

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE

BUSINESS JOURNAL

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

FALL 2026

BUSINESS BEYOND BORDERS

TAMUK Students Explore International Business
and Culture in Germany and Morocco

PLUS

From Classroom to Career
Students Gain Experience Through Internships



AACSB
ACCREDITED

Welcome Javelinas,

to the College of Business Administration at Texas A&M University–Kingsville.

It is a privilege to serve as dean of a college with a proud history, an ambitious future, and a deeply held commitment to transforming lives through education. What makes our college especially meaningful to me is the combination of opportunity and excellence we offer within a genuinely caring community. Our students are known here. Their goals matter. Our faculty and staff are personally invested in helping them discover what they are capable of achieving.

That spirit reflects the broader mission of Texas A&M–Kingsville—to transform lives, advance knowledge, and develop well-rounded leaders who contribute to their professions and communities. In the College of Business Administration, we advance that mission by providing an accessible, high-quality business education that connects strong academic foundations with innovation, contemporary business practices, and real-world experiences.

We are proud to be an AACSB-accredited College of Business Administration, a distinction achieved by only 6% of institutions offering business degrees worldwide. AACSB accreditation represents the global standard of excellence in business education and is an important differentiator for our students. Our AACSB-accredited undergraduate and graduate programs provide students with the assurance that their education meets rigorous international standards for quality, faculty, curriculum, learning, and continuous improvement.

For students deciding where to pursue a business education, that distinction matters. An AACSB-accredited degree helps set our graduates apart and connects them to a global community of business schools recognized for quality and excellence. It also signals to employers that our graduates have completed a business education grounded in high academic and professional standards.

Our undergraduate programs provide students with opportunities to build strong business knowledge while preparing for careers across a variety of industries and professions. Our MBA extends that opportunity to graduate learners through a flexible online format designed to meet the needs of today's professionals. We also offer the Master of Science in Taxation, a specialized graduate program designed to deepen expertise in taxation and respond to important workforce and professional needs. Together, these programs allow us to serve students at different stages of their educational and professional journeys.

Our faculty and staff play a vital role in the student experience. I am proud of their commitment to teaching, scholarship, innovation, mentorship, and engagement. They bring academic expertise, professional experience, research, and contemporary business perspectives into the learning environment. Just as importantly, they take the time to know our students and help them connect what they learn with where they want to go.

As business changes, we must change with it while also helping shape what comes next. Innovation will be an important part of the future of the College of Business Administration. We will continually examine how emerging technologies, data, new business models, and changing workforce needs should influence what and how we teach. We will seek opportunities to create new programs, strengthen existing ones, expand experiential learning, and give students greater access to the tools and experiences they will encounter throughout their careers.



We also recognize that an outstanding business college cannot thrive in isolation. Our relationships with employers, alumni, donors, and community partners are essential to our mission. These partnerships bring the business world into the classroom, create internships and career opportunities, inform our curriculum, support faculty and student initiatives, and allow the college to contribute to the economic vitality of South Texas and beyond.

For prospective students and their families, I invite you to discover what makes our college distinctive: the quality of an AACSB-accredited business education, the personal attention of a caring campus, talented faculty and staff, relevant and innovative programs, and a university community that wants to see you succeed. For our alumni and donors, I invite you to continue investing in the promise of our students and in the future of this college. Your engagement creates opportunities that can change the trajectory of a student's life.

To our business and community partners, I welcome your ideas and your collaboration. We want to be a resource for you—a college that listens, responds, innovates, and works alongside you to develop talent and create opportunity for our region.

This is an exciting time for the College of Business Administration. We will build upon our strengths while embracing positive and purposeful change. We will be innovative and responsive. We will strengthen the value of our programs and expand opportunities for our students. We will do so while preserving something that is fundamental to Texas A&M—Kingsville: a community where people care about one another and where education has the power to transform lives.

I invite you to visit us, learn more about our programs, meet our faculty and students, and become part of what we are building at the College of Business Administration.

