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Committee Meeting: 5/12/2011

R. Steven Hicks, Chairman
Robert L. Stillwell, Vice Chairman
Paul L. Foster
Wallace L. Hall, Jr.
Brenda Pejovich

Board Meeting: 5/12/2011
Austin, Texas

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1. **U. T. El Paso: Authorization to establish a Ph.D. degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology**

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and President Natalicio that authorization, pursuant to the Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 40307, related to academic program approval standards, be granted to

- a. establish a Ph.D. degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at U. T. El Paso; and
- b. submit the proposal to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and appropriate action.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Program Description

U. T. El Paso requests authority to implement a new Ph.D. program in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (EEB). This program will focus on the conservation and quality of limited water resources (surface and groundwater) through the study of regions (arid and semiarid), which will be the most globally prevalent issue by mid-century. This program is directly aligned with U. T. El Paso's commitment to meet regional needs and student demand by enhancing graduate and undergraduate education, and to address Texas' and the nation's future workforce needs, with special focus on preparing the fast-growing population. This doctoral program also leverages existing strengths, infrastructure, economies of scale and knowledge; and it builds on strategic investments by U. T. El Paso, U. T. System, and the State of Texas.

Since U. T. El Paso is the largest national research university in the United States with a Mexican-American majority student population, it is a model for demonstrating that a university with a strong commitment to access can also achieve high levels of excellence in both undergraduate and graduate programs and research. The proposed doctoral program is a key part of this effort.

Improved understanding of arid and semiarid regions will be critical to the future growth of Texas and the nation, and U. T. El Paso's EEB program has been designed with this goal in mind. U. T. El Paso is uniquely positioned to train highly competitive, skilled professionals who will be able to address emerging regional and national environmental resource challenges (e.g., water quality, drought, emerging diseases, habitat conservation), and contribute to the state's and nation's economic development and growth.

U. T. El Paso has extensive resources and strengths that will fulfill the program's mission – from proximate natural environments to longstanding centers and collaborators. The program resides in one of the world's most biologically diverse but understudied regions, the Chihuahuan Desert. U. T. El Paso's unique physical assets that support the EEB program include the University's 39,000-acre Indio Mountain Research Station in Hudspeth County, the Laboratory for Environmental Biology, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) funded Regional Geospatial Service Center. Existing relationships with state (Texas Parks and Wildlife), national (National Academies of Science), and other organizations will ensure state-of-the-art inquiry and future job opportunities across multiple sectors for students.

Another key strength is the program's organizational home in the Department of Biological Sciences, which has a proven track record of doctoral student success with its biomedical sciences program upon which this degree program will be modeled to maintain current operational efficiencies. These assets include key faculty, support staff, research infrastructure components, and mentoring programs to name a few. In addition to their required coursework, all students will be expected to conduct and publish original research and publicly defend a dissertation. The proposed program is expected to add a total of 30 doctoral students to the Biological Sciences Department over the next five years.

Need and Demand

As Texas' population continues to expand, arid and semiarid regions will have to absorb some of that growth. Problems of water sources, shortages, and drought, which under the best of conditions occur cyclically, will likely be exacerbated. The two basic sciences and foundations of this EEB program emphasize functional relationships of organisms in their environments and the adaptation of organisms to changing environments. These are directly related to providing innovative solutions to the challenges of both population growth and increasing aridity in the state. The proposed Ph.D. program addresses anticipated present and future needs that will require broadly trained professionals across the wide spectrum of public and private interests impacted by this changing Texas. This program will also contribute to the increasingly urgent need to address the impact of population growth on sustainability, public health, and well-being in arid landscapes here and across the globe.

U. T. El Paso has determined the demand for trained professionals in EEB fields is high, continues to increase statewide and nationally, and cuts across sectors from government to academia to industry (e.g., sustainability, natural resource, and clean energy companies) to non-profit organizations. At present, 1/8 of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (\$14.72T, 2010 est.) is based on natural resource products. In addition, a \$730 billion market for outdoor activities exists. In fact, 1 out of every 20 jobs in the U.S. is linked to outdoor recreation activities, goods, and services, with 1.4 million jobs associated with public access to wildlife alone. These activities stimulate 8% of all consumer spending. Other estimates indicate that 1/3 of all industry jobs in the outdoor sector will be related to ecology and environmental resources by 2018. In the clean energy sector alone, 65% of jobs will be related to conservation and pollution mitigation. In 2007, Texas had more than 40,000 such jobs, and the demand continues to rise.

