

## PRESIDENT'S STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS

August 21, 2006

### (Welcome)

GOOD AFTERNOON. IT IS MY PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU TO THIS EVENT, WHICH FORMALLY MARKS THE BEGINNING OF THE 2006-2007 ACADEMIC YEAR. I APPRECIATE HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE A BRIEF SABBATICAL THIS SUMMER, AND I SPENT TIME REFLECTING ON SOUTHWESTERN'S AGENDA FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS AND HOW WE CAN ACCOMPLISH THE GOALS THAT WE SET FORTH IN THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2010. I ALSO TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE A STUDENT OF THE LIBERAL ARTS AGAIN AND READ BOOKS I HAVE BEEN WANTING TO READ FOR A LONG TIME, INCLUDING: *WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?* BY MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.; *THE PROPHETIC IMAGINATION* BY WALTER BRUEGGMANN; *TRUSTWORTHY LEADERSHIP* BY DIANA CHAPMAN WALSH; AND A BIOGRAPHY OF QUEEN ELIZABETH.

### (Class of 2010)

I ALWAYS BEGIN THESE REPORTS BY TELLING YOU ABOUT OUR NEW FIRST-YEAR CLASS, SO LET ME SHARE WITH YOU A SHORT PROFILE OF THE CLASS OF 2010. THIS CLASS WAS SELECTED OUT OF THE LARGEST APPLICANT POOL IN SOUTHWESTERN'S HISTORY.

THIS PAST WEEKEND WE WELCOMED 348 NEW STUDENTS AND 28 TRANSFER STUDENTS. NEARLY HALF OF OUR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS WERE IN THE TOP 10 PERCENT OF THEIR HIGH SCHOOL CLASS, AND THE AVERAGE SAT SCORE FOR INCOMING STUDENTS WAS 1225. I AM PARTICULARLY PLEASED THAT 23 PERCENT OF OUR INCOMING CLASS ARE MINORITY STUDENTS, AND THAT WE HAVE TWICE AS MANY AFRICAN-AMERICAN FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS AS WE DID LAST YEAR. WE

ALSO HAVE THREE STUDENTS FROM OUR UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM WHO GAINED ADMISSION TO SOUTHWESTERN THIS YEAR:

- **JESSICA GALLEGOS** AND **TIM WOOD** FROM GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL AND
- **OSCAR AVILES** FROM JARRELL HIGH SCHOOL.

149 STUDENTS FROM THE FIRST-YEAR CLASS WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN LIVING-LEARNING COMMUNITIES THIS FALL -- AN INCREASE OF 50 STUDENTS FROM LAST YEAR. THIS INITIATIVE, WHICH WE BEGAN LAST YEAR TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN OUR FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR PROGRAM, IS PART OF THE CONTINUUM OF POWERFUL CONNECTIONS IN THE SOUTHWESTERN EXPERIENCE – CONNECTIONS BETWEEN STUDENTS AND FACULTY, AND BETWEEN IN-CLASS AND OUT-OF-CLASS EXPERIENCES. DURING THE FIRST YEAR OF THE LIVING/LEARNING COMMUNITIES, BOTH RETENTION AND GPAS WERE HIGHER THAN IN TRADITIONAL FIRST-YEAR RESIDENCE HALLS.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THE FACULTY MEMBERS WHO ARE VOLUNTEERING THEIR TIME TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM.

(NEW FACULTY)

WE ARE PLEASED TO WELCOME A NEW BROWN CHAIR HOLDER THIS FALL. **MICHAEL COOPER** IS JOINING US AS AN ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MUSIC AND HOLDER OF THE MARGARETT ROOT BROWN CHAIR. PLEASE STAND.

YOU MAY RECALL WE ANNOUNCED LATE LAST SPRING THAT **THOMAS HOWE** HAD BEEN NAMED HOLDER OF THE HERMAN BROWN CHAIR AND THAT **ERIC SELBIN** WAS APPOINTED UNIVERSITY SCHOLAR. WE ARE ALSO WELCOMING EIGHT NEW TENURE-TRACK FACULTY MEMBERS THIS FALL:

- **NIKOS BENTENITIS** , ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY;
- **CARLOS DE ORO**, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SPANISH;
- **DAVI JOHNSON**, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES;
- **JULIE JOHNSON**, ALSO AN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES;
- **STEPHEN MARBLE**, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION;
- **EILEEN RUSSELL**, ASSOCIATION PROFESSOR OF MUSIC;
- **ELIZABETH STOCKTON**, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH; AND
- **JOSEPH ZAVALA**, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF SPANISH.