Dr. Dalila Salazar Morningstar

Dean and Professor
College of Business Administration
Texas A&M University—Kingsville

**DEAN, COLLEGE OF
BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION**
Dr. Dalila Salazar
Morningstar

**DIRECTOR OF
PUBLIC RELATIONS,
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION**
Selina Kieschnick

STUDENT ASSISTANTS
Karina Alvarez
Jaclyn DeLuna

**OFFICE OF MARKETING
AND COMMUNICATIONS**
Jesse Carreon
Julie Navejar

CONTRIBUTORS
Dr. Brent Kinghorn
Dr. Thomas Krueger
Dr. Hans Schumann
Dr. Priti Verma

PHOTOGRAPHY
Monica Lopez
Sophia Yzaguirre

FOLLOW US
 /TAMUKCBA
 @tamukcba
 @TAMUKBusiness

The Business Journal is published annually for the College of Business Administration at Texas A&M University-Kingsville. It is available in print or online at <https://www.tamuk.edu/business/>

Table of CONTENTS

- 04** | Business Beyond the Classroom
- 06** | FMA Finance Leaders' Conference 2026
- 07** | Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA)
- 08** | From Classroom to Career
- 09** | TAMUK Students Explore International Business
- 10** | Honors Ceremony



Business Beyond the Classroom



College Introduces Business Week

The College of Business Administration launched Business Week as a signature initiative designed to prepare students for success beyond the classroom through a week of professional development, networking, and career exploration.

The inaugural event, held October 20–24, featured interactive sessions focused on leadership, business etiquette, effective networking, goal setting, communication, and career management. Throughout the week, students connected with faculty, staff, alumni, and local business professionals, creating meaningful opportunities to build relationships and gain valuable career insights. Business Week serves as a bridge between

academic learning and professional practice by providing students with direct access to industry leaders and experienced practitioners. Through engaging discussions and hands-on experiences, participants develop the skills, confidence, and connections needed to thrive in today's competitive business environment.

The tradition continues this fall with **Business Week 2026**, taking place **September 28–October 3**. The week will conclude with a **Tailgate Experience** at Javelina Stadium on October 3rd, bringing together College of Business Administration students and alumni for an afternoon of networking, school spirit, and celebration from **1 to 6 p.m.**



Christopher Williston, President and CEO of the Independent Bankers Association of Texas.

Economic Forum

Texas A&M University-Kingsville's College of Business Administration (CBA) hosted its annual Economic Forum, Oct. 29, at the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Center. The event was sponsored by Kleberg Bank. The forum featured Christopher Williston, President and CEO of the Independent Bankers Association of Texas, as the keynote speaker. Williston discussed "The Importance of Local Banking: Defining Community and a Return to Subsidiarity," highlighting the role community banks play in supporting local communities

and economies. Dr. Thomas Krueger, J.R. Manning Endowed Professor of Innovation in Business Education and Chair of the Department of Accounting and Finance, also presented "A Comparison of Kleberg County, Calhoun County, and Wilson County: Three South Texas Counties with Similar Bank Conditions."

The annual forum brought together university and community members to discuss economic and banking issues affecting South Texas.

Business and Banking Career Expo

The College of Business Administration (CBA) hosted its sixth annual Business and Banking Career Expo (BBCE) on November 4-5, 2026, connecting students with business and banking professionals and providing opportunities to explore internships and careers.

The two-day event began with a Banking Wall-of-Honor welcome reception, followed by a job fair and academic major career panels. CBA faculty also helped students prepare for the expo through mentoring and mock interviews, as well as the creation of the 2026 CBA Resume Book.

On November 5, students met privately with prospective employers during scheduled 30-minute sessions, allowing them to discuss career interests and potential employment opportunities.

The BBCE has become an important career-development opportunity for CBA students. Past expos have connected an average of 41 students with approximately 31 recruiters representing 20 businesses and have resulted in 26 internships and 20 jobs.



The Business and Banking Career Expo connected CBA students with professionals and opportunities to explore internships and careers.

Thanks to a donation from Bank of South Texas, the event was free for both students and employers, helping CBA students build valuable professional connections and take steps toward their future careers.





FMA Finance Leaders' Conference 2026 in New York City

Business students attended the Financial Management Association (FMA) Finance Leaders' Conference in New York City for the **fourth consecutive year** this past March. The two-day conference featured sessions on market outlooks, investment analysis, alternative asset classes, and today's evolving trading floor, while providing valuable networking opportunities with finance professionals. Students also toured Bloomberg, gaining firsthand insight into one of the world's leading financial information companies. Special thanks to Dr. Verma and the College of Business Administration for making this experience possible.



