

# From the CHANCELLOR



November 13, 2023

Dear Horned Frogs,

The Texas Christian University Board of Trustees met November 8-10 for its annual Fall Board Meetings. Board Chair Kit Tennison Moncrief, long-serving Trustee and TCU's first female chair, presided over the meetings. We are grateful for her exceptional leadership and dedication to TCU. The meetings recognized several milestone celebrations and achievements, including:

## **Lead On: A Campaign for TCU**

A proclamation was presented to the Board and approved in recognition of the outstanding efforts that resulted in TCU achieving and surpassing our \$1 billion goal for Lead On: A Campaign for TCU, the most ambitious philanthropic campaign in University history. Led by Campaign Co-Chairs Dee J. Kelly, Jr., and Ronald C. Parker and Honorary Campaign Co-Chairs Dr. J. Luther King, Jr., and Board Chair Kit Tennison Moncrief, this transformational campaign is already enhancing our work today, and it will continue to make an enormous impact on future Horned Frogs.

## **Investiture of President Daniel W. Pullin**

The Board, along with the TCU community, city leaders and distinguished guests, joined in the Investiture of President Daniel W. Pullin with a ceremony and reception at the Van Cliburn Concert Hall at TCU. This long-held academic tradition celebrated leadership and the shared responsibility of stewarding TCU's legacy of scholarship and knowledge into a promising future. We are grateful for President Pullin's dynamic leadership and dedicated service that is already making a positive impact at TCU and will continue to do so into the bright years ahead.

TCU's four goals outlined in the Board's strategic plan *Vision in Action*: Lead On continue to serve as direction for University actions and initiatives. Meeting discussions resulted in robust and unified dialogue in support of TCU's culture of belonging and values, student

success, academic excellence, campus master planning and other emerging priorities as we look ahead to the next 150 years of educating Horned Frogs.

One of the most significant duties of the Board of Trustees is their fiduciary role and strategic stewardship of TCU. Sustainability remains a top priority as we continue to invest in TCU's academic and student experience, plan for strategic growth and weigh the impact of economic factors on costs. Continue reading for details regarding these initiatives and other important topics.

On behalf of the Board and myself, thank you for all that you do to make TCU an inspiring, engaging, high-performing, values-centered leader in higher education. Our community's priorities and actions today will impact TCU for the next 150 years.

Sincerely,

Victor J. Boschini, Jr.  
Chancellor



## **Board of Trustees Summary, Fall 2023**

### **UNIVERSITY TUITION AND CAPITAL PROJECTS**

The following details support sustainability and initiatives to enhance TCU's academic reputation and student experience. Of note, the Board approved a tuition rate increase for the 2024 – 2025 academic year. This increase allows the University to maintain and advance TCU's standard of excellence, given escalating operational costs and macro-economic factors. The Board reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring that TCU remains accessible to all qualified students, regardless of their financial circumstances.

Key points include:

**Tuition Rate Increase:** Trustees approved a 7.9% tuition increase for the academic year 2024-2025. Need-based aid will increase by 7.9% as well to match student and family need.

**Neeley School of Business Differential Tuition Increase:** Trustees approved a differential tuition increase of \$250 per credit hour for all undergraduate courses offered in the Neeley School of Business in support of student growth and outcomes.

**Anne Burnett Marion School of Medicine Tuition Rate Increase:** Trustees approved a 5% tuition rate increase for the Burnett School of Medicine for the 2024-2025 academic year.

**Campus Master Plan:** Collaborative, long-range strategic planning allows TCU to underscore our mission, vision and values for years to come. In Spring 2023, TCU launched an inclusive campus planning process and survey to ensure the creation of a well-informed, detailed strategy to accommodate prudent growth. The Board was presented with updates on the new Campus Master Plan project and design now underway and will be presented with a plan for approval in Spring 2024.

**Harris College Research Annex Project:** The project will renovate a near off-campus building to meet the needs of TCU's new Kinesiology and Occupational Therapy programs and includes upgrades and deferred maintenance for required building systems. Completion is targeted for Fall 2024.

**Athletics Human Performance Center Renovation & Expansion Project:** The donor-funded project provides for the renovation and expansion of the Bob Lilly Performance Center and the Sam Baugh Practice Facility and will enhance performance, restoration, and nutrition across all varsity sports programs. Completion is planned for Spring 2025. Read below for additional project details.

## **CAPITAL PROJECTS: NAMING APPROVALS**

The Board reviewed recent electronic business that included the following naming approvals in recognition of generous TCU supporters:

1. **Arnold Hall** is the new home of the Anne Burnett Marion School of Medicine, opening in time for Fall 2024 classes in the Medical District, named in honor of Trustee Greg Arnold and Ashley Arnold.
2. **Gutierrez Hall** is the new East Campus dining hall opening in Spring 2025, named in honor of Trustee Joe Gutierrez and Faith Gutierrez.
3. **Hill Hall** is a new East Campus residence hall opening in Spring 2025, named in honor of Trustee Elliott Hill and Gina Hill.
4. **Walsh Hall** is a new East Campus residence hall opening in Spring 2025, named in honor of the family of Trustee F. Howard Walsh III.
5. **The Harrison Family Football Performance Center** is the new Athletics Human Performance Center, named in honor of Brenda and Mike Harrison.

