



Texas A&M International University

Annual Report

2005-2006



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How can we best measure a year in the life of our University?

Herein, the Deans of our three TAMIU Colleges and Director of our Dr. F. M. Canseco School of Nursing offer their answers.

You will see, as did we, that one year in the life of this University can make a remarkable impact.

Like you, we are entirely too accustomed to life's frenetic pace and rarely have a chance to pause and reflect on the good fortune that brings us here...and keeps us here.

This report offers that pause...and more.

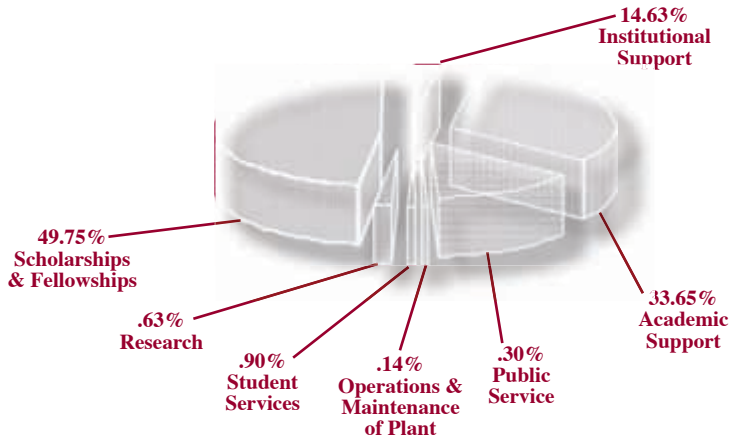
And so we offer a time to reflect, a time to celebrate, a time to look at one in many years of making a profound difference through higher education.

Join us and see how your University broadens minds, deepens hearts and makes lives better. ❖

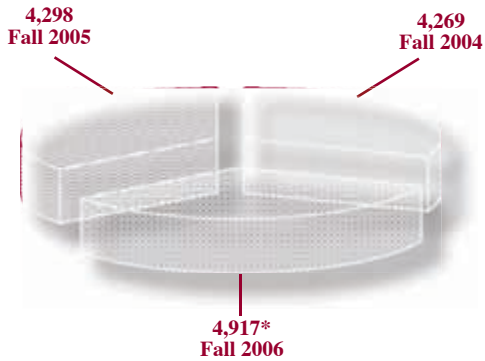


Financial and Statistical Highlights

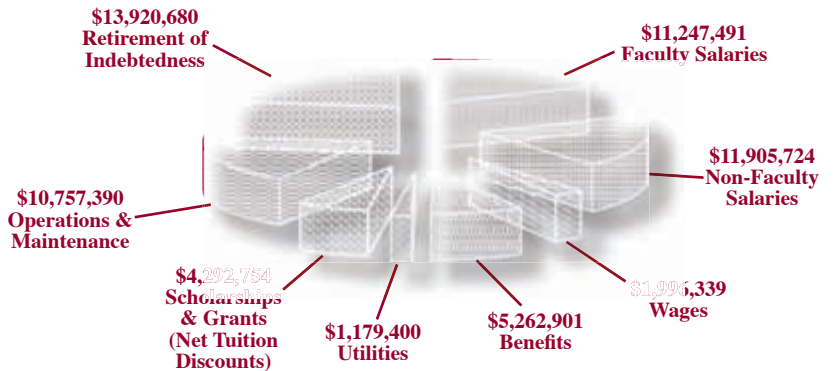
2005-2006 Annual Giving
\$3,286,687



Enrollment
 * unofficial figure



TAMIU Fiscal Year 2005 Budget



College of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Nasser Momayezi, Dean

Annual Report

OVERVIEW

The College of Arts and Sciences enjoyed an exciting year marked by outstanding achievement by students and faculty, a successful Student Academic Conference, the first publication of the Journal, *JSEB*, development of new facilities to enhance student learning with state-of-the-art technology and implementation or development of new programs to provide more student choices.

The College expanded programs to serve the community as well as our students. Graduate assistantships and Lamar Bruni Vergara Trust scholarships provided enhanced opportunities for student graduate study. The department of fine and performing arts experienced a tremendous growth year capped by the unveiling of the Sharkey-Corrigan Pipe Organ, a gift from The E.H. Corrigan Foundation. In addition, the College received its first \$100,000 endowment from George and Pamela Person and the Khaledi Family.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

New programs were implemented including the M.S. in Mathematics, M.S. in Psychology, the M.S. in Biology, a track in Rhetoric and Composition in the M.A. English degree, a Computer Science minor and a Child Development track in the BAAS degree developed in collaboration with Laredo Community College. The department also became the official home for the South Texas Writing Project, headed by Dr. Ellen Barker. New engineering laboratories were planned to support the anticipated M.S. and B.S. in Systems Engineering.

