President’s Message
Greetings friends, alumni, faculty, staff and students.

The 2011-2012 semesters have been quite exciting as we prepare our next generation. During the fall HRCU Week, three students represented our college and performed for their members in a concert at the Kennedy Center, and one was going on to sing at the Grand Ole Opry. We ended the fall term with our 12th commencement ceremony. Thegions going forward will be open all year and will be reviewed annually, with the recipient announced the following year.

Rafael Brisa, our Aircraft Maintenance Department Chair, said the award for Dave reflects the quality of people we have. “When we look at what he does, many others do the same things for students and industry, but we know he goes above and beyond the required and the inspired. In interacting with our students, we appreciate the people who excel for our students, and serves as a model to inspire others,” Brisa stated.

“Quickly realized education was a profession I could see myself doing for a long time,” said Weaver. “I do believe that there is a place for those who are not just the best and who bring a certain amount of satisfaction in what my colleagues and I do. We are all extremely proud of our program, and it compares favorably to any program nationally,” Weaver said.

“The excellence award means a lot to me beyond my personal commitment to student success,” Weaver said. “I believe it recognizes the tremendous faculty and staff team we have in our department. Everyone here is always willing to step up and help to make things happen. Their willingness to work as a team has been key to every success we have had in our airframe program. The leadership of Mr. Brisa and our program chair Bob Cotter creates an atmosphere of cohesive teamwork that would not be where we are now—with the area’s top program—without them,” said Weaver.

Nominee for 2012 Piper Professor Award

Approximately 300 students in 10 English classes at St. Philip’s College are students of our 2012 Piper Professor Award for Faculty Excellence nominee. Our nominee is Dr. Jeannette N. Passty, an associate professor of English who earned her doctorate at the University of Southern California (1988). She was selected by the faculty senate.

Established in 1972, the awards of $5,000 each are made annually by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation to professors in Texas for their superior teaching services at the college level.

During her early academic career in California, Passty developed the curriculum for the first college study skills course to be offered at USC. She also developed and taught USC’s first courses in English as a second language. As a faculty member at Los Angeles Trade Technical College, she co-designed and taught that college’s first remedial course in literature. She joined us in 1988 as the recipient of the American Library Association Outstanding Academic Book Award for the 1988-1989 season. Twenty-four years later, she is being recognized as an influential faculty member who has helped us lead the nation’s third-largest state in graduating at-risk students for success in life for almost one-quarter of a century.

“I am teaching because, from the fourth grade through the Ph.D., gifted, talented and dedicated teachers and mentors encouraged me to fulfill my potential and inspired me with the belief that what I do every day in the classroom has made a difference for students for the better in thousands of individual lives and also in the world,” said Passty.

Passty has presented and published 30 papers in literary studies, multicultural studies and developmental education for members of academic departments or at scholarly conferences from UCLA to the University of London. As a writer and researcher, she is the recipient of the ALA Outstanding Academic Book Award (1988-1989). As a faculty member, Passty is the college’s Teaching Excellence Award recipient (2003-2004), and the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development Medal for Excellence in Teaching and Leadership recipient (2003). She also serves as editor-in-chief of the SPC Press. She can currently be observed teaching a developmental English or freshman survey of literature to five classes of 30 students in addition to former students who come by for mentoring.

New Assistant Professor Emeritus

Our Dr. Frederick A. Bakenhus has earned the status of Assistant Professor Emeritus of Mathematics.

Bakenhus joined Pearl River College in 1983, and since then, he has taught classes from college-level calculus to courses intended for members in a music program, and also served on the Academic Success Team. He was among the first math faculty members to teach an online math course here, an option today’s students equate with the St. Philip’s experience.

Recognized for excellence in teaching and service by induction into the Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education, Bakenhus served as the chair of our mathematics department from 2000-2000. He earned his undergraduate degree in mathematics from the University of Oregon, his master’s from Southern Methodist University and his doctorate in mathematics education from the University of Texas at Austin.

Within our college, he served as an assessor on the original Quality Enhancement Plan team (2005). That team focused on enhancing the level of critical thinking skills within students. Furthering his commitment to excellence in teaching mathematics to community college students, Bakenhus has been a member of the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges.

