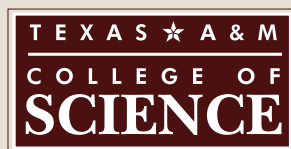




**EXTRAORDINARY  
EVERY DAY.**

*Science plays an important role in our daily lives, albeit one that we often take for granted.*

*In the College of Science, our challenge is to understand the extraordinary in the everyday, then use that knowledge to go beyond the norm and improve our quality of life, one day and one discovery at a time.*



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# College of Science

at Texas A&M University

As the scientific core of Texas A&M University, the College of Science provides the highest quality of science education, scholarly research, and technical expertise to the people and industries of Texas and the United States.

## OUR OBJECTIVES

- **Top 10:** Help Texas A&M succeed in its mission to become one of the nation's top 10 public institutions by the year 2020
- **Education:** Provide unique learning experiences and fundamental science education to students across A&M
- **Research:** Conduct basic and interdisciplinary research and produce the next generation of scientists and responsible leaders of our professions
- **Service:** Provide scientific service to our state, nation, and professions

## TARGET: TOP 10 UNIVERSITY

### PHENOMENAL FACULTY

The College boasts two of A&M's three Nobel laureates, four National Academy of Sciences members, half of A&M's distinguished professors, eight of its 32 University Faculty Fellows, and its only Searle Scholars. Many of our faculty also are CAREER, NYI, and Sloan awardees. This year we made our final hires under A&M's five-year faculty reinvestment plan for one of the largest percent gains University-wide.

### SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS

Our students are equally successful. For instance, Biology historically has placed more of its majors in medical and dental schools than any other A&M department. Chemistry has awarded more doctorates in the past 10 years<sup>1</sup> than any other A&M department and graduates the third-largest number of Ph.D.s among the U.S.'s 230 chemistry Ph.D. grantors.<sup>2</sup>

## DEPARTMENTS

### BIOLOGY

- Accounts for two-thirds of the College of Science's undergraduates
- Faculty include the University's only Searle Scholars (4)

### CHEMISTRY

- Ranks 15th nationally in the most recent National Research Council rankings, the highest rating of any A&M department
- Ranks seventh-largest in research and development expenditures among all chemistry departments nationwide

### MATHEMATICS

- 13th nationally for public university departments in research funding
- One of five in the U.S. to have had both Vertical Integration of Research and Education in the Mathematical Sciences (VIGRE) and Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) National Science Foundation grants

### PHYSICS

- Home to the internationally recognized Mitchell Institute for Fundamental Physics and Astronomy, which attracts top physicists to A&M
- One of nine partners in the \$550 million Giant Magellan Telescope (GMT), which will produce images 10 times sharper than those of the Hubble and help launch A&M into a new academic frontier—astronomy

### STATISTICS

- Ranks 10th nationally in the most recent National Research Council rankings, the third-highest rating of any A&M department
- Ranks 10th in mathematical statistics (U.S. News & World Report) and third nationally in editorial board memberships (AMSTAT News)

## VISIONARY SUPPORT

Former students, A&M friends, and corporate partners continue to make a significant impact on the College through their enthusiastic financial support. The college currently is participating in *Operation Spirit and Mind*, which has raised about \$185.6 million toward the \$300 million goal – funds that will be used to create hundreds of endowed scholarships, graduate fellowships and study abroad opportunities.

## TARGET: EDUCATION

### CLASS SERVICE

The College is dedicated to education and knowledge-generation. Each semester, we provide the required mathematics, statistics, and science foundations for all Texas A&M majors, teaching 20 percent of the University's total semester credit hours<sup>1</sup>. Each department has leaders in the promotion of innovative educational approaches and use of information technology to enhance the overall learning experience.

### NON-TRADITIONAL TRAINING

As a rule, educational experiences in the College are anything but ordinary. In addition to traditional training in fundamental sciences, our undergraduates are exposed to challenging research opportunities that enhance the academic experience and provide beneficial practical skills to better prepare them for advanced studies or careers in science.

### DEGREES OF DISTINCTION

At a time when U.S. schools are clamoring for better-qualified math teachers, the College offers one of the nation's only online master's degree in mathematics. The program, which celebrated its first graduate in May 2004, has more than 100 students currently enrolled.

## TARGET: RESEARCH

### BY THE NUMBERS

In Calendar Year 2008, the College's total funding amounted to \$42.4 million<sup>3</sup>, a figure that helped the university reach a major milestone — inclusion in

the National Science Foundation's Top 20 Academic Research Performers in the U.S. with \$582 million in total research expenditures university-wide<sup>4</sup>.

## COLLABORATION BY DESIGN

Because the search for answers requires an increasingly interdisciplinary approach, the College is forging collaborations that break traditional barriers, combine uncommon skills, and produce unparalleled results. Examples of our success span such diverse and groundbreaking areas as bioinformatics, biological clocks, neuroscience, inorganic chemistry, quantum optics, structural biology, and theoretical physics.

### LAB PRACTICALS

Even as undergraduates, our students are encouraged to log significant time as juniors or seniors in labs that were once the sole domain of graduate students. Many are mentored by faculty researchers, often in paid positions.

## TARGET: SERVICE

### TEACHING TEXAS

As one of the state's most prominent scientific educational resources, the College is also one of the leading proponents of public education reform in Texas and across the nation. We are actively involved in reversing the current science and mathematics teacher shortage and in replenishing the supply of education specialists in both areas.

### UNPARALLELED OUTREACH

The College offers a wide variety of educational outreach activities to encourage middle and high school students to pursue science and technical careers. Each year, more than 2,000 participants visit the Texas A&M campus for events designed to educate and inspire.

### LEADERS IN DIVERSITY

The College is distinctly focused on diversity and, in particular, women's and minority issues. A national leader in minority and female Ph.D. production, the College annually hosts several conferences and awards scholarships specifically tailored for women and minorities.

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<sup>1</sup> 2005. "Office of Institutional Studies and Planning Reports," Fall 2005, Texas A&M University.

<sup>2</sup> 2003. "Directory of Graduate Research," American Chemical Society.

<sup>3</sup> 2008. "College of Science Annual Report," Office of the Dean, College of Science, Texas A&M University.

<sup>4</sup> 2008. Office of the Vice President for Research, Texas A&M University.