Expanding technology use in teaching was a key focus during the year. The department of language and literature secured a Multimedia Learning Systems foreign language laboratory opening in September. The Writing Program established a new freshman composition program including computer-mediated instruction. The online Criminal Justice Master's degree continued to attract

students. Other Web-based classes were provided by the departments of social sciences and behavioral, applied sciences and criminal justice.

FACULTY

The goal of continuous improvement of the programs in Arts and Sciences was evidenced by faculty efforts during the year. The department of behavioral, applied sciences and criminal justice celebrated the awarding of full accreditation status from the Council on Social Work Education.

Funded by grants, the mathematics faculty held seminars for local teachers to improve math teaching in high schools and integrate college expectations within the curriculum. Another grant resulted in scholarships for students in science and mathematics for the 2006-07 academic year. The history faculty is participating in a three-year Laredo Independent School District (LISD) Grant to train local teachers in history and in conducting oral history projects.

STUDENTS

Student accomplishments provided a source of pride and satisfaction for College faculty. Six students scored sufficiently high on the MCAT to be accepted into medical school; three gained early acceptance into the University of Texas Health Science Center-San Antonio (UTHSCSA) Dental School. One premedical student received the Hamman Foundation Scholarship and the Phi Kappa Phi scholarship. A new association was made with the Physicians Assistants Programs with UTHSCSA which will allow at least two TAMIU students per year early program entry. Students in criminal justice, sociology and psychology presented papers at off-campus conferences.

COMMUNITY

The College engaged in a variety of activities



TAMIU PKP national Graduate Fellowship Recipient, Monica Guzmán, third from left, senior biology major. Congratulating her on her award are Dr. Dan Jones, TAMIU provost and PKP treasurer, Dr. Tom Mitchell, PKP president and TAMIU professor of English and Dr. Deborah Blackwell, PKP secretary and TAMIU associate professor of History.

to serve the community. The department of social sciences presented Certified Public Managers Training to employees of local agencies. The department of fine and performing arts provided music and dance performances entertaining audiences throughout the region as well as several art exhibits featuring the work of world-recognized artists. The TAMIU Chorale joined with the Laredo Philharmonic Chorale to become the TAMIU Philharmonic Chorale, offering new sounds for the community.

The accomplishments of arts & sciences faculty were recognized in a variety of venues. Dr. Pletsch de García was invited to present a paper at Oxford University. Marcela Morán won first place at the New York Film Festival for her documentary film entitled “Casa del Migrante,” also selected to be part of the 10th Annual Los Angeles International Short Film Festival. Dr. Sushma Krisnamurthy was selected to serve on an NSF grant review committee. Dr. Susan Berdahl directed the Third International Flute Festival for Central Americans in Tegucigalpa, Honduras and was also featured performing with the Leipzig (Germany) Bach Camerata Orchestra. Dr. Yu-Mei Huang performed in Taipei, Taiwan and taught master classes at Aletheia University. Several faculty members received grants to support research and teaching. Biology and Chemistry alone received over \$433,000 in grant funding with another grant for \$600,000 pending.

PLANNING AHEAD

The new academic year promises to be both exciting and challenging.

The College anticipates launching the M.S. and B.S. in Systems Engineering. The department of Social Sciences plans a new MAIS degree that will partner with the College of Business Administration to offer a degree in International Relations and Business. The College will collaborate with COBA and LCC to develop a Management track in the BAAS degree.

CHALLENGES

Increased enrollment and expansion of programs presents a need for increased resources, including additional faculty, scholarship funding, faculty development, physical resources, and administrative support. Increased resources will ensure that the quality of our programs remains outstanding.

For additional information on College of Arts and Sciences programs and initiatives, contact Dr. Nasser Momayezi, dean, at 956.326.2460 or e-mail: nmomayezi@tamiu.edu❖



Marcela Morán, College of Arts and Sciences assistant professor, meets with students in the refitted Communications Lab.



College of Business

Dr. Jacky Yuk-Chow So, Dean

Annual Report

OVERVIEW

The College continues to explore multiple opportunities to deliver its international mission with careful attention to those opportunities directed to student study, faculty research and college/community outreach.

