



UTRGV SEEKS INPUT VIA SURVEY

University officials encourage students, faculty and staff to participate in efforts to strengthen progress. **See Page 3**



INTRODUCING A NEW MINOR

UTRGV will offer a new Expressive Arts minor starting Fall 2018 for its students. **See Page 5**

THE STUDENT VOICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS RIO GRANDE VALLEY

THE RIDER

MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2018

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UTRGV

A promising future

Program to help students graduate in four years in the works

Victor G. Ramirez

THE RIDER

Students, such as high school senior Miriam Hernandez, said money and time management are the biggest challenges undergraduates face; however, UTRGV is working on a program that would ease the path for future Vaqueros.

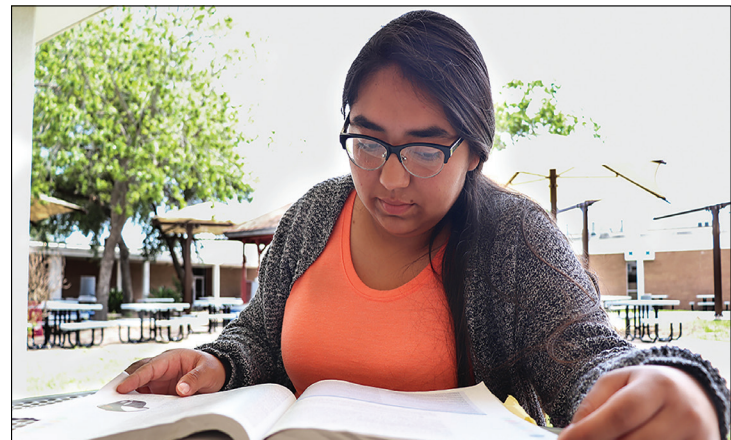
“Working and going to school is very hard for most of the kids because most people lean on money more than leaning on education and that is one of the major conflicts college students go through,” said Hernandez, who attends Gladys Porter Early College High School in Brownsville.

She will attend UTRGV next fall and pursue a bachelor’s

degree in psychology.

“[UTRGV is] here at home and I’ve always lived in Brownsville and everytime I go out, I don’t feel comfortable,” Hernandez said. “I did study as a junior in UTRGV during the summer and I did like the atmosphere. I liked how the teachers were, how the kids were all connected because we

See **PROMISE**, Page 9



Victor G. Ramirez/THE RIDER

Miriam Hernandez, a Gladys Porter Early College High School senior in Brownsville, reads her psychology book last Thursday in the school’s courtyard.

BROWNSVILLE



Robert Benavidez Jr./THE RIDER

Australian cattle dog Foxye Roxie receives a vaccination last Tuesday outside Garden Park Elementary School in Brownsville. Also shown is her brother Red. The 2018 Rabies Clinics offers rabies, distemper and parvo immunizations, as well as dewormers.

Paws for a good cause

Brownsville hosts annual rabies clinic

Britney Valdez

THE RIDER

The 2018 Rabies Clinic held last Tuesday at Garden Park Elementary was Nicole

Langan’s first day with her dogs, Red and Foxye Roxie, “[As of today] they’re officially mine,” Langan said. “Somebody dumped them on the street over at Vermillion

Road over by Rivera High School. I saw them being posted [on social media]. I befriended the person who posted them and now I have two dogs.”

See **CLINIC**, Page 3

UT SYSTEM

On to the next mission

UT System chancellor set to retire

Zugay Treviño

THE RIDER

After serving in the military for 37 years--in which he was commander of the U.S. Special Operations Command--publishing a book, and leading the University of Texas System as chancellor, William McRaven will retire May 31.

“I very much enjoyed my time in the military. I have loved being chancellor of the University of Texas System. It’s been a fabulous job,” McRaven told *The Rider* in a telephone interview. “I’ve been honored to do it and blessed to have this opportunity, but now I want to find out what’s my next passion in life.”

McRaven hopes he will figure out his next plan, but he will not completely stop working.

“I will be teaching at UT Austin in the [2019] Spring semester ... just part time, but I’m looking forward to that,” he said. “... But I don’t have any [official] plans for the next six or seven months.”

Now, McRaven will focus on figuring out what else he will do in retirement.

“I think very highly of him,” President Guy Bailey said of the soon-to-be retiree. “He is a man of



William McRaven

See **MCRAVEN**, Page 10

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS

Raise your voice

Events highlight Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Eric Montoya

SPANISH EDITOR

José Montoya, a UTRGV multidisciplinary studies junior, said events that promote sexual assault awareness are beneficial for the campus community to help reduce the levels of crimes on campus.

“I think it is important to not only teach prevention but

also to teach men that it is not OK, or even in some cases, women, that it is not OK to sexually harass or assault

Vaquero Voice,

Page 4

people in any circumstance,”

See **AWARENESS**, Page 3

Sexual Assault Statistics



1 out of every **6** American women has been a victim of an attempted or completed rape in her lifetime



Every **98** seconds an American is sexually assaulted



Male college students ages 18-24 are **5** times more likely than non-students of the same age to be a victim of rape or sexual assault



Only **6** out of every **1,000** perpetrators will end up in prison



Only **310** out of every **1,000** sexual assaults are reported to police



8% of sexual assaults occur on school property

SOURCE: Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network

National Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-656-4673

Jesus Sanchez/THE RIDER GRAPHIC

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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MORE THAN A
NEWSPAPER



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

Percussion Performance

The **Rio Bravo Percussion Ensemble** will perform at 7 p.m. in the Texas Southmost College Arts Center in Brownsville. Admission is \$5. For more information, call 882-7025.

Tuesday

Community Service Fair

Student Involvement will host its **Community Service Fair** from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. on the Main Building lawn on the Brownsville campus. Students can speak to representatives from agencies regarding community service hours. For more information, call 882-5111.

Wednesday

Spring Concert

The **UTRGV Wind Symphony** will perform works by **Conte, Stephenson, Shostakovich, Williams** and **Maslanka** at 7 p.m. in the Texas Southmost College Arts Center in Brownsville. Associate Professor **Jonathan Guist** will perform **Scott McAllister's "Black Dog"** with the band. Guest conductor **Bradley Genevro**, director of bands at the University of Texas at El Paso, will feature **Symphonic Dance No. 3 "Fiesta."** Admission is \$5. For more information, call 882-7025.

Thursday

Teachers Job Expo

The **Career Center** will host its **Teachers Job Expo** from 9 a.m. to noon in PlainsCapital Bank El Gran Salón on the Brownsville campus.

Recruiters from various school districts across the state will look to hire students pursuing teaching positions. The event will take place at the same time Friday in the Community Engagement and Student Success Building, located at 1407 E. Freddy Gonzalez Dr. in Edinburg. For more information, call 882-5627 or 662-2243.

Saturday

Service Saturday

Student Involvement will host its **Service Saturday** from 8 a.m.

Have an announcement?

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TheRider@utrgv.edu

to noon at **Guadalupe Regional Middle School**, located at 1214 Lincoln St. in Brownsville. The event gives participants the chance to earn community service hours. For more information, call 882-5111.

Cesar Chavez March

La Unión del Pueblo Entero (LUPE) will host the **15th annual Cesar Chavez March** to show support for young undocumented immigrants and families affected by the repeal of DACA at 9 a.m. at San Juan's Municipal Park, located at 506 U.S. Business Hwy. 83. For more information, call 534-0267.

Music Concert

Guest flutist **Amy Porter** and **Daniel Gilbert**, an associate professor of

clarinet at the University of Michigan, and the UTRGV flute and clarinet choirs will perform at 5 p.m. in the Texas Southmost College Arts Center in Brownsville. Admission is \$10, and \$5 for senior citizens and students. For more information, call 882-7025.

Sunday

Poetry Workshop

The **McAllen Public Library**, **UTRGV** and **Mujeres Unidas** will host a workshop on how poetry can ease stress and pain caused by a sexual and/or domestic assault from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Main Library's Meeting Room B, located at 4001 N. 23rd St. in McAllen. For more information, call 681-3061.

