

**Corpus Christi State University's
Hispanic-American Studies Center**

Project Summary

- Objective:** To establish by 1994 a Hispanic American Studies Center at Corpus Christi State University, a campus of the Texas A&M University System.
- Need:** The population of Corpus Christi is 55% Hispanic, and that proportion is expected to increase further. To respond to the needs of this growing populace, CCSU must expand the research efforts specifically addressing Hispanic concerns. The Center will be the vehicle for this research as well as providing a strong link between the mission of the University and the requirements of the Hispanic community.
- Purpose:** To define, examine, and promote public understanding of issues related to the well-being of the Hispanic community and of the broader regional community of South Texas.
- Function:** This Center will perform three basic functions:
1. The facility will serve as a depository (archive) for materials relating to the Hispanic population of South Texas and beyond. The core of the collection will be the Hector P. Garcia Papers.
 2. Fellows of the Center will engage in research, both scholarly and applied, related to the Hispanic population in South Texas and other regions;
 3. A museum in the Center will display memorabilia of the South Texas Hispanic population.
- Structure:** The Hispanic American Studies Center will operate under the purview of Corpus Christi State University, a campus of the Texas A&M University System. The Center will employ a director who will be responsible for the Center and its related activities.
- Research activities of the Center will utilize the expertise of resident lecturers in addition to the CCSU faculty members engaged in Hispanic studies. Graduate student assistants will also participate in research ventures.
- Funding:** \$2.3 million is needed to construct a facility to house the Hispanic American Studies Center. An additional \$7 million is required to create an endowment dedicated to providing continued support to the Center's contribution to the understanding of issues related to the Hispanic community.