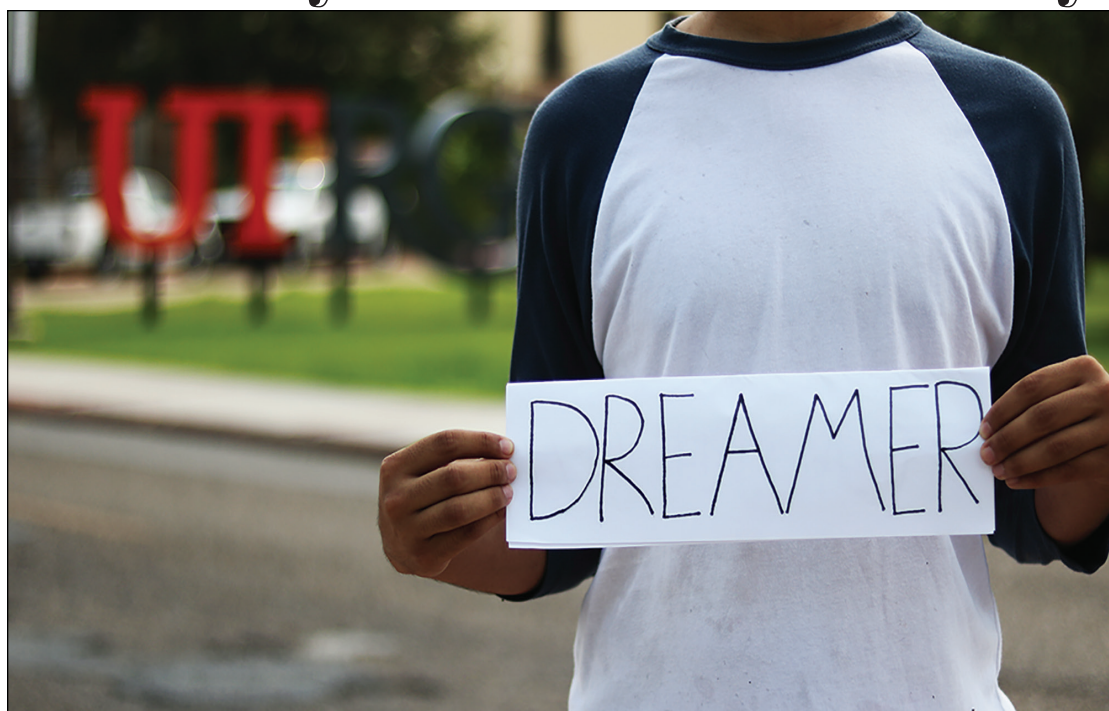
UTRGV mass communication senior Merary De La Fuente will graduate in Spring 2018. However, De La Fuente fears she will not be able to get a job without the help of the DACA program. “I’m graduating this May,” she said. “That makes me really proud. I’m really excited, but without DACA, I can’t get a job. So, my whole career, my degree, it’s not

**Editorial,**

**Page 4**

that it’s for nothing, but, basically, without DACA, I can’t work, even though I do have a career, even though I am educated.”

Last Tuesday, President Donald Trump rescinded the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, an executive order by then-President Barack Obama that protected nearly 800,000



Albert Monrroy/THE RIDER

About 900 DREAMers are enrolled at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. UTRGV will host forums on both campuses Tuesday and Wednesday to inform campus community members about the DACA situation.

people.

DACA provides young people who were brought to the United States as children with temporary protection from deportation if they can demonstrate that they meet

several criteria, according to whitehouse.gov.

However, Trump’s change on DACA gives Congress six months to consider appropriate legislative solutions.

Approved applications for advance parole for DACA recipients will generally be honored, but new applications will not be approved, according to whitehouse.gov.

At UTRGV, about 900

**See DACA, Page 10**

## CPB Bash connects students with organizations



Robert Benavidez Jr./THE RIDER

UTRGV students play archery tag last Wednesday on the University Library lawn in Brownsville during the CPB Bash. Archery tag, similar to dodgeball, separates participants into two teams as they attempt to eliminate each other until one team stands.

**Zugay Treviño**  
THE RIDER

Events welcoming students to UTRGV continued last week, including the CPB Bash, where they had the chance to meet representatives from different

organizations, play multiple games and eat free food.

Hosted Tuesday night on the Heritage and Troxel halls lawn by the Campus Programming Board, the bash featured music and a carnival theme. Around 10



Valeria Alanis/THE RIDER

Civil engineering senior Alex Delgado and rehabilitation services sophomore Gina Garcia play with a giant ring toss during Tuesday’s CPB Bash on the Edinburg campus.

CPB members helped prepare food, hand out T-shirts, pens and other promotional items. Similarly, about 30 to 50 student organization members assisted with preparing tables and their exhibits.

**See BASH, Page 2**



## Paying tribute

**Jesus Sanchez**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Today, thousands of people across the nation will commit to a day of service in honor of those who died or were injured during the terrorist attacks in the United States on Sept. 11, 2001.

UTRGV will commemorate the 16th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks during a Patriot Day observance from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. today.

The program will take place on the University Center Circle

## Campus Q&A, Page 4

on the Edinburg campus and the Student Union lawn on the Brownsville campus.

“It’s a passive and meaningful program that we’re planning on doing,” said Patricia Montemayor, program coordinator for UTRGV Student Activities. “We’ve purchased [U.S.] flags, so people can adorn, like, the Chapel lawn in Edinburg,”

**See 9/11, Page 2**

## A dose of innovation

Newly hired dean has ambitious plans for School of Medicine

**Britney Valdez**  
THE RIDER

Dr. John H. Krouse, UTRGV’s new dean of the School of Medicine, is a Harvard Medical School graduate

John H. Krouse

who is board certified in otolaryngology and has accumulated a variety of knowledge and experience throughout his career.

Hired in July, Krouse, a former clinical practitioner in laryngology, sees his new position as an amazing opportunity for both him and the Rio Grande Valley community

**See KROUSE, Page 10**



# THE RIDER

*The Rider* is the official, award-winning student newspaper of the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. The newspaper is widely distributed on and off campus in Brownsville and Edinburg, Texas. Views presented are those of the writers and do not reflect those of the newspaper or university.

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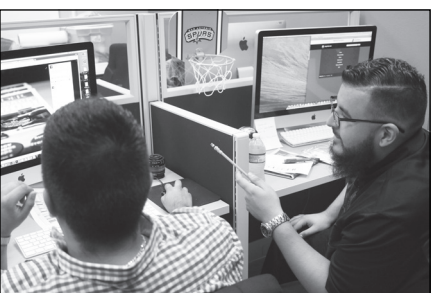
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MORE THAN A  
NEWSPAPER



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Today

### Taste of the Union

The **Student Union** will serve free samples from several restaurants at noon in the Student Union Commons on the Edinburg campus. The event will also take place at the same time Thursday in the PlainsCapital Bank El Comedor on the Brownsville campus. For more information, call 665-7989.

## Tuesday

### Sex-Ed Tablings

#### Access For Sex-Education

will host a tabling event from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Student Union Commons in Edinburg to inform students about the importance of sex education. For more information, email [accessforsexed.utrgv@gmail.com](mailto:accessforsexed.utrgv@gmail.com).

### Board Game Night

The **Student Union** will host a free game night at 5 p.m. in the PlainsCapital Bank El Comedor on the Brownsville campus. Students can compete against each other with several board games provided by the

Student Union. For more information, call 665-7989.

## Wednesday

### Billiards Tournament

The **Student Union** will host a billiards tournament from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Student Union Game Room in Edinburg. For more information, call 665-7989.



## Have an announcement?

Email us at  
[TheRider@utrgv.edu](mailto:TheRider@utrgv.edu)

## Gentleman's Code

The **UTRGV Counseling Center** will host a social for male students to discuss issues related to men at noon in Cortez Hall 118 on the Brownsville campus. For more information, email [counseling@utrgv.edu](mailto:counseling@utrgv.edu) or call 882-3897 in Brownsville and 665-2574 in Edinburg.

## Thursday

### Late Nite

**University Recreation** will host **Late Nite at UREC** from 8 to 11 p.m. in the Texas Southmost College Recreation Center. The event will provide entertainment, games and giveaways for students. For more information or special accommodations, call 665-7808.

