

**TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE**  
**Southmost Union Junior College District**

Minutes of the **Regular** Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
January 20, 2005

The Board of Trustees of the Southmost Union Junior College District convened in open session January 20, 2005 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room of Gorgas Hall at Texas Southmost College. Board members present were Mr. Chester Gonzalez, Chairman, Rosemary Breedlove, Vice Chair. Mr. Eduardo A. Campirano, Secretary, Ms. Mary Rose Cardenas, Ms. Dolly Zimmerman and Dr. Roberto Robles. Absent was Mr. David Oliveira. 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 Chairman Gonzalez at 5:33 p.m.

- 1**     **Executive Session** as provided by Government Code, Chapter 551.071-551.076, 551.082-551.084

**Discussion on** 20 Hectares in Novillo  
Canyon  
**Contract** and Resolution for Purchase of  
Fort Brown Villas Phase II, Unit 13F,  
Brownsville, Texas

**The Board convened in Executive Session at 5:34 p.m.**

**The Board reconvened in regular session at 6:02 p.m.**

**2 Consideration and possible action on matters discussed in Executive Session**

**Consideration and possible action on  
Contract and Resolution for Purchase of  
Fort Brown Villas Phase II, Unit 13F,  
Brownsville, Texas**

**A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the Contract and Resolution for Purchase of Fort Brown Villa Phase II, Unit 13F in the amount of \$38,000; seconded by Ms. Zimmerman as presented; motion carried unanimously.  
EXHIBIT "A"**

**3 Approval of minutes of previous meetings**

**Consideration and possible action on  
Regular Meeting December 16, 2004**

**A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 16, 2004 as presented; seconded by Ms. Cardenas; motion carried unanimously.**

**4 Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion**

There were no speakers.

**5 Board Briefing**

**Pre-K to College: Community Outreach**

Dr. José Martín, Provost, introduced Dr. Carl Stockton, Dean of the School of Education. Dr. Stockton made a presentation on pre-kindergarten through college community outreach programs at UTB/TSC. Dr. Stockton stated that the goal of the outreach programs is to improve student achievement by raising academic standards, conduct appropriate assessments, improve teacher quality, and smooth the transitions from one level of learning to the next.

Dr. Stockton reported that UTB/TSC has 28 outreach initiatives which are funded by federal, state, private and local entities. These initiatives impact over 976 teachers and 90,622 students in 12 independent school districts in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

Dr. Robles stated that one of the outreach initiatives that has a great impact among elementary students is Kids Voting USA. The goal of Kids Voting is to get children involved in the political process at a young age. Forty-three thousand students participated in Kids Voting during the last presidential election. Reports indicate that Brownsville was first in student participation in the United States.

Mr. Campirano requested that early childhood literature programs at UTB/TSC be a board briefing topic for a future board meeting.

Ms. Zimmerman thanked Dean Stockton for his report. She stated that the dual enrollment option saves parents a lot of money in tuition and helps students graduate faster.

## **6 Heritage Plan**

### **Consideration and possible action on Adopting Resolution Granting Certain Tax Exemptions to Certain Historic Sites Under the 2005 Heritage Plan**

Dr. John Ronnau, Vice President for Administration and Partnership Affairs, stated that the resolution is in keeping with the District's commitment to the preservation of historic properties in the area. The amount of tax exemption to be granted by the District would be approximately \$4,378.

**A motion was made by Dr. Robles to adopt the resolution granting certain tax exemptions to certain historic sites under the 2005 Heritage Plan as presented; seconded by Ms. Cardenas; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit "B"**

## **7 Business Affairs Partnership Committee**

### **Consideration and possible action on SUJCD Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2004-2005**

Mr. Campirano reported that the Business Affairs Partnership Committee met January 11<sup>th</sup>. The Committee reviewed the following:

Budget Amendment #05-004 adjusts the budget to reflect expenses previously budgeted in FY 2004 in the amount of \$2,444,435 for ITECC, Technical Training Center and Master Plan expenses.

**A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve Budget Amendments #05-004 as presented; seconded by Ms. Breedlove; motion carried. Exhibit "C"**

Mr. Campirano also reported that the committee heard a presentation regarding the proposed Compulsory and Incidental Fees for FY 2005-2006. A detailed report on the proposed fees will be provided under the Student Affairs Partnership Committee agenda item.

## **8 Student Affairs Partnership Committee**

### **Report**

Ms. Zimmerman reported that the Student Affairs Partnership Committee met on January 13<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Zimmerman introduced Dr. Hilda Silva, Vice President for Student Affairs, to provide a report on the proposed fees for FY 2005-2006.

Dr. Silva presented a graph that shows a comparison of tuition and fees for UTB/TSC and peer institutions. She reported that even with the proposed increase, UTB/TSC will have the lowest tuition of all UT Components.

Dr. Silva reported that the Committee approved setting a flat tuition rate for students taking more than 15 credit hours. The proposed flat tuition rate will encourage students to take a bigger course load, thus reducing the time to graduation.

Dr. Silva also reported that approximately \$300,000 of the proposed fees will be used to create a Student Employment Initiative. This program will be similar to work-study but not need based. To be eligible for employment students must enroll in at least 12 semester credit hours, maintain a 3.00 GPA and work in a job related to retention (e.g. peer mentor, peer facilitator or peer tutor).

Chairman Gonzalez thanked Dr. Silva for her presentation. He encouraged students to take a bigger course load so that they can graduate sooner.

