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### Reception Remarks at Harvey Hall

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**NORTH TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Office of the Assistant to the President

August 16th, 1972

RECEPTION REMARKS HARVEY HALL, TYLER, TEXAS

My family and I are extremely happy that I have been selected by the Board of Regents to serve as president of Tyler State College. We are anxious to make our home in Tyler and to become acquainted with the citizenry of the East Texas area that Tyler State College will serve.

Tyler State has a very bright future ahead. Its potential is unlimited. But the development of this future and potential depends on the continued efforts of all of us in the East Texas geographical area which the institution will serve working together to make it a first class institution in every respect. This Board of Regents, along with a host of other citizens in this area of Texas, have worked very diligently, I know, to bring TSC to this point. This work can only progress with the continued support and assistance of the citizenry of East Texas.

Education today requires cooperation and coordination if we are to achieve the efficiency and effectiveness which is necessary and which the general public is justly demanding. Just as coordination and cooperation are called for on a broader level it is also of course called for on a regional basis, and I intend to work toward this end in connection with the outstanding junior colleges which serve East Texas. Certainly it is very apparent that Tyler State College will depend on these institutions throughout this area for a large percentage of its enrollment. I am anxious to meet with the junior college presidents and others whom they may suggest to begin discussions of this area of concern.

Underlying all our efforts will be the development of a first class instructional program--first class teaching which means of course we will seek first class professors. Teachers who desire to work in an institution which stresses teaching. This implies teaching and instructional programs that emphasize the student--his needs and his role in society upon completion of a degree program.

The primary concern of TSC will be the student. We will endeavor to provide the academic atmosphere and the discipline vital to the student's sound intellectual growth and character development. The various curricular programs will be designed to stimulate the student's curiosity, broaden his prospective, enrich his awareness, deepen his understanding, establish disciplined habits of thought, prepare him for a vocation, and help him realize his potential as an individual and as a responsible and informed member of society.

Page 2

We as professional educators will work hard to achieve the very best for those students who come our way but we will depend on you to continue your support of TSC throughout East Texas, if we are to realize the fulfillment of our basic objective to have a first class institution.

The college presidency is uniquely important in American higher education. The office needs strength so that it can more effectively fulfill its principal responsibilities which I think are enumerated briefly in this way.

1. To represent the general interest of the college.
2. To be its spokesman.
3. To be sensitive to the educational and intellectual needs and missions of the academic community.
4. To be both a member of the faculty and its leader.
5. To initiate major academic study and reform.
6. To allocate resources to achieve specific educational goals and priorities.

Together with the governing board, the president should plan for the development of Tyler State College--and the planning process should involve, in my opinion, all the constituenties which it will serve to the fullest extent possible. We invite your continued support and earnestly request and solicit your prayers, as we begin our work among you.