

1. U. T. Dallas: Request for Authorization to Establish a Ph.D. Degree in Computer Engineering and to Submit the Proposed Degree Program and Change in the Institution's Table of Programs to the Coordinating Board for Approval (Catalog Change)

## RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and President Jenifer that authorization be granted to establish a Ph.D. in Computer Engineering at U. T. Dallas and to submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action. The proposed doctoral degree program is consistent with U. T. Dallas's Table of Programs and institutional plans for offering quality degree programs to meet student needs. A description of the degree program is included in the Background Information of this agenda item.

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

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### Program Description

U. T. Dallas proposes to establish a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Computer Engineering to be administered by the Departments of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science. These departments currently jointly administer interdisciplinary M.S. degrees in Computer Engineering and Telecommunications Engineering. The proposed curriculum requires 90 semester credit hours beyond the bachelor's degree, as do the existing Ph.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. Implementation is projected to be during the 2002-2003 academic year.

The Computer Engineering proposal is based on the expectation of continued increase in demand for highly trained engineers who are knowledgeable and skillful to carry out innovative work in the design of complex systems comprising both hardware and software. The proposed degree is highly interdisciplinary, with a heavy emphasis on original research in the areas of high performance and complex hardware and highly reliable and time critical software systems. In the proposed degree program, students can conduct research in areas like computer architecture,

computer arithmetic, Very Large-Scale Integration (VLSI) design hardware/software codesign, reconfigurable systems, architectures for telecommunications and signal processing, high-speed circuits and systems, computer-aided design algorithms and tools, synthesis, testing, and testable design. One particularly important application area that exemplifies highly demanding requirements is telecommunications. In these systems, networks of distributed computer systems must communicate via messages over potentially faulty links in order to present a highly reliable and fault tolerant voice and data network. The proposed Ph.D. degree is intended to make innovative contributions to enhance the state-of-the-art for such complex systems.

### Program Need and Student Demand

Computer engineering, the design and analysis of computer hardware and software, is one of the fastest growing areas in engineering. Information technology is the driving force behind the need for research, education, and training in computer engineering. An engineer should understand the limitations and capabilities of both hardware and software and apply sound engineering/scientific principles for realizing the next generation of information technology products.

The Computer Science Department at U. T. Dallas has experienced over 30 percent growth in enrollment in the past year. The networks and telecommunications emphasis has an annual enrollment of over 100 students and is growing rapidly. The traditional computer science master's degree curriculum and various master's degree concentrations in electrical engineering have also experienced considerable growth, particularly in digital systems. Members of the Erik Jonsson School Advisory Panel have recommended the additional option of a Ph.D. in computer engineering in the belief that the faculty and facilities are well suited to the task and that this addition would be of great strategic importance for the immediate region and for the State of Texas, which is considered one of the hubs of information technology.

It is anticipated that the Ph.D. in Computer Engineering will attract 15 students the first year and a total of 70 students is projected for the fifth year. Graduates of the program are expected to be sought by the high technology companies surrounding the U. T. Dallas campus as well as by institutions of higher education in Texas and nationwide.

### Program Quality

U. T. Dallas is one of the major suppliers of highly skilled graduates in electrical engineering and computer science in Texas. In FY 2000, the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science received over \$4.4 million in external funding, or approximately \$73,000 per tenured or tenure-track faculty member. In the same time period, the existing Electrical Engineering and Computer Science faculty published 125 journal articles, an average of approximately two journal articles per year per tenured or tenure-track faculty member. The Jonsson School currently offers Ph.D. degrees in Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Electrical Engineering with Major in Microelectronics, and Electrical Engineering with Major in Telecommunications. The same faculty who teach and supervise doctoral students in these programs will also teach and supervise dissertations in the proposed Computer Engineering program.

### Program Cost

The total cost over the first five years of the proposed Ph.D. in Computer Engineering is estimated to be \$530,875. Formula income from new students choosing the Computer Engineering degree instead of existing degree programs is projected to total \$695,605 for years three through five. The new program would be self-supporting beginning in the third year. Negligible new costs in the first two years would be supported by reallocations and by a combination of interest income and general, non-state institutional funds on hand.

