



Winter 2009

Dear Texas Tech Alumni, Parents and Friends:

This year I begin my third as Chancellor of the Texas Tech University System. Despite the worrisome economic forecasts, I remain extremely optimistic about the future of the Texas Tech University System and our ability to meet these challenges head on.

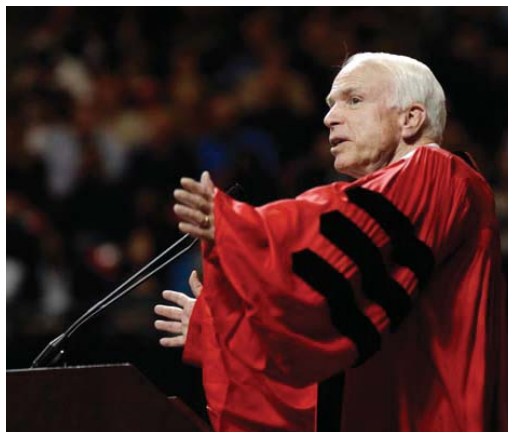
Last year our universities took major steps in achieving many of their long-term strategic goals. We improved in almost every area, setting records for enrollment while raising the test scores of entering freshmen and graduating some of our largest classes ever. Our students demonstrated unsurpassed performance levels on professional exams, and we increased research spending. Even in the area of fundraising, despite a weaker economy, we raised almost \$120 million, our second best year ever in cash contributions thanks to the generosity of our alumni, friends and corporate partners.

This year, we will continue to make progress in many areas:

- The Paul L. Foster School of Medicine in El Paso will seat its first four-year class and researchers at the Center of Excellence for Infectious Diseases will continue their groundbreaking research on suppression of the HIV virus.
- The TTUHSC School of Medicine Cancer Center in Lubbock, the only academic cancer center in West Texas, will move into expanded laboratory facilities to focus on the creation of new cancer-fighting drugs for children and adults.
- At Angelo State, the newly created College of Nursing and Allied Health will expand its operations and begin offering a doctorate in physical therapy, the university's first doctoral degree program.
- At Texas Tech, the newly named Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering, thanks to almost \$50 million in new gifts, will expand its teaching and research around renewable energy and nanophotonics.



*Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia visited Lubbock Nov. 14 for the Sandra Day O'Connor Distinguished Lecture Series sponsored by the School of Law and alumnus Mark Lanier.*



*Former presidential candidate Sen. John McCain gave the address at the Graduate School commencement in December.*

The additional resources are helping Texas Tech to attract some of the top engineering talent in the nation to lead these programs.

But the news is not all positive. The 81st Texas Legislative Session opened this month with State Comptroller Susan Combs forecasting a revenue decline of almost 10.5 percent during 2010-2011 and the need to trim over \$9 billion in general purpose spending from the state budget. That was harsh news for university presidents looking to the state for additional funding to fuel expanded research efforts and new construction projects on their campuses.

The reality is that balancing future operating budgets will require difficult choices. Last fall, our Board of Regents sent a strong message to the rest of the state by freezing tuition and fees at Texas Tech University. We believed, and still do, that the cost of education had risen too fast in Texas and grown beyond the reach of many families. Having already trimmed our budgets and spent some of our reserves, unless we can get additional funding out of Austin, it may be necessary once again to pass along higher costs to our students and their families.

In the Texas Tech University System we are fortunate to have a dedicated Board of Regents and sound leadership teams in place at each of our institutions. While a weakened economy may slow our progress, it will not prevent us from achieving our goals. We will be judicious with our resources and careful to put them to their very best use. There is much work to be done.

Thanks to all for your continued support.

Very truly yours,

Kent Hance, Chancellor





*Pictured from left are Kent Hance, Edward Whitacre and John Montford*

## TEXAS TECH SECURES \$25M GIFT FOR ENGINEERING COLLEGE

On Nov. 12 Texas Tech administrators acknowledged gifts of \$25 million from AT&T and friends of the company to the College of Engineering in honor of Edward E. Whitacre Jr., former Texas Tech regent and former chairman of the board and CEO of AT&T. Texas Tech officials also announced the college will be named the Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering.

