


# ASEE EDGE Showcase Webinar: A Dean's Role through the Lens of Gender Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion w Dean Ala Qubbaj




**ENGINEERING DEANS  
GENDER EQUITY  
WEBINAR SHOWCASE SERIES**

## A Dean's Role through the Lens of Gender Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

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Dean, College of Engineering and Computer Science University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV)

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### Prior EDGE Showcase Webinars

<https://edge.asee.org/webinar-series/>


*Achieving Engineering College Excellence through Gender Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*



Virginia Valian, Ph.D.  
(Nov. 14, 2019)

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### Although Deans say they hold leaders accountable...



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**Key Takeaway**


Deans need to collect the data necessary to identify critical areas for change, and means of determining if efforts are making a difference.

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### Prior EDGE Showcase Webinars

<https://edge.asee.org/webinar-series/>


*EDGE College Self-Assessment Tool: Foundation for Strategic Change*



Kimberly Griffin, Ph.D. & Alan Mabe, Ph.D.  
(Dec. 11, 2019)

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### Dean Ala Qubbaj

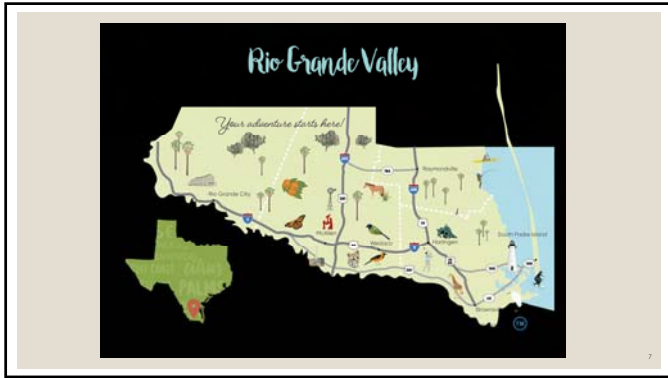


- Dean, Engineering and computer Science, UTRGV
- Senior Associate Vice President/Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs & Diversity, UTRGV
- PI ADVANCE Institutional Transformation Grant, UTRGV
- PI INCLUDES ADVANCING STEM Latinas in Academic Careers
- Professor of Mechanical Engineering, UTRGV

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The University of Texas  
Rio Grande Valley

29,479 Students (Fall 2019)      Over 5000 Degrees Awarded

HISPANIC ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY FACULTIES  
Largest Hispanic enrollment in the state of Texas.

- Among Texas institutions for Hispanic enrollment in the state of Texas (2018-2019)
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101 Faculty (13% females)

10

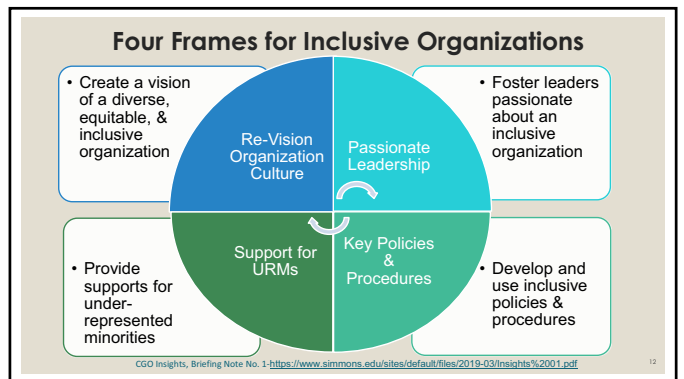
101 Faculty (13% females)

3507 students (18% females), ~ 500 degrees awarded

7 Undergraduate & 7 graduate programs

UTRGV  
College of Engineering & Computer Science

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How have you  
"Re-vised College Culture?"

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**VISION**

To be the most CARING, ENGAGED and SUCCESSFUL College of Engineering and Computer Science nationally recognized for its welcoming climate, engaging internal and external stakeholders, embracing diversity and excellence as well as promoting sustainable development and a better quality of life.

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**MISSION**

To prepare the next generation of PASSIONATE, INNOVATIVE, multicultural and ethical professionals and transformative LEADERS in engineering, technology, and computer science who are sought after by industry, government, and academia.

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**GOALS (and initiatives)**

- Goal 1:** Cultivate LEADERSHIP culture & FAMILY CLIMATE
- Goal 2:** Enhance STUDENT SUCCESS & DEVELOPMENT with special focus on LEADERSHIP skills.
- Goal 3:** Expand OPPORTUNITIES
- Goal 4:** Enhance PARTNERSHIPS
- Goal 5:** Enhance gender/ethnic DIVERSITY as well as INCLUSION of persons with disabilities.
- Goal 6:** Enhance RESEARCH, INNOVATION and ENTREPRENEURSHIP.



