



¡ADELANTE!

Promoting Hispanic Diversity

The mission of the Texas A&M Hispanic Network is to serve as an advocate and support group on Hispanic concerns and issues at the University and local communities within the larger Association of Former Students organization. The Texas A&M Hispanic Network shall dynamically work towards increasing the number of Hispanic students attending Texas A&M University (TAMU), and enhancing their experience, education, and quality of life on campus.

July 4, 2011

Texas A&M Hispanic Network (TAMHN) Newsletter

Volume XIV



HAPPY 4TH OF JULY. HAVE A SAFE WEEKEND!

TAMHN SUMMIT "FUNDING THE DREAM"

The Network has set a date for this year's Summit: 16-17 Sept 2011 at College Station in conjunction with the Aggie football game. The Brazos Region has graciously accepted the lead for supporting this year's Summit with Daniel Hernandez '73 gathering his forces.

The theme "Funding the Dream" for this year's event was proposed and accepted. Three broad goals for the Summit are described as (1) Reviewing the results of the 2010 Census and reflecting on its impact on education in Texas; (2) Exploring the myriad of means for "funding the dream" such as new Grants, scholarships, work study programs, advisors and the impact of budget cuts; and (3) Evaluate the relevance of TAMHN with a view of its effectiveness in helping our alma mater achieve Objective 6 of Vision 2020.

Invitations for guest speakers are being prepared and some names already

mentioned are: Congressman Flores of Houston and former Texas demographer Steve Murdock. Anyone with ideas for guest speakers that relate to the conference goals should pass them to Daniel Hernandez or any Network officer. We will soon pass out the hotel block rooms for individual reservations and encourage everyone to stay in these rooms to facilitate discussion and socializing among our members. In order for TAMHN to remain relevant to TAMU, it is critical that we get a good representation of our membership at the Summit.

Numbers matter. The more representatives from the Network that we have at the Summit, the more attention the university leadership will pay to our efforts and our recommendations.

Mark your calendars and pass the word. Old members, prospective members and anyone interested in TAMHN and what we do, are encouraged to attend.

20% OF CONFIRMED ADMITS ARE HISPANIC!

As of May 26, TAMU has reported the following statistics:

Total admits	16,467
Hispanic admits	3,505
Percentage	21.2%
Confirmed admits	8,645
Confirmed Hispanic	1,752
Percentage of confirms	20.2%

Is this progress, status quo, or are we moving backwards? This is one of many questions and issues that will be discussed at the Sept Summit. When our network was first organized almost nine years ago, the overarching goal was to help our alma mater achieve imperative number six, of Vision 2020.

PROSPECTIVE STUDENT CENTER

Texas A&M University has Prospective Student Centers throughout the state. You can meet one-on-one with our admissions counselors and financial aid advisors to learn more about admissions, academic programs, financial aid, housing and student services at Texas A&M University. Call the center nearest you to set up an appointment to learn more about your future at Texas A&M.

<http://admissions.tamu.edu/psc>

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www.tamhn.org

The TAMHN mission is to serve as an advocate and support group on Hispanic concerns and issues at Texas A&M University (“University”) and local communities within the larger Association of Former Students organization. TAMHN shall dynamically work towards increasing the number of Hispanic students attending the University, and enhancing their experience, education, and quality of life on campus for Hispanic students enrolled at the University.

Over the years, ten goals have developed that make up our network. They are:

- (1) Increase membership in the Corporation so that greater resources are leveraged to achieve an increased representation of Hispanics at the University,
- (2) Identify and proactively participate in the decision-making processes which address campus environment, opportunities, recruitment, retention, and success of Hispanic students, staff, faculty and administrators,
- (3) Promote the active efforts by the former student network to encourage more Hispanic students from Texas to attend the University,
- (4) Provide local contracts and mentorship to Hispanic applicants who have been accepted to the University in order to increase the percentage of this group that actually attends the University,
- (5) Promote the hiring of Hispanic professionals to the faculty and staff at the university,
- (6) Participate actively in high-level position searches,
- (7) Have continuous presence and participation with other Hispanic constituency stakeholder organizations,
- (8) Be advocates for the eventual proportional representation of Hispanic students at the University to that of Hispanic college-bound Texas high school students,
- (9) Assist University administration to accomplish “Imperative Number 6 of Vision 2020”, and

(10) Serve as the voice of Hispanic former students throughout Texas on issues related to Hispanic presence at the University.

So what specifically does Imperative Six state. Here it is:

Diversify and Globalize the A&M Community The time has passed when the isolation of the Texas A&M University campus served a compelling utilitarian function. Information, communication, and travel technology have produced a highly connected global society. The ability to survive, much less succeed, is increasingly linked to the development of a more pluralistic, diverse, and globally aware populace. It is essential that the faculty, students, and larger campus community embrace this more cosmopolitan environment. The university's traditional core values will give us guidance and distinctiveness, while preparing us to interact with all people of the globe. Texas A&M University must attract and nurture a more ethnically, culturally, and geographically diverse faculty, staff, and student body.

While the imperative does not state a specific goal, this network has worked from the perspective of the changing demographics of Texas. TAMU should reflect what the state taxpayers look like.

So, as stated at the start of the piece, are we making progress? At the summit we hope to hear from a top demographer of the state of Texas on what the taxpayer of today looks like, and what he and she will look like in 2020. We will also hear on how well we have done these last eight years. But you will have to attend the summit to find out.

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