HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY
2010 TEN YEARS REPORT

REDEEMING THE PROMISE

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Cover Photos: The Honorable Wilhelmina Delco, former Board of Trustees Chair (middle photo). Judge Mablean Ephriam (far right), and Mrs. Bertha S. Means. First class of W.E.B. DuBois Honor Scholars (bottom right).

Huston-Tillotson University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award baccalaureate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Huston-Tillotson University.
The University Mission

As an historically black institution, Huston-Tillotson University’s mission is to provide opportunities to a diverse population for academic achievement with an emphasis on academic excellence, spiritual and ethical development, civic engagement, and leadership in a nurturing environment.
The President’s Message

The last decade has been a turbulent time for higher education. The work of colleges and universities has been reshaped by the increased use of technology and the changing demographics of the students served. However, these are but two of the forces that have had an impact on delivering post-secondary education and the advancement of our institutions. Needless to say, the pressures of an uncertain economy and the attendant decline in public and private support have a dramatic impact on access to higher education for those with the greatest need for financial assistance… the vast majority of students served by Huston-Tillotson University.

Despite these conditions of change, uncertainty and shifting priorities, Huston-Tillotson University has made significant progress on a number of fronts central to its mission. During this period, the University has strengthened its faculty and academic offerings, steadily increased its student enrollment, and begun execution of a master plan to meet the needs of the community for years to come. It is with the support of alumni, our religious affiliations, and corporate and individual friends that these advancements have been made possible. This ten-year report will highlight the contributions of those who have helped raise the University’s profile and capacity to serve.

Huston-Tillotson has met with challenges since its beginning. It will continue to face the present pressures and serve its noble mission with distinction. More importantly, its graduates will assume positions of leadership with the values central to an HT Education.

I thank you for your support of the University during this ten-year period and invite you to review this report to learn more about Austin’s oldest institution of higher learning.

Sincerely,

Larry L. Earvin, Ph. D.
President and Chief Executive Officer
Reflections

Reflecting upon the past ten years at Huston-Tillotson University within the context of its 135 year history reminds us that we must be proud of our heritage. Taking students where they are and moving them to where they need to be is a noble challenge that requires our attention and focus even more today than in years past. The University community that has embraced the mission of integrity and civility is woven in an experience that includes learning beyond the classroom. Faculty pride themselves in being those models of success.

A setting such as the Huston-Tillotson University campus provides a place for faculty and students to experience the personal development and academic achievement that come from this unique nurturing environment. Student initiatives such as collecting products for the local food bank, tutoring at the surrounding elementary and junior high schools, or working with faculty to secure mosquito nets for Africa in order to eliminate the spread of malaria are service-learning initiatives that make the HT experience memorable and valuable. Whether students are part of one of the many programs established for their success, it is clear that HT’s destiny is one of redeemed promises.
Larry L. Earvin, Ph.D.
At its 2010 annual meeting, the Huston-Tillotson University Board of Trustees extended the services of President and Chief Executive Officer Larry L. Earvin, Ph.D. until June 30, 2015.

Earvin was appointed as president of the University in 2000. During his term, he guided the University through successful 2002 and 2009 reaffirmation of accreditation visits; fulfilled the vision to renovate the Anthony and Louise Viaer - Alumni Hall, formerly known as the Old Administration Building; facilitated several grants for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) initiatives; established the William Edward Burghardt DuBois Honors Program for academically gifted students; moved HT from college to University status effective February 2005; supported the creation of the Male Achievement Program (MAP) for male students; improved graduation rates; and in 2008, after nine years of enrollment increases, moved the University to its highest enrollment to date. He was instrumental in securing more than $3 million for scholarships to complete the renovation of the second oldest building on HT’s campus – the Old Administration Building. The University is now implementing a master plan to refurbish existing buildings and construct a new health and wellness complex.