As a long member of the mathematics community, Bakenhus is currently teaching mathematics to our students as an adjunct faculty member.

Enjoy Fine Dining and Theater

On April 21 this weekend will run for seven performances April 13-22 in the Watson Fine Arts Center. The second annual opening night Dinner Theatre event will take place on April 13th, tickets are $50 per person.

General admission is $10, Alamo College students, faculty, staff, military, senior and HRCU Week attendees admission is $5, and admission is free for high school students with identification. For more information contact Maria Andrews at (210) 486-2205.

126th Commencement Ceremony

St. Philip’s College awarded 700 degrees and certificates to 900 students at our 12th commencement ceremony with the help of guest speaker Joaquin Castro, four-term member of the Texas House of Representatives (District 127) and senior advisor of one of our nation’s young Latino leaders. We celebrated our 2011 network security administration graduating class, the first graduates of our city’s first-year college program where students earn certifications of training approved by the National Security Agency. We were excited to share the stage with Rep. Castro during this special celebration.

We invite you to support our 4th annual National Day of Service, which was started in 2001-2003. He earned his undergraduate degree in mathematics from the University of Southern California (1988). She was selected by the faculty senate.

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Please note that the images are not relevant to the text content and can be ignored for the conversion process.
Alamo Excellence Award

Eleven of our employees are among the first recipients of a new Alamo Colleges award for individuals who are formally training to improve the delivery of instruction or services to students and faculty members.

Free Income Tax Preparation Services

Our site provides learning opportunities for our student engagement scholarship students as it positively outweighs with tax clients in Room 106 of the Bowers Building. We offer the pro bono preparation service on a non-profit basis every day excluding Sundays and federal holidays through Tuesday, April 17.

Student Memorial to College Education for Veterans

For Veteran’s Day, more than 50 of our two-year college honor society students dedicated a memorial to college education for veterans, followed by discussions led by students on their service before, during and after their service in the armed forces.

New Student Orientation

Since 2006, our health sciences students and faculty members have been indispensable volunteer partners in the most important mass casualty exercise and evaluation in the city. Seventy of our students served in the latest drill held at the San Antonio International Airport and more than 20 leading area hospitals.

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Student Obtains Cybersecurity Job

Our college boasts the city’s only community college students who receive degrees and cybersecurity certificates approved by the National Security Agency. Our second class of these students is currently being trained, approved by the NSA. There met recruiters from Rackspace, on route to becoming a $5 billion company, presented an interesting program to find full-time employment in the field before graduating.

As anticipated, life at Rackspace has been an excellent whirlwind, with information constantly flying at him, Houston shared recently. “I am currently learning about many systems at Rackspace with the extremely knowledgeable crew with whom I work. Cybersecurity faculty member Robert Fransman tells his students they can find success in education while their education is in progress. He tells them he can teach them in class, but there is more a student must do to supplement what is taught in class, including internships, networking and employment in the industry. Are you prepared to go the distance, he frequently asks.

At week 13 of a 16-week class last year, Houston went the distance.

“I wore a suit and tie to meet people at a job fair with FBI, NSA and CIA recruiters in November, and worked the room to see what each agency needed and what schooling I had,” said Houston. “With Rackspace, I started talking about things we were doing in our classes which I enjoyed,” Houston said.

“As the conversation turned, there were five Rackspace people at their booth, and the next thing you know, there were four people talking to me,” said Houston. “I told them I would love an entry-level job coming out of college with my NSA certifications. They connected with that, and later, I got a call from a recruiter, Houston recalled. “I told a friend at a job fair that I was having opportunities. Great-remembering that ready and attending job fairs are indispensable tools for me,” added Houston.

“During seminars and post-performance press opportunities, the actor explained how he was inspired by re-rehearing his words, adding ‘we still have a ways to go, and that battle to do good is not over.”

“Dr. King is my hero and the things he did were of significance to his country to help all human beings,” Lucas shared, “when I get into his words, I try to remind people that many still struggle to find food, justice, fair housing and education, that is a fair fight. Lucas’ father reflects on the March on Washington.

A number of students, including interning, networking and employment in the industry.

*NATIONAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Please join the St. Philip’s College community as we honor the legacy of Artemisia Bowden as a pioneer educator, social activist and community leader. Her contributions over 52 years of leadership to our college have had a lasting impact on our students, faculty and staff.

