

# THE GRADUATE REPORT

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## GRADUATE PROFILE: WILLIAM DELA CRUZ



Ed.D. Student,  
William dela Cruz

**William dela Cruz** is an International Graduate Student from the Philippines and has started his second semester as an Ed.D.

student in the Educational Leadership program with an emphasis in Higher Education Student Affairs. William was granted a Fellowship through the Educational Leadership and Policy Studies Department (ELPS) which has enabled him to move forward with his impassioned study of student affairs.

William continues his studies at UTSA after receiving his Master's of Education (2008) in the same discipline as his doctoral program. He was part of the first cohort of Master's students to graduate from the newly established Higher Education Administration program. Recently, William was invited to sit on a panel discussing Graduate Student Success with

newly admitted Graduate Students at UTSA. His perspective as an international student and alumni proved to be enlightening for those students who attend.

Research goals for William include a transnational comparison of universities, determining how meaningful partnerships between academic affairs and student affairs directly affect the best practices of serving students.

William was drawn to study student affairs due to a personal philosophy that he lives by. "Every child is God's gift to man and what man make's of the child is his gift to God." William explained that if we nurture and guide our students and treat each student as we would our own child, how can we go wrong? This is the nature of student affairs.

Dr. David Thompson, Chair of the ELPS Department stated, "William was

selected [for the program] by program faculty on the basis of his ability to contribute to the research mission of the department's faculty and graduate students ... he is well-liked and regarded by both faculty and his graduate student colleagues."

Post his doctoral program, William's hope is to stay in the United States and work in either an academic or student affairs capacity on a university campus. William stated emphatically, "I owe a lot to UTSA for providing me this academic opportunity to better myself. Without ELPS granting me a doctoral fellowship which covers my tuition and fees, I would not have been able to achieve my educational goals and continue my studies in the United States. If I can serve a university and its students by applying what I have learned through my studies and research, that will be my way to say 'thank you' for all the support I have received while being in the United States and attending UTSA."

## SATURDAY WORKSHOPS EXPAND TO SERVE STUDENTS



The Graduate School is partnering with UTSA academic and student service departments during the Spring 2009 semester to provide our Graduate Students the opportunity to take learning beyond the classroom.

To meet the needs of our graduate students, the Fall *Saturday Success Series* has expanded to the *After Hours Success Series* (see right for list of workshops) for the Spring. The expanded series offers workshops on both the 1604 and Downtown campuses and includes Saturday and weekday evening workshops.

For times and descriptions of the Spring Workshops and to register, please visit the **Current Students** page on The Graduate School website, [www.utsa.edu/graduate](http://www.utsa.edu/graduate). For additional questions, please call 210.458.4111.

### IMPORTANT DEADLINES

**February 1, 2009: Application Deadline for Fall Ph.D. Admission**

**April 1, 2009: Application Deadline for Fall International Master's Student Admission**

**July 1, 2009: Application Deadline for Fall Master's Student Admission (domestic)**



### AFTER HOURS SUCCESS SERIES

**FINANCIAL AID & MONEY MANAGEMENT**  
FEBRUARY 7 & 11

**PRESENTATION PROFICIENCY**  
FEBRUARY 28

**GET HIRED! HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR JOB SEARCH**  
MARCH 21 & 25

**EFFECTIVE GRANT WRITING**  
APRIL 11

## UTSA HOSTS STATE-WIDE LONESTAR COLLOQUIUM

By Lisa Palacios



The Graduate School is hosting the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Lone Star Graduate Diversity Colloquium on Friday and Saturday March 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The inaugural Colloquium was held at Texas A&M University in 2006, established as a means to further the statewide Closing the Gaps initiative in the State of Texas. This is a collective effort by all colleges and universities in Texas to encourage more underrepre-

sented minorities, women and first generation college students to complete their graduate degrees in Texas.