## Friday

### Fresh Start Conference

National speaker and author **Joshua Fredenburg** will be the keynote speaker during the **Fresh Start Conference**, which is scheduled from 1 to 6 p.m. in the Student Union Theater on the Edinburg campus and from 2 to 7 p.m. in Sabal Hall 1.102 on the Brownsville campus. The event will discuss academics, personal growth and involvement. To reserve a spot, visit [utrgv.campuslabs.com/engage/submitter/form/start/134986](http://utrgv.campuslabs.com/engage/submitter/form/start/134986).  
--Compiled by Sergio Garcia

# POLICE REPORTS

The following are among the incidents reported to University Police between Aug. 29 and 30.



## Aug. 29

**11:31 a.m.:** A student reported the theft of her Apple iPod from the Student Union on the Brownsville campus.

**11:49 a.m.:** A staff member reported

losing a university-issued key while at the UTRGV Soccer and Track & Field Complex.

**12:39 p.m.:** A student reported her laptop computer stolen from her vehicle in Lot B1 in May 2017 on the Brownsville campus. The case is under investigation.

**12:56 p.m.:** A student reported damage to his vehicle. The incident was suspected to have occurred Aug. 28 on the Edinburg campus. The damage was noticed later when he parked at his off-campus residence. Video surveillance

is pending review.

**4:39 p.m.:** A staff member reported causing accidental damage to a parked vehicle while he was assisting a motorist on the Edinburg campus. The vehicle received a minor scratch to the left front fender.



## University Police

### Brownsville

#### Dispatch

882-8232

### Edinburg

#### Dispatch

665-7151

Email: [Police@utrgv.edu](mailto:Police@utrgv.edu)  
Campus Emergency: 882-2222

## Aug. 30

**9:30 a.m.:** A student reported that he was driving in Lot E19 on the Edinburg campus when a white SUV struck his vehicle. The SUV driver left the area without exchanging information.

**9:58 a.m.:** A staff member reported losing a university-issued key on the Edinburg campus.

**11:19 a.m.:** A student reported that a man contacted her at a dorm on the Edinburg campus without her consent. She stated the man was an ex-acquaintance and she has told him to not contact her. She requested the incident be documented.

**11:31 a.m.:** A faculty member reported losing a university-issued key on the Edinburg campus.

**2:57 p.m.:** The Edinburg Fire Department was dispatched to the Health and Physical Education I Building in response to a fire alarm. It was determined that a water flow sensor triggered the alarm and the building was safe for re-entry.  
--Compiled by Britney Valdez

## BASH

*Continued from Page 1*

Around 150 people showed up on the Edinburg campus for the event there. The same event was held Wednesday night on the University Library lawn in Brownsville.

Students who showed up received hot dogs freshly made on a grill and chips. For entertainment, there were multiple games and a bouncy house. Students socialized and sang along to the music.

"The goal is to get students engaged ... have students come out and have

fun, interact with other students, student-athletes, student leaders, new freshmen. Kind of just get everyone mixed together," said Daniel Ruiz, CPB's vice president of membership and retention.

Ruiz helped organize the event along with several other organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, Operation Smile and Pre-Med/Bio-Med Society.

"We are trying to get outreach, especially to freshman students," said Angela Gonzalez, secretary of the Pre-Med/Bio-Med Society. "We not only prepare pre-meds but also nurses, PAs,

anything that has to deal with health care."

Abood Jamal, the fundraising officer for the Pre-Med/Bio-Med Society, said, "At the same time, we are trying to get people who are not our members the idea of what we do and what's our program and target. ... We do résumé building, have volunteer opportunities and hours. ... We have a medical trip to multiple medical schools in Texas."

For more information on student organizations, call Student Involvement at 665-2260 in Edinburg and 882-5111 in Brownsville.

## 9/11

*Continued from Page 1*

or in Brownsville, the Student Union lawn, so people can remember."

In the United States, Patriot Day, also observed as National Day of Service and Remembrance, is the culmination of efforts originally launched in 2002 by the nonprofit 9/11 Day, according

to the Corporation for National and Community Service website.

Montemayor told *The Rider* it is important for the campus community to know Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance are observed.

"We need to start recognizing civic engagement and give people the

opportunity to know the different meanings of annual observances that happen in our nation," she said. "We just want students to be familiar and have knowledge behind it."

For more information or special accommodations, call Student Involvement at 665-7364 in Edinburg and 882-5111 in Brownsville.

# Have a story idea?

Let us know at

882-5143 or 665-2541



# A girl with a dream

## Student Government Association president's journey

**Steven Hughes**  
THE RIDER

Criminal justice senior Alondra Galvan started off her college career at legacy institution UT Brownsville and as UTRGV entered its third year, she has earned the title of Student Government Association president.

Her life has been guided by her faith in God and her father's love and support.

"My dad, he's a person that when he needs to make a decision, he thinks of all the logistics of every single detail, making sure that the decisions he makes won't affect someone [negatively] and that everyone will be OK with it and he analyzes everything," Galvan said. "He calms down and thinks everything, he looks at the logistics, everything that is in play and that's how he can make great decisions that have allowed him [to be] successful. And on the other side, God. He was a very compassionate person. He never thought he was better than anyone else, he was very humble."

Galvan is the first in her family to attend a Texas university. She felt lost and unsure of some college aspects, such as financial aid, the Texas Grant program and academic advising.

Benjamin Brown, the criminal justice department chair and professor, taught Galvan in the past and recalls his time with her in the classroom.

"She was one of the group that sat in the very front row or in the front two rows," Brown said. "... She was always very attentive, always punctual. ... If memory serves, she always did well in class. ... She was a good student, I don't recall any problems."

Student Activities Director Cindy Mata-Vasquez co-advises the SGA with Delma Olivarez, interim associate dean for Student Involvement and director of Leadership and Mentoring, and David Marquez, assistant director of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Mata-Vasquez has watched Alondra grow since her sophomore year.

"I've seen her grow as a student leader, at least with SGA," she said. "When I met her, I think as a



**Joahana Segundo**/THE RIDER

Alondra Galvan, Student Government Association president and criminal justice senior, said she owes her accomplishments to her role models.

sophomore, she had all these ideas of what she wanted to do with SGA and having seen her throughout the years and seen how she's grown and now she's our president. It's exciting for me having to see that just because I saw her grow from her early stages of her SGA career to now and she's really developed as a great leader."

During UTB's Freshman Convocation, Galvan learned about SGA and gained more information during Orange Crush, which was an involvement event. After attending multiple meetings in her first year, she became interested in what the organization does.

Last spring semester, Galvan did an internship with the Texas Legislature

in Austin. However, this was also during the time of the election for the SGA presidency.

"The term [as SGA president] started on May 1, but [the 85th Texas legislative] session ended in May 29," Galvan said. "So, at UTRGV, we're not just in Brownsville and Edinburg, we are six different locations. So, how do we communicate, how can we work with each other, technology. Technology is your best friend at UTRGV. So, I was still able to get things done, work on several things that I had to get done and I would contact the people that I needed to contact through email, phone call, Skype for Business. I was still able to meet with the team."

Galvan travels to both campuses on

a daily basis, interacting with students and administrators. She sets goals that students are encouraged to strive for.

She is depended upon in SGA to keep everyone organized.

"Her passion, her wanting to help the student body [is] just what I see in her, that really makes her fit to be president," Mata-Vasquez said. "She has a great team of students behind her and she understands that it's not a one-man job, that it takes everyone to make sure that the goal is successful. She may be the leader of the association, but she knows that without her team, she wouldn't be capable of doing so much and I think she always puts them ahead of what she's needing, just to

**See GALVAN, Page 6**

# Psychology professor recognized for contribution to students

**Gabriel Galvan**  
THE RIDER

UTRGV Psychological Science Professor Grant Benham has won the Florence L. Denmark Faculty Advisor Award from the Psi Chi International Honor Society.

The Florence L. Denmark award is named after the influential psychologist and former president of the American Psychological Association. It comes with a \$1,000 award for Benham, \$500 for the chapter and recognition for the university.

Benham describes Psi Chi as an "international honor society for students; however, it is mostly based in the United States."

The recipient of this award needs to fulfill Psi Chi's purpose of being actively engaged in the scholarships of a chapter's members to the best of their abilities.

"You just gotta figure out what your role as an adviser is," Benham said when asked what his purpose was. "We've been doing this for over 15 years now at UTRGV, and previously UTPA. So historically, I've been able to learn a lot of what works and what doesn't work. That helped me guide students a bit better since I learned more from them and their experiences. I also try



**Joahana Segundo**/THE RIDER

Grant Benham, a UTRGV psychological science professor and Psi Chi Honor Society faculty adviser, has received the Psi Chi's International Honor Society in Psychology Florence L. Denmark Faculty Advisor Award.

to get them actively involved in things that are maybe a little bit out of the norm; things that they can remember. They look back on and feel like they were a part of."

