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Administrative Notes, April 25th, 1977

University of Texas at Tyler

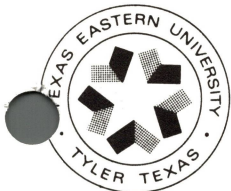
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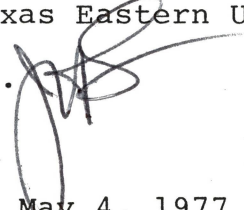


TEXAS EASTERN UNIVERSITY

3900 UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD • TYLER, TEXAS 75701 • 214/566-1471

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 25, 1977

To: Board of Regents, Texas Eastern University
From: James H. Stewart, Jr. 
Subject: Administrative Notes

I. Board of Regents Meeting, May 4, 1977

You are reminded of the special called meeting of the Board of Regents on Wednesday, May 4, 1977. The primary purpose of the meeting, scheduled for 3:00 p.m. in Room 127 (first floor lecture hall) of the Administration Building, is to receive and open bids on the Phase II construction project. Immediately following the opening of the bids, the board will convene in executive session in the Board of Regents Room for consideration of bids. The agenda for the meeting will be mailed tomorrow.

II. Senate Finance Committee Higher Education Meeting

At the Senate Finance Committee's Higher Education "mark-up sessions" last Thursday and Friday, the committee approved funding of our library facility. Also included in the committee's actions were \$300,000 operating funds for the library (\$150,000 for each year of the biennium) and some improvement in faculty salaries along with possible improvement in a few other elements of cost. As soon as exact dollar amounts are available on the latter, of course, I will pass this information on to you. In regard to the library facilities portion of the committee's actions, I point out that this item was funded through a plan developed by Lieutenant Governor William P. Hobby, Jr., Senator A. M. Aiken, Jr. and Senator Peyton McKnight and, of course, finally involving Senate Finance Committee membership. Although the procedure varies from the usual method of funding, nevertheless, it will permit us to plan and construct the library building in accordance with our present schedule. Under the approach given approval by the committee, 10 percent will be added to the amount approved by the legislature and vetoed by the Governor two years ago and this amount, \$4,870,597, will be appropriated for the

next biennium. In addition, a rider will be included in the 1977-78 appropriations bill granting authority for Texas Eastern University to proceed with all plans necessary to erect a building in accordance with our present \$7,147,798 projection. This legislative commitment, through the rider, will indicate that the remaining amount necessary to fund our library construction will be appropriated two years from now as a part of the 1979-81 biennial appropriation.

Upon reflecting on this approach you will conclude that this will not inhibit or cause problems in going forward with the library project. In fact, two years from now we can surmise that we will be roughly at the same point with the library construction program that presently exists relative to Phase II which means, fundamentally, that a very small amount of the 1977-79 appropriation for library construction will have been spent. For information I point out that at the current time, we have expended approximately \$200,000 of Phase II funds. It therefore can be inferred that the actual appropriation of funds in a manner planned by the Senate Finance Committee will not cause problems relative to planning the complete library facility. It should be noted, however, that the legislature will commit the remaining funding for library construction by the time a contract is awarded.

The primary reason for this funding approach by the Senate is to allow for present money problems by shifting a portion of the total cost to the next biennium. I should point out that with the total amount of \$7,147,798 in the House bill, it is conceivable that total funding for the library project could be forthcoming during the current session through work at the conference committee stage. Regardless of the final outcome pursuant to these two alternatives, either one will provide us with the ability to continue our construction program in a vigorous manner. And when this action, along with other funding in the operating category, has been approved for Texas Eastern, I feel that we can consider the 65th Legislative Session to have been successful. I am working with Finance and Appropriations Committee Chairman C. Quentin Abernathy concerning the appropriate steps pertaining to our work with Governor Dolph Briscoe as we approach the time when the Governor will have the responsibility of signing the appropriations document.

