July 21, 2009

Dr. Belle S. Wheelan  
President  
Commission on Colleges  
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools  
1866 Southern Lane  
Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097

Dear Dr. Wheelan:

We wish to notify the Commission on Colleges that Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is in the process of adopting a new mission statement. While we do not consider the revision of the mission statement to be a substantive change, we would like for the Commission to be informed about this development.

In 2005, the university launched a comprehensive, broad-based planning endeavor that resulted in the adoption of the Momentum 2015 strategic plan. Momentum 2015 focuses on the unifying themes of Excellence, Engagement, and Expansion and includes a set of imperatives for moving the university forward. In 2007, the Momentum 2015 Steering Committee added a fourth theme of Effectiveness to emphasize the importance of assessment and accountability. The committee also reviewed the existing 2003 mission statement and considered ways to effectively align the mission statement, the Momentum 2015 plan, and goal development. During this process, a revised mission statement was drafted and circulated to campus groups for input and approval. The review continued in 2008, and commentary from different constituent groups resulted in refinement and clarification of the proposed mission statement. The President's Cabinet, College Deans' Council, Provost's Council, Faculty Senate, Staff Advisory Council, and Student Government Association all participated in the campus review and approval process.

Following submission of the document to The Texas A&M University System in fall 2008, the Board of Regents approved the amended mission statement on January 22, 2009. Subsequently it was sent to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. On June 22, 2009, the Coordinating Board's Academic Excellence and Research Committee approved the amended mission statement. Final approval by the Coordinating Board is expected at the board meeting on July 30, 2009. The statement is shown below:

Revised Mission Statement - 2009

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 and 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.
We believe that the 2009 revised mission statement is a clearly defined, comprehensive mission statement that is specific to the institution and appropriate for higher education. It affirms the institution’s dedication to excellence in teaching and learning, research, and public service. The revised mission statement, the themes of Momentum 2015, and the institution’s strategic objectives are closely aligned. Additionally, the mission statement reflects a commitment to the Texas higher education plan, Closing the Gaps by 2015. The revised mission statement replaces the following vision statement and mission statement adopted in 2003:

2003 Vision and Mission Statements

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 University-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 devoted to discovering, communicating, and applying knowledge in a complex and changing world. The university identifies, attracts, and graduates students of high potential, especially those from groups who have been historically underrepresented in Texas higher education. Through a commitment to excellence in teaching, research, and service, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi prepares students for lifelong learning and for responsible participation in the global community.

Although the 2009 and 2003 mission statements share a common philosophy, the revised version more accurately reflects the institution’s recent growth and development, and it aligns more closely with the strategic planning process. Enclosed is a copy of a letter documenting the approval of the amended mission statement by the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System. We will be happy to provide any additional information that you may need.

Sincerely,

Flavius C. Killebrew
President/CEO

/asw

Enclosure
cc: Dr. Anantha Babbili
    Dr. David Billeaux
    Dr. Robert Nelsen
    Dr. Paul Orser
    Dr. Mary Sherwood
    Ms. Christine Shupala
February 13, 2009

Dr. Flavius C. Killebrew
President
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
6300 Ocean Drive, Unit 5756
Corpus Christi, Texas 78412-5756

Dear Dr. Killebrew:

On January 22, 2009, the Board of Regents of the Texas A&M University System approved the following agenda item request submitted by Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

- Approval of Amended Mission Statement, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

"The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the amended Mission Statement for Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi as shown in Exhibit.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi's amended Mission Statement to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval."

The amended Mission Statement, along with supporting documentation, will be submitted electronically to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) by the System’s Office of Academic Affairs, on behalf of Dr. Frank B. Ashley III, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Your Provost’s Office will receive an acknowledgement receipt from the THECB on this submission. Should there be any questions about this process please contact Ms. Verna Dewees in the Office of Academic Affairs.

The enclosed board agenda materials are for your records.

Sincerely,

Michael D. McKinney, M.D.
Chancellor

VLD: km
Enclosure
cc: Dr. Frank B. Ashley, III
✓ Dr. Anantha Babbili
Dr. Robert Nelson
Agenda Item No. 19

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Submitted by: Flavius C. Killebrew
President and CEO
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

Subject: Approval of Amended Mission Statement, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Proposed Board Action:

Approves amended Mission Statement of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and authorizes submission of this request to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval.

Background Information:

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi’s mission statement was approved by the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System at its July 2002 meeting (M.O. 153-2002) and by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board at its April 2003 meeting. The proposed amendments to the mission statement submitted during this year’s statutory review cycle are being requested to clarify Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi’s mission, goals and objectives.

The amended Mission Statement was reviewed and approved by Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi’s senior administration, referred to as the President’s Cabinet. It received endorsements from members of the Provost’s Council, Deans’ Council, Staff Advisory Council, Student Government Association and the Faculty Senate, for submission to The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents.

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is not requesting any changes to its Table of Programs during this statutory four-year review cycle.

The statutory four-year review of degree programs, mission statements and table of programs also includes reviewing the institution’s low-producing degree programs over the most recent three academic years.

A copy of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi’s existing Mission Statement is attached for informational purposes only.

A&M System Funding or Other Financial Implications:

There are no funding implications for this four-year review cycle requesting amendments to the Mission Statement.
Agenda Item No. 19

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI
Office of the President
December 8, 2008

Members, Board of Regents
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Approval of Amended Mission Statement, and Authorization to Request Approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

I recommend approval of the following minute order:

"The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the amended Mission Statement for Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi as shown in Exhibit.

The Board also authorizes submission of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi's amended Mission Statement to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval."

Respectfully submitted,

[ORIGINAL SIGNED BY]
Flavius C. Killebrew
President and CEO

Approval Recommended:

[ORIGINAL SIGNED BY]
Michael D. McKinney
Chancellor

[ORIGINAL SIGNED BY]
Frank B. Ashley III
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Approved for Legal Sufficiency:

[ORIGINAL SIGNED BY]
Scott A. Kelly
Interim General Counsel
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

MISSION STATEMENT

[REVISED, ANNOTATED]

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is devoted to discovering, communicating and applying knowledge in a complex and changing world. The university identifies, attracts, and graduates students of high potential, especially those from groups who have been historically underrepresented in Texas higher education. Through a commitment to excellence in teaching, research and service, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi prepares students for lifelong learning and for responsible participation in the global community. 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 and 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 strategic location on the Gulf of Mexico and on the cultural border with Latin America provides a basis for gaining national and international prominence.

MISSION STATEMENT

[REVISED – WITHOUT ANNOTATIONS]

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 and 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 strategic location on the Gulf of Mexico and on the cultural border with Latin America provides a basis for gaining national and international prominence.
[Existing] Mission Statement

INSTITUTION: Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

APB: April 19, 1991
APB: Oct. 28, 1994
APB: April 24, 2003

Mission
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is devoted to discovering, communicating and applying knowledge in a complex and changing world. The university identifies, attracts, and graduates students of high potential, especially those from groups who have been historically underrepresented in Texas higher education. Through a commitment to excellence in teaching, research and service, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi prepares students for lifelong learning and for responsible participating in the global community.