

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: March 10, 2010

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Rita Hernandez Named Coordinator for McNair Scholars Program at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas – Rita Hernandez has been named program coordinator for the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi McNair Scholars Program, a federally-funded program that provides first-generation, low-income, minority college students with paid internships and mentoring to prepare for enrollment in graduate programs.

“I can relate to many students as I too was a first-generation, low-income and minority student,” Hernandez said. “I am passionate about higher education and hope to assist students reach their academic goals.”

The program provides college juniors and seniors with opportunities to conduct research and publish or present their findings and offers assistance in applying to graduate school. Hernandez, a 1996 graduate of Corpus Christi’s Carroll High School, received her bachelor’s degree in Sociology, a Minor in Psychology and her Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology from Texas A&M International University (TAMIU). Most recently, Hernandez served as a personal counselor and associate director of the TAMIU Student Counseling Center.

The federal program is dedicated to the memory of Ronald McNair, one of seven NASA astronauts who died on Jan. 28, 1986, when the Space Shuttle *Challenger* exploded after launch from the Kennedy Space Center.

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