

The Office of Public Affairs

Over the past two years, the Office of Public Affairs has been in a period of transition. A new President at the University has allowed for new focus. The Office of Public Affairs has concentrated much of its activities over the past two years on introducing/integrating the new President to the community and “telling UTD’s story better” to area community and elected officials. Additionally, a transition in leadership in the Office of Public Affairs has refocused the University’s efforts.

Thus, the Office of Public Affairs has initiated many improvements over the past two years, including reviewing the activities of past administrations and making appropriate changes. Relevant changes have included:

- 1) A determination that alumni relations and development/fundraising should be handled out of the Office of Development.
- 2) A determination that University publications should be handled by the Office of Communications, rather than the Office of Public Affairs.
- 3) A determination that the Office of Public Affairs should assert itself as the central clearinghouse for community and chamber of commerce activities relevant to the University. Work has begun to create databases and relevant committees to support this effort.
- 4) Efforts of the Office of Public Affairs relative to the 3rd Special Session of the 79th Texas Legislature achieved positive results. These efforts are being fine tuned for the coming 80th Texas Legislature.