In addition to serving on the HT Board as an ex officio member, Earvin was recently elected to serve on the Executive Council of the Commission on Colleges (COC) of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). He continues to serve on several national and state boards, including the Executive Committee of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU) and the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas (ICUT).
**The Faculty**

The competition among faculty within the College of Arts and Sciences, and the School of Business and Technology produces an environment that embraces excellence. Faculty research from Asia to Alaska, from Geiger-Muller counter training in the Dickey-Lawless nuclear science laboratory, to launching an online literary magazine complements the environment where students are eager to learn. Faculty who embrace and guide students are skilled at helping them reach their potential.

Huston-Tillotson’s reputation as a teaching university, as an institution with a stellar faculty, as a place where students can achieve their goals, is based upon evidence. Within the ranks of the 40 faculty, nearly 80% of the full-time members have the terminal degree in their teaching fields. Among faculty are authors and other recognized scholars from prestigious programs such as Fulbright Scholarship Programs, Henry C. McBay Research Fellows Program, Piper Professors, and Sam Taylor Fellowship Programs. Faculty spend their summers completing research in their field, studying at the New York Faculty Institute, attending the UNCF/Mellon Faculty Seminar, engaging in international travel, and other initiatives that further define their specialized areas.

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**The Student**

The HT student is the first in his or her family to attend college, part of a legacy family with more than five generations of graduates, a local Austin resident, or a student who has traveled thousands of miles to reach the campus. That HT student was likely referred by alumni and had a number of college acceptance letters from which to choose. Internships or overseas travel are just two of the opportunities afforded students. Whether attending HT as part of the DuBois Honors Program, the MAP, as an athlete in one of the dozen sports programs, or recruited as a musician for the jazz group or vocalist with the concert choir, the HT experience is uniquely highlighted for success. Responsibility, spiritual development, and supportive relationships are hallmarks of the HT experience.
The History

Huston-Tillotson University, located in the heart of East Austin on a 23-acre, tree-lined campus at the site known in the early years as Tillotson College and Bluebonnet Hill, has the proud distinction of being Austin’s first institution of higher education. On February 28, 2005, Huston-Tillotson College became Huston-Tillotson University and started another chapter in its continuing legacy. The University remains a private, church-affiliated institution that is currently home to nearly 900 students of varying ethnic, racial, and religious heritage with the majority being African American.

For 135 years, thousands of students have arrived at Huston-Tillotson University to begin their journey toward the goal and reward of a college education. Many, but fewer than in earlier days, are first-generation college students. During the 135 years of service, dedicated professors have challenged eager HT students to see in themselves the talent and potential for success. The University represents a merger of two distinct colleges founded just after the Civil War—Tillotson College (1875) and Samuel Huston College (1876). Less than a mile apart, the friendly cross-town Tillotson and Samuel Huston rivalry in areas from music to football made the institutions the talk of the South. Since 1875, the sons and daughters of HT have made a dramatic difference in the quality of life for the communities and individuals they touch. Huston-Tillotson offers baccalaureate degrees in business, education, humanities, social sciences, and science and technology. More than 2,000 of the University’s graduates currently live and work in the Austin metropolitan area. HT continues to offer educational opportunities to ensure that those who choose to attend and graduate will be fully equipped to contribute to the greater Austin community, the economic growth and development of Central Texas, and the global society.

The original buildings were statuesque against the bare silhouette landscape of the capitol. The heart and soul of the institutions were interwoven among the African American residents who lived within the shadows of the campus. The challenge today is to continue to meet the needs of the nearby residents, many of whom are now Hispanic. The Health and Wellness Center will address the needs of the immediate community.
The University and Its Environs

The vision for the Health and Wellness Center (above) started nearly ten years ago as a community initiative and campus expansion. The University is steps closer to a center that will offer unique components necessary for healthier lifestyles for East Austin residents.

The Health and Wellness Center will strategically bring together the Intercollegiate Athletics and Kinesiology departments with programs in physical education, athletic training, and athletics, which are presently located in different areas of the campus. In addition, the center will focus on holistic approaches to health—specifically in the areas of recreation, evaluation, education, and human performance.

