

Michael & Susan Dell Foundation Announcement
UT Austin – Main Building, Room 212
Monday, May 15, 2006

ABOUT THE GIFT

The Michael & Susan Dell Foundation's contribution of \$50 million, which is being announced today, will significantly enhance the lives of generations of Central Texans. These funds will be used to establish a pediatric research institute, to construct a new computer science building, and to found a center for public health research. All of these facilities will be located in Austin.

The *Dell Pediatric Research Institute*, which will be located on the former Robert Mueller Airport site, will benefit young patients and their families by using the latest research to improve their treatments and consultations. Researchers at the institute will have the advantage of collaborating with world-class faculty at The University of Texas at Austin and with outstanding researchers at The University of Texas System's six health institutions, UT Health Science Center at San Antonio, UT Health Center at Tyler, UT Health Science Center at Houston, UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, and UT Medical Branch at Galveston. Equally important, this facility will unite its research with the care already ongoing at Austin's hospitals and clinics, offering new advantages to both the research and the clinical care – as well as to the entire community.

These collaborations, which will benefit all the institutions involved, will develop new treatments and technologies that will improve our children's health and will attract new companies to our region. As Central Texas' population continues to grow and a generation of physicians retires, the pediatric institute will become a center of excellence that will attract top-flight medical students and residents who may choose to practice medicine here.

The ***Dell Computer Science Hall***, on the UT Austin campus, will bring all of that university's computer science faculty together in a new, state-of-the-art building with ample laboratory and office space. At present, the computer science department is housed in five separate buildings on campus, which has impeded the department's ability to compete with other departments across the nation. These new facilities will allow the computer science department to recruit some of the best faculty and students in the world. By producing groundbreaking research and top-flight graduates, UT Austin's computer science department will stimulate the growth and health of the university, our region, and our state, as a whole.

Finally, the ***Michael & Susan Dell Center for Advancement of Healthy Living***, which will be located at the UT Austin School of Nursing, will help to improve everyone's health through research, education and services. The center, which will be run by the UT Health Science Center at Houston's School of Public Health, will research behaviors and environmental conditions that affect health and healthy development. Although housed in Austin, the center will be a collaborative effort between UT Austin and UT Health Science Center - Houston. In its first

years, the center will focus on childhood obesity – which will also aid in preventing obesity-related illnesses such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease. This is research that will enhance families' lives, as they learn better habits of nutrition and exercise that will lead to longer, more productive lives.