

From the CHANCELLOR



April 4, 2023

Dear Horned Frogs,

The Texas Christian University Board of Trustees met March 29-31, for its committee meetings and annual Spring Board Meeting. These meetings marked the historic significance of TCU's Sesquicentennial and resulted in strategic discussions, milestone celebrations and decisions in support of TCU's culture, community and continued future growth. 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.

Celebrating Service and Leadership: *Lead On* is more than a mantra at TCU; it is a key ingredient in our success each time we exceed expectations, each time we are recognized as a nationally competitive school and each time Horned Frogs in our community are recognized for their positive impact. I cannot overstate the importance of responsible and strategic Board of Trustee leadership on TCU's upward trajectory, especially the Board Chair role.

It was our honor to recognize Mark Johnson for his faithful and dedicated service as a TCU Trustee for more than 20 years and as Board Chair since 2017. Chairman Johnson has provided steadfast leadership at TCU during his term, guiding us through our most dynamic years, which includes a rise to national prominence, unprecedented growth, the launch of a \$1 billion campaign, the addition of the Anne Burnett Marion School of Medicine, a global pandemic, our first College Football Playoff National Championship game and of course, our 150th anniversary. We are eternally grateful for Mark Johnson's mentorship, friendship and the legacy he leaves for TCU's next 150 years. He will continue to serve on the Board as an active Trustee.

I am very pleased to announce that long-serving Trustee Kit Tennison Moncrief was elected as TCU's next Board Chair. We are excited that Ms. Moncrief has agreed to help lead TCU into the next years of Horned Frog history as TCU's first female Chair. Also elected as a Board Officer is Edward A. "Eddie" Clark (Class of '82), who will serve as Vice Chairman. Ms. Jean Pickett was re-elected to serve as Secretary and Dr. William J. "Bill" Nunez was re-elected as Treasurer.

In the tradition of honoring TCU leaders, I formally welcomed President Daniel W. Pullin to the Spring Board Meeting, acknowledging that even in his few weeks as President, he has made a positive impact on our campus.



TCU Board of Trustees Chair Kit Moncrief, Chancellor Boschini, and outgoing Chairman Mark Johnson with trustees at the Spring 2023 board meeting.

University Budget: One of the most important items presented in the spring is the annual budget. The Board approved the 2023-2024 University budget, prioritizing employee compensation and recognizing performance. In addition, operational priorities remain in place to manage expenses, increase financial aid to attract high-performing and diverse students and support initiatives that enhance TCU’s academic reputation and student experience. The approved budget supports the University’s academic mission while preserving long-term sustainability.

Key details include:

Merit Increases: In alignment with VIA Goal #4: Strengthen the Workforce, the Board approved a 5% merit pool for employees who qualify for performance-based merit increases.

Key Capital Projects: Strategic capital projects were approved to move forward in various stages of planning, construction and approval process. These include:

1. Construction for the East Campus Residence Halls and Dining Project continues with a planned completion in time for Spring 2025 occupancy.

2. The Mary Couts Burnett Library West End Renovation Project will undergo infrastructure upgrades in Summer 2024.
3. University Drive Pedestrian Safety Improvements will add two controlled crosswalks and improve two existing signals. Improvements are scheduled for Summer 2024.
4. Construction continues on the Burnett School of Medicine campus in Fort Worth's Medical District, and is on track for completion in time to support Fall 2024 instruction.
5. The M.E. Sadler Hall Repurposing project was completed on time and under budget; students, faculty and staff began utilizing the additional academic space in January 2023.
6. Ed Landreth Hall continues to be a focus of the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Administration is partnering with a national architectural firm to consider program requirements and develop the course of action of greatest value to the TCU community.

In addition, the Board has commissioned a **Campus Master Plan** study to evaluate long-range needs for the campus in support of our mission and sustainable growth. We are soliciting input from stakeholder groups as we outline plans for the future. Students, faculty and staff are invited to complete the [short survey here](#).

TCU's Sesquicentennial: I would like to thank the hundreds of faculty, staff and students who have been involved in the planning for TCU's 150th 16-month celebration. We launched our official celebration in January and will continue to celebrate TCU's, past, present and future through the end of 2023. Thank you for joining us in supporting this historic milestone for our University. We are hosting events and special programming throughout the year; please visit the [TCU 150th website](#) to learn about our history, traditions and ways to get involved.

