Dr. Skiles brought the school into the final quarter of the twentieth century. He braved the social turmoil of the sixties with equanimity as a pastor and as a University president, in a decade when more people questioned the role of the church and the goals of higher education with more vocal criticism than at any other time in the century. Over an eleven-year period, with his friend and former college roommate, Clyde Childers, Skiles raised millions of dollars on behalf of the institution. He “believed in the cause of HSU, was willing to support the school himself, and thus was always good in development work.”1 Both Dr. and Mrs. Skiles displayed indefatigable commitment and loyalty to the school and to God’s divine providence. Under their leadership, HSU improved in quality and reputation from 1966 through the spring of 1977.


Elwin L. Skiles was born in a two-room house on a rented farm in Scranton, a village in Callahan County, a few miles from the small town of Cisco, Texas. His grandfather, George W. Parks, was well known in the ministry among Baptist settlers in West Texas. G. W. Parks was born in Whitley County, Kentucky. He received a teacher’s certificate and moved to Arkansas to teach. Shortly after, Parks and his wife moved to Callahan County in Texas. The rest of his life was divided between farming, teaching, and preaching. He later
studied at Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville and was awarded a diploma in Theology, rather than a bachelor's degree, because he had not previously attended high school. Parks served a number of churches in Texas including Eastland, Scranton, Putnam, Baird, and Clyde. Dr. Sandefer invited Parks to become a member of the HSU faculty, but he declined since he did not have a baccalaureate degree. All eight of his children attended Simmons. Parks was a fine expository preacher, and was invited to give the BGCT sermon in San Antonio in the fifties.

Asa Irwin Skiles, father of Elwin, worked as principal and coach in Clyde, and his mother, Oma, taught "Expression," the forerunner of speech courses. In the fall of 1912, Dr. Skiles' parents moved to Abilene so that his father could attend Simmons College. Elwin Skiles was only a baby when his parents took him to the convocation ceremony which was held in an old, rough, tabernacle-like structure in the middle of the campus. The young President, J. D. Sandefer, began the program with the reading of I Corinthians 13 (still an occurrence at each HSU convocation). Baby Elwin stayed fast asleep until Colonel John Parramore rose to his feet in the middle of the ceremony and called out from the audience, "I'm sure we're going to have a good year. But I'll tell you something. I'm ashamed for Simmons College to be meeting here in a cowshed! I'll give you $10,000 to start a new building." Clabe Merchant jumped to his feet to call out a matching gift, and when the crowd cheered—the baby cried. Others began loudly volunteering money, and Baby Elwin had to be taken outside to get him quieted. As Elwin's mother told the story years later, she said she had remarked to her son at the time of his election to the presidency, "You know, Elwin, I venture you will never cry again at the applause for any gift to Hardin-Simmons."

After Elwin had graduated from nearby Cisco High School, he attended Simmons College from 1930-32, received a B.A. from Baylor in 1934, and an M.A. the following year. As a college man, he was active in theater, in the Oratorical and Debating Council, in the Ministerial Council, and as president of his sophomore class. At Baylor he was president of the Baylor Little Theater. Skiles studied for a second master's degree, a Th.M. from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky in 1938. The same year he married Ruth Kinder of Homer, Louisiana. Ruth had earned a B.A. in English and Business from Baylor in 1937.

Skiles had been ordained by his home church in Cisco in 1933, served his first pastorate at Pleasant Hill, and had served other small churches while attending school. Pressing on, he completed a Ph.D. at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1941 at the age of twenty-nine.
He then served the Russelville Baptist Church in Kentucky, and Bainbridge Street Baptist Church in Richmond, Virginia, before becoming a Navy chaplain in World War II. After his discharge from the Naval Reserve, the family moved to Georgetown, Kentucky, where they led the Georgetown Baptist Church from 1946-49. They moved to Pensacola, Florida, to pastor First Baptist Church from 1949-53, then accepted a call to Abilene where he served as pastor of the First Baptist Church from 1953 to 1966. The three children—Elwin Jr., Ann Collier (McGinty), and Sarah Parks (Zachry)—grew up in Abilene. The family did not anticipate moving from the parsonage to the president’s home on campus.

Elwin L. Skiles became President in early April of 1966. He was formally inducted at an historic inaugural ceremony on November 7, 1966, during the school’s celebration of its seventy-fifth year. Dr. George L. Graham presided, and former president, R. N. Richardson, participated. After the processional, “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name,” the invocation was given by former President W. R. White. The Concert Choir, directed by Edward H. Hamilton, sang, and I Corinthians 13 was read by T. A. Patterson, Executive Secretary of the Executive Board of the BGCT. The address was given by Dr. Harry Huntt Ransom, Chancellor of the University of Texas System. The installation of the President included a charge of responsibility, investiture, a prayer, and a speech of acceptance. The anthem “Hardin-Simmons, Hail to Thee” was sung, and the benediction was followed by the recessional. The names of dignitaries, representatives of learned societies and organizations, and HSU academic personnel who were in attendance required an entire page in the Range Rider; over 2,000 people attended the great occasion.

President Skiles received a unique letter on the occasion of his inauguration. The late Sarah Anna (Simmons) Crane, only granddaughter of J. B. Simmons, was his only living descendant but was unable to make the journey from her home in New York City, so she conveyed her good wishes by mail.

Skiles held a variety of high denominational posts. He was a member of the Foreign Mission Board of the SBC, on the Board for fifteen years and Chairman of the Board at Golden Gate Seminary, former Trustee of several hospitals and university boards, a Vice-President of the BGCT, and Trustee of HSU from 1953 to 1966 along with holding many local civic positions. In the sixties, Skiles helped spearhead the opposition of Abilene citizens to the creation of “Impact,” an area on the city limits where liquor could be bought and served.

During the sixties, regarding protest demonstrations, Skiles had much to say. In answering the question from a visitor to Abilene about whether
HSU was having demonstrations on its campus, Skiles said:

We have had many demonstrations in the past and our students are demonstrating today . . . by attending classes and by maintaining the normal schedule of campus activities. They are concerned, but they choose to express their concern in dialogue and prayer rather than in riots, strikes, and moratoriums . . . Every week scores of our students demonstrate concern and share love as they serve in mission points and tutoring activities. At one time they demonstrated all over the city as they raised several thousands of dollars for relief work in Biafra and Nigeria.

