
Call for Posters Presenters

**Southwest Binational Workshop: El Paso, TX
June 10-12, 2019 • Tomás Rivera Conference Center (Union East 308)**

ORSP invite **UTEP graduate students** currently engaged in research of the US-Mexico border or emerging binational challenges along the border region to present a poster at the Border Solutions Alliance workshop.

The Alliance for Binational Border Communities will foster collaborative research to identify and solve mutual infrastructural, public health, environmental, and economic issues along U.S. - Mexican border. Research collaborations established from proposed series of workshops will lead to development and implementation of smart-technology solutions for long-standing trans-border community issues.

**Event Location:** **Tomás Rivera Conference Center (Union Building East 308)**

**Poster Session: 5:30pm – 6:30pm on June 10, 2019**

**Deadline/Selection:** **Complete this form and send to llmacias@utep.edu**



1. **Name(s) of individuals who will be presenting the poster on Jun 10th:**
2. **Presenter(s) email:**
3. **Please select the category that describes your presentation:**

\_\_\_**Category A:**

Water & Sewage Management

**\_\_\_Category B:**

Disaster Mangaement & Resiliency

**\_\_ Category C:**

Border Healthcare

**\_\_\_Category D:**

Immigration & Border Communities

1. **The information you provide below will be used in conference handouts should your poster be selected. Please provide the following:**

**1) Title of your poster**

**2) List of individuals associated with your presentation and**

**3) Abstract (300 words or less in language that is intended for a wide audience)**

**\*Use the following example to model the format that we are requesting.**

**EXAMPLE FORMAT to model using Calibri font, 11 point:**

Applying Positive Deviance Inquiry to Issues of Assistive Technology Access in the Paso del Norte Region

Kristin Kosyluk, Assistant Professor, Health Sciences, Rehabilitation Counseling

Meagan Vaughan Kendall, Assistant Professor, Engineering, Engineering Education and Leadership

Luis Enrique Chew, Executive Director, VOLAR Center for Independent Living of and for People with Disabilities

Joey Acosta, Building Community Capacity Program Coordinator, VOLAR Center for Independent Living of and for People with Disabilities

Antonia Ostos, Master’s student, Health Sciences, Rehabilitation Counseling

Stephanie Chapman, Master’s student, Health Sciences, Rehabilitation Counseling

Traditionally, we approach complex issues by asking, “What risk factors are associated with poor outcomes?” Once these factors are identified, we use this data to design solutions to remedy the problem. Positive Deviance (PD) is an approach to solving complex social issues, which “flips” this traditional research question on its head. Instead of asking “What factors predict poor outcomes?” PD asks, “Are there individuals in the community with x, y, and z risk factors, who are successfully navigating these issues without additional resources?” PD assumes that within every community lie members whose uncommon behaviors and strategies enable them to find better solutions to problems than their peers although everyone has access to the same resources and faces the same challenges (Pascale, Sternin, & Sternin, 2010). These outliers are deviants because their uncommon behaviors are not the norm; they are positive deviants because they have found ways to effectively address the problem, while most others have not (Singhal, 2013). PD aims to uncover existing wisdom and ultimately amplify these solutions to produce programs that can be offered to the larger community to produce positive change. Our team, comprised of faculty and students from UTEP’s Department of Rehabilitation Sciences and College of Engineering, and community members including staff from VOLAR Center for Independent Living—an agency devoted to promoting independent living for individuals with disabilities in the Paso del Norte region—aims to use PD to solve issues of access to Assistive Technology (AT) for individuals with disabilities in the region. Instead of asking, “What factors are associated with poor access to AT?” we’re asking, “Are their individuals with AT needs in our region who are successfully navigating their environments without access to AT?” Engineering students will design products in partnership with people with disabilities based on the PD strategies we uncover.