

## LETTER FROM LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

## TO OUR ISLANDER COMMUNITY,

It is our greatest honor and privilege to represent Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Over our combined years of service, we have been so proud to work together, advocating and championing the irreplaceable Islander Impact throughout the Coastal Bend and beyond. As we all celebrate the momentous milestone marking 75 years of higher education on Ward Island, we reflect on the many achievements we have worked with you to accomplish.

Highlights of these successes include:

**CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE PROJECTS (PREVIOUSLY TUITION REVENUE BONDS)**

- \$45 million for the Arts and Media Building (2021)
- \$60 million for the Life Sciences Research and Engineering Program (2015)
- \$45 million for College of Nursing and Health Sciences Building (2006)

**ENGINEERING**

- \$36 million (from 2009-2019) to establish programs in Mechanical, Electrical, and Civil, and Industrial Engineering, which included

- STEM pipeline initiatives
- \$4.2 million (2021) appropriated to further support engineering programs, including Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, and the STEM pipeline initiative
- \$2.185 million (2021) to support Civil and Industrial Engineering

**LONE STAR UAS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION**

- Over \$23 million since 2015 to support one of seven FAA test sites in the U.S., the only one in Texas
- \$6.65 million (2021)

**UNMANNED AIRCRAFT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

- \$3 million (2021) in first-time funding to support statewide critical emergency response and disaster relief efforts

**OYSTER AQUACULTURE**

- Established the first-in-Texas oyster mariculture program to promote oyster ranches and small business opportunities (2019)

We are also proud of our work that extends beyond A&M-Corpus Christi and supports so many Islander students. This includes critical areas such as suicide awareness and prevention, Comprehensive Regional University funding, riptide education, and veteran support.

As we all commemorate this historic anniversary of the Island University, we are filled with hope and anticipation for all the triumphs yet to come. We remain committed to your mission to ensure every student's success, as we are proud to serve as champions of higher education.

*Senator Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa began representing Texas Senate District 20 in 2003.*

*Representative Todd Hunter began representing Texas House District 32 in 1989.*

*Representative Abel Herrero began representing Texas House District 34 in 2004.*