Spring 2015
Commencement

Saturday, May 16, 2015
10:00 a.m.
American Bank Center Arena

A Member of The Texas A&M University System
Spring 2015 Commencement  
President/CEO Flavius C. Killebrew, presiding

Prelude and Processional*

Carrier of the Mace ................................................................. Ms. Susan Greathouse  
Clinical Assistant Professor, College of Nursing and Health Sciences  
Recipient, University Excellence Award in Teaching Innovation

Welcome .................................................................................................................. Dr. Killebrew

Presentation of the Colors .................................................................................. TAMU-CC Army Islander Battalion

National Anthem .................................................................................................. Ms. Janell Stallard  
Junior, music major, College of Liberal Arts

Commencement Address .................................................................................... Dr. James Hallmark  
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
Texas A&M University System

Presentation of Degree Candidates .................................................................. Dr. Christopher Markwood  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

College of Business ............................................................................................... Dean John Gamble
College of Education .............................................................................................. Dean Arthur Hernandez
College of Nursing and Health Sciences ......................................................... Associate Dean Bunny Forgione
College of Graduate Studies ................................................................................. Dean JoAnn Canales

Conferring of Degrees ...................................................................................... Dr. Killebrew

Announcing ........................................................................................................... Dr. Luis Cifuentes  
Vice President for Research, Commercialization and Outreach

Assisting (Graduate) .............................................................................................. Dr. Markwood
Assisting (Undergraduate) .................................................................................... Dr. Paul Meyer  
Vice Provost

Hooding of Doctoral Candidates ........................................................................ Candidate’s Major Professor  
Assisting: Dean Hernandez

Commissioning ..................................................................................................... Major Royal Atwood  
Army ROTC Instructor

Alumni Presentation ............................................................................................. Mr. Ray De Los Santos, ’04  
President, TAMU-CC National Alumni Association

Alma Mater .......................................................................................................... Ms. Yvonne Alaniz  
Mr. Frank Garcia, Jr.  
Ms. Janell Stallard  
Mr. John Washington, IV

Recessional*

*Audience will remain seated.
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership
Jamie Nicole Copeland  Reinaldo Manuel Saenz

Doctor of Philosophy in Counselor Education
Sandra Albarran-Rosenbaum  Wannigar Ratananavvan  Erika Lynne Schmit
Julie Anne Baker  Lucinda Nicanora Sohn  Sonja Varbelow
Christina Joye Beard  Mercedes Yanez
Ashley Ann Blentlinger
Sylvia M. Burkes
Hannah Jo Burleson
Lindsay Nicole Chism
Michael Anthony Cisneros
Caroline Austin Cubberley
Rebecca Lynn De Luna
Takisha Genall Edwards
Jacqueline Ann Ellsworth
Brittany Nicole Flores
Amber Nicole Garza
Dolores Rae Garza
Kaileigh Anne Gibson

Doctor of Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction
Bonnie Leigh Montoya  Brittney Leighann Honeycutt  Carmen Fontaine Osier
Connie L. Patchett  Yayan Jing  Duc An Tran
Lucinda Nicanora Sohn  Stephanie Nicole Knight  Hang Zhao
Sonja Varbelow  Marcela Viviana Mercurio  Mengyuan Zhu

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Master of Accountancy
Heather Renae Barr  Jessica Ann Jennett  Uyen Thi Thuy Pham
Kimberly Delafuente  Michael Anthony Kesselring  Aaron Michael Pridgeon
Abigail Taylor Fay  Taewon Lee  George Wesley Reed
Daniel Jesus Fiallos-Diaz  Kuangyi Liu  Matthew Dean Rowley
Hallie Anne Hollenback  Nicholas Ryan McMahan  Gabriel Lee Saenz, III

Master of Business Administration
Kevin Roberto Amaya Villeda  Abhijit Dattajirao Nalawade  Paul Stephen Smith
Ali Abdul Rasul Bhimani  Dem Thi Hoang Nguyen  Yangyang Wang
Joshua Wade Calhoun  Linh Duc To Nguyen  Bryan Scott Wetz
Silvana Carolini Rau  Marcela Viviana Mercurio  Xingyang Yue
Joseph Kevin Dolan  Mai Thi Thuy Nguyen  An Zhou
Hieu Van Duong  Jaren Ronel Palmer
Valerie Helene Ferdin
Paul Edward Friesen
Tiffany Charisse Hearne
Annas Hisham Hidmi

