

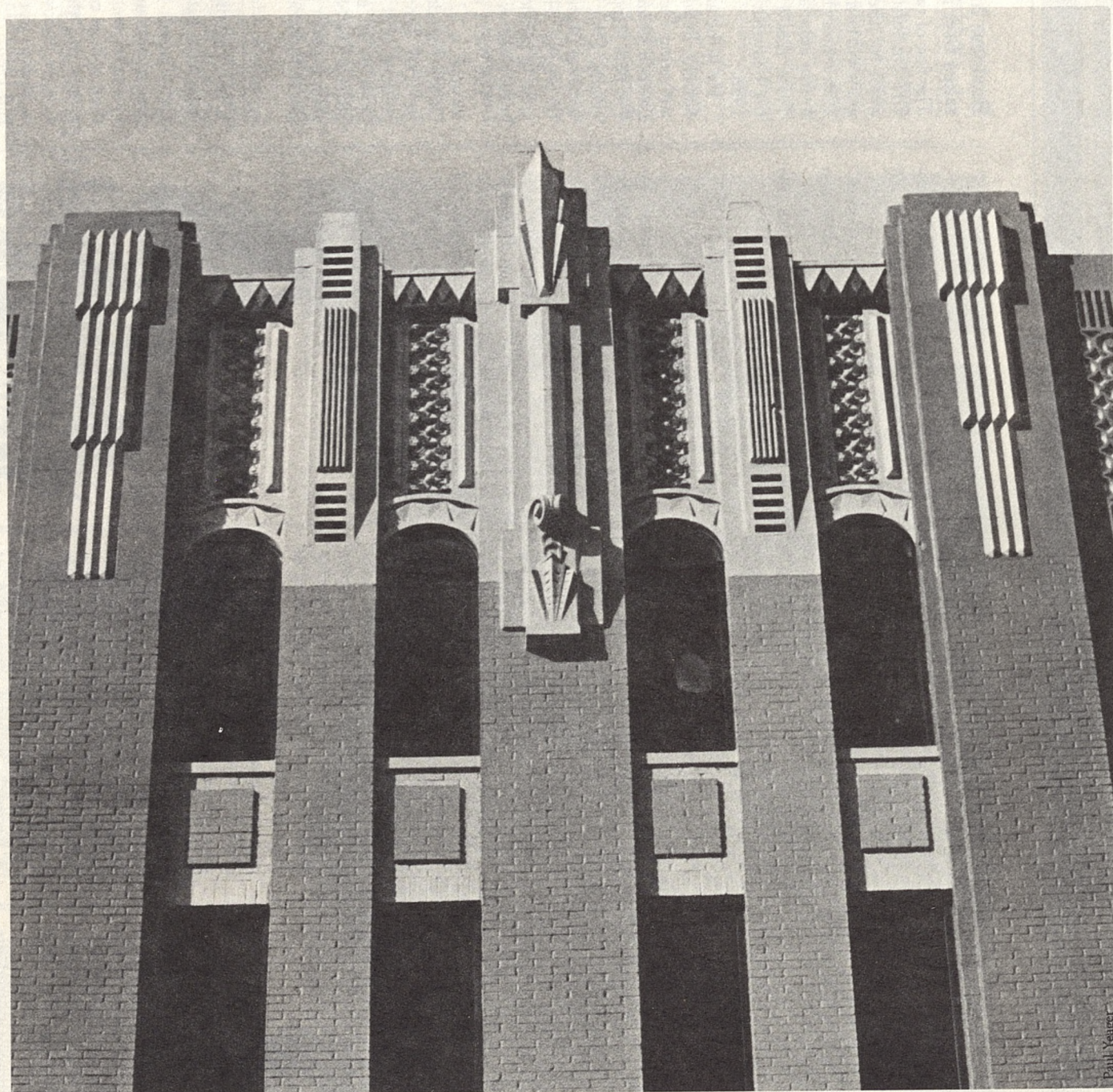
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TEXAS STATE DOCUMENTS  
COLLECTION

University of Houston System

# PERSPECTIVES



Paul Yeager

## *In This Issue:*

**Cover photo:**  
UH-Downtown's striking  
new appearance. Page. 4

Influential business  
leaders pledge support  
to university. Page 1.

Select Committee holds  
January meeting in  
Houston. Page 1.

University's regents  
launch construction  
program. Page 1.

NTSU LIBRARY



Kathy Jones

Left to right: Joe Russo, Ken Schnitzer, Leonard Rauch, and Don Jordan.

## City leaders promise UH System aggressive support

A powerful group of Houston's business and civic leaders has pledged to bolster the future of both the University of Houston System and the city through more productive partnership.

UH System President Charles E. Bishop recently announced the formation of a 45-member Board of Visitors to promote greater cooperation and interchange between the university and the area's industrial, governmental, cultural, and educational institutions. The alliance is expected to nurture the expansion and diversification of the area's economic base.

Bishop was joined at a Nov. 18 press briefing by Joe E. Russo, president of

The Russo Companies Inc.; Kenneth L. Schnitzer Sr., chairman of both Century Development Corp. and the Houston Economic Development Council; Don Jordan, chairman and CEO of Houston Lighting & Power; and Leonard Rauch, UH System Board of Regents member and chairman of Interstate Bank North. The briefing followed the group's first organizational meeting.

"A stronger partnership between higher education and business is crucial as the country moves from an industrial-based economy to one dependent on high technology and information," Bishop said. "We recognize a vital link between higher education and eco-

nomics. Knowledge and research have become the prime resources for the future, not only in our city but throughout the nation."

"We're saying that we care very much about the UH System and will give it our strongest support," said Russo, acknowledging that while many Houston business and civic leaders are not UH System graduates, they are first and foremost Houstonians who realize that the destiny of the city and the university are inextricably tied.

"A city at the forefront of economic and cultural development simply must

Please see *University*, page 2

## Regents OK construction bond sale

By Kathy Jones

Thanks to the passage of Proposition 2 and the commitment of the University of Houston System Board of Regents to long-range capital development, the university has embarked on the largest construction and renovation project in its history.

### New buildings

The board agreed last month to issue bonds worth \$55.7 million to finance a four-year, \$70 million program of capital construction. The financing agreement is expected to earn \$14.5 million in interest income in the next several years, according to Linda Bright, university treasurer, UH system administration.

