Dr. Tedd L. Mitchell serves in a dual appointment as president of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and chancellor of the Texas Tech University System. He has held his post as Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center president since 2010 and became the Texas Tech University System’s fifth chancellor on Oct. 25, 2018.

As chancellor, Dr. Mitchell serves as the chief executive officer of a $2 billion, four-university higher education enterprise consisting of Texas Tech University, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Angelo State University and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso. Collectively, the Texas Tech University System enrolls approximately 55,000 students, operates on more than 15 campuses statewide and internationally, and has an endowment valued over $1.3 billion.

Dr. Mitchell works collaboratively with the Board of Regents, System administration and each university president to enhance the System’s profile and support shared missions of advancing higher education, health care, research and community outreach. Additionally, Dr. Mitchell guides the System’s engagement with state elected officials in Austin and federal leaders in Washington, D.C., to further enhance funding and support.

Historic milestones were achieved, under Dr. Mitchell’s leadership, after receiving legislative funding and approval in the 86th Texas Legislature to establish a new Texas Tech University veterinary school in Amarillo, and a new dental school at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso. This will be the state’s first veterinary school in more than a century and first dental school in over 50 years. The addition of these two schools makes the Texas Tech University System one of only nine in the nation to offer programs for undergraduate, medical, law, nursing, pharmacy, dental and veterinary education, among other academic areas.
Prior to his dual appointment, Dr. Mitchell was named the eighth president of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center on May 17, 2010. He is the university’s longest-tenured president and has successfully led a period of record growth in enrollment, academic excellence and physical campus expansion. TTUHSC now graduates more health care professionals than any other health-related institution in Texas.

As president, Dr. Mitchell has launched initiatives for interprofessional concentration around the university’s five schools – Biomedical Sciences, Health Professions, Medicine, Nursing and Pharmacy – and promoted programs to support novel research and creative endeavors such as the Department of Public Health, which will soon become the School of Public Health. Under his leadership, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center successfully helped establish the System's fourth university, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso in 2013.

Dr. Mitchell earned a Bachelor of Science at Stephen F. Austin State University in 1983. He is an Ashbel Smith Distinguished Alumnus of the University of Texas Medical Branch, where he received his Doctor of Medicine in 1987. In 2012, Dr. Mitchell was honored as a distinguished alumnus of the Department of Internal Medicine. He is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and the American College of Sports Medicine. From 1988 to 1996, he served as a captain in the U.S. Army Reserves (Medical Corps).

Prior to arriving at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Dr. Mitchell served as president and chief executive officer of the Cooper Clinic in Dallas, an internationally-recognized center of excellence in preventive and sports medicine.

His research interest is focused on the effects of activity and lifestyle on health. Dr. Mitchell has authored or co-authored dozens of scientific papers, abstracts and book chapters. He also is a frequent lecturer, both nationally and internationally, on the physiology of exercise and the effects of exercise on aging, fitness and overall quality of life. In 2002, Dr. Mitchell was appointed by President George W. Bush to the President’s Council for Physical Fitness and Sports and served until 2009.

As health editor and a weekly columnist for USA Weekend from 1998 to 2010, Dr. Mitchell published more than 600 articles. He received the 2006 Clarion Award and the 2008 Walter C. Alvarez Award for Excellence in Medical Communication from the American Medical Writers Association. His writing led to collaborative efforts with other health experts, culminating in the publication of the books Fit to Lead, Move Yourself and Fit to Lead II.

Dr. Mitchell is married to Dr. Janet Tornelli-Mitchell. They met while in medical school and practiced together for nearly two decades. The Mitchells have three children: Katherine, an assistant district attorney in Dallas, Charlie, a petroleum engineer in Dallas and a Texas Tech University alumnus, and Chris, a Texas Tech University alumnus, living in Philadelphia pursuing a master’s degree at Villanova University.
WHAT THEY ARE SAYING ABOUT DR. TEDD L. MITCHELL:

ROBERT DUNCAN, Former Texas Tech University System Chancellor (2014-2018):
“Tedd has a long, rich history of experience and service within the Texas Tech University System as he has led Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center to new levels of excellence. We’ve shared a vision for the purpose and future of the system, and he has been essential in advancing many of our top priorities. He is an outstanding leader and a greater friend. Terri and I look forward to what Tedd and Janet will accomplish and are confident continued great things are on the horizon with them leading the way.”

LAWRENCE SCHOVANEC, Texas Tech University President:
“The great progress made at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center reflects the effectiveness of Dr. Mitchell’s leadership. Working together as presidents provided special insight into his talents and personality that will now benefit the entire Texas Tech University System. Dr. Mitchell is the right person to lead the Texas Tech University System at this very critical time and I commend our Board of Regents on their excellent decision.”

KENT HANCE, Former Texas Tech University System Chancellor (2006-2014):
“I've known Tedd Mitchell for 30 years and believe he is an excellent choice to lead the Texas Tech University System at a time when our institutions are growing and excelling more than ever before. He has the depth of leadership and breadth of experience necessary to lead a system of this stature. Tedd understands the needs and visions of the presidents, and I am confident he will ensure our institutions thrive. He and Janet will represent us proudly and be great partners for the system and our communities.”

JODEY ARRINGTON, U.S. Representative (TX-19th District):
“Congratulations to my friend Dr. Tedd Mitchell on being named the fifth Chancellor of the Texas Tech University System. I've known Dr. Mitchell and his wife for many years and had the privilege of working with him while serving as Vice Chancellor at the Texas Tech System. Dr. Mitchell has a West Texas way about him and the rare ability to connect with folks in academia as well as the broader community of students, faculty and alum. He and Janet will be a great leadership team for Raider Nation, Angelo State, and all components of the Texas Tech University System. I give him, two 'Guns Up!'”

CHARLES PERRY, State Senator (TX-28th District):
“The Texas Tech University System will be in good hands under the leadership of Chancellor Tedd Mitchell. He has a remarkable track record as president of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and has proven time and again that he is the right person for this job. I firmly believe that he will be able to build upon the legacy of chancellors before him.”

DUSTIN BURROWS, Texas Representative (District 83):
“Dr. Mitchell has my full support. I look forward to working with him and his team during the upcoming legislative session to support the Texas Tech System, particularly the creation of the veterinary school.”

JOHN FRULLO, Texas Representative (District 84):
“I would like to congratulate Dr. Tedd Mitchell on the appointment of Chancellor. Dr. Mitchell has done an outstanding job as the president of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, and I look forward to continuing to work with him in his expanded role on the pressing issues facing Texas Tech next session.”