# Texas Annual Conference Report

#### **PRESENTED BY:**

Larry L. Earvin, Ph.D., President and CEO Huston-Tillotson University

# The Texas Annual Conference Mission and Vision

Huston-Tillotson University helps to assist the Texas Annual Conference achieve its mission and vision through its own mission

Huston-Tillotson University is a historically black college affiliated with The United Methodist Church, the United Church of Christ, and the United Negro College Fund (UNCF). The mission of the University is to provide its increasingly diverse student body with an exemplary education that is grounded in the liberal arts and sciences, balanced with professional development, and directed to public service and leadership. The University prepares students with the integrity and civility to thrive in a diverse society, fosters spiritual development, preserves and promotes interest in the accomplishments and experiences of the University's historic constituents and evolving population, and creates and sustains supportive relationships which advance the Huston-Tillotson University community.

## University Profile Enrollment

 Huston-Tillotson University reached a twenty-five year enrollment high in the fall of 2006, with an enrollment of 742 students.



## University Profile Enrollment

Segmentation of its student population by gender revealed an important factor regarding male enrollments

- The University's population consisted of 45% males and 55% females, this is significant since many universities report decreases in male student enrollment



## University Profile Enrollment

 The racial/ethnic composition of the University's population is 77% Black (non-Hispanic); 12% Hispanic; 8% White (non-Hispanic); 2% Nonresident Alien; and 1% Asian/Pacific Islander



## University Profile Faculty

- In the fall of 2006, the University employed 37 full-time faculty members
- Seventy-five percent of the University's faculty have terminal degrees in their teaching field
- The race/ethnic composition of the University's faculty is 51% Black (non-Hispanic); 32% White (non-Hispanic); 11% Asian/Pacific Islander and 7% Hispanic



# Presidential and Institutional Advancement Activities

 On October 27, 2006, the Old Administration Building, vacant for 37 years, reopened and was renamed the Anthony and Louise Viaer-Alumni Hall.



# Presidential and Institutional Advancement Activities

- The newly renamed Anthony and Louise Viaer-Alumni Hall building was once described as "statuesque and dilapidated"
- The 92-year old three-story building is listed in the National Register of Historic Places
- The Anthony and Louise Viaer-Alumni Hall boasts a Heritage Wall of Investors



## Heritage Wall of Investors

Companies and individuals that have made significant contributions to the rehabilitation of the Anthony and Louise Viaer – Alumni Hall

- Austin Community Foundation Conference Room
- Bertha Sadler Means African American Heritage Resource Center
- Coe-Robinson Alumni Conference Center
- Dell Computers
- The Laboratory
- Wachovia Business Resource Training Center

# **College of Arts and Sciences (CAS)**

The College of Arts and Sciences is strengthening the academic preparation of its students through the revitalization of honor societies and student clubs in all degree areas.



## College of Arts and Sciences Honor Societies

- **Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics** (Beta Kappa Chi Honor Society and National Science Institute)
- **Department of Humanities and Fine Arts** (Alpha Kappa Mu and Sigma Tau Delta)
- Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences (Pi Gamma Mu)
- Department of Teacher Education and Kinesiology (Education Club)

## College of Arts and Sciences Student Research Initiatives

- Departments in the College of Arts and Sciences are focusing on activities that aid student learning through inquiry and discovery
- A major activity is the annual Research Day Program that culminated 16 student research projects and the publication of Huston-Tillotson's first Student Research Day Journal



## College of Arts and Sciences Student Research Initiatives

- The Journal included an article regarding a Huston-Tillotson alumnus who worked in an atomic fission project at Los Alamos
- Huston-Tillotson students in health projects focused on HIV-AID education for residents in East Austin communities



 Student research activities documented in each department included the work of three biology majors, who studied the ecology of the tropical rain forest in Costa Rico

## College of Arts and Sciences Foreign Services Careers

- Huston-Tillotson students are encouraged to pursue Foreign Service careers with the U.S. Department of State, U.S. AID, Peace Corps and other agencies
- Ambassador Greg Engle a Diplomat In-Residence at the University of Texas at Austin, visited Huston-Tillotson and provided information about careers in Foreign Service
- In March 2007, the University hosted a seminar to highlight Foreign Service opportunities
- Huston-Tillotson students have also applied for the Charles Rangel Summer Foreign Service Internship Program
- The Program provides for interns to work in congressional offices and State Department bureaus during the summer months