The relatively low costs projected for the proposed program arise from the fact that the required courses are already in place for existing graduate programs. No new faculty beyond those who will be added due to the growth of existing programs will be required. Library resources, necessary equipment, and laboratories are in place. A new expansion of the building housing the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science is underway and is expected to be completed by Fall 2002.

### Summary

U. T. Dallas is requesting authorization to establish a Ph.D. in Computer Engineering. The proposed program will provide Dallas, North Texas, and the State of Texas with highly skilled professionals who will make innovative contributions to enhance the state-of-the-art for the complex systems of hardware and software that will be needed to produce the next generation of high technology products. Graduates of the program will also help to fill the growing number of faculty positions in engineering and technology needed in higher education.

2. U. T. Dallas: Request for Authorization to Establish a Doctor of Executive Leadership (EL.D.) Degree and to Submit the Proposed Degree Program and Change in the Institution's Table of Programs to the Coordinating Board for Approval (Catalog Change)

## RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and President Jenifer that authorization be granted to establish a Doctor of Executive Leadership (EL.D.) degree at U. T. Dallas 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. Dallas Table of Programs to reflect authorization for the proposed degree program. The proposed doctoral degree program is consistent with U. T. Dallas's mission and its plans for offering quality degree programs to meet student needs. A description of the degree program is included in the Background Information of this agenda item.

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

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### Program Description

U. T. Dallas proposes to establish a Doctor of Executive Leadership degree to be administered by the School of Social Sciences. The EL.D. degree is an interdisciplinary doctoral program that prepares graduates to assume executive-level positions in public, nonprofit, and health-care organizations. The proposed 90 semester credit hour, three-year doctoral degree combines innovative and traditional methods of educational delivery and emphasizes the integration and application of theory to practice.

The School of Social Sciences has a strong tradition of interdisciplinary education and research, with faculty expertise in anthropology, criminology, economics, geography, political science, public administration, public policy, and sociology. The EL.D. program continues the interdisciplinary tradition of the School's Master of Public Affairs and the Ph.D. in Political Economy programs by combining theories

and models from across the social sciences. The EL.D. program is unique as it also incorporates significant coursework from the School of Management. Implementation of the proposed new degree is projected to be during the 2002 Calendar Year.

A field-based organizational improvement experience is a critical component of the EL.D. degree. Each student is required to complete an internship under the general direction and mentoring of an accomplished executive. This structured, on-the-job experience is designed to enhance the student's ability to apply theories and concepts learned in the classroom setting to real world environments. A Research Practicum Report is tied directly to the field-based, organizational improvement experience. The student is required to reflect on this experience and to demonstrate the ability to identify, analyze, and address substantive organizational problems requiring executive leadership.

### Program Need and Student Demand

The Doctor of Executive Leadership is designed to develop dynamic, high-performing leaders for the renewal and improvement of public, nonprofit, and health-care organizations. The program is designed to provide advanced professional education for current and future executives interested in meeting the leadership challenges of a rapidly changing, global society. Guided by this mission, the objectives of the EL.D. are to:

- a. Provide students with the philosophical and other theoretical foundations and research-based knowledge necessary for successful executive leadership
- b. Foster the integration and application of knowledge and modes of inquiry from multiple disciplines to enhance organizational performance
- c. Provide students with field-based, organizational change and improvement experiences as a means of identifying, learning, and implementing best practices of executive leadership in specific settings.

For the first three or four years, the program will be populated with students from the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Because there are few programs like this one in the nation, eventually, the student body will be national and international. The initial demand comes from two primary sources. The first is potential high-level administrators in large urban and suburban school districts like the Dallas Independent School District. Partnership arrangements with independent school districts are expected to generate a minimum of 12 full-time students per year. The second primary source

is the large and diverse community of nonprofit organizations in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Again, partnership conversations with the Center for Nonprofit Management located in Dallas indicate an initial flow of approximately 8-12 part-time students. Initial secondary sources of demand include mid- to upper-level administrators at area hospitals and other health-care organizations, as well as public-sector administrators in local and regional government.