WE ALSO ARE PLEASED TO HAVE **JENNIFER ESPERANZA** JOINING US THIS YEAR AS A SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE THROUGH THE CONSORTIUM FOR A STRONG MINORITY PRESENCE. JENNIFER WILL BE TEACHING IN OUR SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT.

**(PAIDEIA)**

WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT **DAVID GAINES** ACCEPTED OUR INVITATION TO SERVE AS THE NEW DIRECTOR OF THE PAIDEIA PROGRAM. AS YOU KNOW, OUR FIRST CLASS OF PAIDEIA SCHOLARS GRADUATED IN MAY. THIS FALL WE WILL HAVE 208 STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM, AND WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT UNDER DAVID'S LEADERSHIP IT WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP AND GROW.

**(CAMPAIGN UPDATE)**

I'D LIKE TO GIVE A BRIEF UPDATE ON *THINKING AHEAD: THE SOUTHWESTERN CAMPAIGN*, WHICH WE LAUNCHED LAST SPRING. OUR CAMPAIGN TOTAL IS NOW OVER \$56 MILLION – AN INCREASE OF MORE THAN \$9 MILLION FROM THIS TIME A YEAR AGO.

OVER THE SUMMER WE PLANNED A SERIES OF REGIONAL CAMPAIGN EVENTS THAT WILL BEGIN WITH AN AUGUST 31 GATHERING IN SAN ANTONIO AND CRISS-CROSS THE STATE IN THE COMING MONTHS.

WE HAVE RECEIVED SEVERAL MAJOR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE PROTHRO CENTER FOR LIFELONG LEARNING, WHICH WE HOPE TO BREAK GROUND ON NEXT YEAR. AMONG THESE ARE A \$1 MILLION CHALLENGE GRANT FROM THE **J.E. AND L.E. MABEE FOUNDATION** OF TULSA, OKLAHOMA, AND \$200,000 FROM THE ALKEK FOUNDATION OF HOUSTON, HEADED BY ALUMNUS **CHARLES WILLIAMS**, CLASS OF 1984.

IN ADDITION, U. S. REPRESENTATIVE **JOHN CARTER**, ALONG WITH SUPPORT FROM REPRESENTATIVES **KAY GRANGER** (A MEMBER OF OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES) AND **PETE SESSIONS** (CLASS OF 1978), HAS REQUESTED \$750,000 IN FEDERAL FUNDS FOR THIS BUILDING.

PARTICIPATION IN THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL – WHICH INCLUDES DONORS OF \$1,000 OR MORE – ALSO INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY LAST YEAR FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW. I AM PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL THAT FACULTY/STAFF PARTICIPATION IN OUR ANNUAL FUND LAST YEAR WAS NEARLY 44 PERCENT, COMPARED TO 41 PERCENT THE PREVIOUS YEAR. ALL OF THESE MARVELOUS GIFTS HELPED US MEET AND SURPASS OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISING GOAL AGAIN. NEXT MONTH, WE WILL PRESENT OUR THIRD PRESIDENT'S PHILANTHROPY AWARD TO ALUMNI **RED AND CHARLINE MCCOMBS** FOR THEIR MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO SOUTHWESTERN OVER THE YEARS.

AS YOU KNOW, RED CHAIRED SOUTHWESTERN'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR ALMOST A DECADE AND, AS A CO-CHAIR OF OUR LAST FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN, WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN HELPING SOUTHWESTERN SURPASS ITS GOAL. HIS INVOLVEMENT CONTINUES AS

ONE OF THREE HONORARY CO-CHAIRS FOR *THINKING AHEAD: THE SOUTHWESTERN CAMPAIGN*. CHARLINE HAS ALSO BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED AT SOUTHWESTERN AS AN INAUGURAL MEMBER OF OUR BOARD OF VISITORS.

ANOTHER ALUMNUS, **JOE SEEBER**, CLASS OF 1963, HAS BEEN DOING EXTRAORDINARY WORK AS THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF OUR NEWLY FORMED ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY ALUMNI. SINCE ASSUMING THIS POSITION IN JANUARY, JOE HAS VISITED WITH MORE THAN 150 ALUMNI ACROSS THE COUNTRY AT HIS EXPENSE IN AN EFFORT TO GET THEM ENGAGED IN THE LIFE OF THE UNIVERSITY. HE IS DOING A TREMENDOUS JOB, AND WE REALLY APPRECIATE THE TIME, ENERGY, AND RESOURCES HE IS DEDICATING TO THIS TASK.

