

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM**

**BOARD OF REGENTS**

**HEALTH AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING**



**April 1, 2002**



**HEALTH AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM  
BOARD OF REGENTS  
AGENDA**

April 1, 2002  
3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Beverly Ballroom B/C, Hilton Park Cities Hotel, Dallas, Texas

- 3:00 p.m. 1. **Welcome and Opening Remarks** *Chairman Patrick Oxford*
- 3:05 p.m. 2. **Follow up discussion and actions related to the Board of Regents' Retreat, March 18-19, 2002** *Chairman Oxford  
Dr. James C. Guckian  
Presidents*
- 3:45 p.m. 3. **Agenda Topics for next Board of Regents' Meeting**
- a. U. T. Health Science Center – San Antonio: Request approval to establish a Master's Degree Program in Deaf Education and Hearing Science [ Action Item ] *Dr. Francisco Cigarroa*
- b. U. T. Health Science Center – San Antonio: Request approval to establish a joint PhD Degree Program in Biomedical Engineering in collaboration with U.T. San Antonio [ Action Item ] *Dr. Cigarroa*
- c. U. T. Health Science Center – San Antonio: Request approval for planning authority to develop Master's and Doctoral level Sports Sciences Programs in collaboration with The University of Texas at San Antonio and The University of Texas at Austin [ Action Item ] *Dr. Cigarroa*
- d. U. T. Health Science Center – Houston: Amendment to Capital Improvement Program (FY2002-2007) to Fund: "Repair of the Medical School Building, Phase 2" *Dr. James Willerson*
- 4:10 p.m. 4. **Executive Session: Consultation with Attorney Regarding Pending and/or Contemplated Litigation or Settlement Offers – Texas Government Code Section 551.071**
- a. U. T. Medical Branch – Galveston: Proposed Settlement of Medical Liability Case *Mr. Cullen M. Godfrey  
Dr. Guckian  
Dr. John Stobo*
- b. U. T. Health Science Center – Houston: Proposed Settlement of Medical Liability Case *Mr. Cullen M. Godfrey  
Dr. Guckian  
Dr. Willerson*
- 4:30 p.m. 5. **Adjourn** *Chairman Oxford*

**The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio requests approval to offer a Master's in Deaf Education and Hearing Science (MDEHS).**

**Background Information**

**Program Description**

This proposal for a "Master in Deaf Education and Hearing Science" is a result of three years of work among four higher education institutions in San Antonio: The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA), The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), Sunshine Cottage School for Deaf Children, and Our Lady of the Lake University, Department of Communication Disorders. Initially, the program will be administratively located in the Department of Occupational Therapy, School of Allied Health Sciences, UTHSCSA. The program is composed of 40 semester credit hours and is proposed to begin in Fall 2002 with seven students. The targeted students are certified teachers, speech pathologists, others in related fields. The degree program is currently being offered through Sunshine Cottage School for Deaf Children and the University of the Incarnate Word. Due to the medical, rehabilitation, health, research, and cultural expertise offered at UTHSCSA, the program will be offered through the UTHSCSA School of Allied Health Sciences. This move will better reflect the changes in education and management of the deaf and hearing-impaired. The program is intended to be a foundation program for an eventual multi-institutional doctoral program in Communication and Science Disorders.

**Need**

The graduates of the program will be employed by public and private educational institutions and schools to provide specific education for those who are deaf or have a hearing impairment. The role of the graduate will include teaching deaf and hearing-impaired students and "normal students." They will have an ability to work with family members, those who are bilingual, teachers in school systems, and medical and health care professionals, as they supervise and manage the development of a child with special education and health care needs. Ten new students will be enrolled each of the final two years and twelve new students will be enrolled each year thereafter. The suggested number of students is based on the history of the program. The appropriateness of the proposed enrollment was confirmed by the Texas Education Agency.

