

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

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Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Professor Juan Carlos Huerta Elected Chair of APSA Political Science Section

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas – Dr. Juan Carlos Huerta, a professor of political science at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, has been elected chair of the Political Science Education section of the American Political Science Association (APSA).

As head of the 413-member section, Huerta will be a leading APSA advocate for the importance of teaching and learning. He will also represent professors from a diverse range of universities. He previously served on the program committee for the APSA Conference on Teaching and Learning from 2006-2008 and on the 2005 APSA Program Committee for the annual meeting.

Huerta, who has been at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi since 1995, is co-director of the University's Core Curriculum programs. He has published in the *Journal of Political Science Education* ("Developing Civic Engagement in General Education Political Science," "Getting Active in the Large Lecture Classes") and a chapter ("Classroom Assessment of Learning Communities for Political Scientists") in the book *Assessment in Political Science*. Huerta also has publications on political representation including "Latino Representation in the U.S. Congress: How Much and by Whom?" in the *American Review of Politics*.

His service to the profession includes serving as the vice president and program chair of the Southwestern Political Science Association (2007-2008). Additional service includes his current membership on the Political Science in the 21st Century APSA Presidential Task Force and his past service on the Status Committee for Latinos/Latinas in the Profession (2007-2008).

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Dr. Huerta has been an active participant in Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi's recognized First Year Learning Communities Program, and as co-director is responsible for program development and learning community assessment. He has also served as a Resource Faculty member at the National Summer Institute on Learning Communities at The Evergreen State College. Huerta's research on learning communities has been published ("How Do Learning Communities Affect First-Year Latino Students?" Journal of Learning Communities Research, 2008, "Do Learning Communities Make a Difference?" PS: Political Science and Politics, 2004), and presented at conferences.

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