CALLIER CAMPUS... This “airview” of the $5.1 million Callier Center for Communication Disorders looks northeast on Inwood Road in Dallas, toward Harry Hines Boulevard. Callier Center location is 1966 Inwood Road...

Callier Center, Land Endowment for UTD
Given at August 25 Ceremonies on Campus

The University of Texas at Dallas received two major gifts in August 25 ceremonies held at Founders North Auditorium.

Transferred to UTD, effective September 1, are the facilities of the Callier Center for Communication Disorders, valued at $5.1 million.

Also transferred, to The University of Texas System’s Board of Regents, are more than 450 acres of land, to be used as an endowment. The land, located at the far north boundary of UTD’s present 440-acre main campus, is valued at $12 million.

Callier Center’s former Board of Trustees made the facility gift. The 11-year-old center, located at 1966 Inwood Road in Dallas, is an international resource in communication disorders.

The land endowment came from the Excellence in Education Foundation in Dallas, which has made earlier gifts to UTD of more than $15 million. The initial campus of 325 acres, with one major building; the site of the present administration building, and cash gifts for both endowment and educational program startup have been given by the foundation, as the successor to the Southwest Center for Advanced Studies. The SCAS operated as a private research and graduate education center on the initial UTD site from 1964 to 1969.

Callier Center personnel, including nine faculty members, 39 teachers and 88 staff members, joined the UT-Dallas faculty and staff in the merger.

During fiscal year 1974, Callier Center had 73,000 patient contacts in its clinical services area. In its education division, 145 from less than one year up to eight years of age are enrolled in special classes for the deaf. Fourteen students are being taught in multiple-handicap deaf classes, and 25 children who are both blind and deaf are enrolled.

UT-Dallas will continue and expand on education and training of teachers and research workers through a combination of Calier facilities, its own classrooms, and the co-operation of the UT-Health Science Center.

“We have now reached the stage where new steps can be taken in the program of Human Development, incorporating the studies in Communication Disorders,” said Dr. Walter Rosenblith of the Callier Scientific Advisory Council in the merger ceremonies. Doctor Rosenblith is also the Provost, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

“Callier’s future is aimed at becoming the national center for advanced studies in human development,” said Dr. Aram Glorig, who became Dean of UTD’s School of Human Development with the merger.

Dr. Glorig headed Callier through its private operations. Named Head of the Communication Disorders Program is Dr. George M. Gerken; Head of Programs in Human Development and Psychology is Prof. Sylvia Fernham-Digby, while Prof. W. Beth Stephens is Head of Programs in Special Education, all within the School of Human Development.

The former Callier Board of Trustees were re-designated as trustees of the Callier Foundation. Dallas architect Pat Y. Spillman has been board president.

Both the board and the scientific advisory council will serve as advisory groups to UTD President Bryce Jordan and Dean Glorig.

Dallas County Hospital District also transferred the lease for Callier’s campus area to UT-Dallas in the merger. Some 88 years remain on the basic agreement.

The 450-acre land gift was “bought for the endowment of a university at an appropriate time,” said President Erik Jonsson of the Excellence in Education Foundation’s board.

“Now, that time has come,” he said in the merger presentation.

UT-System Regents, represented at the program by Vice Chairman Dan C. Williams of Dallas, have options to sell the land, to develop it, or use it in other non-academic ways. Cash from sales is to be placed in endowment, with income to be basically distributed two-thirds to UTD and one-third to Callier support. UTD has the right to use one-half of the Callier basic share for basic expansion, including construction. Land location is along the extended line of Floyd Road North, west to near Coit Road. The Santa Fe railroad’s right of way roughly bisects the tract, north-west to southeast.

Both the Callier merger and the EEF endowment gift were proposed in March, with later approvals by the UT regents. The Callier merger was also supported by a senate resolution, sponsored by Oscar Maulzy, and a companion approval in the house, sponsored by Chris Semos, during the 1975 legislative session.

Excellence in Education Foundation retains an approximate 193-acre frontage at the north side of Campbell Road in Richardson, and an additional 66 acres on the south side, near Pearce high school. The larger area in these tracts runs from Floyd Road west to Coit Road, and joins the UTD campus at its south boundary.

SIGNING...the Callier Center and Excellence in Education Foundation land gift documents at Founders North Auditorium was Vice Chairman of UT System Regents Dan C. Williams...with Presidents Pat Y. Spillman of the Callier board and Erik Jonsson of EEF...