



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
SAN ANTONIO

Student Affairs ***IMPACT REPORT***



2024-2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS



A Difference Making Division	04
Engaging Campus, Community, & Institutional Partners	06
Cisneros Institute for Emerging Leaders	07
Disability Support Services	09
Mays Center for Experiential Learning & Community Engagement	10
Military Affairs	12
Recreational Sports	13
Student Counseling Center	14
Student Housing	15
Student Rights & Responsibilities	16
Award Winning Staff	17



I am pleased to share with you our 2024-2025 Impact Report highlighting the innovative ways our Division has made a difference and transformed the student experience. Over the last year we made a significant difference on our growing campus and burgeoning university.

The Division of Student Affairs is dedicated to enriching the holistic student experience, providing co-curricular opportunities, and fostering the growth and development of our students. It is who we are. It is what we do.

Every area of our Division creates a positive impact on our thriving University community. A service-first mentality enables us to provide leadership for new traditions, increase access to counseling services, create new career support opportunities, open new facilities, re-imagine orientation programs, grow our Weeks of Welcome programming, and much more.

A&M-SA is a dynamic, growth-oriented institution that requires fluid and adaptable services and programs to meet the needs of students. This Impact Report contains just a few of the notable achievements that we are incredibly proud of.

Sincerely,
Juan R. Guardia, Ph.D.
Vice President of Student Affairs

A **Difference Making** Division



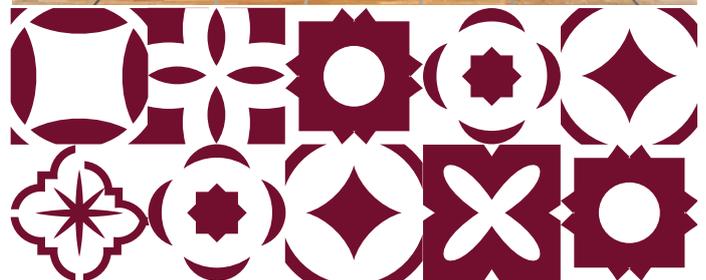
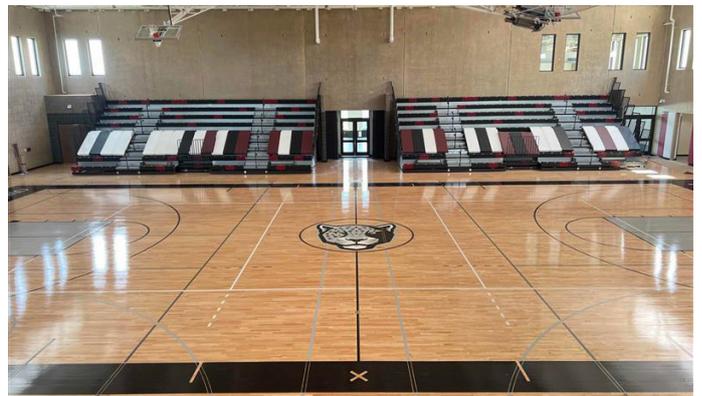
The Game Changer

In Fall 2024, the much-anticipated opening of the Recreation Center occurred to great fanfare. Paid for through student fees, the “Rec” is the first solely student-centered building on the Texas A&M-San Antonio campus.

This state-of-the-art space was designed to enhance student life by providing a central hub for recreation, wellness, and community engagement. The impact of the new Recreation Center has been substantial.

- **32,439 total visits** from students, faculty, and staff. This represents a **an over 200% increase** in usage compared to the previous year’s total of 10,056 total visits at the former Fitness Center.

- 25,000-square-foot facility
- 4,500-square-foot fitness center
- NCAA regulation gymnasium
- Modern locker rooms



A&M-SA is Home

Estrella Hall, the University's second residence hall opened in Fall 2024, doubling the amount of on-campus resident students.

- Houses approximately 370 students
- Spring 2025 was filled to 74% capacity.
- The new residence hall invigorated campus energy and engagement.

A Tradition Starts Now

Homecoming - Making History in the Moment

A&M-SA ushered in another first with the advent of Homecoming. A long-held tradition at many campuses across the nation, A&M-SA celebrated its inaugural homecoming in Spring 2025 with a weeklong series of events culminating with home basketball games (Men's and Women's).

Student Life spearheaded the initiative designed to create and strengthen connections between students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the community.

