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Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
Vision & Mission

Vision

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is committed to becoming one of the leading centers of higher education in the Gulf of Mexico region while serving the intellectual, cultural, social, environmental, and economic needs of South Texas. As a result, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi will invigorate and strengthen the region and state through its educational programs, research initiatives, and outreach efforts.

Mission

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is an expanding, doctoral-granting institution committed to preparing graduates for lifelong learning and responsible citizenship in the global community. We are dedicated to excellence in teaching, research, creative activity, and service. Our supportive, multicultural learning community provides undergraduate and graduate students with a challenging educational experience. The university's federal designation as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) provides a foundation for closing educational gaps, while its strategic location on the Gulf of Mexico and on the cultural border with Latin America provides a basis for gaining national and international prominence.

Office of Community Outreach

Mission

The Office of Community Outreach is dedicated to achieving the Imperatives of Momentum 2015 by building successful community/University partnerships, engaging faculty and students, and providing programs to meet community needs.

Established in 1993, Outreach insures that resources of the University, including facilities, knowledge and expertise, and volunteer hours, are available to meet community needs. All age levels are served through Outreach, and one does not need to be a University student to receive Outreach services. Through creative problem-solving, Outreach staff works with community partners and University faculty, students, and staff to assist the Coastal Bend community with a variety of services including events & conferences, workforce & economic development, continuing education, youth programs, and environmental outreach. Outreach fully supports the University’s commitment to the community established in the Momentum 2015 Strategic Plan.

Community Outreach acknowledges Dr. Diana Cardenas’ Technical and Professional Writing students Denise Dominquez, Samantha Howard, and Leah Lopez for producing the original Outreach Annual Report in 2007.
Continuing Education/Professional Development

Professional Development for Career and Technical Education Teachers
- Carole Moody, Crystal Seehorn
- Client: Texas Education Agency

Community Outreach was awarded a $450,000 grant by Texas Education Agency (TEA) to plan, promote, and conduct statewide, professional development programs for new Career and Technical Education (CTE) teachers, administrators, and counselors. The primary outcomes were the development of a Career and Technical Education Professional Development website, a statewide conference for new CTE teachers, and a three-phased leadership academy for new CTE directors, counselors, and administrators. In addition, Moody oversaw the development of strategic plans for designing and implementing professional development for each of the nine new CTE courses that satisfy high school graduation requirements for mathematics or science.

Continuing Education Certificates
- Carole Moody

Community Outreach is charged with administering continuing education and professional development programs at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. The Director of Workforce Development partners with faculty to ensure compliance with professional continuing education standards and University policies, and issues continuing education units (CEUs) and certificates.

Customized Training Programs
- Carole Moody, Joe Miller, Jim Needham

Community Outreach partners with faculty to develop and deliver customized courses in response to community training requests. Current projects underway include Cisco training and certification workshops and a Supervisor Development and Proficiency Program for the Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce.

Pre-Advanced/Advanced Placement Teacher’s Summer Institute
- Crystal Seehorn

Endorsed by the College Board, this five-day continuing education program is designed for teachers in the Coastal Bend area and across the state to acquire new teaching techniques in the classroom to prepare middle and high-school level Advanced Placement students for higher education.
Continuing Professional Education for CPAs

- **Carole Moody**
- **Client: Texas Society of CPAs**

Community Outreach partners with the Texas Society of Certified Professional Accountants (TSCPA) to deliver continuing education seminars for CPAs seeking to maintain their professional credentials. TSCPA is a nonprofit, voluntary, professional organization committed to serving the public interest with programs that advance the highest standards of ethics and practice within the CPA profession.

**Surveying II: The Advanced Short Course**

- **Crystal Seehorn**
- **University Client: College of Science & Technology, Geographic Information Science**

This summer program was hosted by the Department of Geographic Information Science and provided surveyors from across the state with a five-day continuing professional education opportunity. Instructors for the course included professionals from industry, technical surveying software and equipment experts, an expert witness for legal surveying cases, and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi faculty.

**Online Career Development**

- **Carole Moody, Jim Needham**

Community Outreach offers a wide range of online, career development courses designed to prepare learners for high-demand occupations in healthcare, business, and computer technology. These non-credit certificate programs are intensive, blended learning courses that include both online and textbook instruction.

**Online Continuing Education (CEUs)**

- **Carole Moody, Jim Needham**

Included in Outreach’s online offerings are continuing education courses for individuals seeking to increase their knowledge in their field while receiving continuing education credits (CEUs). Courses are available for a number of professions including accounting, finance, insurance, engineering, law, software, technology, and health care.

