

## 2024 E-WEEK INNOVAQUERO INNOVATION CHALLENGE

### *Engineers and Computer Scientists as True Agents of Change in the RGV*

#### **The Challenge**

The Rio Grande Valley has various challenges and opportunities, and we need Engineers and Computer Scientists like you that become true agents of change.

Identify a challenge or issue that the Rio Grande Valley faces today or in the future and share your ideas on how to solve them.

Here are just some of examples of issues and opportunities:

- There is a high incidence of diabetes and obesity in the RGV, there is a need for healthier lifestyle involving diet and exercise.
- The RGV layout requires traveling long distances using cars since the current public transportation is not efficient.
- During the summer, due to high temperatures and humidity, RGV inhabitants avoid walking outside when possible or suffer the consequences. People working outside (utilities, law enforcement, construction, agriculture, etc.) can face serious health issues due to heat stroke.
- What other issues do you see around in the RGV that you could tackle with your Engineering or Computer Science skills?

#### **Deliverables**

Work with your team and identify:

- What is the problem or issue that affects currently or in the future the RGV?
- Why is it important?
- What are your ideas to solve these problems or issues?
- What can you do as a student and in your professional career to get ready for these issues?

Prepare a 3–5-minute video where you explain your idea answering the previous questions. Feel free to use slides, videos, and graphics in your video.

During the Shark Tank on Monday Feb 19<sup>th</sup>, you will present your video and then engage in a Q&A with the Sharks (judges).

The Shark Tank session will be held on Monday February 19<sup>th</sup> at 12:15pm in the Makerspace EENGR 2.454 or on Zoom: <https://utrgv.zoom.us/j/85947137650>

#### **Awards**

Awards will be given in the following categories:

- **Best Video:** Quality and creativity of your video.
- **Most Innovative:** Relevance and impact of the issue and solutions presented.
- **Best Overall:** Most engaging and presentation and Q&A interaction.

#### **Teams**

Teams must be composed of **3 to 6** registered College of Engineering and Computer Science students from any department, program, or level (grad or undergrad). Register by Sunday February 18<sup>th</sup>. To register your team for the competition, click [HERE](#).

#### **More Infor**

Click [HERE](#) for more information about the InnoVaqueros Challenge.

For questions, contact Dr. Vargas at [noe.vargas@utrgv.edu](mailto:noe.vargas@utrgv.edu)