



**MAULI AGRAWAL, UTSA VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH**

## UTSA JOINS THE **NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO (UTSA)** has joined the National Academy of Inventors (NAI), a non-profit member organization of over 200 American and international universities, along with governmental and non-profit research institutions. Membership to the organization, which includes more than 3,000 individual inventor members and fellows, is by invitation.

Founded in 2010 to recognize and encourage inventors with patents issued from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, the NAI enhances the visibility of academic technology and innovation, encourages the disclosure of intellectual property, educates and mentor innovative students and translates the inventions of its members to benefit society.

NAI membership supports UTSA's mission to advance knowledge through top-tier research and discovery. UTSA has developed an innovation ecosystem that bridges student and faculty entrepreneurship training, prototyping, start-up competitions, venture mentor network, and investment opportunities, available to all UTSA students and faculty through the Office of the Vice President for Research and Center for Innovation, Technology and Entrepreneurship (CITE).

“By joining the National Academy of Inventors, UTSA can build collaborative relationships with other member institutions that value innovation and research as we do,” said **CHRISTINE BURKE**, director of the UTSA Office of Commercialization and Innovation. “We can also leverage the collective knowledge of the membership.”

OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, UTSA HAS GROWN ITS INNOVATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION PROGRAM BY PROVIDING NEW DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES, INCLUDING:

- The first Texas NSF I-Corps site
- Boot camps and an annual \$100,000 competition
- A mentorship network
- A New Venture Incubator program to encourage university-industry collaborations
- Novel industrial partnerships
- A proof-of-concept fund for prototype development, and
- An Entrepreneurs Academy™ that has grown to provide a support network across the entire UT System.



**“WHEN YOU ANALYZE OUR RANKINGS, ONE OF THE ATTRIBUTES THAT SETS UTSA APART IS THE NUMBER OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS OUR FACULTY PRODUCES,” ADDED MAULI AGRAWAL, UTSA VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH. “THIS MEMBERSHIP ACKNOWLEDGES THE STRIDES IN OUR GOAL OF BECOMING A TIER ONE INSTITUTION.”**

With an academic culture that encourages undergraduate research, UTSA also benefits from its 20 independent research centers and institutes. Hosting the top ranked Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) network in the country, UTSA generates a \$1.2 billion annual impact on the local community.

**THERE ARE 582 NAI FELLOWS HOLDING MORE THAN 20,000 PATENTS COLLECTIVELY. THEY REPRESENT MORE THAN 190 RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES AND GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-PROFIT RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS. DR. AGRAWAL WILL BE INDUCTED ON APRIL 15, 2016, AS PART OF THE 5TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS AT THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (USPTO) IN ALEXANDRIA, VA.**