

Bragging Rights!

University Enrollment...On the Way Up

This Fall semester at Texas A&M International University was one for the books...the history books, that is. Enrollment topped 3,372, up over 12% from the same time last Fall, when enrollment was 3,038.

Semester credit hours, upon which State funding is based, grew over 15% from 28,472 last Fall to 32,856 for Fall 2001.

The average age of all undergraduate students is 25, while the average age of graduate students is 32. The University's oldest student is 76 and its youngest, 15. Of special interest, 46.5% of students that seek graduate degrees also hold undergraduate degrees from A&M International!



Doing the Best We Can

An urgent call for assistance by Laredo's Regional Food Bank was answered by a committed group of Texas A&M International University students who organized "Cans Across Campus," a can drive that saw donated foodstuffs stretch from the Killam Library to the Kinesiology Convocation Building, a distance of over 600 linear feet.

Campus organizers were the Future Fitness and Sports Teachers (FFAST) and the Texas Center for Border Economics and Enterprise Development.

Shelly Peacock, A&M International instructor and FFAST sponsor, helped lead campus groups on to a donation to the Food Bank which totaled more than three tons of food.



A New Medal of Honor

State Senator Dr. Judith Zaffirini has long been an ardent supporter of higher education at A&M International and across our State, but when asked what the University could do to recognize her for her partnership, she simply asked that a medal be awarded to an outstanding faculty member and student to recognize THEIR contribution to research and community.

The first recipients of the Dr. Judith Zaffirini Medal were named at this Summer's Commencement Exercises and are Dr. Stephen Lunce, professor of computer information systems, and Felipe De Jesus Pantoja, a D. D. Hachar Honors Program student and sophomore political science major.

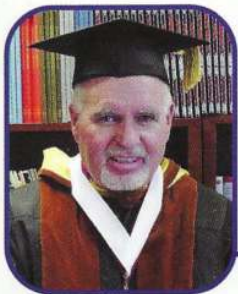


Mariachi Internacional...Eso Sí!

They've hit the high notes, offered *gritos* that stir the soul and have made Laredo proud.

The Texas A&M International University Mariachi Internacional earned a first place in the University Category of competition at November's Ford Lincoln Mercury Mariachi Extravaganza in San Antonio.

A&M International also earned a second place award in the female vocalist category with student Diana Degollado receiving the judges' accolades. As the first place winner was male, Degollado becomes the best university female mariachi vocalist in Texas. *Eso sí!*



Thompson Named Regents Professor

Dr. Jerry Thompson, dean of the College of Arts and Humanities and professor of history, has been presented with The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents' most prestigious annual award presented to faculty making a lifetime commitment to public service.

Thompson has been named a "Regents Professor." Recipients are selected from among the A&M System's nine universities, eight agricultural and engineering agencies and its health science center. Ten Regents Professors were named this year, bringing the total awarded since 1996 to 47.

Paco Puts Our Best Face Forward!

You may not know Francisco Barrientos, but he's the man responsible for Texas A&M International University's graphic image. He crafts award-winning designs, advertisements and publications, such as the magazine you're reading.

A talented artist, he moves from drawing pad to digital realization with a keystroke. Paco has been part of the Office of Public Affairs and Information Services for the past four years.

This November, Paco's design skills earned him a national first place award from the National Orientation Director's Association for his "Outstanding Use of Theme" for a series of publications he created for the University's new student orientation program, "Get in the Game."

And now you know...