The new capital program will finance the Science and Research III building for UH-University Park; a new classroom and office building for UH-Downtown; a new multi-purpose complex to house the system administration, board offices, and administrative computing functions; a new satellite power plant for University Park; and development of the North Cullen entrance on the University Park campus.

Proposition 2, approved by more than 75 percent of Texas voters last year, created a \$100 million Education Assistance Fund for public senior colleges and universities not covered by the Permanent University Fund. The monies, apportioned by formula among the 26

Please see *Capital*, page 3

## Next meeting in Houston

### Select Committee considers future of higher education

Research and economic development, space utilization, possible mergers, demographic trends, student performance, and academic program quality are among the topics currently under discussion by the 24-member Select Committee on Higher Education.

The blue-ribbon panel, formed this year by Gov. Mark White, Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby, and House Speaker Gib Lewis, is investigating the state's higher education needs for the next century. It will continue to meet bimonthly until it makes a final report to the Texas

Legislature in January 1987.

The group's next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Jan. 16 on the UH-University Park campus. Both UH System President Charles E. Bishop and University Park Chancellor Richard L. Van Horn will make presentations. UH-Clear Lake Chancellor Thomas M. Stauffer spoke before the group on Dec. 5 in Austin on the relative status of research and development in Texas. Stauffer was named official liaison between the Select Committee and the Texas Science and Technology Coun-

cil, of which he serves as vice chairman.

At its first meeting in Austin in October, the committee was formally given its charge by White, Hobby, and Lewis. Hobby said that the UH System, Texas Tech University in Lubbock, and at least one Dallas-Ft. Worth area school should be expanded into nationally recognized research institutions to ensure the economic vitality of Texas.

"The Select Committee would be the logical group to recommend which universities would receive the special designation—and additional state money—to join the ranks of the elite Texas universities," said Hobby.

Discussion then centered on the current structure, role and scope, and funding of higher education in Texas. Commissioner Kenneth Ashworth, Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, and Jim Oliver of the Legislative Budget Board each made presentations.

### Changing economy

The second meeting focused on demographic trends and economic projections for Texas through the year 2000 using data generated by the Texas 2000 Commission, a state-sponsored planning group. The committee was told that the state's population, particularly in urban areas, will increase. The traditional student population will likely remain stable, while the non-traditional student population is expected to grow. In addition, a higher rate of career change and job mobility will increase the need for advanced training from colleges and universities for the general

workforce.

State Comptroller Bob Bullock reported on the state's income projection to the year 2000. He emphasized that the state's oil- and gas-dependent tax structure is antiquated and does not reflect the shift from an energy and agriculture economy to one based on manufacturing and service.

The committee is also investigating

## Hobby calls for designation of research universities

tougher admission standards, mandatory testing of sophomore students, and the role of community colleges.

"The work of the Select Committee will be of utmost significance to the future development of the state of Texas," says Bishop. "This group's recommendations will help ensure that Texas has the scope and quality of intellectual resources it needs to prevail in an advanced technological society. I look forward to talking with the group on Jan. 16."

"We are closely monitoring the proceedings of the committee," says Grover Campbell, UH System vice president of governmental relations. "We

Please see *Diverse*, page 4

## UH System earns fourth favorable audit opinion

The University of Houston System has earned an unqualified opinion from the state auditor for fiscal year 1984, its fourth positive opinion in four years. The opinion means the university's financial records accurately reflect the operations of the university for FY84, which ended Aug. 31, 1984, according to Dr. George Huxel, vice president for administration and finance.

"The system of internal control in place for the University of Houston System is adequate and functioning as prescribed," said Catherine A. Hein of Austin, manager of the audit. Both Hein and Sharon Leggett, first assistant to the state auditor, reported to the UH System Board of Regents on Nov. 20. They also noted that all suggested changes from the last audit have been

implemented.

"I am exceedingly proud to receive once again an unqualified report on the university's financial activities," said UH System President Charles E. Bishop. "This most recent audit attests to the fact that the university has one of the most successful financial management systems in the state."

Huxel attributes the excellent audit reports to the accounting system that was implemented by the system administration four years ago and to the reorganization of the campus financial operations into one centralized and coordinated office. "The favorable audit report reflects hard work and dedication on the part of a number of individuals associated with the financial operations of the university," he said.

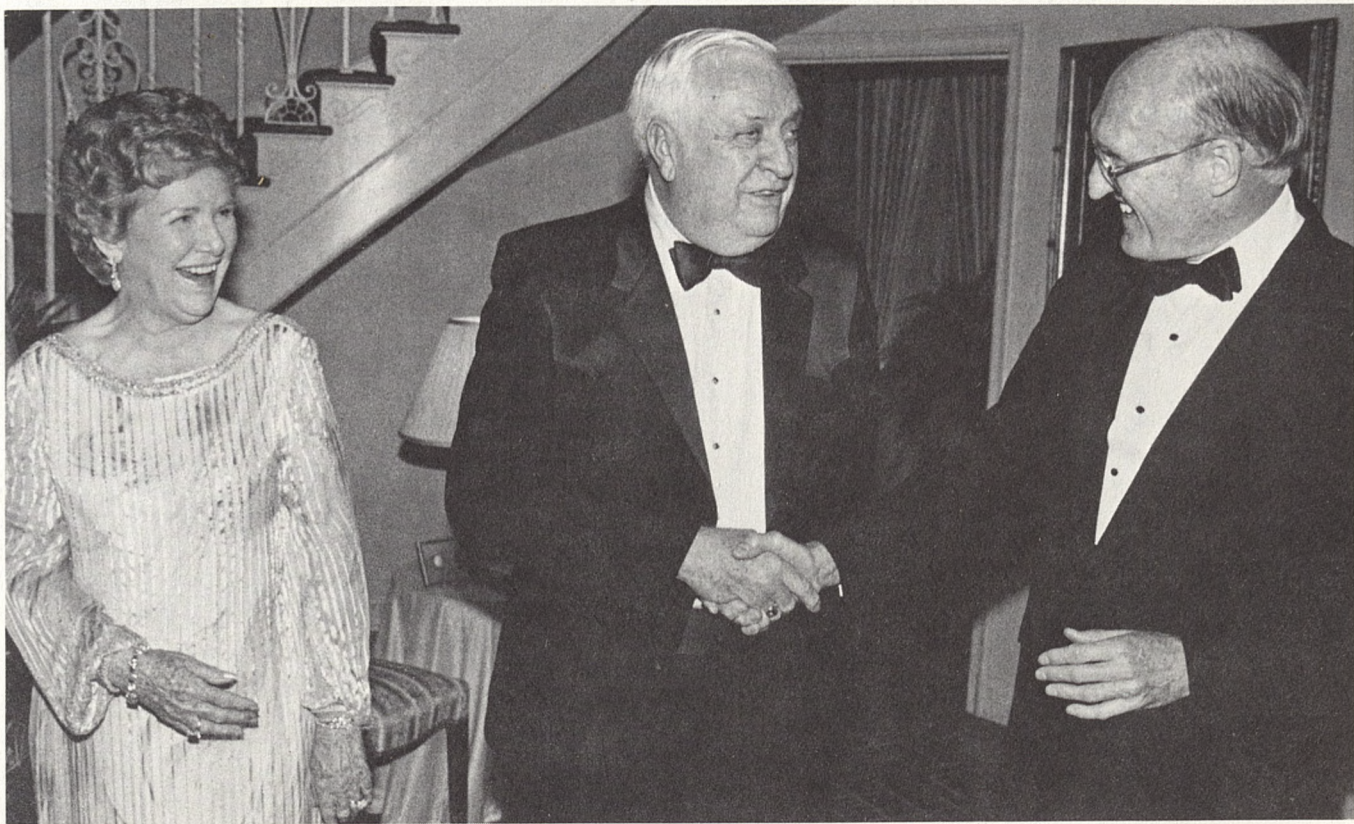
# Melchers give \$3 million to University Park college