### Program Quality

Faculty in the School of Social Sciences hold doctoral degrees from such top-ranked universities as Cornell, Duke, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, and the University of Minnesota. Collectively, the faculty engages in significant research and publication. In FY 2002, faculty received approximately \$1.5 million in peer-reviewed research awards. All faculty who will supervise students in the EL.D. program have records of research accomplishment, publication, graduate supervision, and professional service in the political science arena.

### Program Cost

No new tenure-track faculty, beyond those needed for normal enrollment growth, will be required to offer the proposed program. It is anticipated that initially four additional sections will need to be taught by lecturers. All but five of the proposed foundation and core courses are taught currently. As the program expands, some additional sections may be needed and the cost projections reflect hiring a junior tenure-track person in the third year. Administration of the program (i.e., program director) would be covered with existing School resources. A full-time administrative assistant would be hired to support this program. No new infrastructure or library resources are required. The total cost over the first five years is projected to be \$372,012. Formula income is projected to total \$818,480 for years three through five. The program would be self-supporting from its onset.

### Summary

U. T. Dallas is requesting authorization to establish a Doctor of Executive Leadership degree. The program can be implemented with minimal costs. Only five new, organized courses will be required in the foundation and core. Partnerships with local organizations will ensure that the program has a steady stream of qualified students and that the important third-year field-based learning objective can be satisfied. No new faculty, beyond those needed for normal enrollment growth, are required. Library resources and facilities are adequate to

implement the program. A degree program in Executive Leadership that focuses on the public, nonprofit, and health-care sectors will help train leaders in Dallas/Fort Worth area organizations that have traditionally not been served by similar programs designed for the for-profit sector.

3. U. T. Dallas: Request for Authorization to Establish a Ph.D. Degree in Software Engineering and to Submit the Proposed Degree Program and Change in the Institution's Table of Programs to the Coordinating Board for Approval (Catalog Change)

### RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and President Jenifer that authorization be granted to establish a Ph.D. in Software Engineering at U. T. Dallas and to submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action. The proposed degree program is consistent with U. T. Dallas's mission and institutional plans for offering quality degree programs to meet student needs. A description of the degree program is included in the Background Information of this agenda item.

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

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

#### Program Description

U. T. Dallas proposes to establish a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Software Engineering to be administered by the Department of Computer Science in the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science. The Department of Computer Science currently offers B.S. degrees in Computer Science and Software Engineering; M.S. degrees in Computer Science and Computer Science with Major

in Software Engineering; and the Ph.D. in Computer Science. The proposed curriculum requires 90 semester credit hours beyond the bachelor's degree, as do the existing Ph.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. Implementation is projected to be during the 2002-2003 academic year.

The Software Engineering proposal is based on the strong and expanding demand for leaders in software engineering by local industry, the even greater demand for software engineering researchers and faculty by universities in Texas and nationwide, and the initiation of licensing for software engineers by the State. The proposed curriculum will provide a solid background in computer science as well as training in core areas of software engineering like requirements engineering, software architecture, software verification and validation, object-oriented design, and software process and management. The proposed Ph.D. degree in Software Engineering will help to place U. T. Dallas as a national leader in information technology research, education, and training, and help to maintain and strengthen North Dallas's leading position in the high-technology arena.

#### Program Need and Student Demand

A main goal of U. T. Dallas is to serve local and regional needs. According to the Richardson Chamber of Commerce, there are over 600 technology firms in the vicinity of the university. The American Electronics Association ranks Texas #2 in high-tech job creation for the period 1990-97. The North Dallas, Richardson, Plano area that U. T. Dallas serves is referred to as the "Telecom Corridor." Besides the largest telecommunications cluster in the United States, the area has a large number of information technology, software, semiconductor, and other high-tech companies. The Richardson Chamber of Commerce estimates that 75 percent of area companies are in information technology, and telecommunications. All these factors result in not only a large demand for degreed software engineering professionals and for training in software engineering, but also urgent needs for more software engineering leaders, scientists, and university faculty than the current system can supply. The number of Ph.D. graduates in computer science nationwide is currently under 900 annually. Required licensing by the State of Texas will further increase demand.

