Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

Mission/Purpose

The History MA program aims to provide students with advanced knowledge and skills in the content, analytical theories, research methods, and public presentation of history. It will benefit secondary school teachers seeking to enhance their professional skills and standing. It will also benefit students planning careers in academia, public history, or the professions. It offers an excellent stepping stone to doctoral and other advanced History programs, as well as professional schools.

Student Learning Outcomes, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Achievement Targets, Findings, and Action Plans

O 1: Advanced knowledge and skills of History

Advanced knowledge and skills in content, analytical theories, research methods, and public presentation of history.

Associations:

General Education or Core Curriculum:

1  Reading
2  Writing
3  Speaking
5  Critical Thinking
7  Establish broad & multiple perspectives

Strategic Plans:

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi

1.1 Provide excellent academic programs & instruction.
1.5 Increase research and creative activity.

Related Measures:

M 1: Participation in History essay contest

Participation in the Frantz graduate student essay contest evaluated by a select faculty committee.

Source of Evidence: Project, either individual or group

Achievement Target:

All entries in the Frantz essay contest will rank by the committee as B or better. The winning entry must rate as A quality.

Findings (2007-2008) - Achievement Target: Met

Four graduate students entered the Frantz paper contest. All were ranked as A quality. The winning paper and the runner up were both ranked as A+ quality.
M 2: Thesis
For thesis students, a successful thesis reviewed by a committee of no less than two faculty judges.

Source of Evidence: Senior thesis or culminating major project

Achievement Target:
A successful thesis reviewed by a committee of no less than two faculty judges.

Findings (2007-2008) - Achievement Target: Met
Audrey Flores and David Louzon successfully defended their theses before a faculty committee.

Findings (2006-2007) - Achievement Target: Met
The history area successfully graduated three students in 2006: Verity McInnis, Madalyn Ard and Dominic Martinez. Each candidate passed a committee of three.

M 3: History MA exit exam
For non-thesis students the successful completion of the History MA exit exam reviewed by a committee of no less than two faculty judges;

Source of Evidence: Comprehensive/end-of-program subject matter exam

Achievement Target:
(1 & 3) 75% of students will obtain a score of "pass" or higher on the MA exit exam.

Findings (2007-2008) - Achievement Target: Not Met
No students opted for the exam route for the M.A. this year.

Findings (2006-2007) - Achievement Target: Not Met
We had no students take the exit exam this year.

M 9: Publications
Scholarly articles, and published book reviews or encyclopedia entries. This item is being deleted in our attempts to avoid redundancy. The idea is covered in another measure.

Source of Evidence: Project, either individual or group

Achievement Target:
50% of graduates will have at least one conference presentation, published article, or published book review or encyclopedia entry.

Findings (2006-2007) - Achievement Target: Partially Met
Only one graduate student made a public presentation of any sort. Audrey Flores gave a talk October 24, 2007, based on her thesis work, "Environmental History on the Texas Gulf Coast: The Abandonment of the Port Town of Indianola," at the National Weather Service in Corpus Christi.

O 2: Competitiveness for further study or employment
Enhanced breadth of coverage, preparation, and professional skills for post-graduate application of MA in history – secondary schools or PhD programs

Strategic Plans:
Texas A&M-Corpus Christi
1.1 Provide excellent academic programs & instruction.

Related Measures:
M 4: Placement in grad/prof programs
Placement record of graduates in PhD or professional programs

Source of Evidence: Graduate/professional school acceptance rate

Achievement Target:
50% placement rate of graduates in PhD or professional programs or gainful employment.

Findings (2007-2008) - Achievement Target: Met
Two students graduated from the history M.A. program in fall 2007. One is employed full-time in the archival department at Texas State University in San Marcos. The other is employed full-time at Half-Price Books in Corpus Christi and taught for us as an adjunct in spring 2008.

Findings (2006-2007) - Achievement Target: Met
During the assessment period, three out of the four graduates went on to graduate programs. Madalyn Ard, Verity McInnis, and Jason McCollom went on to TAMU, TAMU and ASU respectively. Dominic Martinez did not.

O 8: Advanced competency in Historical research methods
Advanced competency in using archival resources, conducting research, handling primary sources, constructing original historical thesis, and effective writing. This item is being dropped as it too closely reflects the first item on research methods.

Strategic Plans:
Texas A&M-Corpus Christi
1.1 Provide excellent academic programs & instruction.

Related Measures:

M 9: Publications
Scholarly articles, and published book reviews or encyclopedia entries. This item is being deleted in our attempts to avoid redundancy. The idea is covered in another measure.

Source of Evidence: Project, either individual or group

Achievement Target:
50% of graduates will have at least one conference presentation, published article, or published book review or encyclopedia entry.

Findings (2006-2007) - Achievement Target: Partially Met
Only one graduate student made a public presentation of any sort. Audrey Flores gave a talk October 24, 2007, based on her thesis work, "Environmental History on the Texas Gulf Coast: The Abandonment of the Port Town of Indianola," at the National Weather Service in Corpus Christi.

