Christi's mission through another year of research and outreach is to look forward to research funding supports student, staff and the local community. Most external research initiatives on campus produce a lasting legacy in the community,” said Joe Fox, Professor of Marine Biology, Fisheries, and Conservation Science. Achieving that vision requires that we increase the amount of research and scholarly activity. Indeed, increasing research does not mean that research strength and curricular development.

In addition to these landmark changes, the University of Oklahoma, presented, “Broader Impacts Identity: Crystallizing, Specifying and Providing a Focus with a Delegation of Nine Cuban Scientists." The summit featured a distinctly international mix of academia, resource managers, policy, socioeconomics and conservation scholars who impact research on a local, national and international level.

Rising Scholars Making Big Research Impacts

“Our research center is leading a U.S. Department of Agriculture education program for 25 underrepresented minority students in aquaculture, conservation and nutrient efficiency. Similarly, Dr. Joe Fox, Professor of Marine Biology, Fisheries, and Conservation Science. As one of only seven Federal Aviation Administration test sites in the nation selected to facilitate testing and research on UAS, the Lone Star UAS Center of Excellence and Innovation (LSUASC) continues to forge ahead in the international UAS research field, LSUASC recently signed an agreement between Carolinas UAS Center of Excellence and Innovation and the National Center for Unmanned Aviation Research Extension Service, NUAIR’s Armstrong Flight Research Center.

The partnership will further enable UAS users to explore safer flight baselines and infrastructure inspection and public safety.

Unmanned Systems: The Future is Here

VSU in Cooke supports continued training in Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) education, faculty and research capabilities. VSU’s Unmanned Systems Initiative is now in its fifth year and continues to grow. VSU’s UAS program is a joint program with the Texas A&M University System partner campuses. It is a program that focuses on developing technical leaders in the unmanned aviation field. The VSU UAS program is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in the rapidly evolving field of unmanned systems.

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Student Research Opportunities Lead to Impressive Job Offers

Thanks to increased research funding at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, our students are prepared for competitive and innovative job opportunities in today’s global marketplace. Research funding enables the hands-on training that encourages our students to pursue local and international job opportunities.

Interviewee: Joselito Delgado was selected out of 30 applicants from around the world to work in New Zealand at the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research. Delgado graduated with a master’s in marine biology and credits his training in isotope ratio mass spectrometry in the Island University’s Isotope Core Laboratory in preparing him for this opportunity.

Daniel Mercado, who graduated in 2017 with his bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering, decided to stay local when he accepted a position with the Lone Star UAS Center of Excellence & Innovation. He is now responsible for working on the latest UAS technology in the only FAA-certified test site in Texas.

Due to the quality of education and experiences offered at the Island University, some students even secure jobs long before graduating. Kristian Sargent, a current undergraduate in the Department of Computing Sciences, has already received job offers from General Motors and the United Services Automobile Association (USAA). Like Mendez, she decided to stay in Texas and accepted the offer from USAA.

While all the Island University students, including Zia Haye Gea, Janet Stowell, Xinran Cai and Ruai Martinez are able to expand on their research experiences to create tangible products. Collectively known as “GreenTech Systems,” the foursome took third place and a $500 prize during Texas A&M University’s 2016 “Aggies Invent Weekend” based on their agricultural data collection tool. This tool was able to expand on their research experiences to create tangible products.

Innovation, Industry-Partnerships and Commercialization

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi continues to expand its innovation, technology transfer and industry partnerships collectively known as commercialization. Innovative creativity spans all areas of expertise and disciplines on the Island and often results in student success, especially in commercialization and entrepreneurship.

Recently, Dr. Randal Boudreaux, Associate Professor of Educational Leadership and Curriculum for TAMU-CC’s Conrad Blucher Institute for Educational Leadership and Policy, was able to expand on their research experiences to create tangible products.

Research by the Numbers

Total Research and Total Restricted Research Expenditures for Last Five Fiscal Years

- Total Research: 2012-2016
- Total Restricted Research: 2012-2016

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Research Commercialization and Outreach

- Total Sponsored Projects Awards by Funding Type for FY 2016
  - Total Sponsored Projects Awards: $10,000,000
  - Federal: $5,000,000
  - State: $2,000,000
  - Private: $1,000,000
  - Local: $1,000,000
  - Other: $1,000,000

- Total Research and Total Restricted Research Expenditures for Last Five Fiscal Years

- Total Research: 2012-2016
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The University continues to cultivate educational and industry partnerships that develop research seeds and provide students with many opportunities.