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Austin, Texas  
**Board Meeting:** 11/5/2004  
Austin, Texas

*Cyndi Taylor Krier, Chairman*  
*H. Scott Caven, Jr.*  
*Judith L. Craven, M.D.*  
*Robert A. Estrada*  
*Robert B. Rowling*

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1. **U. T. System: Reports from institutional presidents**

REPORT

The academic presidents will report briefly on new developments taking place at each campus. These oral reports may include any areas such as new research grants, significant collaborations with external agencies, or any other topic deemed to be important by the academic president. This is a quarterly update to the Academic Affairs Committee of the U. T. Board of Regents.

2. **U. T. Austin: Authorization to establish a Doctor of Audiology degree program**

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and President Faulkner that authorization be granted to establish a Doctor of Audiology degree program at U. T. Austin and to submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action. In addition, the Coordinating Board will be asked to change the U. T. Austin Table of Programs to reflect authorization for the proposed degree program.

Upon approval by the Coordinating Board, the next appropriate catalog published at U. T. Austin will be amended to reflect this action.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Program Description

U. T. Austin proposes an interdisciplinary Doctor of Audiology (AuD) that will consist of 121 semester credit hours beyond the bachelor's level. The program will be administered by the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders in the College of Communication and will focus on academic and clinical education for those entering the profession of audiology. The degree program is designed to prepare graduates to practice audiology in a rapidly changing, technologically-advanced era. The proposed program will include state-of-the-art teaching and clinical experiences covering the scientific, clinical, and professional bases of hearing and disorders of the auditory system. The goal of the program is to produce graduates who are highly competitive at the state and national levels and competent to provide audiology services across the life span in medical, educational, and industrial environments that will include both diagnosis and treatment of hearing disorders. The anticipated date for enrolling the first students is Fall 2005.

## Need and Student Demand

The master's degree is currently the entry-level degree for the practice of audiology. The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), a national accrediting body, has recently published a new standard for professional practice in audiology. This standard mandates the doctorate as the entry-level degree. To maintain an accredited program in Communication Sciences and Disorders that includes audiology, curricular requirements consistent with the doctoral degree must be in place. Although U. T. Austin currently offers a Ph.D. in Audiology, the degree emphasizes research and the training of auditory scientists. The AuD degree involves preparation in the diagnosis and non-medical treatment of hearing and balance disorders with the goal of training clinicians. Because the educational objectives are clearly different, both the Ph.D. and AuD degrees need to be offered. The incidence of hearing disorders has increased dramatically with the aging of the population. Similarly, technological advances to address those disorders have shown remarkable growth in recent years.

Historically, U. T. Austin has had no difficulty attracting audiology students. It is anticipated that prospective audiologists will continue to look to U. T. Austin for graduate education. The change in the entry-level degree for the practice of audiology from the master's to the doctorate is just beginning to have an impact on student choices and decisions. The faculty, facilities, and clinical resources necessary to mount a quality AuD program are such that many universities, which only offer the master's degree, will likely terminate their audiology programs. This will create even greater demand among prospective students as their options within the state and nation decline. Finally, as the profession moves toward the doctorate, it is anticipated that recent graduates will return to school for training to remain competitive in this rapidly changing profession.

## Program Quality

The proposed AuD degree would build on academic and clinical courses for the existing master's program in audiology, and thus access and coordinated scheduling are assured. The department already has procedures in place that meet the standards for evaluation established by ASHA and the Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA). The CAA conducts accreditation site visits at regular intervals to assess program quality. Additionally, evaluation instruments administered by the program will yield information on job performance, job satisfaction, program strengths and weaknesses, and employment trends. The effectiveness of recruiting, retention, and placement strategies will be measured, as will the rate of progress in achieving program milestones.

## Program Cost

The expenditures for the first five years are anticipated to be \$53,500. These expenses are associated with library and instructional-technology costs (\$3,500) and start-up costs (\$50,000) for a new laboratory. Because the new program merges into an existing graduate program, no reassignment of faculty or administration is required at this time.