Collaborative efforts with the Division of International Programs have resulted in expanded agreements and the provision of executive MBA programs in both China and Egypt. In order to be more effective and efficient in its mission delivery, the College has been re-organized into two units: Division of International Banking and Finance Studies and Division of International Business and Technology.

Philanthropic support has been especially generous this year, thanks to the visionary support of the Laredo National Bank, which provided a \$1 million gift to create an endowed chair in International Finance. Additional key support has come from International Bank of Commerce with its support of the IBOC Keynote Speaker Series and Wells Fargo Bank with its support of student scholarships.

Always a strong community partner, the College has also taken a prominent role in the initial development of the Laredo Area Community Foundation.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Seven of the first cohort students of the Spanish dual-degree program with Universidad Regiomontana have completed studies at TAMIU and will graduate in August 2006. Currently, there are 23 students in the dual degree program. Universidad Autonoma de Tamaulipas has 10 students taking similar classes this Fall semester.

Several online MBA courses were offered to the students last Spring. More will be offered and the College plans to have most MBA courses online in one year. The College will offer a business track to new TAMIU System Engineering program students.



The Laredo National Bank provided a \$1 million gift to create an Endowed Chair.

The Division of International Business and Technology Studies, began its non-credit Courses Program in Summer 2006. The Program offers short and intensive 10-hour courses on topics of interest to managers and professionals in the Laredo area.

The Ph.D. program in international business administration enrolled its second cohort of six students in the fall of 2005. Highlights included increased scholarly productivity of students, grants received, and programmatic achievements.

The Ph.D. Program received a donation and a five-year pledge of financial support from Wells Fargo Bank's Laredo branch, to support the program and a major two-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education to strengthen program and community student research linkages.

The Texas Center for Border Economics secured funding for and established the HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Pre-School Youngsters) Laredo Program in Rio Bravo. The program prepares parents to provide

in-home instruction to their pre-school age children (2, 3, and 4 years).

The Center provided leadership and technical assistance to establish a Higher Education Advanced Technology Center in Zapata. It will provide area residents access to TAMIU classes.

FACULTY

Ph.D. Program Director Dr. Tagi-Sagafi-nejad was invited by the United Nations to hold a press conference in México City as a part of the simultaneous global launch of the World Investment Report. His press conference received extensive coverage in Mexico and Latin America.

Dr. Michael Patrick, Texas Center director, through the Center's Research Fellows Program, funded 21 TAMIU faculty-led research projects on US-Mexico border issues.

Dean So enrolled in the Management Development Program at Harvard University this summer and attended a "conflict management" workshop provided by the American Council on Education in Chicago.

The following faculty members have one or more publications in academic journals this year: Dr. P. Albuquerque, Dr. J. Brusa, Dr. G. Cai, Dr. F. Collins, Dr. R. Hicks, Dr. P. Jiraporn, Dr. P. Kitsabunnarat, Dr. N. Kock, Dr. M. Landeck, Dr. S. Liu, Dr. J. Mayfield, Dr. M. Mayfield, Dr. W. Newman, Dr. K. Parhizgar, Dr. L. Preto, Dr. R. Pena-Sanchez, Dr. A. Rivas, Dr. Rodriguez, Dr. Dr. T. Sagafi-nejad, Dr. J. So, Dr. J. Verville, Dr. H Wang.

STUDENTS

Ph.D. students participated in The Texas A&M University System's "Pathways to the Ph.D." annual conference in Kingsville. Paul Komiak, received first prize in business category, two others received third place.

The TAMIU Chapter of Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team won first runner-up honors in regional competition.

The second annual Ph.D. Students Consortium saw Ph.D. students from TAMIU joined by those from TEC de Monterrey, Southern New Hampshire University, and the University of the West Indies. TAMIU Ph.D. student Jullavut Kittiakarasakun tied for first place, receiving a \$500 prize.

COMMUNITY

This year a record number of students (180), from eight Laredo and Zapata high schools participated in the Youth Entrepreneurship Summer Camp (YES Camp) program.

The Texas Center organized and sponsored the IBOC 2005-2006 Western Hemispheric Trade Keynote Speakers Series featuring eight internationally/



The Laredo Area Community Foundation has enjoyed the College's support in its initial development.

nationally-recognized speakers. Over 1,000 people attended the Series.

The Texas Center organized and co-sponsored with Graduate School of Business Administration and Leadership at Monterrey Tec, the 11th Annual Conference on Western Hemispheric Trade and Investment. The three-day conference was attended by over 400.

