**Message from the TAMHN President**

Howdy! As we put together the content of the first TAMHN newsletter, I found myself amazed and extremely proud of the efforts of our network. What a year we have had! When I think about the goals we set for ourselves just a couple of years ago, we’ve made tremendous progress. I am particularly encouraged by the new leadership that has emerged from around the state and from the engagement with the University, both the administration and the students. Plans are well underway as our DFW chapter prepares for the upcoming 2019 Summit on April 25-26th. I encourage you to consider attending to share your thoughts on how we can continue toward our Network mission and most importantly, how YOU can engage with the broader network to make a difference to current and future Aggies. Gig ‘Em!

Monica Menzel ’93
TAMHN 2018-2020 President

**DFW chapter’s Hispanic Heritage Month Mixer**

**DALLAS/FORT WORTH:** A big thanks goes out to Regina ’96 and Juan ’94 Sierra for their leadership over the years! Taking the reins this year are Ara Grimaldo ’10 and Rosemary Capuchino ’07. The chapter has had several planning meetings and is growing membership from around the Metroplex. This fall, the chapter had a brunch social and a tailgate for the Southwest Classic at the AT&T Stadium. Big news for the DFW chapter:

They will be hosting the 2019 TAMHN Summit!!

**HOUSTON:** Our Network in the Bayou City has been busy this year! In June, the network hosted the Annual Hullabaloo Step-off with 20 freshmen attending. Three $1000 scholarships were awarded to incoming freshmen and one $1000 as awarded to a current student. Working with the Prospective Student Center, the Houston TAMHN also participated in an admitted student social and the Summer Survival Workshop.

**EAGLE PASS:** Did you know the TAMHN is active in Eagle Pass? At our summit earlier this year, Jamie Rodriguez ’95 from Eagle Pass shared some of the great efforts of their local A&M chapter. They began a new tradition of Aggie Football tailgates on the simple notion that “no kid from Eagle Pass should be alone on Aggie football Game day.” The chapter is also in the process of working with the College of Architecture to establish an internship program with the department of Construction Science.

**COASTAL BEND:** Ready to BTHO Ole’ Miss, the Coastal Bend chapter hosted a tailgate in College Station before the game. There were door prizes, Aggie swag, BBQ and Jenga! A special shout out to Aggie-owned sponsor, LNV Engineering, Inc. for hosting the event.
Do you remember what it was like navigating through college and trying to figure out your potential career path? Maybe you too were a first generation college student. So mom, dad and friends from back home may not have had all the answers. That is the case for many Hispanic students on campus today. What if there was a way to connect experienced, former students with current students to provide guidance, encouragement and career path exposure? There is! We are kicking off a mentoring program between the TAMHN and current students in 2019.

We are in the process of matching interested mentors with mentees who signed up at Bienvenidos A Aggieland. If you are interested in participating as a mentor, fill out this quick and easy interest form.

The Houston TAMHN chapter, in partnership with the Black Former Students Network, hosted the Annual Score Fore Scholarships Golf Tournament in October. Over 40 players attended and over $2,000 was raised for Houston area scholarships. It was a great day to be on the course with some great folks! Congrats to Rene Enriquez ’88 for winning the drawing of a generously donated TAMU Golf Team golf bag Whoop!

**TAMHN MENTORS:**

**Making a Difference**

At the summit earlier this year, Dr. Roger Martinez ’85 updated attendees on the progress of the Family Legacy Campaign. This year we began recognizing the “First 100” families and individuals who are the first to participate.