**Quality**

The curriculum will add knowledge and skills to the already certified teacher. The curriculum is offered during afternoon and evening hours and on weekends so that currently employed educators may take advantage of the program. The

curriculum includes coursework in human science, behavioral science, social sciences, language development, management, biotechnology, special education an experiential learning through practica and apprenticeships. The admission standards include teacher certification and a desire to enter the filed of deaf education. Applicants are expected to have a 3.0 grade point average in undergraduate work and have taken the GRE or MAT. The physical location of the program will continue to be in Sunshine Cottage School for Deaf Children. There is on full-time program coordinator and nine adjunct faculty members. The involved adjunct faculty members are also teachers at Sunshine Cottage. The Program Coordinator, Dr. Debra Perrett, is an experienced teacher of deaf children and an experienced teacher educator. Dr. Elizabeth Wilkes, Speech Pathologist and Mr. Blane Trautwein, Principal (both at Sunshine Cottage), are critical educators and clinicians for the program. They are highly motivated toward graduate education and eventually, clinical research. Faculty members in the School of Allied Health, Medicine, and the Graduate School will be involved in the program. The majority of instruction, however, will be conducted by the educators of the hearing-impaired who are already responsible for the accredited program.

### **Cost**

The program will continue to be housed at Sunshine Cottage. The management practicum and teaching experiences will be held at Sunshine Cottage, schools for the deaf, public schools in San Antonio, etc. In addition, clinics, social service agencies, the medical school, etc., will also be used. The initial cost for the first two years to the UTHSC-SA is for adjunct faculty members. Sunshine Cottage for Deaf Children will pay the other two-thirds of the cost of operation. It is intended that within the third year of the program, it will become self-supporting through formula funds received from the state. The five-year cost projections for the program is \$588,359 of which UTHSC – San Antonio's share will be \$446,242.

**The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio**  
7703 Floyd Curl Drive San Antonio, Texas 78229-3900

*Office of the President – MSC 7834*



*Phone (210) 567-2000*

March 8, 2002

James C. Guckian, M.D.  
Acting Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs  
The University of Texas System  
O. Henry Hall 204  
601 Colorado Street  
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Dr. Guckian:

**RE: Master in Deaf Education and Hearing Science (MDEHS)**

Please accept this letter as a request to establish a Master in Deaf Education and Hearing Science (MDEHS) degree program at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA). The MDEHS program will be offered through the School of Allied Health Sciences and initially administered through the Department of Occupational Therapy, until such time as a Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders is warranted.

The MDEHS has been offered since 1991 by the University of the Incarnate Word (UIW) as a Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Deaf Education and is a partnership between UIW and Sunshine Cottage, a private organization that provides education for children with hearing impairments from birth through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Under this partnership, the program has been funded through student tuition, the John H. White Family Trust, and UIW.

It is proposed to transfer the partnership with Sunshine Cottage and degree program in its entirety from UIW to the Health Science Center in 2002. The degree offered would be a Master in Deaf Education and Hearing Science, with a slightly modified curriculum to reflect the advances of medical science and biotechnology for teaching the hearing impaired, and an expanded applicant pool of baccalaureate graduates who have been educated in speech pathology, nursing, or other related fields. Support for the program would include formula funding and continued support from the John H. White Family Trust. The costs for the proposed program will not increase relative to other current Allied Health master's programs. Estimated expenses for the first year of the program, FY 2003, will be \$105,074, and will rise to an estimated \$131,145 in FY 2007, the fifth year of the program. The state funding formula will cover the costs of the program. Additional funds may be sought through training and research grants. Program length would be 40 semester credit hours. Under UIW, the program has been accredited by the Council on Education of the Deaf since 1991. Program accreditation under UTHSCSA administration would be sought in FY 2003.

In addition to the partnership between UTHSCSA and Sunshine Cottage, additional partners include The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), where an expanded applicant pool of certified teachers exist and selected courses in educational methods, culture, language, and linguistics may be cross-listed. In addition, Our Lady of the Lake University, through the Communication and Learning Disorders (i.e., speech pathology) program will provide a new applicant pool for the program. Faculty and administrators from all partner institutions have been discussing educational and research collaborations regarding the MDEHS specifically and regarding the area of Communication Sciences in general for nearly three years, and are very excited about the prospects of establishing a new local resource for the education and training of the next generation of teachers of children with hearing impairments, and for expanded research on the "best practices" for teaching these children.

Dr. James C. Guckian  
March 5, 2002  
Page 2

Pending Coordinating Board approval, in the fifth year of the program there will be 23 students (10 new students enrolled in each year of the first two years of the program, 12 new students enrolled in each year thereafter), 10 faculty members, and one administrative staff person. Space is already available to house the program. We plan to enroll the first MDEHS students in Fall 2002.

