



**March 2 Founding Members Meeting**  
**AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center**  
**1900 University Avenue | Austin, Texas**  
**Classroom 203**  
**AGENDA**

- 2:00 p.m. Opening**  
*Ambassador Pam Willeford, Coalition Operating Committee Member*
- Welcome Remarks on Behalf of the Coalition**  
*Ambassador Karen Hughes*
- 2:10 p.m. The Math & Science Gap and How Texas Can Help Fill It**  
*Dr. Ray Bowen, National Science Foundation, Former Texas A&M President*
- 2:20 p.m. The Importance of Undergraduate Education at Major Teaching and Research Universities**  
*Dr. Larry Faulkner, Outgoing President of the Houston Endowment, Former UT Austin President*
- 2:30 p.m. Improving Graduation Rates — An Update from the UT Austin Task Force**  
*Dr. Randy Diehl, Dean of the Liberal Arts College at UT Austin*
- 2:40 p.m. The Alumni Connection – How Ex Students Can Impact This Debate**  
*Leslie Cedar, Executive Director and CEO of the Texas Exes*
- 2:50 p.m. On Privatizing Public Education, and the Academic Implications of Doing So**  
*Dr. Jaime Grunlan, Associate Professor and Gulf Oil/Thomas Dietz Development Professor I, Texas A&M University*
- 3:00 p.m. A National View: Insights on the National Higher Ed Debate and Texas' Leadership Role In It**  
*Dr. Michael McLendon, Associate Professor of Public Policy and Higher Education, Vanderbilt University*
- 3:20 p.m. Q&A with Panel**  
*All Speakers*
- 3:50 p.m. How This Debate Impacts the Next Generation**  
*Natalie Butler, UT Austin Student Body President*
- 3:55 p.m. Closing Remarks**  
*C. Patrick Oles Jr., Coalition Operating Committee Member*