



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
CORPUS CHRISTI

2022

ANNUAL REPORT

TEXAS A&M-CORPUS CHRISTI FOUNDATION

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Ed Cantu '81

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Laurie Cook, CPA | *Collier Johnson and Woods, Accountant for Foundation*

Michael Dellinger | *Financial Advisor for Foundation*

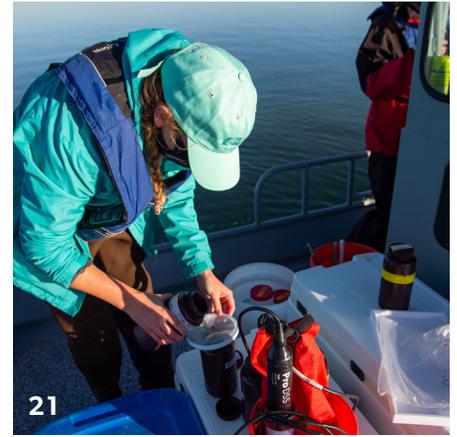
Jaime Nodarse Barrera | *Vice President for Institutional Advancement*

Julian Lopez | *Foundation Coordinator*





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Dear Islanders,



"Working together with our unparalleled faculty, staff, and supporters, our students embrace new opportunities and challenges as they learn, succeed, and eventually cross the graduation stage."

Here at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, 2022 was truly an exciting time to be an Islander. With our largest incoming freshman class since 2018 last fall, our Island has grown in size and in strength as new generations of students find their way to our shore. Working together with our unparalleled faculty, staff, and supporters, our students embrace new opportunities and challenges as they learn, succeed, and eventually cross the graduation stage.

In the pages to follow, you will see examples of the innovative programs you support, the outstanding civic and academic work being done here on campus, and stories of outstanding Islanders — stories like that of Kayla, a first-generation student and nursing major who has dedicated her life to serving others. When Kayla is not completing rigorous coursework, she is volunteering at service events and donating her summers to volunteer at a children's hospital. Students like Kayla are perfect examples of what it means to be an Islander, and they are the reason that partners and friends like you invest in our Island.

Along with stories like Kayla's, you will read about programmatic initiatives like our Izzy's Food Pantry, which encapsulates what it means to be part of a community. Since its creation in 2017, the pantry has distributed nearly 87,000 no-cost meals to students. That number truly represents the strength of our community and our shared commitment to one another. The pantry has evolved into a beacon of support and comfort for many of our students, and your generosity is a driving force behind that evolution.

As we venture forth into the new year with our new strategic plan, The Islander Impact 2030, I am so excited to see our strides and successes in 2023. Because of your support, we are leading the way in educating the next generation of change-makers for our community and beyond, and we want to thank you for that continued dedication.

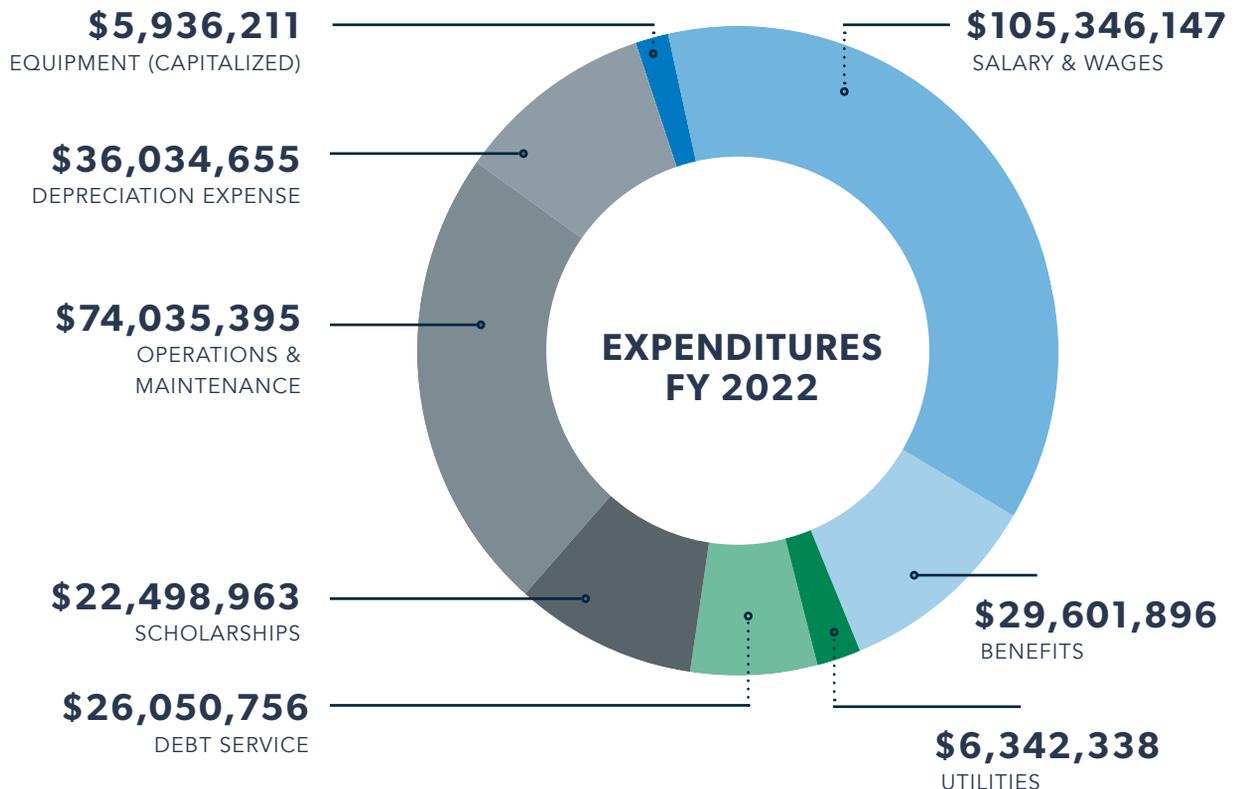
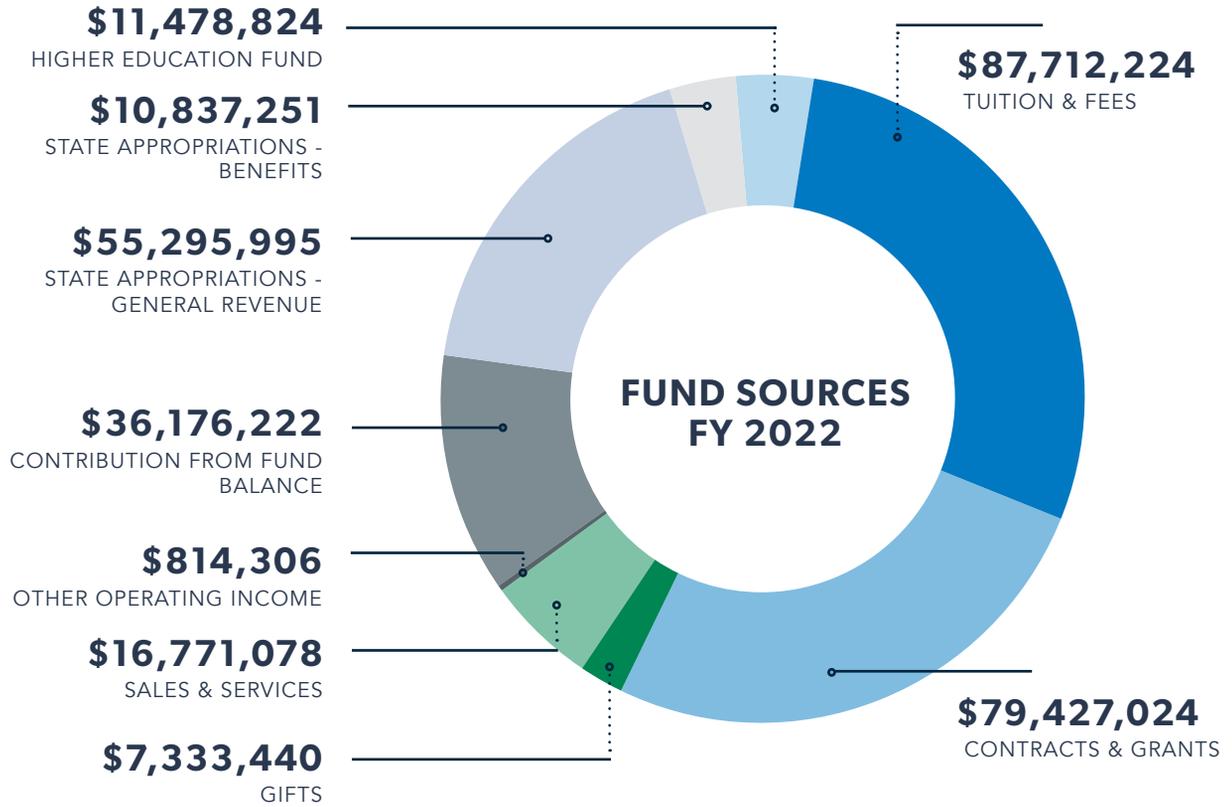
I am honored to present this year's annual report, and I thank you for supporting the success of our Island community. Islanders Forever.