Master of Science

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Carolina Monroy Gutierrez  Lucille Frances Odell
Tiffany Nicole Harris  Gregory William Peckels
Maricela Pena Hernandez  Andrea Nicole Potter
Yavette Ann Hernandez  Christa Michele Rasche
Anna Marissa Jimenez  Jordan Marie Seldine
Kanz Kayfan  Sandra Denise Shelton-Flinn
Jacques Cameron D. Lafreniere  Damian A. Shipley
Joshua Adam Lugo  Mikayla Elise Sleeter
Stephanie Ann Major  Shannon Lyn Sorensen
Lori Ann Maldonado  Katherine Janette Spotswood
Lauren Jean Massie  Amy Louise Stock
Jessica Kristine Medcalf  Shannon Kay Strong
Brittany Jo Meek  Yvonne Trevino
Lien Thi Nguyen  Leana Rose Tuttle
Stacey Elaine Noland
Alimatu Sadia Nuhu
COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Master of Science in Nursing

Adan H. Adame
Livina Chika Akpunku
Julia Lynn Anderson
Tiffany Jean Bailey
Eric Timothy Behm
Ramiro Benitez, Jr.
Tommalynn Bibby
Kelley Elizabeth Smith Bouchard
Lindsey Joanne Brown
Celeste Ann Bryand
Ivelisse Cheema
Melanie Raye Chipman
Maria Priscilla Cisneros
Carlotta Yvette Davis
Cassie Anne Dennis
Sherrel Elizabeth Downes
Jayne Jennings Dunlap
Haley Della Fuller
Irasema Garcia
Shelly Renee Garcia
Brittany Ruth Eudora Garza
James Garza
Mayra Elizabeth Garza
Blanca Guadalupe Gomez
Lynn Renee Gross
Marif Mapa Hesita
Aaron Christopher Hoffmann
Malissa Lynne Huggins
Kandace Brooke Hyde
Brandi Nicole Isham
Edy J. James
Maria Elena Jenkins
Jamie Michelle Johnson-Varnado
Ellen Gae Jones
Erika Janett Juarez
Roberta Lee Jukes
Jana Gayle Kimberlin
Victor Alexander Lara
Blake Ryan Liles
Jenny Lin
Billie Jo Long
Hilda Samantha Luna
Jessica Tara Marshall-Moreno
Diana Monique Martinez
Greg Martinez
Lavunya Lyn McAlister
Emily Ryan McGaben
Christy Lee Montalvo
Elizabeth Flores Mora
Christie Sharee Muguerza-Harvey
Sheila Finlay Patterson
Sherri Ann Pena
Aimee Melissa Perez
Damaris Coreene Porter
Lisa Barfield Price
Natalya Velitchenko Pruden
Jill Annette Quimby
Jefferson Reynaldo Rabanzo
Sharon Elizabeth Renner
Melissa Ann Rodriguez
Adelina Saldivar
Valerie Yvette Serna
Jennifer Renee Shelden
Ellen Lanham Simms
Tawnya Lorraine Slafka
Goldie Diane Strader
Meghan Danielle Sutton
Fetya Vasileva Taskov
Karen Lea Taylor
Renita Borlaza Torres
Jennifer Marrie Patton Tudor
Heidi Christine Tyler
Jennifer Rose Vasquez
Heather Anne Vierus
Aaron Royeston Whittington
Bailey Elizabeth Wright