Special thanks to the following for their pledges at the 2018 Summit:

- Roger R. & Lily H. Martinez ’85 & ’86
- Daniel ’73 & Anita Hernandez
- Hector Cavazos ’74
- Hector Gutierrez ’69
- General Joe E. Ramirez ’79
- Rudy Soliz ’97
- Jamie Rodriguez ’95
- Manuel Piña ’67
- Tito Guerrero ’70
- Dr. Ronnie ’98 & Myra ’95 Gonzalez

The Cuellar Family:
- Monica (Menzel) ’93, ’94
- Cristina (De La Garza) ’97, ’99
- Tamara (Garza) ’01, ’08
- Justin ’04

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**Hole in One Success**

**DALLAS IS HOSTING THE STATEWIDE SUMMIT**

Focusing on mentoring and networking

**SAVE THE DATE**

2019 Texas A&M Hispanic Network Summit Dates Announced!

This year’s theme is **LEVERAGING THE AGGIE FAMILIA:**

Mark your calendars for **April 25th and April 26th**

in Dallas at the AgriLife Research & Extension Center.

**REGISTER HERE!**

The best way to stay up to date on these developments is through our Official TAMHN Facebook page.

https://www.facebook.com/TAMHispanicNetwork/

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Latino Logradores

One of the goals set forth by the TAMHN was to improve connectivity with current students. With so many Hispanic organizations on campus now, there is no shortage of opportunity to make meaningful connections that augment our ability to achieve our mission, illuminated by what is happening with students on campus today. TAMHN is proud to have partnered with a Latino Logradores for a tailgate prior to the ULM game.

Latino Logradores (Latino Achievers) is a freshman program which helps support the success of Latinx students at Texas A&M University by providing mentorship, a family atmosphere, transition from high school to college and resources that help them thrive in a college environment. This will be a freshman’s first connection to the Familia Latina where they can build long-lasting relationships, explore their culture, build networks, feel empowered, develop holistically and be a service to the local community. See LatiLo for more information on their tremendous efforts. In show of great support of both organizations, Dr. Daniel Pugh, Vice President Student Services and his wife Denice opened their home for the tailgate. Over 200 people stopped by for BBQ, refreshments and good ‘ole Aggie camaraderie.

Bienvenidos A Aggieland

2018 marks the first time the TAMHN has attended the Bienvenidos A Aggieland event, hosted by the Hispanic Presidents Council. Similar to the MSC Open House, this is a showcase of all Hispanic organizations on campus, with representatives on hand to share information and recruit new student members. There were nearly 30 groups representing on-campus student-run organizations.

How many Hispanic organizations were on campus when you were attending Texas A&M?

It was a proud moment for former students to see how far Hispanic representation on campus has come. This became apparent when the Texas A&M student Mariachi organization, Anillos de Oro showed up and played the Aggie War Hymn with hundreds of students joining in to “saw Varsity’s horns off,” mariachi style! (Visit TAMHN Facebook page to see the video!)

BV Chapter Bridges the Gap between Campus and Network

Our Brazos Valley chapter graciously hosted our 2018 Summit in College Station in March. Over 100 attendees including students were actively engaged in our sessions. Great speakers from across all departments updated us on the wonderful progress we've been making as a University. The new programs in place are demonstrable efforts made by the University to attract and retain Hispanic students at record levels. The chapter gave out 6-$1000 scholarships for a total of $6,000 awarded. Great job by this team on another successful summit!
Exciting News from PROVOST FIERKE

While addressing the Faculty Senate in September, Provost Carol Fierke reiterated goals that have been set around student success. These include “…enhancing our 4-year and 6-year graduation rates, improving 1st year retention, eliminating achievement disparities, and ensuring our service to Texas by working to achieve designation as a Hispanic Serving Institution.

A University-wide task force is meeting regularly to identify solutions and new initiatives that will help us meet our goals.” The TAMHN is pleased to see the effort toward achieving the HSI designation and will be offering to help toward this goal. More to come on the progress of the Task Force and the role our network will play.

TAMHN Executive Committee

Monica Cuellar Menzel ’93, President
Eric Villarreal ’98, Vice President
Hector Cavazos ’74, Treasurer
Claudia Mendez Jaramillo ’08, Secretary
Monica Martinez ’06, Communications. Chair
Jose Nerio ’18, Student Representative.
Dr. Roger Martinez, Ph.D. ’85, Family Legacy Chair

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO MAKE AN IMPACT?

JOIN the TAMHN today
REGISTER for the Annual Summit
DONATE to the Family Legacy Endowment