TEXAS*LEADER





From ____ the President

Planned gifts for a brighter future

Since its founding in 1883, The University of Texas at Austin has educated generations of leaders who have transformed our state, nation and the world. The students in the graduating class of 2019 will be the next.

The experiences students have at UT — both inside and outside the classroom — prepare them for success in their careers and for meaningful lives of service and engagement. And the philanthropy of our donors enables and shapes the academic opportunities students have on the Forty Acres.

In this edition of Texas Leader, you will meet donors whose gifts have helped build a bright future for UT students and graduates, and for Texas and beyond.

Mario Espinoza attended the LBJ School of Public Affairs and, while there, found a mentor who saw his potential—even when Mario could not. Now he's paying it forward by providing financial assistance to a new generation of students who otherwise would not be able to afford college.

Alice Sheffield and MariBen Ramsey both graduated from the UT School of Law. Alice, who graduated in 1918, gave to the school throughout her lifetime, and her legacy continues on through the faculty chair endowment and student scholarships she funded. MariBen, who graduated in 1984, established a student scholarship to honor her father, Texas political legend Ben Ramsey. Through a planned gift, she will help even more students pursuing law degrees.

Larry Speck inspires UT students on a daily basis as a professor in the School of Architecture. He deeply understands their incredible potential and decided to support UT graduate students with an IRA gift.

When Michael and Susanna Steinberg moved to Texas, they were inspired by the generosity of their new neighbors and friends. Even though they had no affiliation with UT, the Steinbergs decided to help historically underrepresented students by creating an endowed scholarship at UT.

Academics and athletics were a significant part of the UT experience for Tom and Regina Nichols. Together, they set up a charitable gift annuity to support student-athletes and the UT Libraries, providing our students and faculty members with crucial resources.

The late Bill Moore's, B.S., '48, planned gift helped kick off the construction of the new Energy Engineering Building. His legacy will help Texas remain a world leader in the energy field.

Whether you support students, world-class faculty members, innovative research or state-of-the-art facilities, you are making an important investment in the future of UT students and our university. Thank you for your dedication and generosity.

Gregory L. Fenves, President

The University of Texas at Austin | @gregfenves

Ed and Carolyn Hyman Presidential Leadership Chair Cockrell Family Chair in Engineering #15



Giving Back to the Future

Mario Espinoza has a message for fellow alumni

A 30-mile stretch of I-35 led Mario Espinoza to a new world. "I was preparing for my move from San Marcos to Austin and my mom said, 'Ay, mijo, you're going to live so far away!" he recalled with a chuckle. Espinoza, a first-generation college student who received a degree in business at Texas State University, had been accepted to the LBJ School of Public Affairs. His parents were beyond proud.

"As soon as I stepped onto the Forty Acres, I began bleeding orange," said Espinoza. "UT has such an amazing reputation and I was humbled to be part of this life-changing university."

Espinoza found a dogged supporter in Elspeth Rostow, former dean of the LBJ School. She encouraged him to earn his MBA and master's in public affairs simultaneously. "She saw more in me than I saw in myself," he shared. "Having people like her, who believed in me and opened my eyes to opportunities my family wasn't familiar with, made all the difference."

Espinoza received financial support through the LBJ School's J.J. "Jake" Pickle Scholarship Program and experienced the workings of government firsthand as a paid intern in the late congressman's Washington, D.C. office. He liked seeing the impact that



public service made. And he enjoyed the experience even more on the local level. He worked in the Austin city manager's office where he became a go-to resource and problem-solver for city staff and local residents alike. He then worked at Lower Colorado River Authority and Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority before retiring and starting his own consulting practice.

"There are so many areas at UT to support — dig deep and pick one."



"I've been blessed with an education that has given me many opportunities, and I've benefited from the support of others, so I always knew in my heart that I was going to give back to UT," he said.

Espinoza established a planned gift through his estate to support scholarships for student-athletes. He is a season ticket holder for Longhorn baseball, volleyball and football — he hasn't missed a Texas-OU football game since he stepped foot on campus in 1985.

"UT student-athletes have brought so much joy and excitement to my life, and I want these students to be supported," said Espinoza. "As much as I'm cheering on our athletes, I'm also cheering for my university. No matter the score, we always win because we're UT graduates."

Espinoza chose to support scholarships because he didn't want students and their parents to be afraid of an education at Texas due to finances.