Future opportunities for graduates are also arising along the Texas-Mexico border in such areas as border security and bioterrorism, biodiversity forensic services, conservation of natural resources, and waste management, disposal, and contamination remediation.

Program Quality

The proposed program's independent site visitors stated that they were "uniformly, indeed profoundly, impressed by the professionalism, scientific acumen, and high reputation of the faculty of this prospective graduate program." They also had high praise for the existing biodiversity facilities and resources available to both graduate and undergraduate students, and placed these as important in "integrating U. T. El Paso's EEB graduate and research programs with other national and international institutions." Moreover, they also noted the willing participation of the supporting departmental faculty from the biomedical sciences, citing the "highly advantageous prospect" of integrating the EEB program both "instructionally and in research aspects of pathobiology, vector biology, toxicology, and pathogen research."

U. T. El Paso faculty in the Biological Sciences are internationally recognized and extremely competitive in securing external funding for their research, averaging \$541,000 per faculty member in grant support over the past two years. This program will further enhance their capacity to secure funding from national and international granting agencies and foundations.

Ten tenured/tenure-track faculty members will serve as the program's core faculty, and nine tenured/tenure-track biomedical faculty members will serve in a support role. All faculty who participate in this program also teach organized undergraduate and graduate courses in Biological Sciences and such related interdisciplinary programs as environmental science and science teacher education. Two new tenure-track core faculty will be added to support projected enrollment growth in the third year of this program.

In addition to the research facilities mentioned previously, the EEB program will be supported by a new, 140,000 square foot Bioscience Research building that was constructed with Permanent University Funds (PUF), Tuition Revenue Bonds (TRB), and National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding. This facility's cutting-edge core research laboratories provide outstanding opportunities for students to develop the skills and expertise critical to future workplace demands. In addition, NIH program funding has enabled continued successful recruitment and retention of top quality investigators for this program and others.

Program Cost

The design of the EEB program's fiscal components was based on 10 years of experience with the current Ph.D. program in the department (which had net revenue last year of over \$1 million), identification of efficiencies, and use of existing

resources. The marginal revenue analysis to date reveals that the total average cost per student over five years is approximately \$36,929, and positive net revenue is achieved by year three, assuming enrollment targets are met. Sources of revenue include formula funding, external grant funding, reallocated funds, and differential student tuition.

Summary

The proposed doctoral program in ecology and evolutionary biology at U. T. El Paso is designed to: (1) address a critical area of continually growing professional workforce need and demand in Texas and the nation, (2) offer a unique focus not found in other doctoral programs in the state building capacity to address such issues as the use, conservation and quality of limited water resources (surface and groundwater) in semi-arid and arid regions, (3) draw on the operational model of a successful doctoral program in the home department and leverage physical and personnel assets (highly competitive faculty, proven research funding track records, campus infrastructures and strong partnerships), and (4) be cost-effective and expected to generate positive net revenue before the end of the first three years.

These future EEB scientists will focus on economically and environmentally important topics within this region and will be prepared to apply their knowledge and skills to such areas as sustainability, national security, and public health. Graduates will also have many career opportunities across academic, industrial, and public (government) sectors.

2. **U. T. Arlington: Authorization to lease to the Young Women's Christian Association of Fort Worth and Tarrant County, a Texas nonprofit corporation, approximately 8,000 square feet of space in a building to be constructed by the institution on its campus at 403 South Davis Drive, Arlington, Tarrant County, Texas, for the operation of a daycare center; and finding of public purpose**

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Vice Chancellor and General Counsel, and President Spaniolo that authorization be granted by the U. T. System Board of Regents, on behalf of U. T. Arlington, to

- a. lease to the Young Women's Christian Association of Fort Worth (YWCA) and Tarrant County, a Texas nonprofit corporation, approximately 8,000 square feet of space in a building to be constructed by the institution on its campus at 403 South Davis Drive, Arlington, Tarrant County, Texas, for the operation of a daycare center;

- b. determine that the lease will serve a public purpose appropriate to the function of U. T. Arlington and that the consideration to the U. T. System and U. T. Arlington is adequate; and
- c. authorize the Executive Director of Real Estate to execute all documents, instruments, and other agreements, and to take all further actions deemed necessary or advisable to carry out the purpose and intent of the foregoing recommendations.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The YWCA operates a daycare center on the campus of U. T. Arlington at 106 W. Sixth Street in a building owned by the YWCA, but located on land ground leased from the institution. This facility serves the children of students, faculty, and staff of U. T. Arlington as well as families living in close proximity to the campus.