**(FA RENOVATION)**

AS YOU CAN SEE, WORK IS PROGRESSING ON THE RENOVATION AND EXPANSION OF THE ALMA THOMAS THEATER. AS IS OFTEN THE CASE WHEN RENOVATING OLDER BUILDINGS, WE HAVE RUN INTO A FEW UNEXPECTED CONSTRUCTION CHALLENGES, WHICH ARE BEING SKILLFULLY HANDLED BY **DEAN PAUL GAFFNEY, BOB MATHIS, GROUP II ARCHITECTURE, AND V. R. W. CONSTRUCTION**, THE CONTRACTOR, AND OUR HOPE IS THAT THIS FACILITY WILL BE OPEN BY THIS TIME NEXT YEAR.

LAST WEDNESDAY MORNING (AUG. 17) I DID A WALK THROUGH WITH **LYNNE BRODY** OF THE AREAS IN THE LIBRARY IMPACTED BY THE SERIOUS FLOODING WHICH WAS FIRST DETECTED AT 4:00 A.M. THE DAY BEFORE.

IT WAS HEARTBREAKING TO SEE THE SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE CAUSED BY THIS INCIDENT TO BOTH LIBRARY FACILITIES AND COLLECTIONS. SUPER

HUMAN EFFORTS OF **LIBRARY AND PHYSICAL PLANT PERSONNEL** THROUGHOUT THIS EMERGENCY HAVE BEEN IMPRESSIVE AND REASSURING. THESE EFFORTS WERE PARTICULARLY CRITICAL DURING THE INITIAL 24-HOUR PERIOD WHEN ALL WET COLLECTION ITEMS WERE IDENTIFIED, INVENTORIED, AND SENT TO DALLAS FOR SPECIALIZED DRYING TREATMENT BY THE PRESCRIBED TREATMENT DEADLINE. WORK ON THE BUILDING WAS INITIATED TO HALT FURTHER DETERIORATION AND DAMAGE TO THE FACILITIES. LET ME PUBLICLY THANK ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN THE RECOVERY PROCESS WHICH WILL CONTINUE OVER THE COMING MONTHS.

LIBRARY STAFF, PHYSICAL PLANT HOUSEKEEPING, POLICE PERSONNEL PLEASE STAND AND BE RECOGNIZED BY ALL OF US.

**(RECENT ACCOLADES)**

WE RECEIVED SOME EXCELLENT COVERAGE IN THE NATIONAL MEDIA THIS PAST YEAR, AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE MEMBERS OF OUR FACULTY WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THESE EFFORTS. THE *WASHINGTON POST*, THE *CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION*, AND *BUSINESS WEEK* MAGAZINE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE MEDIA THAT WE WERE FEATURED IN THIS PAST YEAR.

WE ALSO CONTINUE TO BE MENTIONED IN SOME OF THE COUNTRY'S TOP COLLEGE GUIDES.

*U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT* ISSUED ITS ANNUAL COLLEGE RANKINGS LAST WEEK, AND ONCE AGAIN SOUTHWESTERN WAS THE TOP-RATED NATIONAL LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE IN TEXAS. WE MOVED UP FROM 61 TO 57, TIED WITH KALAMAZOO COLLEGE, ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY, AND WOFFORD COLLEGE. THE PRINCETON REVIEW'S 2007 EDITION OF *THE BEST 361 COLLEGES* WILL BE PUBLISHED TOMORROW, AND

SOUTHWESTERN IS AMONG THE COLLEGES FEATURED IN THIS BOOK.

HOWEVER, MOST REFLECTIVE OF WHO WE ARE IS THE ONGOING RECOGNITION WE RECEIVE FROM *COLLEGES THAT CHANGE LIVES*. SOUTHWESTERN IS ONE OF 40 COLLEGES FEATURED IN THEIR 2006-07 EDITION.

THE SECOND ANNUAL *COLLEGE GOLF GUIDE* PUBLISHED BY *GOLF DIGEST* ALSO RANKS SOUTHWESTERN AS ONE OF THE TOP 50 SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTRY FOR WOMEN WHO WANT EXCELLENT ACADEMICS, BUT ALSO A CHANCE TO PLAY GOLF.

SPEAKING OF ATHLETICS, I WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE **DR. GLADA MUNT**, DIRECTOR OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS, WHO HAS BEEN NAMED "THE NATIONAL NCAA DIVISION III ATHLETIC DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR" BY THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGIATE WOMEN ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATORS. SHE WILL ACCEPT HER AWARD IN OCTOBER IN SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA. GLADA, PLEASE STAND - CONGRATULATIONS.