The proposal to establish the MDEHS degree program was reviewed and approved by the Health Science Center's Executive Committee on December 7, 2001.

With your approval, we request that you place this proposal for inclusion on The University of Texas Board of Regents May 2002 agenda, and the Health Affairs Committee April 2002 agenda. If approved by the Board of Regents, we respectfully request you forward this proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for consideration at its earliest convenience.

We enclose four copies of the full MDEHS proposal. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dr. Deborah Greene.

Sincerely,

Francisco G. Cigarroa, M.D.  
President

Enclosures

cc: Steven A. Wartman, M.D., Ph.D.  
Deborah L. Greene, Ph.D.  
Marilyn S. Harrington, Ph.D.

**APPROVED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
James C. Guckian, M.D.  
Acting Executive Vice Chancellor  
for Health Affairs

**The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and The University of Texas at San Antonio request approval to offer a Joint Master of Science/Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Engineering (MS/PhD in BME).**

### **Background Information**

In recent years there has been dynamic growth throughout the world, the nation, and Texas in the areas of biotechnology and bioengineering. Consequently, there is a critical need for more trained professionals who can sustain the growth into the foreseeable future.

Biomedicine provides a critical link in developing new approaches to prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of human disease; patient rehabilitation; and for improving public health. The proposed program, jointly administered by The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) and The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA), is designed to support the development of this emerging field. The program will train professionals in the use of biomedical engineering approaches to the investigation of diagnosis and prevention of human disease. The scientific interactions and cooperation between the biomedical engineering and clinical scientists of the two institutions will offer students the opportunity to develop into well-rounded competitive biomedical engineering professionals. Because both biomedical engineering and clinical scientists will participate in the education and training of each student, the graduates from this program will be uniquely trained in the fundamental sciences and engineering related to medicine.

### **Program Description**

The Dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at UTHSCSA and the Dean of Graduate Studies at UTSA will have overall responsibility for the proposed program. A committee, comprised of a Program Director and six faculty (three from each institution), will oversee and implement the policies of the program including curriculum development and review; faculty appointments and reviews; and student admissions.

The educational objectives of the proposed program are to:

- Produce doctoral-level graduates in Biomedical Engineering who have a unique combination of both clinical and engineering training;
- Prepare leaders in bioengineering-related fields for industry, academia, and government;
- Support both institutions' missions to encourage minority participation in advanced scientific study; and
- Produce scientists and engineers that will significantly benefit biotechnology in San Antonio, Texas, and the nation.

The proposed program will require students to complete a minimum of 81 semester credit hours. In addition, students will be required to complete at least four rotations of six weeks each through the various laboratories associated with the program to assist students in deciding upon their area of research concentration (Biomaterials, Biomechanics, or Bioelectronics and Bio-imaging).

### **Program Quality**

The core faculty for the proposed program will consist of 17 tenured/tenure-track professors, nine from UTHSCSA and six from UTSA. These faculty currently offer post-baccalaureate instruction in five schools (Medical, Dental, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Allied Health, and Nursing) within UTHSCSA and two colleges (Engineering and Science) with UTSA. Four additional core faculty, appointed jointly between UTHSCSA and UTSA, will be hired during the first three years of the program. An additional twelve faculty, currently offering graduate-level instruction in related disciplines, will also provide support for the program.

### **Program Cost**

The anticipated cost of the proposed program for the first five years is approximately \$7 million. Costs associated with the program are for new faculty, staffing, graduate assistantships, and equipment. Both institutions will re-allocate existing resources to fund the initial years of the program. It is anticipated that the program will become self-sufficient beginning in the fourth year, with revenues coming from state formula funding and sponsored research grants.