He continued to describe spring vacation mission trips, building buildings, serving meals, cleaning and painting as well as singing and speaking the gospel message.3

This answer may have been one of the finest examples of his oratory and his belief that attitudes count and good attitudes count the most. "During the days of the strongest feelings of revolt on many campuses, i.e., the sixties, I was called to the platform one day in chapel. Some of the students presented me with a pair of black western boots with purple and gold stitching to indicate that they were happy with HSU." Not all of the students were happy all of the time. Some students in 1969 felt that the administration was not giving enough of the decision making to the elected representatives of the student body. Since there were such violent disruptions occurring on many campuses, President Skiles chose to speak to the entire assembled body on the morning of May 9, 1969:

The legal responsibility for the operation of a university is inescapably in the hands of the trustees . . . . In considering changes of any nature at a university, it must be remembered that the student body of any given year makes up only a fraction of what might be ’the university.’ There are thousands of alumni of other years. There are the friends and benefactors who have provided the buildings and endowment. Of some importance is the fact that there are those yet unborn who will some day attend the institution. Any administrator worthy of his salt is concerned as much about the university ten years from now as of today. It is unthinkable that the whims of a particular student body in any given year should adversely reflect on seventy-eight years of experience of this university or should put in jeopardy the progress or contribution that the university will be making in the 1970s and 1980s . . . . The changes which are always taking place should come about as the result of conferences and not by a confrontation. If
education is good for anything, it ought to make people reasonable in what they do.  

Skiles was a handsome, dignified man possessed of a dry humor. He displayed deep convictions, and almost constant optimism.

At the last commencement over which President Skiles presided, he was awarded an honorary degree by the Board of Trustees. His only son, Elwin Jr., gave the commencement challenge. During the same ceremony, John Samwel Malecela, Minister of Agriculture for the United Republic of Tanzania, also received an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree. Douglas Waruta, one of HSU's most serious international students, returned to Tanzania after his graduation and became a seminary professor there. It was he who suggested honoring this Christian man, the first foreign diplomat to be so recognized by the school.

President Skiles served until November 8, 1977, after having submitted his resignation in December of 1976. The Board voted to name him Chancellor, a post which he held for six years. In 1983, the Trustees honored him with the title of President Emeritus.

Lavonia Ruth (Kinder), Elwin's wife, was named Mother of the Year in 1958 by the Women's Missionary Union of First Baptist Church. She could as easily have won President's wife-of-the-year, hostess-of-the-year, or friend-of-the-year had there been such recognitions. Poised, strong, unflagging in her duties, both in public and in private, "she was one of those persons from whom others drew solace and strength." She served as pastor's wife for many years, executing a heavy schedule of church-related duties that included many speaking engagements. When her husband assumed administrative duties at HSU, she chose to identify closely with campus. She hosted literally hundreds of students, faculty, friends, and official visitors to the campus and took personal interest in the programs, most particularly as a patron of the School of Music. In his convocation speech of 1975, Dr. Skiles mentioned one small illustration of the ways Ruth inspired him: "My wife placed a small placard on our mirror which cannot be evaded. The cartoon is of a man on horseback at the edge of a vast chasm with the enemy in hot pursuit. The message is simple but penetrating: "Don't hesitate to take the big leap if one is indicated—you can't cross a chasm in two small jumps." Ruth Skiles had the rare capacity to be fearless in her actions, while maintaining, at the same time, her southern graciousness to those who occasionally disagreed with those actions.

When Ruth learned that she had a brain tumor in 1982, her response to the fatal illness was witness to her strong faith in the God she so well served. She died on February 6, 1983. Her pastor, Dr. James Flamming, mused "It
is as if a light has gone out from among us." Few people leave a void in their community for long after their deaths, but Ruth Skiles was one of those few. The endowment for the music scholarship in her memory continues to grow as people remember her joy at seeing the University flourish; the couple complemented each other unusually well.

DIAMOND JUBILEE YEAR

"The University in the Midst of Change" was the theme of the 75th Anniversary observance in 1966-67. Programs of interest to certain students were arranged during this special year. To crown the Diamond Jubilee Year activities, Dean Rusk, Secretary of State under the late President John F. Kennedy, came to receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters on January 27, 1967.

When Skiles took charge, he composed a council to carry out administrative duties: George L. Graham, executive Vice-President; Lee Hemphill, Vice-President for Development and Promotion; E. W. Bailey, Controller and Business Manager; William O. Beazley, Coordinator of University Relations; Orville Cunningham, Director of Student Life; Zane A. Mason, acting Dean of Faculty; Charles R. Richardson, Director of Publications and News Service; William Truett Walton, Vice-President and Director of Summer Sessions; Marshall Walker, Director of Student Religious Activities; C. Kenneth Hill, Director of Student Aid and Recruitment; and Byron Bryant, Alumni Director. In February of 1975, the Board of Trustees established the offices of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Vice President for Student Life, replacing the offices of Dean of Faculties and the Dean of Student Life, respectively.

THE CARDEN REPORT

An efficiency analysis survey was originally designed to evaluate and make recommendations concerning nine Texas Baptist Colleges because of the cost squeeze caused by inflation and the larger governmental appropriations granted to state schools, which allowed their tuition costs to remain low. W. R. Carden, an interim staff member of the Christian Education Commission, was asked to head the study in 1969 and make recommendations for changes. After a year of study, he issued a report that brought much attention and reaction. The Carden Report suggested, among other things, that Howard Payne College in Brownwood, and Wayland College in
Plainview should be sold to local tax districts; that East Texas Baptist College in Marshall, become a special purpose junior college; that the University of Corpus Christi have an independent, self-perpetuating board which would determine its own future as a private or state-supported institution, and that a Texas Baptist university system, directed by a chancellor and 13-member coordinating board, be created to include operations of Baylor University, Waco, Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene and Houston and Dallas Baptist Colleges.14

The report explained that although annual dollar gifts from the BGCT to the colleges had increased, percentages had declined. Twenty-six percent of the Convention income in 1959 went to the schools, but in the next decade the percentage had dropped by five percent. Fewer people were donating to private Christian education and the resultant squeeze meant that the time appeared to be near when the longstanding policy against taking government moneys would have to be dropped. The report recommended allowing Baptist schools to receive government loans for buildings and to receive grants for equipment and programs.