Other Outcomes/Objectives, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Achievement Targets, Findings, and Action Plans

O 3: Attract minority students
Develop a plan to attract, recruit, and retain excellent minority students.

Strategic Plans:
Texas A&M-Corpus Christi
1.1 Provide excellent academic programs & instruction.
1.3 Promote lifelong learning and global citizenship.
Related Measures:

**M 5: Increased minority student participation**
The history area will strive to increase its minority enrollment.

Source of Evidence: Benchmarking of learning outcomes against peers

**Achievement Target:**
The history area will seek to attain 30% minority enrollment in its graduate program.

**Findings (2007-2008) - Achievement Target: Met**
Seven out of twenty-one (33.3%) graduate students were of minority status (African American, Hispanic, or other non-white).

**O 4: Faculty Scholarly Activity**
Faculty will engage in productive scholarly activity

**Strategic Plans:**

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi
1.1 Provide excellent academic programs & instruction.

Related Measures:

**M 6: Faculty Activity Reports**
Faculty Activity Reports

Source of Evidence: Document Analysis

**Achievement Target:**
(4) 100% of faculty will either publish an article in a refereed journal, write a book chapter, make a presentation at a national conference, or produce some other publishable product during the year; maximum teaching load of three courses in long semesters; some reduction in service, and in leadership roles, within the college, university, and community, in order to allow sufficient time for scholarly activity and to maintain balance between teaching, scholarly activity, and service; (5) 100% of faculty (beyond their first year of employment) will be involved in College and University committees, councils, or other service activities; little or no participation for new faculty; some reduction in participation even among senior faculty, in order to allow sufficient time for scholarly activity and teaching.

**Findings (2007-2008) - Achievement Target: Met**
All faculty who taught a three course load engaged in one or more of these scholarly exercises.

**Findings (2006-2007) - Achievement Target: Met**
Pat Carroll has served as a reviewer for the _Colonial Latin American Historical Review, Colonial Latin American Reivew, Hispanic American Historical Review, Latin American Research Review, Signos Historicos._
He presented papers at the Johns Hopkins University on March 23, 2007, at the Centro Frances ed Estudios Mexicanos y Centroamericanos in Mexico City September 6, 2006, and at the "Programa Africana Feria del Libro Mesa," also in Mexico City on September 8, 2006. David Blanke gave two papers at conferences, one in California at the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association, and another one in Paris, France at the the International Association for the History of Transport, Traffic, and Mobility. He also chaired and commented on panels at the Texas STate Historical Association annual meeting in San Antonio, and at the AHA annual meeting and at the Twelfth National Conference on...
Planning History, Society for American City and Regional Planning History in Portland, Maine. Beyond this, Dr. Blanke also published his third book, _Hell on Wheels: The Promise and Peril of America’s Car Culture, 1900-1940_ (Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 2007), published an article in _Agricultural History_, and reviewed four books for major journals. Dr. James Carter published one book review, one book chapter, had two web publications, and gave talks to four local organizations. Dr. Peter Moore published his book entitled _World of Toil and Strife: Community Transformation in Backcountry South Carolina, 1750-1805_, (University of South Carolina Press, 2007), two journal articles, gave a paper at Harvard, gave a talk locally, and published a book review. Dr. Laura Munoz published six encyclopedia articles. Dr. Anthony Quiroz published one book review and gave a paper at the Western Historical Association’s Annual meeting in St. Louis. R. Robert Wooster published one book and co-authored another; wrote three articles and co-authored another; reviewed four books; and served as commentator for an OAH panel. In terms of service, the history faculty were very busy with college, university, community and professional service. David Blanke Program Coordinator, Masters of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies, TAMU-CC Program Coordinator, Masters of Arts in History, TAMU-CC Author (sole), Masters of Art in History, TAMU-CC, 5-year program review Editor, Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era (SHGAPE) Newsletter Chair, SHGAPE National Essay Competition Award Chair, Faculty Renaissance Center, TAMU-CC External Reviewer: Journal of American History, The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, The Journal of Urban History Member, one History Faculty Search Committee (Women’s History), TAMUCC Member, Faculty Promotion and Tenure Committee, DENG/DHUM, TAMUCC Member, Texas State Historical Association, Annual Meeting Committee Member, City of Corpus Christi, The Landmark Commission Member & Chair, History Program Graduate Program Committee James Carter “The Vietnam War,” Teaching American History Grant, Educational Service Center Region II, Corpus Christi, Texas, November 6, 2006 “International Crisis in East Asia: Japan, the United States, China, & the Coming of World War II,” Teaching American History Grant, U.S.S. Lexington, Corpus Christi, Texas, October 20, 2006 “War, Empire, & Global Crisis: World War II,” Teaching American History Grant, U.S.S. Lexington, Corpus Christi, Texas, September 15, 2006 “The U.S. and Nation Building in Vietnam: Historical Lessons?,” presentation to The South Texas Philosophical Society, Corpus Christi, Texas, April 7, 2006 Pat Carroll Chair of Department of Humanities, 2006-2007 Undergraduate program coordinator, 2006-2007 TExES coordinator, 2006-2007 Laura Munoz Member European History Search Committee Departmental Liaison to the library Member of History Graduate Admissions Committee Peter Moore History Area Library Liaison, 2006-7 History Graduate Program Committee, 2006-7 Organized history area faculty seminars, Spring 2006 Proposed and organized Frantz Prize for Best Graduate/Undergraduate History Paper, Fall 2006 Organized history area film library, Fall 2006 Lecturer in Teaching American History Grant, Educational Service Center, 2006-2007 Presentation to Daughters of American Revolution, Corpus Christi Chapter, 2007 Anthony Quiroz Presentation to new Learning Community large lecture faculty, August 16, 2006. Co-Director Clearinghouse for Mexican American Research. Will involve working with faculty to secure external research funding, overseeing programming, and working with students to identify scholarships, grants, internships, and other opportunities for growth. Currently oversaw ribbon-cutting ceremony and working on review of
“seed funding” applications as well as preparing for Victor Villanueva’s November visit, clarifying the budget, updating the website, preparing to raise funds in the community. Frantz Professor. Oversaw use of Frantz money and continued to seek ways to enhance the fund’s impact on the history area. Worked with Drs. David Blanke, James Carter and Peter Moore on producing a graduate student handbook with policies and procedures for the graduate history program at TAMUCC Robert Wooster Advisory Committee, The Handbook of Texas Online, 2002-present Presidential address, Texas State Historical Association (Austin, 2006) Commencement Address, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (Corpus Christi, Summer 2006) Regents’ Professor, Texas A&M University System, 2007

