A truly great institution of higher learning is one dynamic enough to couple optimism with a thriving and productive dedication to progress on a grand scale.

Such is the case today at Texas Southern University in Houston. All across the TSU campus, our reasons for looking forward to the future grow stronger and clearer with each semester. We are in the midst of what we call a Renaissance of Excellence. Our administrative and academic departments are transforming, and outstanding traditions and legacies are being renewed. Expect success from Texas Southern.
Administrative Changes:
DYNAMIC LEADERSHIP FOR DRAMATIC SUCCESSES

Some of the most significant initiatives at TSU begin right at the top. Senior leadership within all administrative departments has changed. New leadership is also dawning at the academic level as six of the eleven colleges recently acquired new deans. TSU instituted an extremely successful faculty/staff annual fund campaign that drew 70 percent participation, including 100 percent from senior administration, regents and foundation board members.

It’s also well worth noting that TSU’s high level of internal support coincides with an intensive re-engagement of the philanthropic community — particularly with regard to scholarship funding.

And notably, TSU’s administration has ended the probation enacted by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, beginning the normal 10-year reaffirmation process. With this, comes a new era of imagination and energy from every leadership sector.

Texas Southern University

Youthful Ambition:
INSPIRED STUDENTS, INTENSIFIED OUTREACH

TSU is making ever-greater strides to ensure our student body has the necessary support needed to reach all targeted goals — academic and beyond. We recently launched the Josh McMackle Tiger Project to train more than 200 mentors to connect with incoming freshmen. The project also provides a series of guest speakers throughout the year discussing leadership and personal responsibility.

On campus, we’re moving closer to our goal of having all freshmen living in campus dorms.
We’ve also launched three online master’s degree opportunities: an Executive Master’s of Business Administration, the first of any Historically Black College or University (HBCU); a Master’s of Public Administration; and a Master’s of Curriculum and Instruction in Bilingual Education.

One of the newest and most innovative aspects of our Renaissance of Excellence is the development of the Urban Academic Village, a concept that aims to re-invigorate the undergraduate student experience, particularly for at-risk freshmen and sophomores.

Within the College of Science and Technology, the first TSU payload was launched on Space Shuttle Atlantis Mission STS 129, part of an experiment developed by students in the biology program. The Thomas F. Freeman Honors College has expanded, with 200+ students recruited since 2009 with 3.6 GPAs and higher.

We’ve also expanded our health sciences programs in the Texas Medical Center, including a new partnership with Houston Community College and the TSU College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences to facilitate the transfer of pharmacy tech students into the College.

In addition, the Thurgood Marshall School of Law saw a 75 percent passage rate by its students on the 2010 Texas Bar Exam.

On another important front, the Houston Dynamo and TSU Football recently cemented a partnership for a new, $40 million, 22,000-seat stadium that will be located on Dowling Street and Texas Avenue. This new stadium is scheduled to open in spring 2012 as the home of Tiger Football, the 2010 SWAC champions.
Sound, Strong and Streamlined:
IMPROVED OPERATIONS AND BETTER FACILITIES

TSU is developing a facilities master plan to create a campus that comprehensively supports and enhances student learning and makes TSU a welcome and inviting place for alumni, visitors and new students. One of our major new construction projects getting underway is the $31 million Technology Building. We’re also developing 21st century library facilities to support our student, faculty and research needs, with special emphasis on gaining legislative support in the 2011 session. Another key project is the development of a residential housing plan that will allow up to 50 percent of TSU students to live on campus. We’re implementing a campus beautification program to provide a more modern, safe and academically conducive environment. In addition, we’re opening a new campus in Northwest Houston in partnership with Lone Star College.

RAISING OUR PROFILE NATIONALLY AND HISTORICALLY

Texas Southern University recently reviewed and revised its history, and its historic role in the surrounding community going back to the origins of Houston Colored Junior College, which was founded in 1927. TSU celebrated this more complete history at the first annual Founder’s Day in September, featuring renowned broadcast journalist Jeff Johnson, who spoke to TSU students about leadership, responsibility and making a difference in society.

At 83 years young, TSU clearly has many of its best days ahead. Now is the time to join us in our Renaissance of Excellence and be a part of history in the making.

Instituted three online master’s degree opportunities and partnered with Tom Joyner’s online HBCU program

for more information on becoming involved, joining the alumni association, or to enroll, please visit

tsu.edu/excellence