Few higher education institutions have two distinct faith denominations at the core of their existence. HT prides itself on its church-related affiliation with both The United Methodist Church and the United Church of Christ. The connection provides unique aspects to the campus experience and builds upon Christian principles that proudly affirm the tradition on which the institution now stands. Sister institutions like Southwestern University in Georgetown that share the Methodist connection have provided many opportunities for camaraderie and collaborations. Local outreach with partners such as Tarrytown United Methodist Church means our students are encouraged, enriched, and enlightened.

The newest addition to ministry concepts is the Center for Religious Life (below) that was made possible through the bequest of Willene Ross Wilson, a woman of strong faith, who believed in the value of higher education. Her residence, located directly across the street from campus, has been transformed into the meeting and gathering place for Campus Ministry. To further aid the HT student in the spiritual growth process alongside the educational growth process is a ministry that students can embrace.
**Ten Year Highlights**

Huston-Tillotson University has had a broad array of accomplishments. The following are the most recent well-documented and publicized of those accomplishments:

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**Huston-Tillotson adds University to its Name**
Guiding the University’s constituents through an institutional name change was a tremendous undertaking. With the support of local advertising firm GSD&M, the effort to clarify Huston-Tillotson’s position on the regional higher education landscape was completed in 2005. As a result, students seeking postsecondary education and those entities that support colleges and universities have a measure of the scope of Huston-Tillotson’s offerings.

**Second Oldest Building on Campus Gets a Makeover**
Once described as “statuesque but dilapidated; abandoned but not forgotten,” the Old Administration Building (right) now has a new name and a new life. On October 27, 2006, the Old Administration Building, which was vacant for 37 years, was reopened and renamed the Anthony and Louise Viaer-Alumni Hall.

The 97-year old, three-story building is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and carries a Texas Historical Marker as a Texas Historical Site.

**Dickey-Lawless Science Building Upgraded**
Retrofitting and upgrading laboratories in the Dickey-Lawless Science Building, which was constructed in 1954, were priorities for the University in order to stay abreast of the latest scientific methods and procedures. Initiatives such as the Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program (MSEIP) and Austin Pre-Freshman Engineering Program (AusPrEP) are now housed in an environment where practical applications are performed proficiently.
New, Innovative Programs Help HT Retention Rate

A variety of program offerings designed to ensure success is available for HT students. The William Edward Burghardt DuBois Honors Program was established in spring 2003 to provide new opportunities for academically talented students and to foster an environment for the pursuit of academic excellence. The program also prepares students for graduate or professional school and promotes lifelong learning. The launch of the President’s Male Initiative on Learning and Excellence (MILE), now MAP, helped address the increasing needs among male students. The Pathway to Academic Success and Socialization (PASS) program was designed to help entering first year students succeed in college. The model helps first generation college students who desire to jump start their HT education and strengthen the transition from high school to college. The first student graduated from that program in 2009. The goal of Achievement in College Algebra During the Matriculation Year (ACADEMY) equips students with the conceptual understanding and computational proficiency for success in foundational mathematics courses. The ACADEMY is committed to active learning strategies, enhanced student support services, and innovation in curriculum design.

The Dubois honors program, ACADEMY, MILE, and PASS have contributed to the University’s increased graduate rates, which moved from 15% in 1999 to 29% in 2003.

A new long-term initiative entitled, Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) will serve to close the academic achievement gap between high school and college.

Enrollment Reaches a Record High

An enrollment of 901 students in 2010 reflected the University’s highest enrollment since the 1952 merger. The increase represented ten years of growth. Approximately 596 students in 2000 to 901 students in 2010 reflect a 34% increase in enrollment during the period. The Hispanic population moved into double digits at 14% in 2010; the male population surpassed females during the Spring 2009 enrollment when males comprised 58% of the entering first-year class.

African Americans comprise 76%, Hispanics 14%. Whites 6%, and International students 3% of the HT population.