**(UPCOMING INITIATIVES)**

THIS FALL WE WILL PUBLISH AND DISTRIBUTE THE MUCH-AWAITED NEW BOOK ABOUT SOUTHWESTERN'S HISTORY WRITTEN BY UNIVERSITY HISTORIAN **WILLIAM B. JONES** AND TITLED *TO SURVIVE AND EXCEL: THE STORY OF SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY 1840-2000*.

IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE SO ALREADY, I ENCOURAGE YOU TO GO TO THE CAMPAIGN WEB SITE AND RESERVE YOUR COMPLIMENTARY COPY OF THIS BOOK. WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO THE BROWN FOUNDATION OF HOUSTON FOR ENABLING US TO PROVIDE THIS WONDERFUL PUBLICATION.

**(STUDENT LIFE INITIATIVES)**

LAST YEAR MARKED THE DEBUT OF SEVERAL STUDENT LIFE INITIATIVES. THREE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL WERE THE PIRATE BIKE PROGRAM, THE STUDENT LIFE ENHANCEMENT INITIATIVE, AND THE OFF-CAMPUS SU-CONNECTIONS PROGRAM.

THE PIRATE BIKE PROGRAM STARTED WITH AN INITIAL DONATION OF 30 BIKES, AND WE NOW HAVE NEARLY 140 BIKES WITH ONLY 60 BIKES PUT OUT AT A TIME.

THE STUDENT LIFE ENHANCEMENT INITIATIVE INCLUDED “FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE” PERFORMANCES, “CINEMATIC SATURDAY” MOVIES, LATE-NIGHT ROBERTSON CENTER, AS WELL AS OUR FIRST LARGE-ACT CONCERT.

CAREER SERVICES AND ALUMNI RELATIONS CREATED A NEW PROGRAM TITLED “SU CONNECTIONS HOUSTON.” THE PROGRAM OFFERED CAREER EXPLORATION AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR STUDENTS WITH ALUMNI FROM THE GREATER HOUSTON AREA.

THIS FALL WE WILL START CONSTRUCTION ON A NEW APARTMENT-STYLE RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX FOR OUR STUDENTS. THIS COMPLEX, WHICH WILL BE BUILT ADJACENT TO THE EXISTING GROGAN AND BETTY LORD RESIDENTIAL CENTER BETWEEN 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET AND SOUTHWESTERN BOULEVARD ON THE NORTH SIDE OF CAMPUS, WILL ENABLE US TO MOVE CLOSER TO OUR STRATEGIC GOAL OF HAVING 95 PERCENT OF OUR STUDENTS LIVE ON CAMPUS. IT ALSO WILL ENABLE US TO CONVERT SOME OF OUR OTHER RESIDENCE HALLS TO SPECIAL INTEREST HOUSING.

ALSO NEW THIS FALL WILL BE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE “STUDENT WELLNESS INITIATIVE,” WHICH DREW OVERWHELMING SUPPORT FROM



THE FACULTY AND STUDENT CONGRESS WHEN IT WAS PROPOSED. STUDENTS WILL HAVE ON-CAMPUS ACCESS TO THE SERVICES OF A PHYSICIAN AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT FOR SEVERAL HOURS EACH WEEK, INCLUDING GENERAL MEDICAL CARE FOR COMMON ILLNESSES AS WELL AS ROUTINE WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE. THE INITIATIVE ALSO CREATED A WELLNESS EDUCATOR/COUNSELOR POSITION, WHICH WILL ENABLE COUNSELING SERVICES STAFF TO PROVIDE PROGRAMMING FOR STUDENTS IN SUCH AREAS AS ALCOHOL AND DRUG EDUCATION, EATING DISORDER PREVENTION, AND SEXUAL ASSAULT RISK REDUCTION.

**(TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES)**

WE HAVE SEVERAL NEW TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS THAT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED THIS FALL. THESE ARE ALL PART OF A \$3 MILLION TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVED IN JANUARY 2004.

ONE OF THESE IS THE PIRATE CARD PROGRAM, WHICH WILL ENABLE FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS TO PAY FOR CAMPUS SERVICES SUCH AS FOOD, LAUNDRY MACHINES, AND COPY MACHINES WITH JUST ONE CARD. I HOPE YOU ALL HAVE GOTTEN YOUR NEW CARDS BY NOW. IF NOT, PLEASE GO TO THE CAMPUS CENTER THIS WEEK TO HAVE YOUR PICTURE TAKEN.

