

# Enhancing Research and Innovation: UTRGV University Library's PTRC Designation



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The UTRGV University Library, at both the Edinburg and Brownsville campuses, has been officially designated as a Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC) by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). This designation marks a significant milestone, opening new doors for research, innovation, and entrepreneurship across UTRGV and the entire Rio Grande Valley. This poster is designed to celebrate and promote this exciting development by highlighting benefits to the RGV community, spotlighting the PTRC Libguide, and sharing details about the grand opening events.

### **Benefits To The RGV Community**

Rio Grande Valley innovators will no longer need to drive 300 miles to the nearest patent office in Austin to secure intellectual property protection.

Both the UTRGV Library - Edinburg Campus and UTRGV Library - Brownsville Campus are now designated as <u>Patent and Trademark Resource Centers (PTRCs)</u> by the <u>United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)</u>.

The PTRCs are an exceptional resource for the RGV community, faculty, and students. The PTRC representatives at each library location are now trained to help RGV inventors, researchers, and other community members find the information they need to protect their intellectual property (IP).

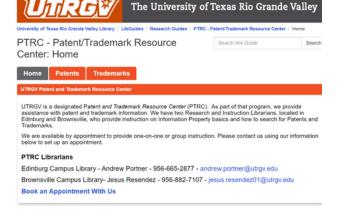
While PTRC representatives cannot provide legal advice, they can help the RGV community by

- Showing how to use patent and trademark search tools
- Explaining the application process
- Assisting in using the USPTO's directory of local patent attorneys
- Offering courses on IP (varies by location)
- Helping find patent and trademark owner and assignee information
- Connecting to USPTO resources

#### PTRC Representatives @ the University Library

Members of the Rio Grande Valley community can receive support with patent and trademark information at the UTRGV University Library, located on both the Brownsville or Edinburg campuses. Two Research and Instruction Librarians, one at each campus, have undergone specialized training in intellectual property resources, and are available to assist with inquiries. They have developed a Patent/Trademark Resource Center guide to help navigate these topics.

#### **PTRC Guide**



## **Grand Opening**

The UTRGV <u>Division of Research</u> and <u>University Library</u>, in collaboration with the <u>Entrepreneurship and Commercialization Center (ECC)</u>, organized the grand openings of the PTRCs on May 1st at the Mission Center for Education & Economic Development (Upper Valley) in Mission, Texas and May 2nd at the eBridge Center for Business and Commercialization (Lower Valley) in Brownsville, Texas.



The ribbon-cuttings for the centers were part of <u>RGV Startup</u> Week, held from April 25 to May 2.



