



Texas Coalition *for*  
Excellence *in* Higher Education

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## **COALITION RESPONDS TO CIGARROA RESIGNATION**

**AUSTIN**—On the heels of the resignation of the Chancellor of the University of Texas System, Francisco Cigarroa, the Texas Coalition for Excellence in Higher Education issued the following statement:

“Chancellor Cigarroa’s resignation is a serious loss to the University of Texas System and higher education across Texas. Under Chancellor Cigarroa’s visionary leadership, the UT System has realized many important achievements in its academic and health institutions, and he is to be applauded and thanked for his service, particularly under increasingly challenging and divisive circumstances.

“We call on the UT System Board of Regents to conduct a thorough, diligent national search for the next Chancellor, and seek to identify an individual qualified for and experienced in managing the complexities of a statewide system inclusive of academic, research and medical institutions. The next chancellor of the UT System must have an appreciation for thorough input from all stakeholders in decision-making and a vision for the future of higher education in the evolving academic environment with the primary goal of enhanced excellence.

“We applaud Chancellor Cigarroa’s willingness to ensure continuity of leadership by staying on throughout the search for his successor. We encourage Chairman Paul Foster to continue making strides to improve the working environment at the UT System and between the campuses, and look forward to a search process devoid of political interference and focused on academic excellence.”

### **About the Coalition**

The Texas Coalition for Excellence in Higher Education was launched in the summer of 2011 by a group of concerned citizens who believe strongly in the power of higher education to transform lives, build our economy and shape Texas’ future. Formed in response to a growing concern over recommendations being floated that could have long-term damaging effects on our institutions of higher learning, the Coalition hopes to advance a thoughtful, constructive and transparent dialogue around higher education in Texas, seeking to improve the quality educational opportunities for all Texans.

***For more information on the Coalition and information on higher education in Texas, please visit:***  
[www.TexasEducationExcellence.org](http://www.TexasEducationExcellence.org)

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