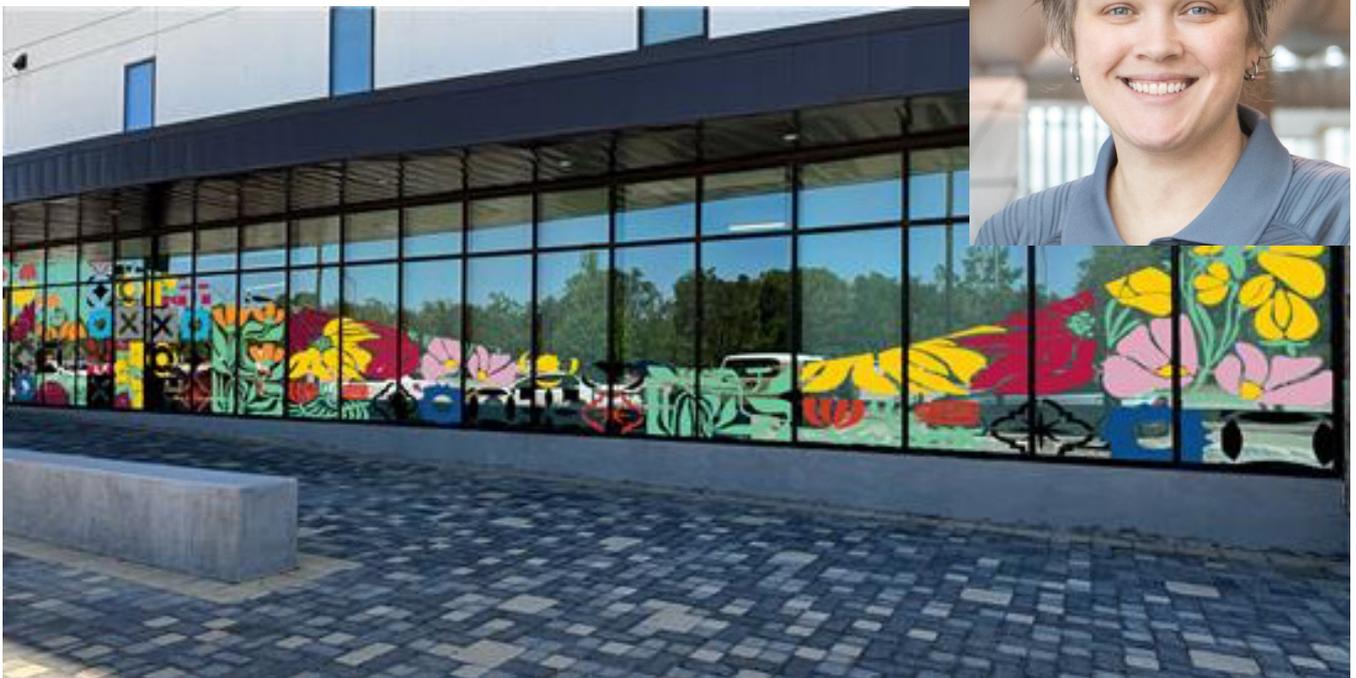
Taking it to the Next Level

Campus Services

This past year the Division of Student Affairs warmly welcomed the University Bookstore and Dining Services into the family.

New Campus Services: Bookstore and Dining Services paired with Student Housing and Recreational Sports to create our new services unit.

Dr. Kimberley Rottet joined the team as the inaugural Associate Vice President for Campus Services. Dr. Rottet will be providing vital structure and leadership for present and future efforts.



Engaging Campus, Community & Institutional Partners



A&M-SA was founded to make a meaningful impact in the communities it serves. The Division of Student Affairs lives this mission through partnerships, collaborations, and engagement on campus and with our southside neighbors and regional friends.

Campus & Community Presentations

230 presentations delivered – supporting students, staff, and community and creating both awareness for our services while also sharing the expertise of our staff and functional areas.



Through participating on committees, serving in advisory capacities, or taking on additional leadership responsibilities, the Division ensures the success of the University and defines itself as a service partner.