## College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Development

- Huston-Tillotson faculty members in the College of Arts and Sciences are actively involved in faculty development programs
- In 2006, six Huston-Tillotson faculty members attended New York University Faculty Development summer workshops
- Other faculty members participated in workshops in Hawaii and Puerto Rico
- Faculty members have made significant strides in grant writing

# School of Business and Technology (SBT)

- Four Huston-Tillotson business students attended the 2006 NBMBAA Annual Conference in Atlanta, Georgia
- The conference was promoted as the country's "largest professional recruiting and networking event"
- Living up to that billing, there were nearly 15,000 in attendance representing business professionals, corporate and graduate school recruiters, executives, entrepreneurs and students
- The annual conference delivers critical resources that help students gain valuable insights toward achieving leadership and success

# School of Business and Technology (continued)

- Leadership Out of the Box was one of several seminars attended by Huston-Tillotson students. At the seminar, leadership was taken beyond the norm by studying the lives of extraordinary leaders and engaging in self-analysis
- Students were presented with the opportunity to visit with over 300 college and university representatives recruiting for their respective graduate business programs
- The conference proved very successful for Huston-Tillotson students as each student was offered a graduate school scholarship

## School of Business and Technology Fulbright Language Teacher

- In August 2006, Professor Xuefeng (Sam) Bai began a yearlong tenure as a Fulbright Scholar In-Residence at Huston-Tillotson University.
- Professor Bai commenced his instruction of a small class of students studying Mandarin Chinese Language I
- Professor Bai earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English in 1997 from Northwest Normal University. In 2000, he earned a Master of Arts degree in English from Xiamen University

School of Business and Technology Fulbright Language Teacher (continued)

- Currently Professor Bai is pursing a doctorate in International Relations at Xiamen University. He is expected to graduate in 2008
- Professor Bai will teach Mandarin Chinese II and a Chinese History/Culture course in the spring of 2007



### School of Business and Technology Youth Entrepreneurial Institute (YEI)

- Last summer at Huston-Tillotson University, nineteen high school students throughout the Austin metropolitan district graduated from the NAACP Reginald F. Lewis Youth Entrepreneurial Institute (YEI)
- YEI is a 5-week long summer program designed to provide high school youth with an opportunity to learn how to develop a business plan and turn it into a successful business venture
- The overall goal of the YEI program is to inspire minority youth to view entrepreneurship as a career option
- Youths are taught required skills to become successful business owners

#### Career and Graduate Development Center

In the fall of 2006, the following new and updated services and resources were made available to Huston-Tillotson students, alumni and employers:

1. Web-based 24/7 Career Management System (CMS) for students and alumni to post multiple credentials, search employment opportunities including part-time, internship and full-time employment opportunities, to review and post career and education related events.

## Student Affairs (continued)

2. New and re-built Internship and career opportunities with employers and organizations included AMD, Austin-American Statesman, City of Austin (City Auditor), Emmis Austin Radio, GSD&M, Infinity Broadcasting, KXAN, News 8 Austin, Nationwide Insurance, Office of the Governor, Seton Healthcare Network, Office of the Attorney General, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas Departments of Banking, Insurance and Public Safety, Texas Residential Construction Commission, Time Warner Cable, Trammel Crow Company, Travis County, Walgreens, Wells Fargo, and multiple School Districts for Huston-Tillotson teacher candidates.



Three (3) Career and Internship Fairs and one (1) Graduate and Professional School Fair, provided almost double the employer participation and increased graduate and professional school participation.



3.

## Student Affairs (continued)

- 4. Over 250 students received personal career advising that included career and graduate school fair advising, mock interviews, application and personal statement preparation, resume and cover letter writing, job search strategies, networking and salary negotiations.
- 5. Over 350 students participated in job search and graduate education programming presented to classes, individuals and student-invited events, along with a Professional Speaker Series that involved over 10 class presentations and over 15 Professional Speakers.

## Student Services (continued)

- 6. There were over 15 individual on-campus employment and graduate school recruiting events. In addition, student resume referrals were made available upon request by employers.
- 7. An annual Scholarship presentation to an Huston-Tillotson student for free attendance in an LSAT, MCAT, GRE and/or GMAT course valued at \$800 - \$1,200 was negotiated with Kaplan Learning Centers. The first recipient received an LSAT course scholarship valued at \$1,000.