The daycare facility is located more than 300 feet north of the Carrizo Oil and Gas Company's (Carrizo) natural gas drilling site on the institution's campus. This location complied with City of Arlington ordinance requirements when the drilling permits were issued to Carrizo. Many cities, including Arlington, have since amended their ordinances to provide for 600 feet of separation between natural gas wells and adjacent schools, churches, and neighborhoods. Relocating the YWCA daycare center will align more favorably with the City's amended ordinance and provide the institution with greater flexibility for the future use of this campus area.

Upon completion of the new building and termination of the existing ground lease, ownership of the existing building will be transferred to U. T. Arlington. The institution plans to use this building, with an appraised value of approximately \$404,400, for its grounds maintenance operations for its east campus. The previous grounds maintenance building for the east campus was removed as a result of the College Park District development.

The new location for the YWCA daycare facility is 403 South Davis Drive. The new facility will be approximately 8,000 square feet and will be leased to the YWCA for a 25-year term. It will be built and owned by U. T. Arlington. The YWCA will pay \$100,000 as prepaid rent, which will be used to pay for part of the construction cost of the new building. In addition to the \$100,000 in prepaid rent, the YWCA will be obligated under the lease to continuously operate the daycare facility, giving priority to U. T. Arlington's students, faculty, and staff. In addition, the YWCA and U. T. Arlington will enter into an agreement to permit the institution to use the facility as a learning laboratory for students at U. T. Arlington.

The total project cost for the new building is estimated to be \$1,700,000. The construction cost will be apportioned between U. T. Arlington (\$480,000), Carrizo (\$1.12 million), and YWCA (\$100,000). U. T. Arlington proposes to fund its portion of construction costs from Unexpended Plant Funds. As a "minor project," the new building will comply with Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 80403.

The Attorney General of the State of Texas has advised in Opinion No. MW-373 (1981) that, for the use of university facilities at a below market rental to comply with the Texas Constitution, three requirements must be met: (1) the use of the property must serve a public purpose, appropriate to the function of the university, (2) adequate consideration must be received by the university, and (3) the university must maintain controls over the user's activities to ensure that the public purpose is achieved.

U. T. Arlington has determined that the below market rental for the lease to the YWCA serves a public purpose appropriate to the function of U. T. Arlington. The priority granted to the institution's students, faculty, and staff for daycare services enhances the desirability of the institution as a place to study and work. Likewise, the agreement permitting U. T. Arlington to use the facility as a learning laboratory promotes the educational mission of the institution.

Transaction Summary

Institution:	U. T. Arlington
Total Area:	Approximately one acre
Improvements:	Approximately 8,000-square foot building to be constructed
Location:	403 South Davis Drive, Arlington, Tarrant County, Texas; see map on next page
Lessee:	Young Women's Christian Association of Fort Worth and Tarrant County, a Texas nonprofit corporation
Lease Term:	Twenty-five years
Lease Considerations:	\$100,000 prepaid rent; priority use of daycare facility by U. T. Arlington's students, faculty, and staff; and agreement permitting use of the daycare facility as a learning laboratory by U. T. Arlington
Intended Use:	Daycare facility



3. **U. T. Brownsville: Authorization to purchase approximately 7.34 acres being Lot 1A, Block 2, University Park Unit 1 Replat, Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas, improved with a 103-unit apartment complex from TC-Met La Estancia, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, for a purchase price not to exceed fair market value as established by independent appraisals for use as student housing for the institution, and resolution regarding parity debt**

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Vice Chancellor and General Counsel, and President García that authorization be granted by the U. T. System Board of Regents, on behalf of U. T. Brownsville, to

