MINUTES
OF THE
MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF REGENTS
OF
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
HELD IN
TEMPLE, TEXAS
MARCH 23-24, 2000

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A regular meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System was convened by Mr. Don Powell, Chairman of the Board of Regents, at 10:15 a.m., on Thursday, March 23, 2000, in the Scott & White Conference Center on the campus of Scott & White Hospital in Temple, Texas. The following members of the Board were present:

Mr. Don Powell, Chairman  
Mr. Frederick D. McClure, Vice Chairman  
Ms. Anne Armstrong  
Dr. Dionel E. Avilés  
Mr. Erle Nye  
Mr. Lionel Sosa  
Mr. R.H. (Steve) Stevens, Jr.  
Dr. Susan Rudd Wynn  

The following member of the Board was not present:

Mr. Robert H. Allen

The invocation was presented by Ms. Marsha Tallman, a graduating medical student from The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center College of Medicine.

Mr. Powell introduced Dr. Alfred B. Knight, Acting Chief Executive Officer of Scott & White Hospital, and Dr. John W. Roberts, Acting President of Scott & White Hospital. He thanked them for the wonderful facilities and staff.

Mr. Powell called on Mr. Sosa to present the report on “Meeting the Texas Challenge.”

Mr. Sosa thanked the Regents and Chancellor for their support. He said almost any kind of problem could be solved through effective communications and paid advertising. He referred to Dr. Steven Murdock’s, State Demographer, statistics and said Texas indeed faces a real challenge. Mr. Sosa referred to Dr. Murdock’s report and quoted, “the economic survival of Texas depends on the educational success of its minorities.” Mr. Sosa said educators and educational institutions must address the needs of all minorities in Texas without discrimination. Minorities need help with information and help finding money to attend college. We need to reach out and invite them to come to our universities, make them feel welcome from the beginning, encourage a college-preparation mindset from K-12, advise, tutor
and mentor students and involve their parents. Mr. Sosa said that most important was to help raise the awareness and aspirations for higher education among all Texas citizens.

Mr. Sosa said the problem is how to communicate a message to all the different people on a very consistent basis. He described a study by the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, led by Ms. Sara Martinez Tucker, a University of Texas graduate, where 5,000 questionnaires were sent and 3,000 were returned. She found that 97 percent of 3,000 forms returned (where they received an average of $1,500), received their four-year degrees. Ms. Tucker hired a company to investigate the other 2,000 questionnaires and 97 percent of those completed their four-year degree.

Mr. Powell asked about students receiving financial aid and what percentage of those students had graduated. Mr. Sosa said that only 19 percent of Hispanics that enter college complete their four-year degree. Dr. Ray Bowen, President of Texas A&M University (TAMU), replied that at TAMU it is 73 percent. He said that Ms. Tucker’s figures were extraordinary. Mr. Sosa said he had written a book, *The Americano Dream*, where he described the Hispanic cultural barriers gained through his 22 years of Hispanic marketing research. He has found that Hispanic cultural barriers feature family-based values and undermine educational achievement needed to succeed. Mr. Sosa said it is a culture that says, “the meek will inherit the earth.” He said that he talks to Latino groups and tries to tell them where their ideas come from, from Catholic priests that wanted to control the Hispanic population. He said that many Hispanic families tell their sons to contribute to the family income by working, not attending college. They obey, as they have admiration and respect for “the family.” Mr. Sosa said for the girls, marriage is the most important thing. Mr. Sosa said that these are stereotypes and that the values should not change but the mindset of going to college should change.

Mr. Sosa said one goal would be to have Hispanic high school and college completion percentages up in ten years. He said by forming a volunteer marketing communications company, which would provide Spanish and English language daily messages to all media, a target audience could be reached. Mr. Sosa said this company could serve as a scholarship application/clearing house by coordinating available resources and could monitor success. He said Texas public educational institutions, business communities and media would be involved in the project. Mr. Sosa estimated it would cost about $500 million over a ten-year period.

Mr. Sosa presented sample radio messages that would encourage Hispanics to attend college. Mr. Nye asked about minimal scholarship money. Mr. Sosa said there is more money available than there are students who know where it (the money) is. He said that the Hispanic Scholarship Fund received a grant of $50 million from the Lillian Endowment and $250 million from the Gates Foundation -- new monies.

Dr. Avilés asked the university presidents if they were pursuing efforts to convey the message of availability of scholarships. Mr. Sosa said that everyone has information and that information needs to get out. Dr. Charles Hines, President of Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU), said it is very difficult to break through many barriers, but it is possible. Dr. Hines said there is a huge meeting in Houston to encourage and break through inhibitions of Hispanics so they will attend college.
Dr. Avilés said he knows first-hand what the support to get a college degree means. He agreed with Mr. Sosa about promoting higher education for Hispanics. Dr. Leo Sayavedra, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, said the Hispanic community is somewhat stratified and in some cases, once that switch is made, the whole system changed. He said that the Hispanic community is mainly matriarchal and realized if the women were targeted, the idea of a college education would change. The reason education is rapidly changing in South Texas is because more women are receiving a college education. Dr. Bowen said there needs to be a larger pool of applicants, then the universities have to make the decision to accept them, then the student has to decide to come to the university. A fundamental point is when you have a large pool of people who decide to go to college, the university needs to make college accessible by offering financial aid and scholarships and then the student decides to accept the offer. Mr. Powell asked about African-Americans. Mr. Sosa said this pool of people is multicultural, not just Latinos, and the important thing is to get going.