Join us for food, music, art and games on March 1 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. under the Heritage Pavilion as we pay tribute to this incredible woman.

*Black History Month.*

**President’s Lecture Series**

St. Philip’s College hosted seminars with an actor who brought such classic characters of national hero Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to life as our college’s first President’s Lecture Series event of 2012.

**What the role of the life and work of Dr. King** was Jim Lucas. His film and television credits include appearances in Head of State, Ladder 49, National Treasure I and II, Something the Lord Made, The West Wing, The District, 24 and The Wire. His public seminar February 6 in the Watson Fine Arts Center followed two classroom seminars for our students and meetings with our leadership team.

**Knowledge of Dr. King’s words and deeds is** as fundamental to today’s students as those of our college campuses nationwide is elevating our music major Jessica Kemp to new heights in study, performance and marketability in Washington, D.C., and in Nashville. Kemp performed on the stage of St. Philip’s College is what I thought I would be preparing to experience from a major university,” said Kemp.

While school was starting in September, she attended-member business and marketing workshops in Washington with Fortune 500 and nonprofit executives.

Since that time, Kemp says she’s a little more focused on what it is she wants to do with her career. Kemp performed at Nashville Venture’s annual meeting last year, where she was named a finalist in the competition, and was invited to attend the 2012 NCAA basketball tournament.

When I got back from Washington, I realized what I have been experiencing at St. Philip’s College is what I thought I would be preparing to experience from a major university,” said Kemp. “St. Philip’s College opened my eyes to options I never thought about, until I went to several of the historically Black colleges to see their music programs and meet their students.

Many of those schools have thriving undergraduate programs, I’ve graduated,” Kemp said.

NATIONAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Our 2012 National Black History Month observance began with an opening ceremony Feb. 1 in the Heritage Room of our Campus Center building. Week one included an opening ceremony for the second year with faculty and student members of the local community.

We have enhanced the capacity of our network security students to serve in their field by providing them the opportunity to earn some of the top-paid professional certifications from the NSA. The first group of degree students in this program took advantage of key career opportunities to enter the work force and employment in this demanding industry that protects us all, and the current degree candidates are enjoying success in the field at their earliest convenience as well.

**Best-in-Grade Choir Member Sings on Grand Ole Opry® Stage in Nashville**

The 105 Voices of History Student Development Summit and Concert Performance program taking place at 105 college campuses nationwide is elevating our music major Jessica Kemp to new heights in study, performance and marketability in Washington, D.C., and in Nashville. Kemp performed in the 105 Voices of the Grand Ole Opry® on January 22 in Nashville with students representing the nation’s 105 Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Kemp performed in the concert, was named a finalist in the competition, and was invited to attend the 2012 NCAA basketball tournament.

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**STEM Symposium**

Each year we improve the quality and quantity of science education available in San Antonio by uniting representatives from city, school district, university, and industry and government scientists. St. Philip’s College, as our college’s STEM Symposium, is the 2012 event of 2012. We have enhanced the capacity of our network security students to serve in their field by providing them the opportunity to earn some of the top-paid professional certifications from the NSA. The first group of degree students in this program took advantage of key career opportunities to enter the work force and employment in this demanding industry that protects us all, and the current degree candidates are enjoying success in the field at their earliest convenience as well. **NATIONAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

Black History Month kick-off event was hosted by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as a celebration of the life and work of Dr. King.

**2012 South Food Feast**

On Monday, Feb. 27, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., our college’s interfaith challenge initiative performed a day of rehearsing extensively at several of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities member schools this past summer, and performing in Washington, D.C., at the Kennedy Center during the 2011 HBCU Week concert.

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2012 Student Financial Aid Saturdays Program Site

Our college is helping our mayor to stimulate a five percent increase in the number of prospective students completing their federal and state financial aid applications this academic year. We offer an enhanced version of the mayor’s first-ever Student Aid Saturdays program, and we applaud the mayor’s effort to stimulate the college-going culture in our service area, particularly among families who have members who could be the first in the family to go to college as a result of this initiative.