It is anticipated that the Ph.D. in Software Engineering will attract nine students in the first year and a total of 63 students is projected in the fifth year. Graduates of the program are expected to be sought by the more than 600 software, semi-conductor and other high-technology companies surrounding the U. T. Dallas campus as well as by institutions of higher education in Texas and nationwide.



### Program Quality

U. T. Dallas is one of the major suppliers of highly skilled graduates in computer science in Texas. The Computer Science Department has experienced over 30 percent growth over the last year. Sixteen new faculty members have been added in response to enrollment growth in Computer Science over the last three years. In FY 2000, the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science received over \$4.4 million in external funding, or approximately \$73,000 per tenured or tenure-track faculty member. In the same time period, the existing Electrical Engineering and Computer Science faculty published 125 journal articles, or an average of approximately two journal articles per year, per tenured or tenure-track faculty member. The same faculty who teach and supervise doctoral students in existing programs will also teach and supervise dissertations in the proposed Software Engineering program.

### Program Cost

The total cost over the first five years of the proposed Ph.D. in Software Engineering is estimated to be \$434,473. Formula income from new students choosing the Software Engineering degree instead of existing degree programs is projected to total \$1,379,893 for years three through five. The new program would be self-supporting beginning in the third year. Negligible new costs in the first two years would be supported by reallocations and by a combination of interest income and general, non-state institutional funds on hand.

The relatively low costs projected for the proposed program arise from the fact that the required courses are already in place for existing graduate programs in Computer Science. No new faculty beyond those who will be added due to the growth of existing programs will be required. Library resources, necessary equipment, and laboratories are in place. A new expansion of the building housing the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science is underway and is expected to be completed by Fall 2002.

### Summary

U. T. Dallas is requesting authorization to establish a Ph.D. in Software Engineering. Software engineering is an increasingly mature area that has critical importance to the economy and industry of the State of Texas and of the nation. This is evidenced by the fact that in the last few years an increasing number of universities began offering specialized degree programs in Software Engineering at B.S. (B.E.) and M.S. levels. Last year, the Carnegie Mellon University started the first Ph.D. program in Software Engineering in the country, and other universities are expected to follow suit in the next several years. The proposed Ph.D. degree in Software Engineering at U. T. Dallas will establish Texas's leadership in this movement. It will have significant impact in attracting top talent (faculty and students) to Texas and, in turn, the industry and economy of the State of Texas and the U. T. Dallas region in particular.

4. U. T. Dallas: Request for Authorization to Establish a Ph.D. Degree in Telecommunications Engineering and to Submit the Proposed Degree Program and Change in the Institution's Table of Programs to the Coordinating Board for Approval (Catalog Change)

### RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and President Jenifer that authorization be granted to establish a Ph.D. in Telecommunications Engineering at U. T. Dallas and to submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action. The proposed degree program is consistent with U. T. Dallas's mission and institutional plans for offering quality degree programs to meet student needs. A description of the degree program is included in the Background Information of this agenda item.

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

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

#### Program Description

U. T. Dallas proposes to establish a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Telecommunications Engineering to be administered by the Departments of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science. These departments currently jointly administer interdisciplinary M.S. degrees in Computer Engineering and Telecommunications Engineering. The proposed degree would replace the currently authorized Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering with Major in Telecommunications that is administered by the Department of Electrical Engineering. The proposed curriculum requires 90 semester credit hours beyond the bachelor's degree, as do the existing Ph.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. Implementation is projected to be during the 2002-2003 academic year.

The primary educational objective of the proposed program is to educate telecommunications engineers to meet the research and development needs of a global industry with concentrations in the North Central Texas region and the State of Texas. As with all Ph.D. programs, another objective of the proposed program is to prepare students for university faculty positions.

In the course of the past 15 years, major technological advances have occurred in networking and telecommunications. One consequence of these developments is that a two-year master's program is no longer adequate training for entry into the profession of telecommunications engineering as a system architect or as the leader of a design team because a master's program cannot provide sufficient training in problem identification, device research with an awareness of system impacts, and hardware/software codesign. This program will produce telecommunications engineers who are ready to design future generations of telecommunications systems.

