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Centennial Newsletter

UTEP 2014 Commission

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Celebrate in Austin

On April 16, 2013, we will commemorate S.B. 183 (1913), the Texas legislative bill that authorized the creation of the Texas State School of Mines and Metallurgy. Exactly 100 years after Governor O. B. Colquitt signed the bill, special resolutions will be read in the House and Senate. Throughout the day, a team of alumni ambassadors wearing their UTEP orange neckties and scarves will fill the Capitol building, visiting legislators to express thanks and share UTEP's vision for the future of higher education in Texas and the nation. In the evening, beginning at 6:30 p.m., we will host a reception at the AT&T Conference Center for members of the extended UTEP family, alumni, and friends. Invitations have gone out in the mail and to the media. A new pamphlet on UTEP's success is in the works, as are ties and scarves, wine, and salsa. Watch for ads before and after in *Texas Monthly*.



Updates on Signature Events and Activities



Several **Campus Transformation** projects are already under way. Shade structures and planter boxes have gone in on Hawthorne. Installation of the *lhakhang* is nearing completion in the center of campus. The flagpole was moved off of Memorial Triangle to a higher elevation near the Psychology Building. Construction of the new green space on Wiggins (pictured) begins on March 15. Construction on the Centennial Plaza

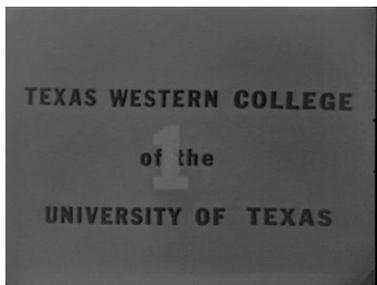
and the 1966 Spur will begin in earnest in May. The widening of Sun Bowl will begin in August. This is an exciting time to be on campus! For updates on street closures and tips on safe and efficient navigation, visit a new website, <http://onthemove.utep.edu/>.

UTEP students and faculty will join with dancers from Bhutan's Royal Academy of Performing Arts and opera professionals from around the world to participate in **Opera Bhutan**, the world's first fusion of Western opera with eastern musical storytelling. Accompanied by an orchestra that unites Western strings with traditional Bhutanese instruments, the performers will enact a modern arrangement of George F. Handel's operatic rendering of *Acis and Galetea*, a story of true love and personal transformation that triumphs over jealousy and adversity. UTEP students will travel across the world to create something that has never been done before. The show will premiere in Bhutan in October on the eve of the anniversary of the king and queen. Catch a sneak preview in El Paso later this summer and the full performance on the new Centennial Plaza in the fall of 2014. There are once-in-a-lifetime opportunities to sponsor student travel and to attend the world premiere in Bhutan as part of a private tour co-endorsed by UTEP and the Kingdom of Bhutan. Find all of the details and book your trip to Bhutan now at <http://bhutan.utep.edu/>.



From the Past

“Naturally, we are happy and proud to have won the NCAA basketball championship,” declares Texas Western College president Joseph M. Ray in a promotional video from 1966, “but the achievements which should offer us the greatest satisfaction are those which pertain to academic excellence.” In short, “the goal . . . is to become No. 1 not just in basketball but in all that we are doing.”



This video treasure from 1966 touches on the school’s founding, Bhutanese architecture, faculty research, student life, athletics, ROTC, and the library.

The quaint music combined with marvelous old film footage is narrated by some great, old-fashioned one-liners! Click on the screen shot above for 26 minutes of fun. The video is owned by the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department of the University Library and hosted online by the Texas Archive of the Moving Images.

In the Spotlight

We are pleased to announce that a new Centennial Welcome Center will be installed in the Centennial Museum. The museum will host exhibits on UTEP’s history and a theater for viewing video and films about the University’s past and present. The Centennial Museum will become the gathering point of the Centennial Celebration, a place where students, alumni, and friends can go to learn about our distinguished past and look forward to a brighter future. A variety of themed tours will begin at the museum. The Welcome Center will open on Sept. 23, 2013, launching a 100-day countdown to UTEP’s Centennial year.



Maribel Villalva (B.A., ‘97) is the new director of the Centennial Museum. “This is an exciting time for UTEP,” Villalva says. “I hope to make the museum a focal

point, not just on the UTEP campus, but in the El Paso community as well.” Welcome, Maribel!

Contact the Centennial Office

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Centennial Calendar



Mar. 12, 2013

Centennial Lecture by Philip Levine,
18th Poet Laureate of the United States

Apr. 10, 2013

Centennial Lecture by Richard W. Fisher,
Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

Apr. 16, 2013

UTEP Day in Austin

May 9, 2013

Centennial Lecture by Alfredo Corchado,
Dallas Morning News

May 18, 2013

Spring Commencement

Jul. 13, 2013

2nd Annual Alumni Pick-Nic

Aug. 24, 2013

Preview of Opera Bhutan (in El Paso)

Aug. 25, 2013

New Student Convocation

Sept. 23, 2013

99th Anniversary of First Day of Class
Begin 100-day Countdown to 2014

Sept. 30-Oct. 5, 2013

Homecoming Week

Oct. 12, 2013

World Premiere of Opera Bhutan



The University of Texas at El Paso