Offered in both English-language and Spanish-language, clients are receiving free help in completing complex federal, state and federal forms for college financial aid from experts at local businesses and college financial aid offices, to include our employees. In particular, staff from our Student Recruitment and Student Financial Services offices are on hand to provide one-on-one assistance as part of the Alamo Colleges’ College Connection Financial Aid Saturdays initiative. The next events are scheduled for March 3 and May 5 on our main campus.

What distinguishes our participation from others citywide is our depth of involvement and commitment of resources. Before any customer service began citywide, the service representatives who are assigned to eight locations citywide were trained in classrooms on our campus.

2011 Turkey Dinner Competition

Our college’s professional relationships with the specialty food consumers and employees of Central Market® are an important ingredient in our recipe for outstanding opportunities for our culinary arts students each year. We call this partnership the Central Market® San Antonio/ST. Philip’s College Thanksgiving Day Dinner Competition. Our college’s 16-year-old culinary competition inspires students to show off their culinary skills. We moved our event to the store as part of its soft opening in San Antonio in 1999.

Our students come from a wide array of backgrounds and are at different stages in their college-going journey. Many of our students are on their way or already engaged in a career in San Antonio’s food industry. Our college’s 16-year-old culinary competition inspires students to show off their culinary skills. We moved our event to the store as part of its soft opening in San Antonio in 1999.

Interfaith Challenge

The college and the community have long supported various interfaith events on the San Antonio campus and in the community. We have worked independently and with community partners to help our students serve meaningfully.

Our students are making a difference by partnering with 50-odd higher education institutions in a challenge to engage students in community service with a nonidenominal element at the invitation of President Obama. A complex example of positive student participation was reflected in many aspects of one of America’s larger Martin Luther King Day of Service marches. Individual acts of participation ranged from beautification of the lots and areas along the march route, greeting and assisting visitors when we partnered with the city to operate a park-and-ride site on our campus.

Nationalistically, this initiative is led by the White House and is supported by the Department of Education and the Corporation for National and Community Service. Kevin Schantz, our college’s service learning coordinator, recruits and recruits students to focus their 2011-2012 service in this direction, and works independently and with community partners to help our students serve meaningfully.

Our social and behavioral sciences faculty served the national vision by organizing a well-attended conversation on chaplaincy and interfaith dialogue in the military September 21 in our Heritage Room. The faculty moderated the program with locally practicing U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force chaplain panelists who discussed the topics and took questions from an audience of students and campus visitors.

Faculty member Jason Fabianke said the event was an excellent example of the campus’s power to stimulate student and community success. Through the year, people of different faiths and no faith at all are speaking sincerely together about the needs in their community, and learning from practicing experts in the field how an interfaith dialogue adds to our lives in the Alamo City.

Our initial student challenge project was a 50th National Day of Service and Remembrance observance on the 10th anniversary of the September 11 attacks. Our interfaith promotional table initiative in the Fall 2011 semester allowed intimate groups of students and employees at both of our campuses to informally reflect on the meaning of interfaith in their lives. Similarly, a Fall 2011 Hunger Banquet on November 17 attracted more than 200 students to consider the positive impact respect for all faiths can have in the quest to reduce hunger worldwide. A new spring 2012 interfaith event includes an interfaith promotional table program for the Spring 2012 Semester starting in late February, a day of service to assist the clients of Rossville Senior Opportunity Services and an interfaith wrap-up dialogue in April in collaboration with the San Antonio Interreligious Council.

Hunger Banquet

More than 200 of our nutrition, algebra and social psychology students recently studied the phenomenon of hunger while donating 1,425 pounds of food and $200 to help patrons of the San Antonio Food Bank during their Fall 2011 Hunger Banquet.

To the students, the event was a means to a greater understanding of the cause and effect of hunger. From our perspective, the event was a huge success, proving once again that close collaborations can be achieved interdependently and that our students are capable of doing amazing things. Over 200 students, staff and faculty gathered outside of our Center for Learning Resources willing to make this our largest banquet ever. Post-event comments and reflection papers prepared by students indicate all logistical challenges were worth the efforts.