- a. purchase approximately 7.34 acres being Lot 1A, Block 2, University Park Unit 1 Replat, Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas, improved with a 103-unit apartment complex from TC-Met La Estancia, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, for a purchase price not to exceed fair market value as established by independent appraisals, plus all due diligence expenses, closing costs and expenses to complete the transaction as deemed necessary or advisable by the Executive Director of Real Estate, for use as student housing for the institution;
- b. authorize the Executive Director of Real Estate to execute all documents, instruments, or other agreements, and to take all further actions deemed necessary or advisable to carry out the purpose and intent of the foregoing recommendation; and
- c. resolve in accordance with Section 5 of the Amended and Restated Master Resolution Establishing The University of Texas System Revenue Financing System (the RFS Master Resolution) that:
 - parity debt shall be issued to fund the purchase, including any costs prior to the issuance of such parity debt;
 - sufficient funds will be available to meet the financial obligations of the U. T. System, including sufficient Pledged Revenues as defined in the RFS Master Resolution to satisfy the Annual Debt Service Requirements of the Financing System as defined in the RFS Master Resolution, and to meet all financial obligations of the U. T. System Board of Regents relating to the Financing System;

- U. T. Brownsville, which is a "Member" as such term is used in the RFS Master Resolution, possesses the financial capacity to satisfy its direct obligation as defined in the RFS Master Resolution relating to the issuance by the U. T. System Board of Regents of parity RFS debt in the aggregate amount not to exceed the purchase price; and
- this action satisfies the official intent requirements set forth in Section 1.150-2 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* that evidences the Board's intention to reimburse project expenditures with bond proceeds.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

U. T. Brownsville proposes to purchase the subject property consisting of a 103-unit, 429-bed student apartment complex on 7.34 acres immediately southeast of the U. T. Brownsville/Texas Southmost College campus. The complex was constructed in 2009. It is ideally located for easy access to the campus, particularly that part of the campus on which U. T. Brownsville-owned facilities are located.

The subject property consists of seven detached buildings, one of which serves as the office and recreation center. The property is fenced and includes outdoor recreation facilities. All furnishings are also included in the proposed purchase price.

The campus' current student housing is owned by Texas Southmost College and was constructed during the 1960s as a hotel. It was acquired by Texas Southmost College in Fall 2002 for student housing and placed online in 2003 as The Village at Fort Brown. Over the last several years, the property has sustained damage as a result of hurricanes and tropical storms that affected the area. Consequently, U. T. Brownsville requested an assessment of the property that was conducted by the Office of Facilities Planning and Construction in April 2010. The assessment concluded that if the property were to remain in use, nearly \$14 million in repairs and improvements would be required. Given the planned separation of U. T. Brownsville from Texas Southmost College, the institution has concluded that it is not prudent to pursue that expenditure.

Student housing is a key component in the development of U. T. Brownsville. Currently, nearly 300 students reside in The Village at Fort Brown, many of whom are enrolled as international students and would be displaced if housing is not available. In addition, U. T. Brownsville has relationships with foreign universities that desire to send more students to the campus, if housing is available. Those students would pay international tuition, and U. T. Brownsville will be able to request students who will major in fields of study that the institution is developing.

