Curriculum Vitae

Edwin J. Barea-Rodriguez
Roland K. and Jane W. Blumberg Endowed Professor
[redacted]

Education

1991-1995	Postdoctoral Fellow	UC Berkeley	Neuroscience
1992	Ph.D.	Southern Illinois University	Biopsychology
1989	M.A.	Southern Illinois University	Biopsychology
1981	B.A.	Inter-American University of Puerto Rico	Psychology.

Awards

2020	100 Inspiring Hispanic/Latinx Scientists in America-
2017	Richard S. Howe Excellence in Service to Undergraduate Students Award,
2014	Sloan Mentor of the Year Award- Southern Regional Education Board
2012	Vision and Change Leadership Fellow for the Partnership for Undergraduate Life Sciences (PULSE)
2006	Richard S. Howe Excellence in Service to Undergraduate Students Award, 2006
1996	Faculty Research Award
1993-1995	National Research Service Award (NRSA)
1993	Travel Award to attend the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology Meeting
1991-1993	Postdoctoral Chancellor's Fellowship, University of California at Berkeley
1988-1991	American Psychological Association Minority Fellowship in Neuroscience
1985-1988	Illinois Minority Graduate Incentive Program Fellowship

Endowment

2013-	Roland K. and Jane W. Blumberg Endowed Professor in Biology

Work Experience

2022-2023	Executive Director for Student Inclusive Initiatives in Inclusive Excellence

Responsibilities:

Coordinated the President's Inclusive Excellence Scholarship.

- I advertised, evaluated, and interviewed applicants.
- I organized monthly workshops on topics such as Culturally Relevant Teaching, Leadership, and Restorative Practices.

2016-2022 College of Sciences Associate Dean for Student Success

Responsibilities:

Provided strategic vision and direction to address the College of Sciences' student retention and graduation rates. Accomplishments include:

- In the fall of 2021, the first student success center focusing on improving retention and graduation rates opened.
    - Coordinated the design and renovation of the student success center space. Total combined cost: $700,000
    - The initial efforts were to use data to inform chairs about the challenges. In the spirit of shared vision and leadership, engaged chairs in the efforts.
- Coordinated the establishment of student collaborative space in two buildings
- Developed a student success plan with the following strategies
    - Intrusive Advising
    - Peer Mentoring
    - Freshman Research Initiatives
    - Freshman Interest Groups (FIG)
    - Course Transformation and Pedagogy
- Hired a director for the student success center
- Incorporated evidence-based intrapersonal competencies known to be related to persistence and achievement in undergraduate education
- Implemented a science (peer) mentor program
- Collaborated with the Vice Provost for Student Success to provide support for in-person and online tutoring for courses in biology, chemistry, physics, computer science, and math
    - Secured over $150K in funding for tutoring programs

2015-2016 Vice Provost for Resource Management and Instructional Innovation

Responsibilities:

Provided leadership and direction in managing the resources in the Provost's office. Accomplishments include:

- Collaborate with Deans to secure competitive startup packages and salaries for new faculty
- Collaborated with Deans to secure funding for the retention of faculty
- Monitor fiscal activities across colleges
- Oversaw space management at the university and began developing a comprehensive space utilization plan.
- Helped coordinate with facilities and hired faculty for the renovation of research space
- Helped coordinate classroom renovations

2011 Professor, Department of Biology

Responsibilities

- Teach Bio I and Coordinate the introductory courses Biology I and II
    - Oversee 15 sections with 112 students per section Fall/Spring
    - Align student learning objectives with curriculum
- Oversee the training of 30 undergraduate STEM specialists who help students in courses such as Biology I/II, Genetics, and Environmental Sciences
- Chair, Departmental Faculty Review Committee
- Represent the department in the Faculty Senate

2007-2015 Chair, Department of Biology

Responsibilities:

Provided leadership, strategic vision, direction and assured quality of programs in the biology department. At the time of my chairship, the Department of Biology was the largest department at UTSA (It was recently split into three departments), consisting of over 48 tenured, tenure-track, and 22 adjunct faculty. The department had over 2,500 undergraduate majors, 45 Ph.D. students, and over 100 master's students. In addition, there were two B.S. degrees (Biology and Microbiology), two Ph.D. (Cell Molecular Biology and Neurobiology), and two master's (Biology and Biotechnology) programs. The department managed 25,000 sq feet of teaching laboratories and 121,000 sq feet of research laboratories, and an 8.5 million budget.
Accomplishments include:

