

# 2012

## Year In Review

OF THE PROGRESS AT  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM  
AND U.T. INSTITUTIONS

[WWW.UTSYSTEM.EDU/YEAR-IN-REVIEW](http://WWW.UTSYSTEM.EDU/YEAR-IN-REVIEW)

*The 2012 Year in Review is a compilation of major achievements and a number of significant activities underway at the University of Texas System Administration and UT institutions*



THE UNIVERSITY of TEXAS SYSTEM  
*Nine Universities. Six Health Institutions. Unlimited Possibilities.*



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# JANUARY, 2012

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## 1. Chancellor's Technology Commercialization Advisory Council created to assist UT System in becoming a leader in commercializing discoveries:

In January 2012, Chancellor Cigarroa appointed 13 business leaders to serve on the Chancellor's Technology Commercialization Advisory Council. The Advisory Council was created to assist in implementing the UT System mission related to translating discoveries from UT institutions for the benefit of society. Council members include:

- David G. Booth; Dimensional Fund Advisors
- Clint Bybee; ARCH Venture Partners
- Ernest H. Cockrell; Cockrell Interests, Inc.
- Jonathan Fleming; Oxford Biosciences
- J. William Gurley; Benchmark Capital
- Thomas J. Meredith; MFI Capital
- James J. Mulva; ConocoPhillips
- Ron Nixon; The Catalyst Group
- Robert B. Rowling; TRT Holdings, Inc.
- Charles W. Tate; Capital Royalty
- Ralph B. Thomas; Fayez Sarofim & Co.
- John D. Thornton; Austin Ventures
- Rex Tillerson; ExxonMobil Corporation

Recommendations based upon the input from the advisory council and the Board's Technology Transfer and Commercialization Committee will be provided to the Board of Regents in February 2013 to enhance UT System effectiveness in translating discoveries to the benefit of society.

## 2. UT System plays key role in III5 Medicaid Waiver program for Texas:

In January 2012 the Texas Health and Human Services Commission asked the UT System to play a major role in the III5 Medicaid Waiver project because of its experience in quality improvement and access to care. Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs Ken Shine assembled a team, including outside counsel, to work on the project, which the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services considered a potential model for the country. The UT System hosted a meeting on January 31, 2012, in which the Commissioner of HHSC and his key staff met with the leadership of UT institutions and other systems to work on additional details.

### 3. Finish@UT launches; offers adults with two years of college an opportunity to complete their degrees online:

In February 2012, Finish@UT, a new online bachelor's degree completion program, was launched to offer previous college students a flexible path to completion of an undergraduate degree. Four UT System institutions are presently participating. Students can earn a bachelor of science in university studies through UT Arlington, a bachelor of multidisciplinary studies through UT El Paso or UT Brownsville, or a bachelor of arts in humanities through UT Permian Basin. The program allows students to combine classes from all four institutions to earn an accredited four-year degree. As of September 2012, 1,600 students were enrolled in the program.

*Note: More than 34,000 individuals in Texas have completed two years of college but do not have a degree.*

### 4. Record-breaking year for fundraising; up 21.3 % over previous year in cash and commitments for a total of \$1.25 billion:

As reported to the Board in February 2012, philanthropic gifts to the 15 UT System institutions reached an all-time high of \$1.12 billion in cash and pledge commitments during Fiscal Year 2011. In particular, cash received gifts increased 21.3% over the previous year, with a record number of more than 226,000 alumni and individuals making gifts. While nationally economic growth climbed only 1.7% in 2011, UT institutions realized more gifts from all sources including corporations and foundations.

In 2011, the Board authorized an allocation of \$10 million to allow the UT System to make strategic investments in strengthening campus fundraising operations. This followed a \$5 million investment by the Board in the recent past.

As will be reported to the Board in February 2013, fundraising totals for FY 2012 represent yet another all-time high in philanthropy to the UT System. Overall giving exceeded \$1.25 billion, an increase of 11.8 percent over the previous record-breaking year of \$1.12 billion.

### 5. UT San Antonio student-faculty startup to prevent aneurysm leaks wins UT System Horizon Fund student investment competition:

In February 2012, UTSA student-faculty startup, Cardiovate, a technology start-up that offers a new and much-needed cardiovascular stent-graft to prevent aneurysm leakage following cardiovascular surgeries, won the 2011-12 UT System Horizon Fund student investment competition.

Cardiovate is led by UTSA alumna Jordan Kaufmann, Ph.D.; UTSA College of Engineering Dean Mauli Agrawal; and UTHSC - San Antonio Division Chief for Cardiology Steven Bailey, M.D. Dr. Kaufmann developed the stent-graft as part of her doctoral research in biomedical engineering with Drs. Agrawal and Bailey.

## 6. Regents Establish Outstanding Student Awards in Arts and Humanities; first recipients named:

In February 2012, the Board approved the establishment of an award program to recognize outstanding student achievement through artistic expression. Each year, individual students and student groups will apply for awards in one of four areas:

- musical arts,
- visual arts,
- poetry writing, and
- short essays.

At the May 2012 meeting, the Board recognized Joseph Choi of UT Austin for individual achievement in the musical arts (piano) and Jonathon Pearson Altizer, Stephanie Chung and Angela Park of the Hill Country Reed Trio of UT Austin for performance by a student group. The 2013 award will be for outstanding achievement in the visual arts, and winners will be announced in May.

## 7. Additional funding for UT System Research Incentive Program (UTRIP); assists in leveraging philanthropic support with gains of 114 percent:

Established by the Board in 2009, following successful results of the Texas Research Incentive Program (TRIP) created by the 81st Texas Legislature, UTRIP provides one-time matching funds to assist the four UT System emerging research institutions designated by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (UT Arlington, UT Dallas, UT El Paso, and UT San Antonio) in leveraging private gifts for the enhancement of research productivity and faculty recruitment.

UTRIP offers incentive funding to stimulate higher level, transformational philanthropic gifts directed toward research funding, and it offers incentives ranging from 10 percent for gifts at the \$500,000 level, all the way to a \$2.5 million incentive match for gifts of \$5 million or more.

On October 12, 2009, the Board appropriated \$10,000,000 of PUF Bond proceeds to provide one-time matching funds through UTRIP to assist the four UT System institutions, identified above, in leveraging private gifts for the enhancement of research productivity

and faculty recruitment. According to the Texas Constitution, PUF Bond Proceeds may only be used to fund capital and equipment items related to the educational mission of the UT System and its institutions.

In February 2012, the Board approved appropriation of an additional \$10 million of Permanent University Fund Bond (PUF) Proceeds for Fiscal Year 2012. Since the inception of UTRIP, the four emerging research institutions in the UT System have garnered \$48.6 million in gifts, augmented by \$37.3 million in TRIP matches and an additional \$18.3 million in UTRIP incentives, resulting in a total of \$104.2 million directed to research. Between the State's and System's incentive programs, this represents an increase of 114% in research support.

8. **Access to Secure Data Repository for Research; enables researchers from multiple institutions access to greater high performance computing and ability to conduct research using larger data sets:**

At the November 2010 Board of Regents' meeting, the Board approved a \$23 million allocation to support System-wide computing capabilities, including the following initiatives: 1) a high bandwidth inter-institution network, 2) access to high-end computing and visualization resources at the Texas Advanced Computing Center at UT Austin, and 3) access to a large volume and secure data repository. Effective February 1, 2012, the data repository is now fully functional and ready to be accessed by researchers. Institutions may conduct projects using shared data storage at UT Austin and UT Arlington, which enables multiple researchers from different sites to access a single data source and allows research to be performed on larger data sets than ever before.

9. **Electronic agenda book facilitates greater efficiencies; provides Regents opportunity to move from hard copy to electronic board books and enables System Administration to download data to the Regents on a regular basis:**

The Office of the Board of Regents made agenda materials available to authorized users in a commercial, web-based electronic board book effective with the February 2012 Board meeting. The electronic book is a user friendly, iPad-compatible board portal with page-turning and robust search features.