Ongoing

Support Group

The **Collegiate Recovery Program** will host an **Addiction and Recovery Support Group** at 11 a.m. Wednesday in Cortez Hall 220 on the Brownsville campus. For more information, call 665-2674.

Recovery Meetings

The **Collegiate Recovery Program** hosts **recovery meetings** as follows: **Alcoholics Anonymous** at 6:30 p.m. on Mondays, **SMART Recovery** at noon on Tuesdays, **Narcotics Anonymous** at 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and noon Fridays, **Tobacco Intervention** at noon on Wednesdays, and the **Al-Anon Family Group** at noon on Thursdays. All meetings are held in University Center 102 on the Edinburg campus. For more information, call 665-2674.

--Compiled by Steven Hughes

POLICE REPORTS

The following are among the incidents reported to University Police between March 22 and 24.



March 22

7:42 p.m.: Officers were dispatched to the Student Union on the Brownsville campus to meet with a student who reported an

unknown individual in an older model black Chevrolet Suburban who displayed a black handgun while she was driving off campus in the area of East Polk near East 21st St. in Brownsville. He sat in the front passenger seat and pointed a handgun upward in the air and laughed. She drove away from the area and the suspect did not follow. The Brownsville Police Department is investigating the incident.

9:43 p.m.: An officer was dispatched to an active fire alarm at the University Recreation Center on the Edinburg campus where smoke was seen in the women's locker room. The smoke was caused by a floor fan that overheated and began to emit smoke. The Edinburg Fire Department arrived and later deemed the building safe for re-entry.

March 23

2:30 p.m.: A staff member at the Unity Hall dormitory on the Edinburg campus reported damage to two dry erase boards in a study room. The damage was described as scratch and etching markings. The case is under investigation.

9:45 p.m.: A staff member on the Edinburg campus reported that a student did not show up to class to take

a major exam. He stated the student's cellphone was off and was nowhere to be found. Officers located the student who admitted himself to Doctors Hospital at Renaissance Behavioral Center due to being stressed about his grades. The Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities has been notified.

March 24

8:14 a.m.: An officer made contact with a suspicious vehicle parked in



University Police

Brownsville
Dispatch

882-8232

Edinburg
Dispatch

665-7151

Email: Police@utrgv.edu
Campus Emergency: 882-2222

the fire lane in the area of the library service drive on the Edinburg campus. The officer observed a subject asleep in the driver's seat. A records check on the non-affiliated driver revealed an outstanding warrant from the Texas Board of Pardon and Paroles for violation-dangerous drug. After the confirmation of the warrant, the suspect was arrested and searched. Two small clear plastic bags with a white powdery substance were found inside the suspect's socks. The substance field tested positive for cocaine. He was transported and jailed in the Edinburg Municipal Jail. The vehicle was inventoried and towed from the scene. An extradition hold was placed at the Hidalgo County Jail for the parole violation.

8:34 a.m.: Officers were dispatched

to the crosswalk on West University Boulevard between the Main Building and Lot B1 on the Brownsville campus in reference to a City of Matamoros and City of Brownsville sponsored event where aluminum trusses fell over and injured multiple people in the roadway. Five runners were treated at the scene, but declined to be transported to the hospital. The other five injured runners were transported to two hospitals with lacerations to the head and other injuries. An officer went to both hospitals and made contact with the Brownsville Police Department and family members of the injured runners. The officer was informed that all injured parties were in stable condition, but their

injuries were still being evaluated. A follow-up at the hospitals revealed four individuals had been treated and released, and one individual was admitted for further evaluation.

11:24 a.m.: An officer was dispatched to the Liberal Arts Building North on the Edinburg campus to a reported water leak on the third floor. A water faucet was left on inside a custodial closet causing water to overflow into the hallway and several faculty offices. Facilities Services staff members later arrived and began cleanup.

2:45 p.m.: A student reported his wallet containing U.S. currency was stolen from a bench while playing basketball at the University Recreation Center on the Edinburg campus. The case is under investigation.

--Compiled by Britney Valdez

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‘Your voice matters’

Survey aims to improve campus climate at UTRGV

Jesus Sanchez
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

UTRGV has hired an independent research and consulting firm to help survey students, faculty and staff on how the school can promote a welcoming, inclusive and nurturing campus climate. “[Students, faculty and staff] should participate [in the survey] because this gives them an opportunity to share their ideas and opinions,” UTRGV Staff Senate President Lisa Smith said. “It makes us more

accountable to strengthen our campus climate.” As part of UTRGV’s “Transforming our World Strategic Plan,” the survey hopes to acquire data that will help the university develop a plan to strengthen values around engagement, shared governance, leadership, inclusion and well-being. ModernThink LLC will conduct the campuswide surveys, one for faculty and staff, and one for students. The survey is voluntary and anonymous. All responses will

go directly to and be processed by the firm. For questions about how ModernThink will protect confidentiality, call (888) 684-4658 or email surveys@modernthink.net. The mobile-friendly survey was launched March 26 and will continue until April 9. Students, faculty and staff will receive an email from ModernThink with details about the survey and how to take it. Patrick Gonzales, UTRGV’s associate vice president for

University Marketing and Communications, said he encourages students, faculty and staff to take the survey and be honest in their responses. “If we are to create an accurate picture of what our campus climate is, what we need to improve on, what we need to fix, the more participation, the more honest feedback, the better results we’re going to have,” Gonzales said. He told *The Rider* the results of the survey will be available on the UTRGV website once

the university receives them. Preliminary results should be available online sometime in May and full ones in the fall, according to Smith. The Staff Senate president said UTRGV will conduct a follow-up survey in 2021. “We’ve actually already signed up for that with [ModernThink],” she said. “So, we are dedicated to measuring our progress.” For a list of frequently asked questions about the survey, visit utrgv.edu/climatesurvey.

AWARENESS

Continued from Page 1

Montoya said about Sexual Assault Awareness Month. He said any type of event or conversation is helpful to spread awareness on what to do about sexual assault crimes. “A lot of times, we have cases where people are sexually harassed or assaulted on campus and we don’t hear a lot about it, but it sometimes goes unreported out of fear of getting in trouble or having the blame placed on you,” Montoya said. Every 98 seconds, an American is sexually assaulted, according to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN.org). RAINN states that one out of every six American women has been a victim of an attempted or completed sexual assault and one in 33 American men have experienced an attempted or completed rape in their lifetime. Priscilla Palacios, a program coordinator for the Office for Victim Advocacy & Violence Prevention (OVAVP), said Sexual Assault Awareness Month is important since it “lets people know there are resources available for them.” “It brings awareness to a



Organizations, departments and the McAllen Public Library will host events throughout the month to promote Sexual Assault Awareness Month. As of 1998, an estimated 17.7 million American women have been victims of attempted or completed rape, according to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN) organization. Sexual assault victims are more likely to suffer from suicidal or depressive thoughts, according to rainn.org. Palacios said one of the things sexual assault victims can do is visit the closest hospital and ask for a medical examination. “If they wish to file a police

Edinburg or 882-3896 for Brownsville, or send an email to healthservices@utrgv.edu. The OVAVP will collaborate with several campus organizations to host a series of events for Sexual Assault Awareness Month. At 11 a.m. Tuesday, tables will be set up for the Sexual Assault Awareness Month kickoff event at the University Library on the Edinburg campus. From 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, the OVAVP will host the “Let’s Talk about Consent” panel-based presentation in Student Academic Center 1.101 building on the Edinburg campus. The purpose of the event is to clarify what consent is and answer questions. From 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday, the McAllen Public Library will partner with UTRGV and *Mujeres Unidas* to host the Survivor’s Poetry Workshop for sexual assault victims with the purpose of teaching them how poetry can help to ease the stress and pain caused by trauma associated with sexual assault. No registration is required and no news media will be in attendance due to the nature of the event. The McAllen Public Library is located at 4001 N. 23rd St. For more information, call 681-3000. See **AWARENESS**, Page 8

CLINIC

Continued from Page 1

She said she decided to participate in the rabies clinic to take advantage of the great service the City of Brownsville was providing. Companion Animal Hospital veterinarian, Dr. Robert Maza, administered the vaccines. “All the veterinarians in

is that we want to control rates,” he said. “We have to vaccinate approximately 70 percent of the pet population to be able to control it and I can tell you we’re not even close to that. So, I can tell you right now that it’s very important for everyone to come out to the vaccination events.” Maza said he recommends