"Mario is the quintessential Texan—
he was born and raised here and is
giving back to his beloved university.
Folks like Mario help give Texas its
proud reputation. He never strayed
from his love for Texas and the Forty

enough for his loyalty and support of Texas Athletics and UT over the years. What his support and generosity will do for Texas will live on forever."

Acres, and we cannot thank him

Chris Del Conte
Vice President and
Athletics Director,
The University of
Texas at Austin



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Mario Espinoza believes in the collective power of giving and participated in an inspiring panel on donor diversity and inclusion at UT.

Photos:

Sloan Breeden, Marsha Miller, Texas Exes



Because it's an issue so dear to him, he established another scholarship for Hispanic undergraduate and graduate students through the Texas Exes. He intends for his gifts to fill financial gaps, like those he had as a student.

"Since my graduation, my niece and my cousin's children have also graduated from UT. All have benefited from scholarships and fellowships, so I thought of them, too, when I decided to give back."

His decision to assist future generations of Longhorns is one he wants fellow alumni to strongly consider and act upon. That's why Espinoza was willing to share his story.

"It has been our privilege to attend this university, and it's now our duty to help those students that follow us," he said. "Giving back is a simple process. There are people on campus to walk you through planned giving and there are so many areas at UT to support — dig deep and pick one."

nfluencing the Future

Over the last 25 years, Michael and Susanna Steinberg have provided more than 225 scholarships to students at The University of Texas at Austin — often those who are from historically underrepresented geographical areas or are first-generation students — through their Michael and Susanna Steinberg Endowed Scholarship. When asked by a scholarship recipient why they decided to help students like him, Michael responded, "I am an immigrant too."

Michael and his parents fled Nazi Germany when he was a young boy and immigrated to South Africa. He grew up in South Africa and immigrated to the United States when he was a young man, going to work for Abraham and Straus in New York City. While there, Michael met Susanna. Michael's work took them across the country and eventually he was offered an opportunity with Foley's of Dallas.

Michael and Susanna quickly fell in love with Texas. "We feel very lucky to have been in Texas and met such wonderful people," Michael shared. One of those "wonderful" people was a young man working in the human resources department at Foley's, Rene Martinez. Martinez was an active member of the Latino community and a mentor to high school students. As Michael and Susanna learned more about the work Martinez did, they decided that they wanted to contribute. Steinberg remembered what his mom used to say — "It is better to give it away with a warm hand than with a cold heart"—so they established a scholarship in partnership with Foley's and asked Martinez to oversee it.

"It is easy to leave money behind because you can't take it with you, but being able to see the difference our money makes is very meaningful to us. We are happy to do it," Michael said.

Martinez started researching schools throughout Texas. He was looking for a college that would offer opportunities to a diverse student body and would have a strong academic program. He eventually

decided to recommend setting up the scholarship with UT. "You need to remember the timing of all of this," Martinez said. "It was the early '90s and UT was already a diverse institution with opportunities for Latinos."

The beneficiaries of the Steinbergs' endowed scholarship have gone on to become respected human rights lawyers, successful doctors, groundbreaking biochemists and innovative entrepreneurs.

More than 20 years and 225 student recipients later, the Steinbergs continue to support the university. "I am very impressed with how UT has managed the money and how it continues to grow," said Michael. "I couldn't have been given a better gift than that."

Over the years, the beneficiaries of the Steinbergs' endowed scholarship have gone on to become respected human rights lawyers, successful doctors, groundbreaking biochemists and innovative entrepreneurs. The Steinbergs have also set up a planned gift that will support their endowed scholarship. "It is a privilege to be able to help an institution like UT."

The proceeds from Michael and Susanna Steinberg's endowed scholarship have grown 900% since it was created. KAREN VILLAREAL graduated in 2009 with a degree in graphic design. She is currently pursuing a graduate degree in communications at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

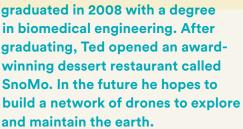
"I remember how being awarded the Michael and Susanna Steinberg Endowed Scholarship helped me feel like I did deserve my admission and that I belonged on campus. If someone who didn't know me trusted that I could make a positive impact, surely I could trust myself too. I am thankful for the support and inspiration that they provide to young students."

TAUSIQ AHMED

graduated with a degree in aerospace engineering in 2011. He has worked as an electrical design engineer and currently works for **American Airlines as a configuration** management and control engineer.

