Alumnus
Jim Mickey
STEPS UP
for UTSA

BUILDING THE NEXT GREAT TEXAS UNIVERSITY.
Dear UTSA Friends:

Welcome to the inaugural issue of UTSA Giving. I am very excited about this new publication because it is focused on some very important people—our donors and friends, like you. This is our opportunity to extend our thanks and share how your support is leading us forward at UTSA.

No university can be truly great without gifts and encouragement from friends. Especially during challenging economic times, higher education is a competitive market where resources are needed to maintain margins of excellence. No matter the amount, please know that each gift is invaluable to our efforts in advancing UTSA.

Our time to become the next research university for Texas is here. Our time to be a model of how academic excellence can unite with a commitment to providing opportunities for people from all backgrounds is now. It is our time to join together for UTSA, to make a difference for our students, our faculty and our community, and to show what Roadrunner pride is all about. We are celebrating giving to UTSA, and we are pleased that you are part of the family.

Warmest regards,

Ricardo Romo
President

ON THE COVER: Find out how the Mickeys are stepping up for UTSA Athletics Story on page 8.

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Richard S. Liu, owner and CEO of Hong Kong-based Superior Leather Ltd., one of the world’s leading leather manufacturers, recently gave $2 million for the UTSA East Asia Institute. This raises Liu’s total giving to the university to more than $6 million.

Created in 2008, the East Asia Institute strives to promote the appreciation and understanding of East Asian societies and cultures and helps fulfill the university’s commitment to prepare students for working and living in a more globalized society. With this gift, the institute will broaden UTSA’s community impact by offering free public seminars, lectures, conferences, film festivals and visual art exhibitions, and by hosting individuals and programs from China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, Korea and other Asian nations.

Faculty members leave legacies through planned giving
Faculty members are a growing segment of donors to UTSA. Several faculty members have found that bequests in a will are an easy way to make a gift while leaving a legacy at UTSA.

A recent commitment comes from Marian Martinello, professor emerita and associate dean in the College of Education and Human Development. She is leaving a portion of her estate for COEHD faculty development programs. The impact of her generosity is felt throughout the university today, setting an example for faculty and other supporters.

Charles Walker, Daniel Gals, dean of the UTSA College of Liberal and Fine Arts; Gabrielle Gals; and Charlotte Walker mingle on the veranda at the UTSA Fiesta River Parade party on April 20, 2009, at the Marriott Riverwalk Hotel.

Julian and Diana Treviso (left) stand with Jennifer and Jerry Shott at the King William Garden House in San Antonio. The Trevisos hosted a reception on June 30, 2009.

On April 9, 2009, more than 100 UTSA alumni and friends visited Club Giraud in downtown San Antonio to celebrate UTSA and its future. Among them were left to right UTSA Head Football Coach Larry Coker, Red McCombs, James Hayne and UTSA President Ricardo Romo.

On May 14, 2009, students of Leticia DePue Van during a reception at the Flores’ Austin-based marketing and advertising firm, LatinWorks.

On April 20, 2009, at the Marriott Riverwalk Hotel in downtown San Antonio.

Kathy Swift (left) and her husband, Buddy Swift (right), hold up UTSA football jerseys, given to them in thanks for hosting a reception for Head Football Coach Larry Coker (center) at their home on April 20, 2009. The event brought together alumni and friends to discuss Coker’s plans for UTSA football.

Alumni Manny Flores ‘85 (left) and his wife, Janice Flores ‘82 (right), visit with State Sen. Leticia Van de Putte during a reception on May 14, 2009. The event was held at the Flores’ Austin-based marketing and advertising firm, LatinWorks.

Betty and Benny Sutherland attended the 2009 UTSA Fiesta River Parade party on April 20, 2009, at the Marriott Riverwalk Hotel in downtown San Antonio.

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The Texas Legislature has set in place, through the recently passed House Bill 51, a framework and funding sources to assist the University of Texas at San Antonio and six other institutions as they endeavor to earn the designation of tier one, or national research university.