Sincerely,

Kelly M. Miller, Ph.D.

President & CEO

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi



Dear Islanders, Supporters, and Friends,



"Our Island University continues to make a vital impact on the lives of countless students thanks to the steadfast support of our founding members, past board members, donors, and community leaders."

As the president of the Texas A&M-Corpus Christi Foundation, I have the privilege of serving the Islander community. Our Island University continues to make a vital impact on the lives of countless students thanks to the steadfast support of our founding members, past board members, donors, and community leaders. I am pleased to report that the foundation now manages \$47 million in its endowment and provided \$984,000 in scholarships to deserving students during the last school year.

With these funds, the foundation makes strategic contributions to the development of the university by funding scholarships, chairs and professorships, scientific research, and improvements to classroom technology. By making these contributions to the Island University, we are in turn changing the face of the future of our community. We continue to celebrate the great achievements of our university while working together to better it.

Under the leadership of Dr. Kelly M. Miller, President and CEO of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, we ensure every student's success by removing financial obstacles and strengthening the partnership between the Coastal Bend and the university. The financial commitment the foundation makes ensures that the education and university experience provided to our students shine through their Islander Impact. Working alongside Dr. Miller and her team has shown me that the future of our community can be found at the heart of the Island, in its students.

The Texas A&M-Corpus Christi Foundation sincerely thanks you for all you have done, are doing, and will continue to do for Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, its students, and the entire Islander community.

