



TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE DISTRICT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT BROWNSVILLE and TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE

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Texas Southmost College District

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Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

March 27, 2008

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on March 27, 2008, at 5:30 p.m., in the Board Room of Gorgas Hall, Texas Southmost College. Board members present were Mr. Chester Gonzalez, Chair, Ms. Rosemary Breedlove, Vice Chair, Mr. Eduardo A. Campirano, Secretary, Dr. Roberto Robles and Mr. José A. Herrera, Jr. Absent were Ms. Dolly Zimmerman and Mr. David Oliveira. Also present was Dr. Juliet V. García, President of The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

Call to Order

1. Executive Session

as provided by Government
Code, Chapter 551.071-072

Real Estate

Electric Utility Easement to the
Brownsville Public Utilities Board
for the New Library and Classroom
Building

Legal Matters

Review of Recent Legal Actions
Involving Texas Southmost College

The Board convened in Executive Session at 5:35 p.m.

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 6:30 p.m.

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

Electric Utility Easement to the Brownsville Public Utilities Board for the New Library and Classroom Building

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve Electric Utility Easement to the Brownsville Public Utilities Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herrera and carried unanimously. *Exhibit "A"*

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Consideration and possible action on Minutes of Regular Meeting on February 14, 2008 Special Meeting on March 06, 2008 Special Meeting on March 20, 2008

A motion was made by Mr. Breedlove to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 14, 2008, the Special Meeting of March 06, 2008, and Special Meeting of March 20, 2008. The motion seconded by Mr. Herrera and motion carried unanimously.

4. Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion

There were no speakers.

5. Acceptance of Gift

Dr. Ruth Ann Ragland, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, announced the acceptance of a gift for the Green Room at the Arts Center from James D. and Gloria Zellerbach. She called on Dr. Sue Zanne Urbis, Chair of Fine Arts Department, to give a brief biography of the donors and to inform the Board of the support the Zellerbachs have given to our students and the Patron of the Arts Programs at UTB/TSC for the last 25 years.

6. Board Briefing

Dr. José Martin, Provost, gave a brief summary of the work of the Strategic Planning Committee. He called on Dr. Ethel Cantu, Interim Dean for Liberal Arts, to present the Strategic Plan. Dean Cantu identified the members of the committee and informed the Board of the campus-wide representation involved in this initiative. She discussed the terminology that guided the Committee through the process, and

informed the Board that it will continue to meet until a final version of the plan is approved.

7. Academic Affairs Partnership Committee

Report

Ms. Rosemary Breedlove reported that the Academic Affairs Partnership Committee met on March 19, 2008. Ms. Breedlove reported that UTB/TSC received approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for a Bachelor in Public Service degree program and that the THECB has asked us to move toward a Master of Arts in Psychology program. She also reported a number of other baccalaureate and masters program requests have been approved by UT System but are still under review by the Coordinating Board. Finally, the AAPC presented seven new certificate and associate level programs that require TSC Board approval and called on Dr. Charles Dameron, Vice President of Academic Affairs, to present the committee's recommendations.

Consideration and possible action on Approval of New Academic Programs.

Dr. Dameron, provided an overview of the recommendations made by AAPC for new programs. He called on Dr. Peter Gawenda, Interim Dean for College of Applied Technology and General Studies, to present five certificate and degree proposals. Dr. Gawenda provided a brief summary of the five certificate and degree proposals pertaining to the College of Applied Technology and General Studies. In addition, Dr. Ethel Cantu, Interim Dean for Liberal Arts, outlined two programs in forensics pertaining to the College of Liberal Arts.

A motion was made by Mr. Campirano to approve the new programs as presented and direct the Vice President for Academic Affairs to forward them to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herrera and carried unanimously.
"Exhibit B"

8. Business Affairs Partnership Committee

Report

Mr. Eduardo Campirano reported that the Business Affairs Partnership Committee met on March 24, 2008. Mr. Campirano noted that the committee discussed the TSC Trustee Scholarship and the dollars spent for this purpose this academic year. The committee also discussed the Auditor Contract Renewal and the Insurance Policy Renewal. The committee reviewed and recommended the following item:

**Consideration and possible action on
Authorization for Disposition of Items at Annual Auction.**

Mr. Campirano reported that the committee discussed the authorization for disposition of items at the annual auction. The Business Office staff collects assets that are obsolete and of no value to the College. Staff is requesting approval to dispose of these items at the annual auction scheduled for May.