Whitacre was instrumental in securing some of the largest gifts to Texas Tech, including contributions from the SBC Foundation to create endowed scholarships and endowed faculty positions at the university. At the request of then-Chancellor John T. Montford, he served as national campaign chairman for Texas Tech's Horizon Campaign from 1996 to 2001.

Whitacre, a 1964 Texas Tech industrial engineering graduate, credits much of his success to the quality education he received at Texas Tech.

A native of Ennis, Texas, Whitacre began his career at Southwestern Bell Telephone in Lubbock in 1963. During Whitacre's 1990-2007 tenure as chairman and chief executive officer, the company differentiated itself through diversification, a disciplined growth strategy and strategic mergers and acquisitions. Whitacre retired in 2007.

## GIFT TO FUND CLINICAL SIMULATION CENTER

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center officials announced a major gift from Marie Hall, a long-time supporter of Texas Tech. The donation will be used to create a new clinical simulation center on the Lubbock campus.

The F. Marie Hall SimLife Center will be an educational clinical laboratory that will promote safe, quality patient care through innovative simulation technologies. Ms. Hall's gift will be used to assist with the renovation of 26,000 square feet on the west side of the first floor of TTUHSC. Simulation instruction areas will include:

- Authentic health care environments that include high tech equipment, mannequins, simulators and supplies needed to facilitate learning experiences such as an operating suite and scrub room
- Authentic simulated hospital patient rooms and clinic examination rooms to represent the patient care environment of a medical-surgical unit or long-term care facility
- Virtual reality and 3D visualization that supports learning and competency evaluations by virtual reality and 3D visualization
- Computerized digital audio-visual system in all rooms

The SimLife Center is expected to be completed in May 2010.



*Robert Smith (above) has been named provost and senior vice president at Texas Tech University. Smith's appointment was effective Feb. 1. He comes to Texas Tech from the University of Arkansas where he was provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs emeritus and professor of chemistry.*

## Construction Update

*A "Clearing the Way" ceremony was held Sept. 20 just west of Dan Law Baseball Field, as university officials prepared to begin demolition of Thompson and Gaston Halls. The ceremony and demolition of the two buildings are the first steps in the construction of the Rawls College of Business building. The new business administration building will serve as an anchor for a new North Campus Gateway that will be an entrance to the campus from the Marsha Sharp Freeway.*

*A groundbreaking ceremony Nov. 29 officially kicked off the expansion of the east side of Texas Tech University's Jones AT&T Stadium. The \$25 million facility will mirror the Spanish Renaissance style of the stadium's west side. The addition will add more than 500 club seats and 26 new suites. The new building is expected to open for the 2010 season.*

## **\$2.4 MILLION DEFENSE GRANT DETAILED FOR ANGELO STATE**

Following discussions with Pentagon officials, new details have been released about the planned uses for a record \$2.4 million Department of Defense grant awarded to Angelo State University for cross cultural education programs to benefit the nation's security.

The grant, announced in late September by U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison's office, will provide monies for infrastructure needs for a new Center for Security Studies to be established at ASU in conjunction with security programs offered at Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo.

ASU's Center for Security Studies will provide an administrative umbrella for a variety of programs which will augment educational needs at Goodfellow for security and intelligence training, research and policy analysis. The new center will integrate expertise at ASU and the Texas Tech University System with programs at Goodfellow, focusing on areas of concern to the U.S. Air Force.

Initially, the Center for Security Studies will offer a Bachelor of Arts in International Cultural Fluency, focusing on the language, culture and traditions of the Middle East, Europe, Africa and China.

The initial \$2.4 million will be used for infrastructure support in upgrading the Hardeman Administration Building, which will undergo a \$12 million renovation project beginning next year to turn the building into a one-stop center for student services and international studies programs.

## **TEXAS TECH RESEARCHERS COUNTER CHEMICAL WARFARE WITH NEW TECHNOLOGY**

A newly-developed decontamination wipe designed by researchers at The Institute of Environmental and Human Health (TIEHH) at Texas Tech University has proven itself the best for cleaning up chemical warfare agents and toxic chemicals.