**Online Personal Enrichment**

- **Carole Moody**

Hundreds of stimulating online courses are available through Community Outreach’s E-Learning Center. Courses are designed to enrich learners’ intellectual, cultural, and personal lives. Topics range from using the internet and popular software to foreign language and parenting skills.
Texas Educator Certification Exams

- **Carole Moody**
- **Client: Educational Testing Services, Texas Education Agency**

Community Outreach partners with Educational Testing Services (ETS) to administer Texas Educator certification examinations for the Texas Education Agency. The exams are designed to ensure that future teachers have the content and professional knowledge necessary for an entry-level position in Texas public schools.

Test Preparation Courses

- **Jim Needham**

Community Outreach in cooperation with Educational Testing Consultants offers ACT, SAT, GRE, GMAT, and LSAT test preparation courses on campus. The GRE and GMAT test preparation courses begin in October 2010. SAT, GRE, GMAT, and LSAT courses will be offered in spring 2011. Each course is taught by an experienced instructor and provides a comprehensive review of all materials that appear on the exam.

Medical Coding and Billing & Medical Transcription Courses

- **Jim Needham**

Community Outreach and Career Step offer four online career development courses. Courses include Outpatient Medical Coding and Billing, Inpatient/Outpatient Medical Coding and Billing, Medical Transcription, and Medical Transcription Editor. Two information sessions are scheduled for October 28, 2010 with courses beginning in fall 2010.

Supervisor Development and Proficiency Program

- **Jim Needham, Steve Gomez**
- **Community Partners: Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce, Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend**

The Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce and member companies participated in focus group meetings to develop the Supervisor Development and Proficiency Program. The program includes training on a variety of topics including role of the manager, communication, setting performance expectations, conflict resolution, decision making, personal productivity, coaching to improve performance, and flexible management.

Essentials of Kayak Touring

- **Joe Miller**

This one-day American Canoe Association course taught by Joe Miller provides comprehensive, hands-on instruction for participants ranging from beginners to experienced paddlers. The course covers kayaks and equipment, paddling techniques, trip planning and safety, self rescue, and assisted rescue techniques. Participants learn the basics in the safety of the University pool and then spend the afternoon on a guided paddle at the Lighthouse Lakes Kayak Trails.
Economic and Organization Development

City of Corpus Christi Small Business Internship Program
- Jim Needham
- Client: Corpus Christi Business and Job Development Corporation

Jim Needham worked with Career Services at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and with partners Del Mar College and Workforce Solutions to develop an internship program for small businesses in Corpus Christi. The Corpus Christi Business and Job Development Corporation provides funding to match employers’ wages for upper level student interns. Employers receive top quality assistance for their businesses, students receive relevant experience at a respectable wage, and the City receives the benefit of new jobs created by growing small businesses.

Aransas Pass Chamber of Commerce Strategic Planning
- Carole Moody
- Client: Aransas Pass Chamber of Commerce

Carole Moody facilitated a strategic planning session for the Board of Directors of the Aransas Pass Chamber of Commerce. This was the fifth in a series of annual planning meetings facilitated by Carole Moody for the chamber. The Aransas Pass Chamber of Commerce is working to enhance business, tourism, recreation, and economic development in its community.

Ingleside Chamber of Commerce Strategic Planning
- Carole Moody
- Client: Ingleside Chamber of Commerce

Carole Moody facilitated a strategic planning session for the Board of Directors of the Ingleside Chamber of Commerce. This was the Chamber’s initial step towards identifying and prioritizing goals in response to significant changes impacting the Ingleside community. The mission of the Ingleside Chamber is to promote the commercial, industrial, civic, cultural, and general interest of its city and region.

Nature Tourism Council Strategic Planning
- Carole Moody
- Client: Corpus Christi Convention and Visitors Bureau

Carole Moody facilitated two strategic planning sessions for members of the Corpus Christi Convention and Visitors Bureau’s Nature Tourism Advisory Council. The purpose of the meetings was to identify strategies for developing and marketing the Coastal Bend as a premier nature tourism destination.
Youth Programs

Elite Islander Dual Credit Program
- Joe Miller
- Community Partners: Flour Bluff, Calallen, Gregory-Portland, and Corpus Christi Independent School Districts and Annapolis Christian Academy

This program delivers dual credit courses to area high school students on the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi campus. The inaugural class of Elite Islander students began attending classes in the 2008 fall semester. A new dual credit initiative with CCISD will allow students from all five district high schools to attend courses with tuition paid for by the District.