By Janet Dunphy

Well-known philanthropists and prominent Houstonians LeRoy and Lucile Melcher have given \$3 million to the UH-University Park College of Business Administration. The gift, one of the largest ever made by individuals to the university, will support library and computing resources, faculty recruitment and development, and scholarships for outstanding students.

In appreciation, the UH System Board of Regents has announced that the college's new building, now under construction, will be named the LeRoy and Lucile Melcher Hall, the first academic building to be named for a UH alumnus in the university's history.

Melcher earned the University of Houston Outstanding Alumnus of the Year Award in 1970 and is former president and chairman emeritus of the UH Alumni Organization. One of UH-University Park's athletic buildings, Melcher Gymnasium, was named for him to honor his steady and generous



George Hixson

Left to right: Lucile Melcher, LeRoy Melcher, and President Bishop.

**We** are delighted to invest in the university's future

contributions to the university.

Melcher has experienced success in all areas of the grocery business, from his first part-time job in Houston's Acme Grocery store to owning a large food-processing and packaging company, and later, as the owner of the U-Totem food chain stores. He built U-Totem from 10 outlets to more than 1,000 over 16 years.

In 1967, Melcher sold his U-Totem chain to Fairmont Foods, with which he worked until 1978. Two years later he founded Ranger Energy, which eventually owned the subsidiaries Ranger markets and Sunny's convenience

stores. Melcher sold Ranger Energy in 1983 to Southland Corp.

Lucile Melcher, a painter, is a native Houstonian. She has donated endless volunteer hours citywide to such non-profit organizations as the San Jacinto Girl Scouts chapter. She is past-president of the Women of Rotary and the River Oaks Parent Teacher Association. In 1969, the Melchers donated the Almeda Plaza Park site to the city of Houston for a library, now named for Lucile Yvonne Melcher.

The Melchers actively support the M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute and are life members of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Melcher is past-president of the Downtown Rotary Club, which is currently involved with International House, a place for patients and their families to stay when they come to M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute. The Melchers have donated \$1 million to the project.

He is a lifetime director of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, and a director of the 100 Club of Houston.

"Generations of Houstonians have advanced their personal and professional lives through the University of Houston," said Melcher. "Lucile and I are exceedingly happy to help perpetuate the tradition of excellence and opportunity that gives the university its unique character and provides the city with a continuing stream of broadly educated, highly skilled men and women.

"We are delighted to invest in the future of this university. We are deeply honored that the beautiful new Business Administration Building will be named the LeRoy and Lucile Melcher Hall, an act we hope will remind us all of the support this university has earned and will continue to earn from countless private individuals."

The \$20 million LeRoy and Lucile Melcher Hall, scheduled for completion next year, consists of 175,550 square feet of space in a triangular shape which allows for the most efficient use of windows and energy. Designed by the White Budd Van Ness Partnership, the structure will be accented on the west by a circular structure housing four

auditoriums.

Every classroom, office, and work area will accommodate the installation of at least one computer terminal. The larger classrooms will be equipped with modern video projectors and the building will also have a broadcast studio for television instruction.

The College of Business Administration is one of the nation's leading broad-based business schools offering bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs. A recent survey of 500 U.S. business school deans ranked the college among the top 35 in the nation and number two in the state. The college ranks first in the nation for research productivity in organizational behavior and management and fifth in management information sciences.

With more than 5,500 students, it is the largest college at UH-University Park and has one of the largest graduate programs in the nation. The Executive program for the Master of Business Administration has been listed among the nation's top 20.

## University, city to meet challenges with unified effort

Continued from page 1

have educational institutions at the forefront of intellectual development. We must not forget our home base. We have supported the university in somewhat of an oblique way in the past.

"We're now going to turn that into more aggressive, frontal support in every arena," said Russo, a University of Texas graduate. "This is not a passive group of people. I'd like for it to be a very activist group."

The board will meet regularly at the direction of its chairperson, who will be selected this month by a board subcommittee.

"The UH System has not enjoyed the level of credibility that it deserves from the city's business and private sectors," said Schnitzer. "This board is a very logical step forward toward that recognition."

Schnitzer said the group intends to seek a greater allocation of research funds for the UH System. "This will be a long-term and dedicated effort on behalf of the university. Both the city and the university stand to benefit greatly."

Jordan noted during the briefing that universities face growing challenges as they become responsible for not only training the future work forces but re-training the existing ones. "The University of Houston System is traditionally responsive to the city's needs in this area. It is also a leading source of cultural enrichment through outstanding programs in the fine arts and the humanities. Each of these attributes helps to make our city more attractive to others."

**This is not a passive group of people**

"Without a doubt, the university is ready for a new level of partnership with the city," said Rauch. "We believe that no other university in the U.S. has enjoyed as high a rate of qualitative

improvement as the UH System in the last decade. This momentum—coupled with the support and understanding of the leadership of the city—will help sharpen Houston's competitive edge in the decades to come."