In addition to winning the award on May 22, Benham has also won the Faculty Advisor Award twice at UTPA in 2010 and UTRGV in April 2017.

He credits his achievements to three

things: his seniority within Psi Chi, the efforts from the organization's students and his community engagement projects.

Projects include Brain Day and the Stress Management event, which gives opportunities to students to break out of traditional classroom learning experiences.

The current and former presidents

of the UTRGV Psi Chi organization are Abigail Nunez-Saenz and Andy Torres.

"I think [to win this award] reflects the collective work from everyone in support of it," said Andy Torres, who was Psi Chi president when the award was given. "My role as president was to give some sort of sense of direction. We are representing the university in winning this award."

Asked what advice he would give other student organizations, Torres said, "The biggest advice I could give is to not be afraid of actually putting yourself out there. Don't be afraid of failure, because I think that's one of the components that stops students the most."

He said Benham was significant in the success of the chapter.

"It would be a Friday evening and everyone's leaving, but he would stay behind and help us prep for big events such as Brain Day," Torres said. "He was always there with us and he led by example."

Current Psi Chi President Abigail Nunez-Saenz said she has big shoes to fill.

"We're going to work really hard this coming semester and this coming year to make sure we are on par with the previous year," Nunez-Saenz said.

For more information, email [abigail.nunezsaenz01@utrgv.edu](mailto:abigail.nunezsaenz01@utrgv.edu).



## CAMPUS Q&A

### How should we remember 9/11?



"I would never forget 9/11, but memorials help, and specials of what people went through and what they're still going through. Television, the media, and everything helps to remember it, but I was young when it happened. I was in second grade and I still remember what I was doing and the aftermath of it. So, I guess that for generations that didn't go through it, is just by storytelling, like passing down that information. I think one of the best ways is that just to tell people and keep people's memories alive."

**Bianca Ramirez**  
Theater senior



"I think September 11 is very important to remember, because we have a lot of veterans and there were a lot of people affected, different races. Latinos were affected, too. Just for the history of America it's important to remember that, and also it's important to keep it away from things like Islamophobia, because that shouldn't even exist and we need to make sure that we do not blame all Muslims for that and I think it's important that this campus is really discouraging of that kind of racism. I think we need to remember September 11 by staying away from encouraging any racial stereotype."

**William Mainous**  
History senior



"September 11th is a memorable day. It affected many lives ... everybody in the United States. It was a huge impact. I mean, even as myself, like, the violence that's going on in the United States and things that you don't think are going to happen, just to be terrorized like that from people that, I mean, you have the best hopes for everybody and it's just a horrible, horrible thing that happened. ... Just a tribute to those who died."

**Andrea Mireles**  
Nursing senior



"I think [students] should just honor the day. More so, like, I don't know how to explain it--just remembrance, what happened, y'know. Sometimes, things like that can happen to our country. Sometimes, it happens to other countries, they have their days, too. I mean, there's a lot of stuff in the world, there's a lot of bad things happening so, like, it's more of a ... I guess at the time it was kind of a wake up."

**Gabriel Mendez**  
Accounting junior

--Compiled by Valeria Alanis and Albert Monrroy



## Two sides of the same coin



**Sydni Valdez**  
A&E EDITOR

Accepting yourself can be confusing and complicated. Sometimes, to make things "simple," you label yourself and the people around you.

It starts with little things, like habits and traits. Then, next thing you know, you are defining yourself by those same labels.

For example, do you ever get ready for bed at night and feel as though every choice you've made that day was the wrong one? You wore the wrong thing, said the wrong thing, left your dirty clothes on the floor, and blamed it on, "Well, I'm just a messy person."

Then, as if a magic spell has lifted, the next morning you wake up feeling like every decision you will make that day will be the right one, because today, you will be the version of yourself that makes the correct decision.

You know what version I'm talking about. The you that is "clean," "has it together," and is proficient in "adulting."

Choosing the type of person you will be was a constant routine with me. One day, I

was the most confident person in the room, and others, I was nervous to speak my mind or what others would think when I did.

For the longest time, I believed I had to be one or the other. I could be the clumsy, goofy Sydni, or the serious and reclusive one. It was a gamble of which I decided to be that day, but never-ending.

After some self-reflection, I began to look around at the people close to me, and even strangers I'd hear conversing.

The closer I listened and looked, the more I realized a trend. Everything was labeled and categorized when it came to other people: "He's mean," "She's cool," "He's annoying," "She's weird." The unhealthy trend seemed to marginalize people, shrinking them and making them smaller.

I asked myself, "Why do people do this? Why do we feel the need to sum others up into one single word?"

Are we just all afraid of complexity? That, perhaps, human beings are indeed a walking contradiction, shifting and changing every day?

It sounds silly, but think about it.

You label someone, make up your mind about them

with that one word, and POOF--you "know" who they are. It's so easy to decide who someone is based on your own opinion of them, isn't it?

Well, you're wrong, my friend. People aren't easy, getting to know them isn't easy, loving them isn't easy, and understanding them sure isn't either.

It's messy. It should be messy.

The label becomes limiting. Not only are you limiting who that person is, but you're limiting the possibility of seeing that person with all their colors and complexities. Why would you want to see only black and white when you could see rainbows, bursts and splashes of colors? It doesn't make sense, putting yourself, and people, in boxes they can't get out of.

I think, at the end of the day, we're all two sides of the same coin. The coin comes in different sizes, colors, ages and materials, but still just a coin.

Don't be afraid to be yourself, even if you aren't quite sure who that is yet.

If you believe in yourself, with all your complexities and contradictions, nothing can stand in your way.

Heads or tails, just be you.

## ■ Editorial

# Keep the DREAM alive

Last week, President Donald Trump ended the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which protected nearly 800,000 people, and gave Congress six months to consider appropriate legislative solutions for the program.

This change means no new applications will be approved and approved applications for advance parole for DACA recipients will generally be honored.

DACA provides young people who were brought to the United States as children with temporary protection from deportation if they can demonstrate that they meet several criteria, according to [whitehouse.gov](http://whitehouse.gov).

Fifteen state attorneys general and the District of Columbia filed a lawsuit last Wednesday in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York to challenge Trump's decision to end DACA.

The suit alleges the Trump administration "violated the Equal Protection clause of the Constitution by discriminating against DREAMers of Mexican origin, who make up 78 percent of DACA recipients; violated Due Process rights; and harmed States' residents, institutions, and economies."

UT System Chancellor William McRaven and

UTRGV President Guy Bailey issued statements last Tuesday saying DACA students' opportunities should be upheld and continued.

Several UTRGV students have voiced their concerns and displeasure on social media. Some may even feel lost and are close to losing faith.

Don't.

The fight is not over.

Trump may have ended DACA, but he gave Congress a window to save it.

Six months may not seem like enough time to come up with new legislation, but we encourage you to not lose faith.

The best solution we can offer for anyone under immense stress because of this issue is to get informed. As UTRGV Student Success Vice President Kristin Croyle and Rebecca Gadson, associate vice president for Student Life and dean of students, said in an interview with *The Rider*, "Knowledge is power."

UTRGV will offer forums for campus community members to learn more about the DACA situation.

Take advantage of opportunities like these. Learn what your rights are and what options you have.

Moreover, we encourage you to contact your U.S. representatives to encourage and motivate them to help resolve this issue.

In Edinburg, campus community members can call District 15 U.S. Rep. Vicente Gonzalez's office at 682-5545. The Edinburg district office is located at 2864 W. Trenton Rd.

In Brownsville, District 34 U.S. Rep. Filemon Vela's office number is 544-8352 and is located at 333 Ebony Ave.

Both Democrat representatives issued statements voicing their displeasure with Trump's decision and showing their support to save DACA.

You are not alone. Staying informed and relaying accurate information is important, now more than ever.

There are resources available at UTRGV for those seeking help.

It may seem as if it is the darkest of times, but, again, the fight is not over. There is still time to save DACA.

There is still time to keep the dream alive.



# MIEDO A LA INCERTIDUMBRE

## UTRGV tendrá foros de información de DACA este martes y miércoles

**Jesus Sanchez  
and Eric Montoya**  
THE RIDER

Merary De La Fuente, estudiante de UTRGV cursando el último año de comunicación, se graduará en la primavera del 2018. Sin embargo, De La Fuente teme que no podrá ser capaz de conseguir un trabajo sin la ayuda del programa DACA.

“Me graduaré este mayo”, ella dijo. “Esto me hace estar muy orgullosa. Estoy muy emocionada, pero sin DACA, no puedo obtener un trabajo. Así que, mi carrera entera, mi título, no es que no sirva para nada, pero, básicamente, sin DACA, no puedo trabajar, a pesar de que tengo una carrera, a pesar de que estoy estudiada”.