10. Systemwide policy amended to expand criminal background checks on all UT employees including temporary employees and volunteers at healthcare institutions:

In February 2012, Chancellor Cigarroa reported to the Board on changes to the System-wide policy on criminal background checks for employment. The policy requires criminal background checks on applicants for regular employment.

The following changes were made to strengthen the policy:

- Temporary employees and unpaid faculty members who provide instruction to UT students will now be required to have criminal background checks.
- Criminal background check requirements for persons volunteering in day care centers and at youth camps have been tightened to mandate that any and all persons volunteering must have a criminal background check.
- All volunteers working in health care facilities and students assigned to health care facilities must have criminal background checks.

## MARCH, 2012

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11. Search Engines created to provide the public with internet access to UT System's research, patents, and technologies from UT institutions and professors:

In March 2012, UT System created the Research & Technology Search Engine to enable the public to search for research capabilities, patents and technologies available for license across all UT System institutions. The simple web tool is designed to be easy to use and convenient. As a federated search, results are "fresh". This is believed to be among the first initiative of its kind in the nation.

### 12. UT System hosts Higher Education Risk Management Conference with 300 in attendance:

In April 2012, the UT System Office of Risk Management hosted the annual UT System Higher Education Risk Management Conference. This conference draws attendees from across the nation representing each of the 15 UT System institutions as well as 35 other institutions. The 2012 conference had 450 participants and offered four tracks:

- Risk Control - Sessions on emergency management, disaster response contracts; environmental, health and safety issues at emerging Tier One institutions; and a National Fire Protection Association update.
- Risk Finance - Sessions on construction risks, international programs, international oversight and risk assessment, and federal Clery Act reporting.
- Risk and Legal - Sessions on management liability, indemnity agreements, aircraft exposures, and social media.
- Workers' Compensation - Sessions on prescription drugs and abuse, work exposures, occupational health programs, and functional capacity evaluations

Chairman Powell, a former risk manager, was the luncheon speaker for the conference.

### 13. Vista Summits held to put spotlight on educational, health, and economic advancements and prosperity opportunities in the Rio Grande Valley:

Chairman Powell participated in Chancellor Cigarroa's first Vista Summit, held on the UT Brownsville campus on October 5 and 6, 2011. The Summit, a direct initiative of the Framework for Advancing Excellence and the Board of Regents' South Texas Plan to enhance education, health, and economic development in the Rio Grande Valley, was a great success, garnering the attention of national foundation leaders as well as local and statewide business, economic development, health, and education leaders.

A second Vista Summit, planned by UT Brownsville President Juliet García, UT Pan American President Robert Nelsen, and Vice Chancellor for External Relations Randa Safady, was held on April 17 on the UT Pan American campus with the participation of Regents Stillwell and Pejovich. Building on the outcomes of the first Vista Summit, this meeting introduced several bold solutions to reduce time to degree and student debt. That meeting was also well attended and productive.

A third summit – Vista Summit: Health – was hosted by Chancellor Cigarroa to address how to strengthen the economic vitality of the Valley and how to offer more innovative educational opportunities in the field of health care. An audience of more than 200 participants heard from panels of doctors, health care providers, educators, business leaders, philanthropists, and community members on efforts aimed at a healthier Valley. Regent Pejovich also participated in this Summit.

The Vista Summits have garnered attention and participation from many national and State foundations, some of which include Ford, Gates, Lumina, Robert Wood Johnson, Meadows, the Greater Texas Foundation, and more.

#### 14. Chancellor elected to American Academy of Arts and Sciences Commission:

Chancellor Cigarroa was invited in April 2012 to join the prestigious Commission on the Humanities and Social Sciences of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The Commission was asked by Congress to prepare a report answering the following question:

“What are the top ten actions that Congress, State governments, universities, foundations, educators, individual benefactors, and others should take now to maintain national excellence in Humanities and social scientific scholarship and education and to achieve long-term national goals for our intellectual and economic well-being; for a stronger, more vibrant civil society; and for the successful cultural diplomacy of the 21st century?”

## MAY, 2012

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#### 15. Establishment of a medical school in Austin will make UT Austin the first research-intensive institution to have its own medical school on campus; will allow for more residency programs in Texas:

On May 3, 2012, the Board of Regents authorized Chancellor Cigarroa to move forward with plans to establish a medical school in Austin.

An increase in the Available University Fund allocation is anticipated to provide an additional \$25 million a year in funds to UT Austin. The Board also allocated \$5 million for each of the next eight years to help UT Austin recruit outstanding faculty. The financial commitments of the Board of Regents are contingent upon the continuation of the Seton Healthcare Family support of graduate medical education residency programs and clinical faculty positions at current or increased levels and the availability of reliable and continuing funding of \$35

million annually from local community sources for the direct support of a medical school at UT Austin.

On November 6, 2012, Travis County voters approved an increase of 5 cents in the tax rate assessed by Central Health. The increase is proposed to generate approximately \$54 million in funds to be matched by an additional \$76 million in federal funds per year to be used for a redesigned healthcare delivery system for Travis County and to expand the structure and services for uninsured county residents.

Central Health announced that the additional funding will allow it to contract with the proposed UT medical school in Austin to pay for services to patients in the Central Health provider network.

16. Plans for a new medical school in South Texas to address medical education needs in critical region of the state. Texas currently has 200 doctors per 100,000 citizens. South Texas has 100 doctors per 100,000 citizens:

Currently the UT System and the Legislature have invested \$80 million in capital infrastructure for a medical education system in the Rio Grande Valley. The current medical education system is operated and accredited through The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. Approximately 100 medical students receive a part of their medical education in the Rio Grande Valley on an annual basis. Today UTHSC-SA has between 30 and 35 graduate medical residents studying and working at hospitals across the entire Valley each year. When they graduate, 66% of these residents remain in the Rio Grande Valley to practice medicine.

In Texas we have approximately 200 doctors for every 100,000 in population. In the Valley this ratio is 100 doctors per every 100,000 in population. Our goal is to increase our graduate medical residents to 150 per year and to distribute those residencies over the hospitals in McAllen, Edinburg, Harlingen and Brownsville. Over ten years this would generate approximately 375 new doctors to serve the population in the Rio Grande Valley.

Facilities to be used today will include the existing research and teaching facilities at the Regional Academic Health Campus (RAHC) at Edinburg, Brownsville and Harlingen. If the bill creating the new university (See Item 60) passes the Legislature by 2/3rds vote, PUF funds will be available to the new university and for new medical school facilities in the Valley.

Funding for the new medical school would be as follows:

- 1.) Current State funding through UTHSC-SA is approximately \$10 million per year.

- 2.) The Regents have committed \$10 million per year for ten years.
- 3.) Based on the newly proposed academic and medical school structure in the Valley, we believe that additional philanthropy will be available. In the early years the goal would be \$5 to \$10 million per year.
- 4.) Total operating funds initially available could be between \$20 million and \$40 million.
- 5.) The UT System will seek additional funding for the South Texas medical school to supplement the funds outlined above.

Current plans are for the first class of medical students to be admitted into a South Texas track through or at UTHSC-SA in 2014 consistent with LCME guidelines. They will receive their first two years of education in San Antonio and their last two years in the Rio Grande Valley. Initially the new medical school will begin under the accreditation and management of UTHSC-SA with a goal of transferring management of the school to the Rio Grande Valley as soon as independent accreditation can be obtained.

*Note: UTHSC-SA began this same way in 1969 by operating initially under the auspices of UT Southwestern in Dallas until accreditation was received and management could be moved to San Antonio.*

## 17. Flat tuition initiative for resident undergraduate students at all UT System academic institutions to help address cost burden on students and families:

In May 2012, the Board took an unprecedented step to pay UT Austin \$13.2 million in lieu of resident undergraduate tuition and fee increases proposed by the campus and UT System Chancellor Cigarroa, for the next two years. In addition, the Board also allocated \$16 million over the next two years to the UT System with instructions to Chancellor Cigarroa that the funds be allocated in such a way that the eight other UT academic institutions can effectively eliminate or greatly reduce proposed tuition and fee increases for the next two years.