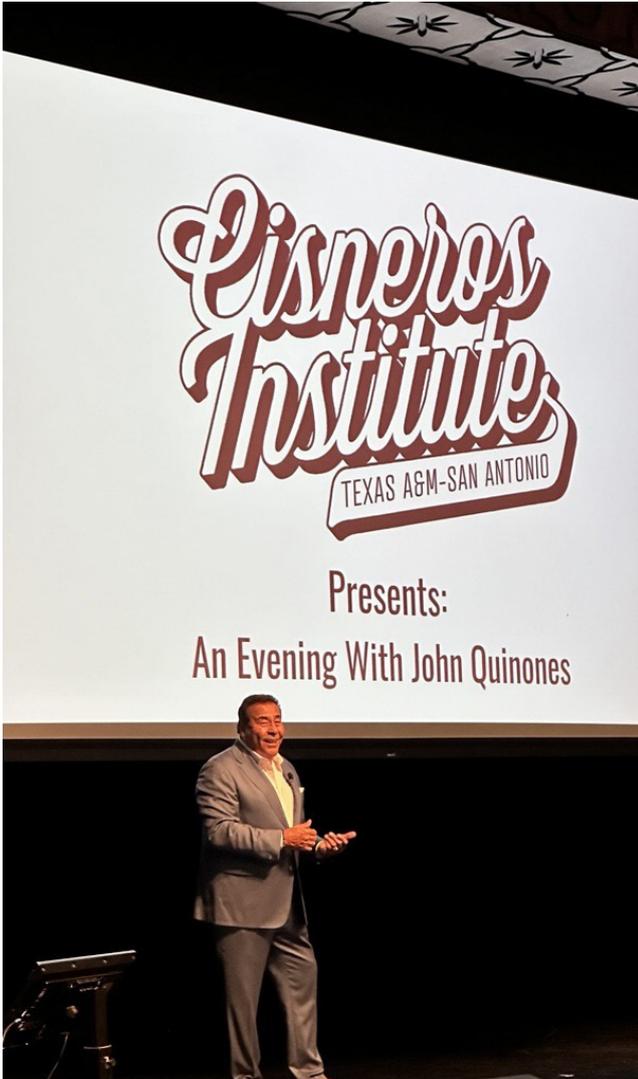
For AY 2024-2025 the division engaged in over **150 support/leadership opportunities** both on-campus and off-campus.

Here are some examples of the major contributions from the Division.

- **Heather Olague** – Staff Council President
- **Zeak Naifeh** – Retention Committee Co-chair
- **Zeak Naifeh and Heather Olague** – Festival de Cascarones Executive Committee
- **Joanna Vela** – JED Co-chair
- **Emily Banda** – Executive Director of the Library Hiring Committee
- **Reed Vesey and Adriana Contreras** – Institutional Effectiveness Committee
- **Adriana Contreras** – Council of Principal Investigators (CPI)
- Clifton Strengths Coaches and Champions– **83% of Strengths Coaches** (5 of 6) are from the Division of Student Affairs
- Supporting Title IX processes with **15 Student Affairs Professionals** serving as either Investigators, Decision Makers, or Advisors

Cisneros Institute For Emerging Leaders

Hosting Leaders & Future Leaders



The Cisneros Institute hosted the inaugural Distinguished Lecture Series starting in Fall 2024, with John Quinones as our first guest.

In Spring 2025, we welcomed U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor to campus.

Distinguished Lecture Series

650+ Guests

Erika Prosper, Director of Customer Insights at H.E.B, was the keynote at the Cisneros Leadership Conference.

Partnering with Alamo Colleges, Student Leadership invited Alamo College students to a leadership seminar and the Cisneros Student Leadership Conference.

Cisneros Leadership Conference

130+ Students

Welcoming New Students & Families

Summer 2024 semester, we oriented over 1,200 first year students

400 dual credit students

1,600 transfer students

1,100 family members (Family Orientation)

650 family members at inaugural Family Convocation

1,600 transfer students



Memorable Moments

2,500 guests attended A&M-SA's 6th annual Trunk or Treat event.

463 participants & 6 events hosted during National Transfer Student Week .

700+ attendees at Jaguar Den Tailgate, the first official event of its kind on campus to support Jaguar Athletics and promote school spirit.

Thrift Swap had over **160 attendees** participate in a sustainable event that included upcycled craft making, exchanging used clothing, and learning about how to minimize our carbon footprint.

Ring Days: 456 students received their Rings with over 4,400 friends and family in attendance.