- Balanced the budget without reducing staff or faculty positions
- Recruited 11 research-intensive tenured and tenure-track faculty
    - Secured competitive startup packages

- Diversity hires two Latina tenured, tenure-track faculty and three adjunct faculty
- Coordinated research lab renovations
- Recruited adjunct faculty with PhDs with competitive salaries
- Developed partnerships across departments in the College for Sciences, College of Engineering, and College of Education and Human Development
- Developed a workload policy that received buy-in from all faculty
- Developed merit guidelines that aligned with the strengths of the faculty
- Developed and implemented a strategic plan
- Secured philanthropic support for faculty in the department
- Oversaw the renovation and new constructions of several buildings that included research and teaching space
- Implemented best teaching practices in introductory biology courses reducing the DFW rate from 55% to 30%

2007-2015 Program Director, Sloan Foundation Ph.D. Student Support Program

- Successfully secured doctoral funding for underrepresented doctoral minority students in biology

2007- Program Director, Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) and Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC)

- Oversee the implementation of objectives for the RISE and MARC programs
  - MARC focuses on undergraduate URM students
  - RISE supported six undergraduate and 20 doctoral students.
- Secured 20 million in NIH funding
- Collaboratively developed a STEM Transfer Academy
- Secured over 30 million in funding
- Implemented professional development skills in programs such as:
  - Leadership
  - Financial literacy
  - Entrepreneurship
  - Well-Being

2004-2006 Assistant Chair, Department of Biology, UTSA

2002-2011 Associate Professor, Department of Biology, the University of Texas at San Antonio.

1995-2002 Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, the University of Texas at San Antonio.

1994 California State University at Hayward, Lecturer.

1992	Course Faculty of the American Psychological Association Seminar in Neuroscience held at The Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA.
1985-1991	Research Assistant, Electrophysiology Lab., Department of Psychology, SIUC
1987-1991	Teaching Assistant, Department of Psychology, Department of Psychology, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale

Research Interest

Best practices in STEM teaching (Science Education)

Service at the National Level

2022-	Board of Directors, Ponce Medical School Foundation
06/22-	Training Workforce Development (TWD) Standing Review Panel
2019-2023	External Member HSI STEM Hub The NSF National Resource Hub for STEM Education at Hispanic Serving Institutions provides faculty and staff at HSIs with resources for building institutional capacity that will increase STEM student retention and degree completion
2017-2021	Advisory Committee to the NIH Director Working Group on Diversity (WGD) The WGD is charged with providing regular advice to the ACD and National Institutes of Health Director on effective strategies to increase the representation of diverse individuals underrepresented nationally in biomedical research and reduce disparities in research awards from diverse applicants underrepresented in biomedical research.
2015-2019	RCMI External Reviewer Committee Member, Ponce School of Medicine
Fall 2016	National Science Foundation Committee of Visitors
2012-	Partnership for Undergraduate Life Science Education Fellow (PULSE) PULSE helps life sciences departments at all higher education institutions align with national education reform initiatives to develop inclusive, student-centered, evidence-based teaching and learning to cultivate the development of scientists who reflect the diversity of American society.
Spring 2011	National Institute of Health (F02a) Behavioral Neuroscience Fellowships
Spring 2010	National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke - Member of the Health Disparities and Diversity Strategic Planning Initiative

Spring 2010 National Science Foundation: Neural System Cluster

Service at the Local Level

2016-2016 My Brother's Keeper Chair of Post-Secondary Attainment (MBKSA)
My Brother's Keeper Steering Committee
MBKSA Collaborative is working to remove systemic barriers to safety, education, and career success for young boys and men of color

Research Support: Active

02/23-01-28 The University of Texas at San Antonio IMSD NIH/NIGMS 340,00/year
The goal of the Initiative for Maximizing Student Development (IMSD) research training program is to develop a diverse pool of scientists earning a Ph.D. who have the skills to transition into careers in the biomedical research workforce successfully.