## 18. Regents' Rules on student conduct and discipline amended:

In May 2012, the Board approved amending the Regents' Rules regarding student conduct and discipline to allow each UT institution to adopt an institution-specific student discipline policy after review and approval by the Office of General Counsel and the appropriate Executive Vice Chancellor. The specific requirements for each institution's policy are to be consistent with a new Office of General Counsel model policy, and ensure continued compliance with applicable due process requirements.

19. *Regents' Rules* amended to allow smoke free or tobacco free policies:

In May 2012, the Board approved amending the *Regents' Rules* to allow UT institutions to adopt smoke free or tobacco free policies, as deemed best for each campus.

20. UT San Antonio, UT Arlington, and UT Pan American authorized to join new athletic conferences:

In May 2012, the Board authorized UT San Antonio to accept the invitation from Conference USA to become a member and to negotiate and finalize terms for athletic conference membership, including possible future membership in a potential new athletic conference.

Also in May, the Board authorized UT Arlington to accept an invitation from the Sun Belt Conference to become a member.

In December 2012, the Board authorized UT Pan American to accept an invitation to join the Western Athletic Conference.

21. \$10,000 Degree at UT Permian Basin and planning underway for a \$5,000 degree:

Answering Governor Perry's challenge for higher education institutions to develop a \$10,000 undergraduate degree, UT Permian Basin President David Watts announced the Texas Science Scholar undergraduate degree program at a meeting of the UT System Board of Regents in May 2012. Beginning in Fall 2012, the bachelor of science degree offers majors in chemistry, computer science, geology, information systems, and mathematics. Courses are offered on the UTPB campus, allowing students to interact with UTPB's outstanding faculty within state-of-the-art laboratories and facilities. The program has rigorous admission standards.

In addition, the Office of Academic Affairs at UT System is working with President Watts and the UTPB leadership on a path for students who earn an associate's degree to obtain a baccalaureate of applied science degree, at a total cost of \$5,000.

22. HD teleconferencing enabled across UT System to create greater efficiencies and reduce travel costs:

Consistent with the Board's approval for funding in May 2012, the UT System Administration implemented a new video conferencing initiative for institutional leadership, to reduce travel costs and time commitments. This initiative was implemented by a contract with Polycom and impacts short-and long-term efficiencies by providing the enhanced technology to

streamline high quality, secure communications among the UT System Administration and the institutions.

The investment in desktop units for each president's office and seven key points within the System Administration supports strong, clear, and user-initiated point-to-point and multi-point contact. The enhanced network is accessible by devices such as laptop, iPad, or iPhone. Technology renovations in the Board Room also upgrade network capacity to facilitate more effective and accessible video communication. (Full implementation of the technology for participation by Regents in Board meetings is dependent on changes to current state law.)

### 23. Regents' Rules amended to strengthen the comprehensive evaluation process for tenured faculty; believed to be a "first in the nation" policy:

A May 2012 amendment to the Regents' Rules strengthened the comprehensive evaluation process by:

- clarifying the differences between post-tenure annual reviews and post-tenure comprehensive reviews,
- creating more specific review categories: exceeds expectations, meets expectations, does not meet expectations, and unsatisfactory,
- requiring post-tenure comprehensive reviews to be conducted no less than every six years and any time an individual receives two consecutive unsatisfactory annual reviews, and
- allowing the outcomes of post-tenure evaluation to be used for salary consideration, awards, and advancement.

## JUNE, 2012

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### 24. Chancellor Cigarroa presents Framework Action Plan to American Council on Education (ACE); receives national support for plan:

The Framework for Advancing Excellence Action Plan continues to garner national attention. In June 2012, Chancellor Cigarroa presented the Framework and Action Plan to ACE's Education Attainment Panel of Presidents. This followed an earlier invitation to present the Framework at the White House.

25. Chancellor Cigarroa participates in White House discussion about cost transparency; one of only ten higher education leaders invited to address university cost issue:

In June 2012, Chancellor Cigarroa participated in a roundtable discussion at the White House about the transparency of college and university costs to students and their families— an important feature of the Chancellor’s Framework. Chancellor Cigarroa was one of ten leaders of colleges and universities invited to attend the event. It was hosted by Vice President Joe Biden, Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Richard Cordray, and Domestic Policy Council Director Cecilia Muñoz.

26. UT System awarded grants to UTMB, UTHSC-Houston, UT MD Anderson, and UTSA for innovation and entrepreneurship to accelerate and acknowledge activity:

In June 2012, UT System awarded two \$750,000 Novel Education Programs in Innovation and Entrepreneurship grants to fund projects and programs that accelerate entrepreneurship and innovation as follows:

- Allan Brasier, Director of the Institute for Translational Sciences at UT Medical Branch - Galveston; David McPherson, Director of the Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences at UT Health Science Center - Houston; and Stanley Watowich, Associate Professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics at UT Medical Branch, received a grant for their proposal, “Texas CTSA Collaborative Innovation and Entrepreneurial Program.”
- Cory Hallam, Director of the Center for Innovation and Technology Entrepreneurship at UT San Antonio, and Oliver Wenker, Director of the Office of Technology Discovery at UT MD Anderson Cancer Center, received a grant for their proposal, “The UT TRANSFORM Program.”

27. UT Arlington, UT Austin, and UT Dallas come to agreement with Texas National Guard to continue tuition assistance for soldier students:

In June 2012, the Texas Military Forces, UT Arlington, UT Austin, and UT Dallas reached an agreement allowing students who serve in the National Guard to maintain their Texas National Guard tuition assistance with no disruption. A Department of Defense policy issued in March 2012, stated that the Federal Tuition Assistance program will no longer be authorized to pay schools that do not provide itemized tuition and fees statements. “This

agreement is in the tradition of UT's steadfast commitment to our Texas National Guard soldier students. The access to these education benefits and quality higher education strengthens our overall readiness and retention and strengthens the morale of our force," said Maj. Wayne Peck, Education Services Officer for the Texas Army National Guard.

28. New national report coauthored by Chancellor Cigarroa for the National Research Council's Committee on Research Universities on importance of top-quality U.S. research institutions:

In June 2012, Chancellor Cigarroa participated in the National Research Council's Committee on Research Universities' panel in Washington, D.C. to discuss a new report on the future of U.S. academic research. As a member of the Committee, Chancellor Cigarroa coauthored the report titled *Research Universities and the Future of America: Ten Breakthrough Actions Vital to Our Nation's Prosperity and Security*. The Congressionally mandated report recommends ten strategic actions the nation should take in five to ten years to preserve top-quality American research universities. It conveys the critical challenges that threaten the quality of research and education and the need to renew crucial partnerships between the federal government and universities.

29. Plan minimizes impact on University Lands (land managed as part of the Permanent University Fund) of proposed listing of Dunes Sagebrush Lizard as endangered:

In December 2010, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced its intention to list the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard under the Endangered Species Act. To avoid a significant impact on University Lands, considerable work was done by a task force assembled by the State of Texas under the direction of State Comptroller Susan Combs to develop a Texas Conservation Plan that would provide mitigation and habitat protection while minimizing economic impact on oil and gas producing operations in West Texas.

The task force produced a proposed Candidate Conservation Agreement approved and signed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in June 2012. The plan provides a framework for voluntary conservation agreements with individual landowners, ranchers, and oil and gas developers to protect from liability for accidental takings while operating within agreed guidelines for conservation. As a result of those efforts, the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard was not listed as endangered.

30. Regents' *Rules* amended to strengthen policies on conflict of interest and outside employment for professors and professionals; searchable database on these activities will be available to the public on the Internet in early 2013:

In July 2012, the Board approved amendments to the Regents' *Rules* designed to clearly detail the requirement for documentation of disclosure and approval of proposed compensated outside activities and of proposed outside board service by UT System employees.

In addition, the proposed revisions incorporate the concept of conflict of commitment related to activities that, even if uncompensated, may present a conflict.