After a public furor which lasted for about nine months, the Christian Education Commission retreated from most of the recommendations. Regarding HSU, they said that “further expansion of the graduate program would be unwise and the HSU Board and administration had already decided to maintain Master’s programs in the existing fields of education, English, history, economics and music.”15 An editorial piece from the Abilene newspaper encouraged citizens to realize the need for “huge infusions of endowment giving. This truth relates with equal force to Abilene Christian College, McMurry College, Howard Payne, and every other church-related institution that adheres to its Christian purpose.”16 The problem of financial need, however, remained a constant spectre on the horizon with which the administration and trustees wrestled continually.

IMPROVEMENTS REGARDING FACULTY

In 1964, twenty-one members of the faculty did not yet have a master’s degree although they were all experienced in their fields: by 1968, there were still eight faculty members without master’s degrees. In 1969, only thirty-six percent of the faculty held a doctorate. Skiles continued to work on the recruitment of more faculty holding doctorates so that by 1973, that figure had been raised to fifty percent and other faculty were being encouraged to
work toward a terminal degree. By the end of his tenure, the percent of faculty having terminal degrees had risen from twenty-five percent to over sixty percent. A Faculty-Staff Appreciation Dinner began in 1968 as an idea of James Cassle, a trustee who, with his wife, Mickey, have maintained active interest in HSU. Each year since that time, service pins and retirement plaques are presented in appreciation of service to the University.

Faculty life took a decided turn for the better with The Roy H. Cullen Fund for Faculty Enrichment, which became available in 1976. This was the first time there was an ongoing fund established to support faculty in routine development. The Cullen Foundation had been established in 1947 by Hugh Roy Cullen, oilman-philanthropist, and his wife, Lillie. Cullen turned to oil in 1918 after having successfully operated cotton and real estate businesses. It has been estimated that Cullen, known as “The King of the Texas Wildcatters,” gave away about ninety-three percent of his fortune, which during his lifetime reportedly amounted to as much as $500,000,000. The Foundation, controlled by the Cullen family, was established for education, medical, and charitable purposes. HSU Trustees cheered an announcement made on November 5, 1976, that the Cullen Foundation of Houston had given the school $1,000,000. The Trustees approved a recommendation from the Cullen Board that half the million dollars be applied to the faculty endowment fund which was the final phase of the Profile for Progress campaign, and half to the current building projects, which were to include the new Athletic-Physical Education Complex.

At the same time, Frank M. Wood and his wife, Patti, gave over $300,000 toward faculty enrichment which was added to the Cullen Fund to fund sabbatical leaves for faculty and to support attendance at conferences and professional meetings, and summer studies, and to pay for special speakers. Mr. and Mrs. Wood also gave a gift of $75,000 in 1978 to be used for campus beautification and it was used to build the reflecting pool on the front campus. Former president of Pride Oil Refinery, neither Wood, nor his wife, ever attended HSU, but have maintained interest in the University for about twenty years by giving numerous gifts to cover a multitude of needs including student scholarships.

UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC LIFE

Changes in curriculum seemed to be constant. During the cultural unrest in America in the late sixties and early seventies, professors of theology and philosophy, in particular, were questioned by students about the basic issues
of life: What about the problem of evil and suffering? Is eternal life offered
to those who have not heard the Gospel? Why do Southern Baptists have
strong feelings against alcohol, abortion, and social dancing? Evidently, these
controversies were handled so that there were very few problematic situations.
During this time, T. A. Patterson, Executive Director of the BGCT, requested
that two courses in doctrine be offered, but the Division of Religion chose
to leave the course structure as it was. The Division began to sponsor an
Annual Seminary Day in 1967. Each year since, representatives from all
Southern Baptist Seminaries are invited to visit the campus and counsel
ministerial students and other interested church-related vocational volunteers.
Professor Gordon Clinard accepted a position as “Distinguished Professor”
at HSU in 1972. Clinard had resigned as a professor at SWBTS to take a
pastorate at the First Baptist Church of San Angelo, where he had remained
for five years. (During that time he served as President of the BGCT). He
next took the Billy Graham Chair of Evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological
Seminary but developed a health problem which precluded his maintaining
such heavy responsibilities. At HSU he taught Homiletics, The Work of the
Minister, Evangelism, and a Bible Survey course plus serving as Director of
In-Service Training. President Skiles had pinned his hopes to Clinard’s
personal magnetism since Skiles longed to see young men and women take
more than the minimum training related to scriptures that was required by
the school, and he knew students would be attracted to Clinard. It was shocking
when Dr. Clinard was killed in an automobile accident after only two years
in Abilene. He was respected for his scholarly writings, his teaching, and his
masterful ability to disciple others. His wife, Chris, and two daughters continue
to reside in the city. After his death, friends established the Gordon Clinard
Endowed Memorial Scholarship in his honor, to be awarded annually to a
junior-level ministerial student for two years upon recommendation by the
theology faculty.

In 1977, Jack L. Weir was employed to teach advanced courses in Old
Testament and survey courses at HSU. Professor Weir received a Ph.D. in
1978 from SWBTS. A second M.A. in Philosophy in 1984 from the University
of Chicago prepared him to shift to the field of Philosophy, where he continued
to teach until he took a sabbatical leave in 1990-91.

George W. Knight came to HSU in 1976 with a Ph.D. received in 1973,
from Southern Baptist Theology Seminary. He became the Cook-Derrick
Professor of New Testament and Greek in 1981. This Chair in Bible had been
established in 1969 by Ena Mae Derrick-Warren to honor John W. and Millie
M. Cook and Henry L. Derrick. Knight became involved in archaeology in
Israel in 1981, and over the next few years led several groups of HSU students on archaeological “digs” beginning on the site of the Biblical city of Capernaum. The most exciting discovery occurred in 1982 when some 22-carat gold Arab coinage was found, estimated at $500,000, and dating back to between A.D. 684 and A.D. 724. All finds become the property of the Israeli government, so these coins are now displayed in a museum in Israel. The site was closed after the summer of 1987. Professor Knight and others of the consortium moved to Caesarea Philippi, now known as Banias. Since HSU, along with Pepperdine University and Averette College in Virginia, are the original members doing the dig, other schools who join will work under the aegis of these three primary members—an unusually fine opportunity for HSU. Dr. Donny Auvenshine, another member of the theology faculty, led the group to Banias in the summers of 1988 and 1989.