Brownsville Animal Regulation and Care Center
Address: 416 FM 511, Olmito
Phone: 544-7351

Brownsville are participating with the city to offer our community a low-cost option to get their dogs vaccinated and it’s right in their backyard, so they don’t have to travel,” Maza said. “It’s real important for the community to come out and participate in these clinics if they don’t have another option.” Maza, who has been collaborating with the city since 1988, said Brownsville aims to control the stray pet population. “The most important thing

residents attend the clinics in an effort to help the city’s protection against rabies. “The main thing is to come and participate,” he said. “At least come and get a rabies vaccine, so that way, the community can be protected in case we get an outbreak, in case some coyote comes from somewhere across the river, or some rabbit comes over. If they can just come out here and participate, we will provide the community with a shield from rabies.” The clinics will continue



Brownsville residents line up last Tuesday in the Garden Park Elementary School parking lot to have their pets vaccinated. Companion Animal Hospital administered the vaccines. throughout this month and May, with the last one scheduled from 4:30 to 6 p.m. May 5 at Victoria Heights Elementary School, located at 2801 E. 13th St. in Brownsville. A complete schedule of the clinics can be found at the city’s website, www.cob.us/719/Animal-Regulation-Care-Center. The City of Brownsville Health Department collaborated with the Brownsville Independent School District to sponsor the 2018 Rabies Clinics. The cost of the vaccine is \$12 per pet. Pet owners will receive a certificate and a city license tag. There is also a \$40 booster package that offers rabies, distemper and parvo immunizations, as well as dewormers for pets. Pets must be at least 12 weeks of age to receive the vaccines. All cats must be in a carrier and dogs must be on a leash.

VAQUERO VOICE

Sexual Assault Awareness Month



Yo pienso que es bueno que están tratando de traer más atención a este problema, porque ya no dicen nada en las noticias porque pienso que las personas ... no quieren admitir que otras personas pueden violar a otras o hacer tanto daño a otras personas. ... También me gustaría [que traieran] más atención a que no es culpa [de la] mujer o el hombre”.

Abigail Rangel
Estudiante de tercer año de educación física



“I think it’s a very good idea for people who have been assaulted to come out and ... express themselves or make themselves feel comfortable. So, this month really does allow them to come out from their comfort zone and come out of what happened to them and truly just be themselves after hiding so long behind that disclosure that they had around themselves.”

Michael Mora
Anthropology freshman



“Not knowing a lot about it, but kind of knowing a little bit, we need to watch our backs and spread the news about sexual assault because everybody here in the university has to watch out for people that have gone through this or need to be careful because it’s something that is dangerous. But at the same time, we need to warn others about it.”

Enrique Soto
Kinesiology sophomore



“Well it’s bad, obviously, but I think that people should open up to the idea that sexual assault comes in many different ways. Even when it’s not one-on-one, sexual harassment can still be comments and stuff like that, and we have to inform ourselves about the issue and be sure to be supportive ... to those who have been assaulted and we should just learn that no is no.”

Grecia Quintanilla
Multidisciplinary studies freshman

--Compiled by Valeria Alanis and Albert Monrroy

7/2/18

WHEN WILL
THIS NIGHTMARE
OF A SEMESTER END!?
MAKE IT STOP!



The college experience Tips for academic success



**Joahana
Segundo**
THE RIDER

Starting college or university with an associate degree is scary. With half of a bachelor’s complete, you are left with barely any space for error.

You are expected to know what you want to dedicate your life to and how to make your remaining two years in a university setting worth it.

I understand that there are benefits to graduating from high school with an associate degree, such as finishing your bachelor’s degree earlier and having more time for graduate school, but do they outweigh the cons? I can’t give you an answer, but to those in this situation or to anyone who is lost in this chaos we call “the college experience,” here is some advice from someone who has been in your shoes:

1. Don’t be afraid to ask questions. What I’ve learned from asking questions in class is that the semester will go smoother and the instructor will not only appreciate that

you care about the material being taught, but will more than likely remember you. In general, asking questions will give you answers that can lead you to many opportunities!

2. Look for a mentor. Mentors guide you. They have more than likely been in your place and want to see you succeed and grow. Look for a professor who specializes in your academic interests and genuinely cares about his or her students. Mentors will also write stronger letters of recommendation than professors who just knew you from one of their classes.

3. Get an internship. An internship will help you get hands-on experience and a taste of what your career will be like. It also counts as experience when applying for jobs and it is sometimes a requirement for some graduate programs. Many times, the business, clinic, corporation or organization where you interned will hire you right after graduation. This is an opportunity you won’t want to miss!

4. Make connections.

Making connections will expand your network. The person next to you might have mentors that they can recommend you to or might know the supervisor where you want to intern. Connections facilitate lengthy processes and sometimes create lifelong friendships.

5. Join an organization. Being a member of an organization will make your curriculum vitae look good, but being an officer will make it look even better! The employer or graduate admission committee will take your officer position as experience and it will make you stand out from other applicants. An organization is a great way to begin networking and become involved with the campus community.

6. Have fun! Remember that you only have a few years in college and you should make the most of it!

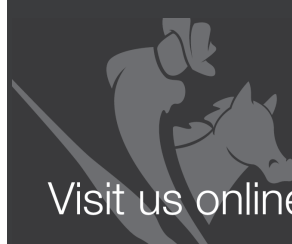
Hopefully, these few points will inspire someone to get out of their comfort zone and fulfill some of these recommendations or guide them in the right direction.

Submit a Letter to the Editor

The Rider encourages letters but does not guarantee publication. We reserve the right to edit letters for grammar and content. Letters for The Rider may be sent to therider@utrgv.edu. All letters must be typed and no longer than 400 words. Letters must include the name, classification and phone number of letter’s author or the letter cannot be published. Opinions expressed in The Rider are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Rider or UTRGV administrators.



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EXPRESSION AS THE PROFESSION

University to debut new minor

Sydni D. Salinas
A&E EDITOR

Are you a fine arts major who has zero idea of what to do after graduation? Or with life in general? Trying to find options in the real world as an artist is like trying to find, for the lack of a better metaphor, a needle in a haystack. It's a difficult process that you're probably already dreading, but have no fear. Now is the time to act and widen

photography and music. College of Fine Arts Dean Steven Block said the idea for the minor came from a similar program he opened at the University of New Mexico, the Arts-in-Medicine program. The University of New Mexico's program involves helping patients heal through various art forms, such as music, visual art, dance, poetry, and creative writing, according to its website. Wanting to bring a similar opportunity to UTRGV, Block believes students can benefit from a minor that expands their options after graduation, such as

ing healthy. There's so much more that goes into it in terms of patient response and optimism as far as being healthy." Those who are interested in the minor but are not a fine arts major, will still be able to acquire it. "That's what is so cool about this! For each of these courses, it's not a question that you have to have some sort of background in the fine arts to take the course, or background in rehabilitation services. ... This is more of an option to think differently about what your possibilities are," Block said. Studio art junior Jose Lozano said he

the opportunity to learn about it, not just have a vague idea of what the 'arts' are." Fine arts senior Jasmine Alessio said it's not only a good idea but also a way for students to relieve stress from the more challenging courses in the art curriculum. "It will be good for art students because I know a lot of us are stressed, and will like a class that is fun and still involve art in some way," Alessio said. The minor will be ready to be added to degree plans starting Fall 2018.



Sydni D. Salinas/THE RIDER PHOTOS

Studio art junior Jose Lozano said he feels that people will like the new fine arts minor. "It's going to be interesting to see where it goes," Lozano said. He might enroll in the new courses.



