The Special Collections & Archives Division of the Mary and Jeff Bell Library at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has as its primary focus to locate, acquire, preserve, and make available to researchers materials that document the development of Corpus Christi and its South Texas environs. Its holdings include items dealing with history, urban and ethnic studies, literature, folklore, art, photography, government, anthropology, sociology, education, the sciences, business, and other disciplines. Special Collections & Archives has a growing body of papers of individuals, organizations, and institutions that reflects the growth of the Corpus Christi metropolitan area. It also contains approximately 20,000 books, periodicals, and other printed primary and secondary items dealing with Corpus Christi, South Texas, Texas and Mexico. In addition, the division has an active oral history program to supplement the written and visual materials. Special Collections & Archives works closely with faculty and students to provide local research topics to enrich the classroom experience. It plays a particularly active role in the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi history program. Students not only receive specialized assistance with research projects, but instruction on research methods, use of primary documents, and the study of public, urban, Mexican American, Texas, and local history as well as archival management and oral history technique.