Huston-Tillotson University Enrollment Figures (2000–2010)
Ten-Year Campus Changes

Sitting atop what was Austin’s second highest hill provides a spectacular view from the campus of downtown Austin and major landmarks. Throughout the ten year period, trees have been destroyed by lightening and storms and the area recorded one of the hottest summers on record in 2009 with 68 days of temperatures in the triple digits. New trees and landscaping combined with park benches throughout the green space and wireless Internet access helped HT gain recognition from the National Wildlife Federation for its sustainability efforts and commitment to creating a campus community that focuses on recycling, energy conservation, and waste reduction.
Dr. Larry L. Earvin named the fifth president of Huston-Tillotson College (now Huston-Tillotson University).

John Wooley, former Schlotzsky’s CEO, donated $50,000 to Huston-Tillotson, making it the largest Austin corporate gift in the history of the institution.

Huston-Tillotson University’s accreditation is reaffirmed by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

William Edward Burghardt DuBois Honors Program is launched during the 2003-04 academic year.

Huston-Tillotson University introduces a Criminal Justice major.

The first President’s Mankind Assisting Students Kindle Educational Dreams (MASKED) Ball is held that generates more than $1,000,000 in gross revenue for HT over the next eight years.

Huston-Tillotson was selected as a 2004 Tom Joyner Foundation School of the Month that generated more than $200,000 in student scholarships.

Dr. Larry L. Earvin facilitated the name change from Huston-Tillotson College to Huston-Tillotson University, effective February 28, 2005.

The University structure is reorganized to accommodate the move to university status, creating the College of Arts and Sciences led by Dr. Joseph Jones, Jr., and the School of Business and Technology led by Dr. Steven Edmond.
2005  The Office of the Provost is established.

Huston-Tillotson University is the host location for the prestigious New York University Faculty Resource Network (FRN) National Symposium entitled “Spirituality and Higher Education.” HT faculty are participants and presenters during FRN sessions held around the world.

Huston-Tillotson University receives $500,000 from Anthony E. Viaer for the Old Administration Building. Before his death in 2009, Viaer contributed $1,959,000 to HT. In 2009, he left $2.5 million from his estate.

The Lillie and Frank Polk Grand Hall was named in recognition of a $2,100,000 gift to the institution from the sale of land donated by the Polks.

2006  Restoration of the Old Administration Building is completed and marked with a grand opening and renaming as the Anthony and Louise Viaer-Alumni Hall.

Huston-Tillotson University launches its Fulbright Instructors Program.

2007  Follett Higher Education Group opens the campus bookstore.

A partnership with Southwestern University’s Mellon Foundation launches an exchange program that facilitates collaborative research projects between faculty members who share common interests.

2008  Huston-Tillotson University launches its Fulbright Scholars Program, one of the most prestigious international faculty exchange programs.
More male students than females enrolled during the Fall 2007 semester. Males made up 58% of the incoming first-year students enrolled during Spring 2008.

President Larry L. Earvin established the Male Initiative on Learning and Excellence (MILE) during the Fall 2008 semester, changed it to the Male Achievement and Persistence (MAP) program and added the Women Advancing in Leadership and Knowledge (WALK) in 2010.

The HT Math and Science Success Center is created and upgrades to the Dickey-Lawless Science Building begin.

Huston-Tillotson University continued its record enrollment growth while approaching 1,000 students.

The University completed the reaffirmation of its accreditation by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools with no required follow-up.

University celebrated its 135th anniversary with an array of community programs and events.

A site location ceremony for the new Health and Wellness Center will mark the first new construction on campus since 1974.

