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March 26, 2013

Dear Senators:

Thank you for your letter of March 26, 2013, advising me of your concerns over how the U. T. System Board of Regents proceeds with the investigation of the relationship between U. T. Austin and the U. T. Austin Law School Foundation. I appreciate and understand your concerns. In response, please allow me to update you on what has happened previously on this matter at the U. T. System and how we are proceeding.

On March 20, 2013, prior to the Board meeting, General Counsel to the Board, Francie Frederick, called Attorney General Greg Abbott's First Assistant, Daniel Hodge. Ms. Frederick and I had previously met with Mr. Hodge and General Abbott when we delivered to them the Burgdorf Report and asked that the AG's office review that report. As a result, last Wednesday when the Board was preparing to meet to determine the completeness of the Burgdorf Report in light of recent findings, Ms. Frederick and I wanted to be sure that the Attorney General was fully advised as to the Board's possible actions later that morning. Thus, Ms. Frederick called Mr. Hodge and briefed him on the situation and what might occur at the Board meeting.

In addition to briefing Mr. Hodge on the phone, Ms. Frederick also advised Mr. Hodge that, should the Board vote to further investigate the U. T. Austin relationship with the Law School Foundation, she would come to the Attorney General's office and brief both Mr. Hodge and Attorney General Abbott in detail. Mr. Hodge was appreciative of the call and told Mrs. Frederick that he would await the decision of the Board and her call. That briefing will be arranged in the next few weeks after the full scope of the investigation is determined.

Please be assured that no decisions will be made on proceeding with this issue until this previously planned briefing of and discussion with the Attorney General occurs.

Thank you again for your interest and please feel free to call me at any time you have additional questions.

Yours truly,

Wm. Eugene Powell
Chairman

WEP:hw

c: Attorney General Greg Abbott
First Assistant to the Attorney General, Daniel Hodge
Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst
Speaker Joe Straus
Representative Dan Branch
Representative Jim Pitts
Members, U. T. System Board of Regents
Chancellor Francisco G. Cigarroa, M.D.

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