Fine arts senior Jasmine Alessio said the minor is a good inclusion in the fine arts curriculum. Alessio said it will also be good for students who are not art majors. "I think those classes will be fun for people who don't have an art class," she said.

your scope on the alternative routes and careers for your talents. The university's schools of Rehabilitation Services and Counseling and Art, as well as the Social Work Department have come together to introduce a new minor for fine arts students, Expressive Arts. It focuses on personal growth and healing through creativity and art. The minor includes courses in movement, dance, art, improvisation, journaling, voice-guided meditation, drums,

this area of art therapy. "When it comes to this particular minor in itself, so much of this is about empathizing, about having a sense of the health and medical concerns some people have," Block said. "How we can actually have some varying on that. "It's as simple as you are being ill, and your grandma is singing you to sleep when you are really sick. But we bring that into the world of rehabilitations to make their lives more meaningful. Medicine is only one part of be-

believes that students are going to like the addition and will benefit from it. "Because it's new and people, from what I've heard, have been wanting this. I think it will work out," Lozano said. 2-D Studio graduate student Jesmil Rodriguez also believes it to be a positive addition for art students interested in the minor. "If they get more exposure to the arts, it would be better for them," Rodriguez said. "Everybody should have

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Scribbles & Thoughts

By Laia Vite



2018 STUDENT TECHNOLOGY SURVEY



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Levanta la voz

Eventos resaltan el Mes de la Concientización del Abuso Sexual

Eric Montoya

EDITOR DE ESPAÑOL

José Montoya, un estudiante de tercer año en estudios multidisciplinarios, dijo que los eventos que promueven la consciencia acerca del abuso sexual son beneficiosos para la comunidad del campus para ayudar a reducir los niveles de crimen en el campus.

“Creo que es importante no solo enseñar la prevención, pero sino también enseñar a los hombres que no está bien, o incluso a las mujeres, en algunos casos, que no está bien acosar o agredir a la gente en ninguna circunstancia”, Montoya dijo acerca el Mes de la Concientización del Abuso Sexual.

Él dijo que cualquier tipo de evento o conversación ayuda a esparcir la concientización acerca del que hacer respecto a los crímenes de abuso sexual.

“Muchas veces, tenemos casos en donde la gente es acosada o abusada sexualmente dentro del campus y no escuchamos mucho sobre eso, pero a veces se quedan sin reportar debido al miedo de meterse en problemas o de que te echen la culpa”, dijo Montoya.

Cada 98 segundos, un estadounidense es abusado sexualmente, de acuerdo con la Red Nacional de Violación, Abuso e Incesto (*Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network* o RAINN, por sus siglas en inglés).

RAINN señala que una de cada seis mujeres estadounidenses ha sido víctima de una violación o un intento de violación y uno de cada 33 hombres estadounidenses ha experimentado una violación o intento de violación durante su vida.



FOTO ILUSTRACIÓN THE RIDER

Priscilla Palacios, una coordinadora de programa para la Oficina de Apoyo de Víctimas y Prevención de la Violencia (*Office for Victim Advocacy & Violence Prevention* o OVAVP, por sus siglas en inglés), dijo que el Mes de la Concientización del Abuso Sexual es importante porque le “hace a la gente saber que hay recursos disponibles para ellos”.

“Trae conciencia a un tema que es un tabú en nuestra área”, dijo Palacios. “Les hace saber que está bien hablar sobre su situación y no sentirse avergonzados por lo que han pasado y no tener que pasar por eso solos. Hay otros que han pasado o están pasando por lo que ellos están pasando”.

Las víctimas de abuso sexual son más propensas a tener pensamientos suicidas o depresivos, de acuerdo con rainn.org.

Palacios dijo que una de las cosas que las víctimas de abuso sexual pueden hacer es visitar el hospital más cercano y pedir una examinación médica.

“Si desean levantar un reporte policíaco, pueden hacer eso también”, ella dijo. “Pueden reportarlo aquí en la universidad o a nuestra oficina de Responsabilidades y Derechos Estudiantiles ... si es que así lo desean”.



Jesus Sanchez/GRÁFICO THE RIDER

vestíbulo de la biblioteca del campus de Edinburg.

De 7 a 8:30 p.m. el 15 de abril, el McAllen Public Library será anfitrión del evento *Embrace Your Voice*, en el cual sobrevivientes de abuso sexual serán capaces de recitar sus poesías a otros sobrevivientes. No es obligatorio hablar y no se necesita registrarse. No se les permitirá la entrada a los medios de comunicación.

Si los sobrevivientes no se sienten cómodos compartiendo sus historias personalmente, le pueden dar sus obras a los organizadores quienes las leerán por ellos anónimamente, dijo Palacios.

A las 11:30 a.m. el 17 de abril, el *Alcohol Consent Fair* será llevado a cabo por varios programas en la terraza de la Unión Estudiantil en el campus de Brownsville. El evento tomará lugar el 18 de abril en la Unión Estudiantil en el campus de Edinburg.

Palacios dijo que esperan poder exponer la exhibición “*What Were You Wearing?*” en Edinburg durante el *Alcohol Consent Fair*. La exhibición tomó lugar en South Texas College el mes pasado y consistió de la ropa que las víctimas de abuso sexual vestían cuando fueron abusadas sexualmente.

“Esperamos poder traerlo a nuestro campus y tenerlo en exhibición aquí en la Unión durante ese mismo tiempo”, ella dijo. “Es seguro que lo vamos a tener el día 18 pero no hemos sido capaces de decidir otros días disponibles para mantenerlo en exposición”.

Amanda Quintanilla, una especialista de servicios para víctimas del Departamento de Policía de UTRGV, le dijo a *The Rider* que la Policía de la Universidad tendrá el *Rape Aggression Defense System Training* empezando la semana del 23 de abril en el campus de Edinburg. El curso es exclusivo para las mujeres y está abierto para la facultad, el personal y los estudiantes.

“Es una clase de defensa personal donde tienen diferentes tácticas, tu sabes, habrá videos y van a dar comentarios y diferentes ideas sobre cómo ser cuidadosos y como ser precavidos”, dijo Quintanilla.

Ella dijo que el entrenamiento se divide en tres sesiones usualmente.

“La primera vez tenemos nuestra reunión, tu sabes, es solo la historia de lo que el RAD (*Rape Aggression Defense*) es, y es en su mayoría la parte de la conferencia”, dijo Quintanilla. “De ahí, hacemos la parte de la acción donde el oficial de policía se pondrá un traje completo, como una traje de protección ... y después el otro oficial te enseñará diferentes métodos con tus manos, con tus pies y diferentes maneras de patear y todo eso, y entonces tu implementas eso y lo practicas por los siguientes dos días”.

Ella dijo que los días, localizaciones y horas para estos eventos aún están

siendo discutidas.

Una de las responsabilidades de Quintanilla es asistir a los estudiantes durante el proceso de levantamiento de cargos y reportes y ayudarlos a entender mejor el sistema.

Para concluir los eventos del Mes de la Concientización del Abuso Sexual, *Denim Day* (Día de la Mezcilla) tomará lugar de 11 a.m. a 1 p.m. el 25 de abril en la terraza de la Unión Estudiantil en Brownsville y en la Unión Estudiantil en Edinburg.

En este día, se insta a la gente a vestir pantalones de mezcilla como una protesta en contra de los conceptos erróneos que rodean al abuso sexual, de acuerdo con denimdayinfo.org.

La campaña de *Denim Day* es fruto de un incidente legal en Italia donde un perpetrador de abuso sexual fue declarado inocente por la Suprema Corte de Italia ya que la víctima femenina vestía unos pantalones muy ajustados. El juez implicó que la víctima tuvo que haber ayudado al perpetrador quitándose sus prendas debido a su ropa ajustada, causando que ella dejase de ser una víctima, de acuerdo con Palacios.

Encuestas conducidas por la Oficina de Responsabilidades y Derechos Estudiantiles muestran que la primera persona que las víctimas de abuso sexual usualmente contactan es un amigo, de acuerdo con Jaime Richeson, administrador de programa para Responsabilidades y Derechos Estudiantiles.

“Es muy importante que eduquemos a nuestro cuerpo estudiantil en referencia a los servicios que nosotros ofrecemos en nuestro campus y lo que está disponible para ellos afuera del campus”, dijo Richeson. “Si tenemos estudiantes que son víctimas de este tipo de incidentes ... entonces, los estudiantes, sus amigos estudiantes, pueden de hecho guiarlos en referencia a qué servicios están disponibles en el campus y a donde ir fuera del campus”.