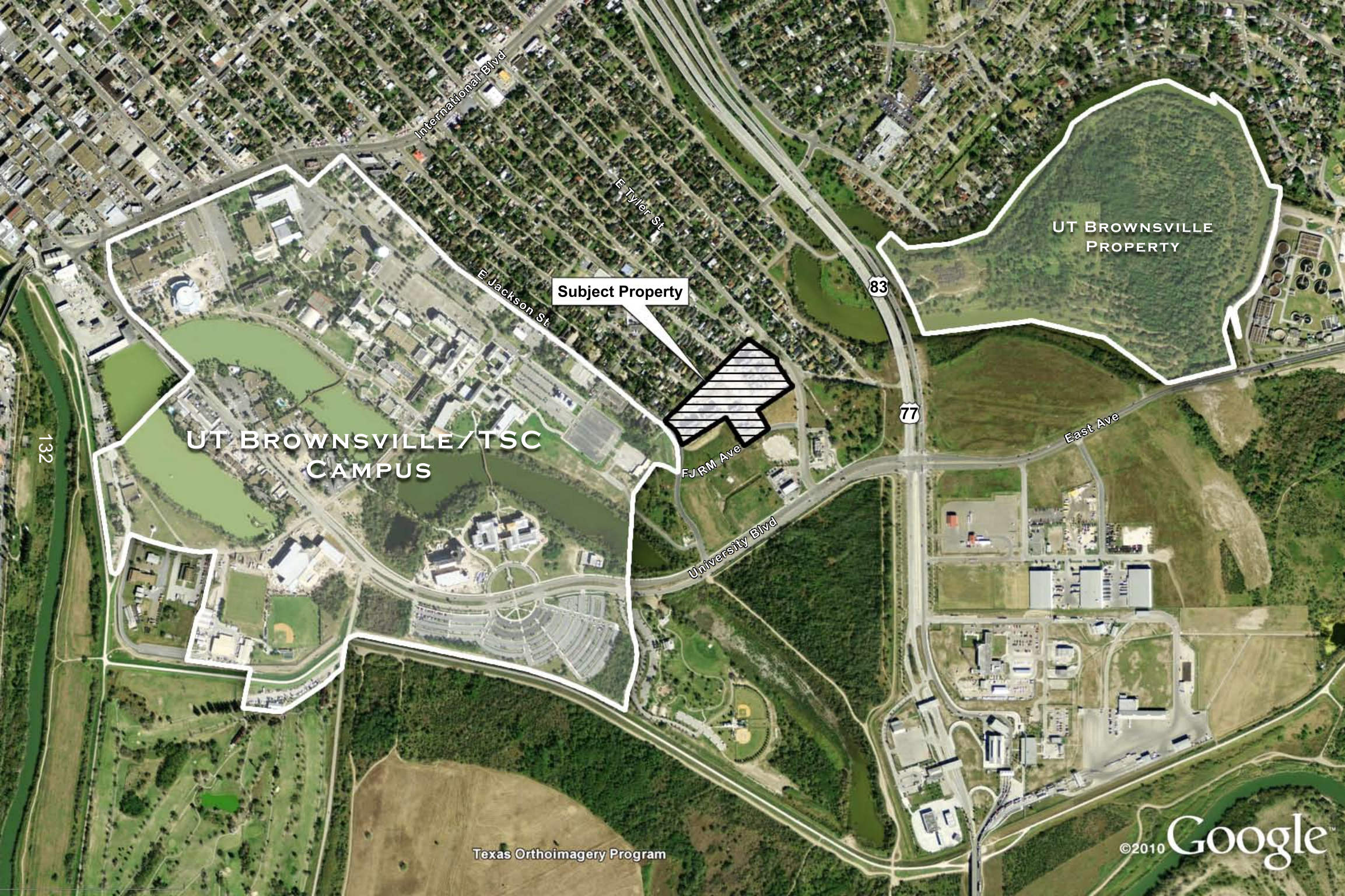
U. T. Brownsville proposes to fund the purchase with the use of U. T. System Revenue Financing System (RFS) debt. The RFS debt will be repaid from housing revenues.

Debt service is estimated to be \$727,000 annually. The project's debt service coverage ratio is expected to be at least 1.3 times by the end of FY 2013. The institution's debt service coverage ratio is expected to be at least 1.4 times and to average 1.6 times during the period from FY 2011 through FY 2016.

The transaction summary is set forth below and a map appears on the next page.

Transaction Summary

Institution:	U. T. Brownsville
Type of Transaction:	Purchase of land and improvements
Total Area:	Approximately 7.34 acres
Improvements:	103-unit, 429-bed fully-furnished apartment complex consisting of six detached buildings and a seventh office/recreation building, all with stucco and brick veneer over wood framing, plus perimeter fencing, outdoor sports courts, and swimming pool; all improvements were completed in 2009
Location:	2651 FJRM Avenue, Brownsville, Texas, being Lot 1A, Block 2, University Park Unit 1 Replat, Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas (see map on the next page)
Seller:	TC-Met La Estancia, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company
Purchase Price:	Not to exceed fair market value as established by independent appraisals
Appraised Value:	Confidential pursuant to <i>Texas Education Code</i> Section 51.951
Intended Use:	Student housing
Source of Funds:	Revenue Financing System debt, not to exceed the purchase price, to be repaid from housing revenues



International Blvd

E Tyler St

E Jackson St

Subject Property

83

77

UT BROWNSVILLE
PROPERTY

East Ave

UT BROWNSVILLE/TSC
CAMPUS

FJRM Ave

University Blvd

132

4. **U. T. El Paso: Authorization to sell the land and improvements located at 1100 N. Stanton Street in El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, and known as the Stanton Medical Building, to the El Paso Community College District for a sales price of \$2,000,000 and to enter into a leaseback of a portion of the improvements on an interim basis and a memorandum of understanding with the District for the cooperative use of shared boiler and chiller facilities**

