

# TAMEST *Record of Success*

SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 2004, The Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas (TAMEST) has demonstrated its ability to make a difference in the research environment and economy of Texas. The organization continues to make significant progress toward its stated goals.

*Currently, more than 240 members of the National Academies, including the state's 10 Nobel Laureates, are members of TAMEST*

*The total number of new TAMEST members in 2011 was 17, the largest annual increase since The Academy was established*

**GOAL 1 | BUILD AWARENESS OF TEXAS' ROLE AS A NATIONAL LEADER in science and technology, and of the importance of medicine, engineering, science and technology to the future of Texas.**

- The TAMEST model is unique to Texas and the nation. No other state has such an organization to advocate for scientific and technological innovation, collaboration and recognition.
- In just eight years, 87 members have been inducted into the National Academies or have relocated to Texas. Currently, more than 240 members of the National Academies, including the state's 10 Nobel Laureates, are members of TAMEST.
- TAMEST's unique, interdisciplinary model has become an effective recruitment tool for top research and development centers across the state. In 2011 alone, TAMEST member institutions announced the recruitment of 11 out-of-state National Academies members. These relocations, coupled with the election of six Texans to the National Academies and the announcement of a new Nobel Laureate, made 2011 a record year in the growth of TAMEST membership.
- Enhancing the state's reputation for leading science and technology innovation helps to attract more research dollars to the Texas economy. According to the National Science Foundation, in recent years Texas has moved from sixth to third place in federal research funding. Texas continues to advance in the level of federal research funding received by the state's colleges and universities, with over \$2 billion in 2009.
- The Academy's stature continues to grow, with three new member institutions added since 2004. Institutional membership is limited to Texas research institutions with Nobel Laureates or National Academies members.

# 87

*members have been inducted into the National Academies or have relocated to Texas since the inception of TAMEST*



## GOAL 2 | PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES

**TO INCREASE INTERACTION** between TAMEST members and constituents and to promote further collaboration among Texas researchers.

- Since its founding in 2004, TAMEST has held sixteen major events, including nine annual conferences and seven critical issues forums. In 2011 alone, three major events helped to foster collaboration and accelerate innovation in the state: *2011 TAMEST Annual Conference—Innovations in Texas: Past, Present, Future*; *2011 Texas Energy Summit*; and *TAMEST Forum on the Research Mission of Universities*.
- TAMEST events have not only accelerated the cross-fertilization process required for future groundbreaking innovations, but have led to tangible efforts such as the collaboration between The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and The University of Texas at Dallas to create a joint graduate program in biomedical engineering.
- Before TAMEST, our state's best researchers pursued their work independently from those in other Texas institutions, often competing against each other for federal grants. Today, Texas institutions often collaborate on grant proposals, using their centers of excellence to create a stronger project.

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16

major events

7 CRITICAL ISSUES FORUMS

9 ANNUAL CONFERENCES

**GOAL 3 | INSPIRE AND RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE** in the current and future generations of Texas scientists, engineers and health care professionals.

- TAMEST established the Edith and Peter O'Donnell Awards to recognize and promote the outstanding scientific achievements of the state's most promising young researchers. Twenty-eight rising Texas researchers have been honored in the categories of medicine, engineering, science and technology innovation since the O'Donnell Awards were established in 2006.



- Poster sessions at four mid-year meetings provided the opportunity for 242 graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to showcase their research.
- To further support up-and-coming researchers, TAMEST members invite protégés to attend annual meetings to foster interaction and promote the accomplishments of their colleagues. To date, 327 protégés have participated in TAMEST events. Of this group, 11 have gone on to be elected to one of the National Academies.
- The redesigned TAMEST website includes expanded news and information regarding innovations and accomplishments in research and education at TAMEST member institutions. The underlying database provides an integrated marketing platform designed to optimize communications to members, constituents and supporters. TAMEST is also using social media to create greater awareness of the organization's members and their cutting-edge research in medicine, engineering and science.

## GOAL 4 | SERVE AS A SOURCE OF SCIENTIFIC & TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

- TAMEST members are at the forefront of efforts to promote growth in science and technology research. For example, TAMEST members played a key role in launching the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT) and continue to advise the agency on funding priorities and talent acquisition.
- In 2007, TAMEST conducted a STEM Education forum that was followed by the 2008 release of a widely circulated report providing guidelines for making Texas a model state for math and science education. Two programs showcased in the report, the Advanced Placement Training and Incentive Program and UTeach, are currently being replicated across the nation.
- Members of TAMEST have provided testimony before the Texas Legislature on a number of issues important to our state, including the integrity of science in textbooks, the value of research at Texas universities, and the importance of building more nationally competitive research universities in Texas.
- A searchable database that will contain members' research expertise and interests is currently being developed to enhance TAMEST's ability to serve as an intellectual resource to the state.