

September 14, 2011

Dear Students:

On behalf of Texas Woman's University, I am pleased to announce the beginning of the Student Regent selection process for 2011-2012 academic year. The Student Regent represents all students throughout the university, both undergraduates and graduates, for a one-year term. This position allows a student to represent all TWU students directly in discussions of key issues. Although the student regent does not vote, he or she will have the opportunity to have important input on decisions affecting the future of our campuses. The Student Regent position is the highest university leadership position a student can be appointed to while enrolled in Texas public higher education.

This packet provides the information necessary to apply for the Student Regent position. Please complete the application in full. Completed applications must be received no later than, October 3d by 5 p.m. at:

TWU Dallas Campus Student Life Office
Parkland/Presbyterian Room #107

TWU Houston Campus
Student Life Office
Suite # 2300

TWU Denton Campus
Center for Student Development
Student Union, 1st Floor

Questions may be referred to the SGA offices and Student Life offices on each campus. Thank you for your interest and willingness to serve our university and student body.

Sincerely,

Your Student Government Association, Houston, Dallas and Denton

Texas Woman's University
2011-2012
Student Regent
Fall 2011 Selection and Application Process

Background

In 2005, the Texas Legislature approved the position of non-voting student regent. In accordance with the provisions of the Education Code, Sections 51.355 and 51.356, each public university Board of Regents shall include one student member appointed by the Governor. The chancellor of each university system and president of each independent public university shall “develop a uniform application form to be used by each general academic teaching institution and medical and dental unit in the university system to solicit applicants for the position of student regent.”

Student Regent

The Student Regent is a non-voting participant on the Board of Regents representing the students of each Texas public university system or independent public university (a general academic teaching institution that is not a part of a university system). The student regent serves a one-year term commencing June 1. While technically not a member of the Board of Regents, a Student Regent does have the same powers and duties as the members of the Board of Regents, with the exception of voting, making or seconding motions, and being counted to determine a quorum.

To the best of their ability, the Student Regent represents the interests of the students, the University, and the State of Texas. The Student Regent may serve on special commissions, task forces and committees during their term and are expected to participate in required Regent activities, including orientation sessions conducted by the Office of the Governor and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The Student Regent will be required to file an annual Personal Financial Statement with the Texas Ethics Commission and abide by the laws of the State of Texas applicable to board service, including the state ethics laws. The Student Regent is encouraged to be involved with the student governments on each campus which they represent and to have a working relationship with faculty, staff, and representative student organizations.

Student Regent Qualifications

At the time of application and throughout the term of appointment, a student regent must be enrolled in good standing as an undergraduate or graduate student in the system/independent public university. The student regent must maintain a 2.5 GPA. A student regent is not eligible for reappointment. Preference will be given to applicants who are residents of the State of Texas and who have a general knowledge of the functions of the Board of Regents. Student regent applicants must have a strong desire to represent all university students within their respective institution.

Overview of the Role of the Boards of Regents

The Governor of the State of Texas appoints Regents for all public university systems (Texas A&M University System, Texas Tech University System, Texas State University System, University of Houston System, University of North Texas System, University of Texas System) and independent public universities (Midwestern State University, Texas Southern University, Texas Woman's University, Stephen F. Austin State University).

The Boards of Regents for the State of Texas are vested with the legal and corporate authority to ensure that the mission of the university is carried out, and in doing so, are accountable to the citizens of Texas. Members of the Board of Regents are appointed by the Governor with staggered six-year terms. One Student Regent is appointed with a one-year term. Several members, including the university presidents, are ex-officio members. Many Boards of Regents operate through standing committees and also subcommittees and special committees. The TWU Board and its committees meet throughout the year, including summer.

The regents establish policy in areas such as personnel, campus development, student tuition and fees, admissions, and financial aid. The duties of the regents include overseeing the financial management of the university, its investments, and its property holdings as well as major appointments including the chancellors of the systems, presidents of the universities, and other key personnel. The regents delegate a broad range of authority and responsibility to the system chancellor and university presidents.

Remuneration

A Student Regent may be reimbursed for expenses incurred for attendance at meetings of the Board, its Committees, other official university events, and conferences where travel is approved for Board members.

Estimated Time Commitments and Calendar of Meetings

Meeting Attendance. The Board meets minimally four times a year (June, August, November and February) and rotates the meeting location between the four campuses. The location is subject to change, but the dates are set in advance (see below). The typical Board meeting begins at 10 a.m. and runs through late afternoon, followed by a dinner. There could be additional meetings depending on special committees or special projects.

Meeting Preparation. Required reading for regularly schedule meetings is distributed at least two weeks in advance of the Board meeting, if possible.

Training. Eight hours is estimated for training or reading on subjects such as conflict of interest issues, ethics, open meetings, and open records requirement. It may be required for the Student Regent to take the state-mandated training for Board members. The training takes a minimum of one day.

Financial Disclosure. Every member of the Board of Regents is required to file a Personal Financial Disclosure Statement with the Texas Ethics Commission. The time required to file depends on the extent of income and interests. It may be required for the Student Regent to file a disclosure statement.

Review of Regents' Rules. The Regents' Rules and Regulations are the policies established by the Board of Regents. Approximately 4-8 hours are required for initial review of those rules. It may be required for the Student Regent to file a disclosure statement.

Review of Mail and Phone Calls. Expect to receive mailings and phone calls regarding Board business that will require your time to address.

Selection Timeline

Each system and independent university may establish its own schedule for advertising and reviewing nominees for the position of student regent.

September 14

Applications will be available online

September 19

Applicants solicited by the Student Government leadership

October 3

Application due date

October 7

Interviews held for selected applicants

November 1

Five applicants are selected as the student governments' recommendations on each campus and forwarded to the president or chancellor.

December 1

Two or more applicants, from among the five recommended by each student government, are selected by the system chancellor/independent public university president and recommended to the Governor.

On or before June 1

Governor of the state of Texas appoints a student regent for a one-year term expiring the following May 31st.

Selection Criteria

In good standing with Texas Woman's University

Minimum GPA – 2.5

Level of campus involvement

Level of community involvement

Communication skills, both verbal and written

Quality of application

References

Applicants are required to complete all of the questions on the application form. Letters of recommendation should not be included. When the application is complete, submit the entire application and attachments no later than October 3d by 5 p.m. at any of the following offices:

TWU Dallas Campus

TWU T. Boone Pickens Institute of Health Sciences-Dallas Center

5500 Southwestern

Medical Ave.

Student Life Office

Dallas, TX 75235-7299

TWU Houston Campus

6700 Fannin Suite # 2300

Houston, TX 77030

Student Life Office Student Life

TWU Denton Campus

Office Center for Student Development

Student Union, 1st Floor

Electronic or fax transmissions will not be accepted.