J. G. Martin came to the School of Music in 1967. He earned a D. M. A. degree from the University of Texas in 1973. He organized “Singers Ho!” a song and dance group, in 1967. Over the next fifteen years the group performed on hundreds of occasions, including three overseas tours to entertain U.S. servicemen. Martin continues at HSU as Head of the Department of Music Education and Church Music. He prepares students for leadership roles in Christian ministry and demands rigorous professional preparation. In 1987, Martin published *Sharing Music—An Introductory Guide to Music Education*.

In 1968, James D. Cram came to the School of Music as Professor of Voice and Choral Director and Head of the Department of Applied Music. While teaching, he received a Ph.D. at North Texas State University in 1970. That year he won the top award in the Texas Composer's League with “Three Nativity Poems of Richard Cranshaw” for soloists, chorus, and orchestra. Cram received seven annual cash awards from the America Society of Authors, Composers, and Publishers and won several other competitions. He was commissioned to write the anthem for the annual SBC Church Music Conference of June, 1974. At HSU he gained a reputation as an exemplary teacher who taught his students ethical values as well as choral skills. In October of 1971, his Concert Choir was invited to sing at the dedication of the new Abilene Civic Center.

Over one hundred of James Cram’s compositions were published before his death in 1974 after a long illness. His wife, Nancy, a trained musician, and three daughters call Abilene home, although their second daughter, Beth, is a vocalist who performs internationally. Professor of Music History and Literature, Larry Wolz, wrote later of Dr. Cram: “Thank God for His promise:
Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.  

Twenty-five percent of music majors in the late sixties planned to enter the church music field. John C. Campbell was hired to become the University organist and to teach others to master the instrument. Many of these would later serve in the church music field.

He graduated in 1957 with a B.A., and in 1964 received an M.Mus. in organ performance from the University of Oklahoma. Campbell then studied toward his D.M.A. in Church Music and Organ Performance at the Eastman School of Music. In 1971, he began to teach at HSU and completed his doctoral program in 1975. He and his wife, Lillie, have two children, Russell and Matthew. Campbell has toured much of Europe during his years with the school, both to study and to accompany groups from the school and church.

Responding to the need for an adequate instrument for teaching organ lessons on campus, President Skiles obtained funds for the purchase of such an organ through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Patterson of Carthage, Texas, who were long-standing friends of the University. T. W. (Jack) Dean, Dean of the School of Music, led in the selection of a builder. A standard, seven-stop, ten-rank design from the Houston firm of Visser-Rowland Associates was chosen. The organ was installed and dedicated in 1982 in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Vernon McKee, Pastor Emeritus of the Central Baptist Church in Carthage.

Undergraduates who have been part of any of the several choral groups trained by Loyd Hawthorne, D.M.A. in Choral Conducting from the University of Texas, 1974, sooner or later realize they have received the best training possible. Hawthorne began at HSU in 1974 and was given the Cullen Professor Award for excellence in teaching in 1986. Hawthorne was the conductor of the Texas Baptist All-State Youth Choir from its inception in 1976 to 1986. The world recognizes the tiny country of Wales as having an unsurpassed standard of vocal music; Hawthorne took his concert choir there in March of 1985 to perform at the Cardiff International Festival of Choirs, where they were highly acclaimed. His groups have toured all of Texas and have been the featured choir four times at the meeting of the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA). He has taken groups to the Soviet Union, Canada, Mexico, and many of the states. Because of this exposure, many new students have been recruited to the school. He is married to a teacher in the Abilene school system, Brenda (Cascio), and the couple have two children.

More students were graduating from high school in the middle seventies and more were choosing a major in music, resulting in a record enrollment.
of 175 students. Faculty was expanded to seventeen.

Undergraduate programs and curriculum development in other areas have been important to the University. One of these involved the Department of Mathematics, which received grants almost every year from 1970-80 to allow talented high school students to conduct Student Science Training Projects. A six-week residential program in advanced mathematics was offered. In 1970 and 1971 the projects were conducted in cooperation with the Biology faculty. Dr. George Newman participated in the biometrics project, Dr. John Peslak taught in 1979 and 1980, and Drs. Edwin Hewett and Charles Robinson, director, were the principal professors. During the eighties, Robinson, along with Hewett and Dr. Mary Wagner-Krankel, wrote a textbook entitled *Experience in Mathematics*, for use in liberal arts mathematics courses.

Students interested in Art could not yet pursue a bachelor's degree in Fine Arts. They could, however, pursue courses to improve their artistic skills as well as their knowledge of art history, and they could study the required courses leading to certification as an art teacher in elementary or secondary education.

Ira M. Taylor came to head the department in 1970 having received an M.A. that year from Arkansas Tech University. Taylor earned an M.F.A. in 1973 from Louisiana State University. He became the first studio artist to hold the position since Miss A. M. Carpenter, who came in 1922. He pursued advanced study in Italy in the summers of 1978, 1987, and 1990. As Professor of Printmaking and Sculpture, he established the first printmaking workshop in the department. Taylor has a non-traditional approach to image making, and his philosophy is simply, "I am devoted to making prints and sculpture that people can enjoy. I believe art is to be enjoyed by the person who makes it as well as to the public who view it."

Joe H. Alcorta, Ph.D. from Texas Tech University, arrived in 1971 to teach Spanish. Alcorta has become the role model in Abilene for many Hispanics seeking higher education since he was the first of his family even to finish elementary schooling. He has taken several groups of students to Mexico during vacation breaks, and occasionally, a mature student from his Conversational Spanish for the Professions course accompanies the group. Alcorta is the Head of the Language Department.