The stated purposes of the Board of Visitors are to:

- keep the university administration better informed of the needs, interests, and challenges facing the Greater Houston area;
- keep the area's leadership abreast of the full range of the university's educational resources in instruction, research, and community service;
- promote opportunities for greater cooperation between the university and the area's industrial, governmental, cultural, and educational institutions and to build the integrated knowledge base required for advanced economic, social, and cultural development in the Greater Houston area;
- help interpret the needs and opportunities of the Houston area for state and federal agencies and officials

whose understanding and support is crucial to the university's and city's development;

- cultivate greater public understanding and support of the UH System's mission and its role as a principal educational resource for Houston and the nation.

Members as of Nov. 18, 1985, include: Stanford Alexander; Issac Arnold Jr.; Jack Blanton Sr.; I. David Bufkin; Dorothy Caram; Kippy Caraway; John Cater; Robert Cruikshank; Roy Cullen; Maurice Cummings; John Duncan; James Elkins Jr.; J. Homer Garza; Mack Gibson Jr.; Gerald Griffin; William Harvin; Richard "Racehorse" Haynes; Artie Lee Hinds; Richard J. V. Johnson; Edith Jones; Don Jordan; James Ketelsen; David Lack; Kenneth Lay; Leo Linbeck Jr.; Ben Love; Sanford McCormick; Joe McMillan; LeRoy Melcher; Walter Mischer Jr.; Arthur Morales; Rob Mosbacher; Robert Page; Jack Rains; Emyre Robinson; J. Hugh Roff Jr.; R. Alan Rudy; Manuel Sanchez; Rudolph Saucillo; A. Frank Smith; Lois Stark; David Underwood; and James Watson.

## Maintaining a competitive edge

By Thomas M. Stauffer

Chancellor  
UH-Clear Lake

In Texas, as in the rest of the United States, both technology and the economy are changing rapidly. The evidence is everywhere present, but whether Texans will take full advantage from these new directions remains unclear. Texas is at risk unless it can meet the challenges posed by the decline of the oil and gas industry, depressed foreign sales of manufactured and agricultural products, excess world supplies of semiconductors and related equipment, weakness in the Mexican economy, and overexposure in certain defense industries.

### Texas must develop its own assets

Per capita income of Texans, which peaked at two and a half percentage points above the national average in 1982, has now slumped to the same number of points below that average. Some 100,000 jobs in the energy sector have been lost over those years, and Texas' unemployment rate now exceeds the national average for the first time in 15 years. Add to this litany, projections of oil prices below \$20 a barrel and the erosion of Texas' advantage as a low tax state, through proposed reductions in federal tax brackets.

Texas is at a significant crossroads. Where future jobs will come from and how prosperous the economy will be present the state's leadership with problems of the first order.

The brightest hope for the Texas economy is a diverse economic base, more so than now. Texans must diversify their economy from resources at hand, rather than depending upon quick technological fixes or beggar-thy-neighbor policies. Texas must look to

its own assets and abilities, especially its colleges and universities.

If knowledge-based industries, whether high, medium, or low tech, are to be the engines of the future service-oriented economy, then the basis of that economy will be the state's universities and research facilities.

The genius that Texans have demonstrated historically for spotting new business opportunities and founding new enterprises will form the small to medium size firms that will create the bulk of future jobs. If these enterprises are to be on the higher quality end of the continuum, the state's knowledge infrastructure will be all the more important.

This is true statewide and true in Houston, where knowledge and research-based service and manufacturing industries already drive the economy. Although Houston is typically not thought of as a research center, the evidence suggests otherwise. Research performed at such centers as UH-University Park, Rice University, the Texas Medical Center, UH-Clear Lake, and other universities and institutes stands today as the largest concentration of research activity in the state. One recent study indicated that two-thirds of all the research conducted in Texas occurs within a 50-mile radius of downtown Houston.

#### A large stake

Harris and surrounding counties have a large stake in expanding its knowledge base in the energy, medical, space, engineering, and international service sectors. It behooves Houstonians to take the lead statewide to secure and enhance this base, since decisions made in Austin—particularly concerning higher education—greatly affect this area's future research health. That much needs to be done can vividly be seen in the accompanying map (*Chronicle of Higher Education*, Oct. 30, 1985).

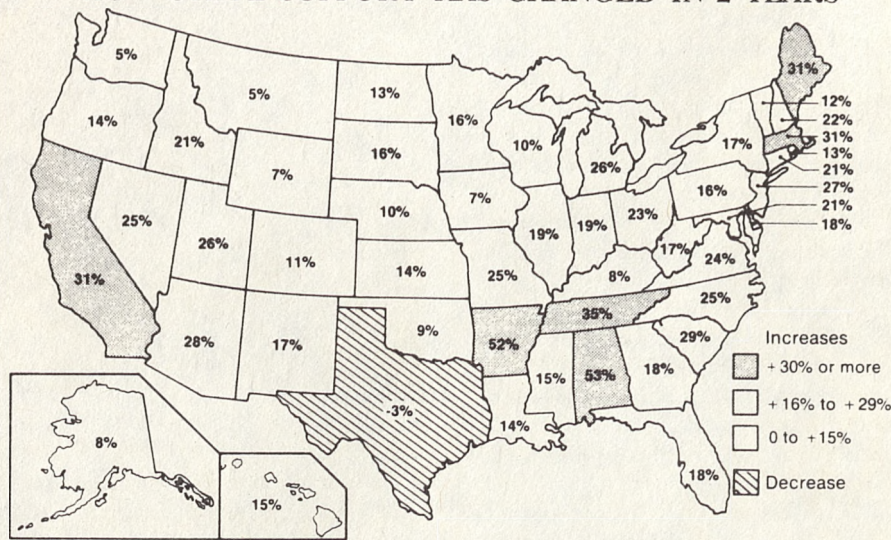
Texas ranks 50th among the states in the change over two years in support of public higher education. Ironically, political rhetoric to support increases in other state capitals centered on the competitive threat posed by Texas in recent years. And just at the moment

when the state could have pressed its advantage, revenue shortfalls caused Texas to fall back.

Even though the three percent drop is disturbing enough, when inflation is considered, the actual figure drops to around minus-11 percent. And when mandated salary and other changes are taken into account, the final figure is around minus-13 percent statewide—hardly a competitive edge.