Gulf Coast Environmental Education Program
- Jim Needham, Joe Miller
- Sponsor: Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program
- Community Partners: Boys & Girls Club, Garcia Center for the Arts, Cunningham Middle School, Flour Bluff Intermediate, Homeschoolers of South Texas, National Youth Sports Program, and Audrey’s Day at the Beach
- University Partners: Jay Tarkington (Center for Coastal Studies)

This summer program provides young people with the opportunity to learn to kayak in order to explore the coastal environment. This series of camps and field trips included activities such as kayak training, environmental education, and wetland exploration. Camps included a trip with Captain Jay Tarkington aboard the Wetland Explorer to the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Talley Island Education Center. The program was sponsored by a grant from Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program.

Summer Camps
- Joe Miller
- University Partners: Multiple faculty and staff

Community Outreach provided assistance and oversight for 35 University-sponsored summer youth camps on the campus of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Support services included risk management, scheduling, facilities, accommodations, and program design. Camps included a wide variety of activities including music, theater, sports, outdoor adventure, academics, career development, and more. More than 1,600 youth participated in camps in the summer of 2010.

Summer Nutrition Program
- Joe Miller
- Sponsor: Texas Department of Agriculture
- University Partner: Kinesiology Department

Community Outreach operated this program which supplied more than 1,200 free meals to underprivileged summer campers while they attended camp on the A&M-CC campus.
**MathCounts 2010**
- *Jim Needham, Joe Miller, Crystal Seehorn*
- *Sponsors: Citgo Refining, Flint Hills Resources, Valero Refining, HDR Shiner Moseley, and Texas Society of Professional Engineers*

MathCounts is a middle school math program developed by the National Association of Professional Engineers. Community Outreach sponsored the annual MathCounts Regional Competition where teams from 12 schools across the region competed for a chance to advance to the State Competition.

**6th Annual Heart Gallery of South Texas**
- *Carole Moody*
- *Client: Texas Department of Family and Protective Services – Child Protective Services*
- *University Partners: Barbra Riley (Art Department) in the College of Liberal Arts, Roberto Garcia (Garcia Arts & Education Center) in the College of Education*
- *Photography Students: Martha Esquivel, Oscar Guerra, Sacha Brown*

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi photography students created a traveling photo exhibit of local foster children hoping to find permanent, loving families. The Heart Gallery is an annual community engagement project led by the College of Liberal Arts to raise awareness of Child Protective Service’s foster adoption program. The exhibit features children who are harder to place due to their age, usually 9 years and above, or because they are in a sibling group. More than 40 of the children included in the Heart Gallery have been placed in adoptive homes since the project began in 2005.
Pollution Prevention Partnership

Public Outreach and Education

- Gretchen Arnold
- Sponsors: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, City of Corpus Christi

The public education and outreach program of the Pollution Prevention Partnership provides information to the community about air quality and recommends practices to keep Corpus Christi air within national air quality standards. Information is presented to the community at Clean Air Fairs where visitors can test drive clean vehicles and participate in many other “clean air” activities. Outreach activities also include teacher workshops that provide educational materials for K-12 “clean air” lessons and air quality presentations for the community and media.

The Pollution Prevention Partnership also works with community partners to provide information and resources to the community that seek to reduce air emissions. This year, Stripes convenience stores hosted our Drive Clean, Drive Green campaign. Over a two-week period, the Pollution Prevention Partnership AutoCheck program was at numerous Stripes locations and resulted in more than 400 vehicles being screened for pollutants. Identified polluting vehicles were repaired up to clean standards resulting in the elimination of more than 27,000 pounds of pollution which otherwise would have been released in the Coastal Bend air.

Transportation Planning and Programming

- Gretchen Arnold
- Sponsors: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Metropolitan Planning Organization, Corpus Christi RTA
- Community Partners: City of Corpus Christi, Metropolitan Planning Organization, Texas Department of Transportation

Transportation planning and programming includes providing resource tools and programs that may reduce emissions associated with transportation. Programs include the development of a bicycle/pedestrian transportation plan, clean commute public transportation plans, and the development of a web-based transportation corridor planning site.
AutoCheck
• Gretchen Arnold
• Sponsor: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

AutoCheck is a program designed to reduce harmful emissions from vehicles by providing free screening events throughout the area. Vehicles that are found to be polluting and meet certain criteria are provided a voucher to assist with repairs that reduce pollutants. Gas caps are checked for leaks and tire pressures checked and adjusted. This year Auto-Check held 18 events, screened 949 vehicles, and issued 180 repair vouchers, resulting in emissions reductions of nearly 64.43 tons per year.