Colleges and universities across Texas recognize the value of the Colloquium both for their students, who receive extensive and valuable information to make them more competitive as graduate school applicants, and for their graduate schools, which can recruit, in a single location, the excellent and diverse prospective grad students.

The target participants

for the Colloquium are college sophomores and juniors throughout the state who represent some aspect of diversity and who are interested in attending graduate school. Sophomores will learn the value of research experience and have ample time to plan for a summer research program or other research opportunity. Juniors will learn the strategies of investigating the best graduate schools for their needs, determining their funding options, and how to put together a competitive application pack-

age, well before they enter their senior year and begin the graduate application process. This event will take place on the UTSA 1604 Campus in the University Center.

Registration is \$10 for students and \$100 for Texas graduate recruiters to have a table at the Graduate Fair. More information and registration can be found at: [http://utsa.edu/graduate/Events/graduateFairLisa\\_08updated.html](http://utsa.edu/graduate/Events/graduateFairLisa_08updated.html). You may also contact Lisa Palacios, [lisa.palacios@utsa.edu](mailto:lisa.palacios@utsa.edu) or call 210.458.6406.

## A CLOSER LOOK: FREE FINANCIAL AID FOR UTSA GRADUATE STUDENTS

If money is the question, the answer can be found at the Office of Student Financial Aid & Enrollment Services. With two locations to serve students (1604 ~ JPL 1.01.04 and Downtown ~ FS 1.500) Enrollment Services representatives are available to assist students with their financial aid accounts along with many other services. If you don't feel like leaving the comfort of your home, you are also welcome to contact a repre-

sentative by phone at 210.458.8000 or toll free 1.800.669.0919. You may also find the answers to your questions by visiting [www.utsa.edu/financialaid](http://www.utsa.edu/financialaid).

Each year, at the beginning of the Spring semester, the mantra around Enrollment Services is **"APPLY EARLY."** Graduate Students need to be aware that if they are planning to apply for Financial Aid for the upcoming 2009-10 school year and plan

to take at least 4 credit hours, you should submit your FAFSA (Free Application for Student Aid) as soon as possible (before the end of February) by visiting [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). UTSA is one of the few institutions in the state of Texas that sets aside state grant funds for our Graduate Students.

These funds are both need-based and non-need-based and are **limited!** Your early FAFSA submission date is

the key to make these funds available to help off-set any student loans!!

For more information, please visit or call Enrollment Services.

### ANNOUNCEMENT

#### Presidential Fellowships for Doctoral Students

The Graduate School at UTSA is offering doctoral students the opportunity for funding assistance for dissertation support through the Presidential Fellowship. Applicants must have received dissertation proposal approval before applying for this funding provided by the President's office.

The application deadline was Friday, January 23, 2009. The Committee will determine the recipients and amount of awards based on the information submitted by applicants in the application packet. Best of luck to all of our doctoral applicants!

## UTSA'S TWENTY-FIRST PH.D. PROGRAM

Originally reported by Omar Hernandez on UTSA Today, October 27, 2008

UTSA's 21st doctoral degree program was approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The Ph.D. program in interdisciplinary learning and teaching will be implemented in fall 2009 and housed in the College of Education and Human Development.

The addition of a Ph.D. in interdisciplinary learning and teaching is consistent

with the goals of UTSA to become a premiere research university and will address the shortage of educated and qualified professionals.

Students will receive training to prepare them to examine and research the interdisciplinary issues and perspectives of learning, teaching and curricular development associated with education for culturally and economically diverse

p o p u l a t i o n s .

The proposed program will draw from an applicant pool of K-12 teachers and community college instructors from the San Antonio area and across the nation. Admission into the Ph.D. program will be limited, and therefore competition. For more information, please contact the College of Education and Human Development 210.458.4370.

To apply for graduate school visit [www.utsa.edu/graduate](http://www.utsa.edu/graduate). For graduate school inquiries, please call 210.458.4335