The Board of Trustees' agenda was full and they discussed many items of significance, including the above priorities. Continue reading for important details regarding these initiatives, recognitions and other topics.

On behalf of the Board and myself, I thank you for all that you do to make TCU an inspiring, nurturing, 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

Key discussions and approvals on important initiatives included:

ENROLLMENT, SPRING 2023 12th CLASS DAY

The TCU academic experience continues to be highly sought-after by many of the top

students in the country. Enrollment metrics continue to be strong, due in part to TCU's excellent faculty and our teacher-scholar model, increased recruiting activity, marketing and communication efforts and focus on student success through community and culture. The 12th class day, designated for official Texas census data reporting, fell on February 6, 2023. Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Teresa Abi-Nader Dahlberg reported several metrics that indicate healthy enrollment and retention:

- **Total Enrollment:** 11,858, up 4.3%
- **Undergraduate:** 10,142, up 4.7%; Graduate: 1,716, up 1.7%
- **Retention of Fall 2022 Entering Students, First Time in College, to Spring 2023:** 98.2%
- **Retention of Fall 2022 Entering Transfer Students to Spring 2023:** 94.6%
- **From Spring 2019 to Spring 2023,** ethnically diverse undergraduate students have increased from 24.6% to 27.8%

GOVERNANCE GROUP LEADER PRESENTATION

As part of our annual presentations, governance group leaders shared priorities, activities and insights from their respective areas.

Special thanks to these leaders for their presentations and dedicated service this past year— Dr. Jill C. Havens, (Chair, Faculty Senate), Evie H. Richardson (Chair, Staff Assembly), Brandon Fox (President, Student Government Association) with John Robertson (Vice President, Student Government Association) and Leslie Ekpe (President, Graduate Student Association) with Annie Cowden (incoming President, Graduate Student Senate).

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION INITIATIVES

Chief Inclusion Officer Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado provided an update to the Board on progress made toward Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiatives, which included several recent and upcoming university-wide events designed to engage the entire campus community. DEI campus leaders from across the university will be participating in a design challenge workshop with facilitators from the Stanford School of Design to implement “design for belonging at TCU,” and to further articulate the strategic vision for inclusive excellence. The third annual Race & Reconciliation (RRI) Week will take place the week of April 17 with the theme, “Cause and Common Ground.” All Horned Frogs are invited to participate in Reconciliation Day, April 19, which will include a report on findings and research from the RRI committee and administrators, food, entertainment and fellowship. Other successful DEI programs highlighted were the Mitigating Unconscious Bias and Interrupting Micro-aggressions workshops and speakers celebrated as part of TCU's 150th anniversary.

The Board received an update on Title IX best practices, including reporting on activities related to Texas Senate Bill 212, which requires posting an annual report outlining investigations and disciplinary actions related to sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating violence and stalking committed by or against an enrolled student or employee of the institution at the time of the incident.

LEAD ON: A CAMPAIGN FOR TCU

Trustee Ron Parker, Chairman of the Development Committee, reported on Lead On: A Campaign for TCU and provided updates on progress in the campaign's final phase. Nearly 56,000 generous donors have invested \$945 million in TCU to date as a part of Lead On: A Campaign for TCU, which includes \$655 million invested in our people and programs. More than \$348 million has been invested in the endowment, including over \$153 million for student scholarships. The Committee anticipates the campaign will be completed in Fall 2023, aligning with TCU's 150th celebration finale activities. Leadership of the Campaign includes Co-Chairs Ron Parker and Dee J. Kelly, Jr. and Honorary Co-Chairs Kit Moncrief and Luther King, Jr.

ANNE BURNETT MARION SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The Burnett School of Medicine at TCU continues to excel and represent a substantial asset for Fort Worth, the State of Texas and beyond. Provost Dahlberg provided updates on the school's advances in Graduate Medical Education (GME) residency programs, the TCU Clinical Trial Research Consortium and successful student outcomes across all cohorts. On nationwide Match Day, March 17, all graduating students successfully "matched" with post-graduate residencies or one-year appointments, including top programs such as Stanford, Mayo Clinic, Vanderbilt and more across many different specialties, with the most common being General Surgery, Internal Medicine, Anesthesiology, Psychiatry and Emergency Medicine.