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Vice Chancellor and General Counsel, and President Natalicio that authorization be granted by the U. T. System Board of Regents, on behalf of U. T. El Paso, to

- a. sell the land and improvements located at 1100 N. Stanton Street in El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, and known as the Stanton Medical Building, to the El Paso Community College District for a sales price of \$2,000,000 and to enter into a leaseback of a portion of the improvements on an interim basis and a memorandum of understanding with the District for the cooperative use of shared boiler and chiller facilities; and
- b. authorize the Executive Director of Real Estate to execute the sale contract and all documents, instruments, or other agreements, and to take all further actions deemed necessary or advisable to carry out the purpose and intent of the foregoing recommendation.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Board of Regents on February 9, 1995, authorized U. T. El Paso to purchase the Stanton Medical Building to provide both short-term and future space for U. T. El Paso nursing and health sciences programs at a fraction of the cost to construct new space on campus. Surplus space was to be leased for income to defray the cost of operating the building until the space was needed for university purposes. The property was acquired by U. T. El Paso in April 1995 for \$1,250,000. When U. T. El Paso purchased the property, the space was needed for expansion of health sciences programs that were housed at the Campbell Building located across the street.

The current U. T. El Paso programs occupying the Stanton Medical Building are primarily health-related programs that will be relocating by January 2012 to either the College of Health Sciences/School of Nursing complex currently under construction on campus or to U. T. El Paso's Campbell Building. At that time, the original purpose of housing U. T. El Paso programs in the Stanton Medical Building will cease to exist.

Moreover, the state of the real estate market is such that leasing to third-party tenants has become more difficult and less profitable due to a flat office rental market and lower demand for office space in the Stanton Medical Building.

El Paso Community College District and U. T. El Paso have a long-standing relationship. The District desires to purchase the property to expand El Paso Community College District's Rio Grande Campus, which primarily houses health sciences programs. U. T. El Paso anticipates that the expansion of El Paso Community College District's health sciences programs, which are primarily two-year programs, will benefit U. T. El Paso's four-year health sciences programs by providing a larger pool of students continuing their education beyond two years.

The property is an eight-story office building constructed in 1971 and consists of approximately 79,813 square feet of office space and an associated surface parking lot and garage on approximately 67,600 square feet of land. The proposed sale price is \$2,000,000, which is supported by appraisals, and will include a no-charge leaseback provision for the benefit of U. T. El Paso's programs currently occupying approximately 16,259 square feet in the Stanton Medical Building until February 29, 2012. The closing date of the sale would be no later than August 31, 2011.

The contract will include a provision requiring the execution of a mutually agreeable memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the parties for the shared use of the boiler and chiller facilities that serve the Stanton Medical Building and U. T. El Paso's Campbell Building located across the street at 1101 N. Campbell Street. The chiller facility for cooling both buildings is located at the Campbell Building and the boiler facility for heating both buildings is located at the Stanton Medical Building. The MOU will set forth the terms of the shared use of the facilities, the maintenance responsibilities for the facilities, the reimbursement for cost of services and maintenance for each party for a term based on the estimated useful life of the facilities.

Transaction Summary

Sale

Institution:	U. T. El Paso
Type of Transaction:	Sale
Total Land Area:	Approximately 67,600 square feet
Improvements:	An approximately 79,813 square foot office building and associated surface parking lot and garage
Location:	1100 N. Stanton Street, El Paso, El Paso County, Texas; see map on Page 136

Purchaser: El Paso Community College District
Sales Price: \$2,000,000
Appraised Value: \$1,916,000 (Ralph Sellers & Associates, January 12, 2011);
\$2,100,000 (Wilkinson, Pendergras & Beard, L. P.,
August 31, 2010)

Leaseback

Institution: U. T. El Paso
Type of Transaction: Lease
Landlord: El Paso Community College District
Total Area: Approximately 16,259 square feet
Location: 1100 N. Stanton Street, El Paso, El Paso County, Texas
Lease Term: From the date of closing of the sale through
February 29, 2012
Rent: No cash rental; leaseback is additional consideration for sale
of the property
Use: Current U. T. El Paso programs now located in the Stanton
Medical Building