"I dream of moving to a developing country one day, where I can return the kindness I've received by continuing charitable works. I will never forget where I came from or who helped me along the way. I want to thank Michael and Susanna Steinberg for making it possible for me to chase my ambitions. May we all look to them as a shining example of giving and kindness."





"The Michael and Susanna Steinberg scholarship is the cornerstone of my accomplishments and I am forever grateful and indebted to them. They helped me achieve my goals at UT Austin and, in turn, pursue my passions in life."

ZERIBA JAHANGIR graduated in 2018 with a degree in biochemistry and is an aspiring physician.

"I am so thankful for the support of the Michael and Susanna Steinberg Endowed Scholarship. They are lessening a burden on so many of us who have adversities that often distract us from our studies. As an aspiring physician, I hope to learn from their generosity and give back to students in the future. They are serving as role models and helping students keep the motivation to continue their studies and pursue the best life has to offer."









"The commitment of our alumni to the School of Law — through volunteering, mentorship and giving — has helped make us the best law school for over a thousand miles in any direction. Alice Sheffield and MariBen Ramsey are two pioneers of this spirit of giving back. The foresight of their gifts, especially in establishing faculty endowments and scholarships, continues to be felt today. As students like Laurie Beth Jackson benefit from their gifts, graduate, and take their place in the legal profession, the impact of Alice's and MariBen's generosity will be amplified throughout Texas and beyond."

Dean Ward Farnsworth, The University of Texas School of Law

Women of Texas Law

Alice Sheffield

Alice Sheffield belongs to a revered cohort of fearless Texas women. She was born in Palestine, Texas in 1896 and later moved to Houston. In 1914, the year World War I began, she enrolled at UT. While there she lettered in basketball and served as vice president of her law class of six women and 29 men. Sheffield earned her law degree in 1918, two years before the 19th Amendment was ratified.

She was a trailblazer — only the second female graduate from the School of Law and the first alumna to actively practice. In Houston she landed a job on Gulf Oil's legal team and was promoted to associate general counsel.

Alice Sheffield, LL.B., 1918

MariBen Ramsey, J.D., 1984

Laurie Beth Jackson, J.D., 2019 Throughout her life she loved her school, donating \$500,000 to fund professorships. When she died in 1984, Sheffield gave \$3.5 million to the School of Law through her estate. Her gifts established numerous faculty chairs in both the School of Law and the College of Liberal Arts.

Sheffield's generosity elevated the School of Law to a distinguished program that has attracted expert faculty and talented students. Her gift was the largest gift ever received by the School of Law at that time and set the stage for others, like alumna MariBen Ramsey, to continue the cycle of giving back.

awarded to UT law students who are from San Augustine and have financial need.

"I always wanted to honor my dad and celebrate his legacy in Texas politics," said Ramsey. "With this scholarship, we can help students like him — bright students interested in law who come from a small East Texas town."

Ramsey has also established a planned gift to help future generations of UT law students through the MariBen Ramsey Scholarship. "My hope is that this scholarship will help educate top lawyers and keep those top lawyers here in Texas, where we will all benefit," she said.

MariBen Ramsey

MariBen Ramsey was destined to be a Longhorn. "In my family it wasn't even a thought process about where to go to school—it just was Texas," she said with a laugh.

Her father Ben Ramsey, a UT alum and San Augustine native known for his razor-sharp wit, spent his life in public service as a state representative, state senator, secretary of state, lieutenant governor and railroad commissioner. And he was a lawyer like his father. The legal genes run strong in the Ramsey family and MariBen enrolled in the School of Law after earning a degree in accounting at UT.

As a partner in an Austin firm, Ramsey practiced corporate securities law for 12 years. But locally she is better known for her passion and know-how in the field of philanthropy. She brought her talents together at the Austin Community Foundation, where she served as vice president, general counsel and chief philanthropy officer. Today she is a widely sought consultant for nonprofit organizations.

Ramsey models the power of giving back in her own life. Over the years she has served on over 20 nonprofit boards. And today she's changing the lives of Texas students. She and her sister Rita Ramsey Kreisle established the Ben Ramsey Endowed Scholarship,

Laurie Beth Jackson

Law school at UT was always a dream of Laurie Beth Jackson, a recipient of the Ben Ramsey Endowed Scholarship.

"Being from a rural town like San Augustine and coming to Texas Law was an intimidating step," Jackson said. "Apart from the valuable financial support, receiving this scholarship was very special because it's from a family with roots in my hometown."

