

MSC BETHANCOURT



MEMORIAL STUDENT CENTER
TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

MSC BETHANCOURT

Mission Statement:

MSC Bethancourt is a professional development organization founded in interdisciplinary educational experiences. Students from all backgrounds will develop holistically through engagements with professionals from various fields and hands-on learning activities while coordinating intellectually stimulating programs for the Texas A&M student body. MSC Bethancourt aims to prepare students for a dynamic society through exposure to global perspectives, critical thinking challenges, and professional insights.

History:

In 2013, John and Debbie Bethancourt contributed an endowment for a new student organization in the Memorial Student Center at Texas A&M University. This dynamic leadership program developed its mission and vision in the spring of 2014 under the inaugural executive team, and the 2014-15 school year will be the first year of full operations with the initial class of Bethancourt “Associates.”

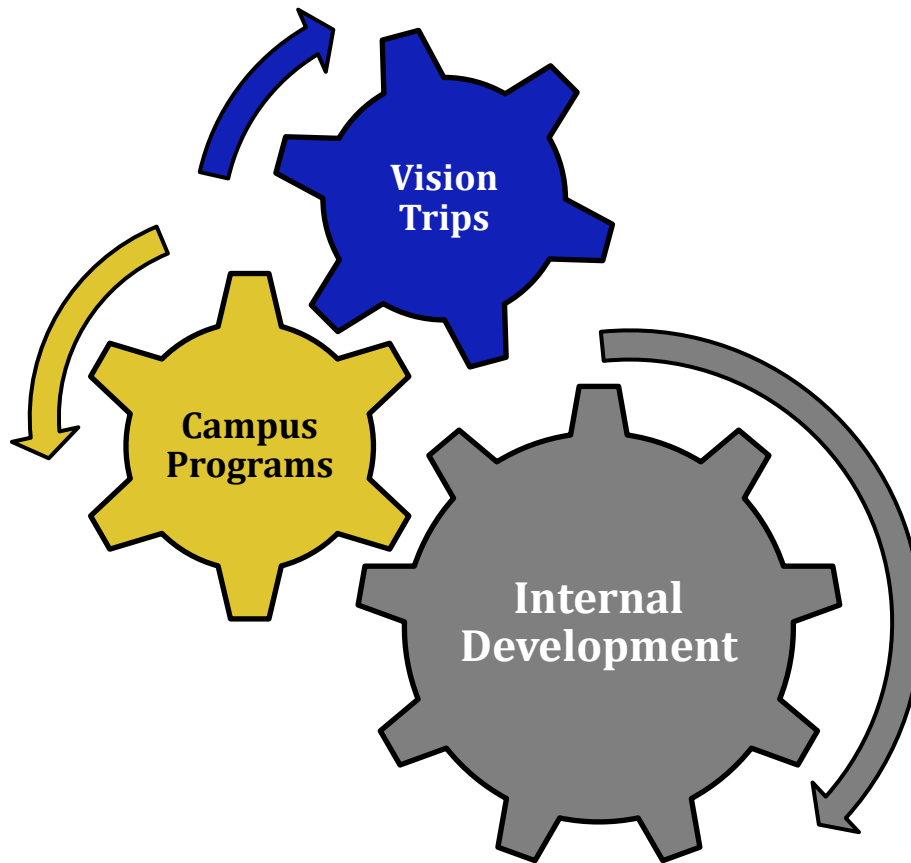
Purpose:

During the creation of MSC Bethancourt, the students and MSC staff involved with the vision-casting process noticed a gap in many students’ educational experiences. While technical knowledge gained in traditional classroom settings is often on-point at Texas A&M, students do not always receive the cross-discipline and hands-on learning experiences that will sharpen and distinguish them beyond college. MSC Bethancourt aims to expand students’ learning horizons by providing awareness and exposure to new lines of work, global developments, and challenging perspectives. Through various activities and initiatives, MSC Bethancourt hopes to unite students from various educational backgrounds in a pursuit of knowledge that will allow them to think in new ways and consequently impact society in their respective future endeavors.



Initiatives: Internal Development

Cross-discipline learning in a hands-on environment



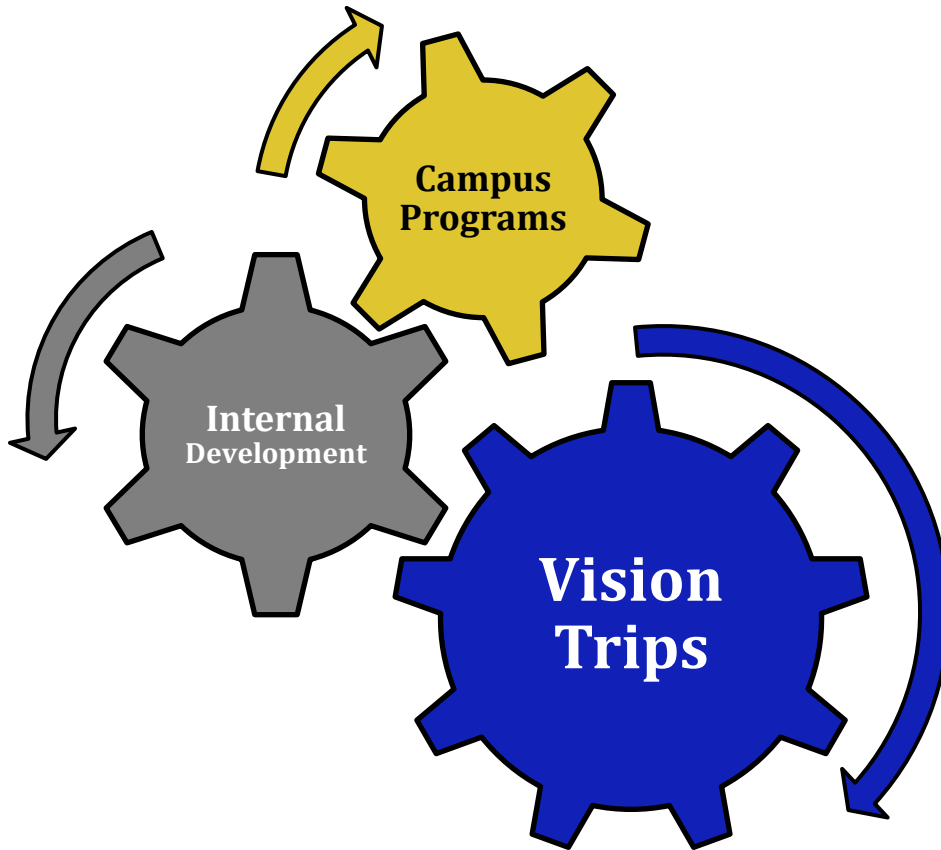
On three to five occasions each semester, MSC Bethancourt hosts “Professional Development Evenings” with professionals from various backgrounds to facilitate hands-on learning and interactive engagements. The featured guest provides the Bethancourt Associates with insights into their professional journeys and guides them through a case study or personal work experience involving their respective line of work.