3. **U. T. Austin: Authorization to transfer funds to compensate certain endowment accounts for the acquisition of land and improvements proposed to be incorporated as part of the site of a hotel and conference center located immediately south of the main campus in Austin, Travis County, Texas**

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Executive Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, and President Faulkner that authorization be granted by the U. T. Board of Regents, on behalf of U. T. Austin, to

- a. transfer funds sufficient to compensate The Louise Farmer Boyer Chair in Biblical Studies and The Professor William Shive Excellence Fund for the Study of Antiquity & Christian Origins endowment accounts for the acquisition of land with improvements described as Lots 35 and 36, Block 20, Louis Horst's Subdivision out of Outlot 20, Division "D" in the City of Austin, Travis County, Texas; and
- b. submit the acquisition to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval, if necessary.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The property, located at 1908 University Avenue, was donated on August 25, 2003, by the Foundation for Biblical Studies, a Texas nonprofit corporation, to benefit The Louise Farmer Boyer Chair in Biblical Studies and The Professor William Shive Excellence Fund for the Study of Antiquity & Christian Origins at U. T. Austin. This transfer will allow the endowment to be compensated for the properties.

Based on an MAI appraisal dated April 30, 2003, the market value for the property was \$1,340,000. The property will be added to the inventory of campus land for the main campus of U. T. Austin, and will be incorporated into the site of the proposed hotel and conference center.

See Executive Session Item 3a on Table of Contents Page i of the Meeting of the Board and Facilities Planning and Construction Item 1 on Page 54.

4. **U. T. Austin: Request for appointment of members to the Board of Directors of The University of Texas at Austin School of Law Publications, Inc.**

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and President Faulkner that the U. T. Board of Regents appoint Associate Dean Steven J. Goode and Assistant Dean Nancy Brazzil to serve, in addition to Dean William C. Powers, Jr., as directors of The University of Texas at Austin School of Law Publications, Inc., an internal corporation associated with U. T. Austin.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The University of Texas at Austin School of Law Publications, Inc. (UTSLP) is an internal corporation chartered in 1981 for the management of publications by the School of Law at U. T. Austin. The Bylaws provide that the members of the UTSLP Board will be "the Dean of The University of Texas at Austin School of Law (Law School) and two Associate or Assistant Deans of the Law School nominated by the President of The University of Texas at Austin and appointed by the Regents."

President Faulkner recommends that the U. T. Board of Regents appoint Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Steven J. Goode and Assistant Dean for Alumni Affairs Nancy Brazzil to the UTSLP Board. There are no additional costs associated with these appointments and all contractual relationships have been reviewed by the U. T. System Office of General Counsel and are in accordance with the Regents' Rules and Regulations.

The U. T. System Office of General Counsel is reviewing the other corporations affiliated with or established for the benefit of U. T. System institutions and will propose revisions to the Articles and Bylaws of those entities for appropriate consideration by the Board in the future.

5. **U. T. Austin: Speedway Mall North of 21st Street and East Mall/East Mall Fountain, Phase I - Amendment of FY 2004-2009 Capital Improvement Program and the FY 2004-2005 Capital Budget to include project**

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs with the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Executive Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, and President Faulkner that the U. T. Board of Regents amend the FY 2004-2009 Capital Improvement Program and the FY 2004-2005 Capital Budget to include the Speedway Mall North of 21st Street and

East Mall/East Mall Fountain, Phase I project at The University of Texas at Austin at a preliminary project cost of \$12,000,000 with funding from Gifts as shown below.

**Architecturally or Historically Significant:**

(Note: Item is before the Board; see Item 1 on Page 54)

**Project Delivery Method:** Competitive Sealed Proposals

**Substantial Completion Date:** August 2006

<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
	Gifts	\$12,000,000

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**Project Description**

The Speedway Mall North of 21st Street and East Mall/East Mall Fountain, Phase I project at U. T. Austin will consist of pedestrian traffic enhancements and landscape improvements for Speedway Avenue from 21st Street to Dean Keeton Street and the East Mall from Speedway Avenue to San Jacinto Boulevard, including the East Mall fountain. The first phase includes planning and design of all of the improvements and execution of those improvements associated with the East Mall fountain.

This proposed off-cycle project has been approved by U. T. System staff and meets the criteria for inclusion in the Capital Improvement Program.

**6. U. T. El Paso: Authorization to establish a Master of Science in Environmental Sciences degree**

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and President Natalicio that authorization be granted to establish a Master of Science in Environmental Sciences degree program at U. T. El Paso; to submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action; and to authorize the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs to certify on behalf of the U. T. Board of Regents that relevant Coordinating Board criteria for approval by the Commissioner of Higher Education have been met.