But the state must improve on its past performance. For example, research and development (R&D) expenditures account for only one and a half percent of Texas' gross state product. Research in Texas is running at only 57 percent of the per capita national average. If Texas R&D were conducted at the national average rate, it would be valued at about \$7 billion versus an estimated \$4 billion in current actual

#### HOW STATE SUPPORT HAS CHANGED IN 2 YEARS



SOURCE: M. M. CHAMBERS, GWEN B. PRUYNE

CHRONICLE MAP BY PETER H. STAFFORD

For a short term, Texas can tolerate such cuts. During the last 10 years, legislative support for higher education has grown 165 percent, placing Texas 16th among the 50 states in such an increase. Consequently, Texas higher education and research are in a transition toward substantially greater quality and quantity. The increase in state dollars for higher education over the past decade has begun to pay off. Texas has begun to be recognized on a national level for leading edge research developments. Economic interest and growth have been attracted in turn.

research activity, or a \$3 billion differential. Obviously, Texas possesses some comparative disadvantage in research activity, and weakness in Texas higher education is part of the problem.

Texas will survive a slide in higher education support for one biennium. But a continuation of the slide would be shortsighted, a gross error. Every long-term economic trend points to the core importance of knowledge-based industries. It simply makes no sense to erode the higher education and research core, even as the state's economy is undergoing a major transition.

## Capital improvements slated after successful bond sale

Continued from page 1

institutions outside the University of Texas and Texas A&M systems, are to be used for new construction and renovation and for purchase of library materials and research and teaching equipment.

The legislation gives universities the opportunity to use up to 50 percent of their individual annual allotment of Proposition 2 funds to support bonding programs for capital projects. The money may be applied to interest and principal payments on outstanding bond issues. The state guarantees the funds over a 10-year period.

The UH System will receive \$15.7 million annually for the next five years from the fund; that amount may be adjusted after the fifth year. Half of this year's total is being used for debt service on the bond issue. The remaining monies for FY86 have been targeted for various repair and rehabilitation projects around the three Houston area campuses (\$2.5 million); purchase of library and equipment on all four campuses (\$3.6 million); and enhancement of computing and telephone systems (\$1.7 million).

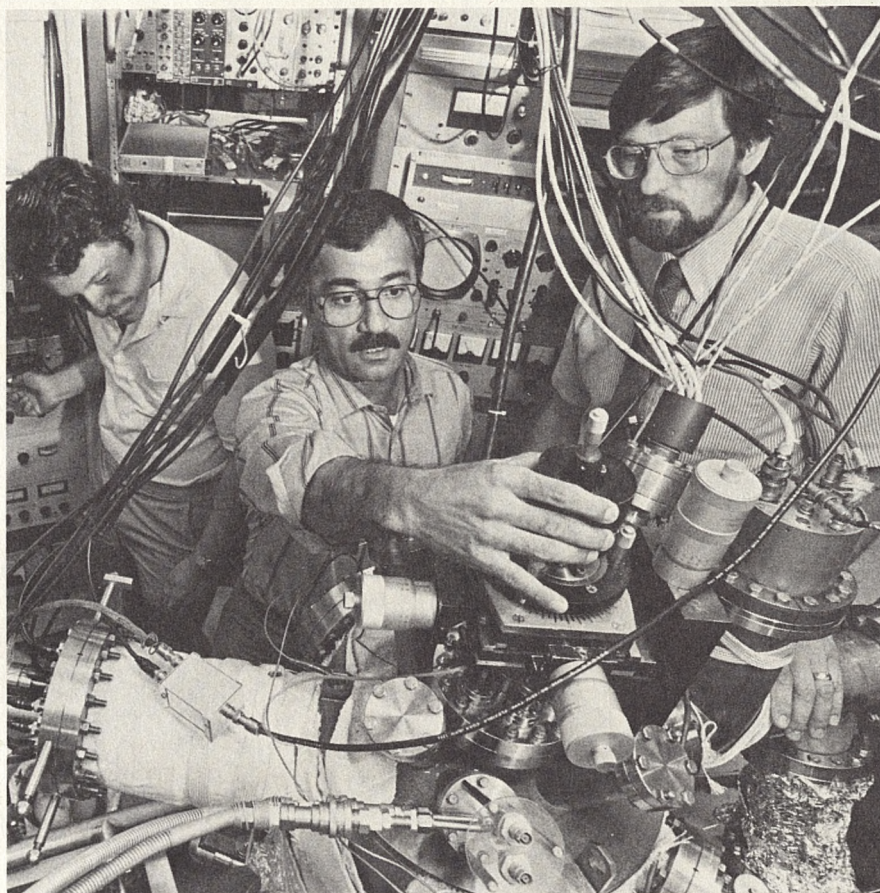
After a competitive bidding process, the board selected Shearson Lehman Brothers Inc., a national securities firm as underwriter of the project. According to Sonja Suessenbach, UH System director of financial planning, all the

bonds were sold by Nov. 15.

Progress has been made toward each of the construction projects to be funded by the bonding program. At its Dec. 3 meeting, the board of regents gave project concept approval to Science and Research III, which will include classrooms and laboratory space for both the colleges of engineering and natural sciences and mathematics. The board directed the administration to apply to the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, for building approval.

#### Pending projects

The board also heard presentations by four architectural consultants bidding on the design of the new UH-Downtown building. An architect will be selected at the next meeting of the board's building committee. Formal request for the building will be submitted to the Coordinating Board for approval at its January 1986 meeting. 3D/International has been retained to present specific recommendations concerning the new office, computing, and information complex, approved by the legislature in 1983. Finally, the North Cullen entry project has already begun and should be completed by May 1986, according to Ted Montz, director of facilities planning, UH system administration.



Paul Yeager

The University of Houston System was allocated \$15.7 million in Proposition 2 monies for fiscal year 1986. Approximately half the money was used to finance a major capital construction program. Of the remaining \$7.8 million, \$3.6 million has been allocated to purchase research and teaching equipment and library materials for the four campuses; \$2.5 million for major repairs and rehabilitation projects at the three Houston area campuses; and \$1.7 million to upgrade computing and telephone equipment.

## Dr. Philip Castille

By Allen S. Lockhart

His name, Philip Dubuisson Castille, appropriately hints at a rich heritage.

"I am a product of French Louisiana," says Castille, UH-Downtown associate professor of English. Both sides of his family were early residents of Opelousas, an old Creole village near Lafayette that served briefly as the state's Confederate capital. "Growing up there gave me a strong sense of Southern history," he says.

Castille nurtured this appreciation of the South through years of academic study. As a student of English and philosophy at New Orleans' Tulane University, he became hooked on authors—particularly William Faulkner—who tried to explain why the South is sometimes perceived as an isolated and haunted region.

