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Please contact us for more information about the Longhorn Center for School Partnerships or visit us online: http://diversity.utexas.edu/schoolpartnerships/
Jose Benitez

Growing up in the Rio Grande Valley, Jose Benitez always dreamed of becoming a doctor, but he wasn’t quite sure college was an option. That all changed during his senior year at Mission High School when he joined UT Outreach. While taking a tour of UT Austin, he made up his mind: He was going to become a Longhorn.

“I just fell in love with UT,” Benitez recalls. “Back then I didn’t think about programs or majors, I just knew this was exactly where I wanted to be.”

Now as he’s preparing to graduate this fall with a B.S. in biochemistry, he’s ready to embark on a challenging career in medicine. Without the $20,000 scholarship from UT Outreach, Benitez says none of this would have been possible.

“If it wasn’t for UT Outreach and support from the director Steve Chapa, I wouldn’t be here,” Benitez says.

Looking back at how far he has come within the past few years, Benitez is grateful for his network of professors, mentors and advisors who helped him along the way.

“I value my education here at UT—not just the courses I’ve taken, but also the opportunities that are offered,” Benitez says. “I feel like UT is unique because the faculty and staff here take good care of the freshmen and make sure they’re not getting lost.”

Now more determined than ever to earn his MD, Benitez has completed the MCAT and plans to take a gap year to get more work experience in the lab. Since home is where the heart is, he hopes to attend medical school in the Valley. Until then, he’s continuing his job shadowing at Seton, where he’s learning about the daily work of an anesthesiologist.

“The more I shadow her, the more I fall in love with her job,” Benitez adds. “I’m also interested in oncology. At this point, I’m keeping my options open.”

Grateful for his experiences in UT Outreach, Benitez often talks with students at campus events, offering inspiration to those who aren’t entirely convinced they could succeed in college.

“Growing up in the Valley, there’s this perception that UT is a prestigious school where only certain people can succeed,” Benitez says. “I’m living proof that shows you don’t have to come from a great school and have all this experience to do well here. You just have to be passionate about what you’re studying and be willing to put in a lot of work.”
MathBridge: A New Pre-College Academic Readiness Program

Mission
The mission of MathBridge is to improve the academic readiness and college literacy among Texas high school students who are under-represented at institutions of higher education. The program works to prepare students for academic success through credit-bearing, college-level, concurrent-enrollment mathematics curriculum.

Program Overview
Founded in 2016, MathBridge is a collaboration between high schools across Texas, UT Austin’s Department of Mathematics and the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement. MathBridge is housed in the Longhorn Center for School Partnerships under the Pre-College Academic Readiness Programs (PCARP). MathBridge students experience the pace, rigor, depth and expectations of a UT Austin math course. The course is designed for non-science majors, offering beneficial exposure for high school students working to improve their mathematical and critical thinking. Students who successfully complete the year-long program earn three credit hours on UT Austin transcripts. Motivated and experienced high school teachers implement the daily coursework in their classrooms with robust, continuous support from both the Department of Mathematics and PCARP. The support includes intensive professional development for teachers and arranged interactive campus visits for students.

Program Elements
• Two semesters of concurrent-enrollment mathematics coursework for high school students with three credit hours of M302: Introduction to Mathematics offered during the year. These generally transfer as MATH 1332 in the Texas Common Course Numbering System.
• Five-day summer and two-day winter teacher professional development trainings focus on curriculum pedagogy, learning management technology and program procedures. Continuing professional education certificates are provided for participating teachers.
• MathBridge students visit UT Austin for a full day of classroom observations, college literacy activities, guided campus tours and interaction with college students, staff and faculty.
• Note: Students who do not successfully complete MathBridge receive a Q-drop, resulting in no adverse implications for their official transcripts.

MathBridge was a pilot program in 2016-2017, serving 17 students at one high school in its first year.

Message from the Vice President
Through the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement’s Academic Diversity and Student Engagement Initiatives, The University of Texas at Austin supports students from underserved schools across the state. Most of the students who attend underserved schools do not have the same academic opportunities as students whose schools are located in wealthier areas. Our programs within the Longhorn Center for School Partnerships (LCSP) help to bridge the learning gap by offering students opportunities to succeed academically, to prepare for college, and to participate in enrichment activities.

Our programs begin with elementary school students in the Neighborhood Longhorns Program and continue serving high school students participating in Advise TX, UT Outreach Centers and our concurrent-enrollment programs, ChemBridge, MathBridge and SPURS.

With support from the Department of Rhetoric and Writing, the Department of Mathematics and the Department of Chemistry, our concurrent-enrollment programs are preparing students for the pace and rigor of college-level coursework. Teachers also have the unique opportunity to hone their skills from world-class instructors.