Ms. Armstrong asked if he could talk donors into advertising so that knowledge would be increased among the Hispanic population. Mr. Sosa said they hoped to get the business community involved. He said that he and Dr. Bowen had a meeting scheduled in Austin with Ms. Tucker to see how the funds were distributed because TAMU was the highest recipient of the Hispanic Scholarship Fund monies and would like to remain that way. Ms. Armstrong asked about high schools and how prepared they are. Mr. Sosa said that higher expectations begin at home. Dr. Bowen said that a pool of money should be made available for use at the TAMU Foundation and that perhaps could be matched by TAMU. Dr. J. Charles Jennett, President of Texas A&M International University (TAMIU), said TAMIU tries to reach every home (in Spanish) in Laredo and Webb County with fliers. He said many entire households work and people who work have to take longer than four years to finish college and there are very few scholarships for juniors and seniors and for older people to go back to school. Dr. Jennett said help needs to be provided in those areas.

Mr. Powell thanked Mr. Sosa for an excellent presentation.

REPORT ON THE SYSTEM INTEGRATIVE PLAN

Mr. Powell called on Mr. Howard D. Graves, Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System (TAMUS). Mr. Graves thanked Mr. Powell and Mr. Sosa and said that he was not only inspired by Mr. Sosa, but also inspired to see the Texas Challenge Plan and appreciated him sharing it. He said that the name of the Integrative Plan, “Promise for a Generation,” has been changed to “Promise for a New Century.” Mr. Graves said he recalled three sets of conversations. The first conversation was with each regent and each told him that the System needed a strategic plan. The second conversation was with state leaders and from these several wanted him to identify the “value added” of being a member of a system. The third conversation was side conversations with many of the regents who asked how long it would take to produce this plan. Mr. Graves said that the Integrative Plan, resulting from participation and participative-leadership by the university’s CEOs, directors of agencies, and vice chancellors, was written to be a dynamic document that will grow throughout its existence. He said goals, directions, azimuths and principles upon which to build were identified and would form a basis to plot the progress of strategic plan goals. Mr. Graves said they have had focus group meetings with some of the senior supporters throughout the state.
Mr. Graves introduced Dr. Walter Wendler, Vice Chancellor for Planning and System Integration, who presented his thoughts about the process of the Integrative Plan by contributing to the higher education enterprise in Texas, generally, by making TAMUS better and a leader in education by the Year 2020. Dr. Wendler said the plan's structure is a vision for guidance, with six azimuths that support this vision with directions and goals, which will allow sharing practices and combining information resources. He said one goal is to better serve the unpopulated areas and provide more educational opportunities. Dr. Wendler said the System has a strong service tradition and needs to continue to build services of distinctive competency. The scope of the concept of outreach, partnerships, public education and business industry has been broadened -- all important components of the plan. Other plan components are teaching citizens about the value of a strong higher education system, having more students that choose to attend college, leverage existing resources, and having aggressive goals to encourage more extramural fundraising of private gifts, grants and contracts. This plan will make TAMUS better as an organization and will contribute to the quality of higher education experience statewide. Mr. Graves said a key point is that TAMUS play the leadership role in the welfare of Texas higher education. Mr. Sosa said private industry would be supplying many college courses. More education will be private and use world class knowledge. We need to anticipate and be responsive to changes. Dr. Wendler said TAMUS is already there, West Texas A&M University (WTAMU) offers more on-line courses than the University of Phoenix. He said that TAMUS has tried to anticipate how the world will change and their response to this change.

Mr. Stevens said it was important to take into account demographics of each university. Dr. Wendler said the idea that "one size does not fit all" is important and keeping each university’s uniqueness is a must.

**REPORT ON TAMUS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER RESEARCH PROJECTS**

Mr. Powell called on Dr. Jay Noren, Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs and President of The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center (TAMUSHSC), to present this report. Dr. Noren expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to highlight some of their research activities. He said the presenters would illustrate their major commitment to dramatically increase clinical research in the College of Medicine.

Dr. Harris Granger, Distinguished Professor and Director of the Cardiovascular Research Institute (CRI), said the mission of the Institute is to bring together researchers, educators and training programs that focus on heart and blood vessels. Dr. Granger showed several slides and short videos on microcirculation, cells, simulation of heart attacks, etc.

Dr. Ken Baker, holder of the Frank Mayborn Chair in Cardiovascular Research and Director of the Molecular Cardiology Division of the Cardiovascular Research Institute, reported on their studies on heart problems and factors contributing to heart problems. Mr. Powell asked what he needed to be the very best. Dr. Baker replied, “more space and more money.” Mr. Powell asked the number of members. Dr. Baker replied that they have ten.

Dr. Gene LeSage, Associate Professor of Internal Medicine and Medical Biochemistry and Genetics, presented an overview of his work on liver research activities.
Dr. Wally Dyck, Associate Dean of the Temple Campus, gave some speculations and thoughts about future enhanced research. Dr. Dyck discussed specific disease states and improved patient care. He said internal sources and a smaller amount from industry (pharmaceuticals) have funded the bulk of this research. He said challenges and opportunities abound.

**RECESS BOARD MEETING**

Mr. Powell recessed the Board meeting at 12:40 p.m.

*(Secretary’s Note: The Board recessed for lunch. The Committee on Finance met from 2:05 p.m. to 2:40 p.m.)*

**RECONVENE BOARD MEETING**

Mr. Powell reconvened the meeting at 2:41 p.m. He said as required by Section 54.0513, Paragraph (f) of the Texas Education Code, he would call for a public hearing to receive input from students and presidents regarding proposed increases in designated tuition for the following institutions: Prairie View A&M University, Tarleton State University, Texas A&M University, Texas A&M University at Galveston, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Texas A&M University-Texarkana, West Texas A&M University and The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center. Mr. Powell called on each university president. There were no questions or comments.

**RECESS BOARD MEETING**

Mr. Powell recessed the meeting at 2:42 p.m.

