



I. April 28, 2005 mtg

III. Los Alamos

V. Congress, U.S.

KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON
UNITED STATES SENATOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510-4304

April 28, 2005

Chairman James Huffines
Chancellor Mark Yudof
The University of Texas System
201 W. 7th Street, Suite 820
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Chairman Huffines, Members of the Board of Regents and Chancellor Yudof:

From the beginning, I have supported the University of Texas (UT) System's bid to help operate the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico. I am pleased UT was recently selected to be the academic partner at the Sandia National Laboratory. That recognition has increased the UT System's stature nationwide, and partnering in Los Alamos would further augment it. The UT System's proven ability in academic science will be a wonderful resource in the important national objective of nuclear research and development at Los Alamos.

When I joined the Senate twelve years ago, I made it a priority to increase Texas' share of federal research investment. Texas has risen from sixth to third in the national rankings for this field, in part because of greater collaborative efforts and a focus on each institution doing what it does best. With the caliber and quantity of scientific talent in our state, I am confident this trend will continue.

UT's partnership with the Los Alamos National Laboratory will benefit students, faculty and both neighboring communities. Specifically, job opportunities and academic programs will be enhanced at the UT System's nine academic and six health-related campuses. The exposure of so many students to this cutting edge science will keep Texas at the forefront of this research in the coming generations.

The involvement with the National Laboratories reflects admirably on our state and I will continue to work with the University of Texas System for more national academic opportunities.

Sincerely,


Kay Bailey Hutchison