06/22-05/27 The University of Texas at San Antonio MARC U*STAR Research Training Program NIH/NIGMS 510,000/year

The goal of this project is to provide exceptional training in research, professional development training, academic support, and enhancement, and broadly impact the UTSA community to promote student success and doctoral matriculation while increasing the number of underrepresented individuals at the highest levels of the nation's scientific and engineering biomedical workforce.

05/18-03/25 The University of Texas at San Antonio RISE Research Training Program NIH/NIGMS 1,105,000/year

No cost extension

This project aims to support, and train underrepresented undergraduate minority students to enter and succeed in doctoral training and to promote the success of underrepresented doctoral students in the completion of their degree and entry into successful careers while increasing the population of URM researchers in the U.S.

07/19-06/30 The University of Texas at San Antonio ESTEEMED Honors Research Training at UTSA (Co-PI) NIBIB 250k/year .

The major goal of this project is to help freshman and sophomore–level trainees develop as scholars and scientists. It lays strong foundations through academic enrichment, financial support, faculty and peer mentoring, and training at UTSA laboratories. It will guide scholars into extramural summer programs and, eventually a PhD program in the biomedical sciences

Research Support: Completed

2007-2021	University of Texas at San Antonio MARC U*STAR Research Training Program
2014-2017	Alfred P. Sloan Foundation
2013-2017	MBRS RISE Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement
2006-2011	UTSA MARC U*STAR Program
2001-2014	Sloan Foundation (support for Ph.D. students)

Publications

2024	Fink, A., Jacob, N., Allen, T., Arriola, P., Barea Rodriguez, E.J., Kelrick, M., Otto, J., Reiness, C.G., and Washington, J., PULSE Ambassadors Program: empowering departments to transform STEM education for inclusion and student success. Journal of Microbiology and Biology Education. https://doi.org/10.1128/jmbe.00052-24
2011	Kalkonde YV, Shelton R, Villarreal M, Sigala J, Mishra PK, Ahuja SS, Barea-Rodriguez E, Moretti P, Ahuja, S.K. The CC chemokine receptor 5 regulates olfactory and social recognition in mice. Neuroscience, 197, 153-61.
2008	Sierra-Mercado, D., Dieguez, D. and Barea-Rodriguez, E.J. Brief novelty exposure facilitates dentate gyrus LTP in aged rats. Hippocampus. 2008; 18(8):835-43
2006	Gonzalez, L., Bustamante, J.J., Barea-Rodriguez, E.J., Martinez, A.O., and Haro, L. 2D native-page/SDS-page visualization of an oligomer's subunits: Application to the analysis of IgG. Electrophoresis, 27, 2016-2023.
2006	Villarreal, J.S. and Barea-Rodriguez, E.J. ERK phosphorylation is required for retention of trace fear memory. Neurobiology of Learning and Memory, 85, 44-57.
2005	Chirwa, S., Aduonuma. A, Pizarro, J., Reasor, J., Kawaia, Y., Gonzalez, M., McAdoryc, B.S., Onaivid, E. Barea-Rodriguez, E.J. Dopaminergic DA1 signaling couples growth-associated protein-43 and long-term potentiation in guinea pig hippocampus Brain Research Bulletin, 64, 433-440.
2005	Reddypalli, S., Roll, K., Lee, H.K., Lundell, M., Barea-Rodriguez, E.J., Wheeler, E.F. p75 (NTR)-mediated signaling promotes the survival of myoblasts and influences muscle strength. J Cell Physiology, 204, 819-829
2005	Thompson, K., Matta, M., Orfila, J., Barea-Rodriguez, E.J., Martinez, J.L. The metabotropic glutamate receptor antagonist AIDA blocks induction of mossy fiber-CA3 LTP in vivo. Journal of Neurophysiology, 93 2668-2673.

2004 Villarreal, J. and Barea-Rodriguez, E.J. F344 rats display age-related memory deficits in trace fear conditioning. Behavioral Neuroscience, 118, 1166-1175.

2004 Meilandt, W.J., Barea-Rodriguez, E., Harvey, SA, and Martinez, J.L., Jr. Role of hippocampal CA3 mu-opioid receptors in spatial learning and memory. Journal of Neuroscience, 24, 2953-62

2004 Dieguez, D. Jr. and Barea-Rodriguez, E.J. Aging Impairs the Late Phase of Long-Term Potentiation at the Medial Perforant Path-CA3 Synapse in Awake Rats. Synapse, 52, 53-61.