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**NSF'S 10 BIG IDEAS**



**#1 BIG IDEA**

Future of Work | Growing Converging Research | Harnessing the Data Revolution | Mid-scale Research Infrastructure | Navigating the New Arctic

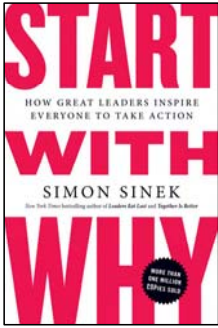
NSF 2026 | NSF INCLUDES | Quantum Leap | Understanding the Rules of Life | Windows on the Universe

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How have you sought to model  
"Passionate Leadership?"

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*"People don't care how much you know, until they know how much you care."*  
-Theodore Roosevelt




**START WITH WHY**  
HOW GREAT LEADERS INSPIRE EVERYONE TO TAKE ACTION  
SIMON SINEK

UTRGV College of Engineering & Computer Science

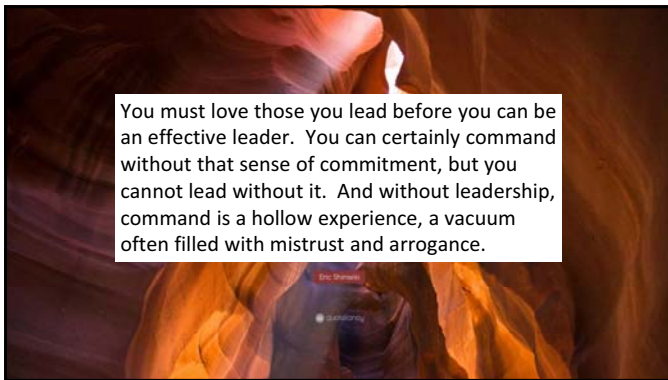
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*"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."*  
-John Quincy Adams



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You must love those you lead before you can be an effective leader. You can certainly command without that sense of commitment, but you cannot lead without it. And without leadership, command is a hollow experience, a vacuum often filled with mistrust and arrogance.

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**Maricela Lizzano, Ph. D.**  
UTRGV Mechanical Engineering Graduate





**GREAT Minds IN STEM**



Most Promising Engineer – Advanced Degree, Ph.D.

Maricela Lizzano, Ph.D.  
Research Materials Engineer  
Materials Chemistry and Physics Branch  
NASA Glenn Research Center

UTRGV College of Engineering & Computer Science

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**Mario Gonzalez**  
Civil Engineering Senior

UTRGV College of Engineering & Computer Science

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**Brandon Ramirez (UTRGV 2019 Graduate)**







*"It's more than just a bike"*

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How have you developed and supported the use of "Inclusive Policies & Procedures?"

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**Policy is Necessary but not Sufficient**

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How have you "Provided Support for Underrepresented Minority (URM) Faculty?"

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- EDGE Next Steps**
1. Sign the [ASEE Engineering Dean's Diversity Pledge](#) (contact Nathan Kahl [N.Kahl@asee.org](mailto:N.Kahl@asee.org))
  2. Join the [EDGE Listserv](#) to learn the latest gender equity information: <https://edge.asee.org/>
  3. Register for the next [EDGE Showcase Webinar](#) with Dean Scott Ashford, Oregon State University, [Disrupting Process to Dismantle Culture](#) (see [EDGE Showcase Webinar Series](#): <https://edge.asee.org/webinar-series/>)

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- EDGE Next Steps (Continued)**
5. Use the state-of-the-art [EDGE College Self-Assessment Tool](#), and <https://edge.asee.org/self-assessment-tool/>
  - Contribute to the [EDGE College Self-Assessment Tool Pilot Program](#)
    - Help us identify a subset of questions for proposed [ASEE's National Gender Equity Indicators](#) data base
      - contact Gretal Leibnitz ([EDGE.Leibnitz@gmail.com](mailto:EDGE.Leibnitz@gmail.com))
  6. **NEW!** Check out the [EDGE app](#) for total engineering faculty counts (working to update URM info & incorporate 20 years of ASEE Profiles data) <https://shinyapps.asee.org/apps/EDGE/>

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**Interested in participating in the EDGE  
College Self-Assessment Tool Pilot  
Programs?**

Contact:  
Gretal Leibnitz, Ph.D.  
Co-PI & EDGE Project Director  
[Edge.Leibnitz@gmail.com](mailto:Edge.Leibnitz@gmail.com)

Or Visit:  
<https://edge.asee.org/self-assessment-database/>

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