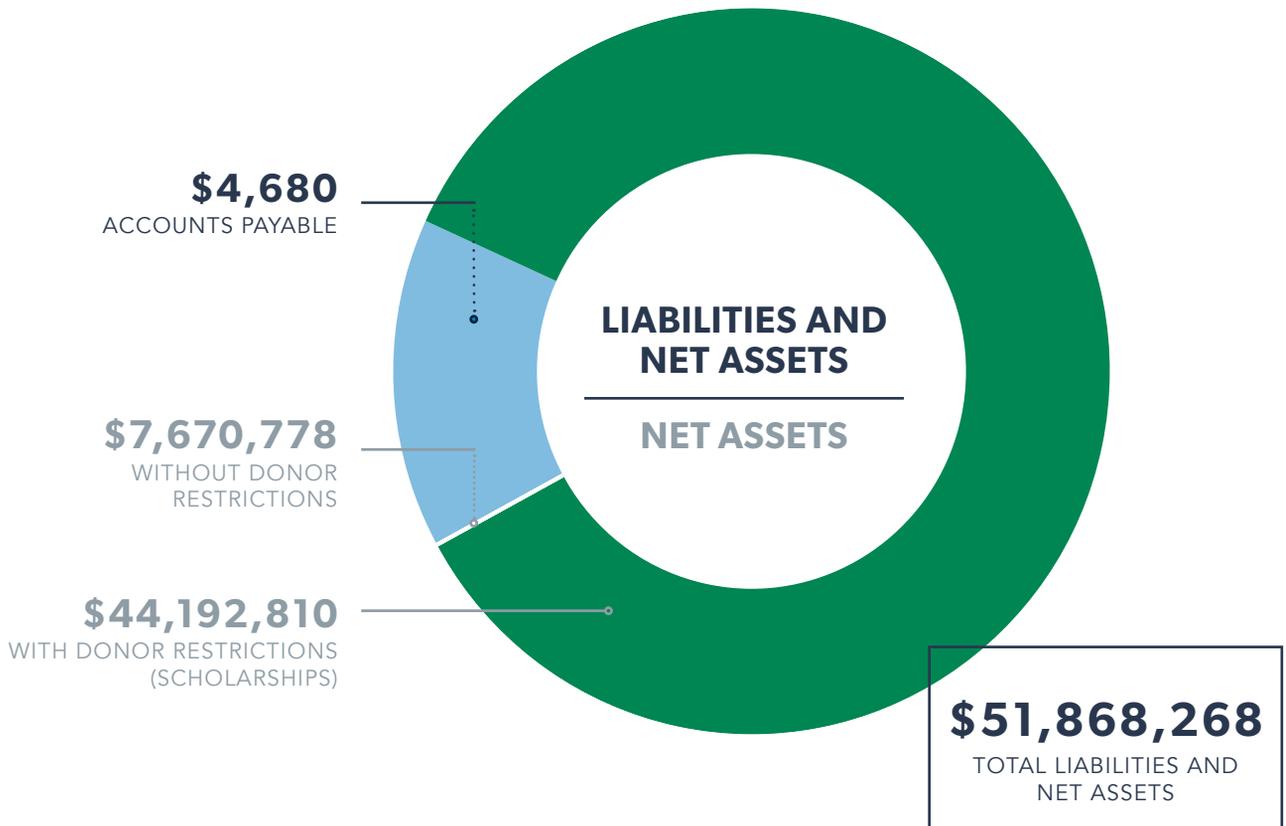
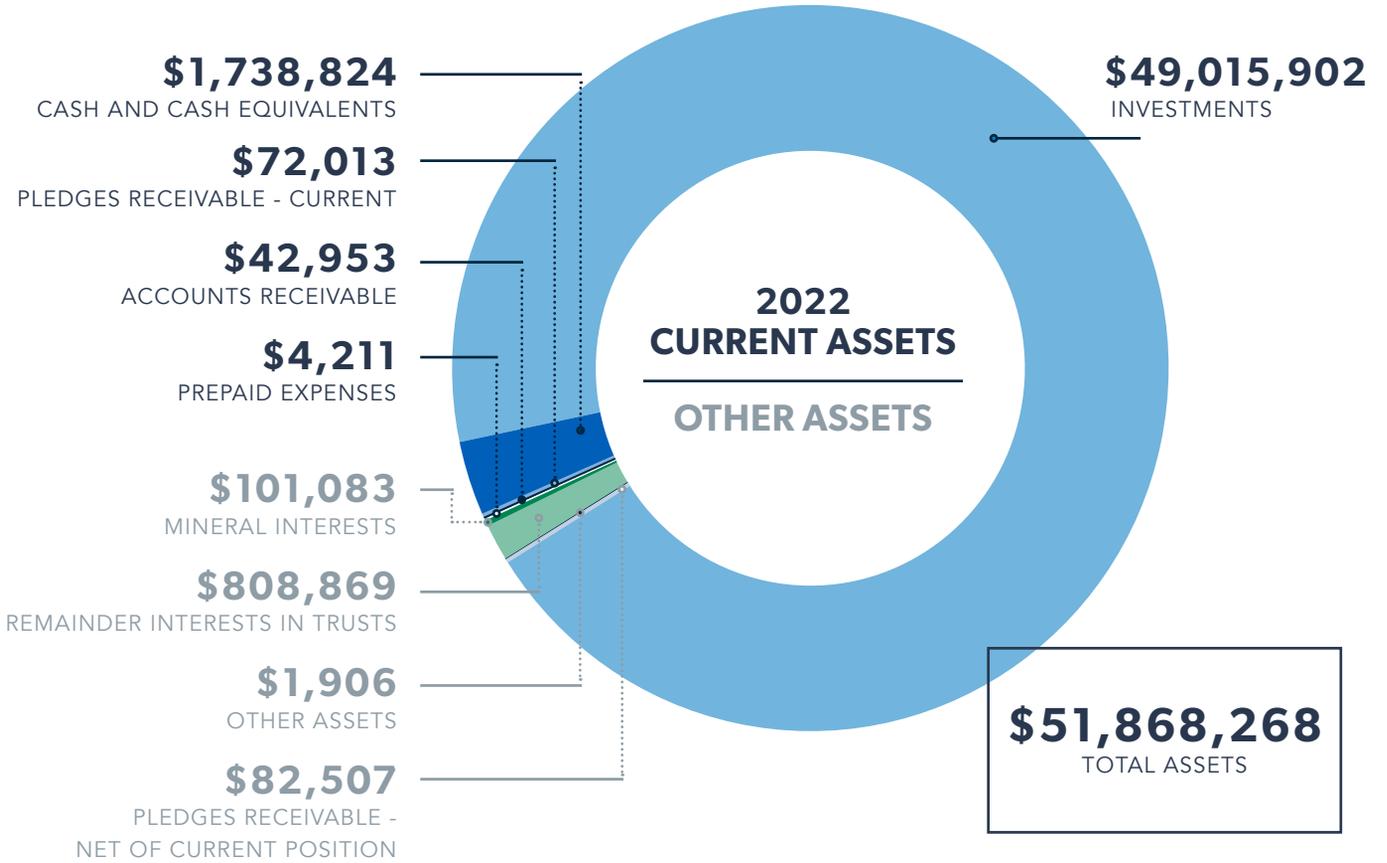
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Stephens". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Tim Stephens