*(Secretary’s Note: Mr. Nye reconvened the meeting of the Committee on Finance. The Committee on Finance met from 2:43 p.m. to 2:49 p.m. The Committee on Buildings and Physical Plant met from 2:50 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. and recessed until Friday morning.)*
RECONVENE BOARD MEETING – MARCH 24, 2000

Mr. Powell reconvened the meeting of the Board of Regents at 7:40 a.m., Friday, March 24, 2000. The following members of the Board were present:

Mr. Don Powell, Chairman
Mr. Frederick D. McClure, Vice Chairman
Ms. Anne Armstrong
Dr. Dionel E. Avilés
Mr. Erle Nye
Mr. Lionel Sosa
Mr. R.H. (Steve) Stevens
Dr. Susan Rudd Wynn

The following member of the Board was not present:

Mr. Robert H. Allen

CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION

At 7:41 a.m., Mr. Powell announced that having convened in open session, the Board would convene in a closed session to consider matters as permitted by the following sections of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code: 551.071, for consultation with System attorneys on pending and proposed litigation and matters recognized as attorney/client confidential and privileged; 551.072, for discussion regarding the acquisition, lease, exchange, disposition and value of real estate, including Items 11, 12 and 13; 551.073, for discussion of negotiated contracts for prospective gifts or donations; and 551.074, for discussion of matters involving the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal or to hear complaints or charges against an officer or employee.

Mr. Powell said in accordance with the law, no final action, decision or vote with regard to any matter considered in the closed meeting would be made or taken.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND RECESS

Mr. Powell reconvened the meeting in open session at 9:15 a.m. He said the Board met in closed session from 7:41 to 9:14 a.m. Mr. Powell then recessed the meeting.

(Secretary’s Note: Dr. Avilés reconvened the meeting of the Committee on Buildings and Physical Plant. The Committee met from 10:30 to 10:32 a.m. The Committee on Academic and Student Affairs met from 10:33 to 10:40 a.m.)

RECONVENE BOARD MEETING

Mr. Powell reconvened the meeting of the Board at 10:41 a.m.
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AFFAIRS

Dr. Wynn, Chairman of the Committee on Health Affairs, said that much of the Board meeting had been related to health activities, the opening of the new facility, tours, presentations, etc. She said that senior medical students receive their residency programs through a nationwide computerized matching program where students submit their choices and residency programs and then in March of each year, every medical student across the country at the same time receives what their residency choice is going to be. Dr. Wynn announced that this year, TAMUSHSC College of Medicine matched 100 percent to its fourth year medical students, which is virtually unheard of. She said this was a great day for the College of Medicine.

Mr. Nye commented that the Board felt very welcome by the Scott & White community and was impressed by their exceptional scientific and medical capabilities and by the culture of teamwork and service. He said it was also clear that the Board values its relationship with Scott & White and looks forward to enhancing the mutual commitment to excellence in medical education by building on the achievements of the past. Mr. Nye proposed to enact a resolution to be communicated with the Scott & White community expressing great appreciation and sincere admiration for their wonderful hospitality, for their cooperation and teamwork with TAMUS and for their commitment to excellence and medical education and the delivery of high quality medical care. Mr. Nye made a motion to put this in the form of a resolution. Dr. Wynn seconded the proposal. All regents agreed with the proposal.

(Secretary’s Note: As this item was not posted for action with the Secretary of State, a resolution will be drafted and presented for official action at a future Board meeting.)

REPORT OF THE INCENTIVE PAY PROGRAM

Mr. Stevens said there was a meeting on March 13, 2000, and the final report from Buck and Associates was received. He said they are proceeding with the implementation of the plan. Mr. Stevens said Dr. Bowen was forming a task force that would begin to develop performance (criteria) with respect to incentive compensation.

REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON BIOTECHNOLOGY

Ms. Armstrong, Co-Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on Biotechnology, said the Committee had met earlier and received a progress report. She reported that the team was headed by Dr. Wendler. Ms. Armstrong said she appreciated the enthusiasm and support of the Chairman of the Board and the Chancellor. She said she hoped what could be done in biotechnology would be fitting for the new integrative plan. Ms. Armstrong said they hope to make Texas a world center for biotechnology. Mr. Nye, Co-Chairman of the Committee, complimented Ms. Armstrong for her work and said timing was of the essence and it was important to enroll as many supporters as possible in this concept.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Mr. Nye, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, reported that the Committee had met earlier and considered Items 1 through 7. Mr. Nye said the Committee approved and recommended Item 1 (Revised Exhibit) and Items 3 through 7. Item 2 was considered and deferred for consideration at a later date. The Board took action as set forth below:

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MINUTE ORDER 30-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 1)

APPROVAL OF MAJOR REVISIONS TO
SYSTEM POLICY 23.02 (DEBT MANAGEMENT),
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Mr. Stevens and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

Revisions to System Policy 23.02 (Debt Management) are approved to be effective immediately, as copy of which is attached to the official minutes as Exhibit A.

MINUTE ORDER 31-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 3)

ADOPTION OF AMENDED AND RESTATE RESOLUTION
FOR PERMANENT UNIVERSITY FUND
SUBORDINATE LIEN NOTES, SERIES C,
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Mr. Stevens and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The Amended and Restated Resolution for Permanent University Fund Subordinate Lien Notes, Series C, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes as Exhibit B, is adopted and shall be effective immediately.