Signed into law by Gov. Rick Perry in June, the bill could double private gifts for enhancing research activities at the university. This one aspect of the multifaceted bill, called the Texas Research Incentive Program (TRIP), over a two-year period could provide an additional $50 million to seven institutions vying for the elevated status. The money would be in the form of matching grants for private gifts given after Sept. 1, 2009. The gifts can be given in support of endowed chairs, professorships, facilities, equipment, program costs or graduate fellowships or stipends.

Matching is allowed at varying rates, but any gift of $2 million or more will be matched dollar for dollar. Gifts between $1 million and $2 million would receive a 75 percent match, while gifts of $100,000 to $1 million would be matched at 50 percent.

“Texas is strong, poised and ready to reach these goals, but we have a lot of work to do,” Romo said. “There’s never been a better time to give, in that the state has given us the resources to maximize the support of our community. I believe that UTSA can and will become the Next Great Texas University.”

Among the bill’s other highlights is a reward program for universities with an average of more than $50 million in total research expenditures over the past three fiscal years. And for all of the 35 general academic higher education institutions in Texas, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board will distribute $80 million in Performance Incentive Funding over the next two years to support critical areas such as math, engineering, teacher certification, nursing, allied health, computer science and physical science.

The most immediate impact of the legislation is the creation of the Texas Research Incentive Program (TRIP). It provides over a two-year period $50 million in matching grants for private gifts given after Sept. 1, 2009.
Researchers at UTSA will continue their work on advancing cancer treatment and making a host of other discoveries using a powerful microscope that will be the first of its caliber at a U.S. university—and one of only two in the world.

The microscope, a second-generation aberration-corrected electron microscope made by JEOL, a supplier of scientific equipment including electron microscopes, allows users to view materials at extremely high resolution without distortion. A $1.2 million gift from the Robert J. Kleberg, Jr. and Helen C. Kleberg Foundation helped make possible the purchase of the microscope, set to arrive on campus in fall 2009.

“The support of the Kleberg Foundation to UTSA has permitted a quantum leap [in] the instrumentation for nanotechnology,” says Miguel J. Yacaman, Ph.D., chair of the College of Sciences’ Department of Physics and Astronomy.

“The vision of the Klebergs has induced a great change on the research at UTSA that will no doubt result in better education for our students,” Yacaman, a renowned nanotechnology expert, compared the potential discoveries to be made with the super microscope to the whole new world opened up by the Hubble Space Telescope after its launch in 1990.

“When they sent the Hubble to space, the number of discoveries that came from the Hubble were enormous,” he says. “So we expect with this microscope to have tremendous discoveries of the nanoworld.”

Nanotechnology, as Yacaman explains, entails working with matter in the microscopic dimensions of a nanometer—one billionth of a meter. For a little perspective, fingernails grow about a nanometer per second, and a strand of human hair measures roughly 20,000 nanometers in diameter.

Yacaman emphasizes that the microscope, playfully named “Hel-nana” in honor of Helen Kleberg Groves, president of the Kleberg Foundation, eventually will be available to researchers from a wide range of disciplines across the country and it will operate 24 hours a day.

“The idea is to make a Texas machine and eventually a USA machine,” he says, adding that its users will be “tremendously diverse; we will have all sorts of researchers using this machine, from materials science, chemistry and geology to industry, pathology and biology.”

Improved cancer therapies, increasingly efficient and less expensive solar panels and electronics, stronger military vehicle armor and improved antibacterials are just a few research areas that will benefit from the clear, magnified images of tiny particles.

While some universities and national laboratories have earlier model no-aberration electron microscopes, this will be the first of its kind in a university for at least several years, says Yacaman, who left the University of Texas at Austin to join the UTSA faculty in 2008.

“That will put UTSA on the map because a lot of people would like to see that machine,” he says. “Microscopes on the order of those used in Yacaman’s lab bear little resemblance to the models commonly found in the average high school science classroom.

Computers run these instruments, which magnify samples to a far greater degree than can optical microscopes, which use lenses and light to make tiny objects viewable.

Researchers around the state and country will be able to access the no-aberration microscope from the controls of their own computer and will simply need to send a sample to the lab at UTSA, Yacaman says.