“

“One of the most impactful experiences was being inducted into Tau Sigma, the transfer student honor society. Through Tau Sigma, I've truly found my people. The members are supportive, understanding, and encouraging, especially when it comes to balancing school, parenting, and life.” -Transfer Student

Transformative Experiences

- The inaugural Student Leadership Week provided weeklong leadership-development focused programming that engaged over **475 students**; events such as Leadership Week Kickoff, Lunch and Leadership, Emerging Leadership Certificate sessions, and Thank-ALeader were a part of the itinerary.
- **982 hours** of Volunteer Projects through student organizations
- Student Organization Leadership Development Day (SOLDD) 2025 experienced its largest attendance to date, with over **170 student leaders** in attendance and over **60 advisors**
- The Emerging Leaders Certificate engaged **82 students**



Disability Support Services

Highlights

Streamlined and redesigned the case management process. Students, faculty, and departments will now have an area-specific dedicated service representative, allowing for specialized service and increased responsiveness.

Partnered with the Epilepsy Foundation of Central and South Texas for Epilepsy firstaid training. The training provides participants with the skills and knowledge to assist an individual who may be experiencing symptoms or signs of a seizure episode.

Facilitated student success resulting in 61 graduates, with 80% of the remaining student body maintaining academic good standing at term end.



Mays Center

for Experiential Learning & Community Engagement



The Mays Center championed a new Texas A&M System Public Policy Scholars Program that launched in Spring 2025, allowing students to complete an internship and coursework in Washington D.C. Only 9 students from across the Texas A&M System were accepted into this program, including Water Resource Sciences major Colton Stewart, who completed an internship at the National Association of Wheat Growers.

“ It’s a relief to know I don’t have to worry about the financial burden. If it wasn’t for the (RTW) program’s resources, I probably would have quit during the semester to get a job so I could provide for my kids.” (Student) - RTW participant

A&M-SA Ready to Work

Program has awarded over \$1 million in tuition assistance since October 2022 and over \$70K in emergency assistance. Nearly 200 San Antonio Ready to Work students have graduated from A&MSA from 2022-2025. They now work throughout the city as elementary teachers, cybersecurity managers, bank fraud analysts, accountants, and in other high impact in-demand careers.





In September 2024, –San Antonio was named one of the ten top Hispanic-Serving Institutions in the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge’s inaugural list for 2022 Voter Turnout, recognizing its nonpartisan efforts that drove strong student participation in the midterm elections. That same year, A&M-SA was designated a Voter Friendly Campus for the fourth time—one of 272 institutions across 39 states and D.C.—by the Fair Elections Center’s Campus Vote Project and NASPA, honoring its sustained commitment to promoting student voter registration and participation. **Over 4,000 votes** were cast at the Mays Center, a polling site for early and Election Day voting in the 2024 presidential election.

Paws Up Service Days

mobilized 278 volunteers who contributed 596 hours of service to 14 San Antonio nonprofit partners, generating a meaningful economic impact of over \$20,700.

The General’s Store

distributed over 5,670 meals across 651 client visits, serving 174 unique clients.

InternSHIP Grant

\$8,400 was awarded to 7 students for the for AY 24-25

Recruiting Events

Career Services hosted 14 recruiting events, which allowed 351 employers on campus to make an impact on over 1,535 students’ careers.

Internship Week

spanned 5 events over 5 days with 230 student participants.

Career Services

conducted 1,239 student appointments and 100% of the 88 surveyed students rated their experience as Excellent (97.73%) or Good (2.27%).

Financial Literacy Initiatives

during the 2025 academic year had a total student engagement of 993 check-ins.

Career Closet

supported students’ professional development, by providing 361 items to 146 students. These efforts were made possible in part by 25 confirmed donations, which contributed 301 items to the inventory.



Participating in the Financial Literacy Fellow Program during the fall and spring semesters was an incredibly rewarding experience that significantly expanded both my personal financial knowledge and leadership skills.”—Financial Literacy Fellow

Military Affairs



VEERA Gold Recipient

A&M-SA was selected as a Gold Recipient of the 2024 Veteran Education Excellence Recognition Award (VEERA) by the Texas Veterans Commission. As a VEERA Gold Recipient, the University received the highest level of recognition, highlighting the depth and breadth of services provided to veteran students and their families. This marked the fourth year A&M-SA was selected for a VEERA.

A&M-SA has approximately 1,200 militaryconnected students representing about 15 percent of the student population.

Four A&M-SA Army ROTC cadets—Mikael Ona, Charity Mutimura, Jerrome Hamilton, and Rigo Cardenas—were commissioned as officers during the 2024-2025 academic year.



Their achievement reflects years of academic excellence, leadership development, and military training, marking a significant milestone for both their careers and the university's ROTC legacy.

