



*****SAVE THESE DATES*****

SEPTEMBER 18, 2013

9 a.m.—11 a.m., Joint Meeting of P-16 Council and Counselors' Network

Texas Success Initiative: The New TSI

Special Presentation by Suzanne Morales-Vale, Ph.D.,
P-16 Initiatives Division, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
Introduction by Pilar Janis, Lead/Higher Education Counselor, Brownsville ISD,
Incoming Secondary Education Chair, LRGV Counselors' Network

Moving Forward in 2013-2014

Presentation by Patricia G. (Pat) Bubb, Executive Director, RGV LEAD
Sonia del Angel, Director, Educational Talent Search, UTPA
Incoming Higher Education Chair, LRGV Counselors' Network

GenTX Initiative Plans for 2013-2014

Presentation by Martha Gutierrez, P-16 Council Coordinator, RGV LEAD

Sharing Between and Among Participants

11 a.m. – 12 noon, Counselors' Network Meeting Continues

Continue Discussions Regarding Implementation of the New TSI Exam

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m., Meeting of P-16 Regional Outreach & Counseling Leadership Team

NOVEMBER 13, 2013: Same Sequence of Three Meetings

FEBRUARY 12, 2014: Same Sequence of Three Meetings

MAY 14, 2014: Same Sequence of Three Meetings

***This generation of students is the future of the
Valley and of Texas!***





*** ABOUT THE P-16 COUNCIL ***

The Lower Rio Grande P-16 Council is a large regional collaborative growing out of work that began in 1992, when Rio Grande Valley Linking Economic and Academic Development (RGV LEAD—formerly Tech Prep of the Rio Grande Valley, Inc.), a Texas nonprofit and federal 501c3 corporation was created to lead a regional tech prep consortium. The P-16 Council's mission is to promote communication and cross-sector collaboration between and among leaders from school districts, colleges, universities, businesses, government, and community organizations with the goal of developing a seamless system of education for the four-county region. The leaders of the P-16 Council are also members of the Executive Board of RGV LEAD. RGV LEAD names new Executive Board members at the board's meeting in November in each year. Council leaders at the beginning of the 2013-2014 academic year are as follows:

- Martha A. Cantu, Ed.D., Vice President for Student Affairs, The University of Texas-Pan American
- Cornelio Gonzalez, Ph.D., Executive Director, Region One Education Service Center
- Gonzalo Salazar, Superintendent of Schools, Los Fresnos CISD

*** ABOUT THE COUNSELORS' NETWORK ***

The Rio Grande Valley has a fast-growing, youthful population that is predominantly Hispanic and economically disadvantaged. Many of these students experience significant economic challenges and establish families before or during college. The pressures of life can cause these students to believe they must leave college and work to support their families, not fully understanding that it is possible to pursue education even while helping to support families, completing higher education incrementally and ultimately experiencing personal economic success. The LRGV Counselors' Network is a regional collaborative created to provide a forum in which counselors from public schools, colleges, and universities can come together to discuss these and other issues that students and families experience and to develop and implement collaborative initiatives to maximize the effectiveness of counseling and advisement services provided to students and their families. The Counselors' Network operates with a six-member leadership team whose members are as follows:

- Immediate Past Chairs: Sandra Rodriguez, Harlingen CISD, and Norma Salazar, Texas State Technical College Harlingen
- Chairs: Valerie Paredes, Harlingen CISD, and Lazaro (Larry) Barroso, South Texas College
- Incoming Chairs: Pilar Janis, Brownsville ISD, and Sonia del Angel, The University of Texas-Pan American

RGV LEAD's role: RGV LEAD facilitates all P-16 Council and Counselors' Network regional activities, utilizing funds derived from multiple sources. Participation is open to all interested individuals; no person will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or subject to discrimination under any program of activity on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, or disability.