Jackson has found opportunities at UT to learn through experience. She participates in the Texas Law Trial Advocacy Program, which offers practical litigation courses, and she competed on the Texas Law Mock Trial White-Collar Criminal Prosecution team in Washington, D.C.

After she graduates this spring, Jackson will pursue a career in criminal prosecution.

"I want to thank MariBen and her sister for investing in my education. I hope that I have been — and will continue to be — a good steward of this gift and share with others as they have shared with me."

A Well-Designed Life

Professor Larry Speck loves all things architecture, from teaching his students to designing modern spaces

When choosing a family vacation spot, most kids set their sights on Disneyland or another entertainment mecca. Not Larry Speck. The young architect-in-the-making studied photos of buildings and set a course to visit them. President Andrew Jackson's Hermitage in Tennessee was a favorite.

"Ever since I was a kid, there's nothing that makes me happier than being in beautiful environments and experiencing new spaces," said Speck, who has been a beloved professor of architecture at The University of Texas at Austin for 40 years.

His passion for the subject is palpable. After a 30-minute chat with Speck, you might even find yourself wanting to change careers.

Speck has introduced thousands of students—enough to populate Texarkana—to the world of architecture. About 500 students enroll in his Architecture and Society course each semester, and only 40 of them are architecture majors.

"You have this delicious material and these students who are so hungry for it because they've never been exposed to architecture," said Speck. "They are turned on to how environments affect behavior, even well-being."



Speck, who holds the W. L. Moody, Jr. Centennial Professorship in Architecture and is a former dean of the School of Architecture, has found a balance between teaching and doing. He is a principal in the firm Page, where he has built a portfolio of award-winning designs. His work enhances communities across the state — from Austin's airport terminal and convention center to Houston's Discovery Green Park to UT Dallas' Brain Performance | continued on page 10

Professor Larry
Speck will
support future
UT graduate
students in
architecture
by designating
a planned gift
through his IRA.

Photos: Sloan Breeden, Tara Trujillo-Smith



UNLOCKING STUDENT POTENTIAL

Jorge Diaz

Growing up in a family with many siblings, Jorge Diaz never had enough space. "I started thinking about architecture when I was 11, and I remember promising my mom that I would build her a big house one day."

With financial support as a Gates Millennium Scholar, Diaz had options for college. He chose UT for its prestigious architecture program and found a mentor when he met Professor Larry Speck.

I don't know if there are even words to thank Larry Speck.

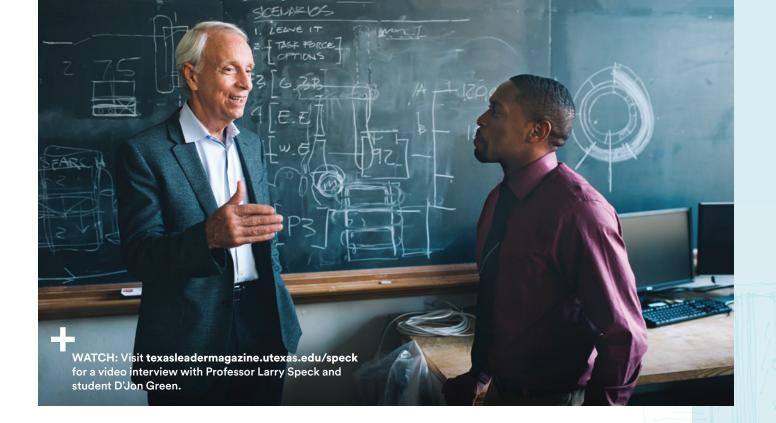
"The first day of class I thought 'Wow, this guy is so passionate about architecture, you can feel it — even in this large auditorium," said Diaz. "I introduced myself right away. He is generous with his time and continues to check in on me."

Last summer Diaz was an intern at Page, where he learned by doing. He jumped in to assist with model-making, computer drafting and floor plan renderings. The fourth-year student is also making his mark at UT by helping to create an interior layout for the new Frank Denius Family University of Texas Athletics Hall of Fame.

"It's a great feeling to know that even as an intern I've already been able to give back to my university by designing something that will be part of the campus. It's a huge honor."

Diaz hopes to be Seattle-bound for an internship this summer. He plans to open his own practice one day and design affordable, modern homes that bring nature indoors through the use of materials like timber. But the first project is already booked — designing that new house for his mom.