6. **The John Justin Football Complex** is the new name for the John Justin Athletic Center in recognition of a lead grant from the Jane and John Justin Foundation.
7. **The Simpson Family Athletics Restoration and Wellness Center** is named in honor of Bob Simpson and Gary and Amy Simpson.

## **ENROLLMENT, FALL 2023 12th CLASS DAY**

The demand for a TCU education remains strong, with strategic increases in undergraduate and graduate enrollment and the retention rate for first-year students reaching a high of 94.3%. The 12th class day, designated for official Texas census data reporting by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, was September 6, 2023. Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Teresa Abi-Nader Dahlberg reported the following official 12th-day statistics:

- Total Enrollment: 12,785, up 4.2%
- Undergraduate: 10,915, up 3.7%
- Graduate: 1,870, up 6.9%
- Entering Baccalaureate First-Year Students (First Time in College):
  - 2,488 Entering Baccalaureate Transfer Students: 431
- Retention of Fall 2022 First-time, Full-time students: 94.3%
- Retention of Fall 2022 Transfer Students: 87.7%

## **STUDENT RELATIONS**

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Kathy Cavins-Tull reported on campus housing and residence halls, which remain occupied at 99% of hall capacity. The total number of students living on campus is 5,167. The East Campus Housing and Dining project, which includes two new residence halls and a dining hall, is underway with plans for the first residents to move in Spring 2025 and the dining facility to open at the same time.

## **LEAD ON: A CAMPAIGN FOR TCU**

Vice Chancellor for University Advancement Don Whelan and Chairman of the Development Committee, Trustee Dee J. Kelly, Jr., reported on Lead On: A Campaign for TCU. The successful campaign was supported by 57,000 generous donors who have invested more than \$1 billion in TCU, which includes \$709 million invested in our people and programs and the balance invested in our facilities. Almost \$370 million has been invested in the endowment, including over \$159 million for student scholarships.

Vice Chancellor Whelan highlighted that FY23 was TCU's highest year for philanthropic support. Total new gifts and pledges reached \$179.7 million for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2023, an increase of 53% over FY2022. This surpasses the previous record of \$124 million committed in FY2011.

## **ANNE BURNETT MARION SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

The Burnett School of Medicine was celebrated as having a truly momentous year in concert with TCU's 150th milestone. The Burnett School of Medicine celebrated full accreditation, a 100 percent Residency Match rate for the inaugural class, and the school's first hooding and commencement ceremonies in May 2023.

Completion of the medical school's new four-story, approximately 100,000-square-foot medical education building in the medical district of Fort Worth is planned for completion this summer, with move-in before the next class begins in July 2024. TCU also hosted a Design Workshop with key leaders and stakeholders across the region to strategize the future growth of the campus.

The fifth class of medical students (Class of 2027) began in July 2023. The composition of the entering class of 62 students includes 34 female and 28 male students with an average age of 23. Twelve of the class members are graduates of TCU, and 40 percent of the students in this class meet our school-defined diversity domains. Medical students continue to receive outstanding national accolades and recognition.

In June 2023, the Burnett School of Medicine was awarded Full Accreditation from the LCME, the earliest moment that the school could be considered for this designation. It also received a five-year accreditation period, the longest period possible at this step.

## **DEAN SEARCH UPDATE**

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Teresa Abi-Nader Dahlberg provided an update to the Board on the search for the next John V. Roach Dean of the Neeley School of Business. An extensive search began in January 2023 when former dean Daniel Pullin was named TCU President. The decision was made to engage the Korn Ferry search firm in Fall 2023 to extend the national search for an ideal candidate to lead the Neeley School into the next phase of growth as a top business school. Dr. Dahlberg stated that the search committee's goal is to recommend candidates to the Provost with the hiring of a new dean anticipated for a Fall 2024 start.

## **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS & SACSCOC**

The Board continued its conversations and discussions related to TCU's academic reputation and potential next steps to strengthen TCU's research agenda. Provost Dahlberg reported that the University received outstanding feedback from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), the accrediting body for universities across the southeast and Texas universities, after their Spring 2023 visit. The final report will go to the SACSCOC board in December for the reaffirmation decision. The accrediting process happens once every decade and requires thorough examination and reporting for areas of academic and administrative competency.

## **FACULTY TENURE AND PROMOTION**

After thoughtful review at multiple levels within the University, per the process outlined in the *Faculty Handbook* and upon the recommendation of the Provost, the President and the Chancellor, the Board approved tenure and promotion recommendations as presented for

two faculty members, plus one emeritus candidate. Additional tenure and promotion recommendations will be presented at the Spring 2024 board meeting.