Huston-Tillotson University launches the Achievement in College Algebra During the Matriculation Year (ACADEMY). The ACADEMY program is designed to assist students to successfully complete required college algebra courses as well as other mathematics courses.
Huston-Tillotson University is pleased to pay tribute to the many individuals and organizations who made gifts to the University during the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2000 and ending June 30, 2010. Capacity building has been the hallmark of the University’s efforts. The number of alumni giving moved from fewer than 130 in 2000 to nearly 900 today. The percentage of faculty and staff giving to HT has also increased, and the period shows 100 percent financial support from the Board of Trustees. The continued financial contributions from alumni and friends will assure the University’s sustained financial growth for the future. Every effort has been made to accurately recognize all who supported the University. Please forgive any errors or omissions as being shortcomings of the head and not the heart. Appropriate steps will absolutely be taken to correct the record in future publications. Please contact Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon Street, Austin, Texas 78702-2795, 512.505.3073, www.htu.edu.

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Mrs. Sue E. Alexander
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Mr. and Mrs. James T. Bailey
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and Mrs. Jewelle L. Bailey-Allen
Mrs. Nancy J. Baldwin
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Mr. Less Dorn* and Mrs. Vivian L. Dorn
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and Mrs. Ora B. McFarlane
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Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP
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American Bank of Commerce
AT&T Matching Grant
Austin Alliance of Black Educators
Austin Area Heritage Council, Inc.
Austin Energy Services
Austin Revitalization Authority
Austin Sister Cities International
Austin Valuation Consultants
Austin White Lime Company
Automation Plus Systems, Inc.
B.L.H. Bradshaw Convention
Baha’i Faith of Austin
Bank of America (Phoenix, AZ)
Brown Distributing Company

Entertainer MC Hammer

Bury + Partners, Inc.
CG & S Design-Build
Capital Metro
Carrington Productions /
Mr. Louie Carrington, Jr.
Centex Beverage, Inc.
Central Texas Chapter of CPCU
Charitygift, Inc.
City of Austin
Congressional Black Caucus Fund
C.P.C.U. Loman Education Foundation
Dallas Housing Authority
Davis Hamilton Jackson & Associates
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Scholarship Committee, Inc.
ESLA Graphics
Estate of Fannie Lawless
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Exxon Education Foundation
Fish & Richardson, P.C.
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Girls Service League Endowment Fund
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Vietnam Nation Community of Austin
White Construction
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($1,000 - $2,499)
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Mr. Walter C. Anderson*
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Mr. Lawrence Benefield
Mr. Leo Bennett* and Ms. Shirley Bennett
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Mr. Jessie M. Bethel, Sr. *
and Mrs. Claudia Bethel*
Mr. John H. Biggar
The Honorable Samuel T. Biscoe/
The Sam Biscoe Campaign
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Mrs. Robbye L. Williams
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Mr. David Wolf
Mr. Thurmond B. Woodard*  
100+ Black Women Coalition of Beaumont
19th Street Missionary Baptist Church (Austin, TX)
24 Hour Super Sport Fitness Club  
(Bedford, TX)
A J Moore Business Academy
African-American Community Heritage Festival
American Association of University Women  
(Austin, TX)
American Federation of State,  
County and Municipal Employees
Ashland, Inc. Matching Grant
Association of Certified Fraud Examiners
AT&T United Way Employee Giving Campaign
Austin Area Alliance of Black
Austin Chapter, TSCPA CPE Foundation
Austin Community College (ACC)
Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary
Austin Zeta Amicae of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority
Bank of America (Wilmington, DE)
Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Texas
BLH Bradshaw Mission II Women’s
Brookhollow Baptist Church (Houston, TX)
Brown McCaroll, LP
California Financial Credit, Inc
Camp Wisdom United Methodist Church  
(Dallas, TX)
Capital City Lioness Club
Capitol City Golf Association
Capitol Partners, Inc.
Career Opportunities Through Education, Inc.
Chase Bank (Houston, TX)
Christian Outreach Center of Fort Worth
Cite Texas
City of Austin
City of Houston Housing  
& Community Development Department
City of Waco
Coastal Bend Community Foundation
Coca-Cola Enterprises/Bottling
Concord Missionary Baptist Church

Tom Joyner, Tom Joyner Foundation,  
and students