The effort required seamless cross-disciplinary collaboration among faculty members Mary Kunz (Nutrition, Culinary Arts), Sonny Stilme (Mathematics), Irene Young (Social Psychology), Kathy White (Online Nutrition), Solomon Nito (Nutrition) and Fevi Schantz, Service Learning Coordinator. They achieved two goals: 1) encouraging students to apply concepts normally learned in the classroom to an outside setting and 2) running a food drive in partnership with the San Antonio Food Bank.

Collaborative meetings were held throughout the previous spring and recent fall semesters. Posters for the event were made by students from Kathy’s online nutrition class. Bags and beans for the event were prepared by Mary’s culinary students. Scripts were prepared and presented by Irene’s students. Solomon’s students conducted both the food drive and community group information booth partnerships. Students from several organizations also donated food. All of these activities were coordinated by Fevi’s.

MLK National Day Of Service

Our entire day of service program was enhanced when Kevin and Dean of Student Success Dr. Paul MacKen connected our students to the White House’s new National Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge. We were among 400 higher education institutions engaging students in a non-denominational community service activity at the invitation of President Obama. For our students, the four-day 25th MLK anniversary program will be remembered as an effort that bridged gaps and encouraged tolerance through community service and innovative thinking.

Students, employees and family members who joined in the annual march walked several miles, a portion of which bordered the college. It was our largest group of marchers as a college. The conclusion of the march marked the start of the free commemoratory program in Pittman-Sullivan Park. There, an additional 300 students greeted marchers with information promoting the college’s free Volunteer Income Tax Assistance services.

Our partnerships included hosting the city’s Youth Empowerment Summit of workshops and music for high school students citywide in the academic wing and auditorium of the Watson Fine Art Center. Our tradition of support continued as we once again hosted a VIA Metropolitan Transit park-and-ride site for the march, and for those who were unable to attend, the staff of radio station KRTU Jazz 91.7 was on campus covering the march and commemoratory program live.

We also partnered with the city to display a large and inspiring outdoor banner from our Watson Fine Arts Center. Our banner complemented dozens of similar banners bearing quotes from such local civic leaders and activists as the late activist Rev. Claude Black and current San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro. The phrase chosen for our backdrop, Love has the Final Word, says a lot about the spirit and the character of the event. We invite you to join our students for the next National Day of Service in 2013.

SPC student Matthew Stevens and Rachel Crenshaw, adjunct math instructor and outcome person from the Tutoring and Technology Center.

From page 1 - MLK Day of Service
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Our college's professional relationships with the specialty food consumers and employees of Central Market & are integral ingredients to our recipe for outstanding opportunities for our culinary arts students each year. We call this partnership the Central Market & San Antonio's Philanthropic Thanksgiving. Our college's focus on gourmet and professional in San Antonio’s food industry. Our college’s 10-year culinary competition inspires students to show off their culinary skills. We moved our event to the shores as part of its soft opening in San Antonio in 1999. Our college's financial aid program was enhanced when Kevin and Dean of Student Success Dr. Paul Machen connected our students to the White House’s new National Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge. We were among 400 higher education institutions engaging students in a non-denominational community service activity at the invitation of President Obama. For our students, the four-day MLK anniversary program will be remembered as an effort that bridged gaps and encouraging tolerance through community service and innovative thinking.

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Faculty member Jason Fabianke, said the event was an excellent example of the campus’ ability to stimulate student and community success. Through the year, people of different faiths and no faith at all are speaking sincerely together about the needs in their community, and learning from practicing experts in the field how an interfaith dialogue adds to our lives in the Alamo City. Our initial student challenge project was a National Day of Service and Remembrance event observing the 10th anniversary of the September 11 attacks. Our interfaith promotional table initiative in the Fall 2011 semester allowed intimate groups of students and employees at both of our campuses to informally reflect on the meaning of interfaith in their lives. Similarly, a Fall 2011 Hunger Banquet on November 17 attracted more than 200 students to consider the positive impact respect for all faiths can have in the quest to reduce hunger worldwide. Our upcoming college interfaith events include interfaith promotional table programs for the Spring 2012 Semester starting in late February, a day of service to assist the clients of Rosesville Senior Opportunity Services and an interfaith wrap-up dialogue in April in collaboration with the San Antonio Interreligious Council.
President’s Lecture Series

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The speaker of the life and work of Dr. King was Jim Lucas. His film and television credits include appearances in Head of State; Ladder 49; National Treasure I and II. Something the Lord Made; The West Wing, The District; 24 and The Wire. His public seminar February 4 in our Watson Fine Arts Center followed two classroom seminars for our students and meetings with our lead staff.