*Note: A "first in the nation" set of databases of detailed information on the approved outside consulting activities, employment, or board service for full-time faculty and administrative and professional staff will be implemented in three phases during 2013. The first phase was implemented in January, 2013.*

31. Office of Risk Management receives national award for providing solutions to campus safety and loss prevention challenges:

In July 2012, The UT System Office of Risk Management received the "2012 Solutions at Work Award" from the Campus Safety Health and Environmental Management Association in recognition of UT System's safety and loss prevention programs, which have been implemented to protect students, faculty, staff, and capital assets at the 15 institutions. The Award recognizes creative solutions to difficult challenges that are unique to a campus and can be easily adapted by other institutions. Judging criteria include problem identification, implementation method, cost effectiveness, and solution relevance.

32. UT Brownsville and UT Pan American administrators and faculty meet with Apple executives to discuss technological innovations in the delivery of education in an effort to design the University of the 21st Century:

In July 2012, presidents, provosts and key faculty from UT Brownsville and UT Pan American, as well as representatives from the UT System Office of Academic Affairs, met with Apple executives to discuss innovative ways to use technology in and outside the classroom to encourage collaborative learning and impact student engagement. Meeting participants from both UT and Apple expressed enthusiasm and appreciation for the opportunity to explore

these possibilities. As a result of those meetings, some academic programs immediately adopted the iPad technology to teach outside the classroom. A future trip is planned to Cupertino, California to work on applications that will impact several academic programs.

### 33. UTMB signs Correctional Managed Care contract for Fiscal Year 2013:

In July 2012, the Board approved an amendment to the agreement by which UTMB provides correctional health care services to inmates in the custody of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. The amended agreement is effective September 1, 2012 through May 31, 2013, and may be extended to the end of the current fiscal biennium on August 31, 2013, if adequate funding is provided in the legislative session.

## AUGUST, 2012

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### 34. U. T. System Chancellor provides One-Year update on Framework for Advancing Excellence in Higher Education Action Plan; addresses nine focal areas of concentration for enhancing higher education:

In August 2012, Chancellor Cigarroa presented an update on the Framework Action Plan to the Board. The action plan recommends nine overarching goals that will have a significant impact on advancing UT System institutions to even higher levels of excellence while at the same time bending the cost curve in higher education to the benefit of students.

During his presentation to the Board, Chancellor Cigarroa highlighted the major initiatives and the progress made to date in their advancement. The nine initiatives, all of which address critical issues in higher education on a national level, include:

**Undergraduate Student Success and Access:** improving graduation rates and student academic advising by using important tools such as MyEdu, Finish@UT, new blended and online learning courses, and the launch of the UT System's Institute for Transformational Learning. All of these initiatives are specifically targeted to improve the student learning experience while reducing cost. *Note: The blended and online learning partnership with EdX (See Item 47) was added to the list in October 2012.*

**Faculty, Administrators and Staff Excellence:** rewarding outstanding teaching for innovative approaches in the classroom and laboratory, star talent, strengthening annual faculty reviews and post-tenure review, and implementation of a new incentive compensation plan centered on the measurable achievements of goals.

**Research:** creating the UT Horizon Fund to provide financial support for high quality projects with promising commercial applications, convening the Chancellor’s Technology Commercialization Advisory Cabinet, and continuing targeted support for the UT System’s four emerging research universities. Also following the NRC Committee on Research Universities (See Item 28) report on academic research will be a part of the Framework.

**Productivity and Efficiency:** successfully launching the new, public, web-based Productivity Dashboard to measure performance and progress in the areas of the Framework, identifying and implementing long-term strategies for System-wide standardized operating systems and shared-service enterprises, and five-year organizational reviews on every UT campus. Access the Dashboard at: <https://data.utsystem.edu>.

**Strategic Information Technology Infrastructure Investments:** funding to support all of the System’s technology infrastructure initiatives to enhance computational power and abilities in support of the System’s mission of education, research, patient care, and service.

**Enhancing Philanthropic Success:** continuing to fund the Board’s Strength in Numbers program and developing philanthropic business plans for all 15 UT institutions to ensure that philanthropy continues to account for a greater part of an institution’s revenue stream.

**Ph.D. Programs:** in consultation with provosts and deans of graduate studies, establishing criteria for defining standards and schedules for review, and developing well-defined agreements between doctoral students and their departments regarding time to completion.  
*Note: See the Milestone agreement discussed in Item 54.*

**The Health of Texas:** successfully launching the development of medical schools in Austin and the Rio Grande Valley, and implementing the Transformation in Medical Education Initiative (TIME) and systems engineering to improve patient safety and quality.

**South Texas:** transitioning UT Brownsville into a 21st century, comprehensive four-year university and expanding medical, education and research programs in the region.

35. **Sixty-five faculty recognized for teaching excellence; generous financial awards given by Regents among the most competitive in the country:**

In August 2012, 65 faculty members from institutions across the UT System were honored by the Board of Regents as recipients of the 2012 Regents’ Outstanding Teaching Award.

The \$25,000 per teacher monetary awards, offered annually in recognition of UT faculty members who have demonstrated extraordinary classroom performance and innovation in undergraduate instruction, are the Board of Regents’ highest teaching honor. Given the

depth and breadth of talent across the UT System, the awards program is one of the nation's most competitive. Faculty candidates were subjected to rigorous examination of their teaching performance over three years by campus and external examiners.

36. UT System contracts with Pearson eCollege.com for online course support:

In August 2012, UT System contracted with Pearson eCollege.com, a wholly owned subsidiary of NCS Pearson, Inc. to offer each of the 15 UT institutions the opportunity to partner in either a comprehensive program or a menu-based approach for development and implementation of online courses/programs.

37. New magazine, *Horizons*, to focus on technology commercialization:

In August 2012, UT System created *Horizons*, a new magazine focused initially on technology commercialization. *Horizons* is dedicated to showcasing the newest developments such as new ventures serving to help to improve society. It is published several times a year.

38. Chairman Powell featured as one of *The Atlantic's* Brave Thinkers for 2012:

Described as “a champion of the movement to rethink how colleges can operate creatively,” Chairman Powell was featured by *The Atlantic* as one of its Brave Thinkers for 2012.

39. New incentive compensation plan for executives approved; tied to achievement of Framework goals. This is believed to be a first in the nation plan:

In August 2012, the Board approved the new Executive Performance Incentive Compensation Plan for the UT System presidents and UT System Administration executive officers for implementation effective September 1, 2012, with actual impacts on compensation effective September 1, 2013. This new compensation strategy better aligns with the Framework for Advancing Excellence and more directly rewards and incents leaders for progress made on Framework goals.

#### 40. New UT System Academy of Master Teachers established to recognize outstanding educators:

Chancellor Cigarroa and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Pedro Reyes worked to establish The University of Texas System Academy of Master Teachers, designed to recognize outstanding educators at the nine academic campuses.

The mission of the Academy is to foster excellence in teaching and enhance opportunities for continuous learning and scholarship within the UT System. The Academy will also be a forum to foster innovation in the field of teaching, including blended and online learning, as well as the use of technology in the classroom. Through the recognition of outstanding educators and the advancement of knowledge and innovation in the field of education, the Academy will serve as an advocacy group to promote outstanding teaching.

Membership to the Academy is to be honorific and based on achievement coupled with a commitment of service to the mission of the Academy. It is intended that 24 members will be inducted for the first two years, and no more than 12 new members will be inducted each year thereafter.

To be eligible for membership in the Academy, individuals must exhibit educational excellence as characterized by: direct teaching; curriculum development; counseling and mentorship; academic advising; and educational scholarship and research on teaching.

In September 2012, an external evaluation committee appointed by the Executive Vice Chancellor met to determine the selection process and criteria for Academy membership. The committee will review nominations, due on January 14, 2013, and select the inaugural members of the Academy to be recognized in Spring 2013.

