March 15, 2013

Mr. Carl Mica
Director of Business Relations
Office of Community and Business Relations
The University of Texas System
Claudia Taylor Johnson Building
210 W. Sixth Street, Room 1.332
Austin, Texas 78701-2982

Dear Mr. Mica:

On behalf of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund, we wish to express our support for the efforts to establish a new university that includes the University of Texas-Pan American, the University of Texas-Brownsville, and a medical school to be located in the Rio Grande Valley.

The mission of the NALEO Educational Fund, a non-partisan organization, is to promote the civic participation of Latinos in America democracy, from citizenship to public service. For more than 30 years, the NALEO Educational Fund has been providing training and technical assistance to the nation’s Latino elected and appointed officials, promoting U.S. Citizenship, engaging Latino voters in the electoral process, and conducting research and advocacy on issues pertaining to political access for Latinos.

Your proposal to create a regional emerging research university with a medical school, which will become the second largest Hispanic institution in the nation, presents an important opportunity to support college completion for Latino students in the region and the State of Texas. The proposed university also presents an important economic engine for the region as the new university and medical school is predicted to generate approximately 7,000 new jobs with an average salary of approximately $63,000 in South Texas.

The NALEO Educational Fund wishes you much success with your efforts to establish this new university. We look forward to the positive outcomes it will bring to the Latino community in the region and the State overall. If we may provide any additional information, please contact Arturo Vargas at (213) 747-7606. Thank you for your consideration of our support.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Pauline Medrano
Board Chair
Dallas Mayor Pro Tem

cc: Ms. Veronica Gonzales

www.naleo.org

1122 W. Washington Blvd., Third Floor
Los Angeles, CA  90015
Tel: (213) 747-7606
Fax: (213) 747-5664

1314 Texas Avenue, Suite 410
Houston, TX 77002
Tel: (713) 228-4490
Fax: (713) 228-4600

110 Wall Street, 16th Floor
New York, NY  10005
Tel: (212) 480-1918
Fax: (212) 480-1697

5950 Lakeshore Drive, Suite 169
Orlando, FL 32819
Tel: (321) 798-3717

110 Pennsylvania Ave., SE Suite 230
Washington, DC  20003
Tel: (202) 546-4121
Fax: (202) 546-2536

Partnership Council Members
Chairman’s Council Member
State Farm®

Advance America
AT&T
Southwest Airlines
Toyota Motor North America, Inc.
Univision Communications Inc.
Walmart
The Walt Disney Company

Founder
Hon. Edward R. Roybal

Board of Directors
Hon. Paulette Jordan, Chair
Mayor Pro Temp., City of Dallas, TX
Hon. Hector Balderas, Treasurer
New Mexico State Auditor
Hon. Stephanie Garcia, Secretary
Board Member, Pueblo City Schools, CO
Ms. Lorraine Couto-Vasquez
AAH
Ms. Laila I. Popay Estrella
Washington DC
Hon. Mike Fernandez
Coral Gables, FL
Hon. Antonio Fierro
Florida State Senator
Hon. Alex Padilla, NALEO President
California State Senator
Hon. Justin Rodriguez
Texas State Representative
Hon. Nadine Rosado-Hart
Member of Congress, CA
Mr. Street Santucci, Esq.
AT&T
Ms. Monica Talas
Christian Communities Inc.
Hon. Gaddi Vasquez
Commissioner, Miami-Dade County, FL
Hon. Juan C. Zapata
Commissioner, Miami-Dade County, FL

Board of Advisors
Hon. Raquel Sonfield
President, Hispanic Elected Local Officials
Hon. Ray Collin
Albany County Executive, NY
Hon. Lilian Cruz-Gonzalez
School Board Member, Austin Unified School District
Hon. Marie Diaz-Rodriguez
Chair, Congressional Hispanic Caucus
Hon. Carmen Dominguez
Commissioner, City of Santa Fe, NM
Hon. John J. Duran
Coordinator, City of West Hollywood, CA
Hon. Julian Fuentes
Coordinator, City of New York, NY
Hon. Adrienne Fonter
President, Hispanic Elected Local Officials
Hon. Ben Garcia
Mayor, City of El Paso, TX
Hon. Sylvia R. Garcia
Chief, Houston Independent Police Oversight Board
Hon. maize Gonzalez
President, National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators
Hon. Ann Sol Gutierrez
Maryland State Delegate
Hon. Rafael Hinojosa
Chair, Congressional Hispanic Caucus
Hon. Guillermo Lopez
Chief, National Hispanic Caucus of School Board Members
Hon. Paul D. Lope
Coordinator, City of Denver, CO
Hon. Michelle Martinez
Coordinator, City of South Austin, CA
Hon. Catherine Martinez
Austin State Representative
School Board Member, Round Rock School District
Hon. Robert Padilla
School Board Member
Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District
Edinburg, TX
Hon. Carmen Pilarinas
Unicer, Village of El Paso, TX
Hon. Raquel Regalado
School Board Member
Hidalgo County Public Schools, TX
Hon. Robert Rivera
Coordinator, City of Brownsville, TX
Hon. Justin Rodriguez
Texas State Senator
Mr. Ron Romano
Former City State Senator
Hon. John Sánchez
New Mexico State Senator
Hon. Tomás B. Sánchez
Member, US-Mexico Partnership Council, AZ
Hon. Lucío Esteban Weinberg
Commissioner, City of Austin, FL
Hon. Mary Rose Gabriela Wilson
Chief, National Association of Hispanic County Officials

Executive Director
Arturo Vargas

1 Discussion