Knowledge of Dr. King’s words and deeds are as fundamental to today’s students as those of our college’s first president, Dr. Afamia El Nakat, spokesperson for the Texas Sustainable Energy Research Institute. Teams of visiting student panelists shared major presentations that ranged from networking and technology to community garden building and energy generation to investigations of salts and bacteria.

Rubén Prieto is the symposium organizer and Community Outreach Coordinator for our math department who promotes STEM opportunities to local high school students and stakeholders citywide.

We will continue to hold forums where the local STEM community networks the future of the STEM workplace in San Antonio. We established partnerships in year one, and we hope to continue these partnerships and establish more with school districts, thus ensuring that STEM minds are all focused on STEM. The partners convened to discuss expanding the STEM education and STEM workforce pipeline in San Antonio. What we have to offer to STEM minds belongs, due to our historic science education expertise, our facilities, connections with the sources of funding for science scholarships, and the expanding number of industries that want to hire our graduates. For information on future STEM events, contact Ruben at (210) 486-2470, or email rprieto@alamo.edu

I was crying and I sat wiping my tears away,” Curtis Lucas said. “Our church in Louisiana was burned to the ground twice,” Lucas recalled of the 1960s civil rights struggle for himself and his son. “My son speaks from personal experience, which adds light and strength to his message. His talent is a gift to his family and the community, and I know he wants the same for others.”

Susan Kemp, a 2006 High School graduate said. “Ms. Kemp’s parents travelled to Nashville to hear her perform. Her father is the pastor of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church and everyone at her church knew about the concert.”

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Best-in-Name Choir Member Sings on Grand Ole Opry* Stage in Nashville

The 105 Voices of History Student Development Summit and Concert Performance program takes place at 105 college campuses nationwide including our own campus. Major Jessika Kemp to new heights in study, performance and marketability in Washington, D.C. Kemp performed on the stage of the Grand Ole Opry January 22 in Nashville with students representing the nation’s 105 Historically Black Colleges and Universities, major music industry businesses, prominent music industry businesses. Kemp’s parents travelled to Nashville to hear her perform. Her father is the pastor of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church and everyone at her church knew about the content, the 2006 Douglas MacArthur High School graduate said. Kemp said she has enjoyed the honor of being rehired extensively at several of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities member schools this past summer, performing in Washington, D.C. at the 105 Center during the 2011 HBCU Week.

When I got back from Washington, I realized what I have been experiencing is St. Philip’s College is what I thought I would be preparing to experience from a major university,” said Kemp. “St. Philip’s College opened my eyes to options I never thought about, until I went to several of the historically Black colleges to see their music programs and meet their students. Many of those schools have thriving graduate programs, I’m interested,” Kemp said.

Each year we improve the quality and quantity of science education available in San Antonio by uniting representatives from city, school district, university, and industry and government sectors. The Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Symposium is held during our winter symposium on our Southwest Campus featured a Chesapeake Energy speaker on the Eagle Ford Shale play and the future of compressed natural gas in Texas, our first environmental science program alumnus, Ashley McCullough spoke of her opportunities as an intern at the environmental petro-science firm SOLGEMS before she graduated from us and successfully transferred to UTSA.

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Eleven of our employees are among the first recipients of a new Alamo Excellence Award for individuals who are formally training to improve the delivery of instruction or services to our students. These 11 newly-qualified examiners also learn the Baldridge Performance Excellence Criteria and best practices from leading organizations in all industry sectors. The award was initiated by the Presidents and Vice Chancellors leadership team.

For Veteran’s Day, more than 500 of our two-year college honor society students dedicated a memorial to college education for veterans, followed by discussions led by students on their own lives before, during and after their service in the armed forces. We invite you to view the new marker on the Campus Green located between our Welcome Center building and our G.J. Sutton Learning Center building. The students who conceived and funded the marker are members of our chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and their project leader Jennifer Garcia-Valdez.

