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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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### INTRODUCTION

The UT System has published a comprehensive annual accountability and performance report for the past four years. The publication in August 2006 of a new ten-year strategic plan for the UT System and the presence of more robust accountability data sets at the System and at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) have made it possible for the UT System to streamline this report and align it more clearly with the System's strategic themes and goals.

This revised report features:

- "At-a-glance" views of trends for the System's 72 key accountability indicators that emphasize outcomes aligned with System priorities in its new strategic plan.
- Analysis of critical topics exploring correlations among indicators on such topics as: affordability, student outcomes, progress toward diversity, R&D funding, and national rankings.
- In-depth, institution-specific accountability profiles with analysis of trends in comparison with institution goals and with peer institutions.

This framework is based on a robust unit-record set of data in the UT System statistical fact book, together with state-wide data sets collected by the THECB, that have been used to create the higher-level analyses and correlations in this report. In most cases, official state or federal data sets are used to assure consistency and comparability, as appropriate.

The report is one among a series of annual reports to the Board on special accountability topics, such as research and technology transfer, development, and endowments (a full schedule is available at: <http://www.utsystem.edu/osm/progress.htm>).

The report covers:

- I. System trends, providing at-a-glance tables and charts illustrating trends for the 72 core strategic indicators.
- II. Strategic priorities, presenting an analytic discussion of progress on System-level strategic initiatives and priorities:
  - For academic institutions – affordability and the impact of tuition and financial aid initiatives and student outcomes.
  - For health institutions – progress toward diversity goals and NIH R&D funding goals as laid out in the UT System strategic plan.
  - For the System as a whole – discussion of rankings.
- III. Institution-specific accountability profiles, focusing on the
  - Unique mission statement of each campus, its priorities, and key points of distinction;
  - Analysis of campus-specific data trends and relationships among initiatives, investments, and results in the context of the institution's mission, demographic and economic context, and other unique characteristics of the campus;
  - Tables and graphs on campus-relevant metrics and trends; and
  - Peer comparisons (based on campus-specific peer lists), as well as other national trends or examples.

A brief overview of System trends is published in *Fast Facts* ([www.utsystem.edu/news/FastFacts.htm](http://www.utsystem.edu/news/FastFacts.htm)). For additional information about the UT System's accountability efforts, visit the Web site at [www.usystem.edu/osm/accountability](http://www.usystem.edu/osm/accountability)). We welcome responses to this new framework; contact the Office of Strategic Management (512 499 4798, or [pbales@utsystem.edu](mailto:pbales@utsystem.edu)).

## 2007-08 ACCOUNTABILITY TRENDS HIGHLIGHTS

### STUDENT ACCESS, SUCCESS, AND OUTCOMES

#### Preparation and Cost of Attendance

- Entering students are better prepared for college. Between 2003 and 2007, the average SAT and GRE scores of entering students increased on six UT System campuses. At UT San Antonio, average SAT, GRE, and GMAT scores all increased over this period.
- Attending college remains affordable due to increases in financial aid. In 2007, UT System institutions made 261,937 financial aid awards totaling \$912 million, significantly above the 213,798 awards totaling \$628.7 million in 2003. Most of the increase came from institutions, which provided 36% of the aid in 2007, compared with 27% in 2003.
- Controlling cost of attendance. The average net academic cost for full-time students receiving need-based aid was \$1,454 in 2006-07 at UT System academic institutions. The average discount on the academic cost for students receiving need-based aid was 77.9% in 2006-07, a point higher than the discount in the previous year. And, the average discount for all students also increased, from 35.9% to 37.2%.

#### Enrollment

- Substantial enrollment growth. From 2003 to 2007, the UT System has continued to fulfill its *Closing the Gaps* goals through large increases in enrollments, with double-digit growth on eight campuses (UT Brownsville, UT Permian Basin, UT San Antonio, UT Tyler, UT Southwestern Medical Center, UT Medical Branch, UT Health Science Center-Houston, and UT M. D. Anderson). Total enrollment increased by 9.3%, from 177,676 to 194,199. The UT System served 34.5% of the state's students enrolled in academic institutions and 69% among all health-related institutions.
- Increasing diversity. UT System students have become increasingly diverse. In 2007, the proportion of White and Hispanic students was nearly equal (38.4% and 38.1%). In 2006, 41.3% of first-time students were Hispanic, exceeding the 35.5% in the state's graduating high school class. The proportion of African-American students was less than the 13.4% among most recent high school graduates, increasing slightly from 4.2% to 5.6% over the past five years.