THIS YEAR WE ALSO WILL BE ROLLING OUT A NEW WEB "PORTAL" THAT WILL ENABLE FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS TO ACCESS A VARIETY OF FUNCTIONS SUCH AS E-MAIL, WEB ADVISOR, AND THE SEGUE COURSE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM ONLINE IN ONE LOCATION. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK **BOB PAVER** AND **GARY LOGAN** FOR THE MANY HOURS OF WORK THEIR STAFFS HAVE PUT IN ON THESE TWO PROJECTS.

**(INTEGRATED MARKETING INITIATIVE)**

OUR INTEGRATED MARKETING INITIATIVE, WHICH WE LAUNCHED LAST FALL, IS GOING WELL, AND MANY OF YOU ARE SERVING ON THE INTEGRATED MARKETING ADVISORY BOARD THAT HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATIONS WE WILL RECEIVE FROM THE ART AND SCIENCE GROUP THIS FALL. WE ARE ALREADY IMPLEMENTING SOME OF THEIR INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS PERTAINING TO OUR WEB SITE, INCLUDING:

- A SLEEKER HOME PAGE STILL IN THE DESIGN AND TESTING STAGE, WHICH WILL REFLECT A MORE CINEMATIC FORMAT;
- ENHANCED LANGUAGE ABOUT OUR PAIDEIA PROGRAM; AND
- SIMPLIFIED AND IMPROVED LANGUAGE ABOUT OUR COSTS AND FINANCIAL AID,

**(DIVERSITY INITIATIVES)**

AS YOU KNOW, WE ARE COMMITTED TO INCREASING DIVERSITY AT SOUTHWESTERN, AND I WANT TO SHARE WITH YOU SOME PROGRESS WE ARE MAKING IN THIS AREA. LAST YEAR, THE DIVERSITY ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE WAS CHARGED WITH IMPLEMENTING INITIATIVES WHICH HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL AND THE FACULTY.

I FULLY EXPECT THE ACTION PLANS TO BE COMPLETED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL THIS FALL. THESE ACTION PLANS WILL ENABLE SOUTHWESTERN STUDENTS TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY IN AN INCREASINGLY DIVERSE, GLOBAL SOCIETY.

THROUGH OUR EFFORTS AND WITH THE LEADERSHIP AND SUPPORT OF **SENATORS KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON AND JOHN CORNYN**, THE SENATE HAS APPROVED FUNDING FOR A HISPANIC STUDIES CENTER AT SOUTHWESTERN IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE NATIONAL HISPANIC

INSTITUTE, PENDING FINAL APPROVAL OF THE JOINT HOUSES THIS NOVEMBER.

**JORDEN BURT**, OUR GOVERNMENT RELATIONS FIRM, HAS IDENTIFIED MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAMS AIMED AT INCREASING THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS FROM UNDER-REPRESENTED GROUPS GOING INTO SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS. THEY ARE THE STEM PROGRAMS AND THE AMERICAN COMPETITIVENESS INITIATIVE. WE WANT TO ENCOURAGE FACULTY MEMBERS TO PURSUE GRANTS, PARTICULARLY IN THESE AREAS.

WE WILL CONTINUE OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH DILLARD UNIVERSITY FACULTY BY ASSISTING THEM WITH TECHNOLOGY TO DEVELOP COURSE MATERIALS AND PREPARE FOR ON-LINE COURSE DELIVERY.

WE WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO IMPLEMENT THE ENGAGED DIVERSITY PROJECT FUNDED BY THE MELLON FOUNDATION OF NEW YORK, WHICH INVOLVES DILLARD UNIVERSITY, HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY, MOREHOUSE COLLEGE, AND RHODES COLLEGE. THE AIM OF THIS PROJECT IS TO CREATE STUDENT AND FACULTY EXCHANGES AMONG THOSE INSTITUTIONS.

ALONG THESE LINES, I AM DELIGHTED THAT SOUTHWESTERN HAS BEEN SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EXCITING SOCIAL JUSTICE PROJECT SPONSORED BY A CALIFORNIA-BASED THEATRE COMPANY CALLED "FRINGE BENEFITS." "FRINGE BENEFITS" WILL BE WORKING WITH SOME OF OUR STUDENTS AND FACULTY MEMBERS THIS FALL TO DEVELOP A PLAY THAT ADDRESSES RACIAL ISSUES IN ROUND ROCK SCHOOLS. THE PLAY WILL BE PRESENTED AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS NEXT SPRING.

