A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT
Executive Summary of Research and Sponsored Programs Awards
Fiscal Year 2006-2007
It gives me great pleasure to present the annual report on Research and Sponsored Programs at Texas A&M International University for 2006-2007, a year that was characterized by both continued growth and increased opportunity.

For the year, funding for research and sponsored programs totaled $8 million, an increase of 10 percent over the previous year. This growth represents the continuation of a decade-long upward trend, a period which witnessed a remarkable 747 percent increase in external funding. Our greatest successes have come in the area of grants which fund programs to broaden opportunities for young people to participate and be successful in higher education. A remarkable example is the $4.2 million GEAR UP grant received by the Office of Special Programs. Even more remarkable is the fact this was the university’s third GEAR UP grant!

In addition, TAMIU faculty members are increasingly successful at winning grants to support basic and applied research, an area of particular emphasis for the coming year. The Sponsored Research Initiative, instituted this fall, provides support to faculty members who commit themselves to writing and submitting a competitive grant proposal within the academic year.

Research is an integral component of the academic mission of great universities. I am proud of the efforts of TAMIU faculty to enhance the quality of their teaching through research, and to thereby contribute to humanity’s common fund of knowledge.

Dan R. Jones, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
FY 2006-2007 SPONSORED AWARD ACTIVITY

The Office of Grant Resources is pleased to present this Executive Summary of Texas A&M International University’s Sponsored Awards Activity for FY 2006-2007, a period over which faculty attracted over $8 million in funding from external sponsors in support of research, public service, instruction, academic support, student support, and public service projects.

Please note that this report only provides a summary of the FY 2006-2007 proposals and awards handled by the Office of Grant Resources and not other funds received by the University.

*Cristina Hernández, Director, Office of Grant Resources

Award Activity
Texas A&M International University external funding to support research, instruction, public service and training programs during the FY 2006-2007 represents a 10% increase over the previous year.

The 10-year annual increase of 747% represents a strong, sustainable growth rate.
The majority of the support received has been provided by the federal government, accounting for 92% of the total award dollars. Federal funding increased 12% over last fiscal year.

The major portion of FY 2006-2007 federal funding is divided among seven agencies: U.S. Department of Education, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), National Science Foundation (NSF), National Institute of Health (NIH), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and the U.S. Small Business Administration. The University’s largest sponsor is the U.S. Department of Education, which provided over $5 million in funding.

As appropriations for higher education continue to shrink, external funding provides a valuable source of support for areas of the University’s mission that extend beyond instruction, including research, public service and training.

As in the past, the majority of this year’s awards supported academic program activities, which represents 85% of the total funds received.

For FY 2006-2007, there was a notable increase in funds for research and research-related activities representing 10% of the total funds received.

Note: Figures for all sources private funding only depicts the dollar amount of grants received for research-related projects through the Office of Grant Resources and not other funds received by the University.
Award Activity  Grants and contract activities continue to play an integral role in the on-going effort to create an environment that is supportive of research and innovative ideas conducted by the faculty and staff at TAMIU. For FY 2006-2007 there was a 12% increase in total funding received from the previous year. There were a total of 30 projects and/or contract agreements awarded for this fiscal year, totaling $8,796,229.  

The Office of Special Programs accounted for 74% of the total funding.

Proposal Submissions  There has been an increase in the number of grant submissions over the last seven years. For FY 2006-2007 there were a total of 62 grant applications submitted with a total request of $27,014,687. This figure does not include private sources, which are reported through the Office of Institutional Advancement. The indicator of proposal traffic is both the number of submissions and the number of awards, even though the dollar amount requested may vary year-to-year based upon the amount of available funding designated by each of the funding agencies and programs.

Note: Figures presented on charts only depicts the dollar amount of grants received through the Office of Grant Resources and not other funds received by the University.
Fiscal Year 2006-2007
New Awards

College of Arts and Science

Barker, Ellen

Awarded: $42,000

South Texas Writing Project
Granting Agency: National Writing Project, funded through U.S. Dept of Education
Purpose: Support the National Writing Project Model, which emphasizes improving students’ writing and learning.

