List of UTEP Faculty and Institutional Priorities

(Fall, 2018)

Overall organizing principle: to advance UTEP towards the Tier 1 university status, while also appreciating student success, faculty success and welfare, institutional infrastructure, and the role community-based and interdisciplinary research efforts play in achieving this status. Accomplishing these goals should be manifested through shared governance with input from faculty to guide institutional business, budget, and operational decisions.

1. High priority item #1: **Teaching and student success**
   Commitment to UTEP’s current efforts on achieving social mobility of students and success of students, including:
   a. UTEP Edge efforts
   b. graduate students (stipend, support)
   c. improving UTEP’s teaching infrastructure
   d. students crossing the border

2. High priority item #2: **Faculty success**
   Commitment to faculty success, including:
   a. faculty incentives for excellence
   b. grant writing administrative support
   c. research travel support
   d. faculty leave for research
   e. professional development
   f. contingent faculty
   g. faculty retention
   h. faculty salaries, salary compression issues

3. High priority item #3: **Teaching and research infrastructure**
   Continued improvement of UTEP’s teaching and research infrastructure, including:
   a. recruiting and retaining quality faculty and staff
   b. new or updated facilities
   c. cutting-edge classroom and laboratory technologies
   d. strategic service contracts for facilities and instruments
   e. encouragement of innovative and entrepreneurial efforts
   f. program accreditation efforts
   g. authentic measures of institutional success congruent with UTEP’s mission

4. High priority item #4: **Community support**
   Continued support of the local and regional community, including:
   a. fostering El Paso’s economic development by collaborative initiatives with local business and industry partnerships
   b. improving the quality of life and the environment for the El Paso community
   c. strengthening secondary education in the region to improve student college-readiness
Update of UTEP Faculty and Institutional Priorities (May, 2019)

The UTEP faculty expressed a desire to update the faculty and institutional priorities formulated during the Fall 2018 semester. This document summarizes the updated institutional and faculty priorities expressed by 144 UTEP faculty members. We include the proportion of faculty who expressed ideas belonging to the four dominant priorities in order to provide feedback about the relative weights.

Priority #1 (21.5%): Promote the Paso del Norte region by…

- Valuing and emphasizing the binational, bilingual and bicultural perspective in the Paso del Norte region, the status of UTEP as an Hispanic Serving Institution, our educational, economic development, quality of life and cultural ties to Mexico, Latinx student population and low socioeconomic status of student body (19)
- Supporting Community Engagement through strengthened partnerships (8)
- Promoting the economic development, quality of life, and sustainability of the region (4)

Priority #2 (21.5%): Support UTEP faculty by…

- Supporting multi-disciplinary research and best practices in teaching and learning (7)
- Recruiting, supporting and retaining faculty and offer additional support for adjunct faculty (5)
- Promoting the Liberal Arts, Fine Arts, and Social Sciences (5)
- Ensuring equity and transparency in decisions and funding across colleges at UTEP (4)
- Creating a faculty workload policy and faculty incentives (3)
- Preserving the tradition of academic freedom and keeping curricular decisions are in the hands of faculty (2)
- Providing post-grant support (2)
- Reducing bureaucracy of the university (2)
- Instituting a Faculty Grievance Committee or Ombudsperson (1)

Priority #3 (16.0%): Support UTEP students and staff by…

- Providing financial resources for tuition, scholarships, and internships to graduate and undergraduate students (11)
- Supplying more support and services to staff (particularly for technical staff and infrastructure, including Peoplesoft and other technologies) (7)
- Promoting student success and supporting mental health services to students (3)
- Providing tuition breaks for non-tenure track faculty and staff who wish to pursue education at UTEP (2)

Priority #4 (3.5%): Support the regional educational infrastructure by…

- Supporting K-12 infrastructure and continue work on articulation and degree completion for community college (EPCC) transfer students (4)
- Moving towards an administration that mirrors regional diversity (1)