The microscope will be the latest addition to the Advanced Microscopy and Nanotechnology Lab located on the Main Campus. Last year, an $822,000 gift, also from the Kleberg Foundation, supported the purchase of three new microscopes, including two atomic force scanning probe microscopes that can create all these little stars and particles of stuff that we’re going to be able to analyze, he says.

“Improved cancer therapies, increasingly efficient and less expensive solar panels and electronics, stronger military vehicle armor and improved antibacterials are just a few research areas that will benefit from the new microscope,” Yacaman adds.

“Dr. Bruce Nicholson, chair of the department of biochemistry at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, says talks already are under way between UTSA and UTSA to collaborate on drug discovery, development and delivery. The no-aberration microscope would aid researchers in those efforts, he says, which could create nanoparticles to deliver drugs to tumors or destroy tumors in a targeted approach. And breakthroughs in cancer treatments would spill over into improved treatments for other diseases, he says.

In the case of the much-anticipated no-aberration microscope, the appeal will be huge, says Olmos. He compared the boost in his lab’s equipment to the difference in refinement and power in the automobile world.

“All of a sudden you go to a Cadillac over here [the scanning electron microscope] and now we’re ordering the Maserati,” Olmos says. “We’re going from a Volkswagen to a Ford to a Cadillac to a Maserati.”

By Kate Hunger
Jim Mickey ’78 and his friends weren’t setting out to make UTSA history when they launched a grassroots initiative in 1976 to have the roadrunners adopted as the school mascot. They were motivated more to make sure that their university’s sports teams didn’t end up with the nickname that appeared to be the frontrunner among other students at the time: the armadillo.

“Stepping up began his role by being the first to help raise money among alumni and begin a football program at UTSA to raise $15 million for UTSA Athletics and oversaw student government and other student associations; she remembers being impressed by his and his friends’ tenacity during the mascot election. They became reacquainted when Mickey served on the Alumni Association’s board of directors from 1998 to 2004. “He’s extraordinary,” Burton says. “He has such passion for UTSA and he’s never lost contract with the university, no matter how far he was away or travelling or the demands of his job, he always tried to make some time for UTSA. He’s so interested in helping those that come after him have an even better experience than he did at UTSA.”

In addition to serving the Alumni Association, Mickey also serves on the Athletics Advisory Council and volunteers his time for other alumni and athletics events. One of his favorite UTSA events is the Alumni Association’s ring ceremony, where he regularly attends to help those that come after him have an even better experience than he did at UTSA.”

Pat says she’s always felt welcome at UTSA, so much so that when her daughter Katie Fry was offered an alumnus scholarship to the university, Pat talked her into staying in San Antonio and going to UTSA instead. “When he couldn’t be at the ring ceremony, he really gone to him for specific advice,” Hickey says. “But we’ve really gone to him for specific leadership to head up this initiative, says Athletics Director Lynn Mickey. “He loves UTSA and he has always been there for us as an alumnus.” Mickey says, “But we’ve really gone to him for specific leadership to head up this initiative...”

“We feel blessed that I’m back in San Antonio in 1991, and after...”

“Jim Mickey in 1976 working to promote the roadrunner as UTSA’s mascot.”

Still, others are needed to help others keep them involved.”

“Jim Mickey in 1976 working to promote the roadrunner as UTSA’s mascot.”
Investing In The Future

Looking back allows us to see our future more clearly. Opportunities and challenges—these make us who we are and how others view us. How do you ensure you are seen as you truly are?

A planned gift is a significant choice. You’ll nurture and grow what you believe in—education for the next generation of Roadrunners. It is your investment in the future, and you will have a lasting impact on students and research at UTSA through scholarships, graduate fellowships or research support.

Make a difference at UTSA and join us in building the Next Great Texas University.

Learn more at utsa.edu/give
On a spring-like February day, Phillip Casarez ’07 and Desarae Rodriguez, who is expected to graduate in 2010, traveled the short distance from UTSA’s Downtown Campus to nearby Brackenridge High School to meet with college-bound seniors. They’re on a recruitment visit for UTSA’s Access College and Excel (ACE) Scholar Program, which targets students from high schools in the San Antonio, Edgewood and Harlandale school districts. Proposed by Barbara Gentry, UTSA Senior Vice President for Community Affairs, with funding from USAA and The USAA Foundation, the now 10-year-old ACE program combines scholarship monies with a substantial mentoring and advising component.