III. Coordinating Board Approvals

During a meeting last Friday, the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System approved our requested Bachelor of Industrial Education Degree and organizational change creating the Department of Industrial Education within the School of Applied Studies. As you will recall, I reported

on these items at the Board of Regents meeting week before last indicating that these items were initially approved by the Board of Regents on February 18, 1976 and January 21, 1976 respectively with subsequent ratification of minor modifications which were made following initial board approval as a result of further work by the university staff with the Coordinating Board. The approval of these requests enhances the ability of our institution considerably in meeting needs pertaining to a very significant program area because of its vital relationship to community/junior college programs. Most assuredly, approval of this new department and degree is highly consistent with the basic charge of the legislature for Texas Eastern University upon its creation -- that of developing programs appropriate for students transferring from community/junior colleges.

IV. 1977-78 Committee Appointments

Board Chairman David K. McKie has formulated committee appointments for 1977-78 Board of Regents Committees. An enclosure specifying these appointments is attached herewith. Chairman McKie has indicated that he would appreciate board members advising him of any suggestions, observations and/or recommendations pursuant to these appointments.

V. Invitations for Harvey Lake Dedication

The following list of categories from which Mike Harvey Lake Dedication invitations are being planned is included for your information. Any suggestions or further input from board members will be welcomed and appreciated. In accordance with action of the dedication committee, invitations will be mailed Monday, May 2, 1977.

Foundation contributors
Area legislators along with various other elected officials
Junior college boards of trustees
Junior college officials, faculty and staff
Superintendents and selected school personnel from a
fourteen-county area
University alumni
University personnel

VI. Invitations for 1977 Annual Commencement

An invitation list for the 1977 Annual Commencement scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on May 14, 1977 is presently being prepared. If there are individuals whom you wish to receive a commencement invitation, please submit the information to me as early as possible. Because of our growing number of graduates and the corresponding need for seating arrangements for them and their family members, we have found it necessary to reduce the number of invitations mailed from this office. However, there will certainly be ample space for those individuals you wish to have present on this occasion.

VII. Report on Population Growth in Tyler Area

The attached newspaper account from the Sunday, March 27, 1977 edition of the Tyler Courier-Times--Telegraph portrays the eleven-county area surrounding Tyler as the fastest growing area in the East Texas region for the period of 1970-75. According to the study of Dr. R. L. Skrabanek prepared for the East Texas Chamber of Commerce, Smith County shows the highest population increase within the eleven-county area. As you will note, the growth of colleges in the region is given as one of the reasons for "in-migration" to this area, and I am sure the reference to Texas Eastern University in the next to the last paragraph will be of interest to you.

VII. Report from Resident Engineer

Attached is a report from the director of physical plant and resident engineer for the week ending April 22, 1977.

JHS:rc
Attachments

BOARD OF REGENTS
TEXAS EASTERN UNIVERSITY
1977-78
COMMITTEES

I. Executive Committee

David K. McKie, Chairman
Neal E. Velvin, Vice Chairman
Jeff Austin, Jr.
Robert G. Schleier

II. Academic and Personnel Committee

B. H. McVicker, M.D., Chairman
Jack C. Morgan, Vice Chairman
Jeff Austin, Jr.

III. Campus and Building Committee

Neal E. Velvin, Chairman
H. J. McKenzie, Vice Chairman
Robert G. Schleier

IV. Finance and Appropriations Committee

C. Quentin Abernathy, Chairman
Jeff Austin, Jr., Vice Chairman
B. H. McVicker, M.D.

V. Legal Committee

Dean W. Turner, Chairman
Robert G. Schleier, Vice Chairman
Jack C. Morgan

VI. Special Committees - Gifts and Scholarships

H. J. McKenzie, Chairman
C. Quentin Abernathy, Vice Chairman
Jeff Austin, Jr.
David K. McKie
B. H. McVicker, M.D.
Jack C. Morgan
Robert G. Schleier
Dean W. Turner
Neal E. Velvin