### Program Need and Student Demand

The B.S. and M.S. degrees in Telecommunications Engineering were approved at the February 11-12, 1998 Board of Regents' meeting. The B.S. in Telecommunications at U. T. Dallas became the first degree program in this field accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology in the United States. The enrollment in these two programs already exceeds 240 students, an increase of 60 percent over the enrollment one year ago. U. T. Dallas is surrounded by high tech companies that serve an international telecommunications industry. This industry is driven by a global customer base supported by companies that have worldwide operations. U. T. Dallas can position itself for the future in telecommunications by training master's and Ph.D. students in an expanding interdisciplinary technology. Currently, the only U. T. Dallas doctoral programs that are available to students who wish to pursue research in telecommunications engineering are the existing doctoral programs in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. However, Electrical Engineering does not develop the software skills needed by high-level telecommunications professionals, and Computer Science does not develop the necessary hardware skills. The proposed Ph.D. in Telecommunications Engineering will develop both of these skills.

It is anticipated that the Ph.D. in Telecommunications Engineering will attract 15 students in the first year and a total of 95 students is projected in the fifth year. Graduates of the program are expected to be sought by the high technology companies surrounding the U. T. Dallas campus as well as by institutions of higher education in Texas and nationwide.

### Program Quality

U. T. Dallas is one of the major suppliers of highly skilled graduates in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in Texas. In FY 2000, the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science received over \$4.4 million in external funding, approximately \$73,000 per tenured or tenure-track faculty member. In the same time period, the existing Electrical Engineering and Computer Science faculty published 125 journal articles, or an average of approximately two journal articles per year per tenured or tenure-track faculty member. The Jonsson School currently offers Ph.D. degrees in Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Electrical

Engineering with Major in Microelectronics, and Electrical Engineering with Major in Telecommunications. The latter degree program would be discontinued if the proposed degree were approved. The same faculty who teach and supervise doctoral students in these programs will also teach and supervise dissertations in the proposed Telecommunications Engineering program.

#### Program Cost

The total cost over the first five years of the proposed Ph.D. in Telecommunications Engineering is estimated to be \$464,692. Formula income from new students choosing the Telecommunications Engineering degree instead of existing degree programs is projected to total \$1,110,153 for years three through five. The new program would be self-supporting beginning in the third year. Negligible new costs in the first two years would be supported by reallocations and by a combination of interest income and general, non-state institutional funds on hand.

The relatively low costs projected for the proposed program arise from the fact that the required courses are already in place for existing graduate programs. No new faculty beyond those who will be added due to the growth of existing programs will be required. Library resources, necessary equipment, and laboratories are in place. A new expansion of the building housing the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science is underway and is expected to be completed by Fall 2002.

#### Summary

U. T. Dallas is requesting authorization to establish a Ph.D. in Telecommunications Engineering. The proposed program will provide the Dallas Metroplex and the State of Texas with highly skilled professionals who will be the architects and analysts of new generations of telecommunication systems that incorporate and motivate new research in hardware, software, and networks. Graduates of the program will also help to fill the growing number of faculty positions in engineering and technology needed in higher education.

5. U. T. El Paso: Request for Authorization to Establish a Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Composition and to Submit the Proposed Degree Program and Change in the Institution's Table of Programs to the Coordinating Board for Approval (Catalog Change)

## 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 Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Composition 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 Board of Regents that relevant Coordinating Board criteria for approval by the Commissioner of Higher Education have been met.

The proposed doctoral degree program is consistent with the approved Table of Programs and institutional plans of U. T. El Paso for offering quality degree programs to meet student needs. A description of the degree program is included in the Background Information of this agenda item.

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 to establish a Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Composition, to consist of 45-51 semester credit hours beyond the master's level. Administered by the Department of English, the program grounds students in rhetorical history, writing pedagogy, writing in cultural contexts, and computer-mediated writing; allows concentration in workplace writing, the teaching of writing, or literary studies; and requires an internship in a community setting and a dissertation. The program will help to increase the number of Hispanics with doctorates. It is anticipated that a substantial proportion of graduates will teach in Texas higher education institutions, contributing to State goals for the expansion of enrollments as articulated in the "Closing the Gaps" report of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The anticipated date for enrolling the first students is Fall 2003.

