

TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE
Southmost Union Junior College District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

September 18, 2003

The Board of Trustees of the Southmost Union Junior College District convened in open session September 18, 2003 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room of Gorgas Hall at Texas Southmost College. Board members present were Chester Gonzalez, Chair., Rosemary Breedlove, Vice Chair, Eduardo A. Campirano, Secretary, Mary Rose Cardenas, David Oliveira, Dolly Zimmerman and Dr. Roberto Robles. Also present was Dr. Juliet V. García, President of The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

Regular Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Chester Gonzalez at 5:40 p.m.

1 Approval of minutes of previous meeting

Regular Meeting August 28, 2003

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of August 28, 2003; seconded by Ms. Cardenas; motion carried unanimously.

2 Speakers to Agenda Items & Public Discussion

There were no speakers.

3 Board Briefings

The Office of Premedical Education and Biomedical Research Programs: A health career pathway for UTB/TSC students

Dr. José Martín, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, introduced Dr. Gerson Peltz, faculty member in Biological Sciences, who gave a brief presentation on the establishment of the Premedical Education and Biomedical Research Programs at UTB/TSC. Dr. Peltz stated that this program was created by the Texas Legislature to support and encourage economically disadvantaged students pursuing a medical education.

Dr. Peltz introduced Sandra Gerace, Coordinator for Premedical Education and Biomedical Research Programs. Ms. Gerace reported that the program provides a \$1,000 scholarship per semester, a \$2,000 stipend to attend summer internships, personal assistance, admission to a Texas medical school and medical school scholarship.

NCRR Biomedical Research Facility: An NIH grant proposal

Dr. Martín introduced Dr. Eldon Nelson, Dean of Health Sciences, who narrated a video of the National Institute of Health (NIH) Grant Application for Expansion of Facilities for the Center for Biomedical Studies.

Dr. Nelson explained that the purpose of the Center for Biomedical Studies is to encourage students to consider the many fields of medicine and develop a significant biomedical presence on our campus. Dr. Nelson stated that this project was on the list of proposed projects to be funded by the bond issue, since the funds were not obtained through that method a grant was sought as an alternative to provide funding. He explained that this grant provides the opportunity to fund the costs of design and construction up to four million dollars.

Dr. Nelson introduced Dr. Wayne Moore, Special Assistant to the President, to explain the characteristics of the Biomedical Research Laboratory building plan. Dr. Moore stated that the campus architectural guidelines would be followed. The proposed building would be 16,000 sq. ft.

The Board thanked Dr. Nelson for continuing to look for alternative methods to fund this important project.

4 Business Affairs Partnership Committee

Consideration and possible action on Agreement for Coffeehouse at the Bookstore

Ms. Rosemary Martinez, Vice President of Business Affairs, explained that the current contract for the Coffeehouse at the Bookstore was between Texas Bookstore Company (TBC) and U-Mix. Since the contract with TBC will be terminated on October 17th, a new contract was negotiated with U-Mix and TSC to provide coffeehouse services until October 31, 2004. This date coincides with the length of the current contract between TBC and U-Mix. Ms. Martinez reported that a request for proposals will be prepared next year to award a contract for the coffeehouse at the bookstore.

A motion was made by Dr. Robles to approve Agreement with U-Mix for operation of a Coffeehouse at the Bookstore with a termination date of October 31, 2004 as presented; seconded by Ms. Breedlove; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit "A"

Consideration and possible action on Budget Amendments for Fiscal Year 2003-2004

Ms. Martinez stated that budget amendment #04-001 is to move \$300,000 to ITECC – Incubator; \$1,800,000 to ITECC – General and WTCE; \$66,735 to Cueto House, to adjust for unspent expenses previously budgeted in FY 03; and to move \$26,762 from Property Acquisitions to East Loop Enhancements for projected expenditures.

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve Budget Amendment #04-001 for Fiscal Year 2003-2004 as presented; seconded by Mr. Oliveira; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit "B"

Report: Bookstore Vendor Selection

Ms. Martinez reported that five responses were received to the advertised Request for Proposals for the campus bookstore. Ms. Martinez explained that a Bookstore Proposal Review Committee was assembled with student, staff, faculty, and administrative representation. The Committee participated in the interviews and formulated the final recommendations on the vendors.

Ms. Martinez reported that the two vendors with higher scores were invited for interviews: Follett Higher Education Group and Barnes & Noble Bookstores. Ms. Martinez reported that the committee unanimously recommended Barnes & Noble Bookstore to manage and operate our campus bookstore.

Mr. Oliveira asked if Barnes & Noble is involved in any pending litigation. Mr. Peter B. Plotts, Vice President for Campus Relations for Barnes & Nobles, responded that they are not under any pending litigation.

Ms. Martinez stated that a contract with Barnes & Noble based upon their proposal will be presented to the Board for review as soon as it is complete.