El martes pasado, Presidente Donald Trump anuló el programa Consideración de Acción Diferida para los Llegados en la Infancia, o DACA por sus siglas en inglés, una orden ejecutiva por el entonces presidente Barack Obama que protegía a alrededor de 800,000 personas.

DACA provee protección temporal en contra de la deportación a jóvenes que fueron traídos a los Estados Unidos cuando eran niños, siempre y cuando puedan satisfacer ciertos requisitos, de acuerdo con whitehouse.gov.

Asimismo, el cambio que Trump hizo al programa DACA le da al Congreso seis meses para considerar una solución legislativa apropiada. Aplicaciones que fueron aprobadas por adelantado para los beneficiarios de DACA serán generalmente respetadas, pero nuevos solicitantes no serán aprobados, según whitehouse.gov.

En UTRGV, están inscritos cerca de 900 *DREAMers*.

DREAMers son aquellos individuos que satisfacen los requisitos generales del programa Desarrollo, Alivio y Educación para Menores Extranjeros (DREAM Act). En el 2001, la legislatura de Texas pasó la Ley 1403, también conocida como *Texas DREAM Act*, el cual extiende la matrícula de residente y otorga elegibilidad a los residentes no ciudadanos del estado, de acuerdo con forabettertexas.org.

De La Fuente nació en Reynosa, Tamaulipas, México, pero ha vivido en Alamo desde la edad de 5 años.

Ella nunca se sintió diferente a otros niños mientras crecía. No fue hasta la escuela preparatoria cuando ella se dio cuenta que sus amigos tramitaban licencias de conducir, y ella no podía.

De La Fuente dijo que ahí fue cuando ella empezó a sentir como las cosas eran diferentes para ella y se dio cuenta de que probablemente iba a tener más dificultades que los demás estudiantes.

“Una vez que llegué a mi último año en la escuela preparatoria, el proceso entero para inscribirse en la universidad fue extremadamente difícil”, ella dijo. “Me sentía sola en ciertos sentidos, pero con la ayuda y el apoyo de gente que realmente se preocupaba por mí, estoy aquí ahora”.

El miércoles pasado, procuradores generales de 15 estados y el Distrito de Columbia presentaron una demanda en el Tribunal de Distrito de los Estados Unidos para el Distrito Este de Nueva York retando la decisión de Trump de cancelar DACA.

La demanda alega que la administración de Trump “violó la Cláusula de Igual Protección de la Constitución por el hecho de discriminar a los *DREAMers* de origen mexicano, que forman más del 78 por ciento de los beneficiarios de DACA; violó derechos al Debido Proceso; y lastimó residentes de los Estados Unidos, instituciones, y economías”.

Canciller del Sistema UT William McRaven emitió una declaración el mismo día que el anuncio de DACA fue hecho, diciendo que él y el Sistema



Joahana Segundo/THE RIDER

Merary De La Fuente, estudiante de último año de comunicación, comparte su punto de vista sobre la anulación del programa DACA y sus efectos como beneficiaria.

UT seguirán la ley, pero cree que las oportunidades para los estudiantes de DACA deberían ser sostenidas y continuadas.

“Pueden estar seguros de nuestro apoyo mientras continúan persiguiendo sus sueños--el sueño americano--para obtener una educación y construir un mejor futuro para ustedes y sus familias”, McRaven dijo en su declaración. “Conforme UT se acopla con las leyes federales y estatales respecto a la inmigración, pueden estar seguros que nuestros campus seguirán siendo lugares donde podrán estudiar mientras el Congreso arregla este problema”.

El rector de UTRGV, Guy Bailey, hizo eco a la declaración hecha por el canciller e hizo hincapié en los recursos que la universidad ofrece a estudiantes que puedan estar inciertos.

“Quiero reafirmar que cada estudiante, personal y cuerpo docente que forma parte de nuestra comunidad en UTRGV es una parte importante de nuestra familia en la universidad”, dijo Bailey en un correo electrónico que envió a la comunidad del campus el pasado martes. “Sin importar el lugar de nacimiento o ciudadanía, cada uno de nosotros contribuye una voz importante a nuestro diverso campus”.

UTRGV ofrecerá foros de información respecto al anuncio de DACA para miembros de la comunidad del campus. En Brownsville, el foro tomará lugar a las 6 p.m. el martes en Sabal Hall. En el campus de Edinburg, el foro empezará a la misma hora el miércoles en ELABN 101.

En una entrevista con *The Rider* el miércoles pasado, Vicerrectora de Éxito Estudiantil Kristin Croyle y Rebecca Gadson, vicerrectora asociada para la Vida Estudiantil y decana de estudiantes, dijeron que la cancelación de DACA no afectará inscripciones o el estatus de ayuda financiera para ningún estudiante.

Gadson dijo que UTRGV ayuda a estudiantes que puedan estar asustados o quieran hablar con alguien.

“Hay servicios de consejería gratis y confidenciales disponibles a través de nuestro centro de consejería”, ella dijo.

Gadson también mencionó que UTRGV ofrece el *Vaquero Crisis Line*, el cual es una línea de ayuda disponible las 24 horas del día para estudiantes que sufran una crisis emocional.

Un consejero entrenado estará

disponible para proveer ayuda. El número para la línea de crisis es 665-5555.

Croyle dijo que los estudiantes necesitan recordar que la universidad no comparte información de los estudiantes, los cuales incluyen records de ciudadanía y de inmigración, con autoridades externas sin antes tener el consentimiento del estudiante.

“Esto es increíblemente estresante para los estudiantes que están siendo afectados”, dijo Croyle. “Es como tener sacudida la alfombra debajo de ellos y aventando así su futuro al aire. Pero, yo creo firmemente que hay un camino hacia adelante. Tal vez no sepamos con exactitud cuál es este camino por ahora, pero yo creo firmemente que hay un camino hacia adelante”.

Ella dijo que los estudiantes no deberían de perder de vista sus sueños porque UTRGV está aquí para ayudarlos a completar sus metas.

Jaime Diez, abogado de inmigración en Brownsville, dijo a *The Rider* que el cambio a DACA creó diferentes situaciones para sus beneficiarios.

La primera situación es la gente que ya tramitó una aplicación y aún no han sido aprobados.

“La decisión, de acuerdo con inmigración, esas aplicaciones serán consideradas y serán decididas basadas en el mérito de cada aplicación”, Diez dijo. “Así que, eso significa que, si aplicaron antes del 5 de septiembre, serán capaces de calificar porque pueden probar que ellos estuvieron aquí desde junio del 2007. ... Serán capaces de recibir sus permisos por un periodo de dos años”.

Diez dijo que la segunda situación son la gente cuyos permisos van a expirar antes del 5 de marzo, 2018.

“Ellos son los que serán capaces de renovar sus permisos”, él dijo. “Pero tienen que ser cuidadosos porque la fecha límite para renovar esos permisos es antes del 5 de octubre. ... Así que realmente tienes que hacerlo ahora. Porque, de otra manera, no serás capaz de renovar ese permiso”.

Adicionalmente, beneficiarios de DACA cuyos permisos expiran el 6 de marzo, 2018, no podrán renovar sus permisos de trabajo, dijo Diez.

“Nuestro grupo final son las personas que no han aplicado,” él dijo. “Por ejemplo, hay una persona que vino a verme ayer, y el no cumple 15 hasta el siguiente mes, que será el

1 de octubre. Así que hoy él no podría aplicar, porque para poder aplicar necesitas tener 15 años o más. Así que, desafortunadamente, porque esta decisión del presidente de cancelar el programa, de la manera que lo hicieron, el no podrá aplicar porque nunca ha aplicado”.

Mark Kaswan, profesor de ciencias políticas de UTRGV, dijo que los miembros de la comunidad del campus pueden contribuir a la situación de DACA contactando a sus diputados de la Cámara de Representantes.

En Edinburg, miembros de la comunidad del campus deberían de contactar al Diputado del Distrito 15 Vicente Gonzalez (D-Texas). En Brownsville, Diputado del Distrito 34 Filemon Vela (D-Texas) es la persona a contactar, dijo Kaswan.

Vela y Gonzalez emitieron declaraciones que mostraron su apoyo hacia los *DREAMers*.

“Cancelando DACA termina con la estabilidad, esperanza, y oportunidades de casi 800,000 *DREAMers* que llegaron a América a una temprana edad, y han contribuido positivamente a nuestra economía”, Gonzalez dijo. “Incito al presidente a volver a pensar su mal informada decisión y a mis colegas en el Congreso a defender el programa de DACA”.