Khosraviyani, Firooz

Awarded: $87,000

The Río Grande Border Algebra Project 2007-2008 Institute
Granting Agency: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
Purpose: Seeks to provide high quality professional development for 24 High/Middle School teachers from six local school districts in an effort to enhance classroom performance and student achievement in mathematics.

Leyendecker, Bede

Awarded: $8,000

Dance Performance Troupe City of Laredo Grant 2006-2007
Granting Agency: City of Laredo
Purpose: To support, promote and encourage participation and involvement of all citizens of the region in quality experiences in the Arts, through the dance medium.

Webb County Dance and Ensemble Webb County Grant (2007)

Awarded: $1,130

Granting Agency: Webb County Texas Third Party Funding
Purpose: The Dance program is to support, promote and encourage participation and involvement of all citizens of the region in quality experiences in the Arts, through the Dance medium.

Mendoza-García, Gabriela

Awarded: $2,000

Folklorico Festival
Granting Agency: Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA)
Purpose: Allows the dance community of Texas to learn from renown Mexican folklorico teachers. Dances are taught so that participants can return to their own groups and replicate.

Momen, Mehnaaz

Awarded: $1,200

Trade Corridors and Changes in Urban Patterns: A Case Study of Laredo
Granting Agency: Texas Tech University Center for Public Service
Purpose: To study and examine the economic impact of I-35 on business location and land use in Laredo.
College of Arts and Science (cont’d)

**Mott, Daniel J.**  
*Promoting Undergraduate Education Now Through Experimental Science (PUENTES)*  
Awarded: $413,744  
Granting Agency: National Institute of Health (NIH)  
Purpose: To recruit under-represented minority (LCC) students with an interest in biomedical science. It also plans to strengthen students’ performance in science while enrolled at the community college, and to provide them with the experience and training that will ensure success in a four-year college or university.

**Olsen-Fazi, Annette**  
*TAMIU French Film Festival*  
Awarded: $3,500  
Granting Agency: Texas Council for the Humanities  
Purpose: The TAMIU French Film Festival seeks to promote the knowledge and understanding of French language and culture among high school and college students as well as the general community in Laredo and surrounding areas.

**Ramos, Gilbert**  
*Title IV-E Child Welfare Grant 2006-2007*  
Awarded: $60,225  
Granting Agency: State of Texas Department of Family and Protective Service  
Purpose: Allow TAMIU to offer financial support for students (stipends), modify curriculum in the social work program to include topics relevant to Title IV-E program goals, and provide field placement for students to increase their knowledge and skills in the areas of case planning, case management and court preparation.

**Sung, Chen-Han**  
*Mathematics and Engineering Best (ME-Best)*  
Awarded: $500,000  
Granting Agency: National Science Foundation (NSF)  
Purpose: To provide scholarships to 26 undergraduate and 5 graduate students who major in computer science, engineering or mathematical sciences. Priority will be given to students from low-income families, who are ethnic minority, women, or persons with disabilities, due to their under-representation in the STEM fields.

**Tobin, Kenneth**  
*Methodologies for Applying TRMM*  
Awarded: $68,830  
Granting Agency: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)  
Purpose: This three-year project will expand the interdisciplinary study of satellite-based precipitation estimates, from missions such as the current TRMM and the future GPM, in the context of quantifying the regional water balance of the Middle Rio Grande and Nueces River Basins at hourly time-scales.

**Yoder, Michael**  
*Trade Corridors and Changes in Urban Patterns: A Case Study of Laredo*  
Awarded: $1,200  
Granting Agency: Texas Tech University Center for Public Service  
Purpose: A study to examine highway and warehouse infrastructure in three border cities.
**College of Business Administration**

*Patrick, Michael J.*  
**Awarded: $301,195**  
**SBDC Laredo**  
Granting Agency: U.S. Small Business Administration  
Purpose: In addition to its successful business counseling and training activities, the Laredo SBDC team activity supports the economic development efforts of other business organizations, non-profits, and faith-based organizations in the three county area.