**(EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS)**

I WANT TO MENTION THE WORK OF SEVERAL GROUPS WHO HAVE BEEN WORKING ON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS.

IN RESPONSE TO A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES' AUDIT COMMITTEE, **BOB PAVER** HAS BEEN LEADING A BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLAN TASK FORCE.

THIS PLAN IS A BROAD PLAN ENCOMPASSING DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND RECOVERY, CRISIS COMMUNICATIONS, AND HOW WE WOULD MAINTAIN OUR CAMPUS OPERATIONS SO THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO DELIVER SERVICES TO OUR STUDENTS AND THAT FACULTY AND STAFF HAVE A WAY TO CONTINUE THEIR WORK.

ANOTHER TASK FORCE, CHAIRED BY **RICHARD ANDERSON, JERRY BRODY, AND JIM HUNT**, HAS BEEN WORKING ON A PLAN TO ADDRESS THE POSSIBILITY OF THE AVIAN FLU INTERRUPTING CAMPUS OPERATIONS. WE SINCERELY HOPE THAT THE WORK THIS COMMITTEE IS DOING WILL NEVER BE NECESSARY, BUT I APPRECIATE THE EFFORT THAT THIS GROUP HAS PUT IN TO PREPARE US IN CASE WE NEED TO ALTER OUR OPERATIONS IN THE EVENT OF A FLU PANDEMIC.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT EVERYONE ON CAMPUS BE AWARE OF THE MECHANISMS WE HAVE IN PLACE TO COMMUNICATE INFORMATION IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY. MORE INFORMATION WILL BE DISSEMINATED FROM THESE WORKING GROUPS AS THE SEMESTER BEGINS. I ENCOURAGE ALL OF YOU TO DEVELOP YOUR OWN FAMILY PREPAREDNESS PLAN FOR A FLU PANDEMIC OR OTHER EMERGENCY IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE SO ALREADY.

MANY SIGNIFICANT LECTURES AND SYMPOSIA WILL OCCUR THIS YEAR. AMONG THEM ARE THE WRITER'S VOICE LECTURE, NOV. 8, WHICH WILL FEATURE FORMER POET LAUREATE ROBERT PINSKY.

ON NOVEMBER 9-10 SOUTHWESTERN'S DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS WILL CONVENE A NATIONAL DIALOGUE ABOUT THE ROLE LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION PLAYS IN PREPARING STUDENTS TO ENTER THE BUSINESS WORLD.

ALSO, OUR FIRST-EVER PEACE CONFERENCE, OCT. 11-12, WILL FEATURE ARUN GANDHI, THE GRANDSON OF MAHATMA GANDHI AND THE FOUNDER OF THE M. K. GANDHI INSTITUTE FOR NONVIOLENCE. I AM DELIGHTED THAT ONE OF OUR STUDENTS, **ANSA COPELAND**, TOOK THE INITIATIVE TO ORGANIZE THIS CONFERENCE. ANSA EXEMPLIFIES SOUTHWESTERN STUDENTS WHO ARE MAKING POWERFUL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN RIGOROUS ACADEMICS AND THE WORLD IN WHICH WE LIVE. UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN **BEVERLY JONES** IS WORKING WITH ANSA ON THIS PROJECT.

**LAURA HOBGOOD-OSTER** IS COORDINATING THE BROWN SYMPOSIUM, "WHO DO WE THINK WE ARE?" FOR EARLY MARCH. SOUTHWESTERN'S 29<sup>TH</sup> BROWN SYMPOSIUM WILL FOCUS ON THE RELATIONSHIP HUMAN BEINGS HAVE WITH THE MANY ANIMALS WITH WHOM WE SHARE THE EARTH. SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE ALICE WALKER, AUTHOR OF *THE COLOR PURPLE*.

**(RECOGNITION OF SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP)**

AS WE DO AT THIS EVENT EACH YEAR, I WOULD NOW LIKE TO RECOGNIZE SOME OF YOUR COLLEAGUES FOR THEIR SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP.