**The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio**  
7703 Floyd Curl Drive San Antonio, Texas 78229-3900

Office of the President - MSC 7834



Phone (210) 567-2000

March 8, 2002

James C. Guckian, MD  
Acting Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs  
The University of Texas System  
601 Colorado Street  
Austin, TX 78701

Edwin Sharpe, PhD  
Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
The University of Texas System  
601 Colorado Street  
Austin, TX 78701

UT System-Academic Affairs

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Dear Dr. Guckian and Dr. Sharpe:

**RE: Joint Master of Science/Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Engineering (MS/PhD in BME)**

Please accept this letter as a request to establish Joint Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Bioengineering (MS/PhD in BME) degree programs at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA) and The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA). The PhD in BME program will be offered jointly through the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at UTHSCSA and the School of Graduate Studies at UTSA. Students will not be enrolled into the MS program, but it will be available for qualified students who have been enrolled into the doctoral program and completed required coursework, but who become unable to complete the requirements for the doctoral degree. Initially, the programs will be administered jointly through the Offices of the Graduate Deans, until such time as a Department of Bioengineering is warranted or until it may be coordinated under the San Antonio Life Sciences Institute that was authorized by the 77<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature.

Development of the PhD program in Biomedical Engineering has been ongoing among faculties of the two institutions since 1998. The partnership of the two institutions will combine the strengths in medicine, dentistry, and biomedical sciences at UTHSCSA with those in engineering, computer science, and biology from UTSA. The educational goals of the program are founded on the belief that the basic scientific approach is critical to the fundamental understanding of human health and the treatment of disease. The proposed program is designed to build on the scientific interactions and cooperation between the biomedical engineers and clinical scientists of the Health Science Center and the faculty of UTSA. The program will have three areas of emphasis and three academic tracks based on the current areas of research strength already present at UTHSCSA and UTSA. The academic tracks include: Biomaterials, Biomechanics, and Bioelectronics and Bio-Imaging. The areas of clinical emphases include: Musculoskeletal, Cardiovascular, and Neuro-Systems.

Dr. Guckian  
Dr. Sharpe  
March 8, 2002  
Page 2

This program address the Coordinating Board's *Closing the Gaps* goal of increasing access to doctoral education for all citizens of Texas, especially to those from the South Texas. There are six bioengineering/biomedical engineering doctoral programs in Texas, none of which is located in the South Texas region. Nor is there a doctoral program in engineering located in the region. The enhanced collaboration between the two institutions also is expected to address the *Closing the Gaps* goal of excellence by furthering research in biomedical engineering.

Support for the program would initially come from reallocated funds from the two institutions, augmented by philanthropic grants. In the third year of program operation, state support through formula funding would begin to support the program. The state funding formula will cover the operational costs of the program. Additional funds will be sought through training and research grants. Program length would be a minimum of 81 semester credit hours. There is no professional program accreditation required for this program.

Pending Coordinating Board approval, in the fifth year of the program, there will be 40 students (8 new students enrolled in each year), 21 faculty members (including the Program Director), 38 research assistants, two teaching assistants, and two administrative staff persons. Space is already available to house the program. Additional space for the program may be added as new research buildings come on line on both campuses. We plan to enroll the first students in Fall 2003.

The multidisciplinary doctoral program in BME has been long awaited by the San Antonio community, whose number one economic driver is the biotechnology and the biosciences. The doctoral program has been endorsed by the Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, among other groups. Faculty and administrators from both partner institutions have been discussing educational and research collaborations in biomedical engineering for nearly four years, and are very excited about the prospects of establishing the new doctoral program for the education and training of the next generation of teachers and researchers of biomedical engineering.

The proposal to establish the PhD in BME degree program has been reviewed and approved by the Graduate Faculty Council at the UTHSCSA and received approval by the Health Science Center's Executive Committee on December 7, 2001. The proposal has also been reviewed and approved by the Graduate Faculty Council, the Faculty Senate, and the University Assembly at UTSA.

With your approval, we request that you place this proposal for inclusion on The University of Texas Board of Regents May 2002 agenda, and the Health Affairs and Academic Affairs Committees April 2002 agendas. If approved by the Board of Regents, we respectfully request you forward this proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for consideration at its earliest convenience.

Dr. Guckian  
Dr. Sharpe  
March 8, 2002  
Page 3

We enclose four copies of the full PhD in BME proposal. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dr. Deborah Greene at UTHSCSA or Dr. Dorothy Flannagan at UTSA.