2003 Pizarro, J.M, Haro, L.S. and, Barea-Rodriguez, E.J. Learning associated increase in heat shock cognate 70 mRNA and protein expression, Neurobiology of Learning and Memory, 79, 142-151.

2002 Villarreal, J.S., Berndt, J.Gonzalez-Lima, F. and Barea-Rodriguez, E.J. Water maze training in aged rats: effects on brain metabolic capacity and behavior. Brain Research, 939, 43-51.

2000 Barea-Rodriguez, E.J., Rivera, D.T., Jaffe, D.B. and Martinez, J.L. Jr. Protein synthesis inhibition blocks the induction of mossy fiber long-term potentiation in vivo. Journal of Neuroscience, 20: 8528-8532

1998 Quinones-Hinojosa, A., Derrick, B.E., Barea-Rodriguez, E.J., Janak, P.H., and Martinez, J.L., Jr. Long-term potentiation at the lateral perforant path-nucleus accumbens synapse in the rat in vivo. Psychobiology, 26, 169-175.

1997 Escobar, M.L. Barea-Rodriguez, E.J., Derrick, B.E., Reyes, J.A. and Martinez, J.L. Opioid receptor modulation of mossy fiber synaptogenesis: independence from long-term potentiation. Brain Research, 751, 330-335.

1993 Smith, D.C., Krahl, S.E., Browning, R.A. & Barea, E.J. Rapid cessation of focally induced generalized seizures in rats through microinfusion of lidocaine hydrochloride into the focus. Epilepsia, 34, 43-53.

Book Chapters

2017 Taylor, G.P., Cassill, J.A, and Barea-Rodriguez, E.J. (2017). The Undergraduate Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) Program at the University of Texas at San Antonio. Diversity in the Scientific Community Volume: Perspectives and Exemplary Programs, 13-33, 1256.

2002 Martinez, J. L., Jr., Harvey, S. A. K. Martinez, A. and Barea-Rodriguez, E.J. (2002). Information processing. Encyclopedia of the Human Brain, 2, 557-570.

2003 Martinez, J.L., Meilandt, M., Peng, H., Barea-Rodriguez, E.J. Hormones, Learning and Memory. Encyclopedia of Cognitive Science, (2003).

2003 Martinez, J.L., Peng, H., Meilandt, M., Barea-Rodriguez, E.J. LTP and LTD. Encyclopedia of Cognitive Science, (2003).

1997 Martinez, J.L., Jr., and Barea-Rodriguez, E.J. (1997). How the brain stores information: Hebbian mechanisms. In H. Von, G. Lner, & U. Lass (Eds)

Erinnern und Behalten: Wege zur Erforschung des menschilchen Gedachtnisses (pp. 39-59). Gottingen:Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht.

1998 Martinez, J.L., Jr., Barea-Rodriguez,E.J. and Derrick, B.E. (1998). Long-Term Potentiation, Long-Term Depression, and Learning. In J. L. Martinez, Jr. and R. Kesner (Eds.) Neurobiology of Learning and Memory (pp. 211-246). San Diego: Academic Press.

Invited Seminars

2024 Student-Centered Teaching: Designing your course methods, assignments and assessments to optimize the student's opportunity to learn, Institute on Teaching and Mentoring. Institute on Teaching and Mentoring

2024 Creando Una Vision de Exito Académico (Creating a Vision of Academic Success), Inter American University, Bayamon and San German, Puerto Rico.

2024 Scientific Teaching: A Framework to Teach Science with The Student in Mind, Recent Advances in STEM Pedagogy, Inter American University (K-12 Teachers Conference), Barranquitas, Puerto Rico.

2023 Scientific Teaching: A Framework to Teach Science with The Student in Mind, Recent Advances in STEM Pedagogy, Barranquitas, Puerto Rico

2023 Student-Centered Teaching: Designing your course methods, assignments and assessments to optimize the student's opportunity to learn, Institute on Teaching and Mentoring. Institute on Teaching and Mentoring

2023 Sensemaking: A Framework to Develop a Shared Vision en Nuestra Isla, HEATS Conference, San Juan, Puerto.

2022 Student-Centered Teaching: Designing your course methods, assignments and assessments to optimize the student's opportunity to learn, Institute on Teaching and Mentoring. Institute on Teaching and Mentoring

2022 System Thinking, Cultural Awareness and Social Sciences: Impact on student success, IRACDA Program, Tufts University

2022 Challenging the Process: The impact of implicit bias on the ability to sustain and retain those in the STEMM DEIA ecosystem. Path to Enhancing Scientific Workforce Diversity, *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD).