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to authorize staff to dispose of items at annual auction as discussed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herrera and carried unanimously. "Exhibit C"

9. Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Committee

Report

Ms. Rosemary Breedlove reported that the Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Committee met on March 4, 2008. The Committee received a draft of the Institutional Effectiveness plan, which covers a number of areas, including: the Mission Statement, the Strategic Plan, institutional governing documents, student learning outcomes, the Quality Enhancement Plan, administrative and supportive services, Dual Enrollment, contractual agreements, and research. The Committee was also provided with the goals, strategic directions, and performance indicators that guide our Strategic Plan. Ms. Breedlove reported that the Strategic Planning Committee is in the final stages of assessing performance indicators, and will prepare a timeline to assess progress. Upon completion of the 2008-2012 Strategic Plan, the Committee will present the plan to the Board for final approval. The committee also discussed the Quality Enhancement Plan, a requirement of the SACS process. The topic of our QEP is "The Power of Two: Improving Student Success through Linked General Education Courses." The goal of the QEP, which involves pairing courses in English and Biology, is to develop students' communication skills while improving learning outcomes.

10. Physical Facilities Committee

Report

Ms. Rosemary Breedlove reported that the Physical Facilities Committee met on March 20, 2008, to consider naming for The Arts Center and the negotiated contract with RGV Paint Center and Construction for the Center for Early Childhood Studies. The committee reviewed and recommended the following three items:

**Consideration and possible action on
Adoption of Resolution for the Naming of The Arts Center Green Room
honoring Gloria and James D. Zellerbach.**

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to adopt a resolution for the Naming of The Arts Center Green Room honoring Gloria and James D. Zellerbach as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. "Exhibit D"

**Consideration and possible action on
Naming Opportunities for the The Arts Center.**

Ms. Breedlove reported that the second element of this item is to approve the levels of naming opportunities elsewhere in The Arts Center. Ms. Breedlove called on Dr. Ruth Ann Ragland, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, to give a brief presentation of the naming opportunities. Dr. Ragland defined the different levels of naming opportunities pertaining to The Arts Center interior spaces ranging from \$300,000 to \$25,000.00.

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the levels of naming opportunities for The Arts Center as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robles and carried unanimously. "Exhibit E"

**Consideration and possible action on
Negotiated Contract with RGV Paint Center and Construction for Center
for Early Childhood Studies.**

Ms. Breedlove reported that the next item by the PFC was the Negotiated Contract with RGV Paint Center and Construction for the Center for Early Childhood Studies. She reported how the cost for the Center for Early Childhood Studies had originally been more than \$1 million over budget. The TSC Board rejected the price and pursued other avenues for construction of this project.

Ms. Breedlove reported that the TSC Board requested competitive sealed proposals for construction services in an attempt to attract local contractors and to get a more competitive price. Proposals were received in December 2007. RGV Construction was determined to be the best value for the College. The price was \$4,379,680, and on February 14, 2008, the TSC Board authorized staff to enter negotiations with RGV to bring the project within budget.

Ms. Breedlove reported that a review team organized by Ms. Veronica Mendez, Assistant Vice President for Planning and Construction, had reviewed the Center for Early Childhood Studies project budget and the recommended the negotiated contract with RGV Paint Center and Construction.

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to award the contract to RGV Paint Center and Construction in the amount of \$3,422,611 and authorize the Assistant Vice President for Planning and Construction to execute the contract. The motion was seconded by Mr. Herrera and carried unanimously. "Exhibit F"

11. Construction Report

Dr. Pearson reported the following:

- The 2,700 square foot north wing of the Cavalry Building, are currently under construction for the Center for Gravitational Wave Astronomy. The wall studs are up and the sheetrock is being applied. The facility includes a large seminar classroom, seven faculty-sized offices, as well as a director's office, several storage and work rooms, and a large reception area.
- The new parking areas are under construction in the 21st and 24th areas of Jackson St. The lots will contain a total of 400 parking spaces.
- Renovation has started on the Commandant's Quarters. Additional supports for the facility are being installed, interior renovations have begun.

Ms. Mendez reported the following:

- The entire foundation for the first floor of the New Classroom is complete.
- The foundation for the first floor of the New Library is being poured.
- Construction at the REK Center continues to make progress. Water-proofing is being applied preparatory to the installation of brick.
- All the interior walls are done at the REK Center and work continues on electrical work, mechanical system, air conditioning, and the sprinkler system.
- Exterior approach to the ITECC has been completely demolished. The asphalt has been removed and crews are proceeding with the landscape work.
- The ITECC interior has had concrete poured inside for the classrooms. The mechanical and duct work are continuing.
- The site has been cleared for the Groundbreaking of The Arts Center.

12. President's Report

Dr. García reported the following:

- UTB/TSC just received a grant for \$99,750 from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to offer a summer bridge program for over 100 South Texas high school dual enrollment students. Students will take three classes for a total of seven credits during Summer 1. Students will attend classes in learning communities guided by tutors and mentors. They will attend workshops to

learn about career planning, time, stress, financial management, and study skills. Local high schools have agreed to provide transportation, books, and testing for high school program participants. This program will prepare these students academically, socially, and culturally for success in higher education. Last year's 399 dual summer-bridge students achieved an average GPA of 3.4 and 97% were retained throughout the program. The university held a reunion on campus for last year's participants.