Among the many valuable components of these programs are the campus tours. I always enjoy seeing students getting a glimpse into college life as they meet with professors and explore the sites. Thanks to Texas Athletics, our Neighborhood Longhorns have the unique opportunity to meet with inspiring college athletes—many of whom come from similar backgrounds. This is just one of the many ways our programs are planting the seed early, encouraging first-generation college-bound students that they, too, can succeed at a top tier university.

Leonard N. Moore, Ph.D.
Interim Vice President for Diversity and Community Engagement
George Littlefield Professor of American History

Message from Mr. Patterson
Within Academic Diversity and Student Engagement Initiatives, the LCSP is a portfolio of programs that provide college readiness services for underrepresented students, including both academic achievement and college awareness initiatives. The rigorous statewide Pre-College Academic Readiness programs include ChemBridge, MathBridge and SPURS. The integrated college awareness programs include Advise TX, Neighborhood Longhorns and the UT Outreach Centers in Austin, Dallas, Houston, Rio Grande Valley and San Antonio. With the addition of Advise TX, the programs in the LCSP serve more than 40,000 students annually.

With representatives on the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement’s Education Pipeline Council, the LCSP plays an important role in providing strategic direction for the division’s pre-college and college programs that work collaboratively to create successful pathways for underrepresented students throughout the education system.

Patrick Patterson, M.Ed.
Assistant Vice President for School Partnerships
Executive Director, PCARP, Advise TX, UT Outreach Centers and Neighborhood Longhorns Program

Dr. Amanda Hager
MathBridge coordinator and lecturer in the Department of Mathematics

Message from Mr. Patterson
Within Academic Diversity and Student Engagement Initiatives, the LCSP is a portfolio of programs that provide college readiness services for underrepresented students, including both academic achievement and college awareness initiatives. The rigorous statewide Pre-College Academic Readiness programs include ChemBridge, MathBridge and SPURS. The integrated college awareness programs include Advise TX, Neighborhood Longhorns and the UT Outreach Centers in Austin, Dallas, Houston, Rio Grande Valley and San Antonio. With the addition of Advise TX, the programs in the LCSP serve more than 40,000 students annually.

With representatives on the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement’s Education Pipeline Council, the LCSP plays an important role in providing strategic direction for the division’s pre-college and college programs that work collaboratively to create successful pathways for underrepresented students throughout the education system.

Patrick Patterson, M.Ed.
Assistant Vice President for School Partnerships
Executive Director, PCARP, Advise TX, UT Outreach Centers and Neighborhood Longhorns Program

Note: Students who do not successfully complete MathBridge receive a Q-drop, resulting in no adverse implications for their official transcripts.
Advise TX College Advising Corps

Our Mission
Advise TX, as part of the national College Advising Corps, works to increase the number of first-generation, low-income, and/or underrepresented students who apply, enter, and complete college. We do this by placing recent college graduates from one of our partner universities as full-time college advisers in some of America’s underserved high schools. Advise TX provides the support that high-need students require to navigate the complex processes of college admissions, matriculation, and securing financial aid. The University of Texas at Austin chapter serves 21 schools in Central Texas, El Paso, the Rio Grande Valley, Houston, and Dallas.

Program Model
Near-Peer Mentoring
Advise TX advisers come from all fields of study and are chosen for qualities that enable them to easily develop peer and role-model relationships with the students they advise. As recent graduates of UT Austin, they understand the current complexities of the college application process. Many advisers are first-generation and minority students themselves, reflecting the characteristics of the students whom they advise.

Intensive Training
The University of Texas recruits Advise TX advisers and intensively trains them for three to four weeks. Advisers gain the knowledge and skills necessary to guide their students, foster a college-going culture and become advocates in their communities. Advisers become knowledgeable about all education options, including certificate programs, associate degrees, and baccalaureates. Training includes campus visits to colleges and universities throughout the state.

Whole School Service
Advise TX fosters a college-going culture within schools by serving any student at any grade level. Advisers collaborate with teachers and administrators to supplement, not replace, existing high school counseling staff. Advisers devise creative approaches to connect with students and host events and workshops at their campus.

Best-Fit Advising
Advisers are not recruiters for UT. They help high school students choose and enroll in the postsecondary option that is the best fit for their skills and interests—one where they will be most likely to succeed and complete a degree or meaningful credential—whether at a university, community college or technical college. Advisers help students weigh factors such as institutional characteristics, academic requirements, costs, financial aid and possible careers within a chosen field of study. Advisers encourage students to apply to three or more institutions so that they will have many options to choose from.