## SEPTEMBER, 2012

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#### 41. Nationally acclaimed UTeach model replicated at UT Brownsville and UT Pan American; prepares K-12 teachers to teach the STEM fields:

An initiative to replicate UTeach programs at UT Brownsville and UT Pan American, funded by the Board in August 2011 with \$8.5 million of the total \$30 million investment in the Lower Rio Grande Valley Plan, has been implemented. Both new UTeach programs were launched in September 2012, with the first cohort of students in class at each institution. This program will produce more future high-performing math and science teachers.

42. Board approves an affiliation agreement creating a new \$350 million, 250 bed comprehensive children’s hospital in San Antonio; a \$75 million South Texas clinic network at no financial burden on taxpayers; no financial burden on taxpayers:

In September 2012, the Board authorized the UT Health Science Center – San Antonio to finalize an affiliation agreement with Vanguard Health Systems, Baptist Health System, and The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia for the creation of a pediatric care network, anchored by a freestanding, academic, licensed, comprehensive children’s hospital.

This agreement includes a 250 bed, \$350 million free standing children’s hospital to be built on the campus of UT Health Science Center – San Antonio and a \$75 million clinical network in South Texas. All of this will be funded by Vanguard and none of it will cost the taxpayers of Texas anything.

*Note: This new children’s hospital and network may become an important part of the medical school and medical training proposed for the Rio Grande Valley.*

43. Implementing the Institute for Transformational Learning (ITL) – A Systemwide Approach to blended and online learning; UT positioned to be a national leader in transformational learning through technology:

This institute was an outgrowth of Regent Wallace Hall’s 2011 Task Force on Blended and Online Learning. The Regents, when approving the Chancellor’s Framework for Excellence, also approved the ITL and \$50 million fund to provide the seed money to all UT System institutions to build excellent blended and online programs.

On September 1, 2012, the first director of the ITL, Dr. Steven Mintz, was hired from Columbia University. Chairman Powell, Vice Chairman Hicks, and Regents Cranberg and Hall are working as a committee to guide the Chancellor, Executive Vice Chancellor Reyes, and Director Mintz in building the Blended and Online business model for the UT System.

The first success for the ITL and Director Mintz came in October 2012 when the UT System announced a partnership with edX, the blended and online program designed by Harvard and MIT. The UT System was the first System of Higher Education invited to join and the second addition to the partnership after University of California Berkeley.

The following individuals have accepted invitations to join the National Advisory Council for the ITL:

Randy Bass

Associate Provost and Professor of English at Georgetown University, and Executive Director of Georgetown's Center for New Designs in Learning and Scholarship (CNDLS), a campus-wide center supporting faculty work in new learning and research environments.

Rovy Branon

Associate Dean of Online Learning and Technology within the University of Wisconsin-Extension's Continuing Education, Outreach and E-Learning division. He leads the University of Wisconsin System eCampus, a gateway to 100+ online degree and certificate programs across the 26 campuses of the UW System.

Maria Cini

The acting provost and chief academic officer at the University of Maryland University College. She is an authority on authentic assessment, retention, curriculum design, and technologically-enabled post-secondary education.

John Couch

Apple's Vice President of Education.

Michael Crosno

The CEO of MyEdu. He previously served as CEO of Global 360 and as CEO and Chairman of one of the leading enterprise portal companies, Epicentric, Inc.

Carlos Enrique Cruz Limón

Vice President of the Tecnológico de Monterrey, México. Specializes in the design, development and implementation of new projects of national and international strategic educational importance.

Howard Gobstein

Executive Vice President, Research, Innovation, and STEM Education for the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities.

Stephen Griffin

Mellon Cyberscholar and Visiting Professor in the School of Information Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh. He was previous Program Director of the division of Information and Intelligent Systems at the National Science Foundation.

Mark Kornbluh

Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at the University of Kentucky. He previously served as Executive Director of H-Net: Humanities and Social Sciences Online, and founded MATRIX, one of the nation's largest humanities technology centers.

Hillary Pennington

The former director for U.S. education—postsecondary success and special initiatives at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Lisa Snyder

Senior member of UCLA's Urban Simulation Team, associate director of UCLA's Experiential Technologies Center, and creator of virtual reconstructions of the Temple Mount complex in Jerusalem (for the Israel Antiquities Authority) and the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893.

Marni Baker Stein

Senior Associate Dean for Curriculum and Instruction at Columbia University's School of Continuing Education.

R. Michael Tanner

Chief Academic Officer and Vice President of the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities. He served as provost of the University of Illinois at Chicago. He pursues national initiatives for increasing access, quality, and affordability, particularly through the innovative uses of information technology.

#### 44. UT Austin College of Engineering designation as a National Science Foundation Center; will lead new nanosystems research center:

UT Austin's Cockrell School of Engineering has been selected to receive an \$18.5 million grant over the next five years from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to create and lead a nanosystems engineering research center.

The Nanomanufacturing Systems for Mobile Computing and Mobile Energy Technologies (NASCENT) will develop innovative nanomanufacturing, nanosculpting, and nanometrology systems that could lead to versatile mobile computing devices such as wearable sensors, foldable laptops, and rollable batteries.

This is the first time UT Austin has been selected by the NSF to lead a prestigious and highly competitive engineering research center (ERC) and the first time since 1986 that a Texas university has been selected to lead an ERC. As of November 2011, there were 17 active ERCs across the United States.

45. UT MD Anderson Cancer Center announces bold “Moon Shots” research plan against eight forms of cancer; designed to accelerate advances that reduce cancer mortality:

Inspired by America’s drive generations ago to put a man on the moon, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center launched an ambitious and comprehensive action plan, called the Moon Shots Program, to make a giant leap for patients – to dramatically accelerate the pace of converting scientific discoveries into clinical advances that reduce cancer deaths. Following President Ronald DePinho’s call to action in October 2011, eleven disease sites spent 6 months preparing proposals to target: melanoma, glioblastoma (brain), lung, pancreatic, two leukemias (CLL and MDS/AML), colorectal, women’s cancers (triple negative breast and ovarian), bladder, prostate, and renal. In September 2012, following an intense review of the research proposals by an external/internal review committee, President DePinho announced the six inaugural moon shots targeting eight cancers:

- acute myeloid leukemia/myelodysplastic syndrome;
- chronic lymphocytic leukemia;
- melanoma;
- lung cancer;
- prostate cancer; and
- triple-negative breast and ovarian cancers – two cancers linked at the molecular level.

Each inaugural moon shot will receive an infusion of funds and other resources, and even those not initially selected will be able to apply for development funding. In the first 10 years, funding for the Moon Shots Program may reach an estimated \$3.0 billion, with funds coming from institutional earnings, philanthropy, competitive research grants, and commercialization of new discoveries. Implementation of the program will begin in February 2013, and is expected to reach full stride by mid-2013.

## OCTOBER, 2012

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46. UT System joins edX, an online education program previously available only to MIT, Harvard and UC Berkeley:

In October 2012, the Board of Regents approved a partnership with three of the nation’s most prestigious universities – the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard, and the University of California at Berkeley – in an online initiative that will enrich the educational experiences of UT students, help them graduate on time, and lower the cost curve of a college education.

EdX is a not-for-profit enterprise offering online interactive learning to millions of people around the world. EdX will provide students with a wealth of innovative resources, including interactive laboratories, virtual reality environments, and access to online tutors and tutorials. Students will be able to participate in online forums, network with instructors and fellow students, and take part in collaborative projects.

UT institutions, at their discretion, may offer edX courses for credit and establish their own tuition for each course. The UT institutions will be able to keep 100% of the revenue from this tuition.

Blended and online courses from all member institutions will be available for free to anyone around the world. This greatly expands and promotes the UT System Brand.

Any UT institution may offer any edX courses online to their students for credit and keep 100% of the revenue from the fees that the institution charges. Any UT institution may offer any edX courses online for a certificate and keep 100% of the revenue from the fees.

The UT System's goal is to build and submit four courses for edX use and for availability from edX by the end of 2013. These courses are somewhat expensive to build (up to \$250,000 each), and financing for building these courses at each institution will come from the System's Institute for Transformational Learning. When fully deployed we believe that this system of learning will provide (a) excellent courses (b) the convenience of online learning for students and (c) additional revenue to the various institutions.