Ms. Zimmerman stated that as per our Partnership Concordance Policy these fees will be assessed to Texas Southmost College students at the same rate. **Exhibit "D"**

Ms. Zimmerman reported that the Committee also heard a presentation by Mr. Vincent Solis, Assistant Vice President for Student Development, on the Leadership and Mentorship Program and the new Mini-Recreational Center recently named "Scorpion Body Shop".

## **9 Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Committee**

### **Report**

Ms. Breedlove reported that the Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Committee (IEPC) met on Tuesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. Members present were Ms. Dolly Zimmerman,

Mr. Bill Harris, Dr. John Ronnau, Ms. Delvia Jefferies and Ms. Bebe Crooks. Also present were Mr. Chester Gonzalez, Dr. Juliet V. Garcia, Dr. Jose Martin, Dr. Ruth Ann Ragland, Mr. Doug Ferrier, Dr. Mrinal Mudgh and Ms. Nati Hinojosa. Ms. Breedlove reported that Dr. Martin engaged the committee in a discussion regarding measures of success for our community university. Dr. Martin referred to these important measures as institutional “vital signs”.

Mrs. Breedlove noted that Dr. García gave examples of retention and student progress, important indicators of success for our campus. She stated that the Committee agreed that the topic of vital signs deserves much consideration. Mrs. Breedlove reported that Dr. Geri Malandra, Associate Vice Chancellor for Accountability and Institutional Improvement at UT System, will be invited to the next meeting of the IEPC to join in the discussion.

## **10 First Quarter Financial and Investment Report**

The First Quarter Financial and Investment Reports for SUJCD were presented by Ms. Melba Sanchez, TSC District Comptroller. The report was for informational purposes only and required no action. **Exhibit “E”**

## **11 Construction Report**

Dr. Ronnau narrated a video of current construction on campus. He reported the following:

- The Mexican Consulate is now housed at the ITECC. The Consul and his staff began offering services in their new location on January 3, 2005.
- Thanks to a partnership between the Divisions of Business Affairs and Student Affairs, new stadium lights were installed to make the Scorpion Field ready for night games.
- University Boulevard is now illuminated by ornamental poles and lights. The upgraded lights were provided by Brownsville Public Utility Board who in partnership with UTB/TSC and the City provided several improvements to University Boulevard.
- Construction for the Fort Brown Memorial Golf Course Club House is on schedule.

Dr. Wayne Moore, Assistant to the President for New Construction, provided an update on construction of the Education Business Complex. He reported completion for Education Business Complex is scheduled for the first Summer Session 2005.

## 12 President's Report

*Dr. García reported the following:*

- The current position of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs was divided as of January 10, 2005. Dr. José Martín has assumed his new responsibilities as Provost. Dr. Ruth Ann Ragland was promoted to Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. García congratulated Dr. Jose Martin and Dr. Ragland.
- Ms. Mary Sullivan and Dr. Rafael Otero have been appointed to serve as Co-Deans for the School of Business. Dr. García congratulated Ms. Sullivan and Dr. Otero on their appointments.
- UTB/TSC paid tribute to the life of Martin Luther King on Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> in the Lecture Hall of the Science and Engineering Technology Building. Keynote speaker was Dr. Edith Irby Jones, the first African American student to attend the University of Arkansas School of Medicine.
- UTB/TSC's Mariachi Escorpión, under the direction of Antonio Briseño, Associate Professor of Fine Arts, performed in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> during the Pre-Inauguration of President George W. Bush. Dr. García congratulated the Mariachi Escorpión for this great honor.
- UTB/TSC received a \$350,000 grant from the Texas Workforce Commission. The funds will be used to train 150 newly hired employees and upgrade the skills of 300 incumbent employees at AMFELS.
- UTB/TSC's Spring 2005 enrollment is 11,988 compared to 10,954 in Spring 2004.
- The 2005 Scorpion Baseball Team will compete against alumni in an exhibition game on Saturday, January 22 at 6 p.m. The Scorpion Field Lights Up event will provide the Scorpion baseball alumni an opportunity to reunite with teammates and meet the 2005 Scorpions. Mr. Eddie Campirano, a former member of the Scorpion Baseball Team, will be throwing the first pitch.
- The Arts and Entertainment Spring Season began January 14<sup>th</sup> with the musical drama "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change".
- Texas Southmost College is seeking nominations for the 2005 TSC Distinguished Alumnus Award. The public is invited to submit names of deserving candidates for the award.

- UTB/TSC's One O'clock Jazz Band will be performing Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at ITECC Courtyard. Proceeds will go to Casa Amparo and Nuestra Senora de Refugio Orphanage.

### **13 Proposed Meeting Dates**

#### **Board of Trustees Meetings:**

January 22, 2005 - Workshop

February 17, 2005

March 22, 2005

April 21, 2005

May 26, 2005

Mr. Gonzalez reviewed the dates with the Board.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Gonzalez at 7:34 p.m.

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Mr. Chester Gonzalez  
Chairman, Board of Trustees  
Southmost Union Junior College District

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

**NOTE:** The tape of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held on January 20, 2005, is on file at the District Office of the Southmost Union Junior College District. The master tape is on file at the UTB/TSC Media center. These minutes were taken and transcribed by Alma B. Solis. Videotaping of the Board of Trustees' meetings began on April 11, 1996. They are aired on Channel KISD in cooperation with the Brownsville Independent School District.