Upon approval by the Coordinating Board, the next appropriate catalog published at U. T. El Paso will be amended to reflect this action.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### Program Description

U. T. El Paso proposes an interdisciplinary Master of Science in Environmental Sciences that will consist of 30 semester credit hours beyond the bachelor's level. The program will be administered by the College of Science and will focus on interdisciplinary environmental science, an important area for research and education in the border region and Texas. The program is designed to prepare graduate students who wish to contribute to understanding of the interactions between human beings and their environment. This interdisciplinary program offers a rigorous foundation in the sciences focused on preparing students for careers in the environmental workforce and for entry into doctoral programs in environmental sciences or other sciences. The program will provide a necessary link between the existing Bachelor of Environmental Science degree and the Ph.D. in Environmental Science and Engineering. The anticipated date for enrolling the first students is Fall 2005.

### Program Quality

This degree program will add to an existing successful program in interdisciplinary environmental sciences. The Environmental Sciences and Engineering Program currently has 38 faculty members and approximately 50 Ph.D. students. The Bachelor of Environmental Sciences involves faculty from Chemistry, Biology, Geology, and Physics and currently has 32 students enrolled. Faculty members are already members of the graduate faculty in their own departments. Many of the faculty members are active in the Environmental Sciences and Engineering Ph.D. program. The interdisciplinary nature of the program allows a broad range of research topics and advisors.

### Program Cost

Expenditures for the first five years are anticipated to be \$663,425.

Five new faculty positions have already been created to support this program. Because the program merges into the existing environmental programs, no reassignment of faculty is required at this time. The program will require \$525,400 for teaching assistants; \$25,000 for reassigned clerical staff; and \$14,250 for reallocation of an administrator. Equipment, library resources, and supplies for teaching the additional students will require a total of \$98,775.



7. **U. T. El Paso: Authorization to lease approximately 3.801 acres of land in El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, to High Desert Investors, L.P.**

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Executive Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, and President Natalicio that authorization be given for U. T. El Paso to lease approximately 3.801 acres of land in El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, to High Desert Investors, L.P. with terms substantially similar to those outlined in the transaction summary on Pages 28-29. The negotiated lease term will be 50 years for construction and operation of a hotel.

It is further recommended that President Natalicio or her delegate be authorized to execute all documents, instruments and other agreements, with the prior approval of the Office of the General Counsel and the U. T. System Real Estate Office, and to take all further actions deemed necessary or advisable to carry out the purpose and intent of the foregoing recommendation.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The subject property is a 3.801-acre tract of land along the major entrance on the east side of the U. T. El Paso campus, with improvements consisting of two vacant residences and two residences currently occupied by the campus Police Department, which is scheduled to move to new facilities in 2005. The site is close to the academic core of the campus as well as the Student Union and its facilities, and approximately three blocks from a medical center with two major hospitals.

U. T. El Paso wishes to enter into a ground lease agreement with High Desert Investors, L.P. to develop a hotel on the site of the subject property. High Desert Investors, L. P. is a Delaware limited partnership whose general partner is High Desert Hospitality, L.L.C. The principals of High Desert Hospitality, L.L.C. are Russell Vandenburg and Charles Garrett. An initial report on the feasibility of a hotel located on the U. T. El Paso campus was prepared by HVS International (a leading valuation service company in the hospitality industry retained by the development company) and favorably reviewed by an independent consultant hired by the University to validate HVS International's study. The report recommends a facility similar to the proposed franchisee, Hilton Garden Inns, with 150 guestrooms, a conference facility, and a dining area. The facility would be designed and constructed with Bhutanese architectural features to complement the character of the U. T. El Paso campus.

The hotel will accommodate university-sponsored conferences and meetings, alumni, and out-of-town guests attending other special events, as well as provide convenient hotel accommodations for the adjacent medical center.