Clean School Bus Program
• Gretchen Arnold
• Sponsor: U S Environmental Protection Agency
• Community Partners: The Independent School Districts of: Corpus Christi, Flour Bluff, West Oso, Tuloso-Midway, Calallen, Mathis, Beeville, Aransas County, Kingsville, and Taft.

The Clean School Bus program was completed this year and involved retrofitting 115 area school buses with pollution prevention equipment. According to the US Environmental Protection Agency, the installation of the equipment reduced emissions by approximately 27 tons.
Events & Conferences

2009 Texas ACEI Conference
- Crystal Seehorn
- University Client: College of Education

2nd International Literacy Coaching Summit
- Crystal Seehorn
- University Client: College of Education

AAPC Examinations
- Crystal Seehorn
- Community Client: American Academy of Professional Coders

American Diabetes Association Scaring Up a Cure Fundraiser
- Crystal Seehorn
- Community Client: American Diabetes Association

Buccaneer Classic Music Festival
- Crystal Seehorn
- Community Client: American Classic Music Festivals

This annual music festival allows middle and high school students in band, orchestra, and choir an opportunity to participate in a competition with students across Texas on the A&M-Corpus Christi campus.

Career and Technical Education Leadership Academy
- Crystal Seehorn
- University Client: Workforce Development at Community Outreach, Texas Education Agency

Career and Technical Education Recruitment and Retention Conference
- Crystal Seehorn
- University Clients: Workforce Development at Community Outreach, Texas Education Agency

CEDER Conference
- Crystal Seehorn
- University Client: College of Education

Coastal Bend Bays Foundation Coastal Issues Forum
- Crystal Seehorn
- Community Client: Coastal Bend Bays Foundation

Corpus Christi Round Robin Tournament
- Crystal Seehorn
- Community Client: McElite Gold
DHHC Board of Trustees Retreat
- Crystal Seehorn
- Community Client: Corpus Christi Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Mathematics and Science Community College Symposium
- Crystal Seehorn
- University Client: College of Education

South Central Renaissance Conference
- Crystal Seehorn
- University Client: College of Liberal Arts

South Texas Amateur Athletic Association Tae Kwon Do National Qualifier
- Crystal Seehorn
- Community Client: Lumampao Martial Arts

Science Faculty Collaborative Symposium II
- Crystal Seehorn
- University Client: College of Education
2010 Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Environmental Excellence Award
Civic Nonprofit Category
Environmental Outreach & Pollution Prevention

From the TCEQ publication Natural Outlook:
Each year, the Texas Environmental Excellence Awards recognize exceptional achievements toward protecting our natural resources. All award recipients have two things in common: they exemplify the “Take Care of Texas” spirit and they are enhancing the TCEQ’s efforts to protect our state’s human and natural resources while ensuring clean air, clean water, and the safe management of waste. Winners of the 2010 Texas Environmental Excellence Awards – recommended by the Governor’s Blue Ribbon Committee and approved by the Office of Governor Perry – were honored at an awards banquet during the 2010 Environmental Trade Fair and Conference, held on May 5th.
Community Outreach Staff

Jim Needham
Dr. Jim Needham is Dean of Community Outreach. He operates as a connection between the University and the Coastal Bend community. Jim has been awarded multiple grants in his work with the community. Projects include air & water quality outreach, bilge pumpout systems for harbors and marinas, youth & teacher environmental education, and small business/A&M-CC student internships. He serves with several community organizations and chairs the State Employee Charitable Campaign for the Coastal Bend Region. His education includes a Ph.D. in Architecture from Texas A&M University.

Gretchen Arnold
Gretchen Arnold is the Director of the Pollution Prevention Partnership. She develops and delivers environmental programs provided through the Pollution Prevention Partnership and obtains all funding required for delivering the programs. The Pollution Prevention Partnership was recently announced as a Blue Sky award recipient by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Her education includes a Bachelor’s and Master’s Degree in Business Administration from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. She has several years experience with environmental and regulatory programs developed in Corpus Christi.

Ed Eiland
Ed Eiland is the Program Coordinator for the Pollution Prevention Partnership AutoCheck program. AutoCheck serves Nueces and San Patricio counties and endeavors to reduce vehicle emissions by identifying and repairing vehicles with high emissions. Ed graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering Technology (Control Systems) from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Ed is retired from the U.S. Navy where he served on numerous FBM Submarines as a Missile Technician.