A cooperative program of the Division of Education and the Department of Foreign Languages began to offer a Spanish-English area of specialization for elementary education majors. This program led to a major in Bilingual Communication, beginning in 1975. Manfred E. Schubert, Ph.D. from Stanford University in 1965, began to teach German and French at HSU in 1980. He
came to the U.S. from Germany and excelled as a student. He received two separate fellowships for his academic ability during his student days. Other than the first Dean of the school, Julius Olsen, Schubert is the only faculty member to have received a Phi Beta Kappa key. He taught at Rice University for seven years before coming to HSU.34

The “computer age” began in the mid-sixties: “If we couple man's ingenuity and purpose with the computer, we arrive at a manmade system that far exceeds the capability of either of its components,” said Dr. Samuel D. Conte, head of the Computer Science Department of Purdue University in the sixties.35 In 1967, HSU acquired an IBM 1401 data processing system. The students, the faculty, and the staff had to be convinced of the usefulness of computer science so that it could be incorporated into the curriculum. A special class in programming was given so that graduates of that class would constitute a pool of programmers to expedite the work of computerizing various areas of the University. When Professors William and Susan Helms arrived on campus in 1970, there were no computer courses for students. In the early seventies, they developed a programming course to be taken by physics and chemistry students. The course was in Fortran and used punched cards for input into an IBM mainframe.

William R. Helms, physics professor, received the Ph.D. from Purdue University; and his wife, Susan Helms, chemistry professor, was awarded the Ph.D. from the University of Texas in 1979. She worked in the Chemistry Department until 1983, when she moved to the School of Business to develop the first university-wide undergraduate computer literacy program. In May of 1984, her work was recognized when she received the Cullen Professor for excellency in teaching. The following year, her husband won the same award.

In 1969, accounting and all other areas of business were organized under a new name, The Division of Economics and Business Administration. It was traditional to use the title “The Economics of . . . ” in front of course offerings such as Accounting, Finance, Business Management, and so on. The division became an associate member of the American Association of Collegiate Schools of Business. By 1970, the division experienced an increase in enrollment due to the change to the Master of Business Administration degree from the Master of Arts degree.36

A Bureau of Economics and Business Research was established under the direction of Dr. James R. Vinson. It was the mission of the Bureau to involve the academic and professional community of Abilene in business research that would benefit this part of Texas. The Bureau intended to use
faculty from all three institutions of higher learning in Abilene to collect data on the labor force, to construct a business index, and to make population estimates. With these and other projects, the Bureau hoped to expand the capabilities and stock of information available to Abilene and its neighbors. The Research Bureau became defunct in the summer of 1973.

The next several years were again characterized by relative stability in the Business and Finance Division. Minor changes of course offerings took place nearly every year, but the one fairly substantial change was the establishment of departments within the Division. Five departments were formed: the Department of Accounting and Quantitative Science, the Department of Economics and Finance, the Department of Management and Marketing, the Department of Business Administration, and the Department of Business Education.

The business area kept pace with the rapidly changing trends that prevailed nationally in the area of business education. A two-year Secretarial Science certificate began to be offered in 1974 under Mrs. Gena Foster, B.A. and M.A. degrees from HSU. Foster began to work at the University as an associate in the area of Development, and after two years, she was asked to teach Business Education and Office Management, beginning in 1967. She served HSU for over twenty-two years, upgrading herself in all areas of business office management as technological changes brought in electronic typewriters, dictating machines, data processing, and computerization. Foster resigned in 1989 but remained in Abilene with her husband, former director of adult education for the Abilene Independent School District. The couple have three children and several grandchildren.37

The R. C. Johnson Chair of Business was established in 1974 by a bequest from the late R. C. Johnson, and a cash contribution from R. C. Johnson, Jr., of Lubbock. The first Johnson Professor was Dr. Walter C. Austin, Jr., who came to HSU in the fall of 1974 as the Head of the Department of Quantitative Sciences.38

The English Department gained two professors in 1968. Lawrence R. Clayton earned a Ph.D. degree from Texas Tech University in 1974 and became Head of the English Department at HSU. He served as President of the Faculty in 1979, and was named Dean of Arts and Sciences in 1980. He received a Distinguished Alumni Award from the English Department of Texas Tech in 1988 and from the University of North Texas in 1989. He has edited six books and is author of five books, dozens of articles, and scores of book reviews. He also edited the literary criticism for Cross Timber Review. Clayton's premier interest lies in western literature, though he has published research material...
on Nathaniel Hawthorne and Jack London as well. He has received many professional honors and has served as president of several professional associations including the Texas Folklore Society and the Western Literature Association. His students are challenged to write and to publish; in this competitive era his attitude as a dean and mentor is exemplary since it is tempting for professors to become enmeshed with their own professional advancement.

Dean Clayton also served as Chairman of the Centennial Planning Committee, a group charged with determining what events and what amount of capital outlay was to constitute the celebration of HSU’s first one hundred years. Clayton and his wife, Sonja (Irwin), have two daughters, Lea, and De Lys (Mitchell), who serves as Assistant Registrar.

Delores (Martin) Washburn was a young widow with two small daughters to raise when she began preparing for a professional career in academe. At West Texas State University, she completed B.A. and M.A. degrees in English before moving to Abilene to join HSU in 1968. She used graduate leave from HSU to complete the course work for her Ph.D. at Texas Tech University. She returned to HSU in 1977, married an Abilene businessman, and received the doctoral degree in 1978. Washburn has a reputation in the English department as a carefully prepared, thorough, and caring professor. She was awarded the Cullen Teaching Prize in 1983 and served as President of the Faculty for 1984-86. One of Dr. Washburn’s community contributions is editing an annual journal titled “Mesquite,” which she initiated in 1989. It is filled with carefully chosen essays, photographs, and stories, and is the only literary publication of its kind in the area.

Robert D. Hamner, with a Ph.D. from the University of Texas, came to teach English in 1971, the same year he earned the doctoral degree. His main teaching interest was in contemporary literature, but his research has been concentrated on third-world authors. Dr. Hamner received a Fulbright grant to teach American literature at the University of Guyana in 1975-76. He is a recognized authority on the writings of V. S. Naipaul, a novelist from Trinidad, and the poet/novelist Derek Wolcott, of St. Lucia. By 1990, he had produced four books, the latest titled Joseph Conrad: Third World Perspectives, an anthology of essays on Joseph Conrad.

