May 2008 Commencement Thanks

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Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your assistance to make the May 2008 Commencement ceremonies a success. Successful ceremonies require good planning and many individuals working together. There were 2,282 graduates and 16,940 guests participating in the five ceremonies. The graduates and their families are very appreciative. You played an important role in making the whole operation run smoothly, and I really appreciate your care and concern.

In Ceremony #1 on Thursday for the College of Education and Human Development, 422 students crossed the stage, 54 faculty members participated and 3,506 guests attended. In Ceremony #2 on Friday for the College of Liberal and Fine Arts I and the College of Public Policy, 449 students crossed the stage, 43 faculty members participated and 3,373 guests attended. In Ceremony #3 on Saturday for the College of Business I and the College of Liberal and Fine Arts II, 474 students crossed the stage, 57 faculty members participated and 3,388 guests attended. In Ceremony #4 on Saturday for the College of Architecture and the College of Business II, 441 students crossed the stage, 47 faculty members participated and 3,360 guests attended. In Ceremony #5 on Saturday for the College of Engineering and the College of Sciences, 496 students crossed the stage, 61 faculty members participated and 3,313 guests attended. Over 900 members of the UTSA family were involved in making the May 2008 commencement weekend a series of memorable events. Many worked multiple ceremonies. Participating in the commencement
ceremonies were 262 faculty members, 497 staff members, 157 undergraduate students and 26 members of the UTSA Alumni Association.

The commencement speakers brought messages of congratulations to graduates and their families, pride in the graduates’ achievements and challenges for the future—Dr. John M. Folks, Superintendent, Northside Independent School District; Ms. Paula Owen, President, Southwest School of Art and Craft; Ms. Yvonne L. Fernandez, Assistant Vice President, Security Service Federal Credit Union; Dr. Bruce Leslie, Chancellor, Alamo Community College District; and Mr. Pedro Ruiz Garza, Regional Director, Economic Development Administration, U. S. Department of Commerce. The San Antonio Community was able to view a live broadcast of the ceremonies over Time Warner Cable Channel #98 and Grande Cable Channel #23. The ceremonies were broadcast live in a streaming video on a web cast that could be viewed worldwide.

Graduation is such an important event for our graduates and their families and friends. Thanks for your efforts to make the occasion special.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Graham
Chair, Committee on Graduation Ceremonies