Texas Southmost College District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

September 26, 2007

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on September 26, 2007, at 5:30 p.m., in the Board Room of Gorgas Hall, Texas Southmost College. Board members present were Mr. Chester Gonzalez, Chair, Ms. Rosemary Breedlove, Vice Chair, Ms. Dolly Zimmerman, and Mr. David Oliveira. Absent were Mr. Eduardo A. Campirano, Secretary, and Dr. Roberto Robles. Also present was Dr. Juliet V. García, President of The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College.

Call to Order

1. Executive Session

as provided by Government Code, Chapter 551.072, 074

Personnel

Evaluation of the UTB/TSC President

Real Estate

Contract and Resolution for Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 3005, Brownsville, Texas

Contract and Resolution for Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 3013, Brownsville, Texas

Contract and Resolution for Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 2D, Brownsville, Texas

Contract and Resolution for Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 4E, Brownsville, Texas
The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:17 p.m.

The Board reconvened in Regular Session at 7:15 p.m.

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

Evaluation of the UTB/TSC President

Chairman Gonzalez reported that the Board discussed Dr. García’s performance for the previous year. He stated that the Board concurs that Dr. García has had an excellent year with many accomplishments. He reported that among the many milestones attained this year, Dr. García has been able to: 1) raise community awareness regarding the quality of academic programs, faculty, and student achievement; 2) increase endowments from individuals, corporations, and foundations; and 3) produce greater public and private support for student participation in research, artistic performances, and athletics. In addition, Dr. García received the Hispanic Heritage Foundation Award for Education and the UT Austin Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Mr. Gonzalez added that the Board is pleased with Dr. García’s achievements during the year and is grateful for her leadership.

Consideration and possible action on
Contract and Resolution for Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 3005, Brownsville, Texas

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 3005, Brownsville, Texas in the amount of $44,000. The motion was seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and carried unanimously. Exhibit “A”

Consideration and possible action on
Contract and Resolution for Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 3013, Brownsville, Texas

A motion was made by Mr. Oliveira to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of Fort Brown Villas I, Unit 3013, Brownsville, Texas in the amount of $44,500. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. Exhibit “B”

Consideration and possible action on
Contract and Resolution for Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 2D, Brownsville, Texas

Mr. Gonzalez stated that Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 2D was no longer available for purchase. No Action was taken.
Consideration and possible action on  
Contract and Resolution for Fort Brown Villas II,  
Unit 4E, Brownsville, Texas

A motion was made by Ms. Breedlove to approve the Contract and Resolution for the Purchase of Fort Brown Villas II, Unit 4E, Brownsville, Texas in the amount of $38,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Oliveira and carried unanimously. Exhibit “C”

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Consideration and possible action on  
Minutes of Regular Meeting on August 30, 2007 and  
Workshop on September 11, 2007

A motion was made by Mr. Oliveira to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on August 30, 2007 and the Board Workshop on September 11, 2007. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously.

4. Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion

There were no speakers.

5. Board Briefing

Highlights of the Athletic Program

Dr. Hilda Silva, Vice President for Student Affairs, introduced Mr. Daniel Huntley, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, to make a presentation regarding the Athletics Program at UTB/TSC. Mr. Huntley introduced the Men’s and Women’s Soccer teams and their head coaches. Chairman Gonzalez commended the Soccer teams for their victories and asked that each player introduce themselves. He announced that both the men’s soccer team and the women’s soccer team are performing very well in their conferences.

Dr. Garcia and the Board welcomed the players to UTB/TSC and wished them luck during the rest of the season.

6. Board Policy

Consideration and possible action on  
Second Reading of Board Policy VI-B: Tuition
Dr. David E. Pearson, Vice President for Partnership Affairs, stated that this was the second reading of the Board Policy VI-B: Tuition. Dr. Pearson stated that the change to the policy is in accordance with the Board’s recommendation to convert the current tuition subsidy into a TSC Trustees Scholarship explicitly designed to facilitate students’ movement toward a baccalaureate degree.

A motion was made by Mr. Oliveira to approve the amendment to Board Policy VI-B: Tuition as presented; seconded by Ms. Breedlove; motion carried unanimously. Exhibit “D”

7. Resolution

Consideration and possible action on
Resolution for the Establishment
of the TSC Trustees Scholarship

Dr. Pearson explained that the Board considered possible alternative uses for approximately $3.2 million of its operating budget in a way that would best enhance academic success for in-district students. He explained that during the September workshop the Board directed staff to establish a scholarship for in-district students taking both lower and upper level courses at UTB/TSC. The proposed resolution establishes the scholarship and describes the criteria by which it will be awarded.