**(STAFF & FACULTY RETIREMENTS)**

FIRST, I WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE TWO STAFF MEMBERS WHO WILL BE RETIRING THIS YEAR. THEY INCLUDE **MARTHA HURTADO**, SUPERVISOR OF CUSTODIAL SERVICES IN THE PHYSICAL PLANT DEPARTMENT, WHO WILL BE RETIRING IN OCTOBER WITH 21 YEARS OF SERVICE; AND **MARY MIRANDA**, A CUSTODIAN IN THE PHYSICAL PLANT DEPARTMENT, WHO WILL BE RETIRING NEXT MAY WITH 20 YEARS OF SERVICE. WOULD YOU PLEASE STAND.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO RECOGNIZE A MEMBER OF OUR FACULTY, **DR. SUZANNE CHAMIER**, WHO TEACHES FRENCH IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE, WHO WILL BE RETIRING WITH 17 YEARS OF SERVICE.

**(MUNDY AWARDS)**

FINALLY, AS WE DO AT THIS EVENT EACH YEAR, I WOULD LIKE TO ANNOUNCE THIS YEAR'S RECIPIENTS OF THE **JOE S. MUNDY EXEMPLARY SERVICE AWARD**, WHICH WAS CREATED IN 2002 AS A MEMORIAL TO THE LEADERSHIP OF FORMER ALUMNUS AND TRUSTEE JOE MUNDY. THIS AWARD HONORS FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBERS WHO HAVE DEMONSTRATED EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO SOUTHWESTERN.

WOULD **REYES DIAZ** PLEASE COME FORWARD?

REGARDED AS THE PIRATES NUMBER ONE FAN, A COLLEAGUE SAYS REYES IS ALWAYS TOUTING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SOUTHWESTERN STUDENTS. BUT, BEYOND THAT, REYES IS A MENTOR, ENCOURAGER, AND FRIEND TO BOTH STUDENTS AND COLLEAGUES. LIKE JOE MUNDY, REYES, POLITELY SHUNS RECOGNITION AND IS MODEST ABOUT HIS IMPACT AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS. WORKING WEEKENDS, HOLIDAYS, WHATEVER IT TAKES TO KEEP SOUTHWESTERN'S ATHLETICS RUNNING SMOOTHLY, REYES' LOYALTY AND DEDICATION ARE EXEMPLARY. YOU CAN'T WALK PAST REYES WITHOUT SMILING, BECAUSE HIS SMILE IS

INFECTIOUS. REYES, FOR EPITOMIZING SOUTHWESTERN'S CORE VALUES, IT IS MY SINCERE PLEASURE TO PRESENT YOU WITH THE JOE S. MUNDY AWARD FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE.

WOULD **JAN NOWLIN** PLEASE COME FORWARD?

WHEN DEFINING INSTITUTIONAL MEMORY, CONSIDER THAT JAN'S RECOLLECTIONS SPAN 25-PLUS YEARS. ALONG WITH SO MANY COLLEAGUES, I'VE BENEFITED FROM JAN'S PROFESSIONALISM DURING THE 1980s WHEN I WORKED IN SOUTHWESTERN'S DEVELOPMENT OFFICE. HOW GRATIFYING TO WATCH HER EXCEL PROFESSIONALLY OVER THE YEARS, BUT MOST NOTICEABLY TO OBSERVE HER FRIENDSHIPS WITH GENERATIONS OF ALUMNI, STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF, AND PARENTS. ONE OF JAN'S COLLEAGUES SAYS, "I APPRECIATE JAN'S OPENNESS TO NEW IDEAS AND WAYS OF IMPROVEMENT; AND, DESCRIBES HER AS A "GREAT ROLE MODEL." JAN, IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT YOU GENUINELY LOVE SOUTHWESTERN – WHICH YOU MUST – TO HAVE GIVEN SO MUCH FOR SO MANY YEARS. LIKE REYES, JAN NEVER DEMANDS CENTER STAGE AND WORKS HARD TO DO WHATEVER IS NEEDED TO ADVANCE SOUTHWESTERN. JAN, I'M HONORED TO PRESENT YOU WITH THE JOE S. MUNDY EXEMPLARY SERVICE AWARD.

WOULD **KAREN PURDY** PLEASE COME FORWARD?

