

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.