Él dijo que si los estudiantes son testigos de un crimen relacionado con abuso sexual, tienen diferentes mecanismos disponibles para reportarlo.

“Depende en su capacidad, habilidad en ese momento. Si se quieren involucrar directamente o si se quieren involucrar indirectamente”, dijo Richeson. “Nosotros promovemos la ayuda de los transeúntes, especialmente a través del proyecto *Superhero*. Tratamos de educar a todos nuestros estudiantes de primer año en referencia a lo que un transeúnte activo es y cómo pueden reconocer la situación y escoger si van a responder directa o indirectamente”.

Contacta a la oficina de Responsabilidades y Derechos Estudiantiles al 665-5375 en Edinburg o al 882-5141 en Brownsville, o envía un correo elec-

Merging cultures

UTRGV to host Asian Spring Festival

Zugay Treviño
THE RIDER

The campus community is invited to attend the second annual Asian Spring Festival with activities, including writing names in a different language, a Chinese fashion show and a dragon dance.

The festival will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday in the University Ballroom on the Edinburg campus and 2 to 5 p.m. April 20 in Salón Cassia on the Brownsville campus.

“Our goal is to continue to add our little part of the Korean culture into the Asian festival,” said Paulina Perez, a junior nursing student and Korean Language and Culture Association member. “We are going to have food samples. We are going to have a photo booth and information about Korean culture.”

The KLCA has been learning about the language and culture and will prepare tteokbokki, or 떡볶이, which is a Korean spicy rice cake.

“It is going to be all inclusive,” Perez said. “We are hoping to make an event where all students of all backgrounds can come learn about Asian cultures.”

Perez said several underrepresented cultures’ organizations will be at the festival, including the Muslim Students’ Association, the Indian Association of Rio Grande Valley and

the Filipino Student Association. Other organizations such as the Chinese Language and Culture Association (CLCA) will also attend.

“We are going to be doing a traditional dance ... an umbrella dance,” said Sheila Moncayo, an English senior and CLCA member. “We are going to do a fashion show as well. ... We are also going to have the chopsticks game.”

Moncayo said the fashion show will have both modern and traditional outfits. The chopsticks game will consist of transferring either Skittles or jelly beans from one bowl to another.

This year’s event was organized by Mijin Oh-Villarreal and Xin Zhang, who are both lecturers at UTRGV.

The organizers said they hope the campus community will be excited to learn more about Asian cultures.

“I felt the same excitement when I saw the other cultures,” Oh-Villarreal said.

Oh-Villarreal said the Rio Grande Valley has a strong Hispanic culture.

“When I go ... [out], people say, ‘Mira china.’ ... People only recognize Chinese [culture],” she said.

The lecturer also said people do not recognize South Korean culture or products originating from there, which include LG and Samsung phones.

Students will also have the opportunity to have words or their name written in Chinese calligraphy.



PHOTO COURTESY MIJIN OH-VILLARREAL

Electrical engineering senior Adriana Rubio Segura (left) and theatre sophomore Jennifer Saenz participate in the Chinese fashion show during last year’s Asian Spring Festival. This year’s festival will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday in the University Ballroom on the Edinburg campus and 2 to 5 p.m. April 20 in Salón Cassia on the Brownsville campus.

“Most students want to get the name [written]. They ask us to write with the brush, with rice paper,” Zhang said.

The campus community may also have their name written in Hangul, the Korean alphabet.

A Chinese dragon dance will be performed again at the university. The

dance was last performed by UTRGV students for FESTIBA and requires at least 10 people and a large area to move around.

For more information, contact Oh-Villarreal at mijin.ohvillareal@utrgv.edu or Zhang at xin.zhang@utrgv.edu.

AWARENESS

Continued from Page 3

From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 11, during the It’s on Us Sexual Assault Awareness Month Fair, several university programs will provide information about sexual assault in the Edinburg campus library lobby.

From 7 to 8:30 p.m. April 15, the McAllen Public Library will host Embrace Your Voice, in which sexual assault survivors will be able to recite their poetry to other survivors. It is not mandatory to speak and no registration is required. No news media will attend.

If survivors are not comfortable with sharing their stories personally, they can give their works to the organizers who will read the stories for them anonymously, Palacios said.

At 11:30 a.m. April 17, the Alcohol Consent Fair will be hosted in the Student Union veranda on the Brownsville campus by several programs. The event will take place April 18 in the Student Union on the Edinburg campus.

Palacios said they hope to display the “What Were You Wearing?” exhibit in Edinburg during the Alcohol Consent Fair. The exhibit took place at South Texas College last month and consisted of clothes sexual assault victims wore when they were sexually assaulted.

“We are hoping to bring it onto our campus and have it displayed here at the Union during that time as well,” she said. “For sure, we are having it on the 18th but we haven’t been able to decide on other days available to keep on displaying it.”

Amanda Quintanilla, a victim services specialist from the UTRGV Police Department, told *The Rider* that University Police will host a free Rape Aggression Defense System Training starting the week of April 23 on the Edinburg campus. The course is exclusively for women and is open to faculty, staff and students.

“It is a self-defense class where they have different tactics, you know, they will have videos and they will have commentaries and different tips and ideas on how to be cautious and how to be careful,” Quintanilla said.

She said the training is usually divided into three sessions.

“The first time we have our meeting, you know, it’s just the backstory of what RAD is, and a lot of the lecture part,”

Quintanilla said. “From there, we do the action part where the officer will put on a full suit, like the body gear ... and then the other officer will teach you different methods with your hands, with your feet and different ways of kicking and so forth, and then you implement them and you practice them for the next two days.”

She said the exact days, locations and times for the events are still being discussed.

One of Quintanilla’s responsibilities is to assist students in the process of filing police reports and help them understand the system better.

To conclude the university’s observance of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Denim Day will take place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 25 in the Student Union veranda in Brownsville and the Student Union in Edinburg.

On this day, people are encouraged to wear jeans as a visible means of protest against the misconceptions that surround sexual assault, according to denimdayinfo.org.

The Denim Day campaign was spurred by a legal incident in Italy where a sexual assault perpetrator was found not guilty by the Italian Supreme Court because the female victim was wearing very tight jeans. The judge implied that the victim had to help the actor remove her clothing, making her not a victim anymore, according to Palacios.

Surveys conducted by the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities show that the first person sexual assault victims usually turn to is a friend, according to Jaime Richeson, a program manager for Student Rights and Responsibilities.

“It is very important that we educate our student body in reference to what services we provide on our campus and what is also available off campus,” Richeson said. “If we have students that are victims of these type of incidences ... then, students, their fellow friends, can actually guide them in reference to what services are available on campus and where to go off campus.”

He said if students witness a crime related to sexual assault, they have different reporting mechanisms.

“It depends on their skill, ability at that point in time. If they want to directly get involved or if they want to indirectly get involved,” Richeson said. “We promote active bystanding, especially through

the Superhero project. We try to educate all our freshmen in reference to what an active bystander is and how they can recognize the situation and choose to respond either directly or indirectly.”

Contact Student Rights and Responsibilities at 665-5375 in Edinburg or 882-5141 in Brownsville, or email srr@utrgv.edu.

He said there are different sanctions for students who commit sexual assault.

“Sexual assault, itself, it depends because there is a variety in reference to the definitions in our policies,” Richeson said. “We are very strict in reference to our sanctioning. They are more likely looking to suspension. Our highest level of sanctioning we put on any cases like these is expulsion. In other words, they can’t come back to this university.”

The sanctions can vary depending on the case, according to Richeson.

Female college-aged students (18-24) are 20 percent less likely than non-students of the same age to be a victim of rape or sexual assault, and male college-aged students (18-24) are 78 percent more likely than non-students of the same age to be a victim of rape or sexual assault, according to rainn.org.

James Loya, UTRGV assistant chief of police, said there are two different punishments for sexual assault perpetrators.