A motion was made by Ms. Zimmerman to adopt the Resolution for the Establishment of the TSC Trustees Scholarship as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Breedlove and carried unanimously. Exhibit “E”

8. Appointment of Committee Delegates

Appointment of Trustees to Ad Hoc Committee to Review Partnership Agreements

Chairman Gonzalez appointed Ms. Rosemary Breedlove, Mr. Eduardo Campirano and himself to the Ad Hoc Committee. He explained that the committee will review the Partnership Agreements with UTB/TSC and recommend updates or amendments to the Board as necessary.

9. Physical Facilities Subcommittee

Report

Ms. Breedlove reported that the Physical Facilities Subcommittee met earlier to discuss the master plans for the athletic zone and student housing. She stated that both master plans were developed to complement the recently updated facilities master plan. The committee also discussed the Request for Proposals issued by the District for construction and management of a student housing facility on campus.
Ms. Breedlove introduced Mr. Chris Rice, from Broaddus & Associates, who presented the Master plans for the Athletic zone and Student Housing.

10. Construction Report

Dr. David E. Pearson reported the following:

- The Kiln structure between the Regiment House and Commissary Building has been removed.
- Work continues on the Rusteberg Gallery and Paseo. The project will be completed in a couple of weeks.
- Flooring and finishes are underway at the Lightner Center. Completion is expected by the end of October.
- Construction continues at the REK Center. A Topping Out ceremony was held before the Board Meeting.

11. President’s Report

President García reported the following:

- The community was invited to join UTB/TSC faculty, staff and students for the Recreation, Education and Kinesiology (REK) Center “Topping Out” ceremony. This significant event celebrated the first completed framing of a building resulting from the $68 million bond issue approved by the Texas Southmost College taxing district in November 2004.

- The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College has been selected “Best University” by readers of The Brownsville Herald.

- UTB/TSC was awarded a $160,000 grant by the U.S. Department of Education for the “Collaborative Computer Science and Mathematics Ambassador Program for High School Students.” Through this program, UTB/TSC will be training high school students, college professors, and high school teachers on how to take advantage of scholarship opportunities. The goal is to help high school students become more competitive for scholarships.

- There will be a gala featuring traditional Mexican fashions and a special presentation of La China Poblana: La Historia de Una Leyenda. The gala will raise money for scholarships, including the establishment of a new Nursing Department scholarship endowment for UTB/TSC juniors and seniors.

- Dr. Jorge G. Castañeda, former Mexican foreign minister and now political science and Latin American studies professor at New York University, will explore U.S.-Mexico relations as the headliner of UTB/TSC’s Distinguished Lecture Series. Dr. Castañeda will speak Wednesday, October 10, at 7 p.m. in the Lecture Hall of the Science, Engineering and Technology Building.
12. Proposed Meeting Dates

Board Meetings:  
- Thursday, October 25, 2007
- Thursday, November 29, 2007
- Thursday, December 20, 2007

Partnership Advisory Committee:  
- Thursday, December 6, 2007

Mr. Gonzalez reviewed the dates with the Board

13. Announcements

The following appointments were announced:

- Dr. Hilda Silva, Vice President for Student Affairs, introduced Ms. Laurie Braden, the first Director of Campus Recreation.

- Dr. Ruth Ann Ragland, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, introduced Mr. Alberto Juarez, in his new capacity as Director for Advancement Services. Mr. Juarez previously served as Gifts Administrator.

- Ms. Rosemary Martinez, Vice President for Business Affairs, introduced Mr. Michael Blanchard, Assistant to the VPBA for Legal Services.

- Dr. Charles Dameron, Vice President for Academic Affairs, introduced Dr. Michael Oudshoorn, Dean of the College of Science, Mathematics and Technology.

- Dr. José Martín, Provost, introduced Mr. Ben Reyna, Special Assistant to the Provost for Federal Relations. Mr. Reyna previously served as Special Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Gonzalez at 8:15 p.m.

NOTE: The tape of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held on September 26, 2007 is on file at the District Office of the Texas Southmost College District. The master tape is on file at the UTB/TSC Media center. These minutes were taken and transcribed by Claudia L. Cortina, Administrative Secretary. Videotaping of the Board of Trustees’ meetings began on April 11, 1996. They are aired on Channel KISD in cooperation with the Brownsville Independent School District.