

**THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

Office of the Chancellor

July 30, 2013

Members, Board of Regents  
The Texas A&M University System

Subject: Adoption of a Resolution Honoring R. Bowen Loftin as President of Texas A&M University and Bestowing the Title of President Emeritus

I respectfully request the Board of Regents' approval of the following resolution honoring R. Bowen Loftin as President of Texas A&M University.

“WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin received his Bachelor of Science degree from Texas A&M University in 1970, Master of Arts in 1973 and doctoral degree in 1975 from Rice University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin served as Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of Texas A&M University at Galveston, where he managed a campus of over 1,600 students and 400 faculty and staff, including the Texas Maritime Academy, with a budget of approximately \$45 million per year; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin was named the 24<sup>th</sup> President of Texas A&M University on February 12, 2010, after serving as interim president since June 15, 2009, managing over 53,000 students and over 9,000 faculty and staff with a budget of over \$1.2 billion; and

WHEREAS, during Dr. Loftin's presidency, Texas A&M University grew from 48,702 students to over 50,000; and

WHEREAS, three enrollment milestones were met during Dr. Loftin's presidency: total enrollment surpassing 50,000, graduate enrollment surpassing 10,000 and minority enrollment surpassing 10,000; and record numbers at Texas A&M University at Galveston and Texas A&M University at Qatar; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin oversaw growth in the Corps of Cadets to more than 2,250, its largest membership since 1970; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin helped Texas A&M University remain first in Texas and among the top universities nationally in annual research investments as the university surpassed \$700 million in grants and contracts; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin also helped Texas A&M University maintain rankings among the top universities nationally in providing an excellent education for a reasonable cost and for preparing students for service in the workforce and their communities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin led the decennial reaffirmation of accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, a major component of which was the creation of the Texas A&M University Quality Enhancement Plan called Aggies Commit to Learning for a Lifetime; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin maintained Texas A&M University's top-ten national rankings for enrollment of new National Merit Scholars, and helped Texas A&M University at Galveston gain a top five ranking among the best satellite campuses in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin facilitated the addition of new academic degree programs, including the Master of Fine Arts, and new academic departments, including Materials Science and Engineering at Texas A&M University, and helped Texas A&M University at Qatar launch the first master's degree program of its kind in Qatar, in chemical engineering; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin oversaw the addition of the George P. and Cynthia W. Mitchell Institute for Fundamental Physics and Astronomy, the George P. Mitchell '40 Physics Building, Agriculture and Life Sciences buildings, the Interdisciplinary Life Sciences Building, the Joint Library Facility with The University of Texas, the Physical Education Activity Program Building, the Northside Residence Hall – the university's first new residence halls since the 1980s – Olsen Field at Blue Bell Park, the Emerging Technologies Building and the Arts and Humanities Building, the first at Texas A&M University dedicated solely to the liberal arts; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin oversaw the renovation and expansion of numerous facilities, including the historic Memorial Student Center, the YMCA building, Scoates Hall and Jack K. Williams Administration Building, the Luedecke Cyclotron Building, Corps Dorms, Francis Hall and expansion of the Small Animal Hospital and Science Education Building at the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin also oversaw the addition of the Seibel Student Services Building and the Jim and Pat McCoy Arena at Texas A&M University at Galveston; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin played a critical role in the development of the 1,400-acre biotechnology corridor of university and private land to leverage Texas A&M University's strengths in medicine, veterinary medicine, agriculture and engineering in new organizations including the Texas A&M Institute for Preclinical Studies, the Texas A&M Center for Innovation, the National Center for Therapeutics Manufacturing; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin led the creation of the Texas A&M Institute for Advanced Study, which attracts world-class scholars to the campus; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin provided the leadership as Texas A&M University became one of seven universities nationally to participate in the Department of Homeland Security Campus Resilience Pilot Program; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin showed tremendous leadership guiding Texas A&M University through one of the largest appropriation reductions for higher education in the state by positioning the university to receive a 10 percent increase in general revenue funding, a rate higher than the statewide university average in the following legislative session; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin oversaw Texas A&M University's "hundred year decision" to join the Southeastern Conference, as well as unprecedented success of Texas A&M University's student-

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athletes during the first year in the League of Champions, including the university's fourth consecutive Top 10 finish in the Division I Learfield Sports Directors' Cup standings and the awarding of the Heisman Trophy to a freshman for the first time, when Johnny Manziel won the award in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin oversaw significant growth of Texas A&M University's licensing program into the twelfth largest in the country and recognized as the national program of the year in 2012;

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin led the efforts to bring The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center under the purview of the university and to enter an agreement to create the Texas A&M School of Law; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Loftin provided leadership during key milestones in Texas A&M University's history, including the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Morrill Act, which established the land-grant system; the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the transition from the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas into Texas A&M University; the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the admission of women students and making participation in the Corps of Cadets optional; the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the Texas Maritime Academy, the precursor to Texas A&M University at Galveston; and the tenth anniversary of the creation of Texas A&M University at Qatar; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System desires to express its appreciation for the outstanding leadership shown by R. Bowen Loftin to Texas A&M University and The Texas A&M University System; and, be it, further

RESOLVED, that in honor of his service to The Texas A&M University System, we bestow the title of President Emeritus of Texas A&M University, with all the rights and privileges pertaining thereto, upon R. Bowen Loftin; and, be it, further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be included in the minutes, and copies thereof, signed by the Chairman of the Board of Regents, be presented to Dr. Loftin and to the Archives of Texas A&M University, as a permanent mark of this Board's appreciation and gratitude to him for a job well done.

ADOPTED, this 8th day of August 2013.”

Respectfully submitted,

John Sharp  
Chancellor

**Approved for Legal Sufficiency:**

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Ray Bonilla  
General Counsel