President

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi Foundation

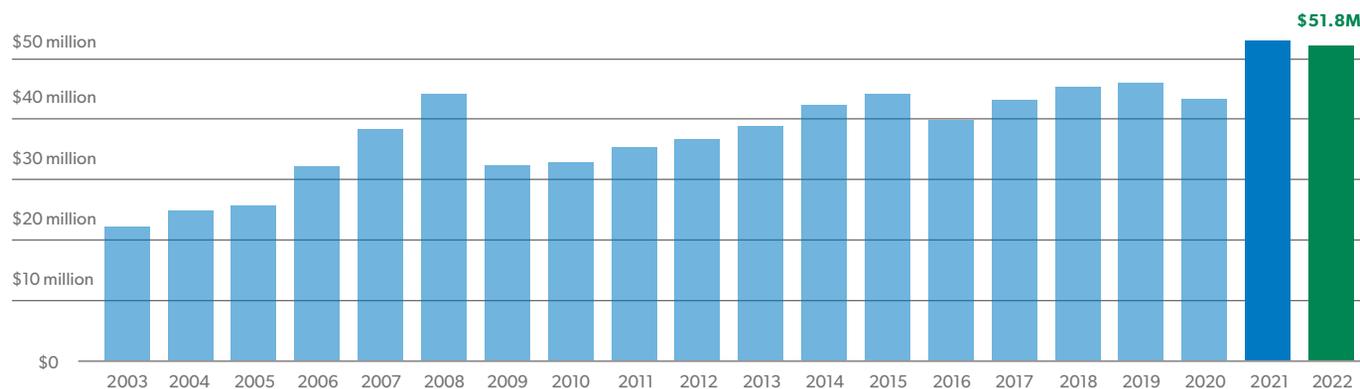


STATEMENT OF FOUNDATION FINANCIAL POSITION

For the years ending March 31, 2021 and March 31, 2022

ASSETS	2021	2022
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$2,403,665	\$1,738,824
Accounts Receivable	\$36,342	\$42,953
Pledges Receivable - Current	\$52,904	\$72,013
Investments	\$49,052,877	\$49,015,902
Prepaid Expenses	\$3,748	\$4,211
OTHER ASSETS		
Mineral Interests	\$221,851	\$101,083
Remainder Interests	\$803,864	\$808,869
Other Assets	\$1,833	\$1,906
Total Other Assets	\$1,027,548	\$911,858
PLEDGES RECEIVABLE - NET OF CURRENT POSITION	\$54,161	\$82,507
TOTAL ASSETS	\$52,631,245	\$51,868,268
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$2,848	\$4,680
NET ASSETS		
Without Donor Restrictions	\$7,937,098	\$7,670,778
With Donor Restrictions - Scholarships	\$44,691,299	\$44,192,810
Total Net Assets	\$52,628,397	\$51,868,268
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$52,631,245	\$51,868,268

FOUNDATION FYE TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS





Meet Kayla Mahler

ISLANDER STUDENT OF SERVICE

FOR KAYLA MAHLER '23, Islander nursing major, service to others is the driving force that has led to success both in the classroom as a dean's list recipient and outside of the classroom as a mentor and volunteer.

"Serving those in need not only helps those in the community, but it reminds me personally to stay humble," Mahler said. "Because of the struggles I faced when I was younger, I'm reminded how the simplest of gestures, like a blanket on a cold day or a voice of reassurance can change someone's outlook."

Mahler, a San Antonio native and first-generation college student, said her parents worked tirelessly to provide the best life for her and her older sister, but they still faced numerous hurdles including lack of access to health care and financial difficulties. Despite having never attended college themselves, Mahler's parents always reinforced the importance of higher education and its ability to open doors for opportunity.

"My parents made me the person I am," said Mahler. "Knowing I'm living their dream and creating a future they always wanted me to have motivates me to do my best. No matter what happens in my life, they are a continuous beacon of support, and I am grateful to have them in my corner."

Mahler was inspired to become a nurse so that she could advocate for those in need. She said she selected the program at TAMU-CC after a tour of campus and meet-and-greet with the nursing faculty who would eventually become an integral part of her new support system.

"My faculty have continuously helped me overcome hurdles, whether they be academic or personal," she said. "They push me to be the best student I can be and have played an instrumental role throughout my nursing school journey."

A typical day for Mahler includes a rigorous class schedule, clinical rotations, and several hours of studying. She is also employed on campus as the service director for the Student Volunteer Connection (SVC). Since taking on the role, Mahler has organized more than 75 service events, including collecting blankets and organizing hygiene kits for local nonprofit organizations that support the homeless population.

"The homeless shelters in this community hold a special place in my heart as I've known many of my family and friends who have faced the same struggles," Mahler said. "As a child, there wasn't much I could do to help, but now there's nothing that can stand in my way from trying to make someone's life better."

Mahler has also participated in numerous service events including The BIG Event, We Scare Hunger, Strides Against Breast Cancer, and Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. Additionally, she is a member of the Islander Cultural Alliance, Islander Peer Educators, and Women in Healthcare organization. She also donates her summers as a volunteer at The Children's Hospital of San Antonio.

According to Mahler, it is through acts of service that she is best able to make her Islander Impact.

"As a member of the Islander Peer Educators, we organize events that check in with students and their mental health," Mahler said. "It was during one of these events that I encountered a student who told me they were struggling with their emotions, and I was able to help refer them to counseling services. They let me know that the simple act of me listening to them was a great help in itself. I felt honored to help make a difference in someone's life."

Mahler says her volunteerism is part of a bigger dream of one day opening her own nonprofit medical clinic. The clinic, she said, would offer low-to-no-cost medical services for families in need.

"Serving those in need not only helps those in the community, but it reminds me personally to stay humble."

"Growing up, we had health insurance, but it was still so costly to go to the doctor," Mahler said. "I remember those days now when I'm out in the community serving the homeless population or those in low-income areas. No one should ever be denied the best care possible because they can't afford it. It's my dream to make sure that's the case."

Through it all, Mahler has maintained at 3.8 GPA, which has earned her a spot on the dean's list every semester since fall 2020. Mahler has also



received financial support from the university, including the Mary Hill Peer Educator Endowed Scholarship and the MaryJane Hamilton Founding Dean's Endowed Scholarship in Nursing.

"The scholarships I've received help me to maintain my focus on school and my passion for giving

back, while also eliminating the burden of financial stress from my parents," Mahler said. "Because of the opportunities university donors have given me, I'm able to make opportunities possible for others and pay their generosity forward."

Mahler offers advice for future Islanders like herself looking to

make a difference.