Launched in 1988, it is now in 16 area public schools and in 2008 proposed, the Downtown Campus, where they must take 12 college level courses each semester.

When the program was first proposed, the Downtown Campus was new, and its mission was to serve area students, especially those who would be the first in their families to attend college. It was the perfect fit. As part of ACE, Duncan organizes a luncheon each semester where high profile business leaders, like Gentry, speak to scholars and offer insight to what a future after college could look like. Gentry’s continued involvement with the students has made a positive impact, Duncan says.

"[Gentry is] very down-to-earth with our students," she says, adding that the undergraduates appreciate the personal interest that she takes in their lives.

“I was able to speak with Barbara one-on-one at my first ACE luncheon,” says Michael Martinez ’08. “It’s easy to approach her. … She’s always made an effort to stay in contact with the students and the program.” As a business major, Gentry says it was meaningful to him to see active volunteerism modeled by the business community.

Along with her volunteerism, Gentry recently became a charter member of UTSA24, a group of 24 individuals who have committed to give $2,500 annually to support the women’s and men’s golf programs. This personal contribution might be surprising considering that Gentry does not play golf. However, she invited the women’s team members over to USAA for a tour and a luncheon.

“Her primary reason for joining the effort was to develop relationships with the coach and the women and mentor them in their careers,” says Brad Parriott, Senior Associate Director of Athletics. Summing up her philosophy, Gentry says, “You make a difference. You give hope. You give opportunities. Sometimes you may even save lives. … At USAA, we do the right thing, because it’s the right thing to do.”
Mame Manu-Kwayie’s personal and academic growth at UTSA can be traced to the generosity of others. Because of opportunities previously provided by alumni dinners and student financial aid services, the 22-year-old recent UTSA graduate has spent the past several years building a habit of volunteerism while maintaining a rigorous academic schedule. She has been the recipient of numerous scholarships, many recognizing her extensive community service work, and she never had to worry about applying for loans or juggling a full-time job with school. “I’m so thankful,” says Manu-Kwayie, who graduated in May 2009. “I can’t express enough how this helped me find myself and develop as a student and as a person. Once she did, the awards flowed. She earned multiple scholarships each year while in college, culminating in six received her senior year at UTSA. Manu-Kwayie finds satisfaction in her hard work. It makes her feel great, she says, but her inspiration lies with her family. Her parents, originally from Ghana, West Africa, have stressed the importance of education since she started school at the age of 5. As the eldest of four daughters, she said it’s important for her to set an example for her sisters—one who is a sophomore at the University of Houston and two younger sisters who are in middle and elementary school. “It’s the primary thing that motivates me,” Manu-Kwayie says. “They have a template to say, ‘my older sister did well and so I can do that, too.’” Now, Manu-Kwayie is directing that work ethic toward a career. She’s seeking writing experience and is applying for internships. And she’s thinking of her new title of alumna. She plans to pass on the university is having on San Antonio and Texas. Her supervisor, Genevieve Lopez, says Manu-Kwayie was one of the first students she hired. “She could be just as successful as the rest. She can do that, too.’”Before graduation, Manu-Kwayie worked for the university as a Junior Discovery Officer, conducting interviews with UTSA alumni to help find ways the university can better engage them. She’s seeking writing experience and is applying for internships. And she’s thinking of her new title of alumna. She plans to pass on that work ethic toward a career. She’s seeking writing experience and is applying for internships. And she’s thinking of her new title of alumna. She plans to pass on the university is having on San Antonio and Texas. Her supervisor, Genevieve Lopez, says Manu-Kwayie was one of the first students she hired. “She could be just as successful as the rest. She can do that, too.’”Manu-Kwayie finds satisfaction in her hard work. It makes her feel great, she says, but her inspiration lies with her family. Her parents, originally from Ghana, West Africa, have stressed the importance of education since she started school at the age of 5. As the eldest of four daughters, she said it’s important for her to set an example for her sisters—one who is a sophomore at the University of Houston and two younger sisters who are in middle and elementary school. “It’s the primary thing that motivates me,” Manu-Kwayie says. “They have a template to say, ‘my older sister did well and so I can do that, too.’”Now, Manu-Kwayie is directing that work ethic toward a career. She’s seeking writing experience and is applying for internships. And she’s thinking of her new title of alumna. She plans to pass on the university is having on San Antonio and Texas. Her supervisor, Genevieve Lopez, says Manu-Kwayie was one of the first students she hired. “She could be just as successful as the rest. She can do that, too.’”
A $100 scholarship from the PTA at her high school served as the turning point in the life of Dewey D. Davis. That modest amount of money sparked within him the idea of pursuing a college education. He did far more. A voracious learner from an early age, Davis went on to become an academic, a champion of community colleges and the first professor appointed at UTSA. “No one in my family, no one in my community had gone to college,” Davis says. He enrolled at Pennsylvania’s Edinboro State College, “but I wanted to do more.” Davis says. “I wanted to do more.”

