

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

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Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Faculty Members Receive Teaching Excellence Awards from Texas A&M University System

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas – Twenty-two faculty members at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi were among those recognized today (Monday, March 8) with Fall 2009 Teaching Excellence Awards from The Texas A&M University System.

The 207 recipients represent the top 20 percent of faculty members who participated in the Texas A&M University System's voluntary, student-selected honors program. The top 5 percent were awarded \$5,000 to \$10,000. The next 15 percent received \$2,500 to \$5,000.

Winners from Texas A&M-Corpus Christi received a total of \$69,750. The amounts awarded were:

- Alison Frost, visiting instructor of Theatre- \$5,000
- Dr. Denise Hill, associate professor of Teacher Education- \$5,000
- Dr. Karen Paciotti, assistant professor of Education- \$5,000
- Sharon Polansky, director of Accounting and Business Law- \$5,000
- Dr. Ping-Jung Tintera, instructor of Mathematics and Statistics- \$5,000
- Dr. Blair Sterba-Boatwright, associate professor of Mathematics and Statistics- \$4,000
- Dr. Renee Ridley, associate professor of Graduate Nursing and Health Sciences- \$3,250
- Ruth Aipperspach, instructor of Communication- \$2,500
- Dr. Fereshteh Billiot, associate professor of Physical and Environmental Sciences- \$2,500
- Dr. Mark Hartlaub, associate professor of Psychology- \$2,500

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- Dr. Janis Haswell, professor of English- \$2,500
- Joanna Hodges-Grubaugh, adjunct professor of English- \$2,500
- Darcy Lewis Hudelson, graduate assistant in English- \$2,500
- Dr. Stacey Lyle, associate professor of Computing Sciences- \$2,500
- Dr. Michelle Maresh, assistant professor of Communication- \$2,500
- Esther Pais, adjunct professor of Communication- \$2,500
- Dr. Michael Ramirez, assistant professor of Sociology- \$2,500
- Kelly Russell, associate professor of Communication- \$2,500
- Dr. W. Scott Sherman, associate professor of Management and Marketing- \$2,500
- Phyllis Tedford, instructor of Computing Sciences- \$2,500
- Marcia Venzon, instructor of Mathematics and Statistics- \$2,500
- Dr. Elaine Young, associate professor of Mathematics and Statistics- \$2,500

The Teaching Excellence Awards were initiated by Chancellor Michael D. McKinney in 2008 to honor and financially reward the systems top teachers as selected by students. Awards are based on rankings from evaluations created and administered, with weighting factors such as class size.

“It's important that we provide a way for our teachers to be recognized for their excellence in the classroom, especially when it's the students, the ones directly affected by teaching, who have taken the time to nominate those who have affected their lives so positively,” said McKinney.

The A&M System is one of the largest systems of higher education in the nation, with a budget of \$3.2 billion. Through a statewide network of 11 universities, seven state agencies and a comprehensive health science center, the A&M System educates nearly 115,000 students and makes more than 22 million additional educational contacts through service and outreach programs each year. Externally funded research expenditures exceed \$730 million and help drive the state's economy.