HOW TO MOVE FROM A TEACHING INSTITUTION TO A RESEARCH INSTITUTION

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This paper describes the steps taken by the College of Engineering at the University of Texas at San Antonio to fulfill the vision of the new President to move the Institution into a Research I University. The three existing Departments of Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Electrical Engineering became part of the newly formed College of Engineering in the Fall of 2000. One of the first steps taken was the re-definition of the Programs Educational Objectives (PEO), and the Programs Outcomes (PO). In this paper is discussed the strategy followed to hire research oriented faculty, the development of research laboratories, the attraction of highly qualified students, and the transformation of teaching faculty into research faculty.

The development of graduate programs and the steps followed to increase the funded research at the College of Engineering will be discussed in detail. The leadership and the management provided by the Department Chairs has been the cabalistic required to solve the most difficult equations required for the successful move into a Research I Institution.