*Texas Manufacturing Assistance Center-Statewide*  
**Awarded: $40,000**  
Granting Agency: Texas Engineering Extension Service  
Purpose: To develop and deliver education and training programs to meet specific needs of enterprises that are related to production and manufacturing processes, human resources, marketing and financing.

**College of Education**

*Brown, Randal*  
**Awarded: $48,000**  
*Special Education Recruitment and Retention Grant*  
Granting Agency: Texas A&M University Texarkana/Texas Education Agency  
Purpose: Will provide workshops, summer camps, and stipends to support teacher training, seminar activities, summer camp activities or activities which directly support special education teacher recruitment and retention.

*Flores, Gloria*  
**Awarded: $10,000**  
*Limited English Proficient II (LEPII)*  
Granting Agency: Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC)  
Purpose: Develop tools and training resources to enhance the capacity of limited English proficient teachers.

*Limited English Proficient III*  
**Awarded: $10,000**  
Granting Agency: TAMU-CC and Texas A&M University (TAMU)/Texas Education Agency  
Purpose: Develop tools and training resources to enhance the capacity of limited English proficient teachers.

*Limited English Proficient IV*  
**Awarded: $40,000**  
Granting Agency: TAMU-CC and TAMU/Texas Education Agency  
Purpose: Develop tools and training resources to enhance the capacity of limited English proficient teachers.

*Math Technical Support*  
**Awarded: $51,111**  
Granting Agency: TAMU-System Offices/Texas Education Agency  
Purpose: Provide research-based professional development to help schools in need focus on effective mathematical best practices and to help schools and teachers change their instructional practice toward data-driven decision making.
College of Education (cont’d)

Texas Regional Collaborative for Excellence in Science Teaching II
Awarded: $115,000
Granting Agency: University of Texas-Austin
Purpose: Determining the impact of the professional development on teachers’ knowledge and skills, their performance in the classroom, and on student achievement.

Gonzalez, Humberto
Awarded: $125,000
Early College High School
Granting Agency: The Texas A&M University System
Purpose: To serve as the intermediary organization to manage the effort to establish Early College High Schools in collaboration with selected A&M system universities and school districts.

Dr. F.M. Canseco School of Nursing

Walker, Susan
Awarded: $151,201
TAMIU Disadvantaged Nursing Student Scholarships (DNSS)
Granting Agency: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
Purpose: To increase nursing education opportunities for individuals from educationally and economically disadvantaged backgrounds and from underrepresented racial/ethnic minority groups by providing scholarships.

Office of Special Programs

Madrigal, Julio
Awarded: $2,157,776
TAMIU High School Equivalency (HEP)
Granting Agency: U.S. Department of Education
Purpose: Help migrant and seasonal farm workers and their children obtain the equivalent of a secondary school diploma and subsequently gain employment or be placed in an institution of higher education or other post secondary education or training.

Creating a Vision III (GEAR UP)
Awarded: $4,322,550
Granting Agency: U. S. Department of Education
Purpose: This multi-year collaborative project will serve 930 seventh grade students from Hebbronville Junior High School, Bernarda Jaime Junior High School, Benavides Secondary School, Carrizo Springs Junior High School, Zapata Middle School, Newman Middle School, and Fly Junior High School and continue to their respective area high schools. The project seeks to strengthen existing academic strategies, implement new programs, raise academic standards, provide academic support for students, improve teacher training and increase student knowledge of higher education opportunities and admissions. It will also develop a parental education program that teaches parents English language and parenting skills so that they can provide a nurturing academic environment for their children.
Office of Special Programs (cont’d)

Madrigal, Julio  
*High School Summer Bridge Program—Rising 12th Grade*  
Awarded: $42,906  
Granting Agency: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
Purpose: To increase the number of participating students in UISD and LISD who will meet or exceed the THEA scores indicating college readiness in the areas of Mathematics, English and Writing.

*South Texas Bridge 2007*  
Awarded: $41,831  
Granting Agency: South Texas Workforce Development Board, Inc.  
Purpose: To increase the number of Workforce Investment Act (WIA) participants entering post-secondary education.