## Transaction Summary

Institution:	U. T. El Paso
Transaction:	Ground Lease
Lessee:	High Desert Investors, L.P.
Tract Size:	3.801-acre site on U. T. El Paso campus
Land Use:	3,000 square foot hotel with 150 guest rooms, a conference facility, and a dining area
Lease Term:	50 years
Extension Options:	Two options to renew for 10 years each at then market rates as determined by independent appraisals with dispute resolution clauses (under negotiation)
Ground Rent Schedule:	<p>Nominal rent until certificate of occupancy issued</p> <p>Fixed base rent for five years (determined by land value) or until 72% occupancy is reached for one full year.</p> <p>After five years or 72% occupancy, the rent will be the greater of the fixed base rent or the following:</p> <p>Percentage rental equals the sum of: (i) two percent (2%) of room sales for the year in question for the first 10 years of the lease term, and then three percent (3%) of room sales for each subsequent year; plus (ii) one percent (1%) of the food and beverage gross sales for the year in question; plus (iii) one percent (1%) of the other income gross sales if any, from operations and business conducted on the premises for the year in question, minus (iv) the fixed base rent payable for the year in question. Sales/revenues of subtenants will be included in the calculation.</p> <p>Every five years the base rent will be adjusted to the average of the preceding three years and in no event shall it decrease.</p>

Taxes: Tenant to pay all taxes and imposition of every kind

Title Work: To be completed by Hughes Butterworth, LandAmerica  
Lawyers Title of El Paso

Commencement Date: November/December 2004

Lessee Selection Process: Direct Appointment

Real Estate Commission: None

8. **U. T. San Antonio: Authorization to establish a Master of Arts in Communication degree program**

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and President Romo that authorization be granted to establish a Master of Arts in Communication degree program at U. T. San Antonio and to submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action; and to authorize the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs to certify on behalf of the U. T. Board of Regents that relevant Coordinating Board criteria for approval by the Commissioner of Higher Education have been met. In addition, the Coordinating Board will be asked to change the U. T. San Antonio Table of Programs to reflect authorization for the proposed degree program.

Upon approval by the Coordinating Board, the next appropriate catalog published at U. T. San Antonio will be amended to reflect this action.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**Program Description**

U. T. San Antonio proposes to offer the Master of Arts (M.A.) in Communication degree program. This program will be offered by the Department of Communication in the College of Liberal and Fine Arts. The program is designed to prepare students with integrated knowledge and skills in communication, including the theory, research, and practice that are requisite to success in contemporary communication industries, scholarship, and/or creative endeavors. The understanding and effective application of new communication technologies will also be stressed. In addition, the program's emphasis on international and intercultural communication is designed to prepare students to work effectively with multicultural populations in a variety of settings, including health care and other professional and social organizations.

The program is 33 or 36 semester credit hours of coursework beyond the bachelor's degree. For students electing the 33 hour program, a thesis/or project is required; for students electing the 36 hours of coursework, no thesis is required. The thesis or project option is designed to provide students with the opportunity to develop an independent research or creative project in a specialized area of interest. The non-thesis or project option will provide students with the opportunity to gain applied knowledge from additional coursework, internship experiences, and/or independent study. Fifteen hours of core courses will be required of all students, plus additional coursework in an area designed to provide them with specialized knowledge in an area of communication such as news media, interpersonal communication, organizational studies, or international/intercultural communication. Students electing the thesis/project option will take six semester credit hours of thesis/project research. Given the

multidisciplinary character of communication studies, students will have the opportunity to take three to six semester credit hours of coursework outside the Department of Communication in related fields such as Management, Information Systems, Bicultural-Bilingual Studies, and Sociology.

### Program Quality

The Department of Communication currently has 11 full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty members, and has recently hired three faculty and plans to hire three additional faculty members to contribute to the M.A. program by the fifth year. Thus, by the fifth year there will be 17 full-time faculty members in the Department of Communication. The current faculty members publish in a number of areas of Communication relevant to the proposed program. The Department of Communication is housed in the College of Liberal and Fine Arts. It is among the departments selected to occupy the new Main Building on the 1604 Campus. Dedicated facilities for the Department of Communication will include sufficient office space for existing and anticipated faculty members as well as for graduate assistants, a distance-learning equipped seminar room, and a computer teaching classroom for multimedia design and production. In addition, the Durango Building at the Downtown Campus features a state-of-the-art instructional technology suite consisting of a computer classroom for design and production work, a video production/distance learning studio, and a small group observation lab. The existing facilities will meet program needs.

### Program Cost

The cost of operating the program in the fifth year is approximately \$860,520, with the majority of the costs associated with hiring new faculty and staff to assist in the delivery and support of the program. Revenues from formula funding and the reallocation of existing resources are expected to be sufficient to fully fund the program.

