The Barshop Institute for Longevity and Aging Studies

$4 Million

E
cor a quarter-century the UT Health Science Center San Antonio has conducted a strong research program in the biology of aging. In 2001 the UT System Board of Regents approved the naming of the Sam and Ann Barshop Institute for Longevity and Aging Studies, which honors Texas philanthropists Sam and Ann Barshop. In 2005 the Health Science Center dedicated the Barshop Institute facility, which was primarily funded through private donations. In fiscal 2009 the Barshop Institute ranked first among Texas institutions in funding from the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and was in the top five nationally among medical centers in NIA funding. The Barshop Institute recruited leaders in aging from Harvard Medical School, Baylor College of Medicine, the University of North Carolina and Mount Sinai Medical School, and has been funded through research grants and private donations. The state funds requested by the Barshop Institute will allow continued expansion of aging-related research at the Health Science Center while also growing a new Center for Healthy Aging. This multidisciplinary center will deliver the best geriatric care and conduct outstanding research on the management of age-associated illnesses. The Center for Healthy Aging is the clinical arm of the Barshop Institute and will become as well recognized for its service and research as the Barshop Institute is recognized for basic biomedical research. The linkages between the basic biology of aging and the Center for Healthy Aging will provide opportunities for translational and clinical gerontological science to flourish at the Health Science Center, improving the quality of life for all Texans as they age. The Health Science Center is in the enviable position of having the best aging research institute in the world at a time when research in aging is expected to increase significantly. This research will lead to major discoveries in the processes of aging and age-related diseases. Discoveries emanating from the Barshop Institute will provide therapeutic targets to ultimately treat the growing numbers of elderly in Texas and the United States. In addition, the Barshop Institute will be at the forefront of training physicians in geriatric medicine. The training of such individuals will be critical in meeting the needs of an aging population that is increasing exponentially.

Tuition Revenue Bonds (TRBs)

$61 Million

In anticipation of the 82nd Texas Legislature authorizing and funding the debt service for higher education during the 2012-2013 biennium, the Health Science Center is requesting TRB funding for the two capital projects below:

**Academic Learning and Teaching Center (ALTC)**
- **$55 million**

This will be constructed on the Regional Campus in Laredo that will house our Nutrition, Health and Wellness Research and Education Program and serve the local population to address diabetes which is prevalent to Laredo and surrounding communities.

**Diabetes Institute of South Texas (DIST)**
- **$6 million**

The Diabetes Institute will be used to construct a Diabetes Institute at the Regional Campus in Laredo that will house our Nutrition, Health and Wellness Research and Education Program and serve the local population to address diabetes which is prevalent to Laredo and surrounding communities.

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Funding Priorities 82nd Texas Legislature 2012-2013 Biennium

3,270 Total Student Enrollment as of Fall 2010
- 901 Medical Students
- 499 Dental Students
- 765 Nursing Students (222 Masters Students, 19 Ph.D. Students)
- 691 Health Professions Students (229 Masters Students, 118 Ph.D. Students)
- 414 Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences Students (124 Masters Students, 290 Ph.D. Students)

911 Total Residents/Fellows as of Fall 2010
- 837 Residents (Medical 728) & (Dental 109)
- 12 Dental Fellows
- 62 Postdoctoral/Research Fellows (Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences)
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)

Formula Funding
In addition to our specific funding request, the Health Science Center endorses the THECB’s Health Related Institutions (HRI) Formula Funding recommendations, including enhancement for Instruction, Research, Infrastructure, GME, and Nursing. We remain dedicated to focusing our resources on educational efforts and disease-related clinical and life science research that address the critical health workforce needs of Texas especially in San Antonio and South Texas. We will continue to be a major partner in addressing the diseases and health-related conditions that disproportionately affect South Texas.

Graduate Medical Education (GME)
We fully endorse the recommendations by the THECB to the 82nd Texas Legislature supporting an increase in GME formula funding rate to be increased for the FY2012-2013 biennium.

Nursing Shortage Reduction Program
We fully endorse the recommendations by the THECB to the 82nd Texas Legislature to continue funding at the 2009 level of $44.7 million. HB 4471 improves the Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program, which was established in 2001, to help stem the shortage of nurses in Texas, by rewarding high-performing nursing programs with up-front funding, THECB may require them to return unearned grant money to hire additional faculty. HB 4471 also holds nursing programs accountable by creating a new incentive for schools to admit and graduate more nurses. The bill requires a nursing program to apply to the THECB to use grant funds from the Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program to enroll or graduate a specific number of students. If the nursing program fails to meet its enrollment or graduation benchmark, THECB may require them to return unearned grant money or withhold future grant awards.