Vela dijo que Trump decidió seguir “las dictaduras del ala racista radical en su administración” cuando el tomó la decisión de rescindir DACA.

Kaswan dijo a *The Rider* que la anulación de DACA puede resultar en un “desastre” económico para el Valle del Rio Grande. Él dijo que la gente no se sentirá cómoda viviendo en el Valle, lo cual causará que estos se vayan. Esto significa que ellos no comprarán nuestros productos del Valle, no usarán servicios locales, no pagarán impuestos de propiedad, no construirán cosas o no crearán negocios.

Kaswan añadió que DACA, a pesar de que este limitaba a sus beneficiarios, ayudaba a inmigrantes a contribuir a la sociedad.

“La habilidad de obtener cierto tipo de estatus legal, incluso aunque fuera limitado, los habilitó para que fueran miembros más productivos de la sociedad”, él dijo. “Así que, todo eso se pierde”.

Kaswan dijo que alienta a los estudiantes a registrarse para votar y a levantar sus voces, sin importar su estatus legal.

“No tienes que ser un ciudadano, no tienes que estar aquí legalmente”, él dijo. “Incluso estudiantes indocumentados pueden levantar sus voces, pueden articularse ellos mismos con miembros del Congreso. ... Esa es la cosa más importante, que los estudiantes pueden hacer; es no quedarse callados, no solo esperar para ver qué es lo que pasa”.

Croyle y Gadson dijeron que todos los estudiantes, sin importar su estatus legal, son bienvenidos en UTRGV.

“Estamos aquí para ayudar”, dijo Gadson. “Si están buscando un lugar para hacer preguntas, lo pueden hacer sin miedo viniendo a nuestras oficinas para hablar con nosotros”.

De La Fuente dijo que los *DREAMers* no se deberían de rendir o dejar de creer. Ella los incita a permanecer juntos y a ayudarse los unos a los otros.

“Aunque ahora me siento como si estuviera estancada, tú sabes, quiero tener esperanza y creer que todo esto tiene un propósito y quizás algo mejor está por venir”, dijo De La Fuente. “Nunca sabes. Quiero decir, todavía tengo la esperanza de que, en algún lugar en el futuro, los inmigrantes en este país tendremos nuestra oportunidad y tal vez un camino hacia la ciudadanía”.



# CLUB SPOTLIGHT

**Name:** Operation Smile Club  
**Purpose:** Operation Smile is a nonprofit medical service dedicated to raising awareness and money to treat facial deformities, such as cleft lips and palates.  
**President:** Namu Patel  
**Vice President:** Lesley Robles  
**Secretary:** Raul “Cali” Argueta  
**Treasurer:** Sarah Carvajal  
**Vice President of Programming:** Marissa Uriegas  
**Director of Event Logistics:** Lilly Villarreal  
**Director of Community Service:** Rodrigo Martinez  
**Director of Social Media:** Aaron Lumbreras  
**Director of Public Relations:** Roslynn Rivera  
**Director of Progress:** Roberto Treviño  
**Adviser:** Biology Lecturer Mirayda Torres-Avila  
**Activities:** Fundraising for Operation Smile’s annual medical missions, community service in the Rio Grande Valley, socials and awareness events such as Smile Dolls and Smile Puppets.  
**Meetings:** Biweekly meetings from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. in Science Building 2.102 on the Edinburg campus.  
**Membership requirements:** All majors welcome.  
**For more information, email:** [operationsmileclubutrgv@gmail.com](mailto:operationsmileclubutrgv@gmail.com)  
**Website:** [www.operationsmile.org](http://www.operationsmile.org)  
**Facebook:** Operation Smile Club at UTRGV  
**Instagram:** @oscutrgv  
*--Compiled by Joahana Segundo*



**Joahana Segundo**/THE RIDER  
Members of the Operation Smile Club include (front row, from left) Director of Public Relations Roslynn Rivera, Treasurer Sarah Carvajal, Vice President of Programming Marissa Uriegas and President Namu Patel. Back row: Director of Event Logistics Lilly Villarreal, Director of Community Service Rodrigo Martinez, Secretary Raul “Cali” Argueta, Director of Social Media Aaron Lumbreras and Vice President Lesley Robles.

**GALVAN**  
*Continued from Page 3*  
make sure they’re taken care of and that the association has what they need to achieve their goals.”  
Galvan has future plans for her life and SGA.  
“When I’m through with my bachelor’s, my next goal is to attend law school,” she said. “I want to go to law school

[at UT-Austin] and after I graduate from law school, obviously take all those exams. ... I want to be a lawyer that does criminal law and then my goal is to be a judge, but the type of judge I want to be, I do have to be a lawyer for a couple of years and then after I retire, I don’t know if maybe before or after a judge, I’d like to be a politician.”  
Galvan plans to make the

campus community more inclusive by “ensuring that all of our Vaqueros feel welcomed and a part of the UTRGV family.”  
The SGA plans to “enhance online student university experience, graduate student outreach, [and] continue to support the development of security on campus,” she said.  
To view the SGA platform, visit [utrgvrider.com](http://utrgvrider.com).



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Student Involvement invites the UTRGV community to make a difference and become a catalyst of change. Join us in the following civic and voter engagement events and be the One that starts making a difference.

- PATRIOT DAY & NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE AND REMEMBRANCE**  
MONDAY, SEPT. 11 - 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
EUCTR CIRCLE & BSTUN LAWN
- VOTER DEPUTY TRAINING**  
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 13 - 12:15 PM - 1:15 PM  
BSTUN EL GRAN SALON  
TUESDAY, SEPT. 19 - 12:15 PM - 1:15 PM  
EUCTR BRONC ROOM
- CONSTITUTION DAY**  
MONDAY, SEPT. 18 - 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
EUCTR CIRCLE & BSTUN LAWN
- NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY**  
TUESDAY, SEPT. 26 - 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM  
EUCTR CIRCLE & BSTUN LAWN





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Friday, September 22 & Saturday, September 23, 2017

8:00 A.M.—5:00 P.M.

**Location:**  
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**Registration Now Open!**  
[www.utrgv.edu/ce/programs/conference/healthy-communities-2017](http://www.utrgv.edu/ce/programs/conference/healthy-communities-2017)  
or call (956) 296-1909

**Registration fee:** \$125.00

**Promotoras:** \$25.00

Fee includes: CMEs, CEUs, CNEs

**100 FREE Seats for Students**

**Meals will be provided both days of the conference!**

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  - Prevention of Suicide Among Youth and Adolescents
  - Substance Abuse Recovery Among Returning Veterans
  - What is the Risk for HIV Heterosexual Transmission: A Conversation about Sexual Health
  - Mental Health Diagnosis Among LGBT and Gender Non-Conforming Individuals
  - Engaging Families of Children with Autism through Summer Camp Experiences
  - Caring for Homeless Children on the Border: Risks, Challenges and Opportunities
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# A summer of tales

**Nubia Reyna**  
THE RIDER

Among dreams, hopes and fears, Lecturer II Amy Frazier traveled by herself for the first time to England to attend the three-week Creative Writing Summer School 2017 program this summer in Oxford University.

“I am an English teacher, I know the skills and how to write compositions, research, academic papers, but that’s very different,” Frazier said. “I did not know what to expect.”

The program, from July 23 to Aug. 12, hosted talented students from different countries such as China, India, Nigeria, New Zealand, Russia, Germany and Mexico.

“There was about 23 students from around the world,” she said. “The majority were like 19 or 20.”

Frazier said she enjoyed and learned a lot from the program.

“The places they took us, the classes they taught us ... it was a phenomenal experience,” she said. “I was probably the oldest one,” she said with a laugh.

The program offers creative writing seminars such as Young Adult Fiction, Fine-Tune Your Fiction and others.

“I finally encountered an opportunity to go and so I went not knowing what to expect,” Frazier said. “The first day,



COURTESY PHOTO

UTRGV Lecturer Amy Frazier enjoys the view at Oxford University during the Creative Writing Summer School 2017 program.

my first class was called ‘Young Adult Fiction,’” she said. “Our instructor told us, ‘OK, take out a pen and paper and I am going to give you 10 minutes to write a story, fiction, with [certain] words in it.’”

For the assignment, Frazier remembers how impressed she was by her young, talented classmates.

“The girl next to me, she was from Germany and she was like 20,” she said. “She could write the whole story

in 10 minutes with such creativity, that I couldn’t believe the talent.”

The instructors for her classes were authors Julie Hearn, who has published seven books, and author of “The Chase,” Lorna Fergusson, a winner of the Ian St. James Award.

