

StartUpTrackerTexas: A Web Portal for Seed-Funding Programs

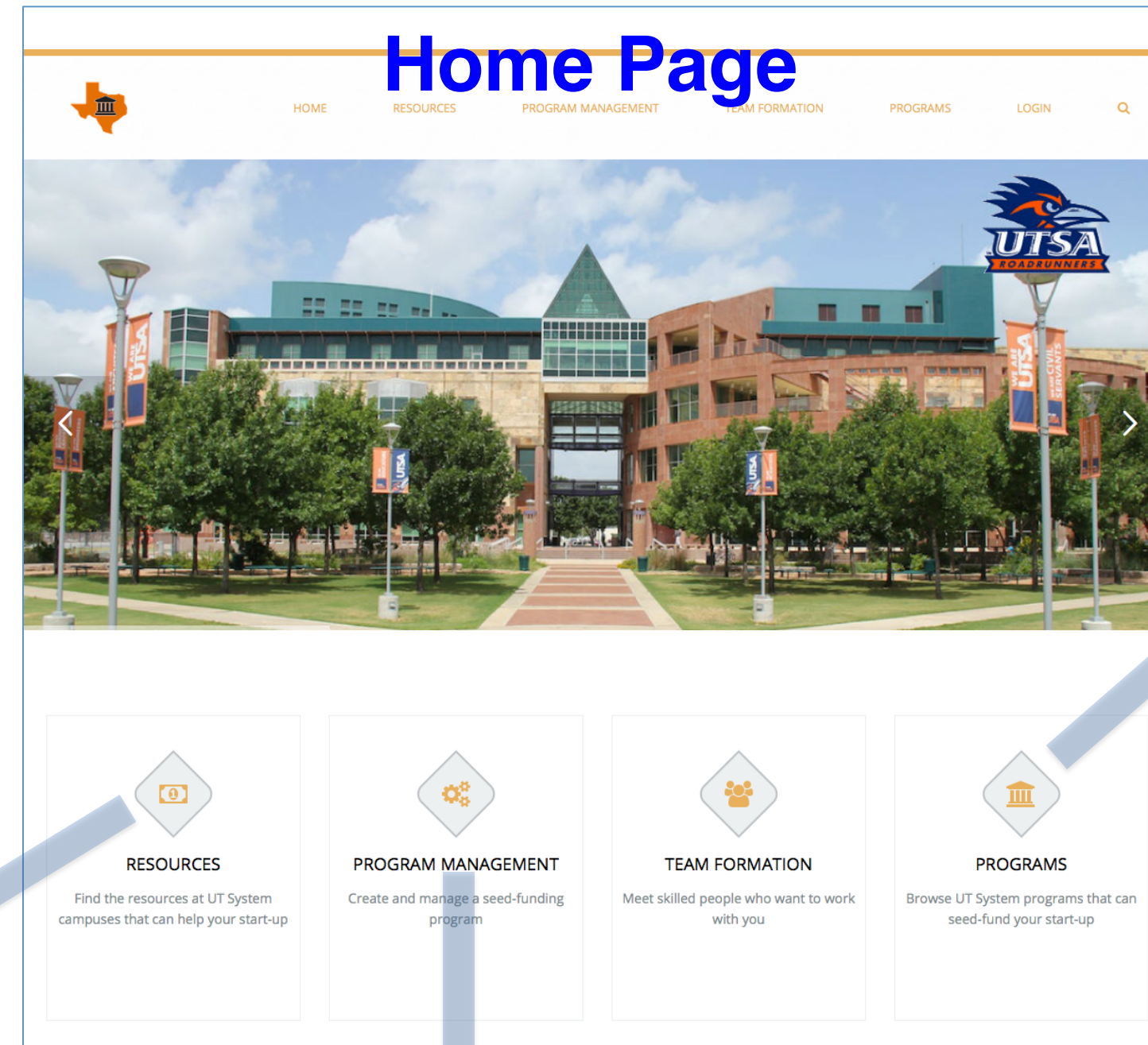
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Introduction