Rigorous Data Collection
Advisers document their students’ progress in the College Advising Corps’ custom database, GRACE. This database contains detailed profiles on individual students, recording interactions with their adviser, FAFSA completion, college applications and more. GRACE also generates school-wide reports to inform advisers and administrators of their school’s progress.

We Serve At...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICT</th>
<th>HIGH SCHOOL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austin ISD</td>
<td>Alamo, Lonestar, Travis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charter School</td>
<td>KIPP Austin Collegiate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>De Soto ISD</td>
<td>De Soto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutto ISD</td>
<td>Hutto</td>
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<tr>
<td>La Joya ISD</td>
<td>Juarez Lincoln, La Joya, Palmview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancaster, ISD</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manor ISD</td>
<td>Manor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pflugerville ISD</td>
<td>Connally</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD</td>
<td>Memorial, PSJA High, PSJA North, PSJA South West</td>
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<tr>
<td>Houston ISD</td>
<td>Madison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Marcos ISD</td>
<td>San Marcos High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socorro ISD</td>
<td>Americas, El Dorado, Socorro</td>
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</table>

UT Outreach

Mission
UT Outreach targets and serves underrepresented students by providing college readiness enrichment activities designed to assist them in graduating from high school and matriculating to institutions of higher education, including The University of Texas at Austin.

Program Overview
In 1987, UT Outreach began its long-standing presence in five cities: Austin, Dallas, Houston, Rio Grande Valley and San Antonio. The UT Outreach Centers provide a comprehensive college preparatory program for selected students in targeted high schools. Group and individual services are designed to enhance a student’s academic success in high school and to increase admisssibility to their chosen college. Staff members assist students by holding monthly meetings with them on academic subject requirements, SAT/ACT test preparation, college and student financial aid application assistance, as well as other college-related information.

UT Outreach serves at least 30 students per grade level at target high school campuses. Eligible students who are selected for the program will receive college readiness services that are specifically geared toward admission to UT Austin.

Program Elements
- UT Outreach staff members meet with participating students monthly during advisory periods (or another designated time during the school day) to provide college readiness workshops.
- Weekend and evening college readiness workshops are held at least once per month for all participants.
- Students participate in leadership development activities, community service opportunities, field trips and summer enrichment camps.

Program Participants by Ethnicity

Student Performance Outcomes for High School Seniors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLLEGE MATRICULATION</th>
<th>100%</th>
<th>76</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Four-year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two-year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RACE/ETHNICITY</th>
<th>NUMBER</th>
<th>PERCENT</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caucasian/White</td>
<td>2,641</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino/a</td>
<td>33,451</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian American</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American/Black</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2%</td>
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</table>

Program Participants by Ethnicity

|||
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 100 | 200 | 300 | 400 |
| 500 | 600 | 700 | 800 | 900 |
| 1,000| 1,100| 1,200| 1,300| 1,400|

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<tr>
<td>Four-year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two-year</td>
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Neighborhood Longhorns Program

Mission
The Neighborhood Longhorns Program (NLP) is an incentive-based learning program, which provides educationally disadvantaged youth with the resources to build a strong academic future. The NLP is a partnership between Texas Athletics, the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement and Austin Independent School District.

Program Objectives
• Provide college-experience opportunities for students in grades 2-8
• Create educational programs to encourage academic achievement
• Improve overall grade performance
• Improve reading, math, science and language arts skills
• Increase student retention rates
• Provide scholarship awards for students to apply toward a college education

Program Overview
The NLP was established in 1991 as an educational incentive program operated in partnership between Texas Athletics, the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement and Austin Independent School District. The program is now housed within the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement in the Longhorn Center for School Partnerships. NLP serves elementary and middle school students who attend Title I schools in the Austin area. NLP participants have opportunities to earn incentives to attend events on campus by participating in educational programs like:
• DiRT Leadership Program
• College for a Day
• STARR Carnival
• Texas Premiere Football Camp
• NLP 25 Year Anniversary (2016-2017)
• Austin ISD Data Collection Accessibility
• Women’s Basketball Diversity and Inclusion Program
• USA Handball Initiative
• LHN Poster Contest
• Texas Football Leadership Event
• Texas Orange/White Game

NLP students also have access to campus events like:
• Iron Spikes Baseball Clinic
• Hit a Homerun for Education
• Kappa Alpha Psi STARR Carnival
• Project Come Together
• SpringJam!