Angelica M. Acevedo ‡
Dashaun L. Armstrong
Natividad Michael Arriola, Jr.
Philipp Baar •
Maria Banuelos
Emily C. Barrera
Aaron Andrew Berlanga
Brice Allan Bilbo
Cassandra Anne Boring
Nicholas Forest Brandt
Waylan Justin Brannan
Roger Briones
Mia Rae Cabrera
Meagan Laurel Callaway
Joshua Gayle Carr *
Judith Josett Castellanos
Samuel Merrell Clark
Travis Blake Colley
Ruth Anna Crothers
Junnan Deng •
Derek Matthew Drozd *
Amanda Paige Dunn
Xin Feng
Christopher John Fiore
Kasey Denise Fisher
Ashley Marie Flores
Jorge Armando Fonseca
Ryan Lee Garcia
Chayla Suzann Garza *
Jeremy David Garza
Lexie Lee Gomez
Kristen Emerald Greene
Qiang Guo •
Gladys Yvette Gutierrez
Stephanie Marie Gutierrez
William Bryan Harrison
Sarah Virginia Hartwell
Sarah Marie Hayes
Harley Elizabeth Heavin
Brittney Labree Henderson
Tyler J. Higgins
David Andrew Hill ‡
Morgan Gilliane Hill
Stephen Scott Hodges
Daniel Allen Jackson
Candace Joy Jasso
Xiaoyu Ji *
Victoria Jones
Andrew Thomas Juarez
Jacob Samuel Kieran
Curtis Knopp
Jacob Tanner Kocher •
Crystal Leanne Kowalik *
Olga Kvach ‡
Larry Francis Lardin
William Peyton Larkin, III
Alan C. Levine •
Hannah Mariella Levine
James David Lewis
Kangning Liu *
Jacob Daniel Lozano
Jia Luo •
Ivan Martinez
Kristopher Alan Martinez
James Mata
Felix Mireles
Ngan Thi Thuy Nguyen •
Elizabeth Nixon
Ryan Landon Oliver
Seri Pak
Huong Thu Pham ‡
Ayaka Nicole Pincombe
Sohail Punjwani •
Tracy M. Roberson
Stella Marie Rodriguez
Elena Ryabova
Veronica M. Salazar
Felipe M. Salinas
MARK ANTHONY SALINAS  
Christopher Hollub Savage  
Matthew Kendall Savell  
Natalie Rose Schoenicker  
Natasha Nicole Scott  
Nazar Scott  
Bruce Carter Sims  
Victoria Marie Smith  
Kaitlyn Taylor Stanford  
Alexandria Madison Staples  

Sara Jessica Stephenson  
Adam C. Studier  
Gregory James Summers  
Paul Tansley  
Rashawn Shaquille Thomas  
Dang Minh Tran  
Megan Rae Trevino  
Phong Minh Truong  
Heather Elizabeth Tunches  
Cameron M. Valverde  

Diana Villarreal  
Joshua Ryan Webb  
Gergo Andras Weidinger  
Jordan Bernard West  
David Julian Williams  
Kelli N. Williams  
John Wesley Wirt  
Ye Yuan  
Christopher Zapata  
Zihan Zhang  

ANTHONY MICHAEL ABETO  
Bibi Natasha Agbesanwa  
Jessica Ashley Almora  
Audrey Rose Baldwin  
Janet Bonilla  
Casey Aaron Bowen  
Jackie Dale Byles  
Thomas James Casey  
Danielle Nicole Corliss  
Alec Taylor Cotten  
Kristen Marie Dearsan  
Marissa Flores  
Alessie Nicole Fritz  
Ciara Nicole Gaitan  
Adan G. Gongora  
Candace Nicole Gonzales  
Jasmine Sharnell Green  
Wendy Michelle Gutierrez  

Hannah Belle Hardin  
Mickayla Erin Heller  
Amanda Kay Hibbs  
Stephan Todd Kinney  
Brandon Samuel Langford  
Lindsey N. Lyles  
Amber Marie Martinez  
William Taylor Matthews  
Nathaniel Samuel Munoz  
Lynn Marie Mutz  
Travis E. Nelson  
Cynthia Ordonez  
Jordan Samuel Jase Orona  
Melissa M. Ortiz  
Oscar O. Ortiz  
Alec Scott Paramski  
Rachael Alyss Phillips  
Christian R. Reyes  

Savannah Leigh Rodriguez  
Stephanie Kathryn Rodriguez  
Vivian Jo Rodriguez  
Samantha Renee Sanchez  
Steven Scott Sanchez  
Nazar Scott  
Sidney Anna Kate Siepert  
Steven Marcos Silvas  
Michelle Mackenzie Sorenson  
Erika Vanessa Soto  
Jenny Louise Spearman  
Caleb Aaron Swyers  
Megan T. Warne  
Eric Charles Weiss  
Matthew Shuichi Westmoreland  
Hunter Cole Whetsel  
Brittany Marie Wilcut  

DEBRA L. ALEMAN  
Alesia Marisol Astorga  
Daryan Taylor Baros  
Amy Yvette Budd  
Haley J. Burleson  
Marlena G. Bush  
Alyse Nicole Capello  
Lindsay Shannon Challis  
Chelsea Rae Derrick  
Brittany A. Diaz-Rivera  
Alexandria Paige Dryden  
Christina D. Escobar  
Ariel Renee Evans  
Teresa Ann Fernandez  
Miriam Grace Fuentes  
Elizabeth L. Gallardo  
Amber Delaine Garcia  
Elisa Renee Garcia  
Monica Gabrielle Garcia  
Samantha Ann Garza  
Kelly Monique Gonzalez  

