Jennifer Burnett
Assistant General Counsel & Public Information Coordinator

November 1, 2023

Justin Gordon
Division Chief
Open Records Division
William B. Clements, Jr. State Office Building
300 W. 15th Street, 11th Floor
Austin, Texas 78701

Re: Public Information Request #1 from Quinn Sullivan to The University of Texas System -- OGC# 211469

Dear Mr. Gordon:

On September 8, 2023, The University of Texas System ("UT System") received a request for information from Quinn Sullivan ("Requestor") (**TAB 2**). On September 22, 2023, UT System released some of the responsive information and certified further release of information to be released on September 29, 2023 (**TAB 2**). On September 29, 2023, UT System determined that fulfilling the remaining portion of the request would result in the imposition of a charge that exceeded $40.00, and provided the Requestor with a cost estimate as required by sections 552.2615 and 552.263(a) of the Texas Government Code (**TAB 2**). On October 4, 2023, the Requestor narrowed the request. (**TAB 2**). On October 18, 2023, UT System sought, in good faith, clarification of the narrowed request. *See* TEX. GOV'T CODE § 552.222(b) (governmental body may communicate with requestor to clarify or narrow request) (**TAB 2**). UT System received the Requestor's final narrowed response on the same day (**TAB 2**).

In accordance with section 552.301 of the Texas Government Code, we now send this request for decision within ten business days from the date the clarified request was received. *See City of Dallas v. Abbott*, 304 S.W. 3d. 380, 384 (Tex. 2010) (holding that when a governmental entity requests a clarification or narrowing of a request for public information in good faith, the ten-day period to request an attorney general opinion as to an exception to disclosure is measured from the date the request is clarified). UT System has copied the Requestor on this letter brief in accordance with section 552.301(d).

The Requestor seeks access to the following information:

The University of Texas at Arlington · The University of Texas at Austin · The University of Texas at Dallas · The University of Texas at El Paso
The University of Texas of the Permian Basin · The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley · The University of Texas at San Antonio
Stephen F. Austin State University · The University of Texas at Tyler · The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
· The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston · The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
· The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio · The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

ORIGINAL REQUEST

The University's full response, including metadata and attachments, to the U.S. Department of Education's investigation that was opened April 24, 2020. The DOE's letter is attached to the email this request was sent in.

FIRST NARROWED REQUEST

I would like to limit my request to only include documents pertaining to any mention of the Thousand talents program "'Chinese Talent Programs' (CT) and/or the ˜Thousand Talents Plan' (TTP), and any documents relating to funding from Chinese universities.

FINAL NARROWED REQUEST

Please limit the universities to Zhejiang University, Sichuan University, Jilin University, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, and Tsinghua University. And limit the search for contracts when UT received money from any of the mentioned universities.

We anticipate that the responsive documents have applicable exceptions to disclosure. Accordingly, <u>we reserve **all** the listed exceptions in the Public Information Act and those captured by "other law" in section 552.101 of the Texas Government Code.</u>

This 10-day brief should be interpreted to include **all** the exceptions contained in Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code, beginning with section 552.101 through and including section 552.162 of the Texas Government Code. UT System <u>does not waive any exception</u> we may determine applicable after further review of the documents at issue.

Our detailed brief and responsive documents will be submitted to your office by the statutory deadline. With this request for decision, we are notifying the Office of the Attorney General that The University of Texas System will seek to withhold responsive documents pending review by your office.

All interested parties are listed below. If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 512-579-5187.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Burnett

cc: Requestor: (w/o Enclosures)

       Quinn Sullivan, Researcher
       Texas Scorecard
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