### **DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION INITIATIVES**

The Board received an update on progress toward Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiatives. Highlights included TCU receiving *INSIGHT Into Diversity's* Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award for the sixth year in a row and TCU's R.I.S.E. (Responsible for Inclusion and Sustaining Excellence) Certificate Program receiving the Colleges and Universities Association for Human Resources 2023 Inclusion Cultivates Excellence Award.

TCU's Chief Inclusion Officer, Dr. Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, shared highlights on recent successful campus programming, including Hispanic Heritage Month, Native American and Indigenous Peoples Day Symposium, Inclusive Excellence Speaker Series and Diversity Day Conference 2023.

### **TCU VALUES PROJECT**

Led by Vice Chancellor Cavins-Tull, the inclusive process to re-examine and recommit to TCU's core values, which was initiated campus-wide with an online survey, continued throughout the Sesquicentennial year with video interviews with campus members and review and feedback from faculty, staff and student leaders. The culmination of the values project and outcomes were presented and approved by the Board. More information to the campus community is forthcoming.

### **INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS**

Intercollegiate Athletics Director Jeremiah Donati provided details of the Athletics Human Performance Center Renovation and Expansion Project to the Board. The focus of the renovation will be to update and modernize the 20,000-square foot Bob Lilly Performance Center and the creation of a restoration and wellness area, provide a football strength and conditioning space, provide a studio for the women's triathlon program, a yoga/stretching room, expanded free weight and cardio space, expanded nutrition center and addition of an outdoor warm-up area. The restoration and wellness center will provide post-training restorative routine featuring state-of-the-art technologies designed to accelerate recovery and put an emphasis on injury prevention. The new football performance center will include strength and conditioning space, conference rooms, and technology centers that connect the Sam Baugh Indoor Practice Facility and the Morris Practice Fields.

Director Donati also provided updates on NIL activities to the Board, including a discussion about the importance of The Flying T Club, which provides NIL opportunities for TCU student-athletes in a variety of sports while partnering with local non-profit organizations. This fall, student-athletes have made a difference in the Fort Worth community by participating in events at HOPE Farm, Starpoint School and the Tarrant Area Food Bank. The organization's efforts to support student-athletes directly impacts TCU Athletics' ability to compete at the highest level.

### **SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR GROUNDS CREW**

As a special presentation, TCU's Grounds Maintenance Crew was recognized for excellence in

grounds management. The national Professional Grounds Management Society honored TCU with the highest "Grand" Award for mid-size university and college grounds as part of its Annual Awards Celebration last month. The society recognizes the top landscapes in the country with the highest level of excellence. TCU grounds also received national awards from the Sports Field Management Association for natural turf fields: Moncrief Field at Amon G. Carter Stadium was named "Field of the Year" in 2022; The Jane Justin Field at the Garvey-Rosenthal Soccer Stadium was named "Field of the year" in 2022; and The Williams-Riley Field at Lupton Stadium won "Field of the Year" in 2023.

## **BOARD GOVERNANCE & TRUSTEESHIP**

We remain exceptionally grateful for the leadership and expertise offered by our Board of Trustees, as well as their investment of time and resources in TCU's success. The Board welcomed four new members beginning June 1, 2023: Trustee David P. Purcell '86; Emeritus Trustee Dr. James I. Cash Jr. '69; and Ex-Officio Trustees Jonathan P. Amerson '15, Alumni Association Representative; and Joseph W. "Joe" Brown '08, President, TCU National Alumni Board.

Changes to the Board of Trustees Bylaws were reviewed and approved. The proposed changes affirmed the roles of Chancellor and President, and clarified sections pertaining to governance. The Board will meet in January 2024 for a Day of Dialogue to discuss growth, athletics, research and community engagement as we look ahead to the next 150 years of TCU.

## **SESQUICENTENNIAL UPDATES: LEAD ON: CELEBRATING 150 YEARS of TCU**

Chair Moncrief expressed deep appreciation to the hundreds of faculty, staff, students and alumni who have been involved in the planning and implementation of TCU's 150th 16-month celebration. Throughout 2023 and across the globe, we have celebrated TCU's past, present and future together, engaging and inspiring generations of Horned Frogs. The historic milestone year culminated with a community-wide celebration, which included a countdown to the next 150 years and a celebration of TCU's \$1 billion campaign on the Campus Commons during Homecoming Week. As the historic year comes to a close, we recognize that 2023 marks the beginning of a renewed Horned Frog spirit and look forward to leading on to the future. Additional events and activities commemorating TCU's 150th celebrations will continue into December, helping to highlight and carry our momentum forward into the next 150 years.



Share this email:



2800 S University Drive  
Fort Worth, TX | 76129 US

**emma**