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High Resolution Photo: Unmanned Aerial Systems RS-16 Aircraft
Video: College of Science and Engineering

Renaming of University’s College of Science and Engineering
Emphasizes Commitment to Innovative Research Programs

CORPUS CHRISTI Texas – Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi marked a new era in research and academic innovation today (Thursday, Feb. 16) with a renaming ceremony for the College of Science and Engineering.

Formerly the College of Science and Technology, the new name recognizes the integration of technologies and programs that offer University students a well-rounded, top-quality education and provide a highly-skilled workforce that will attract new job-creating industries to the Coastal Bend. It also emphasizes the University’s commitment to becoming a leading research institution with programs such as the Plasma Engineering Lab which, among other projects, is researching new ways to treat cancer.

“It’s been a long road in creating programs with the strength to compete in the global market of research,” said University President Flavius Killebrew. “Thanks to our partners in the community, we have been able to attract outstanding faculty who are coming up with cutting-edge programs to face the challenges of the future.”

Following the ceremony, guests had an opportunity to get a first look at the University’s unmanned aerial systems (UAS) RS-16 aircraft which has the ability to produce and disseminate real-time streaming video on map, infrared video, and high resolution imagery for wildlife inventory, border security, hurricane research and monitoring, detection and tracking of harmful alga blooms, and situational awareness for incident response. The University’s remotely-operated underwater vehicle (ROV) which can be controlled from aboard a surface vehicle was also on display.

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The University has also established the School of Engineering and Computing Sciences (ENCS) to help prepare students to pursue productive careers and advanced degrees in engineering, computer science, and geographic information science. In addition, the ENCS seeks to promote excellence in all endeavors and diversity in both its student population and faculty.

“The name change for the college and the recognition of our new school symbolize a rite of passage,” said Dr. Frank Pezold, dean of the College of Science and Engineering. “It’s a confirmation of our commitment to the growth of new educational opportunities for our students, and to bringing new frontiers of research and development to our community.”

During the ceremony, Green Mountain Energy presented the University with a $75,000 donation to increase its use of sustainable energy through the installation of a solar array panel on the roof of the Engineering building. The partnership with Green Mountain Energy, the first competitive retail electric provider to offer cleaner energy, is the first sponsored green initiative at the Island University.