The Texas Center completed a survey of Laredo manufacturers identifying current challenges and future opportunities for expansion.

PLANNING AHEAD

The College will continue to actively seek relevant programming, research and service opportunities for its students, faculty and the community at large. Of continued interest will be the College's increasing international prominence and efforts to capitalize on its abundant faculty teaching and research abilities in the international arena. The Ph.D. program continues to be a source of great pride as it works to train the scholars and teachers of tomorrow's academy.

CHALLENGES

The looming shortage of business faculty, due to retirement and limited supply of new faculty, has prompted national salary increases for business faculty, creating serious pressure on the budget for recruiting and retaining existing College faculty.

Traditional MBA markets are very crowded and competitive. New programs tailored toward "customers' need" are growing in popularity. To this end, the College will explore non-traditional MBAs, such as Executive MBA and Professional MBA to attract professionals in medicine, law, engineering, nursing, accounting and education.

For additional information on College of Business programs and initiatives, contact Dr. Jacky Yuk-Chow So, dean, at 956.326.2480 or e-mail: jso@tamiu.edu ♦



College of Education

Dr. Humberto González, Dean

Annual Report

OVERVIEW

The past year's accomplishments have highlighted the importance of collaborative work united by a very clear sense of purpose and direction to provide students and all we serve with the highest quality of teaching, research, and service. These experiences have signaled the importance of using frequent and various assessments to collect reliable, valid data to help make wise decisions involving curriculum, instruction, personnel, and resources, since many have significant budgetary implications.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Texas A&M University College of Education and TAMIU will deliver the Ph.D. in Curriculum & Instruction and Ph.D. in Educational Administration. A cohort of doctoral students pursuing this TAMU-TAMIU collaborative Ph.D. has begun degree work. In addition, a cohort pursuing the TAMU-TAMIU collaborative Ph.D. in Curriculum & Instruction began fall 2005. Drs. Barbara Greybeck and Juan Lira delivered doctoral courses this term.

College delivery of the 24-graduate semester credit hour Master Technology Teacher Certification Program began.

The College hosted a Bilingual Education Symposium for school district board members and administrators, featuring Dr. Virginia Collier, world-renowned authority in the field.

The College began collaborative delivery with Texas A&M University-Kingsville (TAMUK) of a Bachelor's Degree in Communication Disorders to prepare individuals to qualify to enroll in a Master's Degree in Communication Disorders. The large enrollment indicates this program is in high demand.



Texas A&M International College of Education & executive team.

FACULTY

Dr. Jennifer Coronado, who completed her Ph.D. in Teaching and Learning from Capella University in 2005, was welcomed as an assistant professor of Education and named director of the Center for Professional Development and Technology.

Dr. Diana Linn, a member of the collaborative Ph.D. initiative, completed her Ph.D. in Curriculum & Instruction from Texas A&M University the spring of 2006. She is an assistant professor of Education at TAMIU. Joining the faculty were Drs. Sergio Garza, Phu Hoang, Norman Walker and Carlo Walker.

Drs. Jennifer Coronado, Greybeck, Linn, Lira, and Mary Petron were selected to present their research at the American Educational Research Association (AERA) Conference in San Francisco in April 2006. This is the country's premier research organization.

The College welcomed Dr. Kyung-Shin Park, assistant professor of fitness and sports, with an exercise physiology and research background.

College reorganization saw Dr. Lira being named associate dean; Dr. Greybeck, new interim chair of the

department of curriculum & instruction; Dr. Coronado, interim chair of the department of teacher preparation (a new department) and Dr. Alfredo Ramírez, interim chair of the department of professional programs. Dean González taught a doctoral level course.

STUDENTS

Dr. Georgeanne Reuthinger, a doctoral student enrolled in the collaborative Ph.D. in Curriculum & Instruction, graduated in the fall 2005 term. She is employed by United Independent School District. Dr. Armando Pérez, the first program graduate in the summer of 2005, is a mathematics faculty member at Laredo Community College (LCC).

COMMUNITY

The College Hosted an International Literacy Conference in collaboration with LCC, The Texas Association for the Improvement of Reading, the Texas State Reading Association, the Amistad Reading Council, the University of Texas at San Antonio, and the University of Houston at Clear Lake. Dr. Barbara Greybeck, Conference Committee chair, was assisted by other TAMIU and LCC individuals.