#### Student Outcomes

- Persistence. From 2001 to 2005, first-year persistence rates increased on five campuses. Four-year graduation rates also increased on five campuses; at UT Austin, in 2006, nearly 48% of students graduated in four years (up from 39% in 2001).
- Six-year graduation rates. This key indicator increased on four campuses (Arlington, Austin, El Paso, Pan American).
- More students persisting and graduating. The combined proportion of students who graduated from or were still enrolled at a UT institution or another institution in Texas within six years also increased significantly on six campuses to between 55% and 65%, reaching over 86% at UT Austin.
- Outcomes of community college transfers. The graduation rate of community college transfer students also increased at the majority of UT System academic institutions. At UT Pan American, it grew by ten points to 57.2%.
- More degrees awarded. As a result of earlier enrollment increases, the number of degrees institutions award is also growing. Over the past five years, the number of baccalaureate degrees awarded increased faster than total enrollments. While enrollment grew by 14.2% at academic institutions, 21% more degrees (25,525) were awarded, 34% of the state total. At health institutions, undergraduate enrollment declined 10%, but the number of degrees conferred increased by 20.7%, to 869; 61% of the state total.

- Diverse graduates. The diversity of degree-holders also increased. For example, the number of baccalaureate and masters degrees awarded to Hispanic students increased by 4 points over the past five years. UT Austin ranked first nationally in numbers of doctoral degrees awarded to Hispanic students. UT El Paso ranked first for undergraduate engineering degrees awarded to Hispanic students; UT Pan American ranked first for baccalaureate degrees awarded to Hispanic students in biological and biomedical sciences.
- Preparation for careers is increasing. Students' knowledge of their fields is assessed through certification, licensure, and national board examinations. These exam pass rates for students at UT System institutions were 90% or more in nursing, pharmacy, dentistry, and medicine. The pass rate in 2006 was 100% at: UT Tyler in engineering, UT Dallas in teaching, UT Health Science Center-Houston in allied health, and UT Health Science Center-Houston and UT Health Science Center-San Antonio in advance practice nursing.
- Measures of student learning on par or better than national averages. Results of the Collegiate Learning Assessment in 2006-07 show that seniors obtained higher CLA Total scores, on average, than freshmen at all eight campuses who participated. The absolute level of freshman and senior performance at UT Austin, UT Dallas and UT San Antonio exceeded the national averages while seniors at UT Permian Basin and freshmen at UT Arlington also scored higher than national averages. Relative to other institutions with similar entering students, freshmen at UT El Paso and UT San Antonio scored well above their national peers in writing; at UT Austin they scored above expected levels. Freshmen at UT Austin, UT El Paso, and UT San Antonio also scored above expected levels in problem solving. For UT institutions with available data, seniors at UT Arlington, UT Dallas, UT Pan American and UT San Antonio scored as expected, relative to institutions with similar students, on both problem solving and analytic writing. UT Austin seniors scored in the 'expected' range on the analytic writing exam.
- Students are satisfied with their college experience. Results of the National Survey of Student Engagement show that on six campuses, more freshmen rated academic advising good or excellent in 2007 than in 2003, as did seniors at five institutions. And on seven campuses, more seniors in 2007 than in 2003 said they would be likely to attend the same institution again. For freshmen, this trend was reversed: although still generally around 80%, compared with 2003, fewer freshmen in 2007 said they would be likely to attend again, compared with 2003, except at UT Tyler.
- Medical students are generally satisfied with the quality of their education. Two of four UT System medical schools reported higher overall satisfaction with the quality of their medical education in 2007 than in 2004.
- Graduates are prepared for careers and advanced degrees. Well over 80% of baccalaureate graduates in 2006 were employed or attending a graduate or professional school in Texas. Since 2002, the proportion increased at UT Pan American, UT Permian Basin, UT San Antonio, UT Southwestern Medical Center, and UT Medical Branch, where it was 96%.