Sincerely,

Francisco G. Cigarroa, M.D.  
President, The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

Ricardo Romo, PhD  
President, The University of Texas at San Antonio

Enclosures

- Cc: Steven A. Wartman, MD, PhD, Executive Vice President for Academic and Health Affairs, UTHSCSA
- Deborah L. Greene, PhD, Vice President for Academic Administration, UTHSCSA
- Merle Olson, PhD, Interim Dean, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, UTHSCSA
- Guy Bailey, PhD, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, UTSA
- Zorica Pantic-Tanner, PhD, Dean of Engineering, UTSA
- William Scouten, PhD, Dean of Sciences, UTSA
- Dorothy Flannagan, PhD, Interim Dean of Graduate Studies, UTSA
- O.W. Van Auken, PhD, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research, UTSA

**APPROVED:**

Approved Edwin R. Sharpe  
 Exec. Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Date 3-18-02

~~James C. Guckian, M.D.  
 Acting Executive Vice Chancellor  
 for Health Affairs~~

**The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio requests approval for planning authority to develop Masters/Doctoral level Sports Sciences Programs in Collaboration with The University of Texas at San Antonio and The University of Texas at Austin.**

**Background Information**

It is anticipated that the Sports Sciences Programs will become a part of the San Antonio Life Sciences Institute and will link the resources of the three campuses to develop and implement joint educational programs and research in Sport Sciences. Initial efforts will focus on pursuing educational programs in sports psychology, human performance, and sports medicine. The proposed programs will be developed in concert with The Higher Education Coordinating Board's strategic plan, "Closing the Gaps", and will target statewide goals of participation, success, research and excellence. Letters of agreement have been received from the other two components.

HJP  
March 14, 2002  
f:\users\hao\janet\HA Committee Mtgs\HSC-SA Planning Authority Sports Science Program

**The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio**  
7703 Floyd Curl Drive San Antonio, Texas 78229-3900

Office of the President - MSC 7834  
March 12, 2002



Phone (210) 567-2000

Via Facsimile (512) 499-4313 & U.S. Mail  
James C. Guckian, MD  
Acting Executive Vice Chancellor  
for Health Affairs  
The University of Texas System  
O. Henry Hall, #204  
601 Colorado Street  
Austin, Texas 78701

Via Facsimile (512) 499-4240 and U.S. Mail  
Edwin R. Sharpe, PhD  
Executive Vice Chancellor  
for Academic Affairs  
The University of Texas System  
O. Henry Hall, #305  
601 Colorado Street  
Austin, TX 78701

UT System-Academic Affairs

MAR 18 2002  
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to \_\_\_\_\_ for info return  
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Re: Approval for Planning Authority to Develop a Sports Sciences Program

Dear Dr. Guckian and Dr. Sharpe:

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio seeks regental approval for planning authority to develop a Sports Sciences Program in collaboration with The University of Texas at San Antonio and The University of Texas at Austin. It is anticipated that the Sports Sciences Program will become a part of the San Antonio Life Sciences Institute. We therefore request that this item be placed on the agenda of the May 8-9, 2002, Board of Regent's meeting.

The Sports Sciences Program will link the resources of the three campuses to develop and implement joint educational programs and research in the Sports Sciences. The Institute will seek private funding for facilities development. Initial efforts will focus on pursuing educational programs in sports psychology, human performance, and sports medicine.

The leadership of both institutions is very excited about the potential to collaborate on this program. The proposal for this program will be developed in concert with the THHCB's strategic plan, *Closing the Gaps*, and will target statewide goals of participation, success, research and excellence.

I have attached a brief letter from Sheldon Ekland-Olson, from UT Austin, and an e-mail sent by Dr. Romo's Executive Assistant, indicating that both components are in agreement that this item move forward to the May Regent's Agenda. In addition, a letter signed by Dr. Romo indicating his support for further discussion on this program will be forthcoming in the next day or two.

Thank you for your assistance.