University of Texas students and student-athletes serve as tutors at NLP schools, volunteer at NLP events and present eligible students with incentives based upon their academic achievements. All NLP students participate in the educational incentive component and receive awards for their academics and reading accomplishments from the WhatAjq Reading Program. In addition, students can also qualify for a savings account scholarship for each year they participate in the program. The scholarship is held in an account until the student graduates from high school and attends a college or university. If the student attends The University of Texas at Austin, the scholarship will be matched by the program.

Population Served
While available to all students, advisers actively seek out low-income, minority students who are qualified to attend college but are at greater risk of not attending than their more affluent counterparts.

Key Performance Indicators
• Interactions:
  1-on-1 Meetings and Group Workshops
• SAT/ACT Registration
• College Exploration:
  Campus Visits, Rep Visits and College Fairs
• College Applications
• Financial Aid and Scholarships
• Parent Engagement

Contact Information
Please contact Cheryl Sawyer,
Program Director at cheryls@austin.utexas.edu

By the Numbers
• 34 participating sites—29 elementary schools, 4 middle schools plus NLP office
• 5,583 students served in 2016-17
• 107 total events held
• 43 off-campus events, 64 on-campus events
• 1,915 UT student-volunteer service hours, including 1,728 tutoring hours
• 9,970 students visited UT Co-ups for NLP events

Performance of High School Seniors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIFIC INTERACTIONS</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-on-1: At least one</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Meetings: At least one</td>
<td>27%</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL INTERACTIONS</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Met with 1+ Times (Group and 1:1)</td>
<td>91%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Met with 3+ Times (Group and 1:1)</td>
<td>62%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Met with 5+ Times (Group and 1:1)</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Met with 10+ Times (Group and 1:1)</td>
<td>14%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLLEGE APPS SUBMITTED</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1+ Apps</td>
<td>94%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3+ Apps</td>
<td>44%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5+ Apps</td>
<td>22%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Percentage Submitted</td>
<td>92%</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLLEGE APPS ACCEPTED</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1+ Apps</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3+ Apps</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5+ Apps</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Percentage Submitted</td>
<td>81%</td>
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79% Lunch Status
Free or Reduced
21% Full Priced

RACE/ETHNICITY NUMBER PERCENT

- Hispanic/Latino/a: 33,461 (77%)
- African American/Black: 6,602 (14%)
- Caucasian/White: 2,641 (6%)
- Asian American: 440 (1%)
- Native American: 308 (1%)
- Multiracial: 573 (1%)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>构造名称</th>
<th>数量</th>
<th>百分比</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>人种 / 种族</td>
<td>数量</td>
<td>百分比</td>
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<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
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<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiracial</td>
<td>573</td>
<td>1%</td>
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</table>
ChemBridge: Bridging the Gap from High School to College

Program Overview
Established in 2003, ChemBridge is a collaboration between high schools across Texas, UT Austin’s Department of Chemistry, and the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement. ChemBridge is housed in the Longhorn Center for School Partnerships under the Pre-College Academic Readiness Programs (PCARP). ChemBridge serves students during a full-day visit to UT Austin that includes classroom observations, college literacy activities, learning management technology and program procedures. Continuing professional education certificates are provided for participating teachers.

ChemBridge 2016–2017 Participant Demographic Information
ChemBridge served 473 students during the 2016-2017 academic year. Fourteen high schools participated in the program. Based on survey results, 97 percent will matriculate to a post-secondary institution immediately following high graduation.

Participating Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICT</th>
<th>HIGH SCHOOL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austin ISD</td>
<td>Lanier, LBJ, Regan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laredo ISD</td>
<td>Cigarros</td>
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<tr>
<td>Copperas Cove ISD</td>
<td>Copperas Cove</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shalls ISD</td>
<td>Skyline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Schools</td>
<td>East Austin College Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pflugerville ISD</td>
<td>Hendrickson, Pflugerville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manor ISD</td>
<td>Manor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Antonio ISD</td>
<td>Brackenridge, Barboris, Edison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Benito ISD</td>
<td>San Benito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset ISD</td>
<td>Somerset</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Program Participants by Ethnicity

- Hispanic/Latino/a: 78%
- African American/Black: 9%
- Caucasian/White: 7%
- Multiple: 8%
- Asian American: 2%
- Asian American: 2%
- Multiple: 8%
- Asian American: 2%

Note: Students who do not successfully complete ChemBridge receive a Q-drop, resulting in no adverse implications for their official transcripts.