*Note: at publication date of this report, UT Austin has submitted to edX nine courses proposed to be placed on the edX platform, and edX has approved all nine courses!*

#### 47. Support provided for the creation of the Institute for Research Technologies at UT Arlington; high concentration of scientific instruments at UTA will be available to other UT institutions:

In October 2012, the Board approved the allocation of \$7.5 million of Permanent University Fund (PUF) Bond proceeds for capital equipment and software for the creation of the Institute for Research Technologies at UT Arlington, which will contain one of the country's largest concentrations of analytical scientific instruments focused in key research areas. The \$7.5 million PUF allocation, along with \$11 million from UT Arlington from philanthropy, license income, and indirect costs, will be used to fund the acquisition of capital equipment and software for the Institute. The equipment would be made available to other UT System institutions.

## 48. Task Force to study engineering education and workforce demand in Texas to assure that UT System institutions meet the needs of the student and of industry:

In November 2012, Chairman Powell and Chancellor Cigarroa announced the creation of the Task Force on Engineering Education for Texas in the 21st Century. The goal of the Task Force is to determine the current state of engineering degree programs in Texas, study current and future demand for engineers, and identify strategies for the Texas Legislature and higher education leaders that will foster student success in the field of engineering while at the same time supporting economic growth across the State.

Priorities of the Task Force will be a) to provide educational opportunity for Texas students to have meaningful engineering careers in Texas and the world; b) to attract the best and brightest from outside of Texas who wish to learn and live in Texas; c) to provide Texas employers with local sources of well-educated engineers; and d) to push forward the frontiers of knowledge in the engineering disciplines for society's greater good and the enhanced prosperity of the Texas economy.

With those priorities in mind, Task Force members will review and identify key issues related to demand, capacity, efficiency, supply and research related to engineering programs in Texas, how these issues impact Texas and the nation, as well as what the UT System can do to be responsive to students' needs and workforce demand.

Task Force members include:

- Regent Alex Cranberg, UT System, Co-Chair
- President David Daniel, UT Dallas, Co-Chair
- Mr. Jeffery D. Hildebrand, Hilcorp Energy Company,  
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer
- Mr. Sam Dawson, UT Austin External Engineering Advisory Board
- Dr. John Randall, UT Dallas External Engineering Advisory Board
- Dean Gregory L. Fenves, UT Austin
- Dean Jean-Pierre Bardet, UT Arlington
- Dean Mark W. Spong, UT Dallas
- Dean Richard Schoephoerster, UT El Paso
- Dean David H. Allen, UT Pan American
- Dean C. Mauli Agrawal, UT San Antonio
- Dean James Nelson, UT Tyler

- Dr. Forrest Flocker, UT Permian Basin,  
Undergraduate Chair of Industrial Technology and Engineering
- Chancellor Francisco G. Cigarroa, M.D., UT System, *ex officio*
- Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Pedro Reyes, UT System, *ex officio*

49. Task Force created to explore best practices in affiliated foundation relationships; goal is to ensure strong alignment between institutions and foundations and serve as national models in these relationships:

In November 2012, Chairman Powell announced the creation of the Task Force on Best Practices Regarding Affiliated Foundation Relationships.

The Task Force is charged with making recommendations to the Board within 180 days to ensure that relationships between UT System institutions, the UT System and affiliated foundations are structured and equipped to serve as a national model for public universities.

The Task Force will explore the best models for interactions with all UT affiliated outside foundations set up to benefit the UT System or one or more UT System institutions or operations. Individual budget units within the UT System that carry the historical name “foundation” but are not separate legal entities are not included in this review.

Task Force members include:

- Regent Brenda Pejovich, UT System, Chair
- Regent Robert Stillwell, UT System
- Regent Wallace Hall, Jr., UT System
- President Diana Natalicio, UT El Paso
- President David Callender, M.D., UT Medical Branch at Galveston
- Chancellor Francisco G. Cigarroa, M.D., UT System, *ex officio*
- General Counsel to the Board Francie Frederick, UT System, *ex officio*
- Vice Chancellor for External Relations Randa Safady, UT System, *ex officio*
- Vice Chancellor and General Counsel Barry Burgdorf, UT System, *ex officio*

Mr. Jimmy Blacklock, Deputy Attorney General for Legal Counsel in the Office of the Texas Attorney General, and Associate General Counsel to the Board Karen Rabon will also participate.

Task Force Chairman Brenda Pejovich will invite others to participate in the work of the Task Force as legal experts and consultants.

50. Task Force created to study higher education infrastructure needs for the 21<sup>st</sup> century focusing on space, layout and infrastructure design needs:

In November 2012, Chairman Powell announced the creation of the Task Force on Academic and Facility Planning for the 21st century to ensure campuses are designed with a 21st century education in mind when it comes to space, layout and technology needs.

The Task Force will be headed by the chairs of the Board's Facilities Planning and Construction Committee (Regent Printice Gary) and Academic Affairs Committee (Vice Chairman Steve Hicks). They and other Task Force members will work together to recommend the best design process for infrastructure at UT institutions.

51. Regents expand Collegiate Student Recovery Program to all UT academic institutions to provide greater support to assist students with alcohol or drug abuse problems or addictions:

In November 2012, the Board of Regents took an important step to battle alcohol and drug abuse by approving the establishment of Collegiate Recovery Centers at eight of the System's nine academic institutions. UT Austin is already home to the Center for Students in Recovery (CSR) and is a national leader in the burgeoning collegiate recovery movement. UT Austin will lead the implementation of the new campus centers. Winner of the 2012 American College Health Association Best Practices in College Health Award, CSR is one of only about 20 such programs in the country. UT Austin, as the largest public university with a recognized collegiate recovery program, will be a resource for other UT universities establishing their own programs.

With a total budget of nearly \$1 million, UT Austin's CSR will work with each campus to determine the best structure and program to fit uniquely within each campus culture, supporting the implementation and identifying resources for ongoing support. The ultimate goal is to help these programs succeed in supporting student recovery on every UT System academic campus and for the centers to be financially self-sustaining in three years.

The Board's action was recognized favorably by the U.S. Office of Drug Policy.

Chancellor Cigarroa has also charged Executive Vice Chancellor Pedro Reyes with creating a task force to mitigate alcohol abuse and hazing on UT campuses as part of the mission of making the campuses as safe as possible. The Task Force on Hazing and Alcohol Abuse will be led by Dr. Tim Allen, former Chair of the UT System Faculty Advisory Council, and Dr. Wanda Mercer, Associate Vice Chancellor in the Office of Academic Affairs. The mission is to

find best practices that can decrease alcohol abuse and eliminate hazing practices. The Task Force was recently established and will work over the next 3-4 months to bring new ideas to UT System for implementation. Other Task Force members will include vice presidents for student affairs, athletic directors, counselors, and advisors from throughout the UT institutions.

**52. Scholarship endowment to honor Chancellor; Regents, Presidents, and System executive officers spontaneously offer additional support:**

In November 2012, the Board authorized the establishment of a \$50,000 scholarship endowment to honor Chancellor Cigarroa. “Each year that Dr. Cigarroa has served as Chancellor, the Board of Regents has voted to award him a salary increase. And each year, the Chancellor has declined that increase,” said Chairman Powell. “We are honored to have the opportunity to reward Chancellor Cigarroa for his exceptional work in a way that is truly valuable to him.” The scholarship endowment will support students attending the new medical school in South Texas.

When UT System executive officers learned of the scholarship, they immediately responded with additional commitments of nearly \$20,000. Following additional contributions from members of the Board and other community leaders, the total is over \$120,000, with more donations expected.

