To request a announcement go to [http://www.tamucc.edu/fac_staff/submit.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/fac_staff/submit.html) and follow the sample submission guidelines. Events should be submitted more than one month in advance and will be placed in chronological order with special notices at the bottom. Marketing and Communications reserves the right to edit announcements. For more information, or for assistance in placing an announcement, contact Steve Paschal at ext. 2336 or 2420.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Computer Lab Renovations:** The computer labs on the second floor of Corpus Christi Hall will be closed for plumbing renovations from Friday, Aug. 7, through Wednesday, Aug. 12. Computers will be available in the Center for Instruction, Rooms 222 and 223.

**Summer 2009 Commencement:** The University will hold its Summer 2009 Commencement on Saturday, Aug. 8, at 1:30 p.m. at the American Bank Center arena. Commencement speaker will be Dr. Gary Jeffress, professor of Geographic Information Science and director of the Conrad Biucher Institute for Surveying and Science at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Due to construction near the American Bank Center, parking lot 4 will be designated for faculty parking with overflow going to parking lot 5. For more information, contact Norma Cantu at ext. 2722.

**Year End Workshop:** The Purchasing Department will hold a year end workshop on Tuesday, August 11, from 9-11 a.m. in the Science and Technology Building, Room 104. This workshop will help to explain procedures, answer questions, and review object codes that will and will not rollover into the new fiscal year. To RSVP, e-mail Hilda Garza-Martinez at hilda.garza@tamucc.edu.

**Anchor Alumni Meeting/Luncheon:** The Anchor Alumni Club luncheon will be held on Thursday, Aug. 20, from noon to 1 p.m. in the Science and Technology Conference Room 177 located inside the Faculty Center building. University employees who are also alumni are invited. Lunch and beverages will be provided. Reservations are requested. For more information and to RSVP, contact Amanda Allsup at ext. 3890, or e-mail Amanda.allsup@tamucc.edu; or Gloria Ann Valdez at ext. 2862, or e-mail gloria.valdez@tamucc.edu.

**Effective Communication Brownbag:** Human Resources and our EAP provider MHNet will hold an "Effective Communication" brownbag workshop on Wednesday, Aug. 5, from noon to 1 p.m. in the University Center, Tejas Room 106B. Learn helpful communications skills such as how to listen, how to influence people and how to pick up on buried messages in everyday conversation. For more information, contact Cindy Hanson at ext. 2631.

**Specialized Vendor Forum:** The Purchasing Department will sponsor a Specialized Vendor Forum with Ford Audio Vendor Systems (Ford AV) on Thursday, Aug. 6, from 10-11 a.m. in the University Center, Tejas Room 106B. Learn helpful communications skills such as how to listen, how to influence people and how to pick up on buried messages in everyday conversation. For more information, contact Cindy Hanson at ext. 2631.
Reservations will be taken until the day of the event. For more information, contact Lee White at 361.548.3141; or e-mail lwhite01@stx.rr.com.

Sandpiper/Driftwood Electrical Upgrade: Electrical contractors will be making upgrades to the main electrical systems at Sandpiper and Driftwood buildings from Saturday, Aug. 22, at 7 a.m. through Sunday, Aug. 23, at 8 p.m. During this time, all power and air conditioning will be turned off in both buildings. Due to the possibility that power surges could occur during the repairs, building occupants should unplug personnel computers and other sensitive electronic equipment. Food should also be removed from refrigerators during this power outage. For more information call ext. 2324.

Naturally Obsessed: The Making of a Scientist: The Computing Sciences and Alliance for Minority Participation Program (CS/AMP) will sponsor the one-hour documentary film "Naturally Obsessed: The Making of a Scientist" about the struggle to become a scientist and the satisfactions of discovery Friday, Aug. 28, from noon to 1 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom. Popcorn, pizza, drinks and candy will be provided. To register, win prizes, and watch a one-minute video prelude to the film, go to: http://csamp.tamucc.edu/film. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call Liza Wisner at ext. 2479; or e-mail liza.wisner@tamucc.edu.

SPECIAL NOTICES

Facebook: Hey Facebookers, join the more than 2,200 people who have already become fans of the official Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Facebook fan site! Learn about upcoming events and get the latest scoop on what's happening at the Island University by going to http://www.facebook.com/islanduniversity. The site is maintained by New Student Programs as part of the University's recruitment effort.

Islander Blankets for Care Packages: The United Student Veterans Organization (USVO) and the Veterans Affairs Office of Texas A&M-Corpus Christi are sending Islander care packages to student veterans that have been deployed overseas. Faculty and staff are being asked to make donations toward the purchase of Islander blankets (to be included in the care packages) and overseas shipping costs at the University Bookstore, located in the University Center. For more information, contact Lynn Perry at ext. 2331, or e-mail lynn.perry@tamucc.edu.

Temporary Closing of Lee Plaza: Construction for the Michael and Karen O'Connor Building has caused the temporary closing of Lee Plaza because of utility lines running underneath its surface. This work at Lee Plaza should be completed by September at the latest, and possibly much sooner. At that time, the Plaza will once again be open and available. The University understands that this may be an inconvenience to many people. The new O'Connor Building is an exciting project that will greatly benefit the University, and we appreciate your patience during construction. For more information, contact Larry Fischbach at ext. 2422.

Feral Cat Program: The University has implemented a new program to manage the feral cat population on campus. The program was developed after consultation with the Corpus Christi Animal Control Department and reviews of similar programs on other campuses. Its objectives include:

- Treating animals in a humane manner
- Managing the feral cat population on campus
- Decreasing the number of sick and diseased cats on campus

The program will be managed by the Physical Plant’s Grounds Department. Trapped cats will be taken to a vet to be neutered and vaccinated, and then returned to campus. The traps will be monitored daily. If you see a cat in a trap, do not release it. Call ext. 2324 to report an animal that is in a trap and ready for transport. Because controlling the time and location of feeding is critical to the success of this program, we ask that you do not feed the cats. Instead, please consider donating cat food to the Physical Plant. While we may not see an immediate change in the health and well-being of the feral cats on campus, over time, we feel confident that there will be a noticeable improvement. For more information, contact Randy Haaker at ext. 2328.

Dia De Los Muertos Celebration: The Islander Art Association and Dr. Carey Rote are arranging a trip to Mexico Friday, Oct. 30, through Tuesday, Nov. 3, to tour important areas for the Dia De Los Muertos celebration. For more information, contact Dr. Rote at carey.rote@tamucc.edu; or David Phillips, at davidphillips2006@yahoo.com.