

December 2016

Dear Austin College Community,

It is with mixed emotion that I announce today that President Marjorie Hass will depart Austin College and we begin the search for the 16<sup>th</sup> president of this legendary institution. Dr. Hass was recruited by Rhodes College and will serve as their 20<sup>th</sup> president beginning this summer. She will continue her term as president of Austin College through June 30, 2017, after which she and Larry will move to Memphis, Tennessee.

The College is tremendously successful and while it is not easy to say farewell, presidential transitions are a part of the normal fabric for an institution. Since 2009 when President Hass began her term, the College has moved forward in significant ways. The footprint of the campus has grown with the new residential housing on Brockett and Grand Avenue, and by the construction of the 100,000 square-foot LEED® Gold certified science complex, the IDEA Center. Together we have implemented strategic planning initiatives resulting in considerable growth in the size and strength of the applicant pool, increased retention, enriched academic offerings and deepened our commitment to environmental sustainability. Financially we have seen a significant improvement in our financial position. Fundraising has exceeded \$80M, including the recently received gift of \$7M, a portion of which establishes the Scarborough Center for Writing.

The Board of Trustees has been extremely pleased by President Hass' passionate commitment to build on the quality liberal arts education that we offer and how she has enhanced the profile of this institution at all levels. She has never wavered in working with the board and the greater community to achieve our shared vision and has created a bright future for Austin College.

### **Next Steps**

Scott Austin, a 1983 graduate of Austin College and a member of the Board of Trustees will lead the search committee for the 16<sup>th</sup> president. He will assemble a group of board members, faculty, staff and student representation. Scott and the board are confident we will find the right person to draw upon the many achievements of the last decade and to lead us into the future. We are well-positioned to continue forward, and are excited about the future for this great institution.

Further information is available at [www.austincollege.edu/presidentialsearch](http://www.austincollege.edu/presidentialsearch) and we will share periodic updates as the process goes forward.

David R. Corrigan  
Chairman, Austin College Board of Trustees