On top of PDEs, MSC Bethancourt hosts frequent current event discussion forums with well-versed professors at Texas A&M, as well as a “last lecture” series for faculty and professors to share their capstone wisdom with the Bethancourt Associates. MSC Bethancourt also aims to provide opportunities to impact the community through consulting relationships with local nonprofits and schools.



Initiatives: Vision Trips

Identifying the common thread of effective people



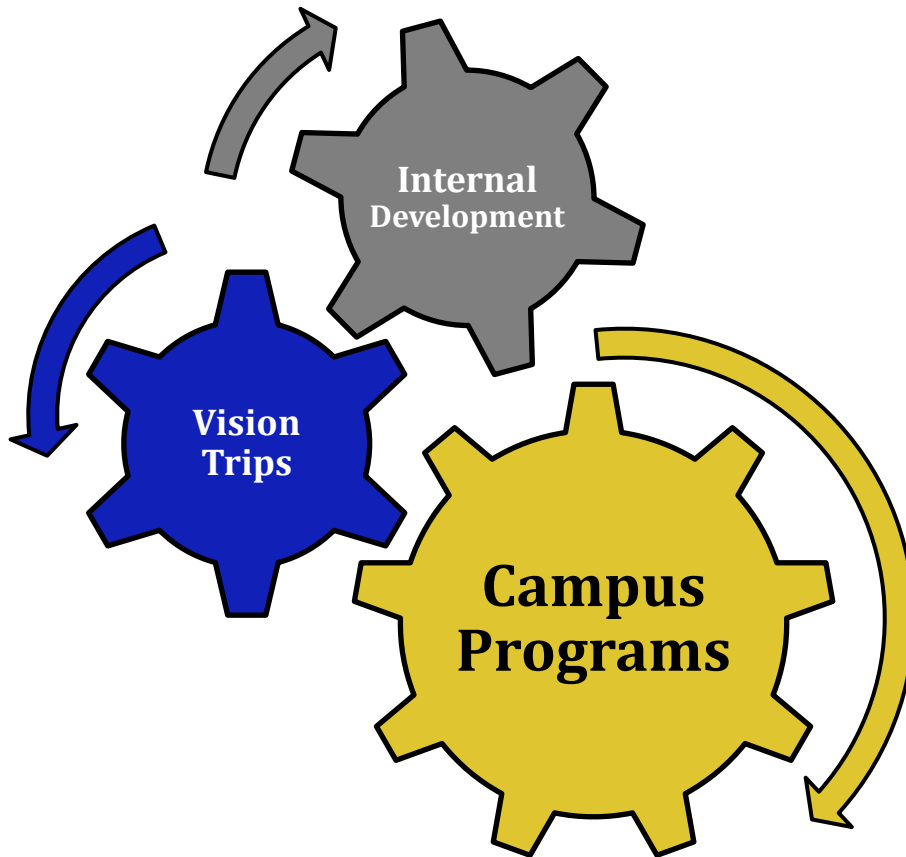
At least once each semester, MSC Bethancourt takes day trips to major Texas cities to visit with professionals from various backgrounds in their respective work settings. The purpose of these meetings is for the Bethancourt Associates to learn about their line of work, their personal “modus operandi” within their careers, and their journey to their present circumstances.

Vision Trips are a chance for the Associates to be exposed to the lives of successful individuals. In contrast to our Internal Development activities on campus, Vision Trips allow students to be immersed in professional settings. MSC Bethancourt intends for these engagements with professionals to provide students with industry insights, experiential advice for both professional and personal endeavors, and lessons learned from challenges faced by established individuals.



Initiatives: Campus Programs

Enhancing the intellectual culture of campus



MSC Bethancourt will host one major program open to the Texas A&M student body once each semester. These events would be intellectually stimulating by nature, cultivating the educational landscape of the university. Current ideas for programs include TED-style ideas conferences, hot topic debates, and showcase events with individual colleges at Texas A&M. MSC Bethancourt is excited to engage campus in new, impactful ways through creative programs.

These programs are dual in purpose in the sense that they are more than simply events for campus to enjoy; campus programs hosted by MSC Bethancourt provide the Associates with a hands-on project toward which they can apply their critical thinking and soft skills developed through Internal Development activities. Through the campus programs, the Bethancourt Associates will see their pursuit of knowledge and growth materialize into tangible results.



*MSC Bethancourt
Organization Structure*