Diana T. Guajardo  
Esmeralda Gutierrez  
Jeanette Nicole Gutierrez  
Charlotte Ann Hillery  
Eric Anthony Jimenez  
Joan Ellyn Karbowski  
Shelby L. Keeler  
Karina Danielle Kelley  
Samantha Marie Kraatz  
Meghan Elizabeth Lanoue  
Brittany Lane Lomax  
Monica Crystelle Longoria  
Ellen Paige Lopez  
Chelsey Therese Luthi  
Brittany Marie Masters  
Tara Marie Mckenna  
Adam Rene Melchor  
Jeremy A. Merrill  
Manuel A. Montez  
Linda Anita Moreno  
Hailey M. Morrow  

Brooke Ann Saul  
Rebecca Romanita Silvas  
Megan Frances Solis  
Hannah Elizabeth Torres  
Barbara Raquel Valiente  
Madison A. Van Booven  
Maria Linda Veliz  
Ashley Kristin Wagner  
Caelan Marie Zeitler  
Gabriella T. Zepeda  

Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies  

Diana Jane Oboyle  
Isaac Padilla  
Jesus E. Pena  
Griselda Perales  
Brittanie Marie Ramos  
Andrea S. Rangel  
April Marie Reed  
Roxanne Michelle Regalado-Pena  
Jessica Danielle Reid  
Harmony Lynn Richardson  
Natalie Blaire Roach  
Brooke Ann Saul  
Rebecca Romanita Silvas  
Megan Frances Solis  
Hannah Elizabeth Torres  
Barbara Raquel Valiente  
Madison A. Van Booven  
Maria Linda Veliz  
Ashley Kristin Wagner  
Caelan Marie Zeitler  
Gabriella T. Zepeda  

Bachelor of Science
### COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES

#### Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raul Alberto Bowman, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April Mae Cabrera</td>
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<td>John M. Sandoval, III</td>
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<td>Jaclyn Nicole Trevino</td>
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<td>Margaret Emily Williams</td>
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#### Bachelor of Science in Nursing

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Roland Omokogbo Abu</td>
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<td>Trey Dominic Soza †</td>
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<td>Tonya Shantell Stringer</td>
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<td>Scarlett Kristine Swanson †</td>
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<td>Emiley Gayle Vrooman †</td>
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<td>Zachary James Watson</td>
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<td>Michelle Renee Zdansky</td>
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<td>Zijun Zhang ‡</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Officer Commissioning

Second Lieutenant
United States Army

Christian R. Reyes
Brittany Marie Wilcut

*The names on this program include all students who have applied for graduation.*

*Conferral of the official degree is based upon completion and certification of all degree requirements.*
Commencement Speaker

Dr. James Hallmark currently serves as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the Texas A&M University System. In this position, Hallmark oversees all matters involving faculty, curriculum, student affairs, student success, enrollment management, admissions, and special projects for the 11 universities and 135,000 students in the A&M System. Prior to this appointment, Dr. Hallmark served as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at West Texas A&M University (WTAMU) as well as a lengthy term as Dean of the Graduate School and Research at that institution. Hallmark is the founding director of the William H. and Joyce Attebury Honors Program at WTAMU and served two terms as President of the Faculty Senate. Dr. Hallmark has received awards and recognition both for teaching and for leadership in graduate school affairs. In addition, he has previously served as president of the Texas Council of Chief Academic Officers. Dr. Hallmark received his Ph.D. and M.A. from the University of Oklahoma in Communication with a focus on organizational socialization, and his Bachelor of Arts from Oklahoma Christian College with a double major in History and Communication.

The Texas A&M University System
Board of Regents

Mr. Phil Adams, Chairman ........................................ Bryan/College Station
Mr. Cliff Thomas, Vice Chairman ........................................ Victoria
Mr. Robert L. “Bob” Albritton ........................................ Fort Worth
Mr. Anthony G. Buzbee ........................................ Houston
Mr. Morris E. Foster ........................................ Belton
Mr. William “Bill” Mahomes, Jr. ........................................ Dallas
Ms. Elaine Mendoza ........................................ San Antonio
Ms. Judy Morgan ........................................ Texarkana
Mr. Charles W. Schwartz ........................................ Houston
Mr. Colton L. Buckley, Student Regent ................................. Stephenville

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Official Ring

The Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi official rings are a major part of the University’s tradition. Juniors and seniors wear the ring with the school name facing them. Upon the granting of degrees at commencement, graduates turn the ring around, with the name facing outward. This symbolizes that the graduate is now ready to face new challenges outside the University.