After earning his bachelor's degree, he entered the graduate program in English at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. He was attracted there by the opportunity to study under the late C. Hugh Holman, a well-known critic and scholar of Southern literature.

William Faulkner, the Mississippi Nobel prize-winning author, was—and is—Castille's favorite. Faulkner put the South in context for Castille. Unlike the rest of the United States, it had experienced total military defeat on its



Dr. Castille

own soil at the end of the Civil War and endured complete cultural collapse. "When I started studying Faulkner, something really clicked," he says. "Faulkner's best work is devoted to the

question of what it's like to live in the South."

Castille returned to Tulane to study for his doctoral degree with Richard P. Adams, an influential Faulkner critic. While working on his dissertation, "Faulkner's Early Heroines," Castille won the John T. Monroe Dissertation Fellowship.

Castille joined the UH-Downtown faculty in 1981 as an assistant professor. He was recruited to enhance the professional writing program, the campus' newest degree program, which offers students the chance to develop specialized writing skills for business, industry, government, and service professions. It is tailored for students who want to develop a dual focus: writing expertise and a proficiency in a selected professional area. He has recently been appointed coordinator.

### Literature's drama forces us to isolate our values

"The program is exciting because we are living in a time when our economy is based less on the production of manufactured goods and more on the dissemination of information. This requires a high degree of literacy," says Castille. "It is important to have good writers to serve the professional world."

"The program encourages the students to do what they have done in many English classes—write about literature in an analytical manner, yet apply those evaluative skills to other professional areas."

Regardless of (or because of) the increasingly professional/technical bent of modern society, Castille still believes literature is implicitly important to a broad-based education, whatever a student's area of specialization. This view complements UH-Downtown's strong core curriculum, a substantive mix of arts and sciences courses required of all students, and the campus' strong career-entry degree programs.

"Learning to read literature is learning a better way to live. Its drama forces us to isolate and identify our own values. It is utterly crucial to being human," he says.

Before coming to UH-Downtown, Castille taught technical writing at Memphis State University. There he helped to develop a multi-track English degree program with an emphasis on pre-professional writing. He taught writing/editing in the professions, Southern literature, American literature, since 1860, and American fiction and organized a major Southern literature symposium hosted by the university.

Currently he teaches courses in Southern literature, American literature, composition, and technical writing. "The most exciting thing about UH-Downtown is the high degree of motivation our students show," says Castille. "They are inquisitive, eager to learn, and really try to invest in higher education."

One of Castille's favorite classroom discussions is the Southern renaissance, the biggest chapter in Southern literary history. "Renaissance," rather than "renaissance," is a term that refers specifically to the flowering of Southern literature during the 1920s and '30s. The seminal writers of this period engaged in a probing re-examination of the Southern past.

"Nineteenth-century authors wrote primarily about the rise and fall of the cavalier South," says Castille, referring to plantation novels. "The Southern renaissance authors were still preoccupied with the plantations but from a far more critical perspective of the South and its agrarian culture. The modern Southern author may base his work in the South, but his or her stories are less likely to have a rural setting."

### No easy answers

As an instructor, he deliberately tries to focus on points of intellectual and ethical stress. "I tell my students that 'right' answers to complex questions are hard to come by and they should sift carefully through the choices," Castille explains. "I encourage them to always take themselves seriously as thinkers."

Castille's first book, a collection of essays titled *Southern Literature in Transition: Heritage and Promise*, was recently published by the Memphis State University Press. He has published numerous scholarly articles and regularly writes book reviews for the *Houston Chronicle*. This semester he presented papers at the South Central Modern Language Association and the Southwest Regional Conference on English. Locally, he is a member of the board of directors of the Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association of Greater Houston.

## UH-Downtown joins Houston's bayou beautification program

Rising above the banks of Buffalo Bayou at the northern tip of Houston's downtown district, the 56-year-old UH-Downtown building has a striking new appearance.

External renovation of the former Merchants and Manufacturers Building was designed by architect Charles Tapley of Charles Tapley Associates, whose goal was to highlight the building's art deco features.

Much of the credit goes to James Ketelsen, chief executive officer for Tenneco Inc., who led a successful fundraising effort to renovate the exterior of the 11-story building. "The exciting new look of the One Main Street Building reflects the many exciting things going on inside. The updated exterior goes hand-in-hand with the renovated interior and its modern, computer-intensive environment," says Ketelsen.

"The building is a landmark, and its revitalization is good for all of Houston. The entire project is a positive way that corporations interact with education in this city," he says.

The building's exterior is being rejuvenated in conjunction with the city's Buffalo Bayou beautification projects. The city of Houston plans to link the campus to the proposed Houston Plaza, a 2.5-acre park along Buffalo Bayou, by a staircase leading up to the campus' south deck.

The exterior changes are complemented by a state-funded interior renovation program begun in 1982 and now more than three-quarters complete. Library space has more than doubled and laboratory space has been added.

Major contributors to the renovation project include Tenneco Inc., Texas Eastern Corp., The Wortham Foundation, United Energies Resources Inc., W.S. Bellows Construction Co., Entex, Exxon Co. U.S.A., Gerald D. Hines Interests, The Russo Companies Inc., Shell Companies Foundation, First City Bancorporation, Texas Commerce Bank, the Houston Chronicle, Treptow Development Co., The City Partnership Ltd., and the American Bank.

## Diverse statewide leaders comprise Select Committee

Continued from page 1

feel that this important committee presents higher education and particularly the UH System with a tremendous opportunity for advancement."

Dr. Victor Arnold, director of the Bureau of Business Research at the University of Texas-Austin, was chosen to serve as executive director of the Select Committee. Larry Temple, Coordinating Board chairman, is chairing the committee. Other members named by White, Hobby, and Lewis are: Arthur Temple, Temple-Inland Inc.; Reynaldo Garza, 5th Circuit Court of Appeals; Deborah Kastrin, Southwest Industrial Resources; Dr. Earl Lewis, Trinity University Department of Urban Studies; Bobby Inman, MCC; George Mitchell,

Mitchell Energy and Development Corp.; Dr. Norman Hackerman, formerly of Rice University and UT-Austin; Peter O'Donnell, investor; Wales Madden, former UT board member and former Coordinating Board member; E. Glenn Biggs, InterFirst Bank-San Antonio; William Blakemore II, Alpha Twenty-One Corp.; Joe McCormick, Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corp.; and Bill Parsley, an attorney and former administrator of Texas Tech University.

