

By: Guerra

H.R. No. 188

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Dr. Eluterio Blanco Jr. of The University of Texas  
2 Rio Grande Valley has been selected as a 2021 Emerging Scholar by  
3 the journal *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*; and

4           WHEREAS, A clinical assistant professor in the School of  
5 Rehabilitation Services and Counseling, Dr. Blanco launched the  
6 school's bachelor's degree program in addiction studies, an online  
7 program for future clinicians across the state and beyond; he  
8 serves as its coordinator; and

9           WHEREAS, Dr. Blanco is a licensed chemical dependency  
10 counselor with special expertise in substance use and addiction in  
11 the Hispanic community; he focuses his research on the attitudes of  
12 Latinx health practitioners toward addiction and on measures to  
13 reduce stigma and expand access to treatment; after joining UTRGV  
14 in 2015, he became coprincipal investigator on a three-year federal  
15 grant program through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
16 Services Administration; the initiative trained students pursuing  
17 degrees in health care professions to recognize and address  
18 substance abuse in patients; and

19           WHEREAS, In 2020, Dr. Blanco was named Terry B. Hale  
20 Professional of the Year by the Texas Association of Addiction  
21 Professionals; he earned his bachelor's degree in psychology at  
22 UT Austin as a first-generation student on scholarship and  
23 completed both his master's degree in clinical psychology and his  
24 doctoral degree in rehabilitation counseling at UTRGV; and

1           WHEREAS, Eluterio Blanco has distinguished himself as a  
2 dynamic young leader in an academic field of vital importance to the  
3 Hispanic community, and his accomplishments are a source of great  
4 pride to The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley; now, therefore,  
5 be it

6           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
7 Legislature hereby congratulate Dr. Eluterio Blanco Jr. on his  
8 selection as a 2021 Emerging Scholar by the journal *Diverse: Issues*  
9 *in Higher Education* and extend to him sincere best wishes for  
10 continued success; and, be it further

11           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
12 prepared for Dr. Blanco as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
13 House of Representatives.