5 Discussion

UTB/TSC Partnership Core Values

Mr. Gonzalez stated that at the previous Board meeting the campus community said goodbye to longtime faculty and staff members who retired at the end of August. Among the retirees there were many who helped define the philosophy and core values that established the Partnership. Mr. Gonzalez acknowledged the importance of UTB/TSC core values and stated that those values should be recognized and carried on. Mr. Gonzalez asked Dr. Garcia to engage the campus community, including the Board of Trustees, in conversation to reinforce these values.

Dr. Garcia stated that in 1991 the UTB/TSC Partnership core values were defined as part of its mission and philosophy. Dr. Garcia explained that many changes have occurred since that time and new ideas have emerged. She recommends that the core values be reviewed and discussed at the Board Retreat to be held September 27, 2003. Dr. Garcia added that with the permission of the Board, the core values should be presented to the community with the help of the student government, staff and faculty senates. Dr. Garcia stated that changes, if any, to the Partnership core values would be presented to the Board for review.

6 Construction Report

Dr. Ronnau narrated a video on campus construction. The video depicted the progress on the University Boulevard (East Loop), along with the Workforce Training and Continuing Education Offices and the Business Incubator at ITECC.

Dr. Moore updated the Board on the progress at the Technical Training Center and the Education and Business Complex. Recent aerial pictures were, also, presented to show the changes and additions to our campus.

7 **President's Report**

Dr. García reported the following:

- ?? The East Loop has been renamed University Boulevard by the City of Brownsville. Dr. García and the Board thanked Mayor Eddie Trevino and the City Commissioners for their cooperation and support of UTB/TSC.
- ?? The Workforce Training and Continuing Education commencement was held on September 17, 2003 at ITECC. There were 524 graduates from the Career Opportunity Retraining Program (CORP), which included air conditioning, refrigeration, auto body, auto mechanics, carpentry, electrical and machine shop. The Ceremony was very touching. It was a powerful testament of the many lives that are affected by Texas Southmost College.
- ?? UTB/TSC served as an early voting site for the Constitutional Amendment Election held on September 8th & 9th. In the two days of early voting 269 votes were cast. Our polling place ranked fifth highest average turnout for all polling places.
- ?? The Richardson Gallery at UTB/TSC will host Noel Palmenez, a multitalented emerging artist. The public is invited to the opening reception for his work on Friday, September 19th from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.
- ?? UTB/TSC is hosting a free grant writing seminar. The seminar is presented by the National Institute of Health and the National Institute of General Medical Sciences. The presenters will be Dr. Anthony M. Coelho, Jr. and Dr. David C. Morrison. The seminars will take place on September 18th and 19th, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the SETB Lecture Hall.
- ?? Approximately 2000 people attended the free viewing of the planet mars held on our campus August 27th and 28th. Dr. García thanked the ENLACE project, student mentors, physics professors, and Dr. Mario Diaz for their cooperation to make this event possible. It was well received by the public.
- ?? Gov. Rick Perry appointed Dr. Alma Gloria Leal, Professor of Counseling and Guidance, to the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors. Dr. García congratulated Dr. Leal on her appointment.
- ?? The UTB/TSC Political Science Honor Society has been selected to receive the "Best Chapter Award" for 2003. Dr. Angelika Soldan serves as faculty advisor to the Chapter. Other societies receiving the recognition include Brigham Young University, Purdue University, and California State University.

?? The Exceptional Merit Ceremony will be held on September 19, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. at the Student Union Ballroom. It is held each year to recognize UTB/TSC faculty and staff who have performed meritoriously.

?? UTB/TSC Enrollment has increased seven percent over last fall. More than 10,600 students enrolled this fall at UTB/TSC, as compared to 9,974 students in fall 2002. Dr. García congratulated Ms. Linda Fossen and all involved for helping to make this enrollment increase possible.

8 Proposed Meeting Dates

Board of Trustees Meetings:

September 27, 2003 – Retreat

October 23, 2003

November 20, 2003

December 18, 2003

Partnership Committee Meetings:

AAPC - October 7, 2003

BAPC – October 16, 2003

IEPC - October 7, 2003

SAPC – September 25, 2003

9 Announcements

There were no announcements.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Gonzalez at 7:24 p.m.

Chester Gonzalez, Chair
Board of Trustees
Southmost Union Junior College District

Eduardo A. Campirano, Secretary
Board of Trustees
Southmost Union Junior College District

NOTE: The tape of the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting held on September 18, 2003, is on file in the District Office of Texas Southmost College. The master tape is on file in the Media Center. These minutes were taken and transcribed Mary G. Hernandez. Video taping of the Board of Trustees Meetings began April 11, 1996. They are aired on Channel 21 in cooperation with the Brownsville Independent School District.