

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

The Island University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Mechanical Engineering Program Receives a \$20,000 Commitment from Repcon, Inc.

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas - Repcon, Inc. has committed \$20,000 toward the upcoming mechanical engineering program at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

Officials with Repcon were on campus today (Tuesday, June 2) to announce the donation. The new Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering degree at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi was approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board on April 30. Classes begin this fall.

“Repcon recognizes the importance of providing future engineering graduates with a quality education at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi and guiding them toward fulfilling careers here in the Coastal Bend,” said University President Flavius Killebrew. “We thank Repcon for their interest and support of our mechanical engineering program.”

Establishing a mechanical engineering degree program will require unrestricted and endowed funds for expanded laboratory space, additional faculty, research opportunities, and scholarships, Killebrew said.

“An educated workforce is the number one consideration for most companies when they are deciding where to locate or expand their operations,” said R. E. Parker, president of Repcon, Inc. “Strong educational facilities are critical in order to assure these companies that Corpus Christi is able to provide that skilled workforce, including engineering graduates. The new engineering school will also provide local high school graduates the opportunity to stay in Corpus Christi and attend a top engineering school.”

Repcon, Inc., one of the leading industrial contractors in the United States,

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provides construction, maintenance, and turnaround services to the refining, chemical, and petrochemical industries and operates nationwide from its home office in Corpus Christi, and satellite offices in Houston, Beaumont, and Baton Rouge, La. Repcon recently merged with AltairStrickland Holdings based in Houston to form RepconStrickland, Inc., one of the largest and most diversified industrial services companies in the nation.

Repcon, Inc. is among several area businesses, organizations and individuals that have stepped forward in recent months to support the new mechanical engineering program at the University.

Killebrew said Texas A&M-Corpus Christi has received hundreds of inquiries from prospective students about mechanical engineering at the campus, and that, the first class is projected to include 25 to 30 students.

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