2021 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion" What is All the Fuss About? University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio.

2021 Navigating the Neuroscience Job Market During COVID-19 and Beyond. Society for Neuroscience.

2021	Building your mentoring network. Alfred P. Sloan Minority Graduate Scholarship Program Webinar.
2021	Student-Centered Teaching: Designing your course methods, assignments and assessments to optimize the student's opportunity to learn, Institute on Teaching and Mentoring. Institute on Teaching and Mentoring
2021	Implicit Bias: An Uncomfortable Truth. American Association for Investigative Pathology Annual Meeting.
2019	Student-Centered Teaching: Designing your course methods, assignments, and assessments to optimize the student's opportunity to learn, Institute on Teaching and Mentoring.
2019	Cultural Responsible Pedagogy. Training in Education and Critical Research Skills, IRACDA Program Tufts University, Webinar.
2018	Scientific Teaching: Active Learning, Assessment and Diversity. Shriner's University
2017	Student-Centered Teaching: Designing your course methods, assignments and assessments to optimize the student's opportunity to learn, Institute on Teaching and Mentoring. Institute on Teaching and Mentoring
2017	Learning About Generations Y and Z, South Texas College.
2016	Using Brain Research on Learning` to Help Engage the 21st Century Learner, Consortium of College and University Media Centers.
2016	Student-Centered Teaching: Designing your course methods, assignments and assessments to optimize the student's opportunity to learn, Institute on Teaching and Mentoring.
2016	An Introduction to Scientific Teaching, Webinar, February 2016
2015	Student-Centered Teaching: Designing your course methods, assignments and assessments to optimize the student's opportunity to learn, Institute on Teaching and Mentoring.
2011	How Brain Research Can Help Engage the 21st Century Learner SISD, May 2011
2011	The Teenage Brain: Propensities to Dangerous Risk-Taking versus Healthy Creative Expression, UTSA College of Education.
2011	How Brain Research Can Help Engage the 21st Century Learner Region XIII.

2010	Journey into the Brain Keynote Speaker at the First Congress in Neuroeducation, Lima, Peru.
2004-2013	An Introduction to Neuroscience. National Science Hispanic Science Network, Summer Conference, University of Houston.
2003	Being a Postdoc Professional Skills Workshop. Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting.
2003	Being A Postdoc Professional Skills Workshop, Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting.
2003	Age-related deficits in learning and memory and Synaptic Plasticity. University of Texas Health Science Center. San Antonio, TX.
2004	Age-related deficits in learning and memory and Synaptic Plasticity. Biology of Aging Workshop, Round Top, TX,
2004	Being A Postdoc Annual Meeting of The Texas Consortium on Behavioral Neuroscience, San Antonio, TX.
2002	Potential mechanisms for synaptic plasticity and learning in hippocampal area CA3. Southwest Texas University.
2002	An Introduction to Neuroscience. National Science Hispanic Science Network, Summer Conference, University of Houston.
2001	Neuronal activity, learning and memory; Is there a connection? Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native American in Science.
2001	Potential mechanisms for synaptic plasticity and learning in hippocampal area CA3. Northwestern University.
1999	Gene expression during learning and memory". Seminar, San Francisco State.
1997	Role of the hippocampus in learning and memory". Seminar, Trinity University.

