



The  
University of Texas  
at  
Arlington

Handicapped Student Services  
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December 3, 1991

Dr. Wendell Nedderman, President  
The University of Texas  
at Arlington  
300 Davis Hall  
Arlington, Texas 76019

Dear Dr. Nedderman,

Allow me to take this opportunity to thank you for your consistent leadership of the University of Texas at Arlington. As a student here in 1971, I remember a campus struggling to develop an identity, whose physical structure was somewhere between a junior college stature and a small poor senior college. I remember choosing major fields of study based on the limited accessible physical accommodations for the handicapped student, and I remember an administration that was reluctant to change from the status quo toward the tremendous potential that we now realize at UTA.

You have always been one to assign the credits to your supportive staff and energetic student leaders. In reality, the product that we now enjoy as a major university is the direct result of your leadership and guidance. I know there have been times when progress seemed remote and hard decisions had to be made that affected many people and institutions. You met every challenge with grace and dignity. You have led this university toward a stature that not only removed the "junior college" stigma, but also placed UTA among the nation's best and brightest institutions of higher education. Thank you.

Jim

JH/

Dr. Wendell Nedderman  
December 2, 1991

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I sincerely hope you will enjoy your retirement and that the fish are biting. As the Search Committee seeks to find a suitable candidate, I thought you might enjoy a reflection from 1973 when the same process was occurring.

# commentary

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## *Wanted: university president*

At long last, a search committee has been appointed to choose a permanent president for UTA.

Although an acting president can do a commendable job in carrying out the duties of a university, he can be like an amateur tightrope walker — powerless to move too far or too fast, afraid of stepping out of line.

It is the committee's task to choose a man who can fill the top slot without his power precariously balanced, without waiting perhaps for the moment when he might be shoved aside for a permanent president. An acting president, no matter how capable, can only lead an acting university.

We have waited long enough — too long — for the waves of UT System bureaucracy to part and produce a president.

The committee should choose a man now.

A man who believes in the university's growth and progress. A man who wants to see the university as a part of the community. A man who wants UTA to be "The University."

A man who believes that a university exists for the students. A man who believes that what is done should benefit the student body or it serves no purpose.

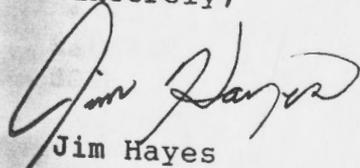
A man who puts his own interests aside in favor of others. A man with a sense of humor. A man who is not afraid to speak for what he believes.

A man who can understand the problems of administrators, faculty, staff and students. A man who will listen.

A man like Wendell Nedderman.

—laura allen

Sincerely,



Jim Hayes

JH/sw