Bexar County VSO Partnership

Military Affairs, in collaboration with the Bexar County Veteran Service Officer and community partners, hosted a Veteran Benefits Workshop to provide veterans and their spouses with valuable information on available VA benefits.

Attendees received expert guidance on the claims process, had the opportunity to ask questions, and connected with both university and community resources. The event empowered participants with knowledge to better understand and access their entitlements.

- During the 2024-2025 academic year, the A&M-SA Army ROTC Jaguar Battalion saw a 74% increase in the number of cadets enrolled in the program.
- For Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 combined, the Military Affairs processed \$2,665,105.47 in VA Education Benefits and \$2,742,730.39 in Hazlewood Exemptions on behalf of our military connected students.
- Military Affairs has partnered with Bexar County Military and Veterans Services Office to house a Veteran Service Officer in the Patriots Casa. During the 2024-2025 academic year, our Bexar County VSO assisted 285+ veterans with their disability claims.

Recreational Sports

Esports

Esports achieved remarkable success this year, proudly representing A&M-San Antonio on both international and system-wide stages. The Saints Gauntlet Series took our Overwatch team to Windsor, Canada, where six students competed and earned an impressive third-place finish. Additionally, the Esports team claimed victory in the inaugural Texas A&M System Showdown, competing against institutions from East Texas A&M, Texas A&M-Texarkana, Texas A&M-College Station, Texas A&M-International, and Texas A&M-Corpus Christi.



“Rec Sports is a place I can call home. Fun environment, cool people, nice co-workers. From being a student to being a worker I have made a lot of relationships along the way.” - Student



Rec Center

2,416

Unique student visits

Game Room

773

Unique student visits

*for the academic year 2024-2025.

“Rec sports has taught me leadership and helped me step out of my comfort zone. As well as making friendships.” - Student

Student Counseling Center



- **Increased by 17.8%** the number of clients served/students seen for direct services
- **1,755** direct service appointments attended
- **98%** of students overall were satisfied with the counseling services they received.
- **93%** of students seen at the Student Counseling Center report that enrollment in individual counseling improved the emotional distress that prompted them to seek services.
- **79%** of students reported that as a result of engaging in counseling services, they are more likely to continue their studies this upcoming semester and beyond.
- **61%** of students reported their ability to attend class, complete coursework, or succeed academically has improved as a result of counseling

In January 2024, the Student Counseling Center launched a re-design of their website which included an online scheduling option for students. Since the launch, the popularity of scheduling the initial appointment with the Student Counseling Center through the online portal has surpassed scheduling via phone or walk-in.

Students who participated in counseling and took the CCAPS (College Counseling Assessment of Psychological Symptoms) at least twice, had an average overall decrease in distress of 0.60 from pre to post treatment (national average is a decrease of 0.47).

The entire clinical staff became trained in CAMS (Collaborative Assessment and Management of Suicidality) which is a premiere, evidence-based treatment for suicide prevention. This ambitious endeavor amplified the quality of treatment for A&M-SA students seeking care at the Student Counseling Center

The Student Counseling Center hosted two mental health screening events on campus, one in fall and one in spring, where a total of 200 students completed an anonymous mental health screening. This gave students a snapshot into their current mental health and connected them to resources for support. This is now a trademark semesterly event.

The SCC's Annual Sexual Assault Awareness Month Resource Fair was a success with 59 students in attendance. 7 community partners, 7 campus departments, and 2 student orgs participated alongside the Student Counseling Center in the fair with various resources and activities to promote sexual assault prevention.

