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# Transformative Networking

How Nurturing Relationships Pay Off for You and Your Students

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# This is Me: Fun Facts

- ❑ Collaboration = Cornerstone of HE Career
- ❑ Bleed UTSA Orange and Blue
- ❑ Rowdy Roadrunner Enthusiast
  - Strutted my Tail Feathers →



# What We'll Discuss

**Building Your Professional Network = Professional (and Personal) Success**

- ▶▶ **Collaborative Engagement**
- ▶▶ **In the Beginning: The Journey to GPS**
- ▶▶ **Transformative Networking**



# Collaborative Engagement

The Why, the Who, and  
the How



# The Why

## ▶▶ Shortness of Resources

- Available staff
- Venue / location
- Budget constraints
- Expertise

## ▶▶ Fostering Relationships

- Campus stakeholders
- Community partners
- Alumni



# The Who

## ►► Questions to Ask

- What's your need / goal?
- Who's the SME?
- Program + SME = Good fit?
- What's being done already?





# The Who (2)

## ▶▶ Internal

- Library
- Writing Center
- Career Center
- Faculty / Colleges
- Student Affairs
- International Programs
- Athletics
- Research Office
- Wellbeing Services
- Alumni Office / Association
- University Administration

## ▶▶ External

- Alumni
- Community Leaders
- Business Leaders
- Professional Colleagues



# The How

## ▶▶ Internal

- Network, Network, Network
- Be the catalyst
- Breakdown silos
- Bring stakeholders together
- Create buy-in

## ▶▶ External

- Network, Network, Network
- Cultivate and Nurture
- All you need to do is ask...



SUM IT UP

# CREATE THE FOUNDATION FOR LONG-LASTING PARTNERSHIPS

*“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much”*

~ Helen Keller

# In the Beginning...

The Journey to Graduate  
and Postdoctoral Success



# Where it Started

- ▶▶ The Year was 2008
  - Student Success Program established
  - 10 workshops per year + Orientation
  - Budget: \$0.00



# Where it Went

- ▶▶ Within 2-3 years
  - Increase in cross-campus collaborations
  - 55 student success and special events per year
- ▶▶ Within 8 years
  - 115 student success and special events per year



# Where it Is

## GPS: Graduate & Postdoctoral Success

**Credly™**  
Micro-credentialing  
Badges

-Virtual Synchronous  
-YouTube Asynchronous

**Roadrunner  
Assistantship  
Academy  
Orientation and  
Training**

**Career Pathways  
Guest Speaker  
Series**

**3MT Competition**

**UTSA®**  
Graduate  
School

**Graduate Student  
Appreciation Week  
+  
Research Days  
Symposium**

**Dissertation  
Weekend Warriors**

**Dissertation  
Writing Camp**

**Community Building  
and Events**

# Where it Is

**GPS: Graduate & Postdoctoral Success**  
2022-2023 by the Numbers

**Total Programs**

73

**Total  
Attendance**

2,561

**Microcredentials  
Awarded**

508

**YouTube  
Channel Views**

1,200



SUM IT UP

## IT TAKES A VILLAGE...

***“Effectively, change is almost impossible without industry-wide collaboration, cooperation, and consensus”***

~ Simon Mainwaring

# Transformative Networking

How to Make it Happen  
and Keep it Going



# Definitions

## **trans·form·a·tive**

/tran(t)s'fôrmədiv/

adjective

causing a marked change in someone or something.



## **networking**

/'net,wərkiNG/

*noun*

1. the action or process of interacting with others to exchange information and develop professional or social contacts.

# John's (simple) Recipe for Transformative Networking



## Equal Parts

### Respect

Must be mutual

### Recognition

Shine that spotlight!

### Inclusiveness

Make them a partner

### Attentiveness

Nurture the relationship

### Appreciation

Show gratitude | Never take for granted

\*There can never be enough of this ingredient\*

# Professional Networking & Personal Rewards

## The Ties That Bind



**Dr. Hector Zurita**

Met: 2016

UTSA Alumnus

“How to Support  
Your Graduate  
Student”

“Alumni Career  
Story”



**Maggie Nettesheim Hoffmann**

Met: 2018

Humanities  
Without Walls

“Career Story”

“National  
Perspectives:  
Humanities  
Without Walls”



**Dr. Zach Linge**

Met: 2016

UTSA Alumnus

“How to Be  
Successful in  
Graduate  
School”

“Alumni Career  
Story”



**Yvonne Addison**

Met: 2019

UTSA Alumnus

“Career  
Trajectories in  
Engineering”

“The  
Entrepreneurial  
Spirit”

# Professional Networking & Personal Rewards

## The Ties That Bind



**Danny Rubalcaba**

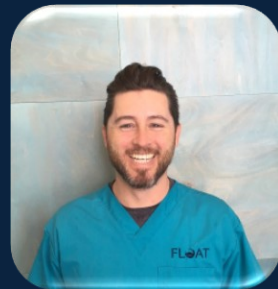
Met: 2017

UTSA Alumnus

“Wellness”

“The  
Entrepreneurial  
Spirit”

“Project  
Management”



**Jeremy Jacob**

Met: 2017

Owner, Float San  
Antonio | Evolve

“The  
Entrepreneurial  
Spirit”



**Kristine Benné**

Met: 1977

UTSA Alumna

“How to Be  
Successful in  
Graduate  
School”

“Alumni Career  
Story”



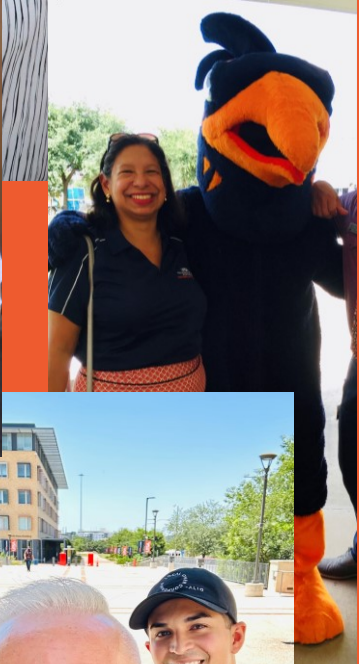
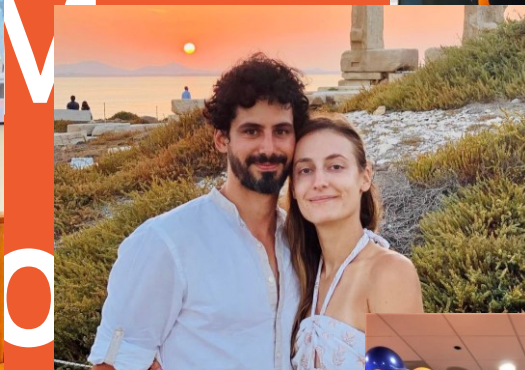
**Dr. Mariela Rodriguez**

Met: 2006

Professor

“Women in  
Academia”

“The Higher  
Education  
Faculty Search”



SUM IT UP

## IDENTIFY AND SHOW PRIDE IN YOUR TRIBE

*“You need to be aware of what others are doing, applaud their efforts, acknowledge their successes, and encourage them in their pursuits. When we all help one another, everybody wins”*

~ Jim Stovall



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