Meeting No. 1,066

THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

OF

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM

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February 8, 2011

Austin, Texas
MEETING NO. 1,066

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2011.--The members of the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System convened this special called meeting via telephone conference call at 12:40 p.m. on Tuesday, February 8, 2011, in the Chairman’s Office on the Ninth Floor, Ashbel Smith Hall, 201 West Seventh Street, Austin, Texas, with the following participation:

ATTENDANCE.--

Present
Chairman McHugh
Vice Chairman Foster
Vice Chairman Longoria
Regent Dannenbaum
Regent Gary
Regent Hicks
Regent Pejovich
Regent Powell
Regent Stillwell
Regent Kalkwarf, Student Regent, nonvoting

In accordance with a notice being duly posted with the Secretary of State and there being a quorum present, Chairman McHugh called the meeting to order.

COMMENTS BY CHAIRMAN MCHUGH AND VICE CHAIRMAN LONGORIA.-- Chairman McHugh made the following comments following parting comments from Vice Chairman Longoria.

Comments by Chairman McHugh

I reflected on my time with this Board and reread the Chancellor’s State of the System address. It is an insightful document and as such contains strategic goals and initiatives that we as leadership wholeheartedly endorsed. Reading the State of the System address reminded me that while Regents and our Board leadership change, the privilege and responsibility of governing this remarkable System is historic. Chancellor Cigarroa called The University of Texas System “our State’s greatest treasure.” Responsibility for the System’s future soon passes to you and two new Regents who will join your ranks.

We are the stewards of one of the greatest systems of academic and health institutions in the nation, and we must do all we can so that our successors, but more importantly our students, faculty, staff, and communities that we serve, benefit from a stronger System than that entrusted to us.
Strategic initiatives are important to all Texans and I want to emphasize them as I leave office.

- Enhancing medical education in Austin and South Texas is critical to providing clinical care and advancing research that will save the lives of generations of those served by the work done in our health and academic institutions.

  Regents who came before us knew the importance of growing our clinical and research programs. As a result, The University of Texas System health institutions are among the world’s finest. Continue the legacy of those Regents who preceded us.

  My family, as perhaps yours, is enriched by The University of Texas System’s dedication to exemplary health care. M. D. Anderson Cancer Center saved my mother’s life. She is a 10-year survivor of inflammatory breast cancer and has celebrated the birth of five great grandsons during that 10-year period (two of those boys are my perfect grandsons, an adjective every grandparent here understands.)

- It is important to enhance educational opportunities in South Texas and along the border with Mexico. The South Texas initiatives we discussed in our recent retreat will make a positive difference beyond adequate description in the fastest growing areas of our State. More than 55,000 of the System’s approximately 200,000 students study in our border institutions.

- Stand shoulder to shoulder with those pledging support of our great flagship institution, The University of Texas at Austin.

  The Texas Constitution mandated that the Legislature establish, organize, and provide for the maintenance, support, and direction of a University of the first class. Expect no less, and uphold the responsibility spelled out in the Constitution.

  President Powers, aligned with Chancellor Cigarroa, their respective staffs, and U. T. Austin’s dedicated faculty, have collaborated to absorb mandated budgetary cuts. There are more financial challenges ahead for our Austin campus, and our flagship requires your support.

- We as Regents are also committed to the success of our four Tier One-bound emerging research universities and all of our outstanding academic and health institutions. You are Regents for all of them and they all deserve mention here.
There are nine extraordinary academic institutions with unlimited possibilities:

- The University of Texas at Arlington is excelling at developing relationships, especially with the North Texas community, to transform the campus.

- The University of Texas at Austin is focused on the quality of undergraduate education in addition to state-of-the-art research.

- The University of Texas at Brownsville is uniquely positioned to serve first generation students in the fastest growing region of the state -- the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

- The University of Texas at Dallas is leading the nation in brain health and science research, and collaborating with The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas and U. T. Arlington on multiple initiatives.

- The University of Texas at El Paso is developing new research capabilities fostering student success in one of the world's largest binational metropolitan areas.

- The University of Texas – Pan American is making great impact on economic and industrial development through its academic programs.

- The University of Texas of the Permian Basin is recognized nationally for its student engagement and success.

- The University of Texas at San Antonio is developing innovative research programs in cooperation with Southwest Research Institute and U. T. Health Science Center – San Antonio.

- The University of Texas at Tyler is highly successful in its emphasis on undergraduate liberal arts programming.

There are six remarkable health institutions with unlimited possibilities:

- The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas continues to increase its clinical, research, and teaching preeminence as it moves closer to ranking as a top 10 comprehensive academic health science center.

- The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston has demonstrated on multiple occasions in the face of a terrible storm that patient care and safety always come first.

- The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston is a multispecialty clinical leader, leading the development of health information technology and the use and implementation of the electronic health record.
• The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio is leading the advancement of the health of South Texans through its new Medical Arts and Research Center and its innovative medical education and research programs in Harlingen, Edinburg, and Laredo.

• The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center is again ranked as the number one cancer hospital in the nation, leading the new frontier of personalized cancer therapies.

• The University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler is providing health care in East Texas with emphasis and expertise in chest/pulmonary disease and research.

• One of the most exhilarating contributions being made by The University of Texas System is the creation of The University of Texas System Energy Leadership Council. Our State and our University of Texas System, as they should be, are the national and global leaders in preserving and advancing sustainable energy sources. Sustain the Council’s work.

Now it is time for me to take leave from my role as Chairman of The University of Texas System Board of Regents, and from this Board. We who engage in public service hope to make a difference in the lives of others, and from time to time, to inspire those with whom we serve. Those are important aspirations. You will find, however, as have I, that at the end of our public service as a Regent, the difference is within you. You are better for it. And, it is the extraordinary University of Texas faculty and staff who are our inspiration.

As I leave the Board and this meeting, I wish you the best and am pleased to pass the gavel, “figuratively at least,” to Vice Chairman Foster.
AGENDA ITEM

U. T. System Board of Regents: Election of Regent Powell as Chairman and Regent Foster, Regent Hicks, and Regent Dannenbaum as Vice Chairmen

Pursuant to Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Rule 10102, the following officers were elected to the Board of Regents, effective immediately. Vice Chairmen Foster, Hicks, and Dannenbaum abstained from the vote as it related to their individual appointments.

Chairman: Wm. Eugene “Gene” Powell
Vice Chairman (to act in place of the Chairman): Paul L. Foster
Vice Chairman: R. Steven “Steve” Hicks
Vice Chairman: James D. Dannenbaum

SCHEDULED MEETING.--The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on February 17-18, 2011, in Austin, Texas.

ADJOURNMENT.--No Executive Session was held, and there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

/s/ Carol A. Felkel
Secretary to the Board of Regents

February 9, 2011