

THE
PRESIDENT'S

viewpoint

April 2006

Investing in Endless Possibilities

“Creating the Future” has become something of a mantra for all of us at UTD because it invokes ideas of potential and possibility. This phrase was also the core message of my recent investiture address because I believe UTD will play a critical role in making a prosperous future for our great city and its residents.

Our founders laid a strong foundation for this university, and over the years our progressive leaders have reinforced it by adding quality people—faculty, staff and students—and by cultivating a culture that demands and celebrates excellence. Layer upon layer, the foundation has grown stronger, and it is now prepared to support a new level of academic weight.

UTD has always been a place of innovation and transformation, so it's only logical that we have a bold vision. As we evolve into one of the region's and world's research gems during the next five to 10 years, our campus will become a larger and more diverse place with double the number of faculty, double the amount of research, many more academic programs, and twice as many buildings on campus.

And as we grow, UTD will attract new resources and opportunity and become a strong, global player. Our campus will be an important catalyst for economic growth and a partner in expanding the dynamic, global DFW marketplace.

These exciting changes are what I'm talking about when I say UTD is creating the future. And this university's vast potential is the reason many community leaders and prominent individuals stand beside us in attaining our vision. They realize UTD is in a unique position to accomplish all of these goals and help DFW stay on the global leading edge.

“To have this great university growing at this particular time is a great blessing for our state,” Assistant Secretary of Education Tom Luce told the audience at the investiture ceremony. “I can't think of a place in this part of our state that will have a greater impact than this university.”

Indeed, UTD aims to achieve a level of greatness that is uncharted territory for our region, and we will have to work hard to find the resources we need along the way. We will take the necessary steps, like increasing student enrollment to help fund new faculty positions, increasing research funding and private giving, and pursuing public-private partnerships.

Creating the future also requires cooperation, and as I mentioned in my inaugural speech, accomplishing all of our goals will involve the work and commitment of many people. UTD's vision is based on input from constituencies inside and outside the university. It's that collective vision that will lead us forward in creating the future we all want.

To learn more about UTD's vision, read Dr. David Daniel's entire investiture address at www.utdallas.edu/investiture.

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FROM THE
DESK OF
DAVID E. DANIEL

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