SPURS: Students Partnering for Undergraduate Rhetoric Success

Program Overview
Established in 2005, SPURS is a collaboration between high schools across Texas, UT Austin’s Department of Rhetoric and Writing, and the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement. SPURS is housed in the Longhorn Center for School Partnerships under the Pre-College Academic Readiness Programs (PCARP). SPURS students experience the pace, rigor, depth and expectations of a UT Austin rhetoric and writing course. The courses are designed for both new and intermediate college writers, offering benefits for high school students to critical reading and writing habits crucial to college success across majors.

Program Elements
- Two semesters of concurrent-enrollment rhetoric and writing coursework for high school students with three credit hours offered each semester: Chemistry in Context I (CH 304K) in the fall and Chemistry in Context II (CH 305) in the spring. These courses transfer as CHEM 1305 and 1306 in the Texas Common Course Numbering System.
- Three high schools participated in the program. Based on survey results, 100 percent of students will matriculate to an institution of higher education following high school graduation.

Participating Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICT</th>
<th>HIGH SCHOOL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austin ISD</td>
<td>Crockett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Schools</td>
<td>East Austin College Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSJA ISD</td>
<td>PSJA ECHS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Program Participants by Ethnicity

- Hispanic/Latino/a: 82%
- Caucasian/White: 7%
- African American/Black: 2%
- Multiple: 8%
- Asian American: 2%
- Asian American: 2%
- Multiple: 8%
- Asian American: 2%

SPURS Charts 2016-17

Student Performance Outcomes

- Fall SPURS: Earned College Credit RHE 306: 69%
- Spring SPURS: Earned College Credit RHE 309K: 89%

Note: Students who do not successfully complete the SPURS program receive a Q-drop, resulting in no adverse implications for their official transcripts.
ChemBridge: Bridging the Gap from High School to College

Mission

The mission of ChemBridge is to improve the academic readiness and college literacy among Texas high school students who are underrepresented at institutions of higher education. The program works to prepare students for academic success through credit-bearing, college-level, concurrent-enrollment chemistry curriculum.

Program Overview

Established in 2003, ChemBridge is a collaboration between high schools across Texas, UT Austin’s Department of Chemistry, and the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement. ChemBridge is housed in the Longhorn Center for School Partnerships under the Pre-College Academic Readiness Programs (PCARP). ChemBridge students experience the pace, rigor, depth, and expectations of a UT Austin chemistry course. The courses are designed for non-science majors, but offer beneficial exposure for high school students considering STEM studies.

Students who successfully complete the year-long program earn six credit hours on UT Austin transcripts. Motivated and experienced high school teachers implement the daily coursework in their classrooms with robust, continuous support from both the Department of Chemistry and PCARP. The support includes intensive professional development for teachers and arranged interactive campus visits for students.

ChemBridge 2016–2017 Participant Demographic Information

ChemBridge served 473 students during the 2016-2017 academic year. Eighteen high schools participated in the program. Based on survey results, 97 percent will matriculate to a post-secondary institution immediately following high graduation.

Program Elements

- Two semesters of concurrent-enrollment science coursework for high school students with three credit hours offered each semester: Chemistry in Context I (CH 304K) in the fall and Chemistry in Context II (CH 305) in the spring. These generally transfer as CHEM 1305 and 1307 in the Texas Common Course Numbering System.
- Five-day summer and two-day winter teacher professional development trainings focus on curriculum, pedagogy, learning management technology and program procedures. Continuing professional education certificates are provided for participating teachers.
- ChemBridge students visit UT Austin for a full day that includes classroom observations, college literacy activities, guided campus tours and interaction with college students, staff, and faculty.

Student Performance Outcomes

Note: Students who do not successfully complete ChemBridge receive a Q-drop, resulting in no adverse implications for their official transcripts.

SPURS: Students Partnering for Undergraduate Rhetoric Success

Mission

The mission of Students Partnering for Undergraduate Success (SPURS) is to improve the academic readiness and college literacy among Texas high school students who are underrepresented at institutions of higher education. The program works to prepare students for academic success through credit-bearing, college-level, concurrent-enrollment rhetoric and writing curriculum.

Program Overview

Established in 2005, SPURS is a collaboration between high schools across Texas, UT Austin’s Department of Rhetoric and Writing, and the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement. SPURS is housed in the Longhorn Center for School Partnerships under the Pre-College Academic Readiness Programs (PCARP). SPURS students experience the pace, rigor, depth and expectations of a UT Austin rhetoric and writing course. The courses are designed for both new and intermediate college writers, offering beneficial exposure for high school students to critical reading and writing habits crucial to college success across majors.

Students who successfully complete the year-long program earn six credit hours on UT Austin transcripts. Motivated and experienced high school teachers implement the daily coursework in their classrooms with robust, continuous support from both the Department of Rhetoric and Writing and PCARP. The support includes intensive professional development for teachers and arranged interactive campus visits for students.