MINUTE ORDER 32-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 4)

APPROVAL OF EXCEPTION TO THE FTE LIMITATION
ON STATE EMPLOYMENT LEVELS FOR
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE,
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Mr. Stevens and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby approves the request by Texas A&M University-Kingsville for an exception to the FTE limitation, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes as Exhibit C, specified in House Bill 1, 76th Legislature.
MINUTE ORDER 33-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 5)

APPROVAL OF NEW, INCREASED, DECREASED AND ELIMINATED TUITION AND FEES FOR FALL 2000 SEMESTER AND PRORATED SUMMER MAXIMUM STUDENT SERVICES FEES FOR SUMMER 2000 SEMESTER, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Mr. Stevens and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

In accordance with Section 54.0513, Texas Education Code, and System Policy 26.02, public hearings were held at each campus regarding recommended increases in designated tuition. The Board has received input from students and the presidents of the institutions and health science center concerning such proposed increases, according to the requirements of Section 54.0513(f), Texas Education Code.

All hearings and recommendations required by law for increases in other student fees have been properly conducted and reported to the Board in accordance with the Texas Education Code.

The request for new, increased, decreased, and eliminated tuition and fees for the academic institutions and the health science center of the A&M System, copies of which are attached to the official minutes as Exhibits D and E, are approved to be effective with the Fall 2000 semester.

In addition, the request for revised Student Services Fee prorated maximum amounts for the academic institutions and the health science center of the A&M System, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes as Exhibit F, is approved to be effective with the Summer 2000 semester.

MINUTE ORDER 34-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 6)

ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS, DONATIONS, GRANTS AND ENDOWMENTS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Mr. Stevens and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The Board of Regents hereby accepts the gifts, donations, grants, and endowments made to the Members of The Texas A&M University System concerned as shown on Gifts, Donations, Grants, and Endowments List No. 99-00-04, a copy of which if attached to the official minutes as Exhibit G.

MINUTE ORDER 35-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 7)
ACCEPTANCE OF
REPORT OF APPROPRIATIONS BY THE CHANCELLOR,
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Mr. Stevens and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The following report of appropriations by the Chancellor is hereby accepted:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Project Name &amp; Source of Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| TAMUS    | $250,000| Maintenance and Overhaul of King Air B200
          |         | Special Mineral Fund 96                             |

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BUILDINGS AND PHYSICAL PLANT

Dr. Avilés, Chairman of the Committee on Buildings and Physical Plant, said the Committee met earlier and recommended approval of Items 8, 9, and 43, pertaining to construction; Item 10, pertaining to System Policy Revision; and Items 11 through 13 pertaining to real estate. The Board took action as set forth below:

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MINUTE ORDER 36-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 8)

APPROVAL OF THE PROGRAM OF REQUIREMENTS,
APPROPRIATION FOR DESIGN AND SELECTION OF THE
ARCHITECT/DESIGN DESIGN TEAM
FOR THE INSTRUCTIONAL RECREATION CENTER,
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE

On motion of Dr. Avilés, seconded by Mr. Nye and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The Program of Requirements for the Instructional Recreation Center at Texas A&M University-Commerce is approved.

Supplementing a previous appropriation of $20,000.00, the amount of $915,000.00 is appropriated from Account No. 083100 Local Funds, Unappropriated Surplus for Design of the Instructional Recreation Center at Texas A&M University-Commerce.

The firm of F&S Partners of Dallas, Texas, is selected to head the architect/engineer design team for the Instructional Recreation Center at Texas A&M University-Commerce.
The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System reasonably expects to incur debt in one or more obligations for this project, and all or a portion of the proceeds received from the sale of such obligations is reasonably expected to be used to reimburse the account for amounts previously appropriated and/or expended from such account.

**MINUTE ORDER 37-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 9)**

**APPROVAL OF THE PROGRAM OF REQUIREMENTS, APPROPRIATION FOR DESIGN/BUILD PRE-CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR THE SYSTEM DESIGN/BUILD STUDENT HOUSING PROGRAM, TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE AND TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE**

On motion of Dr. Avilés, seconded by Mr. Nye and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The program of requirements for the System Design/Build Student Housing Program at Tarleton State University is approved.

Supplementing a previous appropriation of $15,000.00, the amount of $396,000.00 is appropriated from Account No. 306900 Housing Operations for Design/Build Pre-Construction Services for the System Design/Build Student Housing Program at Tarleton State University.

The program of requirements for the System Design/Build Student Housing Program at Texas A&M University-Commerce is approved.

Supplementing a previous appropriation of $15,000.00, the amount of $430,000.00 is appropriated from Account No. 083100 Local Funds Unappropriated Surplus for Design/Build Pre-Construction Services for the System Design/Build Student Housing Program at Texas A&M University-Commerce.

**MINUTE ORDER 38-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 43)**

**APPROVAL TO ADD SCOPE AND ADJUST THE BUDGET FOR THE NEW STUDENT CENTER, PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY**

On motion of Dr. Avilés, seconded by Mr. Nye and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The revised scope of 142,000 gross square feet and the adjusted project budget of $22,000,000.00 for the New Student Center at Prairie View A&M University is approved.

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System reasonably expects to incur debt in one or more obligations for this project, and all or a portion of the proceeds received from the sale of such obligations is reasonably expected to be used to reimburse the account for amounts previously appropriated and/or expended from such account.
MINUTE ORDER 39-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 10)

APPROVAL OF MAJOR REVISIONS
TO SYSTEM POLICY 51.02
(SELECTION OF ARCHITECT/ENGINEER DESIGN TEAM),
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Dr. Avilés, seconded by Mr. Nye and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

System Policy 51.02 (Selection of Architect/Engineer Design Team) is approved to be effective immediately, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes as Exhibit H.