“They are very experienced professors,” Frazier said. “They know what they are talking about.”

For Fergusson’s Fine-Tune Your Fiction class, Frazier used her previously written story inspired by true events, titled “Brujeria in South Texas,” and changed the narration from first-person plural to third-person limited.

“It is very, very hard to get A’s in creative writing,” Frazier said. “Very few people do.”

In her free time, Frazier enjoyed walking through the old streets of Oxford and drinking her favorite English breakfast tea.

“You don’t know until you taste it, but you wonder why they put milk in it, but then when you put the milk, you understand why,” she said. “It is not like our American tea, not even close.”

For more information about the program, email [ipwriters@conted.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ipwriters@conted.ox.ac.uk) or Frazier at [amy.frazier@utrgv.edu](mailto:amy.frazier@utrgv.edu).

## What should I major in?

Throughout this academic year, The Rider will explore the programs of study at UTRGV. This is the first in our second annual series. The Rider interviewed Ramon Guerra, an associate professor and department chair of sociology and anthropology, for information.

**Major:** Sociology  
**School:** College of Liberal Arts  
**Department Chair:** Associate Professor Ramon Guerra  
**Prerequisites:** None  
**Total credit hours needed to graduate:** 120  
**What is sociology?** “Sociology, basically, is the study of society. Back in the early part of the 19th century, a French philosopher, he was considered the father of sociology. Auguste Comte coined this term: sociology. He took a couple of words, one from Latin and one from Greek, and he put them together to create this discipline that we now call sociology. What sociology does is [it] looks at the way in which individuals interact in groups. You take a look at patterns of relationships that extend over time. You take a look at things such as crime, health, institutions, religion, gender relations, race relations; they’re all part of the study of sociology. That’s what sociology is about. ... Sociology wants us to open our eyes, so that way we can see what is really occurring.”  
**What classes can students expect to take?** “Intro to sociology is a basic understanding of what sociology is and it covers all of these topics like I mentioned to you. It talks about culture, socialization, social institutions, organizations, gender, race, sexuality, deviance, etc. Intro to sociology course is a basic



introduction to all the various aspects of sociology. ... We have quite a few sociology courses that would really be helpful for individuals to take. ... You might also like to take a course on stratification, because that also is an important thing for people to see, that our society is stratified. ... It takes a look at the hierarchy that exists within our society and issues on gender, race and ethnicity. So, there’s a lot of really interesting courses in sociology that are pertinent to the things that are happening now within our society.”  
**What skills will students learn by**

**the time they graduate?** “Sociology provides you with certain kinds of skills. For example, all sociology majors have to take statistics; this means that they will be able to use statistics for understanding the kinds of complex problems that exist within our society. So, having that statistical background is really helpful, but it’s not just that. Also, just having that kind of a background and to be able to understand the kinds of complex problems. In other words, being able to see the big picture, not the small picture, but the big picture.”

**What are some possible careers?** “In the private sector and in the public sector, there are lots of jobs out there. ... It’s not just working for FEMA, also for private sector organizations. ... maybe Salvation Army ... so sociology is very useful and versatile in a lot of different areas, because it’s the study of human behavior. It’s the way in which people interact with one another.”  
**What salary can a student expect to earn after graduation?** “Well, it depends on the job that you get. It’s really hard for me to go over there and say what is the GS (general schedule) level, because it changes all the time. You can always look that up. ... You can look up what a GS-9 might make as a sociologist. ... Each position is different. Say, for example, you decided to go into education, it’s different. For example, La Joya, they start off people at \$45,000 a year. Whereas, another school district might be \$32,000 a year.”  
**Are there any student organizations related to sociology?** “Of course, very much so. There’s Alpha Kappa Delta. That’s the honor [society] of the sociology club that has events every year. ... There’s also the Sociology Club.”  
**For more information:** contact Guerra at [ramon.guerra@utrgv.edu](mailto:ramon.guerra@utrgv.edu).  
--Compiled by Joahana Segundo

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# DEFENDING THE THRONE

## WAC champions happy to be home

**Bryan Ramos**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Fresh off a history-making season in 2016, the women's volleyball team is back in action and ready to prove it belongs among the top competition the NCAA has to offer.

Head Coach Todd Lowery has challenged his group right out of the gate with the team's first 10 games coming on the road against three ranked opponents and five NCAA tournament qualifiers a season ago. Add in Hurricane Harvey preventing the team from traveling home, women's volleyball has spent the majority of the early season living together on the road while going through their tough stretch.

With matches against the likes of the University of Oregon and Ohio State University, Lowery knows in order to make back-to-back NCAA tournament appearances for UTRGV, the defending Western Athletic Conference Champions will have to test themselves so come tourney time, they will be ready for all challengers.

"We're a one-bid conference and we know that coming into the year that we got to win the WAC if we want to be in the NAAs, so what better way to start off then to see teams that we know are going to be in the NAAs," he said. "Those are all teams that are NCAA teams and that's what we want. We know that New Mexico State's an NCAA team, and if we want to beat them, we're going to have to play people like that. It's just us scheduling the first level above us. If we can finish .500 in preseason, I think that's a great preseason for us playing the team's that we've



THE RIDER FILE PHOTO  
UTRGV sophomore middle blocker Barbara Silva celebrates after scoring a point against Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi at the South Texas Showdown last year in the UTRGV Fieldhouse in Edinburg. UTRGV won 3-2 over the Islanders.

played."

The 2017 squad returns five starters from last year, giving Lowery plenty of game experience to lead this team in its defense of the WAC title. Seniors Bojana Mitrovic and Tina Sekulic, the only two on the team, have spent four years playing under the two-time NAIA champion and will be heavily leaned on, as they know exactly what Lowery is looking for on the court. Juniors Alexandra Ecker and Ragni Steen Knudsen, and sophomore Barbara Silva, are the other returning starters leading the charge on the court.

Mitrovic was voted the Pre-season WAC Player of the Year in August after being named to the First Team All Conference in her previous two campaigns. The right side

hitter provides a big presence for the team, both on and off the court.

"I'm very proud with how far we've come with this program. ... I'm already comfortable with how the system works and how Coach's leading, so I don't think I'll have problems being a leader on this team," Mitrovic said. "I just need to still adjust to the new girls, figure out what pushes them to be better and how they need to push me to be better."

Predicted to finish second in the conference, the volleyball team now returns to Edinburg for a seven-game stretch and is ready to open the season in front of the home crowd.

"I think we're all just excited to be back, you know, not having to worry about leaving again and just being all out of sorts, but I think it's go-

ing to be good for us and we can build momentum into the start of conference," said Ecker, a team captain.

It's not just any home opener either. The second installment of the South Texas Showdown against Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday in the UTRGV Fieldhouse. In the teams' first meeting, TAMU-CC prevailed 3-1 (25-14, 22-25, 17-25, 15-25.) Now, UTRGV will be looking for revenge, which they hope can build momentum before the start of WAC play.

"Super excited to be home,

not just the home match on Wednesday, it's going to be nice to get three weeks at home and just a chance for us to get better," Lowery said. "We feel like we haven't had a chance to really work on things that we've seen the first couple weekends, because we just haven't had practice time. We've had a little practice time on the road but it's not the same as having your gym. ... We're excited to be home not just to go out and perform in front of the crowd but to go out and get better every day in the gym."

The women will host two tourneys this year starting with the UTRGV Tournament this weekend. They will open the tournament with a 7 p.m. Friday match against University of the Incarnate Word in the UTRGV Fieldhouse.

Then, they will have the opportunity to defend their conference championship as they host the WAC Tournament Nov. 16-18.

Lowery said his team has to find some consistency in order for the team to reach their goals of another conference crown and NCAA Tournament berth.

"It's been an up and down preseason but we can do some good things," he said. "So, you got to look at it both ways. If we can find some middle ground there, we're going to win some more matches and then if we can sustain that high level that we're capable of playing, I'm excited about that."

# Fantasy points

## Players bound to breakout in 2017



**Samantha Salazar**  
THE RIDER

It is the week that football fanatics have been waiting for, the NFL season openers.

It began Thursday with the Kansas City Chiefs and New England Patriots. Sunday's games included New York Giants and Dallas Cowboys, New York Jets and Buffalo Bills, Atlanta Falcons and Chicago Bears, Baltimore Ravens and Cincinnati Bengals, Pittsburgh Steelers and Cleveland Browns, Arizona Cardinals and Detroit Lions, Jacksonville Jaguars and Houston Texans, Oakland Raiders and Tennessee Titans, and Philadelphia Eagles and Washington Redskins.