Our 11 were par

Our 2012 tax team students are also learning by partnering with the citywide Financial Aid Saturdays program which operates in Room 108 of the Bowden Building as part of our mayor’s efforts to raise the numbers of persons applying for student financial aid by five percent. Our site leader is college Business Information Services Department faculty member Kenneth Bankston. His team processed 93,912 refunds in 2012 for $271,441,000 low-to-moderate-income clients in 2011, en route to ensuring those clients received $271,441,000 in adjusted gross income and $271,441,000 in earned income credit. Juan Gonzales, Chair of our Business Information Solutions Department which manages this very dynamic service, appreciates that her program provides opportunities for students and the public to work as volunteers with a very successful service operation. Students are each provided $25 hours of instruction, and our office area is part of this St. Philip’s College experience during the 2012 Cowboy Breakfast on January 27 at Cowboys Dance Hall.

In the east end of the cooking zone tent at one of the world’s largest free breakfast events, students Serenia Hood and Patrice Williams shared the honor of assembling the final taco of 10,000 prepared. Roughly 40,000 guests waited outside the cooking tent while nearly all television news and radio stations in the college’s signature San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo kickoff. Thirty-two of our first-year students enjoyed a special part of this St. Philip’s College experience during the 2012 Cowboy Breakfast on January 27 at Cowboys Dance Hall.

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Teaching Excellence Award Recipient

It gives us great pleasure to announce the recipient of our award for a faculty member who demonstrates excellent teaching skills and dedication to students, their academic department and the academic profession.

Our faculty member is David Weaver, an assistant professor in our aircraft technology program with 16 years of faculty and staff members currently serving more than 170 students as the primary aviation training resource in South Texas. We will be proud to announce with our new Teaching Excellence Award during our Spring 2012 All College Meeting January 16. Nominations going forward will be open all year and will be reviewed annually, with the recipient announced the following year.

Rafael Brisita, our Aircraft Technology Manufacturing Department Chair, said the award for Dave reflects the quality of people we have. “When we look at what he does, many doers do the same things for students and industry, but we know he goes above and beyond the required and the inspired. I can’t imagine a better way to appreciate our people who excel for our students, and serves as a model to inspire others,” Brisita said.

“I quickly realized education was a profession I could see myself doing for a long time,” said Weaver. “To be able to work with students, and then see that knowledge change the people who have chosen it as a career, that brings a certain amount of satisfaction in what my colleagues and I do. We are all extremely proud of our program, and it compares favorably to any program nationally,” Weaver said. “The excellence award means a lot to me beyond my personal commitment to student success,” Weaver said. “Equally important, it recognizes the tremendous faculty and staff team we have in our department. Everyone here is always willing to step up and help to make things happen. Their willingness to work as a team has been key to every success we have had in our aircraft program. The leadership of Mr. Brisita and our program chair Bob Cotter creates an atmosphere of collaborative effort that would not be there were we—along with the top program—without them,” said Weaver.

Nominee for 2012 Piper Professor Award

Approximately 300 students in 10 English classes at Alamo College’s North West College are students of our 2012 Piper Professor Award for Faculty Excellence nominee. Our nominee is Dr. Jeanette N. Pasty, an associate professor of English who earned her doctorate at the University of Southern California (1988). She was selected by the faculty senate.

Established in 1958, 10 awards of $5,000 each are made annually by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation to professors in Texas for their superior teaching services at the college level. During her early academic career in California, Pasty developed the curriculum for the first college study skills course to be offered at USC. She also developed and taught USC’s first courses in English as a Second Language. As a faculty member at Los Angeles Trade Technical College, she co-designed and taught that college’s first remedial course in literature. She joined us in 1988 as the recipient of the American Library Association Outstanding Academic Book Award for the 1988-1989 season. Twenty-four years later, she is being recognized as an influential faculty member who has helped us lead the nation’s third-largest state in graduating at-risk students for success in life for almost one-quarter century. With an associate professor of English, she co-designed and taught the college’s first remedial course in literature. She joined us in 1988 as the recipient of the American Library Association Outstanding Academic Book Award for the 1988-1989 season. Twenty-four years later, she is being recognized as an influential faculty member who has helped us lead the nation’s third-largest state in graduating at-risk students for success in life for almost one-quarter century. With an associate professor of English, she co-designed and taught the college’s first remedial course in literature.