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# Salud y Saludos: The E-News of the College of Health Sciences

College of Health Sciences

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# College of Health Sciences

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

## Salud y Saludos

The E-News of the College of Health Sciences

Salud y Saludos

October 2015

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### Calendar of events

**Celebration of the Life of Dr. David Wittenburg**

Date: Friday, Nov. 6, 2015  
Time: 4:00 PM  
Location: HSN Terrace Lobby

**College of Health Sciences Day at Miner Football**

Date: Saturday, Nov. 21  
Time: 1:30 PM  
Location: Sun Bowl Stadium

**CHS Graduation Celebration**

Date: Saturday, Dec. 12,

### From the Dean's Desk



October started with the recognition of Dr. Sue Glover Mottinger, our 2015 recipient of the College of Health Sciences Gold Nugget award. Mottinger, awarded her undergraduate degree from Texas Western College in 1965 in Physical Education, then received both Master's and PhD degrees from Texas Woman's University. She went on to hold faculty appointments at Texas Woman's University, the

College of Charleston in South Carolina as well as at The University of Texas Pan-American. A change agent in the world of physical education and a champion for women's equality in the classroom and in sports competition, captured the hearts of faculty, staff and students throughout the week's events.



Read more below about our faculty and students who have represented The University of Texas at El Paso at various professional conferences in Texas and New Mexico.



The month ended with the sad news of the [death of Dr. David Wittenburg](#), Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Kinesiology from 2012 to 2015. He guided the department through a period of unprecedented enrollment growth and contributed to the university on many levels. He will be sorely missed.

Looking forward to November, our College will be recognized at the November 21 (1:30 PM kickoff) UTEP football game at the Sunbowl against Louisiana Tech. Tickets will be available for faculty, staff, alumni and friends of the College to attend. Faculty/Staff: Buy

1 Ticket and Receive 1 Ticket FREE! Contact the University Ticket Center at [915-747-5234](tel:915-747-5234). Student tickets are free at [sportslottery.utep.edu](http://sportslottery.utep.edu). Please join us for this special event!

Go Miners!

### Rehabilitation Counseling Program Represented at the Texas Rehabilitation Association Conference



The Texas Rehabilitation Association (TRA) is the state chapter of the National Rehabilitation Association (NRA). NRA is cited as being the Nation's most established and respected membership association for rehabilitation professionals. TRA members comprise rehabilitation professionals in the state and private sector throughout Texas dedicated to improving

the lives of people with disabilities. The TRA 2015 annual conference was held in Galveston, Texas from September 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Dr. Jennifer Sánchez served as the Conference Chair of this year's conference, themed "*The Art of Rehabilitation*." Presenters were solicited from across Texas and the US to cover topics in their areas of expertise, including the future direction of Rehabilitation Counseling, accessibility compliance, providing expert witness testimony, and a review of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on its 25th anniversary year. Ms. Roxanne Garcia, a graduate student in the Master of Rehabilitation Counseling program, attended the conference. Her attendance was possible with a generous travel stipend from the Dodson funds. Finally, a UTEP-themed basket was donated by Dr. Barbara Schoen in the name of the Rehabilitation Counseling Program for the TRA's silent auction.

### Rehabilitation Counseling Assistant Professor Receives Hogg Grant

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row, the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health awarded one of their Mental Health Research Grants for Tenure-Track Assistant Professors

2015  
Time: 3:30 PM (2:30 PM arrival)  
Location: Magoffin Auditorium

#### University Commencement

Date: Saturday Dec. 12, 2015  
Time: 7:00 PM  
Location: Don Haskins Center

#### In the News

[Public Health Students Offer Health Screenings to Uninsured](#)

[UTEP's Master of Rehabilitation Counseling Receives Nearly \\$1 Million for Student Scholarships](#)

[Research Teaches Future Physical Therapists About Disabilities](#)

[UTEP Kinesiology Chair Leaves Lasting Impression](#)

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in Texas to an assistant professor in the Rehabilitation Counseling Program. Dr. Jennifer Sánchez received \$19,250 for her project entitled, "*Evaluating the Efficacy of a Group Motivational Interviewing Intervention to Improve the Stages of Change for Employment in People with Severe Mental Illness: A Randomized Controlled Trial Study.*" She was 1 of 10 assistant professors in the state of Texas to receive funding.