In the Division of Education, which was separated in 1968 from Social Studies, four departments were named: Elementary and Secondary Education, Special Education and Guidance, Home Economics, and Physical Education. Dr. E. L. Bowden, Head of the Department of Education since 1957, was appointed Head of the new Division. The Division had received certification
for Teaching for Language Disabilities and for Physically Handicapped in 1957, but the program was phased out by 1973. In 1968, the Teacher Education Council, which had begun in the fifties, reorganized to include a faculty member from each approved certification area so that standards of curriculum and any suggested improvements could be decided on with equal representation.

In 1964, Dr. Lois Martin joined the faculty and initiated a graduate program in Counseling. Martin also established undergraduate and graduate programs in Special Education. A new Guidance Associate program was begun in 1973 and could be studied as a teaching field. When Martin received the approval for this program from the Texas Education Agency, it was the first TEA-approved program in the state for an undergraduate major in Guidance. Dr. Martin received the coveted Texas Piper Professor Award in 1974. HSU graduated 120 Guidance Associates under the leadership of Dr. Robert C. Barnes before TEA phased out that program across the state of Texas in 1986.

During the summer of 1970 the University was notified that it had been accorded full membership in the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). This gave additional status to the teacher education program and provided reciprocity for HSU students seeking to enter the teaching profession in other states. By 1990, the School of Education had gained such a fine reputation on its own that HSU did not seek to renew the membership with NCATE.

Professor Jack H. Longbotham, Ph.D. from Texas A&M University in 1968, came to the Education Department in 1971. Over the next twenty years, he served as a Professor of Education, Director of University Teacher Education Program, Director of Student Teaching, Chairman of the Division of Education, and Chairman of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. All Education Administration courses were deleted in 1971, but a Special Education and Language and/or Learning Disabilities program was installed, as was a program in Early Childhood Education. The Division enjoyed reaccreditation by Teacher Education Agency (TEA) in 1971 and again in 1975. In 1973-74, education programs were added at the secondary level in music, physical science, psychology, and sociology. The success of the program is suggested by a catalogue statement for 1974-75:

The preparation of teachers for the public schools has been one of the major objectives of the university for many years, and approximately sixty percent of the graduates from each year's graduating class enter the teaching profession.
In the fall of 1974, the Master of Arts degree with a major in elementary or secondary education was dropped. A Student Development course was organized by Dr. Lois Martin as a study skills course to help students adjust to college life. Several faculty members in the department have taught the course since it began in 1975. Following the completion of her master's degree in Counseling and Human Development in 1982, Mrs. Dorothy Glen Harper became responsible for the Student Development program. Harper broadened the emphasis from a study skills course to include facets such as test-taking skills, time management, stress management, improvement in self-concept and interpersonal skills, and personal and career counseling.

In 1976, a new program leading to an all-level Reading Specialist Certificate was instituted. Another new program called Competency Based Generic Special Education was approved by the State Board of Education in 1977. The program taught methods to be used in helping exceptional learners although this labelling was not emphasized. A Bachelor of Science degree in general special education was awarded on the completion of this program. Special Education classes were stopped in the summer of 1989. Students can graduate from HSU having taken twelve hours of special education classes at Abilene Christian University nearby, if that is their area of interest.

In the Speech Department, the area of Journalism was headed by Abilenian Sherwyn McNair, who came to HSU in 1967 after eighteen years of news reporting for the Abilene newspaper. He directed student publications, taught courses, and began making the Brand a semi-weekly paper. Students in communication and journalism were required to complete an internship with the Abilene Reporter-News or with local advertising firms. McNair remained at HSU for ten years, the last two years serving also as Information Director.

In other curricular developments, the Speech and Hearing Therapy Clinic was expanded and the curriculum revised. A Xerox Corporation program designed to double the listening skills of the average person was made available to faculty members and students. An honors colloquium in speech was offered for the first time as a special advanced course for selected students having at least a 2.5 grade point average. Instead of a textbook, the students heard guest speakers and used extensive reading lists and resource materials.

In the area of drama, Ramon Delgado was the director of HSU's Van Ellis Theatre in the early seventies. He wrote the historical drama titled "Brothers of Dragons" in 1973 as his MFA thesis at Yale University School of Drama. The play was later to be performed on campus. In 1974, Professor Jim Panowski became the theater director. While he worked and taught at HSU during the school year, he continued to act professionally during the
summers with the Millbrook Playhouse Company of Millbrook, Pennsylvania.

Home Economics was last taught in 1973. In February, 1968, the Homemaking Department had moved from the old Science Building to one of the apartments owned by the University on Ambler Street across from the main campus. When Home Economics was discontinued, all of the equipment, including everything from pots and pans to sewing machines and major kitchen appliances, was absorbed by other departments or disposed of at a "garage sale."  

The Sociology Department was chaired from 1947-68 by Dr. Albert Lunday, Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. Courses dealing with urban rather than rural problems updated the curriculum in Sociology since population statistics in West Texas warranted this change. In the mid-sixties, the department sponsored semi-annual Black Studies Conference using as its theme "The Black Student Revolution," with exploration of the topic through panels, speakers, and group discussion.

HSU was the first Baptist school in Texas to offer a "major" in Social Work leading to a B.S. degree beginning in the 1969-70 school year. The program featured a combination of Social Work, taught by J. D. Osborne, associate professor in Sociology for many years, and Sociology, taught by Dr. Guy Greenfield, Chairman of the Department. Greenfield, a brilliant sociologist, received his doctoral degree from SWBTS. When the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools arrived for their ten year examination in 1974, one of the examiners questioned the validity of Greenfield's degree since it had come from a seminary, even though the Association itself had validated the SWBTS program. A disappointed Dr. Greenfield chose to resign from the school even though the administration was very satisfied with his work. He left to teach at Palm Beach Baptist College in Florida, and his reputation has continued to grow in the field of Sociology.

The first full-time social work faculty member was employed in the summer of 1971. Dan Cooper, who had graduated from HSU in 1967 with a B.A. in Sociology and had earned his Master's in Social Work at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, returned to teach the social work curriculum. In 1971, the name of the department was changed to Department of Sociology and Social Work, and was initially housed on the third floor of Mary Frances Hall. Dr. Julian Bridges, Ph.D. from the University of Florida, arrived in 1973 and has remained through 1990 as Head of the Department. Bridges earned the Cullen Award for Research in 1985. He has served as President of the Texas Council on Family Relations, as a member of the local City Council, and as editor and senior author of one of the more popular...
textbooks in Sociology.

The Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice has been strong at the University for a long time. Virginia Crounse Armstrong began to teach at HSU in 1968. Over the next twelve years, she taught while pursuing a Ph.D. at Texas Tech University in Political Science and Public Law, which she received in 1979. Armstrong has published numerous articles relating to law. From 1982-84, she served as editor of the Texas Roundtable Report. As Professor of Political Science and Legal Studies and as pre-law Advisor, she offers courses in American Government and Politics, Public Law, Political Theory, Public Administration, and Political Research and Analysis, as well as special topic courses. She speaks at seminars and meetings, acts as visiting lecturer, and serves on panels across the country. Her publications include a book titled American Court Systems, published in 1989.

In 1969, the first Law Enforcement Program at HSU began under the direction of Jess L. Cariker, former police chief from Odessa. Impetus for this development came from the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, which was a federal law providing government reimbursement of tuition to university students majoring in Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement programs. Criminal Justice programs sprang up everywhere as a result of this law. Courses in International Law and International Organization were added in the late sixties. Government funding continued throughout the late 1970s but was stopped, and enrollment suffered for awhile. Noel Callaway, a member of the Texas Department for Public Safety for many years, joined Cariker in 1971 and became director in 1975.

Charles W. Garraway, Ph.D. from the University of Southern Mississippi, joined the faculty in 1971 as Professor of Political Science and Chairman of the Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice. Garraway offers courses in government to satisfy teacher certification plus advanced courses and pre-law courses. Each spring, beginning in 1986, Garraway has taken students to New York City to participate in the National Model United Nations. HSU is one of about 120 colleges and universities from the United States and other countries which participate in this exercise. Each school requests the opportunity to represent the nation of its choice. Prior to their week-long visit, the students study the vital statistics of the country including its history, geography, economy, and politics, and prepare to debate issues that are in the best interest of the nation they represent. The number of students who represent HSU has grown from five in 1986 to twenty-two in 1990.

B. W. Aston arrived in 1967 to teach in the Department of History after completing class work for the Ph.D. at Texas Tech University. He graduated
in 1972. His main area of study was twentieth century Latin American history. Aston became Chairman of the History Department in 1972. In 1981, Dr. Aston and Dr. Fane Downs, former history professor at McMurry College, acquired the necessary grants to begin the Abilene Historic Photographic Collection, which is housed in the Richardson Research Center. The fully computerized collection has over 7,000 photographs of Abilene and the Big Country area, and is accessible to research scholars and the general public through a computerized index. Aston has traveled and researched in the Dominican Republic, Guyana, and Cuba. He has also been active in the University’s International Education Program, taking groups of students to study in Great Britain during the summers of 1984, 1985, 1988, and 1990. Aston has been influential in the West Texas Historical Association and in the publication of its Year Book, serving as Secretary-Treasurer since 1972 and as Associate Editor since 1976. He and his wife, Lillie Mae (Fields), are active members at University Baptist Church, two blocks from campus.

In 1970, Ray Johnson, Ph.D. in Psychology from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, was named Assistant Professor and Counselor to Students. He and Patricia (Tomlinson) have three daughters. Johnson continued to teach, to give psychological tests for vocational advising, and to work for the school placement service in helping students and alumni to find career positions. He has been a full-time professor in the Department of Psychology since 1988.

Science classes began in the new Sid Richardson Science Center in 1968. A B.S. degree had been instituted in addition to the B.A. degree in 1965 and required a strong background in the allied sciences of physics, chemistry, biology, and mathematics.

The Biology Department offered course work in preparation for elementary and secondary education, medicine, dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, veterinary medicine, medical technology, respiratory technology, and physical therapy. In 1970, the Sid Richardson Foundation granted over $100,000 to the Science Division; of that, the Biology department received approximately $52,000, which was used to purchase equipment. A second grant of over $200,000 came from the Sid Richardson Foundation in 1982; Biology's portion was $44,000. In the Biology department, seven full-time faculty members have served during the twenty-one years from 1964 to 1990, among them, George A. Newman, who came in 1967. He completed the Ph.D. degree in 1975 from Texas A & M University. In the seventies, he undertook a bird population study for the Guadalupe Mountains National Park, and served as president of the Texas Ornithological Society, 1971-73. In the summers of 1970 and
1971, both Newman and R. K. Chi were involved in the National Science Foundation Institute at HSU in the teaching of high-ability high school students. In 1974, Newman was able to purchase a collection of forty-five Ethiopian specimens of birds from an Air Force family which had been stationed in Ethiopia. The country had experienced severe droughts which endangered some of the species represented in this collection, one of which is the Emerald Cuckoo—a rare bird, and the Turaco, which contains a water soluble pigment in its feathers. (When it rains, the purple color runs off the bird’s feathers as if it were bleeding). Ethiopia now enforces very strict wildlife laws that make it almost impossible for such a collection to be exported.

Dr. Newman was the tennis coach for five years beginning in 1974. He was one of the originators of the annual Western Heritage Day, which began in 1979. He has served as president of the faculty and has received both the Cullen Professor and Cullen Research Awards. Newman has taught ecology, environmental studies, and vertebrate zoology.

Taylor Rankin, Ph.D., Auburn University, has been a member of the faculty since 1969. Rankin teaches botany, human ecology, and general biology, and serves as pre-med and pre-dental advisor in his role as Department Head. He served as President of the Faculty in 1982-83 and also in 1983-84, and was awarded the Cullen Award for excellence in teaching in 1982.

The science faculty has encouraged students for many years to present research papers at scientific meetings. Graduate work in science was dropped in the early seventies, but unusual undergraduate programs include The Environmental Studies Program (1971-74), Respiratory Therapy Program (1973-1987), and the Medical Technology Degree (1950-Present). Each year the department recognizes an outstanding freshman biology student by awarding the Craik Memorial Gift, and biology students are often selected for the Brewer Medal for excellence in science. Departmental scholarships, begun in 1980, are awarded to deserving students from funds made available by the Rube M. and Mary Kate Evans Scholarship fund.

