Resolution Supporting the “New” University for the Valley

PARA members voted to draft a resolution to support the efforts of The University of Texas System to create a new university for the Rio Grande Valley that would unify The University of Texas-Pan American, The University of Texas at Brownsville, and the Regional Academic Health Center (the basis for a new medical school) into a single institution that would have access to the Permanent University Fund, be the second largest Hispanic-serving institution in the country, provide more and higher educational opportunities for the people of the Rio Grande Valley, create more jobs along the border, capitalize upon its location along the border through bicultural and biliterate education and research, and become an emerging research institution with a medical school. There were no dissenting votes. The members charged the PARA leadership to develop wording for this resolution. Here is the wording adopted for this resolution:

**The University of Texas – Pan American Retirees Association**

Whereas, The University of Texas Board of Regents unanimously approved an initiative to authorize Chancellor Francisco G. Cigarroa to work with the Texas Legislature 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;

Whereas approval will unite the entities into one regional emerging research university;

Whereas this unified university will be the second largest Hispanic institution in the nation;

Whereas the new university will capitalize on its location along the border and will enhance bicultural and biliterate education for this rapidly growing population;

Whereas, this new university may become eligible for revenue from the Permanent University Fund, a major catalyst for building a world-class research university;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Pan American Retirees Association (PARA) supports the creation of a new University in the Rio Grande Valley with a presence in Brownsville, Edinburg, Harlingen, McAllen, and Rio Grande City.

Submitted by: Edwin LeMaster, Chair
Date: January 16, 2013

This resolution will be presented to the administration of the University, to the University of Texas System, and to the members of the Texas Legislature.

Upcoming PARA Events

The annual luncheon and meeting was a good beginning to the new year, but many activities and events are on our schedule, so take a look at what is in store and plan to attend as many as you can.