3-7-1979

Letter of Congratulations and Thanks to Gene W. Hightower

University of Texas at Tyler

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.uttyler.edu/stewart_memos
March 7, 1979

The Honorable Gene W. Hightower, D.D.S.  
713 Turtle Creek  
Tyler, Texas  75701  

Dear Dr. Hightower:

It is with pleasure that on behalf of the administration, faculty, staff and students I reiterate to you congratulations upon your appointment to the Texas Eastern University Board of Regents. As I mentioned to you in Austin, I reaffirm my willingness to work with you as appropriate and desirable in providing information about the university organization.

As I stated in our visit, you will find the professional and classified employees of Texas Eastern University dedicated to the fundamental task of providing a quality program of higher education for the students whom we serve under the authority of the state of Texas. Of course, I am aware that you have had significant interest and involvement with the university since even before its founding. Therefore, you are aware of the mission of Texas Eastern, and I am happy that you have accepted appointment by Governor William P. Clements, Jr. to the governing board through which position you join other board members in the role of providing enlightened board leadership for the organization in which we all take such great pride.

Pursuant to your position as a Texas Eastern regent, it will be helpful for us to have on file information about your personal and professional background. Therefore, I have requested J. Archie Whitfield, director of our Public Information Office, to communicate with you relative to this matter. I trust that you will find it convenient to return the requested information within the next few days.

Again, congratulations upon your regental appointment and continuing kindest regards and best wishes.

Cordially yours,

James H. Stewart, Jr.  
President

JHS: jm
The Honorable Gene W. Hightower, D.D.S.
Route 1, Box 204
Van, Texas 75790

Dear Gene:

As we approach the date upon which Texas Eastern University becomes The University of Texas at Tyler, I take this means of thanking you very sincerely for the privilege that has been mine over the past seven years to serve as president of Texas Eastern University. Indeed, it has been a unique professional experience to serve as the president of a newly created university, and I am grateful that you and your colleagues on our Board of Regents extended me this opportunity.

Moreover, I congratulate and commend you upon your conscientious leadership for Texas Eastern as you have worked for the institution so faithfully and in such a dedicated manner as a governing board member. You and your board associates have much of which to be proud because you have provided leadership both individually and collectively that immeasurably has benefited and will continue to benefit the State of Texas and individual human beings within our state and beyond. I know you have, as you rightfully should, a positive feeling about your leadership contributions in the governance of the institution. Indeed, your achievements and service to the citizenry of Texas as a part of the Texas Eastern University Board of Regents are remarkable and highly significant. Your work is indelibly inscribed in the history of Texas Eastern University/The University of Texas at Tyler, and I emphasize my appreciation both personally and professionally for your unselfish involvement during your period of regental service. Of course, as your involvement with the institution continues in various ways, your contributions will remain substantial and important to the university.

Again, thank you for the privilege of serving the institution as president over the past seven years and continuing kindest regards and best wishes.

Cordially yours,

James J. Stewart, Jr.
President

JHS:aa
April 7, 1981

The Honorable Gene W. Hightower
Route 1, Box 204
Van, Texas 75790

Dear Gene:

Congratulations upon your appointment to the East Texas State University Board of Regents! This information just recently came to my attention, and I am delighted that you have been made a part of the East Texas State governing board.

It is my understanding that the ETSU organization has several particularly significant challenges confronting it at the current time. Indeed, your outstanding ability and experience should serve the institution and the citizenry of Texas well as you assume and discharge your regental role of leadership. Governor William P. Clements, Jr. is making many excellent appointments, but your selection is one of his most outstanding actions.

Colleen and I are still anxious to have you and Betty join us for dinner and a visit. Perhaps this can be arranged in the near future.

Again, congratulations upon your appointment to the East Texas State Board of Regents and continuing kindest regards and best wishes.

Cordially yours,

James H. Stewart, Jr.
President

JHShm