That small scholarship is why he went to college,” says Ruth Davis, his wife of 58 years and a retired high school English teacher.

It was also the first step for Davis—a carpenter’s son and one of seven children—in a journey that took him to colleges and universities around the country and eventually to UTSA.

Davis’ role at UTSA mushroomed quickly after he was hired for a week’s worth of consulting work in June 1971 during the planning stages of the campus. Both Ruth and he say that the architects urged then-President Adleigh Templeton to snag Davis, whose experience in construction work and understanding of campus building needs helped advance their work. So Davis left Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas, where he had been an associate professor of education, and joined the fledgling UTSA as a professor of education, chairman of the department and coordinator of university planning. During his 15-year tenure at the university, Davis taught 27 courses, including research, curriculum and instruction; human development; and adult and adolescent psychology. In fact, Davis recalls arranging to start his first class—a graduate level course on junior college curriculum—30 minutes early so that he could teach the very first class at the university, which held classes at the Koger Center downtown until the campus on Loop 1604 was ready.

Davis, the first professor emeritus, retired from UTSA in 1986. He and his wife live in Hondo, Texas, and have continued to support the university through the Dewey D. Davis, First Professor at UTSA, Endowed Scholarship, established in 1998 to assist under-graduates pursuing science teaching careers in secondary education. Davis is quick to point out that they feel it is important to do what they can to enable others to achieve. And even relatively modest levels of support can be instrumental in a young person’s dreams.

“Five hundred dollars might make a difference whether some kid goes to college or not,” he says. Davis’ own love of learning took root from the moment he began first grade. By fifth grade, he was bored with lessons he already knew and began causing trouble in class—stunts such as dipping a classroom’s ashtray in the school desk inkwell. But a teacher who recognized his academic ability challenged him with extras such as the Morse code, the Greek alphabet, maps of the world and creating his own math problems. “One teacher made a difference,” he says.

Davis praises UTSA President Ricardo Romo for the strides the university has made in recent years. “He brought it all together,” Davis says. “We had a lot of people that made contributions, but he put us on the main course and we’re on our way.”

For UTSA’s future, Davis is succinct: “It’s just unlimited,” he says. And in a sense, so is the impact of that $100 scholarship awarded in 1946. Ruth Davis notes that the fruits of that award have been not only a bachelor’s, master’s and Ph.D. for her husband, but also a true domino effect that encour-aged her to earn her bachelor’s and master’s degrees, and inspired the couple’s siblings, children, grandchildren and countless others to embark on college journeys of their own.

A small scholarship propelled UTSA’s first professor into a career in academia

BY KATE HUNGER
Every Step Forward is a Step Closer

You are forever a Roadrunner—and being a Roadrunner is more than having a degree to hang on your wall. It’s a mindset, a spirit and a source of pride that only those who bleed orange and blue can truly understand.

You have a chance to Step Up and be a part of one of the greatest moments in our history—the addition of an NCAA Football Program.

Your gift will allow the Roadrunner spirit to grow even stronger and build a new tradition of excellence in both academics and athletics as we build the Next Great Texas University.

Learn more at StepUpUTSA.com