O 5: Expand faculty to keep pace with student growth
Expand faculty to cover more fully the scope of the discipline and keep pace with the growth of the student body.

Strategic Plans:

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi
1.1 Provide excellent academic programs & instruction.
1.3 Promote lifelong learning and global citizenship.

Related Measures:

M 7: Employment documents
The history area will seek a new hire.

Source of Evidence: Document Analysis

Achievement Target:
Addition of one faculty member over the next two years.

Findings (2007-2008) - Achievement Target: Not Met
No new faculty members were hired this past year. We are only conducting a search this semester as a replacement, not a new, line.

Findings (2006-2007) - Achievement Target: Not Met
The history area was not allowed to add a new line to the faculty this year.

Related Action Plans:

Seek new hire
The history area will work with the incoming dean to find ways to procure a new historian.

For more information, see the Action Plan Details section of this report.

O 6: Library acquisitions
Provide expertise for the acquisition of library and technical resources to support faculty and student research, teaching, and learning.

Strategic Plans:

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi
1.1 Provide excellent academic programs & instruction.
1.3 Promote lifelong learning and global citizenship.

Related Measures:

M 8: Area library orders
The history area will use the library ordering program and approval plan process...
to increase relevant library holdings for students.

Source of Evidence: Benchmarking of learning outcomes against peers

Achievement Target:
Increases in primary and secondary source library holdings relevant to the discipline.

Findings (2007-2008) - Achievement Target: Met
The history area took advantage of the library book ordering program as well as the approval plan book ordering system to keep the library holdings current.

Findings (2006-2007) - Achievement Target: Met
The history area met with library director Chris Shupala and together they secured the purchase of "America’s Historical Newspapers" published by Readex, consisting of of five series from all 50 states spanning the period from 1690-1922.

O7: Faculty service
Engage in meaningful service to the College, University, and profession while successfully balancing that activity with the demands of teaching and scholarly activity. This item is being deleted as it is not as directly related to the area's teaching mission as are other measures.

Strategic Plans:
Texas A&M-Corpus Christi
1.1 Provide excellent academic programs & instruction.
1.2 Achieve targeted national prominence.

Details for Action Plans Established This Cycle

Seek new hire
The history area will work with the incoming dean to find ways to procure a new historian.

Priority: High
Target Date: 05/2010
Responsible Person/Group: Anthony Quiroz
Budget Amount Requested: $45000

Annual Reports

Executive Summary
Overall, the history area's graduate program is in good shape. Our greatest challenge will be hiring a new historian. Otherwise, we will continue to engage in scholarly production and provide strong teaching and mentoring to our students.

Public/Community Service
While not noted in this year's WEAVE assessment, the fact is that several of the history area faculty have engaged in community service by judging at the TAMU-Kingsville history fair, giving talks to local organizations, organizing scholarly symposia and the like. We will continue to engage in such actions as a normal part of our job performances.

Anticipated Challenges
The most important challenge the area faces is budgetary. With a shrinking economy
and fewer resources, a new faculty line will be a difficult, though significant, item to obtain.

**Summary of Requested Resources**
The primary resource sought is the addition of a new line to help broaden the curriculum, increase scholarly production and provide continued leadership for the area, department, college, and university.

**Teaching Results / Accomplishments**
History area faculty continue to provide strong teaching at the graduate level and students are graduating in a timely fashion. Moreover, those students are finding work or gaining acceptance to Ph.D. programs. We will continue to provide good teaching and mentoring.