MINUTE ORDER 40-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 11)

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENTS WITH THE CITY OF LAREDO
CONCERNING OWNERSHIP AND MAINTENANCE OF UTILITY SYSTEMS
AND A ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY,
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Dr. Avilés, seconded by Mr. Nye and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System, or his designee, following favorable recommendation by the System Real Estate Office and legal review by the Office of General Counsel, is authorized to execute all documents necessary to convey to the City of Laredo a 16-inch waterline and appurtenances in Loop 20 and University Boulevard; a sanitary sewer lift station with force mains and appurtenances on the campus of Texas A&M International University and in Loop 20; and a right-of-way easement and improvements contained within University Boulevard, all of which are located in the City of Laredo, Webb County, Texas.

Further, the Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System, or his designee, following favorable recommendation by the System Real Estate Office and legal review by the Office of General Counsel, is authorized to execute all documents necessary for the City of Laredo to maintain the water distribution and sanitary sewer collection systems located on the campus of Texas A&M International University.

MINUTE ORDER 41-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 12)

ACCEPTANCE OF A DEVISE OF REAL ESTATE PROPERTY
SITUATED IN RUSK COUNTY, TEXAS,
AND AUTHORIZATION TO SELL THESE PROPERTIES,
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Dr. Avilés, seconded by Mr. Nye and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:
The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System accepts for Texas A&M University-Commerce a devise of real property described as two (2) tracts of land situated in Rusk County, Texas. The first tract contains approximately 136.49 acres and is situated in the Francis Hamilton Survey, Abstract No. 373, and the Francisco Lacerene Survey, Abstract No. 485, Rusk County, Texas. The second tract is described as Lot 11, Block 660, in the S.J. Warren Survey, situated in Rusk County, Texas.

The Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System, or his designee, following favorable recommendation by the System Real Estate Office and legal review by the Office of General Counsel, is authorized to execute all documents necessary to sell the 136.49 acre tract described above for $74,800, and the one (1) acre tract described above for not less than $6,800.

**MINUTE ORDER 42-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 13)**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF LAND AND IMPROVEMENTS, CITY OF STEPHENVILLE, ERATH COUNTY, TEXAS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

On motion of Dr. Avilés, seconded by Mr. Nye and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System, or his designee, following favorable recommendation by the System Real Estate Office and legal review by the Office of General Counsel, is authorized to execute all documents necessary to purchase the land and improvements located at 1580 and 1590 West Tarleton Street, described as Lots 7 and 8, Block 29, Park Place Addition, City of Stephenville, situated in the John Blair Survey, Abstract No. 32, Erath County, Texas, according to King's 1956 Map of the City recorded in Volume 381, Page 105, Deed Records of Erath County, Texas. The purchase price of $120,000, plus closing costs, is appropriated from Account No. 023001, styled "Designated Tuition" to Account No. 818300, styled "Land Acquisition - Local Fund" for payment.

By approval of this minute order, the Board certifies the requirements of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board rules have been met and authorizes the Chancellor, or his designee, to take all steps necessary to communicate this certification to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

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Dr. Avilés said the following actions were taken by the Chancellor pursuant to Board of Regents Policy 51.04 on construction projects for the award of contracts since the last regular meeting of the Board of Regents.

(1) Movable furnishings contract for the Kyle Field North End Zone, Package No. 3, Texas A&M University, to Rockford Business Interiors of Austin, Texas, in the amount of $27,500.00; and
(2) Construction contract for Whitley Hall Code compliance, Texas A&M University-Commerce, to Harrison, Walker & Harper of Paris, Texas, in the amount of $1,649,585.00.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

Ms. Armstrong, Chairman of the Committee on Academic and Student Affairs, said the Committee met earlier and recommended approval of Items 14 through 21. The Board took action as set forth below:

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MINUTE ORDER 43-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 14)

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FRANK M. TEJEDA CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATIONS, TEXAS ENGINEERING EXTENSION SERVICE

On motion of Ms. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Sosa and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The Frank M. Tejeda Center for Excellence in Environmental Operations, as described in Exhibit I, is hereby established as an organizational unit of the Texas Engineering Extension Service, effective January 1, 2000.

MINUTE ORDER 44-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 15)

APPROVAL OF RENEWAL OF THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, TEXAS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE

On motion of Ms. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Sosa and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System hereby approves the renewal of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Texas Transportation Institute and Texas A&M University, to become effective immediately.

MINUTE ORDER 45-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 16)

APPROVAL OF THE CONCEPT PAPER FOR THE TARLETON TEXAS HISTORY RESEARCH CENTER, TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

On motion of Ms. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Sosa and by a unanimous vote, the Board approved the concept paper for the Tarleton Texas History Research Center at Tarleton State University, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes as Exhibit J.
MINUTE ORDER 46-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 17)

AUTHORIZATION TO PRESENT TO THE  
TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD  
FOR NEW DEGREE PROGRAMS LEADING TO  
AN M.A. AND M.F.A. IN STUDIO ART,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI

On motion of Ms. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Sosa and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of new degree programs at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi leading to Master's of Arts and Master's of Fine Arts Degrees with majors in Studio Art.

The Board also authorizes the President to submit this new degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board for this proposal have been met.

MINUTE ORDER 47-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 18)

AUTHORIZATION TO PRESENT A PROPOSAL TO  
THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD  
FOR A NEW DEGREE PROGRAM LEADING TO A M.A. IN HISTORY,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI

On motion of Ms. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Sosa and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi leading to a Master’s of Arts in History Degree. This action rescinds Minute Order 314-94.

The Board also authorizes the President to submit this new degree to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board for this proposal have been met.

MINUTE ORDER 48-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 19)

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATURAL TOXINS RESEARCH CENTER  
WITHIN THE OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT  
FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS,  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-KINGSVILLE

On motion of Ms. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Sosa and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:
The Natural Toxins Research Center, as described in Exhibit K, is hereby established as an organizational part of Texas A&M University-Kingsville that is administrated within the Office of Academic Affairs, effective June 1, 2000.