White, Hobby, Lewis, Sen. Carl Parker of Houston, and Rep. Wilhelmina Delco of Austin are also members of the panel. Serving as ex-officio members are Sen. Grant Jones of Abilene, Sen. Ray Farabee of Wichita Falls, Rep. Jim Rudd of Brownfield, and Rep. Al Luna of Houston.

## University seeks loan defaulters

A University of Houston System attorney is seeking about 1,600 former students who borrowed more than \$2.6 million in principal alone in federal student loans from the university. Some of the borrowers are nine or 10 years in default.

Nancy Footer, assistant university counsel, has filed 90 lawsuits since June. So far, four of the defendants have paid their loans in full; 10 are contesting in court. The money was originally given to UH-University Park for loans; the university must now collect the money to repay the government.



Two types of federal loans are involved: National Direct Student Loans or Health Professions Student Loans, given only to optometry or pharmacy students. About three-quarters of the delinquent borrowers never graduated. All but five live in Texas, and "many now have very successful careers," says Footer.

Names of the delinquent ex-students will be turned over to the federal government and the Internal Revenue Service, which will begin withholding tax refunds in 1986, if the university cannot collect from them.

## Two professors fly south for the winter

Drs. James Benbrook and Edgar Bering are experiencing a harsher winter this year than most of their UH-University Park colleagues. The two members of the College of Natural Sciences space physics group left for the South Pole in November to study the effects of solar winds on the atmosphere.

The professors planned the research for more than four years and received \$186,000 in funding from the National Science Foundation. Two graduate students, one undergraduate student, and alumnus Eugene Stansbery are other members of the team.



The group is launching 10 high-altitude balloons to measure the effects of the solar wind in the upper reaches of the magnetosphere, a region 70 to 70,000 miles above the earth. The magnetosphere shields the earth's surface from solar wind—the millions of energetic particles emitted from the sun every second.

The balloons will gather and relay data by radio. If all goes well, Bering and Benbrook will fill nearly one ton of magnetic recording tape with informa-

tion to help explain how much energy is being added to the magnetosphere.

In true team spirit, the six travelers donned identical Cougar-red jackets with balloon-like crests before embarking on the trip. The jackets were donated by UH alumnus Joseph Koza of Pearland. Once at the South Pole, however, the researchers will probably opt to wear their 75-pound suits that ward off the cold.

## Statistical report updated, expanded

The UH-Clear Lake Bureau of Research, in cooperation with the Clear Lake Chamber of Commerce, has published the 1985 edition of the *Clear Lake Economic Data Base*, an up-to-date statistical portrait of the area. The report, or database, is a comprehensive look at the area's financial and socioeconomic character.

The report shows that Clear Lake area citizenry earns a living in a variety of ways, from space travel to international trade and fishing. According to data, the area contains one of the most highly educated and well-paid populations in the nation. Nearly 60 percent are employed in managerial and highly skilled professional occupations.

Originally published in 1984, the report has since been expanded to include a quality-of-life study and such information as land use, new building construction, and commuting times from Clear Lake to downtown Houston. Other services offered by the Bureau of Research include: preparation of business plans; targeted opinion surveys; market assessment analyses; and studies of business location, municipal budget, product marketing, and economic impact.

## Education programs target teaching

Predictions of acute teacher shortages are coming true. Before the 1985-86 school year began, the Houston Independent School District was short nearly 2,000 teachers, and relief isn't in sight. According to the National Education Association, at least one million new teachers are needed nationwide through 1990.

UH-Clear Lake and UH-Downtown are joining local efforts to change this trend with programs that encourage high school students and adults to enter—and stay in—the teaching profession.

In cooperation with local school districts, UH-Clear Lake has developed a specialized certification program for those committed to teaching mathematics, science, and computer science. Individuals must have a bachelor's degree in the above or related fields or a bachelor's degree and 24 hours of approved university-level coursework.

Potential students may be eligible for 40 scholarships made possible by \$39,949 in funding the campus received from the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System. Certification may be completed in as little as two semesters.

UH-Downtown's Summer Program for Future Teachers is a joint effort between Tenneco Inc., HISD's Magnet Program for the Teaching Professions at Stephen F. Austin Senior High School, and UH-Downtown. This program is aimed particularly at the shortage of bilingual and Hispanic teachers.

Students in the top 20 percent of the high school's junior class were considered for the 1985 summer program. Tenneco provided 15 financial grants for tuition and fees; the students enrolled

in both UH-Downtown summer sessions for six college credit hours per session.

"The program was clearly a success," said Dr. Jeffrey Bobbitt, UH-Downtown dean of arts and sciences. "The students had a good experience and they made very respectable grades."

## Shakespeare search begins at university

The UH-University Park drama department, the Shakespeare Festival, the Shakespeare Globe Centre, and KUHT TV are collaborating on a film project called "Search for Shakespeare."

The film, a first for the university's drama department, explores the life of Shakespeare. It is being written by Dr. Sidney Berger, drama department chairman, and Rutherford Cravens, director of the Shakespeare Globe Centre. Berger and Bob Cozens, KUHT senior producer, are producing the film.



The Globe Centre is an international project, conceived by actor Sam Wanamaker, aimed at rebuilding the Globe at its original site on the Thames River in England. Ten years ago he invited Berger to help direct the project, and they have since become good friends.

"I am a real believer in the project, especially since it is a cooperative and interdisciplinary venture between two components of the university, the drama department and KUHT," says Berger. The film will tentatively air on PBS in Fall 1986.

## Class project wins national award

A UH-Downtown class project on the free enterprise system gained national recognition for 36 students when it won a first place trophy in a competition sponsored by Students in Free Enterprise, a non-profit corporation.

Three seniors presented a summary of projects completed by 33 students in the wage and salary administration class taught by Ken Wallman, UH-Downtown adjunct professor of business management and administrative services. Dr. Cliff Barbee, associate professor of business management and administrative services, helped develop the class project.

The UH-Downtown team conducted a six-phase project to learn about the free enterprise system and to teach others about it. They presented seminars to local public schools and conducted interviews with Houston business personnel and labor leaders.

## Business history expert takes first NEH chair

The first of two endowed chairs of the UH-University Park National Endowment for the Humanities challenge grant will be filled by Dr. Joseph Pratt, a 20th century business history expert. A former associate professor of history at Texas A&M University, Pratt joins the University Park faculty in January 1986.