KAREN, A COLLEAGUE DESCRIBES YOU AS "A TRUE SELFLESS" EMPLOYEE, THAT YOU'RE "THE ENGINE BENEATH THE HOOD IN THE ADMISSION OFFICE – YOU NEVER THINK ABOUT IT UNTIL THE CAR STOPS RUNNING." TO PUT IT ELOQUENTLY, YOUR COLLEAGUE SAYS, "WE'D BE DEAD IN THE WATER WITHOUT HER!" "NIGHTS, WEEKENDS, HOLIDAYS, WHENEVER IT HAS TO HAPPEN FOR US, KAREN IS THERE." AT A CRITICAL TIME LAST FALL WHEN THE OFFICE LOST AN EMPLOYEE, KAREN DID THE WORK OF TWO PEOPLE FOR MONTHS AND NEVER COMPLAINED. AND, YOUR COLLEAGUE SAYS, "IN TYPICAL JOE MUNDY FASHION, KAREN

NEVER CALLS ATTENTION TO HERSELF.” “WHEN SHE LEAVES, WE WILL ALL BE LOOKING AROUND TO FIGURE OUT HOW SHE DID ALL SHE DID. KAREN, WE VALUE YOUR COMMITMENT TO SOUTHWESTERN, AND I’M PLEASED TO RECOGNIZE YOU WITH THE JOE S. MUNDY AWARD.

WOULD **WILLIAM B. JONES** PLEASE COME FORWARD?

BILL’S EXTENSIVE RESEARCH FOR THE FORTHCOMING *TO SURVIVE AND EXCEL: THE HISTORY OF SOUTHWESTERN 1840-2000* INCLUDED READING THE MINUTES OF EVERY BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND EVERY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. HE SAID, “I’M PROBABLY THE ONLY PERSON TO READ ALL OF THE UNIVERSITY’S MINUTES.” OF COURSE HE IS!

A COLLEAGUE REMARKED, “BILL’S WORK IN OUR VAULTS, ARCHIVES, IN GEORGETOWN AND OTHER AREAS, AND IN CONTACTING PEOPLE ALL OVER THE NATION, WILL LEAVE US A LEGACY THAT THIS INSTITUTION WILL RETAIN FOREVER.” IN FACT, IN RECOGNITION OF BILL’S SERVICE, THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY ALUMNI WILL HONOR BILL AS AN HONORARY ALUMNUS DURING HOMECOMING THIS NOVEMBER -- A RECOGNITION LESS THAN 10 PEOPLE HAVE RECEIVED THROUGHOUT OUR HISTORY. BILL, YOU KNEW JOE MUNDY WELL, AND I KNOW THIS AWARD IN HIS MEMORY BRINGS VERY SPECIAL MEANING. CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU.

THE NAMES OF THESE FOUR INDIVIDUALS WILL BE ADDED TO THE PLAQUE WITH THE NAMES OF ALL THOSE WHO PREVIOUSLY HAVE RECEIVED THE MUNDY AWARD THAT IS LOCATED IN THE BISHOPS LOUNGE IN THE MCCOMBS CENTER.

**(CLOSING REMARKS)**



FINALLY THIS AFTERNOON, I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK BRIEFLY ABOUT AN ISSUE THAT AFFECTS ALL OF US WHO WORK IN HIGHER EDUCATION. THE FINAL REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION'S **COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION** IS EXPECTED TO BE ISSUED IN MID-SEPTEMBER. WE BELIEVE THE WORK OF THIS COMMISSION IS SO IMPORTANT THAT WE WILL BE FOCUSING OUR SEPTEMBER BOARD OF VISITORS MEETING ON THIS TOPIC. ONE OF OUR GRADUATES FROM THE CLASS OF 1987, **LIZZETTE REYNOLDS**, REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, WILL JOIN THE BOARD OF VISITORS THAT DAY. I ENCOURAGE ALL OF YOU TO FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THE WORK THE COMMISSION HAS BEEN DOING AND THE POTENTIAL IMPACT IT WILL HAVE ON INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS SOUTHWESTERN. THE COMMISSION HAS BEEN ASKING A LOT OF GOOD QUESTIONS ON ISSUES SUCH AS ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION AND HOW WE CAN GIVE STUDENTS THE SKILLS THEY NEED TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THE WORLD TODAY.

IN CLOSING, LET ME SAY THAT MY SABBATICAL WAS AN IMPORTANT RENEWING AND REFRESHING OPPORTUNITY FOR ME. MY GAS TANKS WERE LOW AND COUPLED WITH FAMILY ISSUES, I NEEDED TIME APART. I RETURN READY TO RESUME WITH INCREASED VIGOR WORKING ON MARVELOUS CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES THAT LIE AHEAD FOR SOUTHWESTERN.

BESIDE MY READING LIST, I FOUND TIME TO WRITE SIX CHAPTERS OF AN EIGHT CHAPTER BOOK ON PHILANTHROPY WHICH I HAVE WANTED TO WRITE FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS.

ONCE AGAIN, I APPRECIATE THE TIME TO BE AWAY, AND I RELISH THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE TO SERVE SOUTHWESTERN.