Institute. He also reshaped UT's campus with his work on Dell Medical School's Health Learning Building. Today, he is working on the redesign of Austin State Hospital.

"In my work, I encounter so many architects who have taken one of my classes — those worlds come together. It's phenomenal, the number of people you can touch at this university who go on to do amazing things," he said.

"I believe in these kids, so it's important to me to support them. And that means through philanthropy as well."

Speck has done just that—touched the lives of so many students. They credit him for opening their eyes to a new way of seeing the world and championing their dreams to design great spaces.

"I believe in these kids, so it's important to me to support them. And that means through philanthropy as well." Speck has established a planned gift through his Individual Retirement Account. It is earmarked to assist graduate students in architecture at UT. They are his teaching assistants and often don't have financial support. One of Speck's goals is to educate others about this "smart way to give."

"Your IRA is great if you use it during retirement, but if you don't use it all—and I don't think I will—there will be a substantial amount that will go to my estate. It's not a good financial tool for that purpose," he explained. "If that money goes to my children, it will be greatly reduced by taxes, versus if it goes to UT, the university gets 100% of it."

Speck always knew he'd give to UT and his children support his choice. They love the university as well, and his youngest son is a fourth-generation Longhorn.

"I know that the School of Architecture can't be competitive without support for graduate students," said Speck. "They make us better, so it makes good sense to give to graduate fellowships, and it's a smart choice to do it through my IRA."

Keeping Texas Energized

Bill Moore's gift furthers innovation at UT

For generations, Texas has been known as a world leader in the energy industry.

Over 35% of the nation's crude oil comes from Texas. The University of Texas at Austin has played a vital role in building that reputation. As the world changes and the population increases, so do our energy needs. But with the support of donors like the late William "Bill" Moore, who graduated with a degree in petroleum engineering in 1948, the university is working to continue its legacy with the construction of the Energy Engineering Building (EEB). The EEB, scheduled to open in 2021, will provide a multidisciplinary hub for energy innovation on the UT campus and offer experiential learning opportunities for students pursuing careers in energy.

"Receiving the William D. Moore Endowed
Friends of Alec Scholarship made me feel like
I belonged at UT. Knowing that successful
people such as Mr. Moore have invested in my
future reaffirms my educational and career
goals. The scholarship also allows me to spend
more time focusing on schoolwork, research
and extracurriculars. My UT experience — and
thus my future career — would not be the same
without the generosity of people

like William Moore, and I am very grateful."

Branch Tanner, sophomore, Plan II & environmental engineering



Moore was a senior research scientist for ExxonMobil, a veteran and an ardent supporter of UT throughout his life. In 2005, he shared with the university that he had created his first charitable remainder trust to benefit UT. Moore asked that the money be used to support student scholarships for the Cockrell School of Engineering. Since its creation, the William D. Moore Endowed Friends of Alec scholarship has supported 54 students.

After Moore established his student scholarship, he decided to form a second charitable remainder trust as an unrestricted gift to UT. This trust would allow him to provide an income stream for his family and support his alma mater. When the remainder of the trust came to UT, President Gregory L. Fenves looked at Moore's giving history and worked closely with those who knew him. The president determined that the best way to honor his legacy was to put the money towards the future of energy — the EEB.

"We live in an increasingly global society, and the challenges surrounding energy are best addressed by bringing top experts together—regardless of their department," said Sharon L. Wood, dean of the Cockrell School. "With the EEB, we will offer a dedicated space where these experts can collaborate on groundbreaking research and ultimately change the world."

Moore's gifts to UT total over \$10 million. And because his gifts include mineral rights — which are managed by University Lands — that total will continue to grow. Thanks to the generosity of Moore and other donors, UT will continue to fuel the future as a world leader in energy education and research. ■

Above: Bill Moore, '48, was a member of the ROTC at UT. After graduation, he had the opportunity to travel extensively with ExxonMobil.

Moore's unrestricted gift to UT will help construct the Energy Engineering Building.



A Winning Combination

Houston couple's gift supports Texas Athletics and The University of Texas Libraries

Tom and
Reggie Nichols
are avid art
collectors
and purchase
most of their
pieces from
local, unknown
artists.