**53. Milestone agreement to be used in advising Ph.D. students to ensure graduation in a timely manner:**

The Regents’ *Rules* were amended in November 2012, to require a milestone agreement between Ph.D. students and their departments. Starting in Fall 2013, students seeking a Ph.D. at UT institutions will sign tailored agreements with their departments that specify when they are expected to graduate and when they are expected to reach required academic milestones. This is an important step in ensuring doctoral students receive their degrees in an efficient and timely manner. The new requirement promises to enhance academic advising for Ph.D. students and emphasizes considerable responsibility on advisors to guide students through the program.

**54. Support provided for UT Tyler pilot project to develop hybrid courses and degree programs. The goal is to double enrollment:**

In November 2012, the Board approved \$4,075,000 for a five-year pilot project for UT to develop hybrid (blended learning) courses and degree programs, along with project-based learning pedagogy, to such an extent that UT Tyler serves as a research and demonstration site for the benefits and efficacy of such education. The pilot project will support UT Tyler’s goal of increasing enrollment from 7,000 to 14,000 students, using blended and online

learning. This initiative demonstrates the Framework goals of improving excellence, lowering cost and improving access.

55. New process for Board review and approval of proposed tuition revenue bond projects proposed by each UT institution:

In November 2012, Chairman Powell announced that as a best business practice, but in a departure from past process with regard to tuition revenue bonds, the Board will consider each project proposed by the UT System academic and health institutions following review by the Academic Affairs and Health Affairs Committee, respectively, and the Facilities Planning and Construction Committee. This review process occurred on January 23, 2013.

56. Report issued on relationship between UT Austin School of Law and the Law School Foundation:

In November 2012, Vice Chancellor and General Counsel Barry Burgdorf issued a report related to the review of the relationship between the UT Austin School of Law and the Law School Foundation. The report was reviewed by the Texas Office of the Attorney General, which generally agreed with the findings and further recommended that the Foundation's forgivable loan program for faculty be dismantled.

*Note: The Task Force on Foundations will research the best management practices for all foundations supporting UT institutions.*

57. Center for Healthcare Value established within UT System's Office of Health Affairs; will measure and promote high value of health outcomes achieved relative to cost:

In November 2012, Executive Vice Chancellor Shine announced the establishment of the Center for Healthcare Value. The purpose of the Center is to operationally measure and promote high value for patients, with value defined as health outcomes achieved relative to cost. The Center will consolidate the support and development of many existing programs involving multiple health institutions. The Center will facilitate the development of innovative delivery models and payment systems, such as health homes and bundling, while serving as a resource for delivery system reform projects and uncompensated care issues related to the Medicaid 1115 waiver. In the rapidly changing healthcare environment, the Center will share information and experiences, promote best practices, and identify ways in which the UT System can build synergy among the health institutions to innovate and advance value.

## 58. Texas Advanced Computing Center receives supercomputer support creating one of most powerful computational resources for scientific community:

In November 2012, Intel announced the details of the first release of its Many Integrated Core (MIC) coprocessors, the Intel Xeon Phi, at the international Supercomputing 2012 conference. The Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC) at UT Austin was selected as the first installation to deploy the new MIC technology at large scale in the forthcoming Stampede supercomputer, funded by the National Science Foundation. TACC is launching extensive training and technical information activities to help users take advantage of this innovative technology.

Stampede is scheduled to go into full operation on January 7, 2013, with 6400 Dell C8220X nodes comprising 12,800 Intel processors plus several thousand “special edition” MIC coprocessors. The MIC coprocessors alone will provide more than 7 petaflops of performance, making Stampede a tremendously powerful computational resource for the open science community. Stampede will then be an allocated resource of the NSF’s Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment and will be made available to researchers through a peer-reviewed, competitive allocation process.

## DECEMBER, 2012

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## 59. Board of Regents approves transformational plan to create a new University in South Texas:

In December 2012, the Board of Regents unanimously approved an initiative to authorize Chancellor Cigarroa to work with the Texas Legislature to establish a new university that includes the UT Brownsville campus, the UT Pan American campus, and the future medical school in South Texas.

The new university would span the entire Rio Grande Valley, with a presence in each of the major metropolitan areas of Brownsville, Edinburg, Harlingen, and McAllen.

The new university’s overall size and portfolio approaches other existing UT System emerging research universities. It would initially have a student population of 28,000, restricted research expenditures of \$11 million, an endowment of \$70.5 million, and a total operating budget of \$419 million. The new university would also be one of the two largest Hispanic-serving institutions in the nation, both for total Hispanics enrolled and number of bachelor’s degrees awarded.

60. New \$10,000 Degree at UT Arlington; could save students \$25,000 in educational costs:

UT Arlington has renewed partnerships with the Arlington and Mansfield school districts and Tarrant County College to aid dedicated students on their path to earning a full bachelor's degree. Through agreements signed in December 2012, the two school districts, TCC, and UT Arlington pledge to provide additional staff and scholarship resources to guide students and families who want the highest quality education from high school through college. UT Arlington admissions and academic advising staffs will work with TCC students to ensure that they take courses accepted toward their bachelor's degree from the University. Students who complete all three phases of the program and qualify for the scholarship could save \$25,000 on the total cost of their undergraduate education and earn a college degree for less than \$10,000 in tuition and fees.

61. Student Debt Reduction Task Force reports to the Board of Regents to examine scope of problem and offer recommendations:

The overall growth in student loan debt, which now surpasses national credit card debt, and the increase in student loan defaults have become national concerns. It is a serious issue that the UT System's Student Debt Reduction Task Force has taken on in its December 2012 report: *College "Credit": Reducing Unmanageable Student Debt and Maximizing Return on Education* ([www.utsystem.edu/student-debt-reduction](http://www.utsystem.edu/student-debt-reduction)). The Task Force presented the report to the Board of Regents in December, 2012. The report examines the scope and causes of the problem and offers specific recommendations.

Formed as part of the Framework for Advancing Excellence Action Plan, the Task Force examined the problem of excessive student loan debt and its impact on students and their families.

The report identifies three critical themes that help determine a student's ability to manage debt, which are:

- degree completion,
- better understanding of costs and returns, and
- transparency and decision support.

62. New feature on UT System website provides public with easier access to review open records requests:

The UT System website now provides access to a list of open records requests received by the UT System Administration. The display includes the request date, a description of the

information requested, and a link allowing anyone to request information responsive to the request. Effective December 2012, each UT institution has a similar website link. Work to provide further functionality for all sites continues.

### 63. UT MD Anderson Cancer Center and GlaxoSmithKline enter agreement for immune therapy; will develop new therapies to confront cancer:

UT MD Anderson has agreed to a major collaboration and license agreement with GlaxoSmithKline to develop new therapeutic antibodies that promote an immune cell attack against cancer. Potential value of the agreement is estimated at over \$335 million, including an upfront license payment of \$4 million.

## ONGOING INITIATIVES IN 2012

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### 64. MyEdu Update; includes new enhancements tying degree decisions with career outcomes:

In 2012, MyEdu, the UT System, and UT institutions worked together to improve the customized value of the MyEdu platform for all UT students, linking degree plans and career choices.

As a result of this deep engagement, MyEdu produced a series of application enhancements and new products designed to help students graduate and get a job. Enhancements included improving course data information, feedback, recommendations, availability and schedule planning tools. In response to students' high demand for support in career outcomes, MyEdu launched a student profile and credentialing system for students to better share their skills, a platform where students/employers can connect, and a job site that currently lists more than 500,000 opportunities.

In 2013, MyEdu will further enhance its academic toolset to enable students to build a personal Education Plan, manage on-line and competency-based credits, improve assignment tracking, and deliver tools that better link degrees and course decisions with career outcomes. MyEdu will also extend its profile and credentialing system to help students find better employment opportunities, and launch a mentoring system between students and alumni, and provide an all-inclusive employer platform focused on improving job outcomes for students.