*South Texas Pre-Bridge 2007*  
Awarded: $15,208  
Granting Agency: South Texas Workforce Development Board  
Purpose: To increase the number of WIA participants entering and graduating from post-secondary education.

*Texas Pre-freshman Engineering Program (Tex PREP) 2007*  
Awarded: $16,804  
Granting Agency: University of Texas at San Antonio  
Purpose: To identify high achieving middle and high school students with an interest and potential for careers in engineering, science, technology and other mathematics-related areas and reinforce their pursuit of these fields.

*2007 College Summer Program Contract*  
Awarded: $41,560  
Granting Agency: Middle Río Grande Workforce Board  
Purpose: To increase the number of WIA-qualified migrant and seasonal farm worker youth entering post-secondary education and being retained in the Fall 2007 as first-time freshmen.

Office of Programs for Academic Support and Enrichment

Hickey, Concepción  
Awarded: $74,999  
*Developmental Education Summer Bridge Program*  
Granting Agency: Texas Higher Education Coordination Board (THECB)  
Purpose: This Summer Bridge Program seeks to prepare local High School students for college level coursework in the areas of math, reading and writing.
Fiscal Year 2006-2007
Continuation Projects

College of Arts and Sciences

García-Ríos, Mario
Award Amount: $15,000
Joint Admission Medical Program (JAMP)
Granting Agency: State of Texas/Joint Admission Medical Program Council
Purpose: Provide services to support and encourage disadvantaged students pursuing a medical education.

Goonatilake, Hoonandara R.
Award Amount: $99,997
South Texas Border Mathematics and Pre-engineering Graduates
Granting Agency: National Science Foundation (NSF)
Purpose: Provide an incentive for qualified low income undergraduate students from South Texas to enter the workforce with degrees in computer science, engineering, and/or mathematics. The project provides scholarships in the amount of $3,125 as well as academic support, career advising and mentorship.

Pletsch de García, Kathleen
Award Amount: $80,795
TAMIU Latin American Studies and Foreign Language Program
Granting Agency: U.S. Department of Education
Purpose: Improve TAMIU’s Latin American Studies and Spanish heritage language programs over the next two years to prepare students for careers in business, government and public service related to Latin America.

Mott, Daniel J.
Award Amount: $20,000
Basic Chemical Research
Granting Agency: The Welch Foundation
Purpose: Support the chemical research being done by the faculty members in the chemistry department and to provide an opportunity for students to study chemistry in a less structured way.

Stevenson, Joshua
Award Amount: $105,000
Development of Plant Science Research
Granting Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Purpose: The overall goal of this project is to develop plant science curriculum and research opportunities for Hispanic undergraduate and graduate students in the South Texas region.

Tobin, Kenneth
Award Amount: $86,716
“Cover the Texas-Mexico Border” Initiative
Granting Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency
Purpose: This project aims to develop a comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional regional hazard mitigation plan for Texas A&M International University, the Rio Grande Institute and jurisdictions in 11 counties in the Rio Grande border region of Texas.
College of Business Administration

Sagafi-Nejad, Tagi  
Award Amount: $86,000

Reaching for New Global Heights at TAMIU: Faculty & New Student Development Initiatives in International Business

Granting Agency: U.S. Department of Education
Purpose: To enhance the linkage between the local business community and the University, providing a combination of academic and practical experience that enables Ph.D. students to become more effective in conducting international business. The project also seeks to enhance the knowledge and skills of Ph.D. students and faculty members in international business.

College of Education

Alaniz, Ramón  
Award Amount: $139,055

Excellent in Early Childhood Education (E³)

Granting Agency: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Purpose: Increase the number of qualified personnel in early childhood education.

Lira, Juan  
Award Amount: $370,635

Alternative Transition to Teaching (AT³P)

Granting Agency: U.S. Department of Education
Purpose: The goal of the AT³P is to produce 600 highly qualified certified teachers to serve in high-need schools operated by high-need Local Education Agencies (LEAs) within a five-year period who will remain in the teaching profession for three years or more.