Program Elements

- Two semesters of concurrent-enrollment rhetoric and writing coursework for high school students with three credit hours offered each semester: Rhetoric and Writing (RHE 306) in the fall and Topics in Rhetoric (RHE 309K) in the spring. These courses generally transfer as ENG 1301 and 1302 under the Texas Common Course Numbering System.
- Five-day summer and two-day winter teacher professional development trainings focus on curriculum, pedagogy, learning management technology and program procedures. Continuing professional education certificates are provided for participating teachers.
- SPURS students participate in a full-day visit to UT Austin that includes classroom observations, college literacy activities, guided campus tours, and interaction with college students, staff and faculty.
- Experienced college writing instructors provide feedback and assessment on student writing.

Student Performance Outcomes

Note: Students who do not successfully complete the SPURS program receive a Q-drop, resulting in no adverse implications for their official transcripts.
Neighborhood Longhorns Program

Mission
The Neighborhood Longhorns Program (NLP) is an incentive-based learning program, which provides educationally disadvantaged youth with the resources to build a strong academic future. The NLP is a partnership between Texas Athletics, the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement and Austin Independent School District.

Program Objectives
• Provide college-experience opportunities for students in grades 2-8
• Create educational programs to encourage academic achievement
• Improve overall grade performance
• Improve reading, math, science and language arts skills
• Increase student retention rates
• Provide scholarship awards for students to apply toward a college education

Program Overview
The NLP was established in 1991 as an educational incentive program operated in partnership between Texas Athletics, the City of Austin and Austin Independent School District. The program is now housed within the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement in the Longhorn Center for School Partnerships. NLP serves elementary and middle school students who attend Title I schools in the Austin area. NLP participants have opportunities to earn incentives to attend events on campus by participating in educational programs like:
• DiRT Leadership Program
• College for a Day
• Starr Carnival
• Texas Premier Football Camp
• NLP 25 Year Anniversary (2016-2017)
• Austin ISD Data Collection Accessibility
• Women’s Basketball Diversity and Inclusion Program
• USA Handball Initiative
• LHIV Poster Contest
• Texas Football Leadership Event
• Texas Orange/White Game

NLP students also have access to campus events like:
• Iron Spikes Baseball Clinic
• Hit a Homerun for Education
• Kappa Alpha Psi STARR Carnival
• Project Game Together
• Spring Jam!

University of Texas students and student-athletes serve as tutors at NLP schools, volunteer at NLP events and present eligible students with incentives based upon their academic achievements. All NLP students participate in the educational incentive component and receive awards for their academics and reading accomplishments from the Whataburger Reading Program. In addition, students can also qualify for a savings account scholarship for each year they participate in the program. The scholarship is held in an account until the student graduates from high school and attends a college or university. If the student attends the University of Texas at Austin, the scholarship will be matched by the program.

Population Served
While available to all students, advisers actively seek out low-income, minority students who are qualified to attend college but are at greater risk of not attending than their more affluent counterparts.

By the Numbers
- 34 participating sites
- 29 elementary schools
- 4 middle schools plus NLP office
- 5,583 students served in 2016-17
- 107 total events held
- 43 off-campus events, 64 on-campus events
- 1,915 UT student-volunteer service hours, including 1,728 tutoring hours
- 9,970 students visited UT Co-ops for NLP events

Key Performance Indicators
• Interactions:
  1-on-1 Meetings and Group Workshops
  • SAT/ACT Registration
  • College Exploration:
    Campus Visits, Rep Visits and College Fairs
  • College Applications
  • Financial Aid and Scholarships
  • Parent Engagement

Contact Information
Please contact Cheryl Sawyer, Program Director at cheryls@austin.utexas.edu

Performance of High School Seniors

SPECIFIC INTERACTIONS
• 1-on-1s: At least one 80%
• Parent Meetings: At least one 27%

TOTAL INTERACTIONS
• Met with 1+ Times (Group and 1:1) 99%
• Met with 3+ Times (Group and 1:1) 62%
• Met with 5+ Times (Group and 1:1) 39%
• Met with 10+ Times (Group and 1:1) 14%

COLLEGE APPS SUBMITTED
• 1+ Apps 94%
• 3+ Apps 44%
• 5+ Apps 22%
• Total Percentage Submitted 92%

COLLEGE APPS ACCEPTED
• 1+ Apps 82%
• 3+ Apps 17%
• 5+ Apps 6%
• Total Percentage Submitted 81%

FAFSA
• Submitted (One of the top three in the nation among the 25 universities participating in the College Advising Corps.) 74%
Advise TX College Advising Corps

Our Mission
Advise TX, as part of the national College Advising Corps, works to increase the number of first-generation, low-income, and/or underrepresented students who apply, enter and complete college. We do this by placing recent college graduates from one of our partner universities at full-time college advisers in some of America’s underserved high schools. Adviser TX provides the support that high-need students require to navigate the complex processes of college admissions, matriculation, and securing financial aid. The University of Texas at Austin chapter serves 21 schools in Central Texas, El Paso, the Rio Grande Valley, Houston and Dallas.