“It’s a second-degree felony. So, in a second-degree felony, if you are found guilty, it is an imprisonment of not less than two years, but not more than 20 years,” Loya said. “And then, you have aggravated sexual assault. Aggravated sexual assault means if they caused a serious ... injury when they sexually assaulted somebody or if they exhibited some type of weapon during the sexual assault, and that is actually a first-degree felony. And then on the aggravated one ... is imprisonment of not less than five years but not more than 99 years.”

He said every time a student is involved in an incident of significant nature, he or she is referred to the dean of students.

Only 310 out of every 1,000 sexual assaults are reported to police, which means about two out of three go unreported. Only 20 percent of female student victims, ages 18-24, report to law enforcement, according to rainn.org.

Loya recommends students to be aware of their surroundings to protect

themselves.

“There was a time when [sexual assaults] were committed by strangers but ... a lot of the times now, the victims do happen to know the perpetrators,” he said. “So, it’s one of those things that you always have to kind of have your guard up and make yourself aware of what is it that is going on around you.”

Eighty-six percent of sworn campus law enforcement officials have legal authority to make an arrest outside of campus grounds, according to rainn.org.

The assistant police chief said students should not trust other people so quickly.

“Be more suspicious of people and figure out exactly what their intentions can be,” he said. “It’s not one thing that can totally prevent these incidents from happening, so the only thing that we can say is for the people to be aware.”

Loya said people should let their relatives or friends know where they are going in order to have a safety plan.

Palacios said besides sexual assault, there are other problems that are also addressed during Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

“Sexual assault, of course, is going to be highlighted more because it is the awareness month, but we still touch upon domestic violence, dating violence, stalking,” she said. “We do highlight sexual assault because of the month, but we still talk about all the different services that we provide.”

Students can contact the OVAVP at 665-8287 in Edinburg and 882-8282 in Brownsville, or email confidentially at ovavp@utrgv.edu.

Quintanilla recommends students to email police@utrgv.edu.

Loya advises students to dial 911 in case of an emergency.

“Even though if you are on campus or off campus, 911 is going to get you the help,” he said.

Montoya said it is important that students report sexual assault cases.

“It is nothing to be ashamed of,” he said. “It doesn’t make you look any less of a decent person. ... I think it is important to ... let the university know what is going on and to make sure that they follow through. ... If you get assaulted, there are resources available. There is counseling available and there is campus police and security to help you through it.”

Love, pride and family

UTRGV building attendant works for daughters

Gabriel Galvan
THE RIDER

Maria Villarreal, a building attendant for the UTRGV School of Medicine, started working for legacy institution UT Pan American 15 years ago to support her family.

Villarreal was employed by UTPA after her husband of 25 years was in a car accident that landed him in the ICU for over two weeks. As a result, she became the sole provider for their four children, even though she never had a job before.

“It was very painful for my kids because my daughters were little,” she said in Spanish. She said she needed to work for her children.

Villarreal has four daughters named Nancy, Edna, Eliana and Lizbeth.

Dance freshman Lizbeth said her mother always did everything she could to support her family.

“She’s a very hardworking woman,” Lizbeth said. “Everything she does is for me and my sisters, and I really appreciate that.”

Carlos Chavez, the assistant director of Facilities Programs and Services, said Villarreal is dependable and needs little supervision.

“She knows exactly what is expected, and she comes and



Lesley Robles/THE RIDER

Building Attendant Maria Villarreal is shown in the lobby of the UTRGV School of Medicine. Villarreal first began working for legacy institution UT Pan American 15 years ago and is now based at the medical school, where she leads the custodial team.

does it every day,” Chavez said. “This is a person we hardly supervise, because we already know her performance, her job dedication, and what she understands needs to be done.”

Oscar Muñoz, building attendant foreman, said people

in the medical school often go directly to Villarreal with projects and assignments.

“All these projects that she’s had, along with her co-workers, she’s the one that is in the lead of these projects. They have come out with flying colors,”

Muñoz said.

Villarreal said in her typical workday she makes sure the facility is clean and manages the other custodial workers in the School of Medicine. Other duties include ensuring classrooms and restrooms are

sanitary for student use and answering phone calls and emails in her office.

Asked if she believes her job is impactful, Villarreal said her job is “to clean, to make sure the building is in good shape for the students, to make it feel like home.”

She likes her job and does it for the students.

“We are always making sure that the area is in the best condition for them,” she said.

The UTRGV employee said she believes her job is important and whether the campus is clean or not, is a reflection of how comfortable the students are.

“I always tell my daughters not to ever belittle anyone’s job,” she said. “All jobs are important. I have always taught them to respect others. It is really important as you go through life, you respect others. If you have respect for others, everyone is going to respect you as well. That is something I have achieved here in my job. ... Everyone who knows me, staff, faculty and my co-workers, I feel that I have earned their respect because what I give is what I expect. ... How we do our work is how we are going to reflect our students.”

PROMISE

Continued from Page 1

are Hispanic and stuff, and I would feel like I would be very comfortable and it’s more beneficial for me and my family.”

UTRGV Student Success Vice President Kristin Croyle spoke about a program that may help students in their college career during a March 23 Student Government Association meeting.

The proposed Promise Program would aim to ensure that the institution supports any incoming students who want to graduate within four years. Students who commit to the program would be provided with connections to peers, faculty, courses, educational experiences, academic advising and career support, according to documents obtained by *The Rider*.

Promise students would have to meet several requirements:

- complete the required high impact educational practices identified in their College Promise Plan;
- visit their Promise adviser at least twice a year;
- complete required Career Connection activities each year;
- complete at least 30 academic hours each year that do not include repeated or developmental courses;
- maintain a 2.5 GPA and earn no lower than the minimum grade required for

courses;

- complete the courses identified as critical in their College Promise Plan at the time indicated;
- sign up for classes within the first 48 hours of registration eligibility for the fall and spring semesters;
- notify their Promise adviser no later than the study day of the current semester if they are unable to register for a required major course;
- if required, gain admission to their major by the beginning of the fall semester of their junior year;
- and maintain good standing with UTRGV, including with the Financial Aid, Student Accounts and Student Rights and Responsibilities offices.

“The Promise Program will be rolled out to entering freshmen at orientation,” Croyle said. “It will be designed to be able to accommodate a lot of students if we have a lot of students who want to sign up and it will also be college specific. We are ready, almost, as soon as I get the presidential approval to roll out for the [Robert C. Vackar] College of Business [and Entrepreneurship] and we will be ready to roll out for the other colleges after that.”

If approved by President Guy Bailey, only incoming freshmen will be eligible.

Croyle told *The Rider* if Promise students are unable to graduate within four years but met all program

requirements, the university would pay tuition and fees for any pending hours or make appropriate adjustments in course requirements, such as substitutions.

Promise students would not be the only ones making a commitment in the program. Documents obtained by *The Rider* show that if approved, the university would:

- maintain and guarantee the same tuition and fee rates for the full four years of students’ undergraduate studies;
- make sure students have access each semester to the courses required for their major and to graduate in four years;
- provide high impact educational experiences, such as access to academic internships, undergraduate research opportunities and writing-intensive courses;
- provide opportunities to connect with peers through study groups, volunteer activities, leadership activities and student organization activities;
- provide supportive and accurate academic advising;
- and provide opportunities for career exploration and preparation through the Career Center and through Career Connection activities designed for Promise students.

Each college will have specific Promise plans that may contain different

requirements, such as participating in special programs and/or completing an approved academic internship.

“We want to be sure that we include guidance and what helps students to be successful, so we’re including some guidance in the plan,” Croyle said.

In an interview with *The Rider* last Wednesday, SGA President Alondra Galvan said the program could help motivate students to graduate in four years.

“Students will start off their freshman year,” Galvan said. “They have some requirements but it’s all to help, motivate and encourage and to push the students to graduate in four years. There’s research done, statistics, that show that there is a very low number of students who graduate on time. Sometimes, students do take five, six, maybe sometimes even seven years to graduate. So, the UTRGV [Promise Program], it will push students to graduate in four years.”

Hernandez told *The Rider* that a program, such as Promise, would encourage students to stay in college. She said she would probably join the UTRGV Promise Program if it gets approved.

“I think it sounds great,” she said. “I would probably join. I like contributing and doing different stuff outside what I usually do in my own bubble.”

