

# PHYSICAL FACILITIES

**S**afe, comfortable, attractive, and well-maintained buildings are critical to fulfilling the mission of any university. UTB/TSC strives to provide such an environment for its students, faculty, and staff. The dynamic process of maintenance, renovation and new construction is ongoing and critical to meeting the needs of our growing enrollment.

## CAMPUS GROWTH

Our community university was founded in 1926 as the Junior College of the Lower Rio Grande Valley. It became Texas Southmost College in 1949. In 1992, a partnership was established with The University of Texas to create The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College (UTB/TSC). With those changes has come dramatic growth in enrollment, the size of the campus and its facilities.

Prior to 1985, the campus consisted of 50 acres. Today, it encompasses 380 acres. Several buildings have been added to meet the needs of the growing enrollment. In the past two years, the Life and Health Sciences and Student Union buildings were completed. The 97,000 square-foot Education and Business Complex is under construction and is scheduled for completion in spring 2005. It will house the Schools of Education and Business.

## STUDENT HOUSING

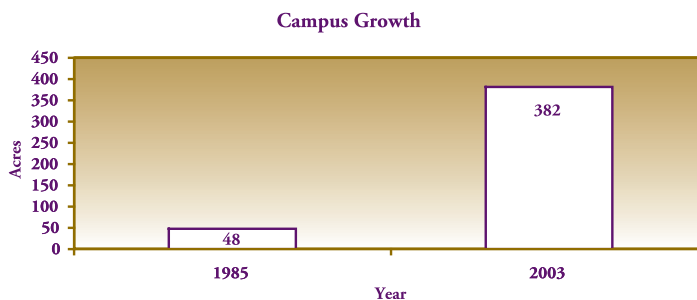
Responding to the need for student housing on campus, Texas Southmost College purchased the former hotel properties on the Fort Brown Peninsula. What was previously a hotel has been transformed into The Village at Fort Brown, a modern and inviting student housing complex. After only one semester, the facility is at full occupancy, with more than 200 students enjoying the benefits of campus living.

## ITEC CAMPUS

The Texas Southmost College Board of Trustees recognized that facilities on the main campus could not keep pace with the growing enrollment, so when an opportunity arose to substantially increase the space available for classrooms and other programs at a very affordable price, the moment was seized. The former Amigoland Mall is being transformed into the International Technology, Education and Commerce Campus. Less than a month after its purchase, workforce training classes were being offered in spaces that formerly housed retail operations. In addition, major renovations are under way to provide space for:

- International Business Incubation Center
- Workforce Training and Continuing Education Programs
- UTB/TSC Technical Training Programs
- Brownsville Economic Development Council

These projects are only the first signs of how the ITEC Campus, which includes more than 40 acres and 3,000 parking spaces, will help UTB/TSC fulfill its mission to meet the needs for higher education in the region.



## DID YOU KNOW?

- ★ *UTB/TSC has the highest space utilization ratio (number of people to square feet of building space) of all components in the UT System.*