He is the author of *The Growth of a Refining Region* and is currently co-authoring *The American Way: Business Decision Making in the 20th Century*. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Rice University, Pratt earned his master's and doctoral degrees from Johns Hopkins University. He is a specialist in the areas of public policy, regulation, and energy history.

The NEH chair was made possible through a \$250,000 grant from the Cullen Foundation. The UH-University Park Humanities and Professions program calls for a second \$1 million chair to be established in law and history. The NEH challenge grant program is under the aegis of the University of Houston Foundation.

## UH-Victoria easing financial burden

UH-Victoria is trying to ease the financial burden sometimes experienced by single parents wanting to continue their college education. A new scholarship, the Mary Vivian O'Brien O'Connor Endowment, will be awarded to single, working parents beginning Fall 1986.

T. Michael O'Connor, chairman of the UH-Victoria Development Council, said his family wished to address "the need for scholarships for single parents who do not have the financial resources to further themselves by receiving a college education." The perpetual scholarship endowment is in memory of his grandmother, Mary Vivian O'Brien O'Connor, a member of a pioneer ranching family.

"At a time when sources of funding for a college education are becoming scarce, we must look to the private sector for support," said UH-Victoria Chancellor Martha Piper. "With this endowment, the O'Connor family is not only helping deserving students further their education, but also is contributing to a better community."

## Industry teams with education

UH-Clear Lake has joined the Bayport Industrial Association in a new task force to develop and implement mutually beneficial education- and business-oriented ventures. The association represents 44 firms located in the Bayport Industrial Complex, one of the world's largest petrochemical and manufacturing complexes. The complex is only two and a half miles from the Clear Lake campus.

One result of the UH-Clear Lake/BIA partnership will be short-courses in design, engineering, science, and management, which will help to equip or re-tool graduates—especially those affiliated with the local petrochemical industry.

Becky Schergens, UH-Clear Lake executive director of institutional advancement, chairs the task force. Says Schergens: "This is a prime example of what the public and private sectors can do together. We each have respective needs and talents. When we join forces, we can satisfy those needs and serve our community more effectively."

# Accolades

**Dr. Robert Fisher**, UH-Downtown associate professor of social sciences, testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Housing and Community Development on "Public Housing in Houston: The Issue is Democracy" at its field meeting in Houston.

**Dr. Garna Christian**, UH-Downtown associate professor of social sciences, was appointed to the membership committee and editorial advisory board of the *East Texas Historical Journal*.

**Dr. Alexander Zaphiris**, UH-University Park professor of social work, was a distinguished speaker at an invitational seminar on "Adult Protective Services to Elderly Victims of Sexual Abuse" at a national conference in San Antonio.

**Dr. Ronald Brown**, UH-Clear Lake assistant professor of diagnostic teaching, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award for Scholarship and Research from Georgia State University and was appointed to the *Encyclopedia of Special Education* editorial advisory board.

**N.S. Nandagopal**, UH-Downtown assistant professor of engineering technology, and a colleague presented "Implementing an Undergraduate CAD Program" at the National Computer Graphics Association conference in Dallas, Texas.

**Dr. Jon Goodman**, director of the UH-University Park Gulf Coast Small Business Center, will serve on the executive committee of the National Association of Small Business Development Centers.

**Dr. Raymond Fielding**, UH-University Park professor of communications, was elected president of the University Film and Video Foundation, a 20-year-old association which funds projects and scholarships in film and broadcast education and conducts research projects for the U.S. government and major foundations.

**Dr. Lorin Vant-Hull**, UH-University Park professor of physics and director of the Energy Laboratory's solar thermal division, led one of four workshop teams in August at the "Summer School 1985 on Solar Energy" in Igls/Tyrol, Austria.

**Dr. Neal Amundson**, UH-University Park Cullen Distinguished Professor of Chemical Engineering, will chair a chemical engineering research committee for the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the National Research Council.

**Dr. Robert Hazelwood**, UH-University Park professor of biology, received a Fulbright scholarship for 1985-86. He will lecture on and advise graduate biology programs in India and Thailand.

**Dr. Gordon Paul**, UH-University Park M.D. Anderson professor of psychology, received the 1985 Research Award from the Mental Health Association of Houston and Harris County.

**Dr. John Baust**, UH-University Park Luyet Professor of Cryobiology and director of the Institute for Low Temperature Biology, is president-elect of the International Society for Cryobiology.

**Dr. Elizabeth Coe**, UH-Downtown English Language Institute instructor, received a two-year Fulbright award to assist the Rwanda, Africa, Ministry of International Affairs and education department.

**Dr. Steve Rakow**, UH-Clear Lake associate professor of science education, published an article in *Science Education* and was appointed to *The Texas Science Teacher* editorial review board.

**Dr. Roy Henderson**, UH-University Park assistant professor of industrial technology, was elected to the *Journal of Direct Marketing* editorial staff.

## Pat Orr joins Development office

Pat Orr has replaced Jackie Cronquist as director of development support services in the Office of Development, UH System Administration.

Most recently Orr was employed as a supervisor of operations support at Southwestern Bell Telecommunications Inc. She was responsible for the control and coordination of all new installation functions and administrative procedures.

Orr earned a bachelor of science degree in management from the School of Economics and Management at Oakland University in Rochester, Mich., and a master of business administration with a concentration in finance from the University of St. Thomas in Houston.

In her new role at the university, Orr is managing all development records, including gift and alumni databases, and providing technical assistance to development staff and campus personnel.

## Facilities Planning earns energy award

The University of Houston System's Facilities Planning and Construction, under the direction of Ted Montz, is one of 11 Energy Innovation Award winners recently announced by Gov. Mark White.

The awards are given annually to groups and individuals whose projects in energy conservation and efficiency earn recognition during the Technology Transfer '80s/Energy Innovation Project. It is sponsored by the state, the Public Utility Commission, and the U.S. Department of Energy.

Facilities Planning was honored for replacing a steam-driven chiller with an electric motor. The chiller now requires less manpower, is more efficient, and will save the university and the state more than \$2,000 per day, says Tom Mullarkey, Facilities Planning chief engineer.

## PERSPECTIVES

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Executive Director Carla M. Cooper  
Assistant

Director Kathleen Kimball-Baker  
Editor Janet P. Dunphy  
Staff Writer Kathy Jones

The University of Houston System is a state university comprised of four campuses: UH-University Park, UH-Clear Lake, UH-Downtown, and UH-Victoria.

The University of Houston System seeks to provide equal educational opportunities without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, handicap, or veteran status.