"When you're a first-generation college student like me, it can be overwhelming, but there's joy to be found in unexpected places," Mahler said. "Jump out of your box, leave your comfort zone, and help others. You won't regret it." •

NEW ENDOWMENTS

2022

**Bette Williams Endowed Scholarship
in Accounting**

**Dr. Bunny Forgione Honorary Endowed
Scholarship in Nursing**

**Dr. Don P. Trahan, Jr. Endowed
Scholarship Fund**

**Dr. Donald E. Joyner and Dr. Betty C.
Joyner Endowed Scholarship Fund**

**Dr. Sam Logsdon Memorial Endowed
Scholarship in Music Fund**

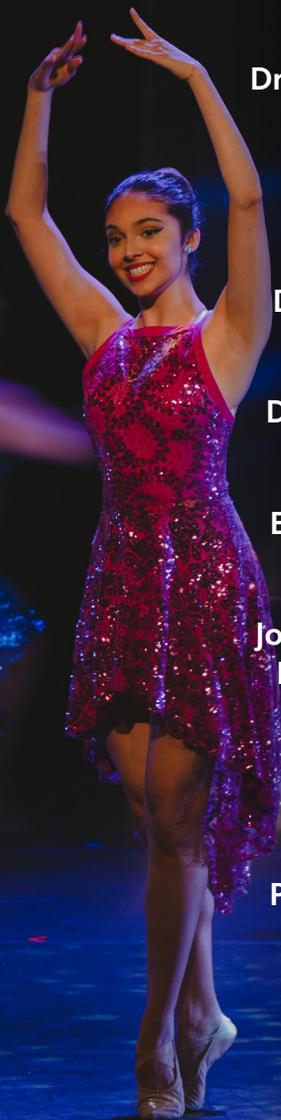
**Eleanor E. Rambin and the Eshleman
Family Endowed Scholarship Fund**

**Joe A. Gonzalez (JAG) Education is Our
Freedom GED/High School College
Endowed Scholarship Award**

**Paul and Linda Orser Scholarship
Endowment**

**Philip Johnson Endowed Scholarship
in Technical Theatre**

**Tom Gates Endowed Scholarship
in Business**





ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP COUNCIL

Scholarship endowments that have reached a market value of \$50,000 or more are inducted into the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Endowed Scholarship Council and recognized at various levels.

Below are new inductees for 2022.

PLATINUM WAVE

\$500,000 or more

Morris L. Lichtenstein, Jr.
Endowed Scholarship

GOLD WAVE

\$250,000-\$499,999

H.E. Butt Grocery Company
Endowed Scholarship in
Engineering

The Guy A. Richhart, Jr.
Endowed Scholarship

SILVER WAVE

\$150,000-\$249,999

Behmann Brothers Foundation
Endowed Scholarship

Islander Forever
Endowed Scholarship

GREEN WAVE

\$100,000-\$149,999

George and Tiny Hawn Endowed
Scholarship in Education

Texas Pioneer Foundation
Endowed Scholarship

BLUE WAVE

\$50,000-\$99,999

ArcelorMittal Texas HBI Endowed
Scholarship for Residents of San
Patricio County

Joe A. Gonzalez (JAG) Education
is Our Freedom GED/High School
College Endowed Scholarship
Award

Paul and Linda Orser Scholarship
Endowment

Train Family Endowed Scholarship
for International Business



\$1,092,675

AMOUNT AWARDED IN
ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS



217

NUMBER OF ENDOWED
SCHOLARSHIPS

Funding the Future

ALUMNUS ESTABLISHES NEW ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FOR MARGINALIZED STUDENTS

FOR DR. DON TRAHAN JR. '08, '10, the plan to open doors for others was first conceived while he was still an undergraduate student studying psychology at the Island University. Originally from North Texas, Trahan found a second home at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and was an active member of many campus organizations. He said the foundation of his success is due to his time at the Island University, which prepared him as he continued his education and career across the United States.

“This institution saved my life,” Trahan said. “When I say that, I genuinely mean that I would not be the scholar, the practitioner, or the businessman I am today, if I had not attended Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.”

To share his success with Islander students and give thanks to the institution that helped him launch his career, he recently established the Dr. Don P. Trahan, Jr. Endowed Scholarship through the Texas A&M-Corpus Christi Foundation to support students who self-identify with at least one marginalized group.

“For me, there’s nothing more rewarding than to pay it forward. I think it’s important to look at it as what we are able to do to change the lives of generations to come,” Trahan said.

Trahan, a rising star in the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion sphere, holds many titles including certified diversity executive, licensed professional counselor, national certified counselor, approved clinical supervisor, associate professor at the University of Southern California, and international consultant. His research

adheres to eliminating historical, systematic, and strategic barriers that disenfranchise marginalized communities. He also serves as a member of the Islander Alumni Association Board of Directors. He received the Young Alumnus Award at the Islander Homecoming Honors Banquet in 2022.

“I’ve been blessed to be in a position to give back and I didn’t think I needed to wait for a designated time, for example, when I retire,” Trahan said. “Establishing a scholarship (though the TAM-CC Foundation) while I am still young ensures that I have the opportunity to witness the fruits of my labor open doors for others.”

Elise Hinojosa '23, a history major who is a member of both the TAMU-CC Islander Cultural Alliance and the Islander Spectrum of Sexuality and Gender, said she is inspired by Trahan’s generosity.

“I find it admirable when young people who find themselves in positions of privilege use their power to help others,” Hinojosa said. “Hearing of Dr. Trahan’s contributions makes me want to work even harder so I can give and do more for those in need.”

Hinojosa said that students from marginalized communities often face additional hurdles compared to their peers.

“Any aid, especially a scholarship like the one established by Dr. Trahan, is greatly appreciated,” Hinojosa said.

Trahan recently attended the TAMU-CC Endowed Scholarship

Banquet where he was able to connect with students.

“Sometimes when students hear my biography and see all the things I’m doing, it can be a little bit intimidating, but I try to be transparent with them. I went to school on the same campus, in the same buildings they did. I hung out in the University Center, just like they did,” Trahan said. “I know what it’s like to be an Islander. Texas A&M-Corpus Christi gives students the tools they need to not only navigate in this space, but to flourish out in the business world.”

Trahan anticipates that his endowed scholarship will not just assist students from marginalized backgrounds achieve their academic objectives, but will also create great benefit to the companies and corporations that eventually hire these students. •

There are several ways to support student scholarship opportunities at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. To learn more, visit give.tamucc.edu.



“I’ve been blessed to be in a position to give back and I didn’t think I needed to wait for a designated time, for example, when I retire.”

