Position Specification

Founding Director of the South Texas Diabetes and Obesity Institute (STDOI) & Director, Edinburg-Regional Academic Health Center (E-RAHC)

University of Texas Health Sciences Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA)-located at the RAHC- Lower Rio Grande Valley

Opportunity

- Since the Edinburg-RAHC’s dedication in 2006, The University of Texas has continued to make a growing commitment to healthcare research and education in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. This is culminating in the development of a new medical school with support from the Texas legislature and the community. The Founding Director of the South Texas Diabetes and Obesity Institute (STDOI) & Director, Edinburg-Regional Academic Health Center (E-RAHC) will lead the effort to grow and expand obesity and diabetes research within the region. This rare opportunity will allow the Director to build a program that will address this vital need and have significant impact on the quality of health for the region. The successful candidate will be positioned to continue in an expanded leadership role in the new school of medicine and the merger of University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA) and University of Texas Brownsville (UTB). Significant resources are available to support the director as well as a large research team of faculty investigators.

The Position:

Reporting Structure:

Received: Will report to the Vice Dean for Research of the School of Medicine in San Antonio until a Founding Dean for the new school of medicine is identified.

Given: Provides direct and indirect supervision and management to South Texas Diabetes and Obesity Institute, faculty of the E-RAHC as well as to support staff located within the Institute and E-RAHC

Position Summary:

This position is responsible for enhancing the intellectual atmosphere for research and academic achievement for faculty, students and residents at E-RAHC and STDOI. The E-RAHC is a free-standing 50,000 square foot medical research facility with 27,500 square foot dedicated research space. Within the current space there are:

- 12 state-of-the-art labs, 12 faculty offices, 2 conference rooms, 2 classrooms, and 8 administrative offices.
- Three core facilities (Biomarkers, Optical Microscopy, Flow Cytometry)
- Immunologic, imaging and molecular biology laboratories
- Biosafety Level (BSL)-3 laboratory for infectious disease research
- Laboratory Animal facility for development of animal models for translational research.

The primary role of this individual is to direct the research institute, recruit faculty and foster research in the Lower Rio Grande Valley in support of the new medical school.
The Director of the STDOI & E-RAHC may also become the founding chair for the department of Biomedical Sciences for the new medical school. Expertise in diabetes and or obesity research is highly desirable. Resources are available for the Director to bring a large research group.

**Key Responsibilities**

Performs a combination of the following duties:

- Creates an atmosphere and standards for cutting-edge, world-class research at the STDOI & E-RAHC including enhancing and establishing successful externally funded research programs.
- Responsible for the management and administration of all operations for the E-RAHC
- Advises the School of Medicine Dean, Vice Dean for Research and/or Founding Dean on research issues involving the STDOI & E-RAHC
- Manages documentation related to the E-RAHC faculty in regard to research
- Able to articulate a vision for STDOI & E-RAHC research in coordination with the educational and service missions in the Lower Rio Grande Valley
- Coordinates with other institutions, deans, chairs at UTHSCSA as well as regional institutions regarding research programs for faculty, students or residents
- Manages the research budget to ensure financial stability for the STDOI & E-RAHC and oversees monthly and annual account reconciliations
- Works with the Vice Dean/Founding Dean on recruitment and retention of E-RAHC faculty
- Interacts with Department Chairs of the academic homes of STDOI & E-RAHC faculty members to jointly evaluate and discuss shared faculty and work towards the creation of a new Department of Biomedical Sciences
- Networks and interacts with other University research groups to create interdisciplinary programs
- Performs other duties as assigned
The Candidate:

**Education/Certifications/Licensure**

M.D. and/or Ph.D. required. Qualified candidates will have attained the rank of Professor or Associate Professor. Applicants must have achieved distinction as a respected researcher, educator and leader among his/her peers.

**Professional Qualifications/Experience**

- Recognized leader in diabetes or obesity research with a sustained record of outstanding peer reviewed NIH funding, publications and academic accomplishments
- Strong management experience and demonstrated leadership abilities in an academic organization
- Strong interest in development of faculty, student, and resident research activities

**Personal Characteristics**

- A personality and style that are grounded in partnering, collegiality and consensus-building, coupled with the ability to make and support decisions.
- Strong leadership and team building skills; the capacity to communicate effectively with diverse internal and external constituencies; a highly collaborative management style; the recognition that results are accomplished through others; and the ability to look at complex issues through multiple perspectives.
- Person of personal and professional integrity, principle and knowledge, earning respect and support when making difficult decisions and choices.
- Visionary, with knowledge that will inspire researchers to address pathology related to obesity, diabetes and related health issues.
- An individual with a contagious passion for his/her work and the ability to garner support to meet objectives.
- Strong leader with the ability and willingness to make difficult decisions and choices and communicate those decisions clearly to all constituencies.
- Person must be sensitive to local community health needs and enjoy playing a visible role in the community in support of the mission.
- Self-confident and assured with significant presence and charisma, but with a balanced ego; able to attract, hire, develop and retain strong faculty and residents.

A high energy individual with a strong work ethic and high expectations for performance. A person, who leads by example, sets strong professional and personal standards for every activity.