Deanne (Dee Dee) Hubenak
Dee Dee joined Community Outreach in March of 2008. She is responsible for the office accounts and purchases, and assists and supports the Dean and Directors with their grants, events, programs, conferences, and camps. Dee Dee has worked in a variety of industries as an internal auditor and accountant. Prior to her appointment with Community Outreach, she worked at the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Bookstore for almost six years as a Retail Accountant. Dee Dee graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration - Accounting degree from Texas A&I University in Kingsville. She is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors.
Joe Miller

Joe Miller is the Director of Education & Youth Issues. He is responsible for developing and implementing a variety of initiatives designed to improve the lives of young people in the Corpus Christi community. Joe designs and implements programs for at-risk youth, coordinates all University summer camps, and oversees the University Dual Credit Program. Joe earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos, and is currently a student in the Master of Public Administration program at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

Carole Moody

Carole Moody is Director of Workforce and Economic Development. She plans, manages, and delivers programs to enhance the Coastal Bend’s workforce and economy. She collaborates with A&M-Corpus Christi faculty to develop training programs, conduct economic research, and provide management consulting services. She has 20 years of business and economic development experience. Carole graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelors of Arts degree in English and Spanish from Texas Lutheran University and earned her Master of Business Administration degree from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

Crystal Seehorn

Crystal Seehorn is the Events and Conferences Manager. She plans, manages, and executes mission-advancing ancillary and institutional events utilizing University and community resources and services. The services she provides help programs to be created in the Coastal Bend to benefit youth and professionals in the community. The office of Events and Conferences offers a one-stop shop for event planning, facility reservations, conference registration, and a broad array of customized event services. Crystal connects her clients to the resources needed for successful events on campus and in the community. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

Bill Hennings

Bill Hennings is Project Manager for the Pollution Prevention Partnership. His projects have involved improving air quality and water quality in the Coastal Bend Region. He earned Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Engineering from the University of Louisville, and a Master’s Degree in Business Administration from Corpus Christi State University. He served as Chairman of the Corpus Christi Air Quality Committee and as City Manager of Corpus Christi. His current activities include the Coastal Bend Council of Governments Solid Waste Advisory Committee, and the Rotary Club of Corpus Christi Sustainable Clean Water Committee.

Community Outreach Student Workers
Brenda Briones  
Sophomore in Biomedical Science  
San Antonio  

Crystal Hernandez  
Senior in Business Administration  
Robstown  

Jordan Joy  
Sophomore in Nursing  
San Antonio  

Stephanie Pena  
Senior in Sociology  
Portland  

Rebecca Simpson  
Junior in Nursing  
San Antonio  

Joanna Soriano  
Sophomore in Nursing  
San Antonio  

Shelby Stuart  
Senior in Environmental Science  
Inez  

Barbara Tharas  
Junior in Environmental Science  
Ingleside
Service and Memberships

American Society for Training and Development (ASTD) – Corpus Christi Chapter
Association of Collegiate Conference and Events Directors
Board of Certified Safety Professionals
Bold Futures
Boy Scouts of America
City of Corpus Christi Unified Development Code Advisory Committee
City of Corpus Christi Watershore and Beach Advisory Committee
Coastal Bend Asthma Coalition
Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program Water & Sediment Quality Advisory Committee
Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program Human Uses Advisory Committee
Coastal Bend Bays Foundation
Coastal Bend Center for Independent Living
Coastal Bend Nature Tourism Initiative Advisory Committee
Coastal Bend Ozone Task Force/Air Quality Committee
Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce Infrastructure Committee
Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce Small Business Committee
Corpus Christi Community Advisory Council
Corpus Christi Human Resources Management Association
Corpus Christi Independent School District GPS Mentorship Program
Corpus Christi Oil and Gas Advisory Committee
Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation Business Expansion and Retention Response Team
Drive Clean Across Texas Advisory Committee
Education Workforce Issues Managers Group
Environmental Protection Agency Blue Skyways Coalition
Flint Hill Resources Community Action Council
Go-Center Advisory Board
Local Emergency Planning Committee
Long Term Health Group
Moody T-STEM Academy Advisory Board
Nueces County Community Action Planning Team
Nueces County Parks Board
Regional Transportation Authority Alternative Fuel Advisory Committee
Selective Service System Board
State Employee Charitable Campaign
State of Texas Bicycle Advisory Committee
Surfrider Foundation-Coastal Bend Chapter
Texas Association of Partners in Education
Texas Association of Pupil Transporters
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Clean Air Public Round Table
Texas Coastal Bend Regional Tourism Council
Texas State Museum of Asian Cultures Board of Directors
World Affairs Council of the Coastal Bend
Youth Continuum of Care Coalition