- The Texas Chess Association (TCA) Chess in Education Workshop, March 8, 2008, in Houston. The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College Chess Director Rusty Harwood showcased the city's chess explosion and the university's integral role in its success. Mr. Harwood's presentation discussed the scholastic chess boom in the Brownsville area and how to help duplicate that success elsewhere. Some of that success includes six Brownsville ISD schools taking more than 10 national titles and two BISD elementary students who train with UTB/TSC students and staff tied for the individual national championship. The hope was that those attending the conference would learn or become better informed about the phenomenon in Brownsville and the Rio Grande Valley, that this is something special, and that the attendees would come away with some ideas for building a successful chess program where they lived. At the conference was Grandmaster Susan Polgar from Texas Tech University. UTB/TSC, Texas Tech University, and UTD were co-sponsor participants for the Texas Chess Association.
- The UTB/TSC Criminal Justice Institute held its graduation ceremony on March 7, 2008, in the Science and Engineering Technology Lecture Hall. The keynote speaker was Brownsville City Manager Charlie Cabler, a retired police officer. The 15 cadets in the spring graduating class recently passed their Texas State Law Enforcement Exams. Six cadets from the graduating class are already employed by the Brownsville Police Department. Others are applying to law enforcement agencies throughout the Rio Grande Valley. The Criminal Justice Institute is located in the Workforce Training wing of UTB/TSC's International Technology, Education, and Commerce Campus.
- The seventh annual UTB/TSC Guitar Ensemble Festival returns this week for four days of concerts, performances and competition. UTB/TSC Guitar Orchestra performed at the festival in the Science and Engineering Technology Building Lecture Hall. Ensemble competitions are being held for college students, professionals, and high school, middle school, and elementary school students. Guitar professors Scott Tennant and William Kanengiser of the University of Southern California will perform for two days. Scott Tennant will perform tonight in SETB Lecture Hall, at 8:00 p.m. Tennant has recorded with famous labels like Sony Classical and Deutsche Grammophon and has been praised by American Record Guide. William Kanengiser has won numerous prizes for his guitar work, including first prizes at the New York Concert Artists Guild in 1987 and in the Montreal Competition in 1981 and Paris in 1983. Kanengiser will perform on March 28, 2008, in SETB Lecture Hall at 8:00 p.m. The Los Angeles Guitar Quartet will perform on March 29, 2008, at 8:00

p.m. in SETB Lecture Hall. The performances will consist of jazz, popular, folkloric, and classical music.

- The upcoming 10th annual Symphony in the Park and All That Jazz, benefiting the Brownsville Literacy Center's "Be a Hero for Literacy" annual campaign, will feature "A World of Music," at the UTB/TSC Student Union- Anniversary Plaza on April 12, 2008 at 6:00 pm. Scheduled to perform are the UTB/TSC Symphony Orchestra, the Wind Ensemble, the Master Chorale and the One O'Clock Jazz Band.
- Brownsville Federal Judge Andrew Hanen dismissed a civil action suit Wednesday, March 19, 2008, against The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College after the University and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security reached an agreement regarding access to University property. The University has pursued an agreement with DHS that would allow the agency to proceed with its goal of better securing the border while at the same time allowing the university to preserve the integrity of its educational mission. The agreement, negotiated between DHS officials and attorneys with the UT System and Texas Southmost College, was presented at a scheduled hearing in the U.S. District Court in Brownsville.

13. Proposed Meeting Dates

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Thursday, June 26, 2008

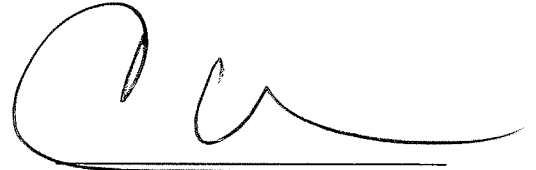
July 2008 No Meeting

14. Announcements


Dr. David Pearson introduced Ms. Kim Sanchez as the new Operations and Services Manager for the TSC District Office.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Vice Chair Breedlove at 8:35 p.m.



Mr. Chester Gonzalez
Chairman, Board of Trustees



Mr. Eduardo A. Campirano
Secretary, Board of Trustees

NOTE: The tape of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held on March 27, 2008 is on file at the District Office of the Texas Southmost College District. The master tape is on file at the UTB/TSC Media center. These minutes were taken and transcribed by Max E. Roca, Administrative Secretary. 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.