

# Community Support

## UNIVERSITY RECEIVES \$5 MILLION FOR SCHOLARSHIPS



Corpus Christi Attorney Kenneth Botary and American Bank President and CEO Al Jones present a giant check for more than \$5 million to University President Flavius Killebrew.

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has received \$5 million from the estate of local businessman Lawrence Atkins, the largest single private gift given toward scholarships in the history of the University.

Prior to his death in July 2006, Atkins owned and operated Atkins Advertising and Associates for more than 35 years and also raised Beefmaster cattle on his ranch. Over the next four years, his contribution will provide almost 100 additional scholarships for A&M-Corpus Christi students.

Atkins' \$5,053,339 gift creates a new level in the University's prestigious Presidential Scholarship program that supports the best and brightest students. The new level adds 15 new students a year to the program, who each will get \$3,000 a year for four years. After four years, there will be 60 students being served at this level.

In addition, funds from the Atkins' gift will create the Islander Scholars program, supporting eight new students a year who will each get \$2,500 a year for four years. This brings to 32 the number of students supported by this program after the first four years.

## COTILLION PROVIDES VISITING ARTISTS ENDOWMENT

The Corpus Christi Cotillion Club Endowment for Visiting Artists has brought in more than \$60,000 to provide the University's Art Department with a perpetual fund to bring future visiting artists from across the nation to the University to present lectures and workshops to students and the community. Each year, the Cotillion Club sponsors the La Merienda fundraiser which features the sale of artwork from current students, faculty, alumni and local artists. All monies raised benefit the endowment.

## GREATER TEXAS FOUNDATION ESTABLISHES ENDOWMENT

The Greater Texas Foundation has given Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi an \$80,000 grant for a scholarship program that benefits full-time undergraduate students pursuing a bachelor's degree at the University.

In March 2007, the Bryan, Texas-based non-profit organization established the Removing Educational Barriers scholarship endowment with an initial grant of \$20,000. Both the first grant and recent \$80,000 grant have been matched by the University, bringing the total scholarship endowment to \$200,000. Recipients must have a cumulative 3.0 grade point average, be permanent Texas residents, and demonstrate financial need.



AEP Texas representatives Julio Reyes (left) and Ken Griffin (right) presented a \$25,000 check to University President Flavius Killebrew.

## AEP TEXAS PRESENTS \$25,000 GIFT TO UNIVERSITY

AEP Texas presented a \$25,000 check to President Flavius Killebrew to support the University's greatest needs. Since 1980, AEP Texas has provided funds for President's Council scholarships, and the Parents' Council, which provides numerous programs and opportunities for students. Other areas that have received funding include the Athletics/Tarpon Foundation, the State of the University luncheon and Islander Lights, as well as the South Texas Academic Rising Scholars Extravaganza, which funds scholarships in South Texas.

## PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL AWARDS ART SCHOLARSHIPS

The 2008 President's Council student art exhibit and reception was held at the Islander Art Gallery. Winners of the Council's scholarship competition were Clarita Fajutag, first place (\$1,000) for "Kai Goya-Graf;" Luis Corpus, second place (\$750) for "Pretty in Pink;" and Reuben Njaa, third place (\$500) for "Right Passo." James Murray received



President's Council art scholarship winners were (from left) Reuben Njaa, third place; Luis Corpus, second place; Clarita Fajutag, first place; and James Murray, 3-D first place.

first place (\$500) for "Threshold" in the 3-D sculpture category. The works of art were displayed in the University Center, Legacy Hall.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH DONATION FUNDS SCHOLARSHIPS

For the second consecutive year, Community Outreach has contributed \$100,000 of its expected annual project proceeds to fund scholarships for deserving undergraduate students.

Community Outreach, the public service arm of the University, began supporting scholarships for undergraduate students in 2000. Revenues are generated by Outreach events, conferences, training programs, consulting projects and other activities.

Through the program, funds from University employees who make contributions the Faculty and Staff Campaign are matched by Community Outreach.

For 2008-2009, Community Outreach has provided \$50,000 of unrestricted scholarship funds to be distributed equally among the University's five colleges. Another \$45,000 has been designated for the Community Outreach Matching Gift Program and \$5,000 will be used to fund five Honors Program scholarships.

## FINANCIAL AID PLAN HELPS TEXAS FAMILIES



Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi now offers the Islander Guarantee!, a program that ensures full payment of tuition and mandatory fees for undergraduate students from lower income families. The program was created to encourage students to take more courses during the year and complete degree programs within four-years.