Business Students Take on NYC



Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA)



The College of Business Administration's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program had another successful tax season. Running from January through April 2026, Dr. Kendra Huff and Dr. Ilene Lee were aided by 11 students in the educational service-learning project. They assisted students and Kingsville Community members in the arduous task of filing their federal tax returns. A **total of 354 taxpayers were assisted this year**, which had an average adjusted gross income of \$22,626. A total of \$296,453 dollars were returned to the filers through this service. The total earned income credit on these forms was \$54,826, while the total education tax credit was \$24,833.



VITA BY THE \$\$\$ NUMBERS

354 TAXPAYERS ASSISTED

\$296,453 RETURNED TO FILERS



From Classroom to Career: Students Gain Experience Through Internships



For business students, learning doesn't stop when they leave the classroom. Through internships, students gain firsthand experience, develop professional skills, and discover what it takes to succeed in today's business world.

As part of the College of Business Administration's Immersion Experience, students complete an internship or other approved experiential learning opportunity as a requirement for graduation.

The experiences captured in these photos highlight the many ways our students are preparing for their careers. Each internship provides an opportunity to learn, contribute, and grow while experiencing firsthand how the lessons learned in the classroom translate into the professional workplace.





TAMUK Students Explore International Business and Culture in Germany and Morocco

Just one day after the 2026 spring commencement ceremony, 10 Texas A&M University–Kingsville students—including two who had walked across the stage the previous day—embarked on an unforgettable international learning experience. Their destination was Lüneburg, Germany, where they participated in TAMUK’s annual Study Abroad program in partnership with Leuphana University.

Over the course of two weeks, students immersed themselves in the study of international business, global sustainability, and negotiation skills. Seminars led by Leuphana faculty, industry consultants, and German business leaders gave students the opportunity to explore global business practices from a variety of perspectives and connect classroom concepts to real-world experiences.

The program was about more than academics, however. Students formed close bonds with their fellow TAMUK participants and their German hosts while gaining

firsthand insight into the cultural differences between the United States and Europe. Living and learning in a different country encouraged students to broaden their perspectives and develop a deeper appreciation for international collaboration.

The experience also took students beyond the classroom. Field trips included visits to Bremen and Hamburg, where students witnessed the production of Mercedes-Benz vehicles and Airbus aircraft. Additional excursions took the group to Berlin and the historic city of Lübeck. Students also visited the Neuengamme concentration camp, providing a powerful opportunity to reflect on Germany’s history and the importance of remembering the past.

Following a longstanding program tradition, the group concluded its Germany experience with a “Bonus City” before returning to the United States. This year, students traveled to Marrakesh, Morocco, adding another country and culture to an already memorable international

journey. With the 2026 trip now complete, preparations are already underway for the 2027 edition of the TAMUK Study Abroad program. Students interested in expanding their academic and cultural horizons through this unique international experience are encouraged to reach out to the College of Business Administration to learn more.



Honors Ceremony



The College of Business Administration celebrates student, faculty, and community excellence at 2026 Honors Ceremony

The annual Honors Ceremony held on Friday, April 24, 2026 brought together students, faculty, staff, and alumni to honor outstanding business students, faculty, and alumni award-ees and inductees into Beta Gamma Sigma.

The event celebrated academic excellence, leadership, and service among students, along with the faculty, alumni, and partners who support student success. The ceremony serves as one of the college's signature annual celebrations.

Graduating Senior, Sophia Yzaguirre was recognized with the College Student Leadership Award for academic achievement, leadership, and impact.

In addition, undergraduate and graduate students were inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma, the international business honor society recognizing academic excellence in AACSB-accredited business programs.

The ceremony also **honored alumnus, Alvaro "Al" Hinojosa, Class of 1977** for his support of student learning, scholarships, and professional development.

Faculty members were honored for excellence in teaching and research, including:

- Students' Choice Distinguished Teaching Award: **Dr. William Procasky**
- Distinguished Educator of the Year Award: **Mr. Harmeet Singh**
- Distinguished Researcher of the Year Award: **Dr. Ruth Chatelain-Jardon**
- Distinguished Service of the Year Award: **Dr. Jose Luis Daniel Ayala**
- Distinguished Innovator of the Year Award: **Dr. Kendra Huff**

The Honors Ceremony reflects the College's continued commitment to academic excellence, experiential learning, and community engagement.



Faculty members honored for excellence in teaching and research.



Graduating Senior, Sophia Yzaguirre recognized with the College Student Leadership Award.

