

## Research & Innovation Day

April 22, 2026

Memorial Student Union Building, MSUB

8:30 – 9:00 AM - Registration & Welcome.

- Check-in and Networking over Coffee and a Light Breakfast.

9:00 – 9:10 AM - Opening Remarks

- Dr. Jose F. Espiritu, Vice President for Research and Innovation, Texas A&M University – Kingsville.

9:10 – 10:00 AM – AI for Agriculture: Building Smart, Resilient, and Sustainable Plant and Animal Systems

- Dr. Jianzhong Su, Professor and Center Director, Smart Agriculture Research Center, The University of Texas at Arlington.
- Dr. Prasanna H. Gowda, Professor and Associate Director, Smart Agriculture Research Center, The University of Texas at Arlington.
- Dr. Angela Avila, Postdoctoral Fellow in Mathematics, The University of Texas at Arlington.

10:00 – 10:15 AM – Networking Break

- Refreshments and Informal Discussions.

10:15 – 11:15 AM – Introduction to Texas A&M Innovation: Supporting Inventors and Commercializing Innovation Across the Texas A&M University System.

- Mr. Stewart Davis, Assistant Director of Licensing, Texas A&M Innovation.
- Mr. Ankur Dayal, Senior Licensing Manager, Texas A&M Innovation.
- Ms. LauraLee Hughes, Director, New Ventures, Texas A&M Innovation.

11:15 AM – 12:00 PM – Collaborative Opportunities for Innovation in Pharma/Biopharma with a Multidisciplinary Approach

- Dr. Mansoor A. Khan, Regents and Distinguished University Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences. College of Pharmacy Dean. Texas A&M University.

12:00 – 12:30 PM – Lunch Preparation

- Transition to Lunch Session.

12:30 – 1:30 PM – Lunch Session – You Got This: Reimagining Leadership for a Connected World.

- Dr. Cío Hernández, LMFT, LCC. CEO & Founder, Got This! App.

1:30 – 3:00 PM – Undergraduate & Graduate Research Poster Presentations

- Judging and Q&A.

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM - Scaling Excellence: Advancing Research Across the Texas A&M System

- Dr. Sharmila Pathikonda. Associate Vice Chancellor for Research. Texas A&M University System.

3:30 – 3:45 PM – Coffee Break

3:45 – 4:00 PM – Closing Session

- Awards and Closing Remarks.