The Website startuptrackertexas.org provides a portal through which institutions across the University of Texas System can offer and manage programs to provide seed funding for proof-of-principle projects for start-ups. The portal was developed as part of the UTSA/UTEP/UTHSCSA Technology Entrepreneurship and Commercialization (TEC) Partnership, funded by the UT System. The portal, which went live in June, 2015, enables visitors to

- Find the resources at UT System campuses that can help their start-up
- Create and manage seed-funding programs
- Browse and apply to seed-funding programs
- Form teams by meeting skilled people who want to work with them

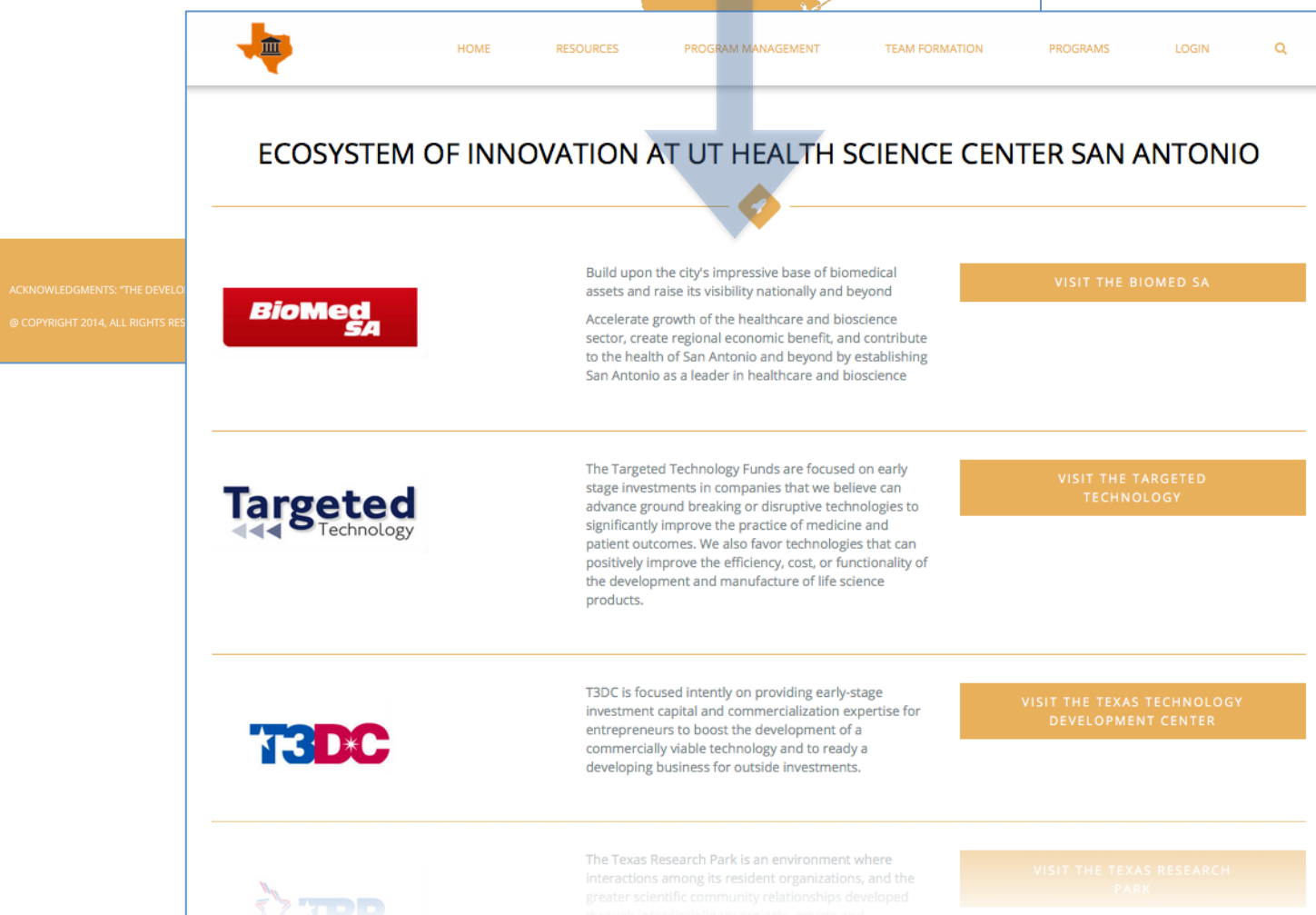
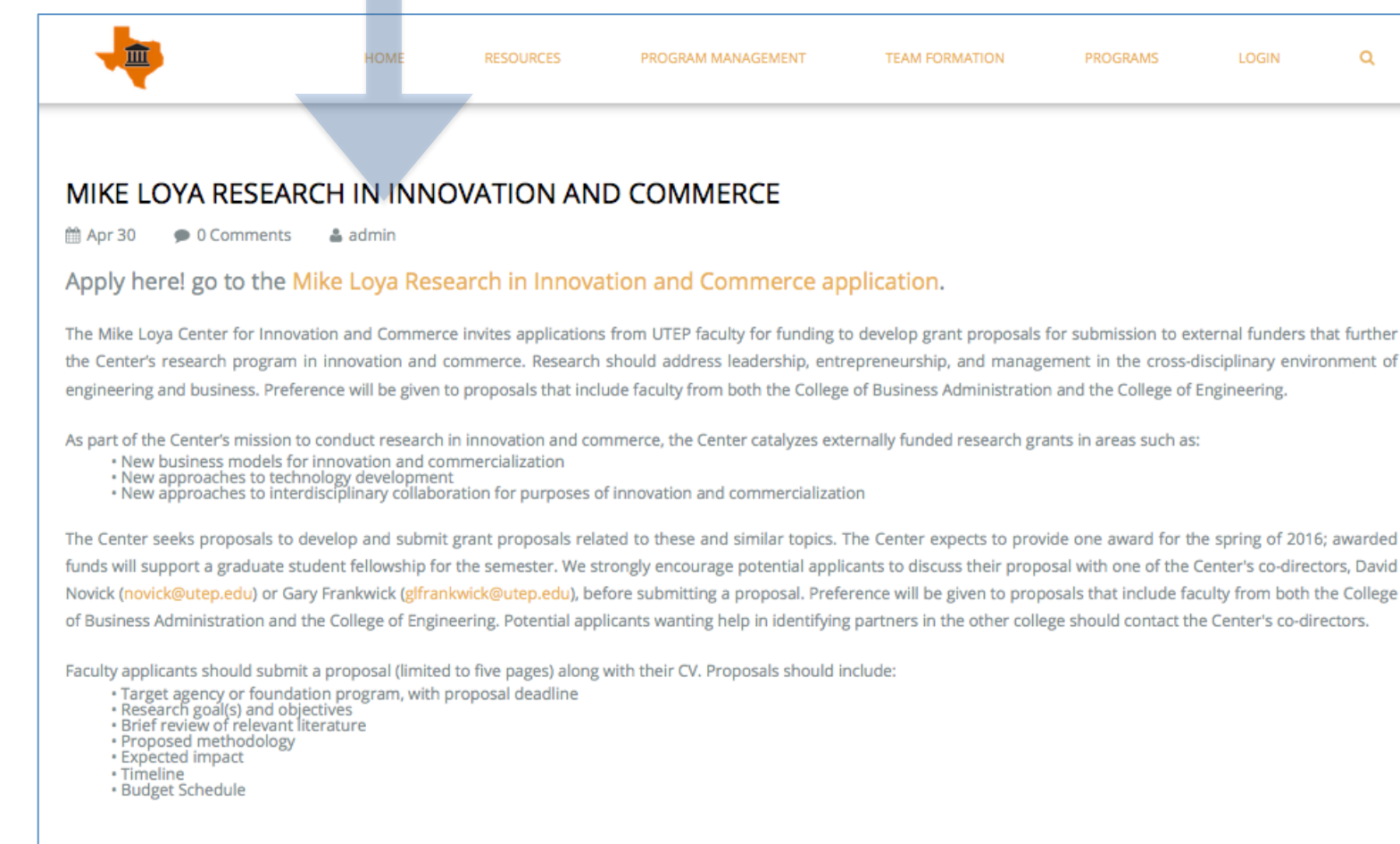
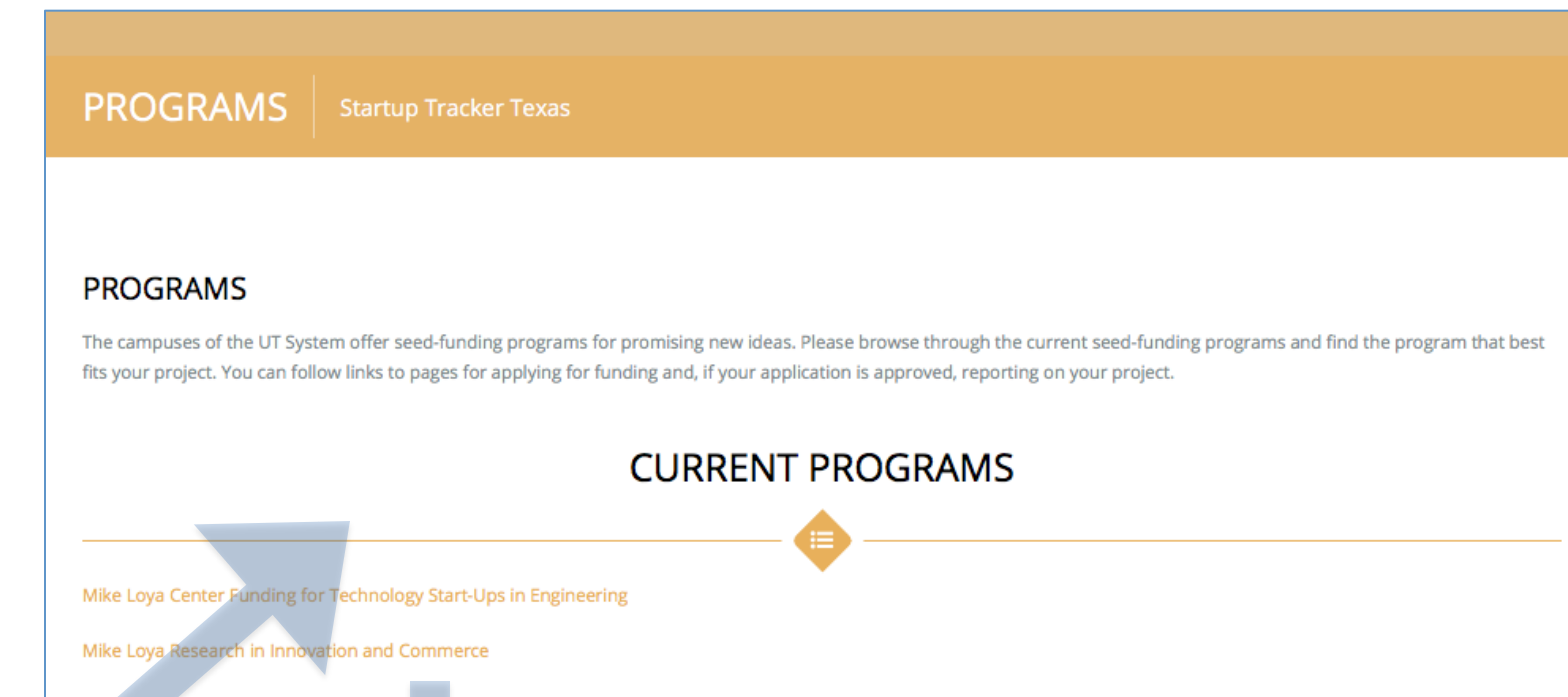
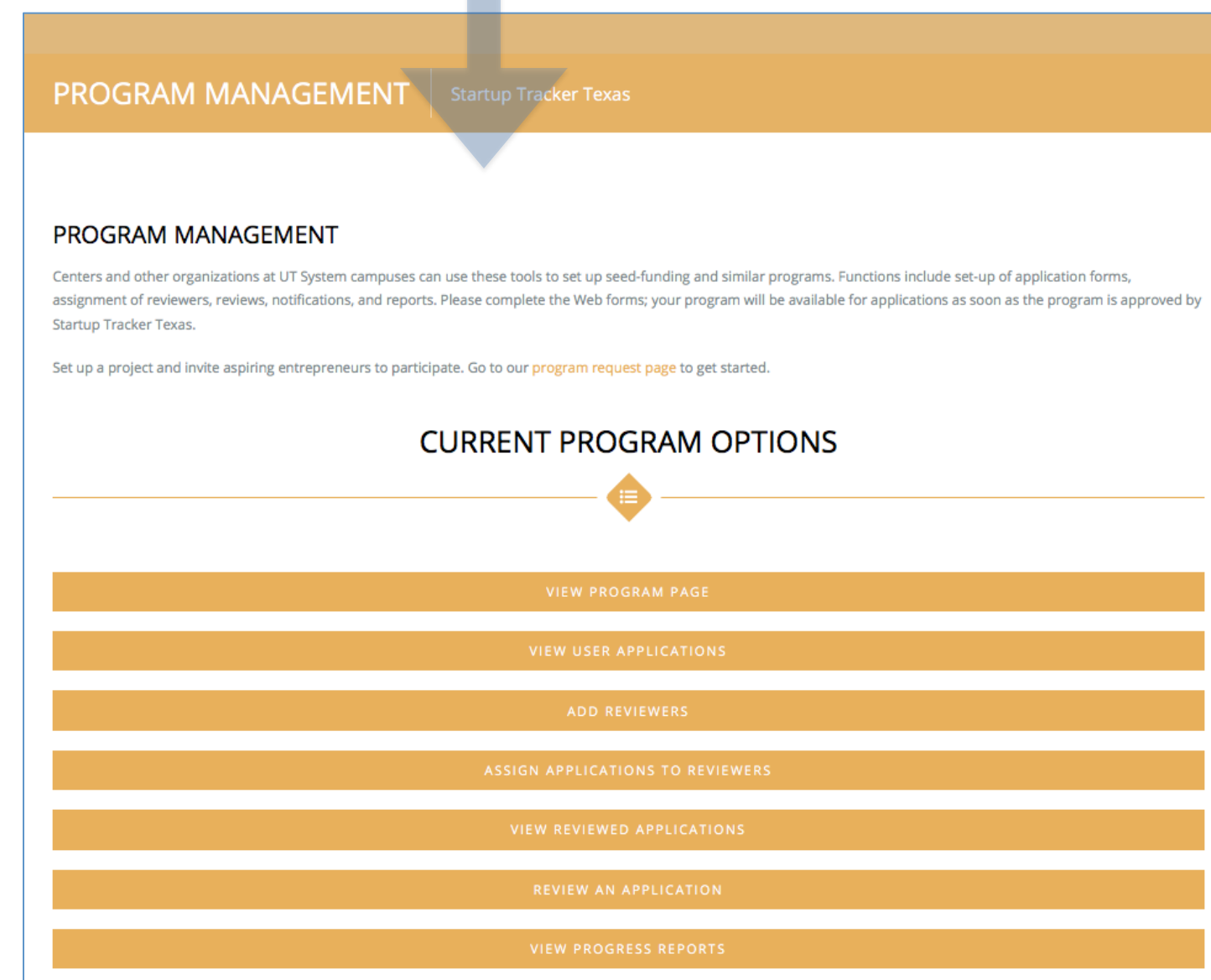
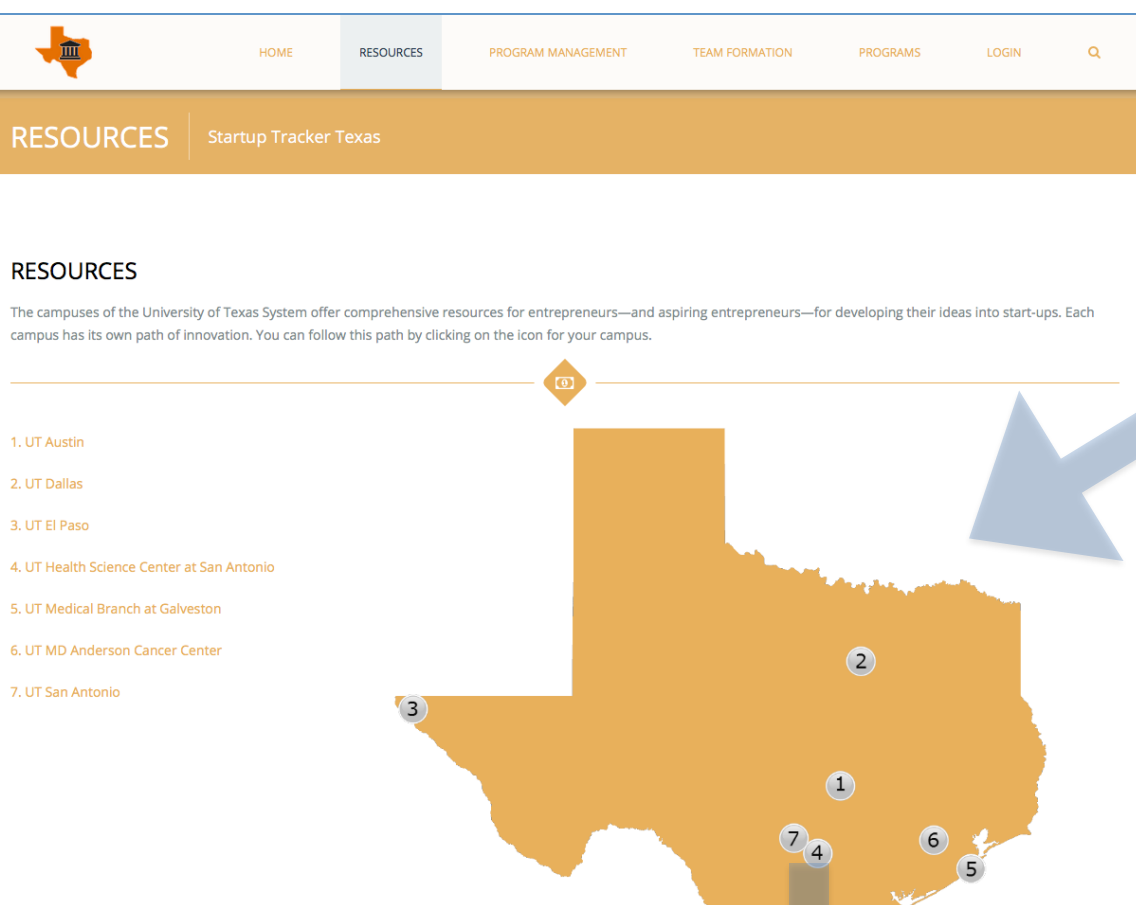
The team-formation page provides a forum in which faculty can ask for or offer to provide help with a start-up; site administrators can manage forum traffic to delete spam and trolling. UT System schools can use the portal's forms-based interface to build application forms for support, and faculty at these schools can then apply for this support.



The **Resources** page provides links to E&I resources at participating UT institutions, enabling start-ups and others interested in I&E to find support organizations on campus and in the community.

The **Program Management** page enables participating UT institutions to create, offer and track seed-funding and other I&E-related grant programs. The portal supports also supports associated processes for reviewing applications and reporting on results from awarded projects.

The **Programs** page enables faculty, staff, and students at participating UT institutions to find and apply for seed-funding and other E&I-related grant programs. For example, startuptrackertexas hosts the RFP for applications for Mike Loya Center Funding for research in innovation and commerce at the University of Texas at El Paso.



Vision

- Expansion of *Resources* page from current 7 schools to all 14 UT-System institutions. The project's staff is working with centers and technology-transfer offices to provide faculty, staff, and students at the system's institutions with up-to-date information on paths for start-ups.
- Working with I&E centers to increase system-wide use of the program-management and programs features
- Providing a system-wide access to UT-System start-ups. The UT System's leadership for I&E envisages a virtual showcase across the state of Texas that enables potential funders and customers to explore the many ventures developed at UT campuses and from UT technology.

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