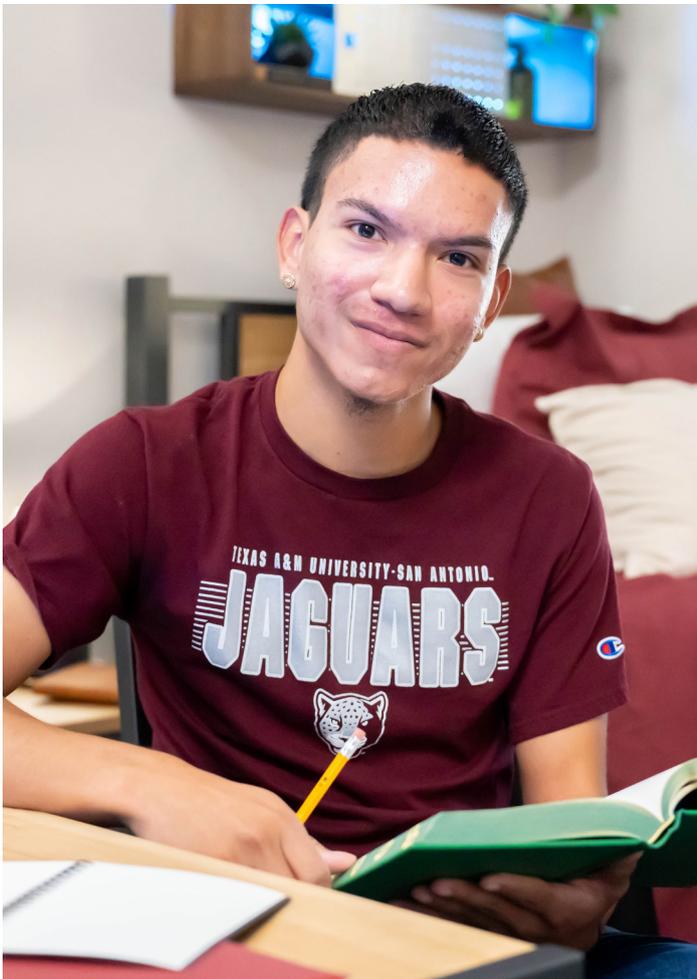
Student Housing Estrella & Esperanza

Highlights

Student Housing Week of Welcome events involved 712 residents participating in each event hosted by the Student Housing staff.

Student housing staff members participated in P.A.W.S up this past fall and volunteered at Haven for Hope and assisted in cleaning over 100 cots for unhoused individuals.

Events such as Future Jaguar Day have significant engagement as students are excited to interact with our Resident Assistants including following A&M-SA Student Housing on social media.



700+

Residents resided in Esperanza and Estrella Halls.

712

Residents attended August residence hall events between 8/17/24 and 8/30/24

10%

Average of percent of residential attendance at events

Student Rights & Responsibilities

Student Rights and Responsibilities emphasized education on campus support to best serve our students. Multiple presentations were made to the campus community with subjects ranging from alcohol and drug awareness, care referrals, and conduct and care support for Resident Assistants.

Outreach efforts were a major theme and opportunity for to help students and the university community engage with the office and personnel.



- Participated in 13 university events to raise awareness of the office.
 - Staff responded to and managed approximately 300 total cases for AY 24-25
 - Responded to 119 Care Cases
 - Heard 40 student conduct cases
-

Denim Day was a huge success with students agreeing to take the pledge to stand up when situations appear that they may lead to sexual assault.

*It Wasn't
What You
Were Wearing!*

Award Winning Staff



- **Heather Olague** – A&M-SA Outstanding Professional
- **Sherry Patrick** – 2024 Citizen Service Award from A&M-SA Police
- **Clarissa Tejada** – San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Ignite: Rising Star Nominee
- **Joanna Vela** – Selected Conference Chair for the Texas University and College Counseling Directors Association
- **Juan R. Guardia** – Elected as NASPA Region III Director-Elect for the 2025-2026 year. Will step into the Director role for the 2026-2028 term.
- **Juan R. Guardia** serves on the editorial Board for the Texas Association of College and University Student Personnel Administrators



Key to Success Winners

The Key to Success is awarded monthly and presented to a Student Affairs team member who has demonstrated outstanding service to the division and our students. The awardee is selected by the previous month's winner and honored at the monthly division meeting where their exceptional contributions are highlighted and recognized.



September 2024

Art Olague,
Director, Recreational Sports



October 2024

Amelia Guzman
Business Admin & Executive Assistant



November 2024

Emily Banda
Director, Student Life



December 2024

Clarissa Tejada Director, Employer Relations &
Community Outreach



January 2025

Monica Martinez Program Coordinator,
Student Leadership



February 2025

David Galvan
Financial Education Coordinator



March 2025

Reed Vesey
Director, SA Assessment & Communication



April 2025

Karen Martin
Director, Career Services



May 2025

Krismarie Rodriguez-River
Program Coordinator, Military Affairs



June 2025

Mariah Neumeyer Assistant Director,
Transfers Engagement



July 2025

Joshua Lujan
Student Activities Coordinator



August 2025

Julie Sharber
Business Coordinator, Recreational Sports



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
SAN ANTONIO

Division of Student Affairs
Frank L. Madla Building
Phone: (210) 784-1354
Email: StudentAffairs@tamusa.edu



tamusa.edu/student-affairs