San Antonio Life Sciences Institute (SALSI)
$5 Million
The 77th Legislature (HB 1716, Puente/Van de Putte) authorized the creation of the San Antonio Life Sciences Institute (SALSI). The institute was established in 2004 with initial support from the UT System, UTSA and the UT Health Science Center San Antonio. SALSI has demonstrated how an educational institution and a health science center can join forces for greater research and graduate education. During the 81st Legislature SALSI received state funding, making possible the expansion of this model. SALSI is rightly called “the collaborative engine for South Texas’ new knowledge-based economy.” It promotes collaboration between the Health Science Center and UTSA, and enables the development of initiatives that are stimulating growth of the biomedical/biotechnology industry in San Antonio and South Texas. This in turn is fostering the commercialization of products of research emanating from the partner institutions. The goal of SALSI is to develop synergies in research and education that exceed the combined efforts of the institutions if each acts alone. The results are enhanced research funding at the partner institutions and new advanced degree opportunities for students. In addition, the emergent biomedical/biotechnology industry offers a unique opportunity for the Health Science Center to develop university/industry partnerships, which will help San Antonio and South Texas become a major player in the industries of the future. With new legislative funding, SALSI will continue its upward trajectory. Since 2004, SALSI has awarded 48 pilot project grants, leading to 119 joint research publications and 20 inventions. SALSI has helped researchers acquire an additional $4.2 million in research funding beyond the $4.8 million that was originally awarded — a 172 percent return on investment. Projects funded in 2009 and 2010 will soon add to the return on investment.

Regional Campus in Laredo (RCL)
$8 Million
The 76th Texas Legislature (SB 1288, Zaffirini/Quinlan) authorized the creation of the Regional Campus in Laredo. Since then it has expanded its health profession education programs and community service in the border region, which is designed as a medically underserved and dental professional shortage area. The strategic plan for the dental program in Laredo includes distance education and clinical training for dental students and residents, continuing dental education for area practitioners, activities to encourage local students to enter the dental profession, infrastructure support for community- and population-based oral health research, dental outreach education, and the development of an imaging center and joint programs with Texas A&M International University. The long-term mission is to enhance educational programs, expand clinical training through clinical partnerships, increase access to care and boost the number of oral health providers to meet the needs of underserved populations and address health care disparities. Previous funds have come from the state, private donors and community partners. As these funds are depleted, new state funding is needed to bolster clinical income in a region where many who need care cannot pay for dental services. The School of Health Professions has offered programs of underserved populations and address health care disparities. Previous funding for the RAHC has been through Special Item Funding since its inception. Enhanced funding is needed to maintain and expand on current RAHC operations, which include graduate-level training of 15 medical residents; undergraduate education for 48 third- and fourth-year medical students based at the RAHC, and rotations at the RAHC for more than 100 San Antonio-based medical students per academic year. Additional training opportunities are provided in South Texas through a variety of courses and programs (e.g., South Texas Environmental Education and Research, Community for Children—At the Border and Beyond, Community Service Learning). Beyond maintaining these operations, enhanced funding will allow us to continue current efforts to expand undergraduate and graduate medical education while also undertaking new expansion projects; to complete ongoing work to expand medical research in Edinburg while also taking on new research expansions; and to recruit basic and clinical scientists to RAHC divisions in Harlingen and Edinburg so we can grow the research base needed to support academic programs.

Regional Academic Health Center (RAHC)
$38.6 Million
The 75th Legislature (SB 606, Lucin/Hinojosa) authorized creation of the RAHC. Educational programs for medical students and residents began in July 2002 with the opening of the Medical Education Division in Harlingen. The Medical Research Division, located in Edinburg on the UT-Pan American campus, opened in April 2006 and now investigates diseases prevalent in the South Texas Border Region. Funding for the RAHC has been through Special Item Funding since its inception. Enhanced funding is needed to maintain and expand on current RAHC operations, which include graduate-level training of 15 medical residents; undergraduate education for 48 third- and fourth-year medical students based at the RAHC, and rotations at the RAHC for more than 100 San Antonio-based medical students per academic year. Additional training opportunities are provided in South Texas through a variety of courses and programs (e.g., South Texas Environmental Education and Research, Community for Children—At the Border and Beyond, Community Service Learning). Beyond maintaining these operations, enhanced funding will allow us to continue current efforts to expand undergraduate and graduate medical education while also undertaking new expansion projects; to complete ongoing work to expand medical research in Edinburg while also taking on new research expansions; and to recruit basic and clinical scientists to RAHC divisions in Harlingen and Edinburg so we can grow the research base needed to support academic programs.

Note: All RAHC projects are either the primary institution or a major partner in the projects. RAHC Harlingen RAHC Edinburg