MINUTE ORDER 49-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 20)

AUTHORIZATION TO PRESENT A PROPOSAL TO THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD FOR AN ED.D. IN HEALTH EDUCATION, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

On motion of Ms. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Sosa and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves Texas A&M University’s request for an Ed.D. degree in Health Education. Further, the Board authorizes the President of Texas A&M University to present to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board a proposal initiating a graduate program leading to an Ed.D. degree in Health Education.

MINUTE ORDER 50-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 21)

AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT PROPOSAL TO THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD FOR A NEW DEGREE PROGRAM LEADING TO A B.S. IN OCEAN AND COASTAL RESOURCES, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT GALVESTON

On motion of Ms. Armstrong, seconded by Mr. Sosa and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System approves the establishment of a new degree program at Texas A&M University at Galveston leading to a B.S. in Ocean and Coastal Resources.

The Board authorizes the President to submit this new degree program to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for approval and hereby certifies that all applicable criteria of the Coordinating Board for this proposal have been met.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON AUDIT

Dr. Avilés, member of the Committee on Audit, said that the Committee had met earlier and recommended approval of Item 22. Dr. Avilés commended Ms. Cathy Smock, Chief Auditor. The Board took action as set forth below:

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MINUTE ORDER 51-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 22)

APPROVAL OF CHANGES TO POLICY 21.03 (INTERNAL AUDITING),
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Dr. Avilés, seconded by Dr. Wynn and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

Revisions to System Policy 21.03 (Internal Auditing) are approved to be effective immediately, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes as Exhibit L.

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OTHER ITEMS

Mr. Powell asked Mr. Graves to present Item 23. The Board took action as set forth below:

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MINUTE ORDER 52-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 23-REVISED)

ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE INTEGRATIVE PLANNING PROCESS,
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Dr. Wynn and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

Whereas, The Texas A&M University System is committed to servant leadership and has initiated an integrative planning process that supports the concept; and

Whereas, this planning process was guided by the goal of improving the quality of the educational, research and outreach opportunities afforded Texans by The Texas A&M University System, and the quality of higher education in Texas generally; and

Whereas, executive staff, presidents of the universities and The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center, directors of agencies within the A&M System, members of the Board of Regents, and other interested parties have invested many hours of discussion and work to articulate a direction whereby the goal would be accomplished; and

Whereas, these individuals and groups have produced a document, The Integrative Plan: Promise for a New Century - The Texas A&M University System in 2020, that describes excellence for The Texas A&M University System so that maximum benefit of public expense is directed toward our students and the state; and

Whereas, the implementation and success of The Integrative Plan will take the
commitment and dedication of present and future regents, chancellors, presidents, administrators, faculty, staff, students and friends of The Texas A&M University System; and

Whereas, the commitment will span the careers and lives of many and affect each and everyone; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that we, the members of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, meeting this 24th day of March 2000 hereby express our support for The Integrative Plan and our sincerest thanks to those who worked to set the direction for continued excellence that will ultimately affect the quality of every aspect of The Texas A&M University System; and, be it, further

Resolved, that this resolution be spread upon the minutes, and copies thereof, signed by the Chairman of the Board of Regents, to ensure that the general azimuths and initiatives outlined in The Integrative Plan become a map for future direction of The Texas A&M University System and a permanent expression of support for excellence.

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Mr. Powell asked Dr. Hines to present Item 24. The Board took action as set forth below:

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MINUTE ORDER 53-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 24)

ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION TO COMMEND
THE 1999 WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM,
PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Dr. Aviles and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

Whereas, the Prairie View A&M University Women's Volleyball Team won the 1999 Southwestern Athletic Conference tournament championship; and

Whereas, the Prairie View A&M University Women's Volleyball Team attained its first-ever berth in the NCAA Division I Volleyball Championships; and

Resolved, that we, the members of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, meeting on this 24th day of March, express our heartfelt congratulations to Coach Alicia Pete and the players of the Prairie View A&M University Women's Volleyball Team for the honor and recognition this feat contributes to Prairie View A&M University and The Texas A&M University System; and, be it, further

Resolved, that this resolution be spread upon the minutes, and copies thereof, signed by the Chairman of the Board of Regents, be presented to the coach and each member of the team and to the Archives of Prairie View A&M University as a permanent mark of this Board's appreciation and gratitude to all these individuals for a job well done.
Mr. Powell asked Dr. Russell Long, President of West Texas A&M University (WTAMU), to present Item 25. The Board took action as set forth below:

MINUTE ORDER 54-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 25-REVISED)

ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION TO THE LADY BUFFS BASKETBALL COACH, WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

On motion of Mr. McClure, seconded by Dr. Wynn and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

Whereas, Bob Schneider, Coach of the West Texas A&M University Lady Buffs Basketball Team since September 1981, having been named the second winningest active coach at the NCAA Division II level; and

Whereas, Bob Schneider reached the 515th win total at the collegiate level with a 66-63 victory over Midwestern State on January 29, 2000, at Wichita Falls; and

Whereas, Bob Schneider holds a 515-148 record in 22 collegiate seasons, including a 451-110 mark in nineteen seasons at WTAMU; and

Whereas, Bob Schneider has led the Lady Buffs to the post season thirteen times and was honored as the NCAA Division II National Coach of the Year in 1996-97; and

Whereas, Bob Schneider has produced four all-American players at WTAMU, two of whom won the honor twice; and

Whereas, Bob Schneider - for his career including the prep level - has won 911 of 1151 games as a head coach; and

Whereas, Bob Schneider produced a 350-59 record at Canyon High School with an unprecedented ten straight trips to the state championship game, winning five of those contests; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that we the members of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, meeting on this 24th day of March 2000 at Temple, Texas, express our heartfelt congratulations to the Coach of the West Texas A&M University Lady Buffs Basketball Team for his contributions to West Texas A&M University; and, be it, further

Resolved, that this resolution be spread upon the minutes, and copies thereof, signed by the Chairman of the Board of Regents, be presented to the coach and to the Archives of West
Texas A&M University, as a permanent mark of this Board's appreciation and gratitude to him for a job well done.

