Facilities

Phase II Utility Conservation - A campus lighting assessment was completed in early January. Over the next year the university will be seeking Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and Board of Regents approval for the project. The estimated start date will be late Fall 2020. Building users, including researchers, will be contacted closer to this time period about what to expect during this phase.

Roofs Update - UC bids have been received and successful bidder has been selected. Contract to be forwarded for review week of February 3.

Master Planning - An update briefing to include space utilization, is scheduled for February 10.

Elevator Program - TDLR repairs have been completed. Library and PAC elevator restorations has changed to February due to material availability. CCH construction is estimated to begin in mid to late February. Faculty Center engineering is at 90% and Center for the Arts is at 70%.

Compliance

On October 1, Texas A&M University System Chancellor Sharp announced that vaping and the use of e-cigarettes would be banned from campuses and properties across the System. As a result, we have revised our Tobacco, Smoke, and E-Vapor Free Environment rule to include the ban of e-cigarettes and all vaping devices. This ban is now in effect on our campus and at each member of the Texas A&M University System. In addition to the vaping ban, the current Tobacco, Smoke, and E-Vapor Free Environment rule prohibits smoking in all areas that are not designated areas. This includes in all university-owned properties, residence facilities, university vehicles, and at athletic events. There are currently nine (9) designated smoking areas across campus. Townhall sessions will be held as an opportunity for faculty, staff, and students to voice their thoughts and concerns regarding possible additional restrictions of tobacco products on campus. See the Mark your Calendar for Town Hall Dates.

Do You Have a Green Idea?

The Environmental Council (EC) is responsible for coordinating institutional stewardship of the environment through developing environmental policy and overseeing the implementation and effectiveness of the university’s environmental management system (EMS). The EC is now seeking recommendations for "Green Initiative" proposals from the campus community.

Information Technology

The Division of Academic Affairs in collaboration with Information Technology has embarked in modernizing the curriculum and catalog management lifecycle on campus. A committee with representation from Faculty Senate, University College, College of Graduate Studies, Office of the Registrar, Enrollment Management, Advising, Academic Affairs, and Information Technology was created to study and analyze how to strategically leverage technology to optimize existing processes. Exploration of technical solutions has resulted in the selection of CourseLeaf to propel automation and accuracy from curriculum proposal to catalog
production and revision. The committee will be exploring how to best transform the existing process into a digital solution that allows for seamless workflows and catalog production integration.

The Division of Information Technology continues to harness the power of Artificial Intelligence and incorporate modern defense strategies to provide the next level of protection against malicious programs, hackers, and scammers, but there is no replacement for everyone’s diligence and responsibility for cybersecurity. Stay alert: Phishing messages may look like they are from a place you know and trust with the intent to trick you into providing information or clicking a malicious link or attachment. Don’t take the bait. Be on the lookout!

Please report any suspicious email through the Report Message button in Outlook or by contacting the IT Service Desk at 361.825.2692.

**Comptroller**

The [University Travel Guide 2020](https://www.tamucc.edu/about/campusmap.html) has been updated recently. Please take a moment to review it and as a reminder, any employee of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC) who travels on official business regardless of whether they are going to request reimbursement must have an advance approval of Travel Request (TR) before a trip is taken.

**Human Resources**

Salary increases resulting from Year One of the Staff Salary Study have been implemented. The study determined that overall average pay for staff was 90% of market median. After implementation of the increases, the University average increased to 92%. Pay rates below and above the market median are expected based on factors such as length of employment, performance, position responsibilities, and employee credentials. TAMU-CC will strive to pay the majority of the workforce + / - 15% of the market median and have a campus wide average market median of 100%. It is important to understand that this does not equate to compensating all employees at 100% of the market median since several factors are considered in determining a fair and equitable pay rate.

HR hosted 5 Town Halls explaining the project and how increases were determined. If you were unable to attend a Town Hall, you can view the slide deck in the Updates section of the [Staff Salary Study website](https://www.tamucc.edu/about/campusmap.html). Questions can be sent to Human.Resources@tamucc.edu

**Mark your Calendars**

- February 4 - IKNOW Kick-Off Block Party, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., UC, Anchor Ballrooms A, B, C
- February 10 - Town Hall for Faculty; Tobacco Products, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., University Center, Lonestar B
- February 12 - Town Hall for Staff; Tobacco Products, 2 - 3 p.m., University Center, Anchor Ballroom C
- February 15 - Island Day
- February 24 - 29 Island University’s 2020 Homecoming
- February 24 - Town Hall for Students; Tobacco Products, 2-3 p.m., University Center, Lonestar A
- April 17 - Annual Islander Awards Celebration, 1:30 pm
- April 1 – May 31 - Staff Annual Evaluations will be launched in Workday

For upcoming events, please click here [https://www.tamucc.edu/events/](https://www.tamucc.edu/events/)

**Surge is on Campus!**

The autonomous shuttle will operate fare-free, and be available from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Surge and its operation come at no cost to the University. The route can be accessed at [https://www.tamucc.edu/about/campusmap.html](https://www.tamucc.edu/about/campusmap.html)