

UTRGV : Robert C. Vackar College of
Business & Entrepreneurship

NEWSLETTER

Volume 4 Issue 3 - April 2022

GIVE TO RCVCUBE

UTRGV TUITION ADVANTAGE

UTRGV Expands Tuition Advantage Program to Eligible Students with Family Income of \$125,000 or less

In an effort to provide affordable higher education to Texas residents especially the RGV community, UTRGV again expanded its Tuition Advantage Program, open to all in-state undergraduate students who meet the program's requirements. Beginning in Fall 2022, the program will cover the cost of tuition and mandatory fees for eligible students with a family income of \$125,000 or less. [Click here](#) to learn more about this program.

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

ENACTUS SOAR Project Recognized by AACSB

Do you, someone you know, or a program deserve recognition in the RCVCUBE newsletter? Or do you need help publicizing your event? Email us at cobe.media@utrgv.edu with the subject line "RCVCUBE Newsletter Content."

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[RCVCOBE in the Press](#)

RCVCOBE student organization **ENACTUS'** Sustainable Opportunities for Advancement and Recruitment (SOAR) project was recently recognized by AACSB as one of its [2022 Innovations that Inspire](#) programs. Under the mentoring of faculty advisor **Maria Leonard**, ENACTUS partnered with Texas Workforce Solutions and the UTRGV Office of Sustainability to provide professional development and career-readiness training for a group of young adults with autism. All participants obtained internships after completing the SOAR program. [Read more](#)

Three RCVCOBE Students Selected for Inaugural Kemper Scholars Program



Three RCVCOBE students, pictured above in the middle from left to right, **Fatima Mancía Mendoza** (BBA in accounting), **Alejandra Avilez** (BBA in finance), and **Diego Fonseca** (BBA in finance) were selected by the Kemper Foundation for the inaugural Kemper Scholars Program. Two RCVCOBE faculty members **Jorge Vidal** (right), Lecturer III in Finance, and **Maria Leonard** (left), Assistant Professor of Practice in Management, will mentor the students in the program. To read more about this story, [click here](#).

RCVCOBE Student Receives Bridge Venture Fellowship



The **Bridge Venture Fellowship** is a 3-week paid learning opportunity for historically excluded students to learn about venture capital and network with diverse peers, investors, and founders. To lower the barrier for participation, Fellows receive a \$400 stipend upon completion of the program in exchange for their time as well as books, swag, and a paid trip to Austin for a culminating mixer and the opportunity to land a summer internship. Out of 162 applicants, meet our inaugural cohort of **20 students from across the UT System!**



DANIELA GUADARRAMA
UT El Paso



CARMINA CASAS HERRERA
UT El Paso



MARTIN CONTRERAS
UT Permian Basin



SORAYE LARA
UT Permian Basin



PRINCE BOSOMPIM
UT Rio Grande Valley



DUYEN NGUYEN
UT Dallas



CHUKWUDI UKONNE
UT Dallas



JOEL TREVINO
UT Austin



SHANICE WILLIAMS
UT Austin



JANE CHOI
UT Austin



TEZIN WALJI
UT Southwestern



IMEI LIAO
UT Southwestern



SHEILA FORD
UT Medical Branch Health



KOSHILIA SACHDEV
UT Medical Branch Health



TRACY TANG
UT Medical Branch Health



ALINA PEREIRA
UT Tyler



NAFIZE ISHTIAQUE HOSSAIN
UT Tyler



JOHN NAVARRO
UT San Antonio



JOE GONZALEZ
UT San Antonio



HUSSEIN MATAR
UT Arlington



Congratulations to RCVCOBE student **Prince Bosompim**, who was recently selected for the Bridge Venture Fellowship. Through this a three-week paid program, Mr. Bosompim

will learn about venture capital and network with diverse fellow students, business investors, and founders.

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

Faculty Research Spotlight



As social media become a fabric of our everyday lives, the spread of fake news through such channels has posed major challenges for federal agencies and news organizations. In a recent article published in a leading information systems journal - the *Journal of Management Information Systems* - with RCVCOBE Ph.D. program alumnus Kelvin King and UTRGV Associate Professor of Mathematics Tamer Oraby, RCVCOBE professors **Bin Wang** and **Diego Escobari** reveal that correction messages issued by federal agencies and news media to curb the spread of fake news on Twitter during two hurricanes were far from being effective. To the contrary, correction messages actually increased the awareness and the sharing of fake news on social media, with the opposite effect of more fake news leading to more correction messages also being true. Their research highlights the importance of federal agencies and news organizations in selectively issuing rebuttals and better coordinating with each other to counter the spread of fake news.

Faculty Awards and Honors

Dr. Hale Kaynak, Professor of Management, has been named one of the top 2% most cited scientists worldwide in a recent Stanford University study. Dr. Kaynak's research interests are on supply chain management, quality management, lean operations, sustainability, circular economy, health care operations, performance measurement, empirical research, and replication research. She regularly publishes refereed articles in top academic journals such as the *Journal of Operations Management* and the *International Journal of Operations and Production Management*. Her research has been funded by the American Society for Quality and the Institute for Supply Management. She has been serving on the editorial boards of scholarly journals in operations management and has served in various leadership capacities in professional organizations. [Click here](#) to read more about this story.



EVENTS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Financial Literacy Summit



RCVCOBE faculty members **Jorge Vidal** and **Maria Leonard** successfully organized a Financial Literacy Summit on March 25 at the Mission Event Center, together with student organizations **ALPFA** and **ENACTUS**. During the event, **Priscilla Cavazos** from Farmers Insurance, **Morgan Ackley** from the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, and **Jose De Jesus Juarez** from Finance Professional discussed topics such as the importance of insurance, financial careers, and securing one's financial future.

Economics and Finance Student + Alumni Mixer

SAVE THE DATE

**MCALLEN TX
ECONOMICS AND FINANCE
STUDENT + ALUMNI MIXER
5:30PM - 7:30PM**

**WEDNESDAY
APRIL
20**

Join the faculty from the
Departments of Economics
and Finance for an evening
of food, fun, and mingle

The University of Texas
Rio Grande Valley

*Robert C. Vackar
College of Business
& Entrepreneurship*

*Center for Border
Economic Studies*

Scan to register

Calling on all UTPA, UTB, and UTRGV Departments of Economics and Finance alumni, students, faculty, and friends of the programs. Join us for an evening of food, fun, and mingle. Come to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones.

Where: McAllen TX

When: Wednesday April 20 @ 5:30PM

Must register to attend. Use the following link to register:

https://utrgv.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eX5hyORnfTw9ROu

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