Individuals with severe mental illness (SMI) have a strong desire to work; however, their employment rates are unacceptably low and declining, from 23% in 2003 to 18% in 2012. The study will evaluate the effectiveness of a group motivational interviewing intervention for people with severe mental illness (SMI) that will emphasize vocational recovery, such as the activation of thoughts and behaviors conducive to gaining employment. The intervention was developed by researchers from the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Evidence-Based Practice in Vocational Rehabilitation (RRTC-EBP VR) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Congratulations Dr. Sánchez!

#### MPH Students recognized by City of El Paso Department of Public Health

Ms. Angela Mora, Deputy Director at from the City of El Paso Department of Public Health and part time faculty in the UTEP Department of Public Health Sciences organized an event, held on September 23, 2015, to recognize MPH students who completed their practicum experience during the summer and those who are currently working on workforce development projects at the City of El Paso Department of Public Health. The event was attended by the City of El Paso Department of Public Health executive team members, Dr. Robert Resendez, Director, Bruce Parsons, Assistant Director, and Dr. Fernando Gonzalez, lead epidemiologist.

MPH students presented an overview of their projects and their contributions to the City of El Paso Department of Public Health. The faculty members in the UTEP Department of Public Health Sciences value this collaboration that allows MPH students to acquire invaluable experience contributing to their professional development and the skills they will bring to the public health workforce.



From left to right: Dr. Maria Duarte, Chair, and Dr. Carla Campbell, Visiting Associate Professor and Interim MPH Program Director, UTEP, Department of Public Health Sciences; MPH Students, Juan Aguilera, Evan Kipp, Carlos Alvarez, MPH, MPH students Rebecca Gallegos, Lacey Alost and Juan Ramirez; Angela Mora, Bruce Parsons and Dr. Fernando Gonzalez.

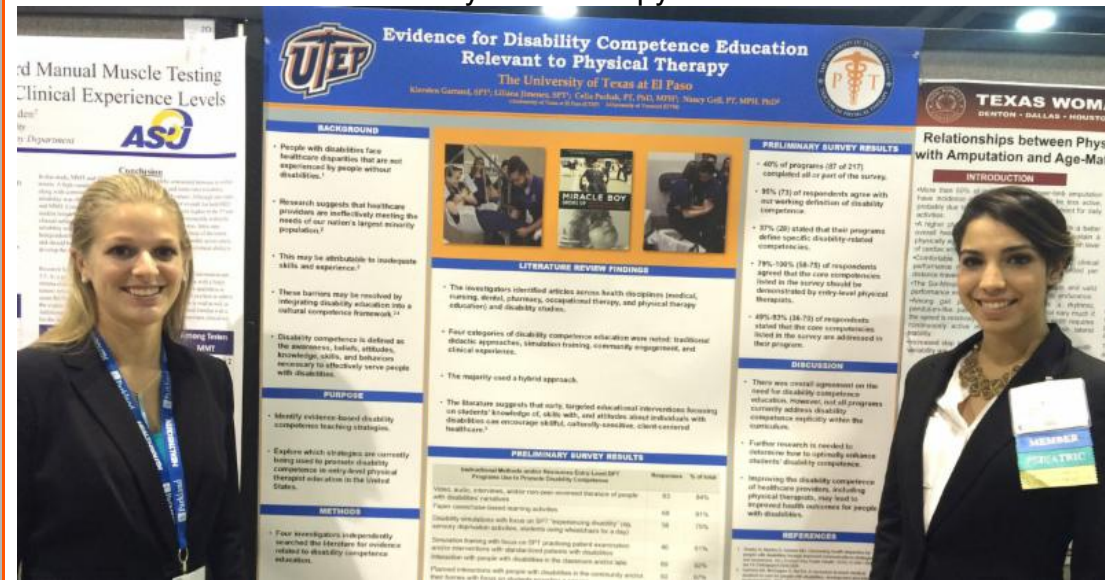
#### DPT Represents UTEP at the Texas Physical Therapy Association Annual Conference in Arlington