Vargas, Miroslava  
Award Amount: $650,000

Hispanic Student Success Initiative: Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers Today

Granting Agency: U.S. Department of Education
Purpose: The goal of this collaborative project between Texas A&M International University and Laredo Community College is to increase the number of students admitted into the TAMIU College of Education. The project seeks to strengthening the advisement system and retention efforts and to develop a seamless transfer system for students enrolled at LCC and transferring to TAMIU.

Dr. F. M. Canseco School of Nursing

Burkhalter, Natalie  
Award Amount: $242,632

South Texas Access to Advanced Practice Nurse (STAT-APN)

Granting Agency: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
Purpose: To develop and implement a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program to increase the number of minority nurses, especially Hispanic, in medically under-served areas and health professional shortage areas on the Texas-Mexico border.
Office of Special Programs

Madrigal, Julio
Creating a Vision II
Granting Agency: U. S. Department of Education
Purpose: This multi-year project will provide services to a cohort of 7th graders enrolled in the Antonio González Middle School, George Washington Middle School and Dr. Joaquín González Cigarroa Middle School. The project seeks to strengthen existing academic strategies and implement new programs to raise academic standards, provide academic support for students, improve teacher training and increase student knowledge of higher education opportunities and admissions and develop a parental education program that teaches parents English language and parenting skills so that they can provide a nurturing academic environment for their children.

TAMIU College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP)
Granting Agency: U. S. Department of Education
Purpose: Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) CAMP provides services to eligible low-income, migrant and seasonal farm workers. The main purpose of the program is to enable students to successfully obtain the equivalent of a secondary school diploma and subsequently to gain employment or be placed in an institution of higher education.

Texas Pre-freshman Engineering Program 2006 (TEXPREP)
Granting Agency: University of Texas San Antonio/NASA
Purpose: To identify high-achieving Middle and High School students with the interest and potential for careers in engineering, science, technology, and other mathematics-related areas and to reinforce their pursuit of these fields.

Office of Programs for Academic Support and Enrichment

Valle, Leticia
TRiO Program – Student Support Services
Granting Agency: U. S. Department of Education
Purpose: The Student Support Service (SSS) Program provides services to eligible low-income, first-generation and students with disabilities. The main goal of the TRiO SSS is to motivate and help students complete their post-secondary education. The SSS provides academic and financial support services, cultural, career and educational activities to help participants reach their academic goals.
RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS ACTIVITY

The Office of Graduate Studies and Research, on behalf of the University, would like to give sincere congratulations to the faculty members awarded the first annual University Research Grants. A total of $226,486 was awarded, of which $78,920 will fund research-related travel, equipment and supplies. In addition, 59 course-releases were granted.

The Office of Grant Resources extends its best wishes to the faculty who will be embarking on their journey to completing their external-sponsored research grant proposal. The staff at the Office of Grant Resources is eager to assist you in any and every way possible.

Dr. Ronald Anderson  Dr. Mario García-Ríos  Dr. Jaclyn Jeffrey  Dr. Qinqwen Ni
Dr. David Beck  Dr. Cecilia Garza  Dr. Tongdan Jin  Dr. Kyung-Shin Park
Dr. Fethi Belkouche  Dr. R. Goonatilake  Dr. F. Khosraviyani  Dr. Trace Pirtle
Dr. Susan Berdahl  Dr. Richard Hartley  Dr. Sukho Lee  Dr. Claudio Salinas
Dr. Randel Brown  Dr. Robert Haynes  Dr. Runchang Lin  Dr. Claudia San Miquel
Dr. Jorge Brusa  Dr. Roberto Heredia  Dr. Jacqueline Mayfield  Dr. Jerry Thompson
Dr. José Cardona-López  Dr. Barbara Hong  Dr. Milton Mayfield  Dr. Haibo Wang
Dr. Dean Champion  Dr. Pedro Hurtado  Dr. Thomas Mitchell  Dr. Judith Warner
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