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Mr. Powell asked Dr. Bowen to present Items 26 through 32. The Board took action as set forth below:

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MINUTE ORDER 55-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 26)

APPOINTMENT OF
MR. BERNIE W. STEWART
TO THE BOARD OF VISITORS,
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT GALVESTON

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Dr. Avilés and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

Effective April 1, 2000, Mr. Bernie W. Stewart is hereby appointed to the Texas A&M University at Galveston Board of Visitors for a period of three years.

MINUTE ORDER 56-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 27)

APPOINTMENT OF
MR. RAY HOLBROOK
TO THE BOARD OF VISITORS,
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT GALVESTON

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Dr. Avilés and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

Effective April 1, 2000, Mr. Ray Holbrook is hereby appointed to the Texas A&M University at Galveston Board of Visitors for a period of three years.

MINUTE ORDER 57-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 29)

AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD
AN HONORARY DOCTOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE
TO MICHAEL E. DEBAKEY,
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Dr. Avilés and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

Texas A&M University is authorized to award an honorary Doctor of Science degree to Michael E. DeBakey.
MINUTE ORDER 58-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 30)

AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD
AN HONORARY DOCTOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE
TO ALLEN J. BARD,
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Dr. Avilés and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

Texas A&M University is authorized to award an honorary Doctor of Science degree to Allen J. Bard.

MINUTE ORDER 59-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 31)

AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD
AN HONORARY DOCTOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE
TO PETER LAX,
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Dr. Avilés and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

Texas A&M University is authorized to award an honorary Doctor of Science degree to Peter Lax.
MINUTE ORDER 60-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 32)

AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD
AN HONORARY DOCTOR OF LETTERS DEGREE
TO JOHN HOPE FRANKLIN,
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Dr. Avilés and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

Texas A&M University is authorized to award an honorary Doctor of Letters degree to John Hope Franklin.

MINUTE ORDER 61-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 28)

AUTHORIZATION FOR FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE,
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Dr. Wynn and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 31.03 and Section 51.101 of the Texas Education Code, authorizes faculty development leave to the faculty members as set forth on Faculty Development Leave List FY 01, Texas A&M University, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes as Exhibit M.

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Mr. Powell asked Dr. Noren to present Item 33. The Board took action as set forth below:

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MINUTE ORDER 62-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 33)

AUTHORIZATION TO GRANT FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE
TO DR. RICHARD N. BUCHANAN,
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Dr. Wynn and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

Authority is hereby granted to the President of The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center to grant Faculty Development Leave, in accordance with A&M System Policy 31.03.03 Leave of Absence with Pay, 10. Faculty Development Leave, to Dr. Richard N. Buchanan.

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Mr. Powell asked Mr. Graves to present Items 34 through 40. The Board took action as set forth below:

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MINUTE ORDER 63-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 34)

GRANTING OF ACADEMIC TENURE,
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Dr. Wynn and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, in accordance with System Policy 12.01 on academic freedom, responsibility and tenure, hereby authorizes the granting of tenure to the following faculty members as set forth on Tenure List No. 99-00-04, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes as Exhibit N.

MINUTE ORDER 64-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 35)

APPROVAL OF MAJOR REVISIONS TO SYSTEM POLICY 01.03 (APPOINTING POWER AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT),
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Mr. McClure, seconded by Mr. Nye and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

Revisions to System Policy 01.03 (Appointing Power and Terms and Conditions of Employment) are approved to be effective immediately, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes as Exhibit O.

MINUTE ORDER 65-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 36)

APPROVAL OF MAJOR REVISIONS TO SYSTEM POLICY 32.02 (DISCIPLINE AND DISMISSAL OF EMPLOYEES),
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Mr. McClure, seconded by Mr. Nye and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

Revisions to System Policy 32.02 (Discipline and Dissmissal of Employees) are approved to be effective immediately, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes as Exhibit P.

MINUTE ORDER 66-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 37)

APPROVAL OF MINOR REVISIONS TO SYSTEM POLICIES,
On motion of Mr. McClure, seconded by Mr. Nye and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

Minor revisions to System Policies 11.02 (Creation of Centers and Institutes), 12.04 (Academic Council/Faculty Senate), 12.05 (Training for English Proficiency), 15.01 (Research Agreements), 25.01 (Use and Operation of System Aircraft), 25.07 (Contract Administration), 28.03 (Vending Machines, and Pay Station Telephones), 34.03 (Purchase, Service and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages), 51.07 (Preservation of Historic Properties) and 61.01 (Public Information Act Compliance) are approved to be effective immediately, copies of which are attached to the official minutes as Exhibits Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y and Z.

MINUTE ORDER 67-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 38)

GRANTING OF EMERITUS TITLES,
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Mr. McClure, seconded by Mr. Nye and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

In recognition of long and distinguished service to The Texas A&M University System, the Board of Regents hereby confirms the recommendation of the Chancellor, and confers the title of Emeritus/Emerita upon individuals as shown on Emeritus Title List No. 99-00-04, and grants all rights and privileges of this title, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes as Exhibit AA.

