



DEE MARGO

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

HOUSE DISTRICT 78

March 10, 2011

Office of the Board of Regents
Gene Powell
Chairman
Ashbel Smith Hall, Suite 820
201 West 7th Street
Austin, Texas 78701

Chairman Powell,

Congratulations on your recent appointment as Chairman of the University of Texas Board of Regents. The universities in the U.T. System are all held to a high standard, and I am sure that your hard work, along with the other knowledgeable regents, will ensure the continued success of the individual universities.

I was sent your recent 'One Month Update' email newsletter, and I find it disappointing that you would characterize some of the schools in the University of Texas System as delivering "very good Olds 98s and Buick LeSabres" undergraduate degrees, compared to U.T. Austin's delivery of "great Cadillac" undergraduate degrees.

The University of Texas at El Paso is an example of a great university, delivering undergraduate degrees to thousands of students who, as you state in your update, are "first-generation college students who often work while attending college..." Like U.T. Austin, U.T. El Paso is also strengthening and expanding its world-class research, with over \$60 million in annual research spending, and offering 81 bachelor's, 81 master's and 17 doctoral degrees.

As Chairman of the U.T. Board of Regents, I find it unacceptable for you to refer to non-flagship universities in the U.T. System as anything less than your flagship campus in Austin. Every student attending any university in the U.T. System is entitled to the same education standards given to U.T. Austin.

I look forward to working with you and the other regents in continuing to ensure every student receives the quality education expected from every university in the U.T. System.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dee Margo", written over a white background.

State Representative Dee Margo



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CC:

State Representative Joe Pickett

State Representative Marisa Marquez

State Representative Naomi Gonzalez

State Representative Chente Quintanilla

State Representative Dan Branch

Dr. Diana Natalicio, U.T. El Paso, President

Paul Foster, U.T. Board of Regents

Harold Hahn, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Woody Hunt, Chairman and CEO, Hunt Companies Inc.