UT EL PASO CAMPUS

W University Ave

E Schuster Ave

Stanton Medical
Building

Campbell
Building

E Nevada Ave

Arizona Ave

N Mesa St

N Campbell St

N Kansas St

N Stanton St

W Yandell Dr

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Google



5. **U. T. Permian Basin: Request to approve the honorific naming of the building located at 4919 East University Boulevard, Odessa, Ector County, Texas, on the U. T. Permian Basin campus, and housing The Presidential Museum and the John Ben Shepperd Public Leadership Institute, as the Buddy and Shirley West Building**

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Vice Chancellor for External Relations, and President Watts that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve the honorific naming of the building located at 4919 East University Boulevard, Odessa, Ector County, Texas, housing The Presidential Museum and the John Ben Shepperd Public Leadership Institute at U. T. Permian Basin as the Buddy and Shirley West Building. This naming will recognize former State Representative from District 81 and U. T. Permian Basin Alumnus George E. "Buddy" West and his wife Shirley for their service to the citizens of District 81 and to U. T. Permian Basin.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Construction of the 13,334 square foot building located at 4919 East University Boulevard, on the campus of U. T. Permian Basin, was approved by the Board of Regents on August 12, 1999, and was completed in 2001. Pursuant to approval granted by the Board of Regents on August 10, 2000, the building is currently leased to and operated by The Presidential Museum, a Texas nonprofit corporation, and houses The Presidential Museum and the John Ben Shepperd Public Leadership Institute.

The Honorable George E. "Buddy" West served 16 years in the Texas Legislature representing District 81, which now encompasses Ector, Andrews, and Winkler counties. He completed his Bachelors of Business Administration in Management at U. T. Permian Basin in 1975 and was honored in 1998 as a Distinguished Alumnus of the University. At the time he stated: "I could not have completed my degree had U. T. Permian Basin not come into being." He sponsored the legislation to fund the building for which this honorific naming is being requested. Mr. and Mrs. West were married for 52 years. Mr. West died in 2008, and Mrs. West continues to reside in Odessa and is an ardent supporter of U. T. Permian Basin.

This proposed naming is consistent with the Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 80307, relating to the honorific naming of facilities. This honorific naming will recognize the distinguished leadership and significant contributions of The Honorable George E. "Buddy" West and his wife Shirley to U. T. Permian Basin.

6. **U. T. Tyler: Request to approve the honorific naming of the Administration Building for the first President of U. T. Tyler as the Dr. James H. Stewart, Jr. Administration Building**

RECOMMENDATION

The Chancellor concurs in the recommendation of the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Vice Chancellor for External Relations, and President Mabry that the U. T. System Board of Regents approve the honorific naming of the Administration Building at U. T. Tyler as the Dr. James H. Stewart, Jr. Administration Building to recognize the significant contributions of the first President of U. T. Tyler.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The University of Texas at Tyler was created in 1971 by the Texas Legislature as Tyler State College, a two-year, upper-level institution of higher education, and Dr. James H. Stewart, Jr. was appointed the first President in 1972. Four years later, the institution's name was changed to Texas Eastern University, and effective September 1, 1979, it became an institution of the U. T. System. Among Dr. Stewart's achievements are development of the only fully accredited institution of higher learning at the time in the 14-county East Texas region, construction of a functional and aesthetically desirable campus and physical plant, and securing of the first legislative budget appropriation. At the time of his retirement in 1981, enrollment had increased from 176 students in Spring 1973 to approximately 1,900 in Spring 1981. In 2005, Dr. Stewart was named President Emeritus of U. T. Tyler. He currently lives in the Dallas area.

Built in 1976, the Administration Building contains 48,191 square feet and houses administrative offices and conference rooms, including the Office of the President, Admissions Office, Registrar's Office, Office of Sponsored Research, and Office of Academic Affairs. Located on the main campus of U. T. Tyler at 3900 University Boulevard, it was among the first five buildings constructed on the current campus site from State appropriations totaling \$9 million for the five buildings.

The proposed naming is consistent with the Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Rule 80307, relating to the honorific naming of facilities. This honorific naming request is made to recognize the extraordinary contributions of Dr. Stewart during the formative years of U. T. Tyler.

7. **U. T. System: Discussion on academic leadership matters related to challenges in educating underserved populations**

DISCUSSION

Executive Vice Chancellor Prior will lead a presidential discussion and engagement with the Board of Regents on topics relating to challenges in educating underserved populations.