Have a story idea?

Let us know at

882-5143 or 665-2541

10|ON CAMPUS

Going German

Nubia Reyna
THE RIDER

The RGV German Club has received a \$7,000 grant from the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs to host a St. Martin's lantern parade Nov. 11 in Brownsville.

"The club is organized as a nonprofit corporation, which allows us to take donations and it also gave us the standing to apply for this grant," said Arno Forst, an assistant accounting professor and faculty adviser. "So we have an actual legal entity for the German government and I think they really like to support [us] because we are so geographically isolated."

The lantern parade will be held as part of Germany's comprehensive and collaborative public diplomacy campaign, The Deutschlandjahr 2018-2019, which has the goal of presenting today's Germany to people across the United States, Forst said.

"We felt that we needed an event that would be speaking to families and young kids," he said. "St. Martin is the

patron saint of the poor. ... It involves a bonfire and children make lanterns, so it's a lantern parade."

The parade will take place in downtown Brownsville and it will end at a public place with a bonfire and German songs.

"It is also for people who can't afford to go to a classical music concert. ... It's free and I think it's going to be really cute," Forst said.

Natalia Davila, president of the German club, said the organization needs volunteers to help prepare for the event.

"Reach us, please, to RGV German Club. We have our Facebook or you can always email me to natalia.davila01@utrgv.edu," Davila said. "We really need a lot of help for this. It's a big event."

The next event for the club is "German Beer Day," April 21, with tap beer, food and entertainment.

"It's going to be downtown on the Market Square," Davila said. "It's a really big event. It's going to be 300 to 500 people. ... It's going to be cultural.

ABUSO

Continuación de Página 7

trónico a srr@utrgv.edu.

El dijo que hay diferentes sanciones para los estudiantes que cometan abuso sexual.

"Abuso sexual, por sí solo, depende porque hay una variedad en cuanto a las definiciones en nuestras políticas", dijo Richeson. "Somos muy estrictos en referencia a nuestra manera de sancionar. Lo más probable es que sean suspendidos. Nuestra sanción más alta que ponemos en casos como este es la expulsión. En otras palabras, ya no podrían regresar a esta universidad".

Las sanciones pueden variar dependiendo del caso, de acuerdo con Richeson.

Estudiantes del sexo femenino, edad entre 18 a 24 años, tienen 20 por ciento menos probabilidades de ser abusadas sexualmente a comparación con mujeres no-estudiantes de la misma edad. Mientras tanto, estudiantes masculinos de la misma edad tienen 78 por ciento más probabilidades de ser víctimas de abuso sexual en comparación a otros hombres no-estudiantes de la misma edad, de acuerdo con rainn.org.

James Loya, subdirector de la policía de UTRGV, dijo que existen dos castigos diferentes para los perpetradores de

abuso sexual.

"Es un delito de segundo grado. Así que, en un delito de segundo grado, si eres declarado culpable, es un encarcelamiento de no menos de dos años, pero no más de 20", dijo Loya. "Después, tenemos al abuso sexual agravado. Abuso sexual agravado significa si se causaron heridas serias cuando se abusó sexualmente de alguien o si se mostró un tipo de arma durante el abuso sexual, y esto de hecho, es un delito de primer grado. Y entonces en el delito agravado ... sería un encarcelamiento de no menos de cinco años, pero no más de 99 años".

El dijo que cada vez que un estudiante está involucrado en un incidente con una naturaleza significativa, él o ella son reportados al decano de estudiantes.

Solo 310 de cada 1,000 abusos sexuales son reportados a la policía, lo cual significa que cerca de dos de cada tres nunca son reportados. Solo el 20 por ciento de las víctimas femeninas, con edades de 18 a 24 años, reportan estos crímenes a las autoridades, de acuerdo con rainn.org.

Loya recomienda a los estudiantes a estar conscientes de sus alrededores para así poder protegerse a ellos mismos.

"Hubo un tiempo cuando [las agresiones sexuales] eran cometidas por extraños, pero ... muchas de las veces ahora,



Victor G. Ramirez/THE RIDER GRAPHIC

... We're going to have a lot of songs."

The club will visit Germany this summer to take a language, philosophy and culture class.

"We've been planning this trip to Germany the whole year," she said. "Taking a big group of 20 people to Germany is not easy. We're just really

excited that people are going to see a new culture, new people and it's going to be a life-changing experience."

To volunteer for the parade or become a member of the German club, email Davila, or Forst at arno.forst@utrgv.edu.

las víctimas conocen a los perpetradores", el dijo. "Así que, esta es una de las cosas donde siempre tienes que tener la guardia puesta y estar consciente de lo que está pasando a tu alrededor".

Ochenta y seis por ciento de los oficiales encargados del cumplimiento de la ley en el campus tienen la autoridad legal para llevar a cabo un arresto fuera de la propiedad del campus, de acuerdo con rainn.org.

El subdirector de la policía dijo que los estudiantes no deberían de confiar tan rápido en otras personas.

"Se más suspicaz con la gente y date cuenta de cuáles son sus intenciones exactamente", él dijo. "No hay una cosa que pueda prevenir que estos incidentes ocurran, así que la única cosa que nosotros podemos decir es que sean conscientes".

Loya dijo que la gente debería de avisar a sus familiares o amigos a donde van a ir para que de esta forma puedan tener un plan de seguridad en caso de que algo les ocurra.

Palacios dijo que además de abuso sexual, hay otros problemas que también serán abordados durante el Mes de la Concientización del Abuso Sexual.

"El abuso sexual, por supuesto, será resaltado más ya que este es el mes de la concientización, pero aun así vamos a

tocar los temas de la violencia doméstica, violencia entre parejas, acoso", ella dijo. "Si resaltamos el abuso sexual debido al mes en el que estamos, pero también hablamos de los diferentes servicios que nosotros proveemos".

Los estudiantes pueden contactar OVAVP al 665-8287 en Edinburg y al 882-8282 en Brownsville, o a través de un correo a ovavp@utrgv.edu.

Quintanilla recomienda a los estudiantes a enviar correos electrónicos a police@utrgv.edu.

Loya aconseja a los estudiantes a marcar al 911 en caso de una emergencia.

"Sin importar si estás en el campus o fuera del campus, 911 te traerá la ayuda", él dijo.

Montoya dijo que es importante que los estudiantes reporten los casos de abuso sexual.

"No es nada de lo que se deberían de avergonzar", él dijo. "No te hace ver como una persona menos decente. ... Creo que es importante que ... le hagamos saber a la universidad lo que está pasando y asegurarse de que se les dé un seguimiento a los casos. ... Si abusan de ti sexualmente, hay recursos disponibles. Está disponible la orientación y hay policía y seguridad en el campus que te pueden ayudar en esto".

MCRAVEN

Continued from Page 1

great integrity, of great vision, and I thoroughly enjoyed working with him."

McRaven has numerous other accomplishments, including being runner-up for Time magazine's Person of the Year, winning the Distinguished Service Award from the FBI Agents Association and the Ambassador Richard M. Helms Award from the Central Intelligence Agency Officers Memorial Foundation. He also wrote "Spec Ops: Case Studies in Special Operations Warfare: Theory and Practice."

The chancellor is a retired four-star Navy admiral who planned and orchestrated the operation that led to the death of Osama Bin Laden, according to a UT System news release.

McRaven, who received his bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at Austin College of Communication in 1977, later graduated with a master's degree from the Naval Postgraduate School in 1991 and became chancellor in January 2015.

"[The UT System board of regents] told me that they were looking to establish this new University of Texas in the Rio Grande Valley," McRaven said.

He accepted the position for two main reasons.

"I'm a San Antonio boy, a South Texas boy, and I am also a big believer in the underrepresented minorities, in improving diversity, giving people opportunities. I saw it in the military," McRaven said. "The great thing about the military is no matter what your race, color, or creed, or gender, or orientation is, we are going to give you the opportunity, and you have an opportunity to succeed and do good things. I saw establishing ... UTRGV as an opportunity to do that."

Bailey said students and their success, along with being treated equally, are two standards that the chancellor focused on implementing.

"Every time I think of him, I think of those two [standards]," Bailey said. "He focused on students, and fair and equitable treatment."