Most football fanatics use fantasy football applications on their phones. The apps give you the option to choose your own players, a specific team's offense and defense, and your own team name. People use these apps to compete against other people's teams through-

out the season.

Now, with the season on its way the only question left to ask yourself is who to start on your fantasy team and who to sit out for the season.

Marcus Mariota had 2,818 yards and 19 touchdowns in 2015, and 3,426 yards and 26 touchdowns in 2016. Football fanatics should keep an eye on him; he could be explosive this year.

Russell Wilson had 4,024 yards and 34 touchdowns in 2015, and 4,219 yards and 21 touchdowns in 2016. With Wilson's stats, it should be a no-brainer to start him.

Kirk Cousins had 4,166 yards and 29 touchdowns in 2015, and 4,917 yards and 25 touchdowns in 2016. Cousins scored an average of 19 points per game in 2016.

Derek Carr had 3,987 yards and 32 touchdowns in 2015, and 3,937 yards and 28 touchdowns in 2016. Carr was ranked 10th last year in fantasy points.

Eli Manning had 4,432 yards and 35 touchdowns in 2015, and 4,027 yards and 26

touchdowns in 2016. Manning scored an average of 18 fantasy points per game, he is the man you want on your starting lineup.

Wide receiver Michael Crabtree had 922 yards and nine touchdowns in 2015, and 1,003 yards and eight touchdowns in 2016. Crabtree has been one of the top fantasy wide receivers for two consecutive seasons.

Tight end Jason Witten had 713 yards and three touchdowns in 2015, and 673 yards and three touchdowns in 2016. He averaged nine to 13 fantasy points each game.

Running back Dalvin Cook, who was an outstanding college player at Florida State, goes against the Saints' defense, who on average give up 21 fantasy points to running backs, giving Cook an advantage.

These athletes are certain to give you the points you need and have the stats to prove it. Let the fantasy football excitement continue as the season goes on.



Alexandra Ecker is a middle blocker and a team captain in her third year playing volleyball at UTRGV. Ecker is a junior pre-med major from the Texas Hill Country city of Helotes.

**If you had a plane ticket to anywhere in the world, where would you travel?** "I'd go to Italy, because I've always wanted to go there."

**If you were an animal, what animal would you be and why?** "An elephant, because I'd be bigger than everything."

**If a song played every time you walked into a room, what song would that be?** "My theme song--'Rise Up' by Andra Day."

**If you could be any character from any movie or TV show, what character would you be?** "Christina Yang from 'Grey's Anatomy,' because she's awesome."

**Who is the funniest person on the team?** "Dubravka Vukojica. She's, I don't know, I just look at her and I just laugh. [Laughs] **Do you have any hidden talents?** "I can do something weird with my eyes. I can, like, I don't know how to explain it, but whenever I do it people, like, scream."

**If you weren't playing volleyball, what sport would you play?** "I wanted to do gymnastics, but I never tried it, so gymnastics."

**You can have one meal with one celebrity, what is your meal and who are you eating with?** "I'd eat with Serena Williams and where--a nice seafood place."

**Would you rather fight 100 duck-sized horses or one horse-sized duck?** "One hundred duck-sized horses, because I feel like they'd be so small I could just kick them around and I could beat them easily." [Laughs]

--Compiled by Bryan Ramos



## DACA

*Continued from Page 1*

DREAMers are enrolled.

DREAMers are individuals who meet the general requirements of the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act. In 2001, the Texas Legislature passed House Bill 1403, also known as the Texas DREAM Act, which extends in-state tuition and grants eligibility to non-citizen residents of the state, according to [forabettertexas.org](http://forabettertexas.org).

De La Fuente was born in Reynosa, Tamaulipas, Mexico, but has lived in Alamo since she was 5.

She never felt any different from other children growing up. It wasn't until high school when she noticed her friends were getting their licenses, and realized she couldn't.

De La Fuente said that is when she started feeling how things were different for her and realized she may have a more difficult time than other students.

"Once I hit senior year in high school, the whole process of getting to college was extremely difficult," she said. "I kind of felt alone in some ways, but through help and support of people who really cared about me, I am here right now."

Last Wednesday, 15 state attorneys general and the District of Columbia filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York challenging Trump's decision to end DACA.

The suit alleges the Trump administration "violated the Equal Protection clause of the Constitution by discriminating against DREAMers of Mexican origin, who make up 78 percent of DACA recipients; violated Due Process rights; and harmed States' residents, institutions, and economies."

UT System Chancellor William McRaven issued a statement the same day the DACA announcement was made, saying he and the UT System will follow the law but believe DACA students' opportunities should be upheld and continued.

"You can be certain of our support as you continue to pursue your dreams--the American dream--to obtain an education and build a better future for you and your families," McRaven said in his statement. "As UT adheres to federal

and state laws regarding immigration, rest assured our campuses will remain places where you can safely study as Congress takes up this issue."

UTRGV President Guy Bailey echoed the statement made by the chancellor and provided resources the university offers for students who may be uncertain.

"I want to reaffirm that each student, staff and faculty member who makes up our UTRGV community is an important part of our university family," Bailey said in an email sent to the campus community last Tuesday. "Regardless of place of birth or citizenship, each one of us contributes an important voice to our diverse campus."

UTRGV will host information forums regarding the DACA announcement for campus community members.

In Brownsville, the forum will take place at 6 p.m. Tuesday in Sabal Hall 2.110A. On the Edinburg campus, the forum will begin at the same time Wednesday in ELABN 101.

In an interview with *The Rider* last Wednesday, Student Success Vice President Kristin Croyle and Rebecca Gadson, associate vice president for Student Life and dean of students, said the end of DACA will not affect any students' admission or financial aid status.

Gadson said UTRGV offers help to students who may be scared or want to talk to someone.

"There is free and confidential counseling services available through our counseling center," she said.

Gadson also mentioned UTRGV offers the Vaqueros Crisis Line, which is a 24/7 confidential helpline for students experiencing an emotional crisis.

A trained counselor will be available to provide assistance. The number for the crisis line is 665-5555.

Croyle said students need to remember that the university does not and will not share student educational records, which include citizenship and immigration records, with outside authorities without the student's consent.

"This is incredibly stressful for students who were affected," Croyle said. "It's like having a rug pulled out from under them and putting their future, you know, throwing it up in the air. But, I firmly believe that there's a path forward. We may not know exactly what the path is right now, but I firmly believe there's a path forward."

She said students should not lose sight of their dreams because UTRGV is here

to help them meet their goals.

Jaime Diez, an immigration attorney in Brownsville, told *The Rider* the change to DACA created different situations for its recipients.

The first situation is people who already filed for an application and who have not been approved.

"The decision, according to immigration, those applications will be considered and they will be decided based on the merits of each application," Diez said. "So, that means that if they have filed an application before Sept. 5, they were able to qualify because they can show that they were here since June of 2007. ... They will be able to get their permits for a period of two years."

Diez said the second situation are people whose permits are going to expire before March 5, 2018.

"Those are the ones that are going to be able to renew their permits," he said. "But they need to be careful because the dates that they need to file for renewing those permits is before Oct. 5. ... So, you really have to do it right now. Because, otherwise, you will not be able to renew that permit."

Additionally, DACA recipients whose permit expires on March 6, 2018, will not be able to renew their permits or work, Diez said.

"Our final group is the people that have not applied," he said. "For example, there is a person that came over to see me yesterday, and he doesn't turn 15 until next month, which will be Oct. 1. So, today he could not apply, because in order to apply you need to be 15 years or above. So, unfortunately, because this decision by the president to cancel the program, the way that they that did it, he's not going to be able to apply because he has never applied."

Mark Kaswan, a UTRGV political science professor, said campus community members can help with the DACA situation by reaching out to their U.S. representatives.

In Edinburg, campus community members should reach out to District 15 U.S. Rep. Vicente Gonzalez (D-Texas). In Brownsville, District 34 U.S. Rep. Filemon Vela (D-Texas) is the person to contact, Kaswan said.

Vela and Gonzalez issued statements that showed their support for DREAMers.

"Ending DACA undercuts the stability, hope, and opportunities

for nearly 800,000 DREAMers who arrived in America at a young age, and have contributed positively to our economy," Gonzalez said. "I urge the president to rethink this misguided decision and call on my colleagues in Congress to defend the DACA program."

Vela said Trump chose to follow "the dictates of the radical racist wing in his administration" when he made the decision to rescind DACA.

Kaswan told *The Rider* the end of DACA can result in an economic "disaster" for the Rio Grande Valley. He said people will not feel comfortable living in the Valley, which will cause them to leave. This will mean that they will not buy Valley products, use local services, pay property taxes, build things or create businesses.