MINUTE ORDER 68-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 39)

CONFIRMATION OF
APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS AND TERMINATIONS,
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Mr. McClure, seconded by Mr. Nye and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The appointments, promotions and terminations accepted and approved by the Chief Executive Officers of the respective Components of The Texas A&M University System, or their designees, as shown on Appointment List No. 99-00-04, Promotion List No. 99-00-04 and
Termination List 99-00-04 are hereby confirmed, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes as Exhibits BB, CC and DD.

MINUTE ORDER 69-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 40)

CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT AND COMMISSIONING OF PEACE OFFICERS, THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

On motion of Mr. McClure, seconded by Mr. Nye and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

In accordance with System Policy 34.06 (Appointment, Commissioning and Authority of Peace Officers), the Board of Regents hereby confirms the appointment and commissioning of peace officers by the Presidents of the respective components of The Texas A&M University System, attached to the official minutes as Exhibit EE.

Mr. Powell presented Items 41 and 42 and the Board took action as set forth below:

MINUTE ORDER 70-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 41)


On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Dr. Avilés and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

Effective immediately, H.C. (Dulie) Bell, Frank W. Denius and John Mobley are hereby re-elected to serve two-year terms as directors of the Herman F. Heep and Minnie Belle Heep Texas A&M University Foundation Board of Directors.

MINUTE ORDER 71-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 42)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2000, REGULAR MEETING, BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
On motion of Dr. Avilés, seconded by Dr. Wynn and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System held in College Station, Texas, on January 27, 2000, are hereby approved.

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Mr. Powell asked Dr. Bowen to comment on Item 44. Dr. Bowen said on January 19, 2000, by an action of the Board, the Chancellor was authorized to execute contracts in support of the analysis work done by the Special Commission on the 1999 Bonfire. At that time the Board established a limit on the expenditures of $1,000,000. As was widely reported in the media, the administration did anticipate the necessity to come back to the Board and increase that amount. Dr. Bowen said that they had speculated publicly that the amount would not be an enormous increase over the additional $1,000,000 amount. He said what they are proposing today is a larger increase than they would have preferred at that time. Nonetheless, it has been discussed in a very public way by the Commission. Mr. Leo Linbeck, Chairman of the Commission, has endorsed this recommendation and asked the administration of TAMU to act on behalf of the Commission to authorize raising it to this limit. Dr. Bowen said one of the questions that would naturally arise as the Board contemplates this decision is to weigh some of the public reports (i.e., the fact the Commission has identified the reason that the Bonfire fell). Dr. Bowen said those public reports are incorrect. He said Mr. Linbeck was emphatic in asking Dr. Bowen to explain that while an effective commission conducting the kind of work it is doing would, at this juncture, have a list of options and possibilities, they are in fact pursuing those options and possibilities and in no way have they been able to make the decision as to why the Bonfire fell. Mr. Linbeck is fully committed to meeting the deadline of the end of April and is fully committed to working within the resources that the Board will authorize should it approve this minute order.

Mr. Nye said he is sure that everyone has heard from one or more members of the public that are concerned about the expenditure of public funds. On the other hand, he said he thinks that everyone understands the importance of this group going forward, being as thorough as necessary to arrive at the proper conclusions. Mr. Nye commended Dr. Bowen and everyone working with the situation to try, on the one hand, to get the most for our money, and on the other hand, ensure that this independent body has full opportunity to arrive at the proper conclusions. Mr. Nye made a motion that the proposed minute order be adopted. Dr. Wynn seconded the motion.

Mr. Powell asked for other questions or discussion.

Dr. Avilés said he was concerned about the high expenditure of fees. He said he would support the proposal but he felt the Board was being held hostage by the situation. He felt that some of the fees being charged were exorbitant. He said expenditures should be limited and hoped that the Commission would find ways to get that figure lower than what was being proposed.

Mr. Nye said he shared Dr. Avilés’ anxieties about some of the charges. He complimented McKinsey and Company and said they have done a good job in trying to achieve
both ends of this sort of difficult “Gordian knot.” Mr. Nye encouraged the administration to continue to try to ensure that the excessiveness is limited, but at the same time, allow for a full and thorough investigation.

Dr. Avilés said he agreed. He said he felt he needed to express his feelings and expressed his gratitude to McKinsey for doing its work pro-bono. He added that he just wanted to make sure that they know that the Board is here and watching. He concluded by saying that the Board has a responsibility to the State of Texas, to ensure that the right answers are reached as a result of this report and also to guard the money of the State of Texas.

Dr. Bowen said the administration shares the views of the Board – it wants the highest quality answer. The administration wants it done in a way that the parents of the young people that were victims of this collapse will understand this report and see that the administration has made every effort to provide quality information for them. He concluded by saying that Mr. Linbeck has the same views as the Board, and he will represent our interest as effectively as anyone could humanly do.

Mr. Powell asked for questions or comments. Dr. Avilés said the Board members had received a letter from one of the families that lost a daughter in the Bonfire accident. He said they were very complimentary of the kindness and support that Dr. Bowen provided their family.

The Board took action as set forth below:

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MINUTE ORDER 72-2000 (AGENDA ITEM 44)

AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND CONSULTANT CONTRACTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY BONFIRE INVESTIGATION, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

On motion of Mr. Nye, seconded by Dr. Wynn and by a unanimous vote, the following minute order was adopted:

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The aggregate amount for all professional services and consultant contracts related to the Bonfire Commission shall not exceed $2,000,000 without specific authorization of the Board of Regents.

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Mr. Nye complimented Dr. Noren and all of the Health Science Center administration, and the administration of Scott & White for making this a very productive meeting.
Mr. Powell announced that the next meeting would be held on May 25-26, 2000, in Kingsville, Texas.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mr. Powell adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m., Friday, March 24, 2000.

Vickie Burt Spillers  
Executive Secretary to the Board of Regents  
The Texas A&M University System  

VBS:ti