TAMIU and LCC were awarded a five-year \$3,250,000 grant by the U.S. Department of Education to help five groups of 100 students each year develop written communication knowledge and skills to increase likelihood of their successfully completing a degree program leading to a teaching certificate. TAMIU associate professor of bilingual education Dr. Miroslava Vargas is principal investigator for the project. Her counterpart at LCC is Dr. Nora Garza, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

The Alternative Transition to Teaching Program (AT3P) was approved for its third year of funding by the U.S. Department of Education. Virginia Collier and Wayne Thomas were featured at the Spring Bilingual conference attended by 500.

TAMIU received notice of award for an Early Childhood Education (E-3) grant from the U.S. Department of Education to prepare Webb County Headstart Program staff to earn a B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies Degree with Bilingual Education certification. Dr. Ramon Alaníz, professor of bilingual education, is principal investigator.

The College signed a collaborative agreement to work with Laredo Independent School District and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to establish an Early College High School at TAMIU. Classes began for 100 select freshmen students in Fall 2006.

The College received notification by the Texas Education Agency that all educator certification programs were acceptable and reaccredited.



Top: TAMIU President Dr. Ray Keck welcomes the incoming freshmen class to the Early College High School. Above: Students listen to Dr. Keck's welcoming remarks.

PLANNING AHEAD

The College will develop a Master of Science Degree in Fitness and Sports, a Master of Science Degree in Instructional Technology and hire additional faculty in Early Childhood Education, Special Education, School Counseling, Instructional Technology, and School Administration.

CHALLENGES

The challenges we have faced underscore the importance of keeping an open mind and a willingness to seriously consider multiple points of view before making decisions. These steps have helped us avoid "rushing to failure." We will continue to employ and abide by these principles and practices.

For additional information on College of Education programs and initiatives, contact Dr. Humberto González, dean, at 956.326.2420 or e-mail: hgonzalez@tamiu.edu



Dr. F.M. Canseco School of Nursing

Dr. Susan S. Walker, Director

Annual Report

OVERVIEW

The mission of the Dr. F.M. Canseco School of Nursing is to prepare nurses to help address the health care needs of Laredo and the surrounding mid-Rio Grande region, through expert clinical preparation within a context of transcultural nursing and community development.

The year marked a new phase of development for the Canseco School of Nursing, with Student Health Services and Student Counseling Services moving under the administrative structure of the School. This move promises new opportunities for collaboration and integration of University academic and service activities. The shift will provide increased learning opportunities for students of nursing and clinical degree programs, as well as increased health services for students and the campus community.

HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Between September 1, 2005, and August 31, 2006, the School of Nursing graduated a sixth class of 24 on time and 5 delayed basic Bachelor of Science in Nursing students. Of these graduates, 91 percent of the May graduates passed the NCLEX-RN examination on the first attempt.

Results for the August graduates are still pending, although the first two who have tested have passed. Twenty-seven of 29 graduates are working in nursing positions in Laredo and surrounding rural communities. In addition, this year the School has:

- Achieved national recognition for successful preparation of minority, bilingual students;
- Resubmitted federal grants to support a faculty practice nurse-managed clinic to address unmet health needs in Laredo and two grants supporting student learning resources;

- Maintained an enrollment that reflects the demographics of the Laredo area, with 95 percent of students being of Mexican heritage;
- Maintained full state and national accreditation of basic nursing program;
- Maintained initial accreditation of the Master of Science in Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner program by Texas Board of Nurse Examiners;
- Maintained program approval for the Master of Science in Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner program from National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission;
- Increased enrollment in Fall 2006 to 305 students with a declared nursing major;
- Maintained 25 qualified students in the Master of Science in Nursing program;
- Presented recommendations for student success at National League for Nursing Education Summit;
- Participated in activities as an affiliate of the World Health Organization Collaborating Center for Nursing and Nurse Midwifery at University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston;
- Supported the second year of doctoral study for three expert clinical nursing faculty, building a critical core of faculty to assure continuation of School of Nursing excellence. They are now halfway through doctoral coursework.

PLANNING AHEAD

Fall 2006 starts with 305 nursing students on campus (and many more in pre-nursing coursework elsewhere), 12 full time faculty and 18 clinical adjunct faculty. In Spring 2007, the ninth cohort of basic BSN students will start clinical nursing coursework. Each year the applicant pool has grown, yet all qualified applicants have been accommodated and many assisted to meet entrance requirements. All admitted students have



A record number of nursing students have enrolled at the Dr. F.M. Canseco School of Nursing.

been supported toward success in reaching their goal of becoming professional nurses serving their community.