The first commencement and hooding ceremony will occur in May 2023, aligned with TCU's Sesquicentennial. The fifth class of students is currently being recruited, with more than 6,300 applicants to date for 60 spots. The Burnett School of Medicine has provisional accreditation with the LCME and is seeking final accreditation. The LCME site visit for full accreditation occurred Feb. 20-23, and the LCME will render its decision in June 2023.

DEAN SEARCH UPDATE

Provost Dahlberg provided an update to the Board on dean searches for the Mary Couts Burnett Library and Neeley School of Business. In Fall 2022, a search was commenced to hire a new library dean after Tracy Hull announced her retirement. We were pleased to announce that Hull has agreed to serve another three-year term as Dean of the Mary Couts Burnett Library.

In January 2023, the search began for the John V. Roach Dean of the Neeley School of Business after previous dean Daniel Pullin was named TCU President in December 2022. 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 2023 start.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: FACULTY TENURE AND PROMOTION

After thoughtful review at multiple levels within the University, per the process outlined in the *Handbook for Faculty and Staff*, and upon the recommendation of the Provost and the Chancellor, the Board approved tenure and promotion recommendations as presented for 80 faculty members, plus 21 emeritus candidates.

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 following members of the Trustee Class of 2023 have been re-elected for four-year terms: Michael K. "Mike" Berry, Joe D. Briggs, Alan D. Friedman, Mark L. Johnson, J. Bryan King, and Mary Ralph Lowe.

The Board welcomes new Trustee David Purcell for the term beginning June 1, 2023.

The recommended slate of Officers was approved to begin service effective June 1, 2023: Chair Ms. Kit Tennison Moncrief; Vice Chairman Mr. Edward A. "Eddie" Clark; Secretary Ms. Jean M. Pickett and Treasurer Dr. William J. "Bill" Nunez.

Dr. James I. Cash was elected to Emeritus status.

DR. JAMES I. CASH HONORARY RESOLUTION

Dr. James I. Cash was presented with an honorary resolution, marking his election as Trustee Emeritus. The resolution recognizes his significant contributions to TCU as the first Black student-athlete at TCU, first Black basketball player in the Southwest Conference (SWC), as an Academic All-American, and as a TCU Trustee from 1988-1996. On November 11, 2022, his legacy of character, integrity and leadership was honored with a statue near the Ed and Rae Schollmaier Arena and an honorary degree presentation at TCU. The day was proclaimed by Fort Worth Mayor Mattie Parker as "James Cash Day."

SPECIAL RESOLUTION FOR SONNY DYKES

In recognition of an historic Fall 2022 football season, Elliott Hill, Trustee and Chairman of the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee, along with Eddie Clark, Trustee and former Chairman of the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee, presented Head Football Coach Sonny Dykes with a resolution commemorating achievements during his first year as head coach. In addition to being the first team from the state of Texas to reach the National College Football Playoff, Coach Dykes earned 11 national coach of the year awards and encouraged our talented student-athletes to personify the TCU culture through extraordinary performance and integrity.

LEAD ON: CELEBRATING 150 YEARS of TCU

Vice Chancellor for Marketing & Communication Tracy Syler-Jones, chair of the 150th Executive Committee, provided updates to the Board on events scheduled for 2023 to celebrate TCU's Sesquicentennial. The official on campus kickoff successfully took place the week of January 23, with The Story of Us: An Immersive TCU Experience, College of Fine Arts performances, a drone show, TCU Night at the Rodeo, TCU basketball games and more, enjoyed by all Horned Frogs. Other spring events have included a TCU 150th commemorative wine tasting event at the TCU Campus Store, a special recognition and event in Washington, D.C., and the 150 Years/150 Artists exhibition. TCU 150th news, events, initiatives and history can be explored all year at 150.tcu.edu. Banners are posted around the TCU campus to celebrate TCU leaders with the prominent theme of "Lead On: Boldly," in TCU's moment to shine. Also part of the 150th, TCU alumni accomplishments continue to be spotlighted

through innovative murals on buildings in cities across the U.S. The first mural was celebrated in New York City, followed by Los Angeles. Other cities include Nashville, Chicago and Fort Worth. Sesquicentennial events and gatherings are planned throughout the year, and will conclude with a finale this fall. *(Click on the underlined words for links to view stories about the events and locations.)*

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