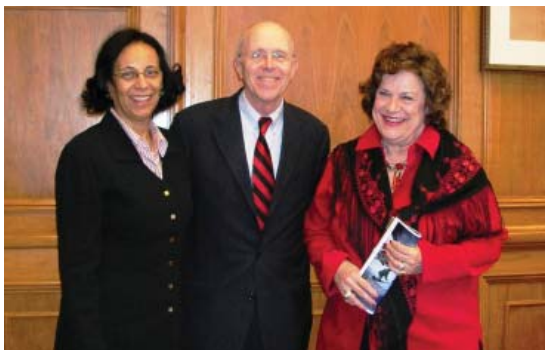
The evaluation of the nonwoven dry wipe product, called Fibertect™, was performed as part of a study by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory using mustard gas and other toxic chemicals. Researchers found that the Texas Tech-created product out-performed 30 different decontamination materials, including materials currently used in military decontamination kits.

Seshadri Ramkumar supervises the Nonwovens and Advanced Materials Laboratory at Texas Tech. He and other scientists with the Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr. National Program for Countermeasures to Biological and Chemical Threats have worked to create a product that will be an asset to military and homeland security efforts in the post-Sept. 11 environment. The program is funded by the U.S. Department of Defense.

The technology has been licensed by Texas Tech's Office of Technology Commercialization to Waco-based Hobbs Bonded Fibers. The company is organizing a global marketing team to expedite the commercialization of Fibertect™.



*Pictured from left are Ronald Kendall, Kent Hance, U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, Guy Bailey and Carey Hobbs at the Dec. 3 news conference.*



*Omani Ambassador Hunaina Al-Mughairy (left) and former U.S. Ambassador to Oman Frances Cook (right) visited Texas Tech in November.*



*Pictured from left are Renee Bogschutz, William Poirier, Kent Hance, Christina R. Esperate*

## **CHANCELLOR'S COUNCIL DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AND RESEARCH AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED**

Texas Tech faculty members received Texas Tech University System Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching and Research Awards on Nov. 21.

The annual awards go to faculty members from the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and Texas Tech University. Winners from Angelo State University will be selected and announced in the spring at an event in San Angelo.

The Distinguished Teaching Awards go to William Westney, Horn Professor of Music in Texas Tech's College of Visual and Performing Arts and Renee Bogschutz, in the School of Allied Health Sciences at the Health Sciences Center.

The Distinguished Research Awards go to L. William 'Bill' Poirier, associate professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Texas Tech and M. Christina R. Esperate in the Health Sciences Center Anita Thigpen Perry School of Nursing.

This is the eighth year for the Chancellor's Council to present the awards. The winners will receive a plaque and a \$10,000 cash award. The Chancellor's Council raises funds for student scholarships, faculty recruitment and support, and other programs.

## **FOOTBALL GRAD RATES AMONG TOP 10**

In the recent Graduation Success Rate (GSR) release by the NCAA, Texas Tech's football program graduated 79 percent of its student-athletes during the 1997-2000 period, ranking the program in the top 10 nationally among all BCS institutions and second in BCS public institution comparisons.

When factoring in all public and private schools, Texas Tech ranked 10th and was third in the Big 12 behind Baylor (84%) and Nebraska (83%). Kansas State (73%) is the only other Big 12 school above the 70 percent mark.

The GSR was developed in response to college and university presidents who wanted graduation data that more accurately reflect the mobility among college students today. It does not factor in student-athletes that transfer out and includes those that transfer in.

Texas Tech has traditionally posted a graduation rate of 70 percent or above during Mike Leach's tenure. In his eighth season, Leach's teams have been recognized each spring by the American Football Coaches Association for the program's high level of graduation.

## **FLAG FOOTBALL TEAM CLAIMS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

Angelo State University intramural flag football team, The Invisibles, won the co-recreational division of the National Campus Championship Series Flag Football Championships on Dec. 28-30 in Tampa, Fla.

The Invisibles defeated the University of North Carolina-Charlotte squad, Charlotte's Finest, in the championship game, 27-16.

Apolynne Pilapil of the Invisibles was named female Most Valuable Player and teammate Blake McCarthy won male Most Valuable Player honors. A third Invisibles player, Jerrell Jones, was picked for the all-tournament team.

The NCCS tournament is sponsored by the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association.

From here, it's possible.