## FACULTY AND INSTRUCTION

- Investments in faculty result in increased productivity. From 2003 to 2007, the number of tenure and tenure-track faculty at UT System institutions increased 7.7%, to 7,438. These increases contributed to higher institutional productivity as, over the same period, enrollment grew by 9.3%, the number of degrees awarded increased by 21%, and research expenditures increased by 34.1%. At the same time, the proportion of low-enrollment classes decreased from 6.6% to 4.5% of all classes.
- Student/faculty ratios remain comparatively high. Because enrollment growth outpaced increases in faculty, UT System academic institutions continue to serve more students per faculty, with ratios ranging from 26:1 to 16:1. Also, a smaller proportion of lower division semester hours, ranging from 24.6% to 42.5%, were provided by tenure and tenure-track faculty in 2007 compared with 2003.
- Distance education enrollments and degrees are increasing. From 2003 to 2007, the number of students enrolled in at least one course in the UT TeleCampus increased by 180%, to 8,731. And, UT TeleCampus graduate course completion rates have remained over 90% for the past five years.

## RESEARCH

- Research competitiveness and productivity increased. From 2003 to 2007, as competition for research funding increased nationally, total research expenditures at the UT System increased by 34.1%, from \$1.5 billion to \$1.9 billion. Most of these funds, \$1.1 billion, come from federal sources. The health institutions generated approximately two-thirds of these expenditures, but the academic institutions increased by a proportionately larger amount in total (35.7%) and federal (40.1%) expenditures.
- Successful competition for federal funding. The rate of increase in federal funding exceeded 50% at UT Arlington, UT Brownsville, UT El Paso, UT Pan American, UT San Antonio, UT Tyler, UT M. D. Anderson, and UT Health Science Center-Tyler. And, at seven academic institutions and two health institutions, the proportion increased of faculty holding grants. UT Austin (\$314.1 million), UT Southwestern Medical Center (\$191.7 million), and UT M. D. Anderson (\$190.5 million) remain among the top-ranked institutions nationally in federal research funding.
- Honors reflect the quality, impact, and prestige of faculty. In 2006-07, individual UT System faculty won prestigious awards from the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, American Academy of Nursing, National Academy of Engineering, the Guggenheim Foundation, National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine, and more. Faculty at UT Austin, UT Southwestern Medical Center, UT Health Science Center-Houston, and UT Health Science Center-San Antonio hold, cumulatively, the largest number of these individual awards, including seven Nobel Prizes, 33 members of the National Academy of Science, 50 members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and 34 members of the Institute of Medicine.
- Transferring research discoveries to the marketplace. From 2002 to 2006, the number of new invention disclosures by UT System institutions increased by 36.2%, to 655, and patents issued increased by 13.6% to 117. Of these, 72 went to health institutions. The UT System as a whole ranks fourth nationally in patent awards to universities. Gross revenue from intellectual property also increased, by 33.9% to \$35.6 million. And, UT System institutions have received a total of \$57.7 million in Texas Emerging Technology Funds, 71% of the total state awards.

## HEALTH CARE

- Training future health professionals. In 2007, UT System academic and health institutions awarded 2,495 undergraduate and 2,556 graduate/professional health-related certificates and degrees. Among these were nearly 2,000 undergraduate and graduate degrees in nursing. Altogether, UT System health institutions awarded nearly three-quarters of all health-related degrees from public institutions in Texas.
- Increasing diversity in health professions. Three UT System health institutions are in the top five nationally in undergraduate degrees, and five are in the top 20 of master's degrees awarded to Hispanic students.
- Improving health in Texas. In 2006, UT System health faculty were responsible for 5.2 million outpatient visits and 1.4 million hospital days. Health care provided to the uninsured and underinsured totaled \$1.4 billion, an increase of 49% from 2002. Total patient care revenue at UT System health institutions increased from \$1.71 billion to \$2.95 billion over the past five years.
- Patients' satisfaction with health services. Patient satisfaction ratings ranged from 84% to 98% in 2007. For example, 91% of UT M. D. Anderson patients said they would recommend the hospital to others for cancer care. 98% of UT Health Science Center-Houston's UT Physicians/Medical School patients expressed satisfaction with their overall treatment. The UT Health Science Center-San Antonio School of Medicine reduced complaints to 3 per 1,000 patient encounters, below their 5/1,000 target. And, at UT Health Science Center-Tyler, inpatient satisfaction increased 2 points from 2006 to 2007.