**APPROVED:**

Sincerely yours,

**James C. Guckian, M.D.**  
Acting Executive Vice Chancellor  
for Health Affairs

Francisco G. Cigarroa, M.D.  
President

Attachments

Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
Edwin R. Sharpe  
Exec. Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

cc: Dr. Larry R. Faulkner  
Dr. Ricardo Romo

Date 3-18-02

**The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio**  
 7703 Floyd Curl Drive San Antonio, Texas 78229-3910

*Office of the President - MSC 7834*



*Phone (210) 567-2000*

March 5, 2002

James C. Guckian, MD  
 Acting Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs  
 Edwin R. Sharpe, PhD  
 Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
 The University of Texas System  
 602 Colorado Street  
 Austin, Texas 78701-2982

Re: Approval for Planning Authority to Develop a Sports Sciences Program as Part of the San Antonio Life Sciences Institute

Dear Dr. Guckian and Dr. Sharpe:

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio seeks regental approval for planning authority to develop a Sports Sciences Program in collaboration with The University of Texas at San Antonio and The University of Texas at Austin. It is anticipated that the Sports Sciences Program will become a part of the San Antonio Life Sciences Institute. We therefore request that this item be placed on the agenda of the May 8-9, 2002, Board of Regents meeting.

The Sports Sciences Program will link the resources of the three campuses to develop and implement joint degree and research in the Sports Sciences. The Institute will seek private funding for facilities development. Initial efforts will focus on pursuing degree programs in sports psychology, human performance, sports medicine, and sports education.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely yours,

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Francisco G. Cigaretta, MD  
 President, The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Ricardo Luomo, PhD  
 President, The University of Texas at San Antonio

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Larry M. Faulkner, PhD  
 President, The University of Texas at Austin

Encl.

School of Allied Health Sciences • Dental School • Graduate School • Medical School • School of Nursing



EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Main Building 201 • Austin, Texas 78712-1111 • (512) 471-4363 • FAX (512) 471-0577

March 11, 2002

Dr. Francisco G. Cigarroa, President  
The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio  
7703 Floyd Curl Drive  
San Antonio, TX 78229-3900

Dear Francisco:

I write in response to your letter of March 5, 2002 to President Larry R. Faulkner. This will confirm the endorsement of The University of Texas at Austin for the request to the Board of Regents for planning authority to develop a Sports Sciences Program in collaboration with The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and The University of Texas at San Antonio. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Sheldon Ekland-Olson  
Executive Vice President  
and Provost

SEO/sc

cc: President Larry R. Faulkner  
President Ricardo Romo  
Vice President Patricia Ohlendorf  
Deputy to the President Charles Roeckle



**THE UNIVERSITY of TEXAS**  
**HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON**

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March 15, 2002

James C. Guckian, M.D.  
Acting Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs  
The University of Texas System  
601 Colorado Street  
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Dr. Guckian:

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston requests that the Capital Improvement Program be amended to add a project titled, "Repair of the Medical School Building, Phase 2" in the amount of \$50 million. This project will entail buildback and reconfiguration of the basement and ground floor of the Medical School Building. Funding sources will be FEMA and insurance proceeds. As with the \$20 million Phase 1 project approved by the Board of Regents in February of 2002, the institution requests authority to manage the project locally.

The Health Science Center also requests that the \$30 million low interest loan that has been discussed be formalized so that it will have a source of funds to meet cash flow requirements necessitated by the fact that FEMA operates on a reimbursement basis and by delays that have been incurred in obtaining insurance reimbursement. In the longer term, this loan may also be required as a funding source to meet yet to be determined FEMA matching requirements.

#### BACKGROUND

With the Board's approval of the \$20 million Phase 1 portion of this project in February of 2002, the Health Science Center is moving rapidly to restoring the Medical School Building's infrastructure. Concurrently, the Health Science Center is completing architectural programming for the renovation and reconfiguration of space in the basement and ground floors of the Medical School Building. Negotiations with FEMA are progressing rapidly, with \$41 million in repairs to the Medical School Building already authorized and additional projects under review. Approval of this agenda item will position the Health Science Center to move forward to execute the most critical portions of its efforts to recover from Tropical Storm Allison.



Dr. James C. Guckian  
March 15, 2002  
Page 2

It is expected that there will be more requests for amendments to the Capital Improvement Program as final project descriptions and costs are finalized with FEMA and as the scope and allowable costs of mitigation projects are determined.

Sincerely yours,

John Porretto  
Executive Vice President for  
Administration and Finance

**APPROVED:**

**James C. Guckian, M.D.**  
**Acting Executive Vice Chancellor**  
**for Health Affairs**