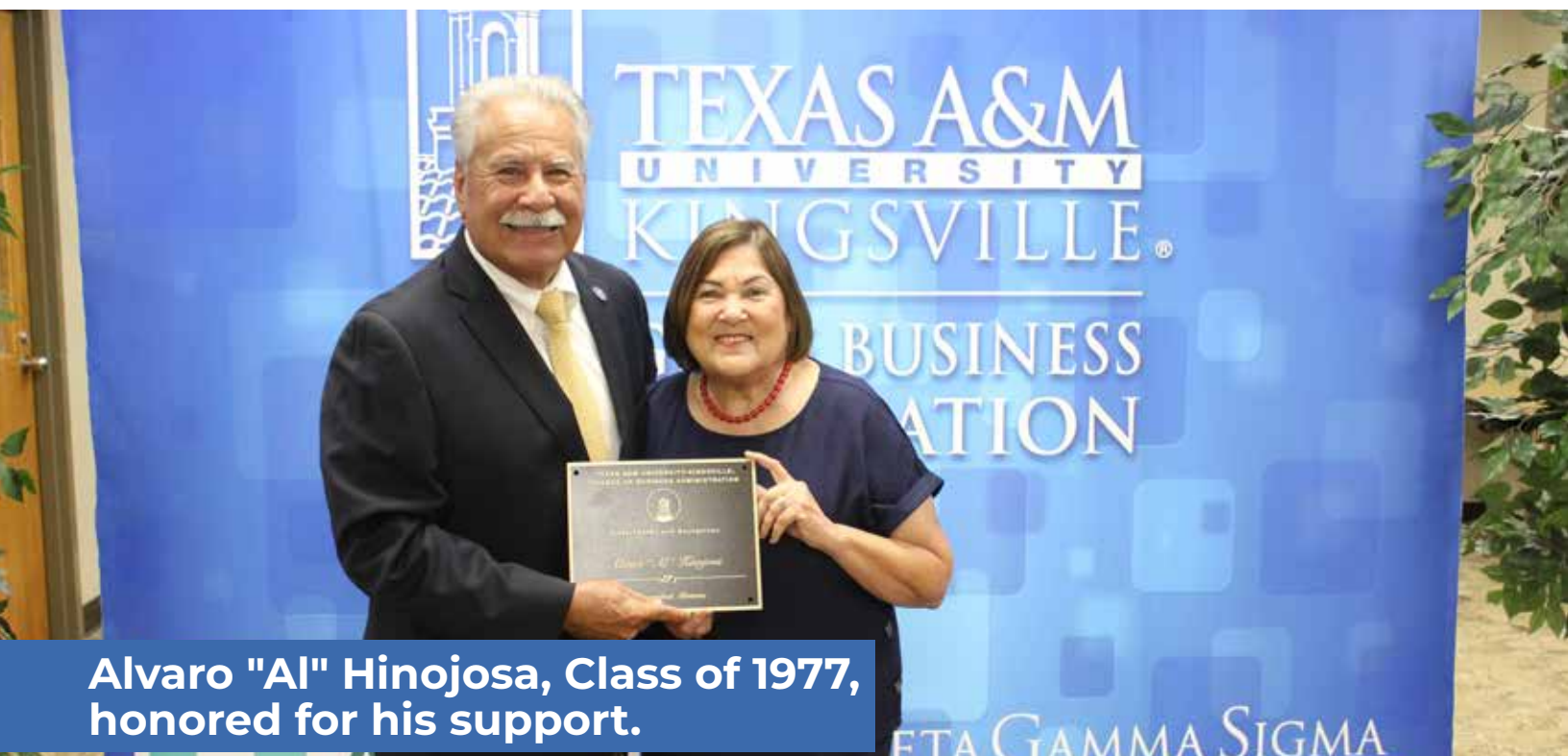
Beta Gamma Sigma Inductees

Brigitte Acevedo
Joshua K Adkins
Allison R Alvarez
Parker S Bluntzer

Jaylynn I Canales
Ariceress M Coronado
Jaclyn Deluna
Britney D Hernandez

Mia N Jaramillo
Nahun Jimenez
Brian A Lee
Kevin M Oliveira

Katie A Rackley
Debanhi Ramirez-Garcia
Bella E Rizo
Cody L Trejo



Alvaro "Al" Hinojosa, Class of 1977, honored for his support.

BUSINESS JOURNAL

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
MSC 182 • 1115 N. UNIVERSITY BLVD.
KINGSVILLE, TX 78363-8202

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

MAKE AN IMPACT



SCAN HERE