TAMU-CC

*by the numbers**



MORE THAN \$130 M

IN SCHOLARSHIPS & AID AWARDED ANNUALLY



\$1.04 B

CONTRIBUTED BY THE UNIVERSITY IN ADDITIONAL LIFETIME EARNINGS OF COASTAL BEND RESIDENTS

\$711 M

IN TOTAL ECONOMIC BENEFIT TO THE COASTAL BEND GENERATED ANNUALLY BY THE UNIVERSITY

\$66.1 M

ADDED TO THE COASTAL BEND REGION FOR EVERY 1,000 ISLANDER STUDENTS



17:1

STUDENT-TO-FACULTY RATIO

46

BACHELOR'S DEGREES

32

MASTER'S DEGREES

07

DOCTORAL DEGREES

150+

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

*Using data from FY21 (Sept. 1, 2021 - Aug. 31, 2022)

INNER CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE



The Honor Wall of Recognition, located in the University Center's Legacy Hall, showcases the university's most generous donors and reflects cumulative giving. It affords visual recognition of these most inspired donors with gold plaques in their likeness.

Below are new inductees for 2022.

GOLD INNER CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE SOCIETY

Gifts of \$500,000 - \$999,999

Valero Energy Corporation

SILVER INNER CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE SOCIETY

Gifts of \$250,000 - \$449,999

Guy A. Richhart, Jr. Testamentary Trust/Estate of Guy A. Richhart, Jr.

Regent Jay C. Graham and April Graham

BRONZE INNER CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE SOCIETY

Gifts of \$100,000 - \$249,999

ArcelorMittal

The Susser Family

Still Water Foundation

HERITAGE SOCIETY

Estate and Life Income Gifts

Gary W. Cotter and Sharon Gregory Colucci



\$1.9 M+

IN TOTAL UNIVERSITY SUPPORT IN FY22

including scholarships, professorships, chairs, and other program funding

CITGO Partnership

FUELS PHYSICS IN THE COASTAL BEND

STEM EDUCATION IN THE COASTAL Bend has received a significant boost thanks to generous grants of over \$100,000 from the CITGO STEM Talent Pipeline Grants Program. The Hands-on Approach to High School Physics Curriculum grant, now in its second year, gives area high school teachers access to and guidance from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi physics professors to help revise the high school curriculum. It also funds new physics equipment to improve physics experiments.

Dr. Barbara Szczerbinska, TAMU-CC Physics Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Science, is the lead on the grant. She was compelled to write the grant after discovering that the shortage of qualified teachers across Texas and the nation meant less than half of high school physics teachers have a major or minor in physics or physics education. In addition, nearly 25% of high school physics teachers have taken no physics course beyond introductory physics.

“The relationships built between our organizations and the training geared directly toward our curriculum have given me the confidence to try new things in the classroom.”

“Area physics teachers often struggle to prepare their students

for post-secondary education due to inadequate lab resources, gaps in knowledge of physics content and methodology, and an overall lack of a support system from the broader physics community,” Szczerbinska said. “Thanks to support from CITGO, we are making strides to improve the quality of physics education here in the Coastal Bend and providing students with access to hands-on activities.”

In its first year, the grant supported 20 high school physics teachers across five local independent school districts, including Corpus Christi, Tulo-so-Midway, West Oso, Calallen, and London. According to Marie Kimbrough '96, '99, a physics teacher at Carroll High School in CCISD, the program had a tremendous impact on her teaching approach.

“My time with TAMU-CC faculty over this past fall semester provided me with timely and targeted professional development opportunities,” Kimbrough said. “I am grateful for the support provided by CITGO and TAMU-CC. The relationships built between our organizations and the training geared directly toward our curriculum have given me the confidence to try new things in the classroom.”

With the success of the first grant and the outpouring of positive feedback, CITGO Petroleum Corporation is funding a second physics education grant scheduled to run through September 2023. In its second year, the TAMU-CC team will recruit at least 10 more high school teachers into the program and will provide additional classroom equipment and training.

“A key objective of our STEM Talent Pipeline is supporting programs

to increase student interest in STEM education and careers,” said Dennis Willing, Vice President and General Manager of CITGO Corpus Christi Refinery. “By investing in this TAMU-CC initiative to elevate the training of physics teachers and the curriculum of students, we hope it will open the pathway to this STEM-related field to a growing number of local students.”

Dr. Jeffery Spirko, TAMU-CC Professional Assistant Professor and Physics Program Coordinator, and Galina Reid, TAMU-CC Instructor of Physics and Physical Science, work directly with area teachers to facilitate physics education. The latest grant also supports funding for two Islander physics students to help support local teachers. Activities include curriculum assessment, optimization of current classroom equipment, development of new and affordable physics demonstrations, teacher workshops, and more.

“Physics is a science of applications, with hands-on experiments being a crucial experience for students,” Reid said. “CITGO is putting their money in the school districts, where it is needed most and the response from teachers and students has been entirely positive. It is great to see this much enthusiasm for teaching physics.” •



OPPOSITE: Dr. Jeffery Spirko, TAMU-CC Professional Assistant Professor, and Carroll High School Physics Teacher Marie Kimbrough '96, '99.

BELOW: Kimbrough working with her students at Carroll High School.





SCAT CAT
PORT OF GALVESTON, TEXAS

TAMPA

Stow
JOURNAL

HARTE RESEARCH INSTITUTE TEAMS UP ON

Bringing Baffin Back

INITIATIVE

OFTEN THOUGHT OF AS THE JEWEL OF THE TEXAS COAST, Baffin Bay has long supported world-class fishing and remains a key habitat for multiple sportfish species. Over the last three to four decades, however, researchers, anglers, fishing guides, and landowners nearby have noticed a sharp decline in water quality that threatens the health of the bay.