Kaswan added that DACA, even though it limited its recipients, helped immigrants contribute to society.

"The ability to get some sort of legal status, even if it was limited, enabled them to be more productive members of the society," he said. "So, that goes away."

Kaswan said he encourages students to get registered to vote and raise their voices, in spite of their legal status.

"You don't have to be a citizen, you don't have to be here legally," he said. "Even undocumented students can raise their voices, can articulate themselves to members of Congress. ... That's the most important thing that students can do, is to not be quiet, not to just wait and see what's going to happen."

Croyle and Gadson said all students, regardless of legal status, are welcomed at UTRGV.

"We are here to help," Gadson said. "If they are looking for a place to ask questions, they can do so without fear by coming to our offices to talk to us."

De La Fuente said DREAMers should not give up or stop believing. She encourages them to stick together and help each other out.

"Even though right now I feel like I'm stuck, you know, I want to hope and believe that this is all for a purpose and maybe something better is coming," De La Fuente said. "You never know. I mean, I'm still hoping that somewhere in the future, the immigrants in this country, you know, we're going to have our chance and maybe even get a pathway to citizenship."

## KROUSE

*Continued from Page 1*

"It's an exciting opportunity," he said. "There are only about 140 medical schools that grant M.D.s in the country, so it's a unique opportunity when a new medical school is born. So, it really gives me, as a dean, the opportunity to build clinical and educational research programs from the ground up."

He also appreciates the enthusiasm that he has been receiving from the Valley going toward the creation of additional medical programs.

With his new administrative position, Krouse plans to eventually have the medical school act dually as a resource for the community in order to improve the quality of health

care in the Valley, not only to those who don't have access to it, but also to those who have not had the ability to find good quality health care for themselves. He seeks to extend these services to UTRGV students and faculty members. Primarily, his goals are to provide excellent clinical and educational resources.

For the current school year, Krouse plans to build an infrastructure, or a leadership group, to accommodate the other new hires to establish a good foundation for expanding the school of medicine. The new hires include a new executive of finance, health attorney and a physician recruiter. His overall goal would be to "grow the clinical enterprise" to provide better quality medical education to students, and to eventually produce more efficient, skillful physicians who will serve to provide a

more specialized health care to the community.

The school of medicine has gone through multiple changes over these last few years. Firstly, its budget has been cut significantly for the 2017-2018 academic year. The Texas Legislature has decreased the school's budget by \$7 million over two years, but overall, it has lost \$3.5 million of funding each year.

However, Krouse said "the state regents have allowed us to accelerate some of the payments that were guaranteed to us, [which] helped us with some of that."

To make up the difference, Krouse and the rest of his staff plan to strategically plot their monetary distribution, and cut back slightly by not hiring as many new staff members

as they had originally planned. Although the situation does negatively impact the program, Krouse assures the campus community that this will not hinder any progress.

In the future, the school of medicine is expected to expand. Currently, the school admits 55 new students per year, but they would eventually like to admit over 100. Ultimately, the dean seeks to integrate new comprehensive practice plans that will give students access to study alongside physicians in both the Upper and Lower Valley. Although that will take time for the staff and facilities to grow, he assures the campus community that the membership of the medical school will continue to flourish.

# Have a story idea?

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# Traveling through the memories of a ‘Borderígena’

**Nubia Reyna**  
THE RIDER

More than 60 people attended the opening reception for the first exhibit of the semester, “Borderígena: Many Times Over,” last Tuesday in the Art Gallery at Rusteberg Hall on the Brownsville campus.

The exhibit features the work of Jesus De la Rosa, an associate art professor at Texas A&M University-Kingsville. The title of the show is inspired by the book, “The New World Border,” by Guillermo Gomez (City Light Books, 1996). In the book, Gomez defines Borderígena “as a citizen of the great border region of the Americas.”

“Sometimes, a river or mountain range will determine the boundary between peoples,” De la Rosa said in his artist statement. “Every so often, this borderline is only the ink of a line drawn by a man. My early life was devoted to daily traveling across the U.S.-Mexico border, ensuing from my parents working in Mexico and living in Texas.”

The exhibition consists of nine colorful two-dimensional works that derive from his insight of the Texas-Mexico landscape, where cultures, languages and identities constantly conflict and bind, according to De la Rosa.

“Both sides of the border depend on each other for economic stimulation,” he said. “Americans cross into Mexico for medical care at



Ana Cahuiche/THE RIDER PHOTOS

Artist Jesus De La Rosa (from left) talks about his show, “Borderígena: Many Times Over,” with art senior Jesse Burciaga, art education junior Cecilia Guzman and architecture sophomore Roberto Zuniga last Tuesday during the first art show of the fall semester at the Art Gallery at Rusteberg Hall on the Brownsville campus.

an affordable price, while Mexican nationals purchase items not found in Mexico from U.S. shopping centers.”

His work was selected to be part of the 12th annual Young Latino Artist Exhibition at the Mexic-Arte museum and Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center in Austin and part of the exhibition “Idols and Impossible Structures” at the International Print Center New York, according to De la Rosa’s website.

Gallery Coordinator

Alejandro Macias said he tries to have a broad spectrum of artists.

“I really try to show artists that are practicing artists, contemporary artists that are successful at what they do,” Macias said. “I think his work is really good and I hope students get a little taste of what he does and maybe they can get something out of it.”

Macias said De la Rosa was a student at legacy institution UT-Brownsville back in the late 1990s but then transferred to Kingsville.



Miguel Angel Sandoval, a teacher at Gladys Porter Early College High School in Brownsville, observes one of De La Rosa’s pieces, “Rio Bravo,” last Tuesday in the Art Gallery at Rusteberg Hall. The art piece was created in 2005 with acrylic and lithograph on wood.

“It is great to have him back,” he said. “This is really refreshing to see, like, two-dimensional work that is painting and drawing and carving. It seems like it’s a really hands-on type of work and it’s extremely colorful. The palette is amazing.”

UTRGV Art Lecturer Patrick Fatica said the exhibition is excellent and liked the fact that the artist has a history in the Valley and at the university as a student.

“He is talking about his own near-death experience and

how they’re kinda making me really think about what is important in life,” Fatica said.

The exhibition continues through Sept. 29. Admission is free. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday and noon to 4 p.m. Friday.

For more information about future exhibitions or special accommodations, contact [alejandromacias@utrgv.edu](mailto:alejandromacias@utrgv.edu).

# Toto, we’re not at UTRGV anymore

## Graduate ventures into film

**Sydni Salinas**  
A&E EDITOR

Most actors and actresses know the unknown road all too well. Audition after audition, acting begins to look dim, as most often than not, they don’t get the part.

Each is looking for the “big break,” yet prepared to work odd jobs in order to maintain a schedule that allows them to attend auditions.

UTRGV graduate and actor Michael Velazquez never had to brace the unknown, quickly finding himself with two roles after graduation in Spring 2017.

He is set to premiere in two movies currently being filmed in the Rio Grande Valley and Mexico, both with late 2018 release dates.

“El Boxeador” centers on a young man finding his way through the boxing realm.

“It explores the world of boxing, not only how people

see it, but how it really is,” Velazquez said.

The film is a backstage pass to the harsh realities boxers face on their journey to stardom.

Velazquez portrays Ramiro, the best friend of the lead during their teenage years.

His other project is a remake of the popular Mexican horror movie, “Vacaciones de terror.”

“Vacaciones de terror” tells the timeless scary tale of a haunted doll wreaking havoc on a family who just moved into a new home. The film will stream on Netflix next fall, making it the 30th anniversary of the original release, as well as show in Mexico theaters.

What makes the film unique in style is that it will be streamed in the United States with an English-speaking cast, and shown in Mexico with a Mexican-speaking cast.

“What’s so cool about it,

because of the interest that they’re getting, they’ve decided to film in not only in Spanish but in English, so there will be two versions,” Velazquez said.

This choice of two editions of the film benefited Velazquez, who is bilingual, because he is able to appear in both renditions.

He describes being able to tell Mexican and Hispanic narratives as “really cool, because I’m actually Hispanic, and great that they’re creating all these opportunities for Latino people.”

As for advice he would like to give aspiring actors in the RGV seeking opportunities, he said, “To not be afraid,” and to simply get out there, going past one’s comfort zones.

Be on the lookout for Velazquez in 2018 as he takes his first steps into the world of cinema. Lights, camera, action!



Sydni Salinas/THE RIDER

“If I’m able to make at least one person smile in the audience, then I did my job right,” actor Michael Velazquez said.



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