Bailey said he believes McRaven's legacy will be his focus and insistence

on equality for all students.

"It was a real pleasure working for him, and I wish him well in the future," Bailey said.

The chancellor said one part of his job he will miss is working with his colleagues.

"[McRaven] always advocated on behalf of UTRGV and our students," said Veronica Gonzales, vice president for the Office of the VP Governmental and Community Relations. "Whether they were medical students, or chess players, or DREAMERS, or astrophysics majors, or future educators, you name it, he was always going to bat for the university, and so, we're going to miss him. We're going to miss him deeply, and we are eternally grateful to him."

Gonzales said she believes the UT System was fortunate to have McRaven as the chancellor.

"I think his legacy is going to be that he is instrumental in moving the ... he called it the Quantum Leaps concept, forward," she said. "And they were designed to outline initiatives that would provide for the very best in higher education, research and health

care over the next several decades."

McRaven expects a bright future for UT System universities.

The chancellor still has several goals he would like to accomplish and hopes the UT System will gain management of the Los Alamos National Laboratory. The UT System is currently one of the bidders that submitted a formal request to the Department of Energy. McRaven said an announcement of who will be granted management of Los Alamos will be made in about two weeks.

McRaven said he is working to continue accomplishing the goals on his list. He also advised faculty and staff to never lose sight of why they are here.

"We're here to educate the young men and women of the state of Texas and to take care of patients," McRaven said. "Never lose sight of the fact that it's about student success, getting the students through college, and giving them a quality education."

Research, McRaven said, is also important so students may help advance all areas in a fashion that will help create a better country.

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Hitting the home stretch

Athletes compete in semester's final months

Gabriel Galvan
THE RIDER

As the spring semester comes to an end, UTRGV Athletics tries to keep up its momentum as the tennis and baseball teams hope to finish the season strong with conference matches this month.

The Women's Tennis Team has a conference record of 3-0 with an overall standing of 10-8, which is better than last season's 4-16.

Head Coach Sonia Hahn said a lot of improvement is due to the team embracing coaching strategy changes.

"They understand how hard they have to work and they are accepting it, and are willing to put the effort in to win," Hahn said.

She said the veteran players provide good leadership examples for the team.

"We have one senior, Dominique [Esparza], she has improved tremendously," the coach said. "She's worked on her game. She's added a lot of variety and I think that helps her claim that top spot. ... I think she has done a fantastic job preparing the rest of the team."

The team has two matches this week, against Chicago State University on Friday and New Mexico State University on Saturday in Seattle.

Hahn said she feels good about the upcoming conference matches.

"The girls have a lot of confidence right now, and I think we have a lot of good momentum going into our last two conference matches of the season," she said.

The team has three new freshman players, Lasya Patnaik from Hyderabad, India; Alicia Thal from Munich, Germany; and Emma Louise Tranberg from Copenhagen, Denmark.

Men's Tennis

UTRGV Men's Tennis Team started its conference play with a 6-1 loss last Thursday against New Mexico State University in Kansas City, Missouri.

Its overall record stands at 8-9, which is better than last season's 5-21. The Vaqueros also faced Grand



Gabriel Galvan/THE RIDER PHOTOS

Redshirt junior Doris Aleksovska prepares to volley the ball back to her teammates during practice last Wednesday at the Orville Cox Tennis Center on the Edinburg campus. The UTRGV Women's Tennis Team has two conference matches this week and is undefeated in conference play.



The UTRGV Baseball Team practices last Tuesday for its away game against Utah Valley University at the Edinburg Baseball Stadium. The next home conference matchup is April 13 against Grand Canyon University.

Canyon University on Friday at the same location, but as of press time, the scores were unavailable. Visit goutrgv.com for the results.

Head Coach Dann Nelson said the

team is seeing improvement because of its new players, but also because of the veteran players' development.

"The players we have from last year, they are a year older, a year faster, and

a year better," Nelson said. "They're just playing at a better level than they did last year."

The new players are Dennis Boisseau from Cognac, France; Zane Kohrs from Dallas; Michael Loyd from Corpus Christi; and Jake Davidson from Portland, Oregon.

Nelson said senior Koby Jansen is a returning player who is doing well and has won 10 matches so far this season.

Asked if the veterans have taken up leadership roles, Nelson replied, "The team governs themselves quite a bit. They tell me what they want to work on and we'll work [on] the things that they need."

On Tuesday, UTRGV will compete against Laredo Community College, which is ranked No. 4 in the junior college national rankings, Nelson said. This will be the last home match this spring.

Baseball

The baseball team is playing considerably well, with an overall record of 16-10 and 3-1 in conference play.

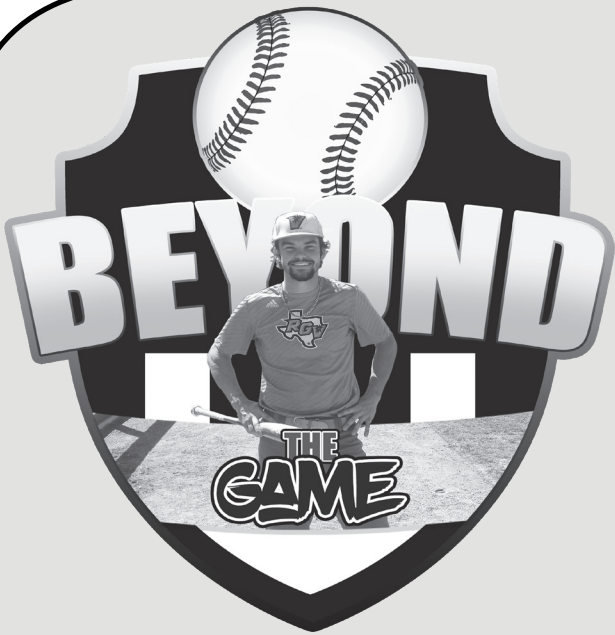
Last season, the Vaqueros finished 26-28.

Head Coach Derek Matlock said having a new coach, as well as improving veteran players, resulted in a positive spike in the team's performance.

"I think anytime a new coach comes in and there is new blood, you'll see a team kinda spike 'cause it's something new, but I think we have great players," said Matlock, who joined UTRGV last June. "We have good arms, and we got different players. [Coleman] Grubbs is important for our lineup, [Jorge] Flores is pitching, he wasn't pitching last year. We got guys that are playing that weren't playing last year."

Last Friday and Saturday, the team faced off against Utah Valley University in Orem but as of press time, the scores were unavailable. Visit goutrgv.com for the results.

UTRGV will go on the road to compete against Houston Baptist University on Tuesday.



Coleman Grubbs is an undeclared sophomore and outfielder for the UTRGV Baseball Team. This is Grubbs' first season with the Vaqueros.

If you could be any animal, what would it be and why? "Definitely a shark because they're, basically, the king of the ocean and they're my favorite animal."

What show or series are you currently into? "Probably, 'Criminal Minds.'"

Who is your personal hero and why? "Definitely my dad because he's always just been there for me. [He] makes me the man I am today. ... I wouldn't be at this amazing place without him."

Who makes you laugh the most on the team? "Definitely Elijah [Alexander]. He's my roommate. I hang out with him all the time. Funny dude. Fun dude to be around."

What is the best advice you've received recently? "Definitely to not just play for yourself, but to play for other people. Everything that Coach [Derek] Matlock says, take it into accountability. Roll with it from there. It just impacts the team in a great way."

If a song played every time you walked into a room, what song would that be? "Definitely my walk-up song, 'Grillz' by Nelly."

On your off time, what do you like to do? "I like to go shoot hoops every once in a while to get away from baseball. Just do any other sports, I'm kind of a sports guy."

You can have one meal with one celebrity, what is your meal and who are you eating with? "Definitely Chili's chicken tenders. I have to go with LeBron James. I'd definitely be eating some Chili's with LeBron."

How are you feeling about the season this year? "We've definitely had our ups and downs. Going into conference I feel, like, we got this. Everyone on the team is starting to click together now. I'm feeling really great about the season and I'm excited to get it rolling."

--Compiled by Gabriel Galvan

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