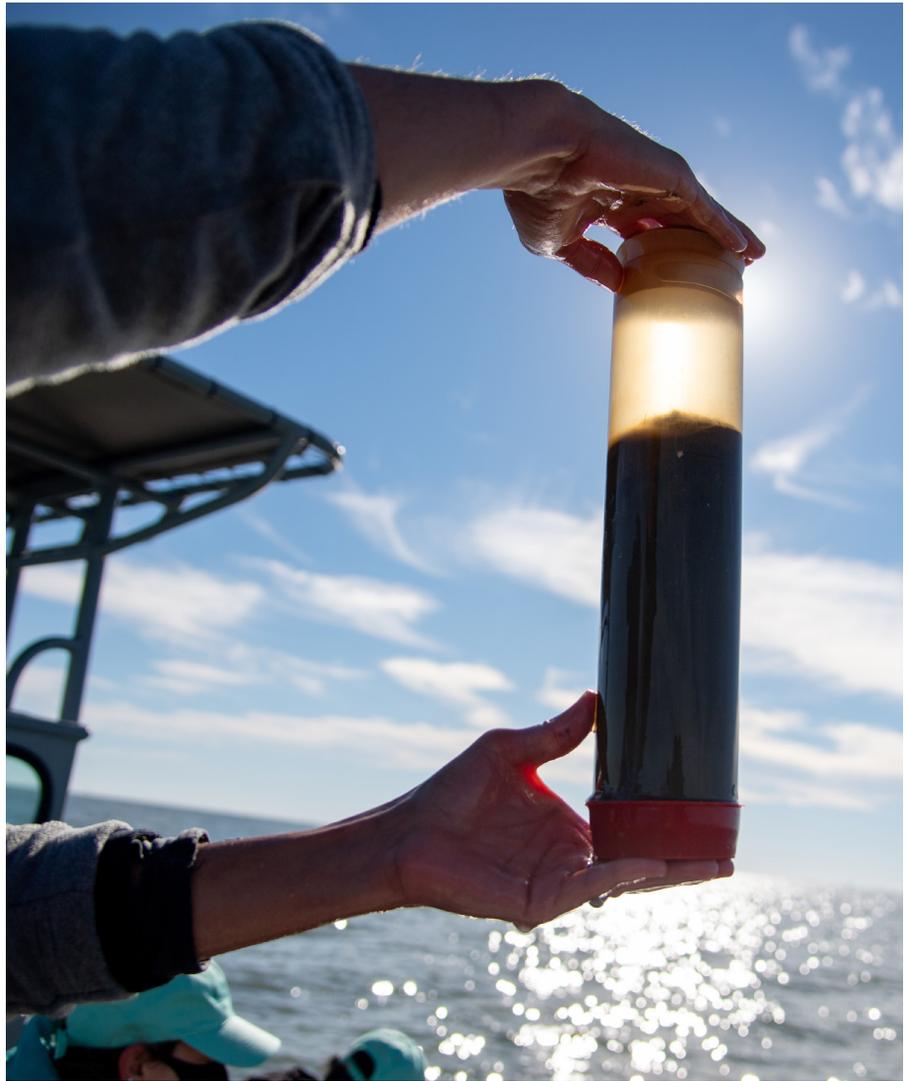


In 2013, Dr. Michael Wetz, Endowed Chair for Coastal Ecosystem Processes at the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies (HRI) at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, responded to concerns about the bay's health by enlisting 18 citizen scientists to study the water quality problems in Baffin Bay. A citizen scientist is defined as a member of the public who volunteers to help conduct scientific research. This team discovered Baffin Bay is being subjected to excessive nutrient pollution that triggers algal blooms and other symptoms of water quality deterioration, and recent source tracking studies by partners at TAMU-CC have shown that much of the pollution comes from human sources such as failing wastewater treatment plants, fertilizer runoff, and poorly maintained septic tanks.

In 2018, with information in hand from the study, HRI partnered with the Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program (CBBEP) to form the Baffin Bay Stakeholder Group to engage potential partners and develop solutions to the challenges impacting the bay. Born out of the early successes of the stakeholder group and enthusiasm from the public, HRI and CBBEP launched Bringing Baffin Back in 2022. Bringing Baffin Back applies a whole ecosystem approach to address the challenges facing Baffin Bay.

"We're thinking holistically with Bringing Baffin Back," Wetz said. "We're addressing sewage treatment infrastructure, working with landowners to implement land management practices that improve water quality, restoring previously lost habitats in the bay, educating the public on the connection between land and water, and finding opportunities to foster the interest of school-aged kids who will be the next generation of stewards."

In addition to dramatically improving the health of the bay, the group hopes that Bringing Baffin Back will stimulate the surrounding economy by supporting infrastructure improvements, enhancing outdoor recreational opportunities, and



will also provide education and training opportunities for TAMU-CC undergraduate and graduate students, along with early career scientists. The success of Bringing Baffin Back depends on the high-quality research that is being conducted by researchers and students at HRI and partner institutes, and on the strength of external partnerships.

Recently, Bringing Baffin Back was selected as a 2022 Conservation Wrangler by Texan by Nature which catalyzes the very best conservation projects occurring in the state. Selected projects are science-based and demonstrate a positive "Return on Conservation" for people, prosperity, and natural resources.

"Bringing Baffin Back is a commitment to bring the resources and expertise to address pollution sources around the bay so that we

can ultimately bring the bay back to good health again," Wetz said. "It will take time and money, but being selected as a Conservation Wrangler will definitely accelerate our efforts and I am confident that we will have a positive impact on Baffin Bay and the community." •



\$3.89M

GIFTED TO HRI
IN 2022

"I am a Senior Mechanical Engineering Technology major. After graduation, I plan to continue my education and earn a Master's in Business Administration. Your support has lightened my financial burden and allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of school — learning. I am the first person in my family to go to college and I look forward to graduating and making my parents proud. Thanks to your support, I am one step closer to achieving my goal."

REUBEN YINTERESIE '23
Mechanical Engineering Technology



"I chose my major based on my pure dedication and yearning to see students thrive and to have a positive impact on students like past teachers have had on me. My schooling at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has not only prepared me in the sense of education, but has strengthened my excitement to use what I have learned on the Island in my own classroom. I am so grateful and honored by your support as I move one step closer to my future career in education."

TAYLOR HUGDAHL '23
Interdisciplinary Studies



1,671
TOTAL NUMBER OF
DONORS IN 2022



5,791
TOTAL NUMBER
OF GIFTS

Izzy's Food Pantry

GIVES BACK THANKS TO COMMUNITY SUPPORT

SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 2017, Izzy's Food Pantry at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi has provided nearly 90,000 no-cost meals to Islander students. What started as a 100-square-foot pantry stocked with donations from faculty and staff has since tripled in size. Students can also now receive 15 items per week, up from 10. Additionally, the pantry hosts monthly grocery giveaways featuring fresh produce, breads, and sweet treats.