The official ring is a visible, tangible manifestation of the long lasting bond between Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and its alumni. As always, it is alumni who carry the same pride in their University, and a seamless gold circle holds together the many people who have shared a dream – to earn a college education.

University Mace

The Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Mace is the wooden staff that is carried by a mace bearer leading the academic processional for commencements, convocations and special university ceremonies. Originally, the mace was a long-handled club used by knights during the Middle Ages to crush the armor of enemies. Later, ceremonial maces were carried by guards of French and English monarchs. Later still, the mace was carried or placed by a magistrate or dignitary to establish authority. In sessions of the British House of Commons, the mace is placed on the treasury table. In the U.S. House of Representatives, it is placed to the right of the speaker. Today, the University Mace is used to symbolize the authority of the University President and is a major accessory at commencement ceremonies for colleges and universities.
Academic Regalia

The academic regalia (cap, gown, and hood) date to the 12th Century European universities when they were worn primarily for warmth by the students as well as by laymen. As laymen gradually changed their garb to capes and breeches, institutions of learning prescribed the gown of black for scholars, with a hood draped down the back when not worn over the head and a mortarboard cap shaped like the mortarboard of the master workman.

In 1985 in the United States, the Intercollegiate Commission prepared a code, specifying the design and color of academic regalia for colleges and universities in the United States. Under this code, the bachelor's gown has long pointed sleeves. The master's gown has an oblong sleeve. The doctor's gown has bell-shaped sleeves. Gowns are generally black; however, a number of schools have adopted special regalia for the doctor's gown.

The velvet border of the hood may represent either the color of the degree or the color of the field of study. The current trend is for the color to represent the field of study rather than the name of the degree, but in earlier years dark blue was characteristic for a Ph.D. in any field. Hoods are lined with the official colors of the college or university from which the degree is received.

Caps are the traditional mortarboard except for the doctor's degree, where a four-sided velvet tam is optional. Caps from schools with special color gowns or from foreign universities may be more distinctive. Cap tassels for the doctor's degree are gold, while the tassels for the master's and bachelor's degree are black. Holders of all these degrees wear the tassel on the left.

The ritual of bachelor's degree candidates shifting the tassel from right to left marks the conferring of one's first university degree.

Hood Color Code

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arts, Letters, Humanities</th>
<th>White</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commerce, Accountancy, Business</td>
<td>Drab</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>Orange</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fine Arts, Architecture</td>
<td>Brown</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library Science</td>
<td>Lemon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Pink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>Apricot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>Dark Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>Sage Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Administration</td>
<td>Peacock Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Health</td>
<td>Salmon Pink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Golden Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>Citron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech</td>
<td>Silver Gray</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Academic Honors

Students earning academic honors wear cords in recognition of academic excellence. The following honors are awarded at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi:

‡ Summa Cum Laude: the silver honor cord is awarded to graduates whose cumulative grade point average is 3.9 and above.
* Magna Cum Laude: the blue honor cord is awarded to graduates whose cumulative grade point average is within the range of 3.7 – 3.899.
• Cum Laude: the green honor cord is awarded to graduates whose cumulative grade point average is within the range of 3.5 to 3.699.

*The honors presented during the ceremony are calculated on the student's cumulative grade point average through the semester prior to filing for graduation. Official honors designation, which includes the calculation of the final semester's grades, will be indicated on the final transcript and diploma.

Honor Societies’ Medallions and Cords

Students at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi have the privilege of being asked to join honor societies. Membership is based on grade point average and special criteria for each organization such as major, community service and service to a profession. Students belonging to these honor societies wear cords and medallions that represent their high achievements, colors and symbols of the organization.

Alma Mater

From the East, from the West, from the North, the South, Alma Mater we praise your name.
As a fire in our hearts none shall ever doubt, That your spirit is kept aflame,
Many people are heard the whole land through, All lifting their voices praising you.
To the ends of the earth we your worth will hail! Alma Mater our A&M-CC!

Music provided by:
Symphonic Winds
Directed by: Dr. Brian Shelton

Special thanks to the faculty, staff volunteers, the Student Government Association, Island Ambassadors and President’s Ambassadors who participated in today’s events.