Program Model
Near-Peer Mentoring
Advise TX advisers come from all fields of study and are chosen for qualities that enable them to easily develop peer and role-model relationships with the students they advise. As recent graduates of UT Austin, they understand the current complexities of the college application process. Many advisers are first-generation and minority students themselves, reflecting the characteristics of the students whom they advise.

Intensive Training
The University of Texas recruits Advise TX advisers and intensively trains them for three to four weeks. Advisers gain the knowledge and skills necessary to guide their students, foster a college-going culture and become advocates in their communities. Advisers become knowledgeable about all education options, including certificate programs, associate degrees, and baccalaureates. Training includes campus visits to colleges and universities throughout the state.

Whole School Service
Advise TX fosters a college-going culture within schools by serving any student at any grade level. Advisers collaborate with teachers and administrators to supplement, not replace, existing high school counseling staff. Advisers devise creative approaches to connect with students and host events and workshops at their campus.

Best-Fit Advising
Advisers are not recruiters for UT. They help high school students choose and enroll in the postsecondary option that is the best fit for their skills and interests—one where they will be most likely to succeed and complete a degree or meaningful credential—whether at a university, community college or technical college. Advisers help students weigh factors such as institutional characteristics, academic requirements, costs, financial aid and possible careers within a chosen field of study. Advisers encourage students to apply to three or more institutions so that they will have many options to choose from.

Rigorous Data Collection
Advisers document their students’ progress in the College Advising Corps’ custom database, GRACE. This database contains detailed profiles on individual students, recording interactions with their adviser, FAFSA completion, college applications and more. GRACE also generates school-wide reports to inform advisers and administrators of their school’s progress.

We Serve At...

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<tr>
<th>DISTRICT</th>
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UT Outreach

Mission
UT Outreach targets and serves underrepresented students by providing college readiness enrichment activities designed to assist them in transitioning from high school and matriculating to institutions of higher education, including The University of Texas at Austin.

Program Overview
In 1987, UT Outreach began its long-standing presence in five cities: Austin, Dallas, Houston, Rio Grande Valley and San Antonio. The UT Outreach Centers provide a comprehensive college preparatory program for selected students in targeted high schools. Group and individual services are designed to enhance a student’s academic success in high school and to increase admittance to their chosen college. Staff members assist students by holding monthly meetings with them on academic subject requirements, SAT/ACT test preparation, college and student financial aid assistance, as well as other college-related information.

UT Outreach serves at least 30 students per grade level at target high school campuses. Eligible students who are selected for the program will receive college readiness services that are specifically geared toward admission to UT Austin.

Program Elements
• UT Outreach staff members meet with participating students monthly during advisory periods (or another designated time during the school day) to provide college readiness workshops.
• Weekend and evening college readiness workshops are held at least once per month for all participants.
• Students participate in leadership development activities, community service opportunities, field trips and summer enrichment camps.

Program Participants by Ethnicity

Student Performance Outcomes for High School Seniors

UT Outreach 2016–2017 Participant Demographic Information
UT Outreach served a total of 2,853 students in 54 Texas high schools during the 2016-2017 academic year through UT Outreach Centers. Sixty-three percent of participants are first-generation college students and 80 percent are from low-income households.
MathBridge: A New Pre-College Academic Readiness Program

Mission
The mission of MathBridge is to improve the academic readiness and college literacy among Texas high school students who are underrepresented at institutions of higher education. The program works to prepare students for academic success through credit-bearing, college-level, concurrent-enrollment mathematics curriculum.

Program Overview
Founded in 2016, MathBridge is a collaboration between high schools across Texas, UT Austin’s Department of Mathematics and the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement. MathBridge is housed in the Longhorn Center for School Partnerships. The program is a pilot program in 2016-2017, serving 10 students at one high school in its first year.

