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Message from the President

University of Texas at Tyler

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

There are many "firsts" associated with Tyler State College as we are engaged in the process of establishing a new institution of higher learning. Another of these "firsts" is the publication of this issue of the Tyler State College newspaper. I am very grateful to all who assisted in making this "first" possible; particularly, I want to express special appreciation to Mr. Jim Powell, instructor in the School of Business, who assumed the responsibility for publishing the paper.

All of us associated with Tyler State College. . .students, faculty, staff, Board and administration, as well as the general citizenry throughout East Texas. . . have a unique opportunity and responsibility as we share in the development of not only a new institution but a relatively new concept in higher education to which Tyler State College is unequivocally committed, normally referred to as either upper division or upper level education. Although this concept is relatively new, it is already successfully meeting needs in higher education in several states across our nation.

Tyler State College was recommended by the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, and established by the Texas Legislature as a general educational institution to offer degree programs in most of the basic disciplines at the baccalaureate level and in selected areas at the master's level. Fundamentally, Tyler State College was established to serve the needs of students who are graduates of community and junior colleges throughout a large geographical segment of East Texas, as well as other educational needs of the general citizenry of the East Texas area. Without question, one of the

greatest - if not the greatest - geographical vacuums in baccalaureate and master's degree programs in Texas was filled upon the creation of Tyler State College.

Consistent with the rationale for the creation of Tyler State College, we are pursuing and will continue to pursue the goals of: (1) providing an educational experience tailored to meet the needs of the junior college transfer student, as well as the student who transfers from other institutions during the last two years of the baccalaureate program or for a master's degree program; (2) encouraging innovation in educational methods and materials; (3) offering programs that relate specifically to the needs of the local area; that is, offering programs designed to prepare students for direct entry into occupations upon the completion of a degree program at our institution; and (4) providing the depth of educational experience necessary for specialization in the junior and senior years of the baccalaureate degree, as well as opportunities for graduate study at the master's degree level.

With these goals in mind, the total program of Tyler State College is pointed in the direction of being a first class teaching institution dedicated to quality in every respect. And with the continued diligent efforts of the Board of Regents, students, faculty, staff and administration internally, along with the continued external support of our state officials and the citizens throughout East Texas for Tyler State College, we will maintain our dedication to quality through high institutional goals and standards.