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# AGGIE NOTEBOOK

## The Association Honors Outstanding Students

The Association of Former Students annually honors outstanding students from Texas A&M University through the Gathright Scholar Award and Buck Weirus Spirit Awards. Established in April 1973, the Thomas S. Gathright Scholar Academic Excellence Award is presented by The Association of Former Students in conjunction with Texas A&M's Student Government

Association. Named in honor of Texas A&M's first president, the award recognizes sophomores, juniors and seniors with the best academic records in each of the Texas A&M colleges. It is the most prestigious award granted for academic performance. The Buck Weirus Spirit Award annually honors up to 55 students who enthusiastically demonstrate high involvement, create

positive experiences throughout the Aggie community, impact student life at Texas A&M and enhance the Aggie Spirit through participation in student organizations, Aggie traditions and University events. The award is named for the late **Richard "Buck" Weirus '42** who served as executive director of The Association of Former Students from 1964 to 1980.



### 2009 Buck Weirus Spirit Award Recipients:

LEFT TO RIGHT, FRONT ROW: Vice President for Student Affairs **Lt. Gen. Joe Weber '72** (USMC Ret), Director of Student Activities **Dr. William B. Stackman**, **Amber Jordan '10**, **Roseannie Trevino '09**, **Stephanie Rodgeron '10**, **Maren Cannell '10**, **Ashley Young '09**, **Kelli Forde '11**, **Anand Narayanan '09**, **Stephanie Burns '09**, **Max Su '10**, **Heather Henry '11**, **Dr. Elsa Murano**, Association of Former Students Chair **Shelley Potter '78**, Association of Former Students President and CEO **Porter S. Garner III '79**; second row: **Ashley Hermes '09**, **Tracey-Ann Wellington '09**, **Pedro Vega, Jr. '09**, **Lauren LeQuire '11**, **Betsy Bremer '10**, **Samantha Kropp '09**, **Andrew Wipke '10**, **Brian Eisenbeis '08**, **Paul Boehm '11**, **Lara Speights '10**, **Megan Higginbotham '09**, **Jessica Humphreys '08**; third row: **Oliver Thoma '11**, **Caitlin Tosh '10**, **Stephan Lillie '09**, **Jordan Reid '09**, **Mira Haykal '09**, **Eric Smith '09**, **Kristen Campbell '10**, **Jena Bentley '08**, **Jessi Doerpinghaus '10**, **Lauren Hulsman '09**, **Bailey Radley '11**, **Colt Snapp '10**; back row: **Michael Schramm '08**, **Rusty Smith '09**, **Crystal Arnote '09**, **Brock Robertson '10**, **Collin Laden '10**, **Michael Keyser '09**, **Fletcher Massie '09**, **Daniel Revier '12**, **John Griffin '09**, **Colleen Bowman '11**, **Travis Robinson '10**, **Red McGehee '09**, **Jonathan Luu '12**. Not pictured are **Liz Allbright '09** and 2009 Buck Weirus recipient from TAMU-Qatar, **Mohd Kamal '10**.



**2009 Thomas S. Gathright Scholar Academic Excellence Award Recipients:**

LEFT TO RIGHT, FIRST ROW: Association of Former Students Chair **Shelley Potter '78**, **Lydia Claire Irion '11**, **Jordan Elizabeth Murphey '11**, **Alyssa Victoria Rosen '09**, **Alicia Marie Garrison '10**, **Lauren Elizabeth Burckle '10**, **Elizabeth Lee Tolar '10**, **Dr. Elsa Murano**, Dean of Undergraduate Programs **Dr. J. Martyn Gunn**; second row: **Paige Emilia Ibanez '10**, **Sarah Elizabeth Kain '09**, **Anjali Kohli '09**, **Sara Anne Cerny '11**, **Bejamin Joseph Lang '10**, **Maxwell Curtis Lukenbach '11**; Association of Former Students President and CEO **Porter S. Garner III '79**; third row: **Ivan Sergeievich Farr '09**, **Shanna Lynn Schrock '11**, **Paul Thomas Shaw '11**, **Brad James Reinhart '10**, **Derek Johnson '10**, **Ashley Clarke Vaculin '09**, **Alexandra Nicole Duran '11**, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academics **Dr. Jeffrey S. Vitter**; back row: **Kymberlee Paige Ward '10**, **Laura Erin Adian '09**, **Sabrina Louise Luensmann '11**, **Zachary Dean Adian '09**, **Paul Brian Geffert '09**, **Shawn Michael Freeman '10**, **Charles Michael Lundquist '09**, **Jeffrey Scott Nolan '11**. Not pictured are the 2009 Gathright recipients from TAMU-Qatar, **Mariam Abdulrazak Al-Meer '11**, **Misam Ali Jaffer '10** and **Hazem Mohamed Abdelmoati '09**.

## Students Elect New Student Body President

**Eric Beckham '10** is the new Texas A&M student body president after winning 57.31 percent of the vote during the final runoff election in April. With a total of 11,096 votes, the race set a record for participation in a runoff student body election at A&M. Beckham took office April 21, replacing 2008-09 student body president **Mark Gold '09**.



## Houston Couple Are The Parents Of The Year

**LeaAnn and Johnny Walker '76** of Houston are Texas A&M University's 2009 Aggie Parents of the Year. They were nominated by their three Aggie sons—**Houston Walker '08**, **Joe Walker '10** and **Jefferson Walker '12**. All three are members of the Corps of Cadets. In the nomination, the Walker children wrote that their parents deserved the distinction because they are welcoming and friendly to everyone. They said that many of their friends and fellow students consider the Walkers to be like second parents. The committee charged with selecting the parents of the year said it chose the Walkers because "they embody what it is to be a parent and to selflessly serve their children and Texas A&M."



STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT PHOTO BY JEREMY NORTHUM/THE BATTALION