65. Progress continues on the Transformation in Medical Education (TIME) Initiative. Reduces a medical education from eight years to seven years:

The UT System TIME initiative is a student centered, clinically focused program designed to increase the effectiveness of medical education while shortening its duration. The initiative continues to make progress in 2012 with the following accomplishments:

- Mission statement and initial strategies were formally adopted.
- Competency-based milestones spanning all six domains of competence used in residency education were adopted for the transition from the general academic to health campuses.
- Pre-health professions programs for students interested in a variety of health related fields are being developed by each campus.
- Curriculum redesign is proceeding, with each campus developing a variety of approaches to increase efficiency (e.g., course combinations and reductions) while updating instructional approaches.
- Lower student debt.

66. UT Research Cyberinfrastructure enhancements will enhance bio medical research for all UT institutions:

The University of Texas Research Cyberinfrastructure (UTRC) originated as a strategic investment on the part of the BOR to support high performance computing (HPC), enhance network speed, and provide data storage that will advance biomedical research across the 15 campuses. Financed by \$23 million of AUF, the UTRC will:

- increase the speed of inter-campus networking to 10 GB,
- provide additional high performance computing training for researchers and technical capacity, and
- create a shared research data storage for institutional use within the Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC) at UT Austin.

These activities have been advised through a steering committee chaired by Vice Chancellor Hurn and populated by members of all 15 campuses and TACC with implementation through operational committees that focus on technical objectives, faculty outreach, security and policy, and business/governance.

Progress has been significant in the “first phase” of the UTRC. First, two redundant large scale data storage systems are now operational at TACC and at the UT System data center at Arlington. At present, over 40 faculty members are testing these capabilities to store their research data.

- An overall business plan, including initial administrative operating guidelines and a scale of billable rates, has been created, as a means of sustaining initial UTRC investments.
- Network enhancements are progressing across all UT institutions and the three data centers, with expected completion by May 2013.
- Expansion of Lonestar 4, the HPC cluster at TACC, has been completed, with increasing numbers of users from UT campuses.
- Strong emphasis is placed on enhancing information security for research data being transported on the network and stored in the data centers.

## 67. The UT Horizon Fund invests in four companies employing innovative technology licensed from UT institutions:

The UT Horizon Fund exists to improve the commercialization of UT technologies while earning a positive return on investment and contributing to student ventures and entrepreneurship. A significant portion of gains earned will be reinvested into the Fund for future growth. Phase I of the Fund has been capitalized at \$10 million through the Available University Fund.

Recipients of 2012 UT Horizon Fund investments for improving society in fields such as healthcare, materials and information technology included the following:

- Apollo Endosurgery, a UT Medical Branch startup dedicated to revolutionizing patient care through the development of endoscopic surgery that will minimize the trauma of surgical access by taking advantage of natural orifices to deliver surgical tools to targeted areas.
- Cerevast, a UT Health Science Center – Houston life sciences company with primary emphasis in the field of sonolysis for the treatment of vascular thrombus disorders. The technology will serve as a non-invasive therapy for disrupting blood clots and restoring blood flow in the vasculature of the brain.
- FibeRio, a UT Pan American startup that focuses on transforming the materials market through the unlimited availability of high quality, customized nanofibers. Applications include innovative filtration, textiles, tissue engineering, drug delivery, energy, cosmetics among many others.

- Latakoo, a UT San Antonio startup that markets and develops easy-to-use online video transfer products, poised to assist the media community through delivery of high definition encrypted video platforms from anywhere around the globe.

## 68. Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI) continues to enhance the UT System Productivity Dashboard; offers public a look at numerous factors to assess effectiveness and productivity of UT institutions:

The UT System Dashboard offers an unprecedented look at how the UT System institutions are performing on a variety of measures and provides ten core indicators of performance at all UT System institutions, such as graduation rates and degree costs, as well as other longitudinal data that allow students, parents, stakeholders, and others to assess the effectiveness and productivity of universities.

Recently, new metrics have been added to the student success dashboard page. These include licensure exam pass rates for engineering, law, nursing, pharmacy, medicine, etc. Other additions include admissions test scores for the SAT, ACT, GRE, GMAT, and GRE; tuition and affordability data with peer comparisons; number of undergraduates per professional academic advisor; and time to a bachelor's degree by field.

Other new features of the Dashboard include a side navigation panel allowing for easier movement in the portal; visual navigation on the first "page" with quick links to most frequently used reports; and the ability to select a view for the Dashboard (System overview, single campus, all academic or all health).

In addition to these new data tools, OSI is working to expand access to the Dashboard. In early 2013, OSI will release an iPad application for the viewing of dashboard reports and analytics.

Associate Vice Chancellor Stephanie Huie has been invited to discuss the Dashboard at the annual meeting of the Association for Institutional Research in 2013. Her presentation is entitled "University of Texas System Productivity Dashboard – Model for Excellence".

## 69. Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI) continues to improve faculty productivity data; partnership with SciVal® provides broad picture of teaching, research, and service across UT System:

A recent partnership with Academic Analytics provides the ability to collect publication data on UT System faculty members and to benchmark publication productivity and faculty citations by academic department to other academic departments around the country. In addition, a recent partnership with SciVal® gives OSI staff the ability to examine research collaborations between faculty at UT System health campuses and other faculty around the

country. SciVal® also provides detailed data about research grant productivity for UT System health institution faculty. The acquisition of this data will provide a more comprehensive picture of faculty work, which includes teaching, research, and service.

SciVal® Experts is a sophisticated expertise profiling and research networking tool pre-populated with the deep, useful information on faculty publications. The tool makes it easier to find experts and enable collaboration covering health experts at UT System institutions. The user is able to conduct thematic, trend or faculty collaboration analysis by institution, college, department or faculty.

## 70. System Administration continues to strive for efficient delivery of services; doing more with less; continues to operate with 25% fewer FTEs than in 2009:

The UT System Administration continues to remain 25% below the 824 full time equivalent (FTE) position high from Fiscal Year 2009, at 568 FTEs for Fiscal Year 2012 and 622 FTEs for Fiscal Year 2013. The slight growth in budgeted positions in 2013 is for targeted positions aimed at enhancing cyber security important to maintain the public trust, shared services to enhance cost containment, blended and online learning aimed at enhancing student success and lowering their debt, and recruitment of experts important to enhance the value of UT's West Texas Lands. It is anticipated that the System will be able to continue this reduction of 25% in FTE for the immediate future as we try to direct more funds toward our students and campuses.

## 71. Significant appointments to executive leadership positions:

- Dr. Pedro Reyes, formerly Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Planning and Assessment, was named UT System Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs following a national search. Dr. Reyes is a well-respected scholar and teacher and experienced higher education administrator.
- In October 2012, the Board approved the appointment of Giuseppe N. Colasurdo, M.D., as the President of UTHSC - Houston. President Colasurdo was formerly the Dean of the Medical School and served as Interim President from April 1, 2011, until he was appointed President. He replaced Larry R. Kaiser, M.D., who served as President from August 1, 2008 - March 31, 2011.
- J. Michael Peppers, formerly Chief Audit Executive at UT MD Anderson Cancer Center and UT Medical Branch - Galveston, was named UT System Chief Audit Executive effective January 3, 2013, following a national search. Mr. Peppers has served the UT System in an interim role since the spring of 2012.

72. UT System Blog created to showcase breaking news:

The UT System blog, UT Matters, was created to showcase the latest developments at the UT System. The blog consists of updates from Chancellor Cigarroa, recaps of Board meetings and highlights from special events. In an effort to promote the extraordinary talent and real time information System-wide, it will soon serve as a repository for breaking news and feature stories written about the 15 UT institutions.

73. Orientation process for key leadership planned for implementation in 2013; additional training and orientation slated for new regents and new presidents:

The Chancellor's Office and the Board Office will implement a revamped and extensive orientation program for new UT presidents and new UT Regents in early 2013. The program will be utilized for new System executives as well.

74. Aggressive review of issues related to campus safety and security; designed to reduce threats to student safety:

The Board will continue its regular meetings with the Director of Police and the Director of Risk Management to provide direct guidance on matters involving individual safety, including reviews of best practices related to detection, assessment, and notice to the campuses.

As part of the oversight, the Board has encouraged immediate action to work with local law enforcement and representatives of the owners to correct problems at private residential properties near campus that pose a threat to student safety.





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