

Employee Development Day
Wednesday, May 22, 2019 @ 8:30 A.M.
Anchor Ballroom

Theme – Service Excellence and Innovation Open Remarks Provost, Dr. Phillips

Good morning, and welcome to the Annual Employee Development Day! Throughout today, you will experience programming similar to a professional conference with concurrent program sessions. Additionally, Dr. Ahmed Mahdy, Vice President for Research and Innovation, will deliver a keynote luncheon address surrounding this year's theme of service excellence and innovation.

In 1997, the Staff Advisory Council began this annual initiative, and today we celebrate twenty-two **22** years of programming. We celebrate twenty-two **22** years of successfully providing professional development sessions with tremendous support and participation from Islander faculty and staff, the Texas A&M University System, and external community partners!

This long standing initiative is a direct representation of our shared values as Islanders. Through these sessions, we encourage personal and intellectual growth, excellence, and a commitment to life-long learning. These sessions aide us in exploring, communicating, and implementing our University mission, goals, and strategies. For example, a Momentum 2020 goal is *“to maintain a supportive campus that celebrates engaged learning in an inclusive environment.”* Today, we have over **410** Islanders registered to engage in learning through these sessions.

We know that an engaged employee is an empowered employee. When you possess the knowledge and skills to affect change, as an engaged employee, you will make TAMUCC a better university, a better place to learn, live, and work. We need you, your best ideas, and your service excellence mindset.

This day is about you. Take it all in and put it to work. Many of our employees are unable to travel and attend a conference, and Employee Development Day provides an opportunity to address that challenge by having a conference hosted on the Island University.

Today's agenda includes 36 workshops on varied and important topics, a luncheon, and a keynote address concerning a leadership vision for the campus.

As Dr. Hector P. Garcia once said, “Education is our freedom, and freedom is everybody’s business.” So please take full advantage of this day to increase and share your education, knowledge, skills, and abilities with your fellow Islanders.

You have each chosen to invest in you today! You are dedicating your time, energy, and intellect to increase your professional competence and confidence for the benefit of others. I applaud you for joining your fellow Islanders in investing in your personal and intellectual growth. Enjoy your day!