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Administrative Notes, December 16th, 1974

University of Texas at Tyler

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To: The Board of Regents, Tyler State College
From: James H. Stewart, Jr.
Subject: Administrative Notes

I. First Tyler State College Convocation

Board of Regents Vice Chairman Dean W. Turner made an excellent address to the 47 Tyler State College degree candidates whom we honored and recognized at our first convocation program Friday, December 13, 1974. Regent Turner congratulated the candidates on behalf of the Board of Regents and emphasized that the board members along with the faculty are very interested in the welfare of Tyler State College students and stressed that this interest in them will continue as they take their places of responsibility in the communities where they will work.

II. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Membership

Although the good news that our full accreditation and membership in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools was communicated to you only a few minutes after it was announced last Wednesday, I wish to elaborate more on this matter through Administrative Notes.

As had been mentioned to you prior to the Dallas meeting, we were scheduled for our interview with the Admission to Membership Committee of the Southern Association at 10:15 on Monday, December 9, 1974. The general result of this meeting was excellent. The committee and the staff of the Southern Association complimented the institution highly and indicated that our interview was much better than the average and that they could see nothing but a bright future for Tyler State College.

During the interview, some attention was focused on the observation that while it is commendable that we have made such extraordinary progress at Tyler State in a short time, we should now be less concerned about seeking new programs. My general
response was that we have felt it necessary to move rapidly to this point -- this was deliberate and calculated -- but our primary attention currently and for the immediate future will be to strengthen and develop existing programs and plans. This, of course, is what we communicated to the Southern Association through our own Self-Study Report prepared over the period of November 1973 to August 1974 and presented to the Evaluation Committee that visited our campus in September 1974.

I also particularly want to mention the excellent job our Board of Regents Chairman Dr. B. H. McVicker did when called on in Dallas by the Admission to Membership Committee Chairman. Several committee members with whom I had contact on Tuesday and Wednesday following our interview continued to make positive comments about Dr. McVicker's work in behalf of Tyler State. He did, indeed, represent the institution and the board very well. It is very uncommon for a board member to take time to attend meetings of this nature, but we have an uncommon board at Tyler State and I appreciate the willingness of each of you to give of your time for the institution.

I look forward to having an opportunity to discuss further our institutional success in achieving accreditation at some future time, but we are very pleased to have reached this point in two years and one month particularly when under Southern Association policies, we know that we could have been allowed as much as six years to achieve full accreditation. Credit for this belongs to the board, faculty and staff. It was, without question, a very fine team effort.

III. Editorial in Friday, December 13, 1974 Issue of the Tyler Courier-Times

A copy of an editorial which appeared in the Friday, December 13, 1974 issue of the Tyler Courier-Times is attached for your information. I was unaware of the editorial until it appeared. I know that the board joins the faculty and staff in a deep feeling of appreciation to Calvin Clyde, Jr. and his staff for this very well done editorial concerning Tyler State College.

IV. Christmas Brunch, December 20, 1974

Colleen and I are hosting a come-and-go brunch between the hours of 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Friday, December 20, 1974 in the Conference Room. Certainly, all members of the Board of Regents and your wives are cordially invited to attend.

V. Report from Resident Engineer

Attached is a report from our Director of Physical Plant and Resident Engineer for the week ending December 13, 1974.

JHS:rc
Attachments