Program Elements
- Two semesters of concurrent-enrollment mathematics coursework for high school students with three credit hours of M302: Introduction to Mathematics offered during the year. These generally transfer as MATH 1332 in the Texas Common Course Numbering System.
- Five-day summer and two-day winter teacher professional development trainings focus on curriculum pedagogy, learning management technology and program procedures. Continuing professional education certificates are provided for participating teachers.
- MathBridge students visit UT Austin for a full day of classroom observations, college literacy activities, guided campus tours and interaction with college students, staff and faculty.
- Note: Students who do not successfully complete MathBridge receive a Q-drop, resulting in no adverse implications for their official transcripts.

MathBridge was a pilot program in 2016-2017, serving 17 students at one high school in its first year.

Message from the Vice President
Through the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement’s Academic Diversity and Student Engagement Initiatives, The University of Texas at Austin supports students from underserved schools across the state. Most of the students who attend underserved schools do not have the same academic opportunities as students whose schools are located in wealthier areas. Our programs within the Longhorn Center for School Partnerships (LCS) help to bridge the learning gap by offering students opportunities to succeed academically, to prepare for college, and to participate in enrichment activities.

With support from the Department of Rhetoric and Writing, the Department of Mathematics and the Department of Chemistry, our concurrent-enrollment programs are preparing students for the pace and rigor of college-level coursework. Teachers also have the unique opportunity to hone their skills from world-class instructors.

Among the many valuable components of these programs are the campus tours. I always enjoy seeing students getting a glimpse into college life as they meet with professors and explore the sites. Thanks to Texas Athletics, our Neighborhood Longhorns have the unique opportunity to meet with inspiring college athletes—many of whom come from similar backgrounds. This is just one of the many ways our programs are planting the seed early, encouraging first-generation college-bound students that they, too, can succeed at a top tier university.

Leonard N. Moore, Ph.D.
Interim Vice President for Diversity and Community Engagement
George Littlefield Professor of American History

Message from Mr. Patterson
Within Academic Diversity and Student Engagement Initiatives, the LCSP is a portfolio of programs that provide college readiness services for underrepresented students, including both academic achievement and college awareness initiatives. The rigorous statewide Pre-College Academic Readiness programs include ChemBridge, MathBridge and SPURS. The integrated college awareness programs include Advise TX, Neighborhood Longhorns and the UT Outreach Centers in Austin, Dallas, Houston, Rio Grande Valley and San Antonio. With the addition of Advise TX, the programs in the LCSP serve more than 40,000 students annually.

With representatives on the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement’s Education Pipeline Council, the LCSP plays an important role in providing strategic direction for the division’s pre-college and college programs that work collaboratively to create successful pathways for underrepresented students throughout the education system.

Patrick Patterson, M.Ed.
Assistant Vice President for School Partnerships
Executive Director, PCARP, Advise TX, UT Outreach Centers and Neighborhood Longhorns Program
Growing up in the Rio Grande Valley, Jose Benitez always dreamed of becoming a doctor, but he wasn’t quite sure college was an option. That all changed during his senior year at Mission High School when he joined UT Outreach. While taking a tour of UT Austin, he made up his mind: He was going to become a Longhorn.

“I just fell in love with UT,” Benitez recalls. “Back then I didn’t think about programs or majors, I just knew this was exactly where I wanted to be.”

Now as he’s preparing to graduate this fall with a B.S. in biochemistry, he’s ready to embark on a challenging career in medicine. Without the $20,000 scholarship from UT Outreach, Benitez says none of this would have been possible.

“If it wasn’t for UT Outreach and support from the director Steve Chapa, I wouldn’t be here,” Benitez says.

Looking back at how far he has come within the past few years, Benitez is grateful for his network of professors, mentors and advisors who helped him along the way.

“I value my education here at UT—not just the courses I’ve taken, but also the opportunities that are offered,” Benitez says. “I feel like UT is unique because the faculty and staff here take good care of the freshmen and make sure they’re not getting lost.”

Now more determined than ever to earn his MD, Benitez has completed the MCAT and plans to take a gap year to get more work experience in the lab. Since home is where the heart is, he hopes to attend medical school in the Valley. Until then, he’s continuing his job shadowing at Seton, where he’s learning about the daily work of an anesthesiologist.

“The more I shadow her, the more I fall in love with her job,” Benitez adds. “I’m also interested in oncology. At this point, I’m keeping my options open.”

Grateful for his experiences in UT Outreach, Benitez often talks with students at campus events, offering inspiration to those who aren’t entirely convinced they could succeed in college.

“Growing up in the Valley, there’s this perception that UT is a prestigious school where only certain people can succeed,” Benitez says. “I’m living proof that shows you don’t have to come from a great school and have all this experience to do well here. You just have to be passionate about what you’re studying and be willing to put in a lot of work.”
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http://diversity.utexas.edu/schoolpartnerships/

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