Texas Association of Developing Colleges (TADC) Ethical Student Leadership Conference

- On February 1-4, 2006, five students represented Huston-Tillotson at the TADC Ethical Student Leadership Conference held at Wiley College
- Awards were given to students based upon demonstrated leadership on their respective campuses and participation at the conference
- Three students were recognized: Mr. Damian Spencer (New Emerging Student Leader Award), Ms. Brittany Thomas (Presidential Ethical Student Award), and Mr. Matthew Morris (Outstanding Student Leader Award)
- In addition, Huston-Tillotson received an overall award for the institution's stellar participation at the conference

Pathways to Academic Socialization and Success (PASS)

- The Division of Student Affairs continues to develop the program Pathways to Academic Socialization and Success (PASS)
- The goals of Huston-Tillotson's PASS program is to ensure the design and implementation of an effective intervention system to develop first generation college students' academic and social skills in order to increase the rate of persistence and graduation
- Initiated in August 2005, the PASS summer program included sessions on adjusting to college life, preparation for college level work, and special assistance with core subjects in writing

Pathways to Academic Socialization and Success (continued)

- The same cohort of students participated in the PASSAGES Learning Community where they attended various academic, leadership and career development seminars
- In October 2006, Student Affairs collaborated with Institutional Advancement to secure \$100,000 in funding from the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation to continue the program
- Currently for 2007, planning is underway for the PASS/PASSAGES Programs

## Student Affairs PASSAGES Program

- The PASSAGES Learning Experience is designed as a continuation of the PASS summer program
- Its goals are to ensure the design and implementation of an effective intervention system, to develop first generation college students' academic and social skills to increase the rate of persistence and graduation
- PASSAGES Learning Experience is a thematic learning community that integrates the academic curriculum and cocurricular programs with special emphasis on critical thinking, writing, technology, and ethical leadership
- Students have opportunities to interact with faculty in formal and informal settings and discuss academic progress, current events, and to participate in various programs and cultural activities

# Student Affairs Honda Campus All-Star Challenge (HCASC)

- In 1989, the American Honda Foundation established the Honda Campus All-Star Challenge (HCASC) to provide college bowl competitions at America's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU)
- HCASC provides opportunities for leadership development and professional networking and a platform to showcase students' academic talents at HBCU



#### Student Affairs Honda Campus All-Star Challenge (HCASC)

- Annually, the top 64 institutions compete in the National Campus Tournament (NCT) held in Orlando, Florida
- This year, more stringent criteria was used to increase the level of competitiveness
- Huston-Tillotson qualified as one of the strong 64 institutions, elected to attend the NCT to be held April 11-16, 2007

## **Student Affairs** Student Health Services

- The Huston-Tillotson Health Connection e-health community empowerment program collaborates with other community based organizations, to empower its campus and to underserved populations in the community with health information from the National Library of Medicine
- The objective is to provide participants with basic background knowledge and information concerning racial disparities in health
- The Institution trains participants to conduct informational sessions that enhances consumer awareness
- Through online health access consumers are informed about HIV/AIDS, Heart Disease, Cancer, Mental Health and Diabetes
- Informed consumers can benefit by having a better quality of life

#### Department of Intercollegiate Athletics

The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics is composed of thirteen intercollegiate sports with three sports launched within the last year

- Men and women's indoor and outdoor track
- Women's cross-country
- Volleyball
- Baseball
- Men and women's basketball
- Men and women's soccer
- Men and women's golf

Department of Intercollegiate Athletics

Last spring, the combined GPA was 2.78. In the Fall of 2006, men's soccer took home a first-ever RRAC Post-Season Tournament Championship, while men and women's golf teed off for the first time in 25 years.





- The mission of Huston-Tillotson University Athletics is to provide opportunities for competition in intercollegiate athletics, while ensuring an atmosphere that emphasizes academic and athletic excellence
- Huston-Tillotson strives to ensure that all student-athletes are "Champions of Character" and to model the values of Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Sportsmanship, and Servant Leadership
- The Athletic Department is committed to the principle that participation in athletics is integral to the total educational process and personal growth of each student-athlete
- Huston-Tillotson is a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and the Red River Athletic Conference (RRAC)

# **United Methodist Heritage**

Huston-Tillotson University is proud of its United Methodist heritage and affiliation, and strives to provide a wholesome, open learning environment that encourages recognition of individual worth and merit.