Seven cohorts have graduated from the basic program, with 66 percent of students graduating on time and 75 percent with a one-year extension. Eighty-five percent of the program graduates now work in Laredo or rural underserved health care settings. Along the way, the School has achieved national and international acclaim for its achievements.

The School is working with other community partners to establish a primary care clinic to address some unmet health care needs of the community. A federal grant proposal to support this was resubmitted last year. It was approved, but not funded and is being revised for resubmission this year, with two other proposals. Consultative support to enhance funding probability has been facilitated through Congressman Henry Cuellar.

CHALLENGES

Now that the graduate program is in place, the School of Nursing is ready to establish a clinical research agenda. We are working with a 501(c)3 agency in the community to develop a research agenda and grant proposals on health issues unique to our mid-Rio Grande border setting. We also are ready to publish research evidence on our student success initiatives, focused on factors that predict which students will exceed all reasonable expectations.

A second major collaboration involves increased interaction with the other five nursing programs in The Texas A&M University System. Of special interest, in light of the increasing demand for nursing faculty, is the proposal to develop a System-wide doctoral program in nursing.

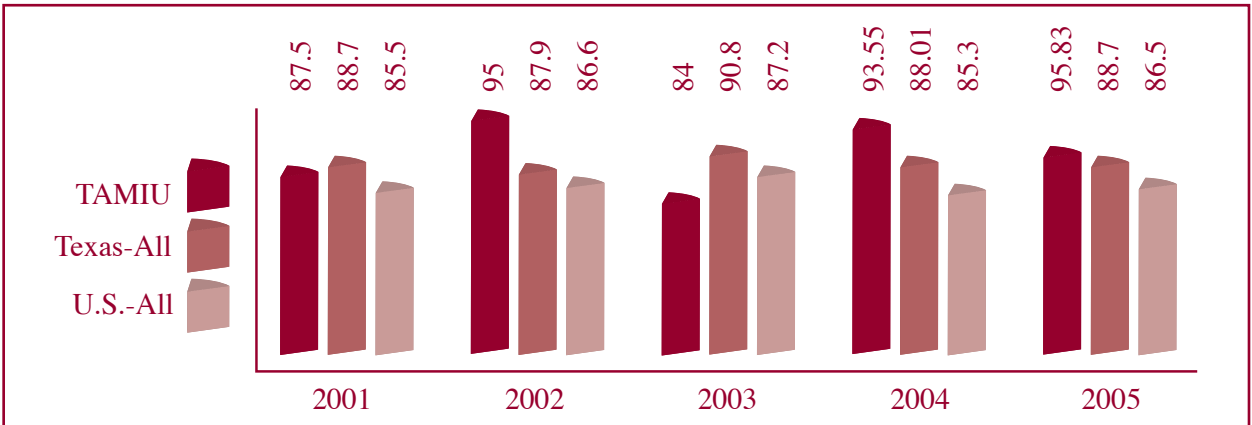
The third effort for the coming year is increased collaboration with the University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio to offer mutually beneficial collaborative programs in Laredo. The first step was met last year when TAMIU received Coordinating Board approval to begin the process to add a BS in Clinical Nutrition here.

Of course, the challenge in meeting all goals—past, present, and future—is funding. We have been richly blessed by unprecedented community support as well as energetic and successful pursuit of Federal, state, and foundation grants.

However, at the present time, it is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain Federal grant support, as funds are cut or reallocated. New approaches must be identified and strategies refined to address this challenge.

For additional information on the Dr. F.M. Canseco School of Nursing programs and initiatives, contact Dr. Walker at 956.326.2574 or e-mail: swalker@tamiu.edu

NCLEX-RN annual results in comparison to state and national averages. (Source: www.bne.state.tx.us)



Strategic Plan 2005 – 2010
University Goals

GOAL 1: Academics

Develop, maintain, assess, and improve academic programs, administrative/educational support services and student services to admit, retain, and graduate students who achieve established learning outcomes designed to prepare them for success in chosen careers.

Goal 2: Research

Strengthen and expand faculty and student research and scholarship.

Goal 3: Service

Maintain, strengthen, and expand service to all University stakeholders.

Goal 4: Financial Resources

Obtain the appropriate resources to assure continued growth and enhancement of all areas of the University.

Goal 5: Human Resources

Recruit and retain a well-prepared and motivated faculty and staff for the continued delivery of excellent programs and services to all University stakeholders.

Goal 6: Physical Resources

Provide and maintain physical resources for programs of high quality.