### Program Need and Student Demand

In the first five years of the program, six full-time and three part-time students are expected to enroll each year. With graduation beginning in the third year and normal attrition, enrollment is projected at 30 full-time equivalent students by the end of the fifth year. This forecast is based on considerable local interest in the program, the appeal of its intercultural emphasis, and the strong job markets for teachers of composition and workplace writers.

### Program Quality

Faculty in composition and rhetoric at U. T. El Paso have achieved national recognition for the quality of their research and publication. Twelve faculty are available in the English Department to staff core courses, with an additional 14 faculty teaching in the concentrations; elective courses will be staffed by a cadre of faculty in English, communication, linguistics, and teacher education. Two additional faculty will be hired by the English Department, with specialties in rhetoric of the Americas and community/service learning.

The border location of U. T. El Paso will provide students unique opportunities to examine intercultural rhetoric as it actually happens. Additionally, the institution's cutting-edge development of computer technology for teaching and communication will provide students both access to, and training in, these tools for research, teaching, and writing.

To accommodate the needs of students with full-time jobs, almost all graduate courses in the English Department are offered in the late afternoons and evenings. The Ph.D. program will continue this practice and will work to serve nontraditional students by offering Web-based courses and other techniques associated with distance learning.

### Program Cost

The cost for the first five years of the program is estimated at \$842,000, the largest anticipated expenditures will be \$400,000 for salaries for two new professors at the associate/full level and \$336,000 for teaching assistantships. Credit hour formula funding at the doctoral rate and State excellence funds will provide additional sources of funds.

## Summary

U. T. El Paso is requesting authorization to establish a Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Composition. The program will prepare teachers, researchers, and practitioners of writing whose training in intercultural rhetoric and computer technology will help meet the needs of an increasingly diverse student population and workforce in Texas and the nation as a whole. Expenditures of \$842,000 during the first five years will be met by reallocation of instructional budgets and by additional formula funding for doctoral-level credit hours.

6. U. T. System: Request to Approve “The University of Texas System Commitment to Teachers and Children Program”

## RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs to approve “The University of Texas System Commitment to Teachers and Children Program,” a System-wide program as set forth on Pages 75 - 84 to help enhance the quality of education in the public schools of Texas to be effective immediately.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The U. T. System engaged in a three-year effort designed to stimulate and enhance K-16 initiatives at all component institutions. Some of the highlights include:

- Appointing K-16 Coordinators at each U. T. System institution, including the health components, and establishing regional K-16 Councils involving representatives of local schools, community colleges, and U. T. System schools
- Increasing outreach efforts to disseminate information to students, parents, school administrators, and teachers regarding college preparation standards, admission policies, and financial aid
- Increasing the number of teachers trained to teach Pre-AP and AP courses, and the number of students taking these courses

- Enhancing the nationally-recognized reading centers, the Texas Center for Reading and Language Arts at U. T. Austin, and the Center for Academic and Reading Skills at U. T. Health Science Center - Houston, and participating in training Master Reading Teachers as part of the Texas Reading Initiative
- Encouraging and implementing elements of the UTeach model for preparing math and science teachers through programs designed by faculty in education and math and science departments
- Creating the Algebra I Texas Professional Development Online, a Web-based teacher professional development program, as a joint project with the Texas Education Agency, the Region XIII Education Service Center, and the Charles A. Dana Center at U. T. Austin
- Offering education degree programs and courses for teachers and administrators and the First Year Online program that allows high school students to take college-level courses for concurrent enrollment through the UT TeleCampus
- Establishing the National Center for Educational Accountability, which is a partnership between U. T. Austin, Just for the Kids, Inc., and the Education Commission of the States.

Based on the results of this initial effort and the challenge before us to ensure that all Texas public school students are prepared to move forward into higher education, the U. T. System Board of Regents will launch a major, System-wide program that will strengthen university-based teacher preparation programs, create high quality training and instructional tools for public school teachers, and initiate an aggressive research agenda.