



THE NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI

6129 ENNIS JOSLIN ROAD  
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78412

November 17, 2016

The Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi National Alumni Association Board and our 45,000 alums have listened intently, waited patiently, and been intentionally thoughtful and deliberate prior to forming an opinion or reaching a conclusion regarding the proposed merger between Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

All the while, we expected and hoped for a meaningful and detailed approach which would serve the public's best interest. We are deeply saddened and concerned with the Texas A&M University System leadership, which has executed a process which lacks transparency, inclusion and buy-in, while simultaneously proposing a merger plan which is void of substantive details. While it should appear obvious, this issue and the manner in which it has been approached, has contributed significantly to the violation of trust and has undermined our confidence in the System's leadership.

As of the drafting of this communication, the Chancellor's office has yet to reach out to our Islander Alumni. Although the Texas Tribune recently stated that the Chancellor does not plan to ask the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents to vote on a proposed merger between TAMUCC and TAMUK, we find it concerning that the following issues have not been addressed:

- Stakeholder Inclusion
  - Students (Isn't this why we're all here?)
  - Faculty
  - Staff
  - Alumni
  - Industry
  - City Governments
  - County Governments
  - Chambers of Commerce
  - Economic Development Corporations
- Feasibility Study and Supporting Data Indicating
  - A true independent study, not measured, filtered presentations
  - Local and regional economic impact data
  - Existing and projected industry capacity and needs
  - Workforce training/development deficiencies and objectives
  - Impact on student tuition and fees
  - Impact on student commute (i.e. classes in Corpus Christi, football practice in Kingsville)
  - Accreditation issues and challenges
  - Proposed new academic programs
  - Proposed new athletic programs
  - Programs slated for merger

- Location of headquarters
- Issues of campus identity
- Strategy to create a new campus culture (They are very different.)
- Costs related to re-branding, marketing, new facilities
- And, too many others to mention in this communication.

At this juncture, we ask that the issue of the merger of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and Texas A&M University- Kingsville be indefinitely suspended and we formally request an audience before the Board of Regents.

Best Regards,



Ed Cantu  
President, Executive Board  
TAMUCC Alumni Association  
Class of 1981



Ray De Los Santos, Jr.  
Past President, Executive Board  
TAMUCC Alumni Association  
USAF Veteran & Class of 2004



Gustavo Barrera  
Vice President, Executive Board  
TAMUCC Alumni Association  
Class of 1995