

The \$156.9 million in added income was equal to approximately 2.6 percent of the region's Gross Regional Product in 2012-2013, according to an economic impact study conducted by Economic Modeling Specialists International, authorized by Texas Association of Community Colleges.

"The college spent \$24.3 million in operations in the region; students spent \$193,500; alumni – these are former students of ours – in a one-year period, contributed \$132.3 million... for a yearly impact of \$156.9 million," Gonzales said.
[Full Article >>>](#)

Good crowd attends Eagle Pass ground breaking



It's official – ground has been broken for the new construction project on the SWTJC campus in Eagle Pass. School officials hosted an official groundbreaking ceremony on Jan. 23 for the \$6.9 million project.

Joe Barker vice president of administrative services, welcomed SWTJC faculty, staff and members of the community including city mayor Ramsey Cantu, city council members Luis Sifuentes, Gloria Hernandez, Rudy Villapondo, and William Davis. Other local dignitaries in attendance included Maverick County Judge David Saucedo, Eagle Pass Independent School District Superintendent Gilbert Gonzalez, Sul Ross State University President Bill Kibler, Rio Grande College Associate Provost Dr. Paul Sorrels and numerous other guests. Victor Lopez was also recognized; he was representing the SWTJC Foundation, Inc. board.

SWTJC President Dr. Hector Gonzales welcomed guests to the ceremony and shared his long-term vision for the college in Eagle Pass. [VIDEO PHOTOS](#)

"Earlier this year we bought ten acres on Veterans Boulevard to create a technical campus for the community and over a year ago we purchased 18 acres on the other side of the hospital to secure the future growth for this institution and this community," Gonzales said. "We are doing everything we can to plan for the future and to accommodate the growth we see here."
[Full Article >>>](#)

Entries being sought for annual SWTJC Creative Arts Contest

Plans are underway and entry deadlines have been announced for the 34th Annual Southwest Texas Junior College Creative Arts Contest.

Literary entries should be submitted no later than Feb. 26, while Mar. 5 is the deadline for visual arts entries.

Cash prizes, trophies and medals will be awarded in the annual event, which attracts thousands of art, photography and writing entries from across the region.

Trophies and medals will be awarded to first through fourth place in all age groups and categories. Judges will also select an overall literary and visual arts winner in each age group. Cash prizes of \$20 will be presented to overall winners.
[Full Article >>>](#)

SWTJC president's, dean's list announced for Fall 2014 semester

Southwest Texas Junior College President Dr. Hector Gonzales, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts Dr. Cheryl Sanchez, and Dean of the College of Applied Sciences Juan Guzman have recognized 262 students for academic excellence during the 2014 fall semester.

Full-time students, those enrolled in 12 or more hours, are eligible for academic honors. The President's List recognizes those full-time students who maintained a 4.0 grade point average (GPA) throughout the semester. The Dean's List recognizes those students who maintained at least a 3.6 GPA throughout the semester. A total of 136 students earned a spot on the President's List and 126 students earned a spot on the Dean's List.

"I commend the hard work of each of these students," President Gonzales said. "It is a pleasure to honor their dedication to excellence."

[PRESIDENT'S LIST](#)
[DEAN'S LIST](#)
[Full Article >>>](#)

Trustees extend president's contract

SWTJC president, Dr. Hector Gonzales received a one-year contract extension during the board meeting on Thursday (Jan. 15).

According to Board of Trustees President, Rodolfo Flores, Gonzales received an excellent evaluation during the executive session.

In a report to the SWTJC board at its regular monthly meeting, SWTJC Vice President of Student Services Margot Mata informed trustees on spring enrollment.

"We are currently sitting at 5,199 students registered, which indicates a one-percent increase from a year ago," said Mata. "In regards to contact and credit hours, we continue to see a more substantial increase and that has been the trend for the last several semesters."

According to Mata approximately 936 students were at risk of being dropped for non-payment.

"We are working diligently to bring this list down; students have an opportunity to come in throughout the next couple

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 COMMUNITY COLLEGE EXCELLENCE
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Calendar

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Fri - Mar 13 | 12:00 PM |
| Mid-Semester Grades Due | |
| Mon - Mar 16 -- Fri - Mar 20 | |
| Spring Break | |
| Mon - Mar 23 | 8:00 AM |
| Classes resume after Spring Break | |
| Mon - Mar 23 | 6:00 PM |
| Application Deadline for May Graduation | |
| Mon - Mar 30 | |
| Registration for Summer & Fall Semester Begins | |
| Fri - Apr 03 | |
| Easter Holiday | |
| Mon - Apr 06 | 8:00 AM |
| Classes resume after Easter Holiday | |
| Fri - Apr 17 | |
| Last Day to Drop with a "W" | |
| Mon - May 11 -- Wed - May 13 | |
| Spring Semester Final Exams | |

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