## **9. U. T. Tyler: Authorization to create a master planned property acquisition zone for the U. T. Tyler campus**

### RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Executive Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, and President Mabry that authorization be granted by the U. T. Board of Regents, on behalf of The University of Texas at Tyler, to create a "property acquisition zone", consisting of nine tracts of unimproved land and three tracts of land with improvements containing approximately 189.42 acres in close proximity to the U. T. Tyler main campus, with the understanding that approval to acquire specific properties included in the proposed acquisition zone is not being requested at this time.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Enrollment at U. T. Tyler has increased 76% over the past five years and growth rates are expected to continue through the end of the decade, with enrollment projected at 7,000 by 2010. The University's 206-acre main campus contains only 160 acres suitable for constructing buildings to support the expected growth in enrollment and expansion of research programs. To maintain the park-like nature of the campus and to avoid the campus becoming landlocked by private development of the few parcels of vacant land contiguous or near the main campus, U. T. Tyler has identified several parcels (nine tracts of unimproved land and three tracts of land with improvements) to be included in a property acquisition zone. A master plan would be developed for these properties as part of the overall Campus Master Plan once creation of the property acquisition zone is approved. Properties contained in the proposed acquisition zone would initially be used for remote parking, athletic fields, and an art or research building, and later as sites for research centers, academic buildings, athletic and recreational venues, and student housing.

Residential and commercial development of properties surrounding the U. T. Tyler main campus has resulted in rapidly increasing property values. The properties in the requested property acquisition zone have an estimated market value of \$15,752,400 and can be acquired now for lower prices than in the future. Creation of the property acquisition zone and subsequent acquisition of the properties contained therein as they become available would allow the University to control potential commercial and other uses of the properties adjoining the campus. With the exception of a proposed acquisition of 11.3558 acres of vacant land (see Item 10 below), no approval to acquire specific properties included in the proposed acquisition zone is being requested at this time.

**10. U. T. Tyler: Authorization to purchase approximately 11.3558 acres of vacant land in Tyler, Smith County, Texas**

## RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Executive Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, and President Mabry that authorization be granted by the U. T. Board of Regents, on behalf of U. T. Tyler, to

- a. purchase approximately 11.3558 acres of undeveloped land located at the northeast corner of Old Omen Road and University Boulevard (Spur 248), Tyler, Smith County, Texas, at a price not to exceed the fair market value as determined by independent appraisals;
- b. submit the acquisition to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval, if necessary; and

- c. authorize the Executive Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs or his delegate to execute all documents, instruments and other agreements, and to take all further actions deemed necessary or advisable to carry out the purpose and intent of the foregoing recommendations.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

U. T. Tyler wishes to purchase the subject property, consisting of approximately 11.3558 acres of undeveloped land strategically located at the main entrance to the University's main campus, to acquire property crucial to long-term development and expansion of the existing campus. The property would initially be used for remote parking and later be used for construction of academic and research buildings, student housing, and athletic venues. (See Item 9 on Page 31 related to creation of a master planned property acquisition zone.)

Because residential and commercial development of properties surrounding the U. T. Tyler campus has resulted in rapidly increasing property values, the current purchase price of \$625,000 is projected to be lower than if the purchase were made at a future date. The land is currently under a sales contract dated August 27, 2004, to Ms. Eleanor A. Stringer, a member of the U. T. Tyler Development Board, and will be assigned to U. T. Tyler if the acquisition is approved. The source of funding will be uncommitted fund balances.

The terms and conditions of the purchase are as reflected in the transaction summary below:

Transaction Summary

Institution:	U. T. Tyler
Transaction:	Purchase
Property Size:	11.3558 acres
Property Address:	Northeast corner of Old Omen Road and University Boulevard (Spur 248), Tyler, Texas
Type of Property:	Vacant land (undeveloped woodland)
Seller:	Saleh Children, L.P. (through assignment of contract by Ms. Eleanor A. Stringer)

Contract Price: \$625,000

Appraised Value: \$495,000 (Benchmark Appraisal Group, August 17, 2004)  
\$625,000 (Kennedy Holtcamp Thompson,  
September 9, 2004)  
\$990,000 (Appraisal Associates, September 13, 2004)

Flood Hazard: Outside FEMA flood zone