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Julie Shussler
512-207-0382
Julie.Shussler@bm.com

Young Texans for Excellence in Higher Education Forms; Current and Former Student Leaders Launch “Our Degree Matters” Campaign

AUSTIN — A committed and concerned group of current students and recent graduates of Texas universities today launched the Young Texans for Excellence in Higher Education. The Young Texans – a subgroup of the Texas Coalition for Excellence in Higher Education – represents the next generation of Texas leaders who will continue to ensure that our public higher education system is among the best in the world and is constantly striving to improve. The Young Texans released the following statement:

“We call upon our elected officials and regents to work with university leadership to continue to support the dual mission of education and research at our flagship institutions, and furthermore, we encourage the continued development of excellence and accessibility throughout our higher education system. Rather than damaging the decades of work that have been put into making The University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University what they are today, the state must focus on continued support of these institutions and the development of additional national research universities to strengthen Texas’ economy and create more opportunities for our growing population.”

“We are ready to engage in the discussion and creation of solutions that enable more cost-effective, transparent, and accountable institutions,” said Natalie Butler, current student body president at The University of Texas at Austin. “However, we are not willing to sacrifice educational quality.”

“If Texas is to succeed in the future, now is the time to make the investment,” said Keshav Rajagopalan, former University of Texas at Austin student body president. “Invest in our future. Invest in our students. Make Texas relevant. Make Texans competitive.”

The Young Texans is made up of current and former student leaders committed to driving excellence in higher education for all Texans. A full listing of the founding members can be found below:

Founding Members
Texas Coalition for Excellence in Higher Education


About the Young Texans:
The Young Texans for Excellence in Higher Education is a subgroup of the Texas Coalition for Excellence in Higher Education. The group is comprised of current and future alumni of Texas public higher education institutions who believe that their education is a means to shape the future of the state, country and world. Great public teaching and research universities are proven incubators of innovation, knowledge and creativity and engines for economic growth. Higher education prepares our young people to lead the world in the new global economy and is critical to keeping Texas and America competitive. Follow the Young Texans on Facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/OurDegreesMatter

For more information on the Coalition and information on higher education in Texas, please visit: www.TexasEducationExcellence.org

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