Photos: Terry Vine Tom and Regina "Reggie" Nichols are used to hard work. Tom, '78, was a scholarship student-athlete studying economics and Reggie, '78, studied psychology. After college, the Nichols started their own business, which will soon celebrate its 28th anniversary. So, when they decided to give to The University of Texas at Austin, they wanted to use a giving vehicle that would work hard for them and

the university. The Nichols decided to set up a charitable gift annuity to benefit Texas Athletics and The University of Texas Libraries.

Tom and Reggie were high school sweethearts. "We met in our 11th grade Algebra II class," Tom said. "It was the best memory I have of the class," Reggie added with a smile. While it took Tom a few months to work up the courage to ask her out, they haven't looked back since.

Tom was recruited to play basketball by colleges across the country, but he wanted to attend a college that offered rigorous academic opportunities in addition to a strong athletics program. Reggie was also looking for an academically respected school in Texas.

UT was the right fit for them both. When Tom was traveling for basketball games, Reggie was there to help him by attending his most difficult classes and taking notes for him. "Being an athlete is a hard, full-time job. You really feel for the kids because it can be tough to keep up. Reggie's help was essential to me staying on the dean's list and graduating with honors," Tom shared. After graduation, Tom and Reggie decided to spread their wings. Tom took a position in Louisiana with an oil refining company as a sales representative and quickly advanced to trader as he was promoted into the Houston and then Fort Worth offices. His career also took them to New York City as an international trader. "We loved NYC — it was fun and an adventure. We knew it wasn't forever, so we did everything," Reggie said. After five years, they were ready to return to Texas and start their own wholesale oil brokerage business, Market Petroleum Inc. "Our son Travis was starting to say, 'you guys' instead of 'y'all," Tom laughed. Twenty-eight years later, they are still running their business in Missouri City.

In 2018, the Nichols set up a CGA to support Texas Athletics and the UT Libraries. "Our folks taught us to give back, and it is tough for us to find time to volunteer because we are on call 24/7 for work," said Tom. "Establishing a charitable gift annuity is a great way to help the school, and we get an income stream, which is something we think about as we get older."

"Establishing a charitable gift annuity is a great way to help the school, and we get an income stream."

Their fond memories of weekends spent in libraries as kids and college students, along with their desire to ensure that UT students and faculty have cutting-edge resources, inspired their gift to UT Libraries. "We were both reckless readers as kids," Tom shared. "We want to keep the library



HOTO: TEX

current; it isn't just books anymore," Reggie said. "Libraries digitally connect people to the world. They also encourage students to interact and collaborate."

Tom and Reggie also want student-athletes to have the same advantages that Tom did when he attended UT. "Student-athletes are working hard for the school, and it is a full-time job. We want to see Texas Athletics continue to put the money into the students, supporting nutrition, training and academics, like they did when I was a student-athlete," Tom said.

The proceeds from Tom and Reggie's charitable gift annuity will support the two endowments that they established to benefit Texas Athletics and The University of Texas Libraries. These gifts will support student-athletes for generations to come and help to keep students and faculty connected with state-of-the-art libraries. "We are grateful for the great education we received at UT," Tom said. "We worked hard for UT and they worked hard for us."

Tom was a member of the '77-'78 Southwest Conference co-champion and National Invitation Tournament champion basketball team.



Cover

Photo by Sloan Breeden

Submissions

TEXAS LEADER is published for members of the Texas Leadership Society and other alumni and friends of The University of Texas at Austin. To submit story ideas, comments, questions and address changes, please use the enclosed envelope, call us at 800-687-4602 or email giftplan@austin.utexas.edu.

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Wondering how to include the university in your estate plans? Here's the language we suggest:

I hereby direct \$_____ (or _____ percent of my residual estate) in cash, securities or other property to the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System for the benefit of The University of Texas at Austin.

This gift shall be for the further benefit of [college, school, unit]

and shall be used to [purpose]

As with any decision involving your assets and/or estate, we urge you to seek the advice of your professional counsel when considering a gift to The University of Texas at Austin.

TEXAS*LEADER

P.O. Box 7458 Austin, TX 78713-7458 giving.utexas.edu/giftplanning

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Are you downsizing? Frustrated by the maintenance and cost of a second home? No longer in need of a piece of land?

Consider a gift of real estate to UT.

When you invest in the success of UT's students through a gift of real estate, you help strengthen the state of Texas and the world.

For details, download our complimentary guide at utexas.planmygift.org/give-real-estate.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT 512-475-9632 or 800-687-4602 giftplan@austin.utexas.edu