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1971

### Brief History of Tyler State College's Earliest Days

University of Texas at Tyler

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On June 10th<sup>71</sup> Governor Smith signed Senate Bill 419 enacting into law the creation of the Tyler State College.

On October 18th the Governor advised the Secretary of State of the appointment of nine members to the Board of Regents and I accepted one of the six-year terms expiring on January 31, 1977.

The first meeting of the Board of Regents was held on November 3rd and at that meeting you gentlemen elected me Chairman of the Board, Jack Morgan as Co-Chairman, and Bob Schleier as Secretary of the Board.

Dean Turner was appointed as Chairman of the Law Committee and was to serve with the assistance of Jack Morgan and Robert Schleier.

The By-Laws were prepared by the Law Committee and approved by the Board of Regents at their meeting on November 17th. Under the by-laws, officers elected were for a term of one year or until the next annual meeting set for the first Wednesday in April.

At the Board of Regents meeting on April 5th<sup>72</sup> I was elected as Chairman of the Board for the second term and this would expire at the next annual meeting on April 4, 1973.

The By-laws state that in the event of the Chairman's death or resignation, the Co-Chairman shall serve as Chairman of the Board until the next annual meeting.

With this little historical background, want to state that I have enjoyed immensely working with you as your Chairman and want to thank all of you for the opportunity and wonderful support given me, and it is with sincere regrets that I will have to resign before my second year term expires.



On account of health reasons and personal business would like to make my resignation effective October 31st. By this time I will have buttoned up two or three items that I feel I should complete.

I want to add finally, that with the wonderful support given me by the Board, the people of Tyler and East Texas, the City, the Coordinating Board, and the Legislative representatives, we will have completed from November 1971 to November 1972 the following:

- (1) A fine Board of Regents, a good organization and six splendid working committees.
- (2) Selected a beautiful 200-acre site given to us at no cost to the college, this being only one of 13 sites offered.
- (3) A fine school for temporary quarters at no cost except for repairs and maintenance.
- (4) Contracts let for repairs to the building, and staff should move into these quarters in 2 or 3 weeks.
- (5) Property surveyed, topography developed and deeds prepared to the State.
- (6) Commitments from the City and utility companies for streets and services to the site.
- (7) Coordinating Board's approval of site and our general program.
- (8) A \$750,000 appropriation from State Legislature.
- (9) Selection of a fine President and the beginning of his staff and faculty.
- (10) Selection of an architectural firm and award of the contract.
- (11) Organization of the Tyler State College Educational Foundation, Inc.
- (12) Requests for appropriations prepared for years 1974 and 1975.



With this start we are at this time two years ahead of our program and will be another two years ahead when we open the school in September of 1975.

To the extent that my health will permit and availability of my time, and the Good Lord willing, I will continue to serve as a member of the Board of Regents for the remainder of my term.