Students and faculty from the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program represented UTEP well at the Texas Physical Therapy Association (TPTA) Annual Conference in Arlington, Texas October 22-24, 2015. Kiersten Garrand (Class of 2016) and Lily Jimenez (Class of 2017) presented their research with a poster entitled "Evidence for Disability Competence Education Relevant to Physical Therapy". Lily was very prepared to share this research, having recently presenting at UTEP's Interdisciplinary Symposium on October 9, 2015.

Ricardo Rodriguez, Lily Jimenez, Justin Tallard, and Wyatt Worrell (Class of 2017) also participated in the Student Bowl at the conference. The DPT Program faculty commend them for taking on this challenge in only the second semester of their DPT education, and hope they will represent UTEP again next year.

At the TPTA Recognition Dinner, a faculty member and a student from the UTEP DPT Program were honored. Dr Michelle Gutierrez was recognized for being the co-recipient of the *Best Poster Presentation Award* at the 2014 TPTA Annual Conference for her poster entitled "Development and Content Validity of the Military Concussion Readiness Inventory for Dizziness and Balance for Service Members". Paul Estrada (Class of 2015) received the *Rex Nutt Student Physical Therapist Award*. The award recognizes "an outstanding student physical therapist...who has exhibited excellence in both leadership and clinical skills".

Fortunately, many students from the DPT Classes of 2015, 2016, and 2017 were able to attend the conference this year. The UTEP DPT Program is grateful for student-financial assistance from the Dodson Fund and the Greater El Paso District of the Texas Physical Therapy Association.



### UTEP DPT Students Donate for PT Research in Texas

Following the tradition of previous UTEP Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) cohorts, the DPT Class of 2016 made a large donation to the Texas Physical Therapy Foundation (TPTF). The TPTF provides grants to support physical therapy research in Texas. Class officers presented a \$2500 check at the Texas Physical Therapy Association's Annual Conference on October 23, 2016, earning a standing ovation from the crowd. Demonstrating their support for physical therapy research in Texas, UTEP DPT students have donated over \$11,000 since the first DPT cohort (Class of 2012) began these fundraising efforts. The UTEP DPT Program is the largest TPTF contributor among all DPT programs in Texas.



UTEP DPT Program students and faculty\_ along with other Texas Physical Therapy Association members\_ pose with the check presented by the DPT Class of 2016 to the Texas Physical Therapy Foundation to support physical therapy research in Texas.

### UTEP IHS Students Present at Southwest Conference on Disability

Ms. Daniela Guerra, a current Interdisciplinary Health Sciences PhD graduate student, alongside her mentor Dr. Barbara Schoen, Program Director and Assistant Professor in the Master of Rehabilitation Counseling (MRC) Program, recently presented at 2015 Southwest Conference on Disability held in Albuquerque, New Mexico on October 6th-9th, 2015. Their presentation, entitled "*A Report of the Impact of Assistive Technology in the Workplace for People with Disabilities: Findings of a Systematic Review*" identified both the positive and negative consequences of requesting accommodations in the workplace. Ms. Guerra commented "having the opportunity to present and socialize with fellow presenters at a conference like this has given me motivation, inspiration, and most importantly, has strengthened my belief that I am truly where I belong". Dr. Schoen also presented with Luis Aguilera, Program Director, of the Rehabilitation Sciences Clinical Teaching Laboratory providing an overview of MRC's program that provides employment services to people with disabilities and clinical training to program students. "Dr. Schoen explained that, "this presentation is designed to showcase a model that communities and other programs can utilize to benefit underserved populations".