“We want Izzy's Food Pantry to meet our students' needs, wherever they are, and whatever they might need.”

All eligible Islander students are allowed to visit the pantry weekly to supplement their shelves with nutritious food and other goods. Recent studies have shown that as many as 30% of college students across the nation struggle with food insecurity, which is defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as a lack of consistent access to enough food to live an active, healthy lifestyle.

Alyssa Hinojosa '23, a communication studies major from San Antonio, lives on campus and doesn't have a car. She said she visits Izzy's Food Pantry at least once a month.

“Groceries are super expensive right now and the food pantry has really assisted me when I haven't been able to get to the grocery store,” Hinojosa said. “Even though I have a meal plan at the Islander Dining Hall, it's nice to be able to plan your own meals based on food you choose. The food pantry offers a wide variety of food with lots of healthy choices.”

New this academic year is the pantry's SNAP-application assistant program. Thanks to a continued partnership with the Coastal Bend Food Bank, SNAP, the state's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, regularly invites a caseworker to campus to assist eligible students with intake paperwork, saving them a trip down to the local SNAP office.

“Our vision for Izzy's Food Pantry is to grow the program into numerous resources beyond a food pantry or a monthly food giveaway,” said Joseph Hayen '24, TAMU-CC Associate Dean of Students. “We want Izzy's Food Pantry to meet our students' needs, wherever they are, and whatever they might need.”

In addition, the Dean of Students office plans to beta test a new program that would send a text message to pantry users when a campus event ends with surplus food. An initiative that has seen great success is the Hot Meal Program, where dining dollars are added directly to a student's SandDollar\$ ID card so they can purchase food from one of many campus food options, including the Islander Dining Hall.

“When a student comes to our Dean of Students office in need—say they just experienced a death in the family, lost their job, or one of many other unforeseen circumstances, they don't always think of how a few hot meals can help them,” Hayen said. “But if they can get a small break with a couple of free lunches, it makes their immediate crisis seem more manageable.”

The pantry has strong community support from the Coastal Bend Food Bank, along with corporate sponsorship by H-E-B. Support for Izzy's Food Pantry is also provided by grants from the Coastal Bend Community Foundation.

“The help we receive goes a long way to ensure that our students are having the most basic of needs met,” said Dr. Lisa O. Perez '94, '16, TAMU-CC Assistant Vice President of Student Support and Dean of Students. “We know there are students that need this service for a multitude of reasons, and I'm so proud that we have created this judgment-free space for our Islanders.” •

For information about Izzy's Food Pantry or to learn how you can help students fight food insecurity, visit tamucc.edu/food-pantry or call 361.825.FOOD (3663).



ABOVE: Alissa Hinojosa '23, a communication studies major from San Antonio, appreciates the variety of healthy options offered by Izzy's Food Pantry.



\$32,229

AMOUNT GIFTED TO
IZZY'S FOOD PANTRY



492

TOTAL NUMBER OF GIFTS TO
IZZY'S FOOD PANTRY



87

NUMBER OF
DONORS

**All donations gifted in FY22*

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One Island. One family.

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ATHLETIC HALL OF HONOR INDUCTEES

Islanders Men's Basketball

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Jan Cingel '08, '09; Jaume Farras '09; James Langford '11; Andrew Maingot '13; Laurent Montoisy '12; Dmitry Novikov '11; David Pace; Alex Pavlov '12; Mike Pavlov '09; Jose Zunino '09, '12

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"As I reflect on how my time at the Island University, or Corpus Christi State University, affected my life and prepared me for career success, I credit a few factors unique to the learning environment provided by a smaller university. For me, it was valuable to have a strong support structure and the small class sizes made connecting with my instructors and professors easy. In addition to the learning environment, I know that the social connections I made also contributed to my success as a student. I joined the professional business fraternity, Delta Sigma Pi, and I cultivated meaningful and lifelong friendships that would inspire me to make the most of my education; teach me to be curious and solution-oriented; and most importantly, give me the confidence I needed to establish challenging life and career goals. I've said it before, and I am proof, that the Island University changes lives."

SUZELLE TINNELL '89

Corpus Christi State University, Finance



"We are shaped forever from our time on the Island. I know that wherever my career goes, my network and my knowledge follow me. Everything that is in our Islander Pledge is steadfast, but the most important part is to remember the final words: 'With these values held true, WE ARE ISLANDERS!' We are Islanders Forever, and every day I believe it more and more."

FRANK GARCIA, JR. '17

Bachelor of Arts in Theatre with Dance Certificate

56,293

ALUMNI COUNT

411

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DONORS

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The mission of Islanders Athletics is to bring distinction to the university by winning conference championships and competing successfully on the national stage, contribute to a vibrant campus culture, and develop successful student-athlete graduates who will excel as leaders in their communities.



\$805,804

AMOUNT GIFTED TO ISLANDERS ATHLETICS



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AMOUNT GIFTED TO THE ISLANDER ATHLETIC FUND



917

TOTAL NUMBER OF GIFTS TO ISLANDERS ATHLETICS



ONLY DIVISION I

ATHLETICS PROGRAM WITHIN 150 MILES



3.0+ GPA

FOR STUDENT ATHLETES FOR 16 STRAIGHT SEMESTERS



2,778 HOURS

OF COMMUNITY SERVICE SERVED IN FY22





435

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219

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90

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60

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46

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10

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"Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has honestly made me who I am today. It taught me so many life lessons but also how to be resilient, hardworking, and dedicated to everything that comes my way. My scholarship means everything to me. It is such a blessing to be able to receive the highest form of education all while playing the sport I love, basketball. Without my scholarship, getting a degree at a top university would be out of the question."

MAKINNA SERRATA '26
Kinesiology/Women's Basketball

ISLANDERS WIN SEVEN CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

A New Record!

VOLLEYBALL REGULAR SEASON

VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT (BACK-TO-BACK)

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

MEN'S TENNIS REGULAR SEASON

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BEACH VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT (FIRST EVER TRIP TO THE NCAA)





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