Lectures to the Community

2022	Opportunities in STEM: TRIO Program, A&M Corpus Christi.
2011-2013	Voyage into the Brain: lecture and hands-on activities. Rawlinson Middle School.
2013	Introduction to Neuroscience, John Jay Science and Engineer Academy.
2008	How Do We Learn? O'Connor's High School
2008	What are your Strengths?, Gifted and Talented High School Program,

	NISD.
2005	Introduction to The Brain, Achiever's School.
2005	Introduction to The Brain, Castle Hills Christian School.
2004	The Human Brain, Scobee Elementary, First Grade Class.
2004	The Human Brain. Rodriguez Elementary, UTSA K-16 Initiative.
2004	The Amazing Brain and the Role of the Scientist in our Society. Atascosa Health Career Organization.
2004	The Brain as a Super Computer. Technology Day, UTSA Trio Program.
2004	Learning, Memory, and Aging. NISD Gifted and Talented BEACON Program.
2004	Neurohistory. Come to Class Day, UTSA.
2003	Exploring the Brain. Expanding your Horizon in Science and Mathematics
2003	Voyage into the Brain. Lecture and hands-on activities. Northwest Crossing Elementary
2002	Voyage into the Brain. Lecture and hands-on activities. Burke Elementary.
2001	10 Things Every Teacher Should Know About The Brain. San Antonio, Learning Brain Expo Conference.
2000	Conference Review on Learning and Memory. San Antonio, Learning Brain Expo Conference
2000	Brain plasticity, learning, and memory. SABER Partners (USI).
2000	The biology of learning and memory. Adam Hills Elementary.
2000	The Amazing Brain. International School of the Americas- High School.
2000	The role of the scientist in our society. Atascosa Health Career Organization.
1999	The Amazing Brain. Lecture, Churchill High School Neurobiology Class.
1998	The Brain. Lecture, Churchill High School Neurobiology Class
1998	The Biology of Learning and Memory. San Antonio School District Math Teachers
1998	How the brain stores information. San Antonio Urban Systemic Initiative (USI).
1998	The Brain. Lecture, San Antonio Urban Systemic Initiative (USI) Mentor Teachers.

Students Mentored (URM students indicated by an asterisk)

Ph.D. Students

2013	Angela Boley	
2019	Natividad Ybarra	(co-mentored with Dr. Brenda Claiborne)

2005	William Ramos	
2005	Julissa Villarreal	
2003	Jose Pizarro	

MS (parentheses indicate training years)

2008	Kengi Sei	High School Teacher
2007	Stephanie Perez	PhD
2005	Antonio Castro	
2004	Pratistha Upadhaya	
2003	Letty Mathews	Pharmacist
2002	Gilbert Gallardo	Assistant Professor, Washington University

Undergraduate (parentheses indicate training years)

2017-2018	Emma Miguel	
2017-2018	Robert Tagle	
2014-2015	Christine Ngo	
2014-2015	Hector Zurita	PhD
2012-2015	Robert Garcia	MD
2012-2013	Sharon Agold	
2012-2013	Martha Mendoza	
2011-2012	Jonnie Iglesias	
2010-2012	Amanda Riojas	School Teacher
2010-2011	Timothy Warlow	
2010-2009	Joey Jackson	
2009-2010	Kim Dang	
2008-2011	Christine Ochoa	PhD
2007-2008	Rebecca Rodriguez	
2006-2008	Rafael Verazas	PhD
2006-2007	Chrislie Starr	
2005-2007	Mitra Miri	PhD
2004-2005	Kristen Ballesteros	PhD
2003-2004	Brenna Rivas	
2002-2003	Aileen Ferrer	
2001-2004	Melinda Villarreal	Phar D
2001-2004	Demetrio Sierra	PhD
2001-2003	Babette Rivera	
2000-2002	Marissa Gonzalez	MD
2000-2001	Mario Matta	PhD
1999-2001	Juan Morin	Firefighter
1999-2001	Adria Martinez .	School Teacher
2000-2003	Raphael Ugwu,	MD
2002-2003	Jennifer Fey .	
1998-1999	Gabriel Alaniz	Lecturer
1997-2000	Monica Maldonado	PhD
1996-1998	Ulises Ricoy	PhD

References

Former Provost	**John Frederick,**	Professor of Chemistry, The University of Texas at San Antonio [redacted]
Former Dean	**George Perry,**	Professor of Neuroscience, The University of Texas at San Antonio [redacted]
Interim Chair	**Janis Bush,**	Professor and Chair, Department of Biology, Health and, the Environment, The University of Texas at San Antonio [redacted]
Chair	**Juan Gutierrez**	Department of Mathematics, The University of Texas at San Antonio [redacted]
Professor	**Alix Fink**	Associate Provost of Research and Academic Initiatives [redacted]