## OPERATIONS EFFICIENCY AND PRODUCTIVITY

### Revenues and Expenditures

- The balance in key sources of revenue is shifting to the institution and the student. In 2003, UT System revenues totaled \$7.3 billion; in 2007, revenues increased by nearly 60% to \$11.7 billion – over 32% from hospital and physician fees, 19% from grants and contracts, 15% from state-appropriated general revenue, and 8% from tuition and fees. Between 2002 and 2007, in inflation-adjusted dollars, state appropriations decreased 0.9% and average general revenue per student decreased by 17.3%, from \$5,850 to \$4,840. To cover necessary costs, average tuition and fees per FTE student increased over this period, from \$3,510 to \$5,040 in inflation-adjusted dollars.
- Expenditures focus on health care, instruction, student services, and research. More than 28% of the UT System's total \$10 billion in expenses in FY 2007 was designated for instruction, scholarships and fellowships, and student services, 26.5% for health care, and 15.5% for research.
- Administrative efficiency increased. Between 2003 and 2007, the portion of total institutional expenses devoted to administrative costs decreased to just over 6%, decreasing at eight academic institutions, and three health institutions. The average for academic institutions decreased from 8.2% to 7.4%, and from 7.3% to 6.2% for health institutions.
- Strong growth and stewardship of endowments. The value of the UT System endowments – an important resource for investments in quality – increased 74.4%, to \$16.75 billion from 2003 to 2007, fifth in size nationally. Per FTE student, the value of endowments increased over this period to \$74,488, and per FTE faculty to \$813,105. The proportion of faculty positions supported by endowments grew at ten campuses. At UT Austin, UT Medical Branch, and UT Health Science Center-Houston, over 30% of total budgeted tenure/tenure-track faculty positions were endowed; at UT Southwestern Medical Center, over 80% of budgeted tenure/tenure track positions were endowed.
- Private donor support is increasing. From 2003 to 2007, total donor support increased by nearly 30%, to \$760.9 million. Over this period, contributions increased by more than 100% at UT Dallas, UT Permian Basin, UT Southwestern Medical Center, UT Health Science Center-San Antonio, and UT M. D. Anderson. In 2006, if the UT System is taken as a whole, total voluntary support was \$566.3 million, third highest in the nation, although no single UT System institution is ranked in the top 20 in voluntary support.

### Efficiency and Productivity

- Contributions to state economic goals increase. Participation in the state's Historically Underutilized Business program contributes to the state's economic goals. Between 2003 and 2007, total HUB expenditures increased from \$246 million to \$402 million, and exceeded goals in two of six expenditure categories. Over this period, HUB expenditures increased by an average of 105% on academic campuses and by 78% at health institutions.
- Reducing energy use. Between 2002 and 2006, 11 UT System institutions reduced energy use. Overall, energy use was lowest in 2004 (approximately 200,000 btu/sq ft/yr), but increased to slightly over 200,000 btu/sq ft/yr in the past two years.
- Efficiency in utilization of classroom space. From 2003 to 2007, seven academic institutions increased the average weekly hours during which classroom space is used. Eight campuses exceeded the state-wide average of 31 hours/week. Eight campuses increased the average weekly hours of use of class laboratories, and seven exceed the state-wide average of 22.4 hours/week.
- Productivity of space usage. Between 2003 and 2007, capital investments resulted in increases in research space throughout the System while research expenditures also increased. As a result, from 2003 to 2007, the ratio of research expenditures to research space also increased at 13 UT System institutions. At all six health institutions and four academic institutions (Austin, Dallas, El Paso, and Tyler), this ratio was over \$200 per square foot of research space.