Richard Garner, Ph.D. in Chemistry from Texas Tech University, began to teach at HSU in 1968. A dedicated scientist, Garner was successful in obtaining grants from the Robert A. Welch Foundation totaling approximately $150,000 between 1971 and 1982. The Natural Science Foundation extended a grant from 1968 through 1970. Garner also received the Danforth Association Grant in the 1968-69 school year. Professor Garner has attracted students from a large area around Abilene by going to local high schools to give chemical laboratory seminars and demonstrations. Because children in other countries have forged ahead of the United States in studies concerning science and
technology, there is a renewed interest by the public in educating students in the sciences. During Garner’s twenty-two years at HSU, he has encouraged chemistry majors to consider working for government, industry, and biochemical laboratories. They are prepared to become teachers, doctors, pharmacists, nurses, and molecular biologists.64

In 1989, Garner was one of a group consisting of Drs. Lawrence Clayton, Charles Lane, Jack Barnes, and Barbara Breier to set up a Natural Resource Institute as an interdisciplinary organization to study problems relating to West Texas. In 1990, Garner, along with Drs. Gary Stanlake, Michael Jones, and Charles Lane established Anviron, Incorporated, an environmental testing laboratory. Dr. Garner became Anviron’s vice-president and director of operations in 1991 and Dr. John Peslak became Head of the Department of Chemistry and Physics.65

John Hanna Brewer was an HSU graduate who went on to have an illustrious career as a scientist. He received an A.B. from HSU in 1930, an M.A. in 1931, and the Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins School of Medicine with a specialization in medical bacteriology in 1938. Brewer was one of the world’s foremost anaerobic microbiologists. He has many patents on laboratory equipment. He also developed the RPR card test for syphilis, which is used at most hospitals and state medical facilities.66 Brewer was a member of the International Atomic Energy Committee in Vienna on the Sterilization of Medical Equipment at the time NASA appointed him to the Planetary Quarantine Committee. HSU recognized his work by awarding him an honorary doctorate in 1986. When he retired from his career with two pharmaceutical firms, he came to HSU in 1969 to conduct research involving prevention of contamination of the planet Mars by earth organisms; he also served as part-time professor. In 1974, Brewer received a certificate of appreciation for “major contributions to the space program for the past ten years” from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).67 By 1975, Brewer was heading the full-time research center established as a separate entity at HSU.

Through the Biology department, Dr. Brewer had received several significant grants from outside groups. NASA had sponsored research at the University, giving $148,000 in grants by 1976. The research team displayed in Moody Center in 1976 a scale model of the Viking I spacecraft, along with a series of photographs of Mars.68

In 1978 research grants in excess of $150,000 were awarded to HSU from NASA, and a total of $60,000 was given by two pharmaceutical firms and an anonymous donor. A pharmaceutical firm gave $30,000 to further studies related to Brewer’s patented card test, widely used for the detection
of brucellosis in cattle.

In 1975-76, the HSU Science Research Center was organized by University officials in the Sid Richardson Building. Luther Winans was assistant research professor in the Research Center, and he supervised certain parts of the research sub-contracted to ACU. The research center was funded privately for biomedical research to produce and test market several biomedical products developed by HSU faculty scientists and other organizations in which Fairleigh Dickinson had interests. The research center cost the school very little other than physical space, but HSU became more widely known because of the interaction resulting from the interest the center generated.

Edgar M. Jackson joined the HSU staff as a speech instructor and debate coach in 1968. He was born in Crossett, Arkansas, in 1920. Jackson received a B.A. from Howard Payne University, a B.Div. from SWBTS, and an M.A. from Texas Tech University. He held several pastoral as well as secular posts before coming to HSU. Jackson became the Director of Recruitment, later was in charge of Continuing Education and Extension work, and acted as Special Consultant to the President for a few years before he retired on December 3, 1988. Jackson was truly "a jack of all trades" and was known throughout the Southwest for his abilities to preach, to teach, and to recruit students and friends by means of his enthusiasm for the school. He covered thousands of miles and spoke to every sort of group imaginable. Jackson organized successful courses off-campus for several companies including Texas Instruments and U.S. Brass, and was always willing to arrange a new kind of seminar in an attempt to give more students the opportunity of learning new skills.

Continuing Education courses and seminars had to be reduced due to cost. In 1973, HSU joined with Abilene Christian University and McMurry College in a Tri-College Continuing Education Program designed to provide non-credit courses. The first offerings consisted of eight courses, and by the late 1970s over seventy courses were being offered in this program before it was discontinued in 1981.

A ten-week seminar in Human Relations in Management in the late seventies was successful at Nucorp, a large company located in Abilene for several years. The number of extension courses continued to be reduced. Very few courses were offered outside the city.
GRADUATE STUDIES

James E. Tanner, Ph.D. in English from the University of Oklahoma, functioned as Dean of Faculties for six years, beginning in 1971. The first week after he was employed, he received a letter asking why the University should not be placed on probation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Although the main problem was the cumulative financial deficit dating back well over ten years, another lingering problem was in the academic area, where graduate courses numbered too many and those teaching were not always sufficiently qualified.

Dr. Tanner asked Dr. Ray Ellis to accept the position of Graduate Dean to rein in the programs and to stiffen the requirements for entrance into graduate work. Bill Tippen was chairing the Board of Trustees at the time. (He eventually served four terms). A senior attorney of Abilene, he and his two siblings had been identified with the school for most of their lives and were all graduates of HSU. In 1946, Bill married his sweetheart of college years, Elsie, a graduate in 1944, who serves on the board presently. Tippen was first elected as a Trustee in 1957. As years went on, Tippen served as attorney for Taylor County, district attorney, state representative, and state senator for district 24. His service at HSU included being president of the University Alumni Association. Tippen, Skiles, Tanner, and sometimes W. O. Beazley, met several times with representatives of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to assure them that the school would comply with their recommendations in all areas, particularly regarding the graduate division.

By 1975, the graduate program was still an area of concern. President Skiles even discussed elimination of the program since the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools said that several institutions within a two-hundred mile radius of Abilene offered graduate work. In December of 1976, the graduate program was strengthened by more strictly enforcing admissions requirements to recruit better prepared students, and twenty-five graduate assistantships were made available in business, education, English, history, and music. These paid full tuition plus $1,800 a year. The quality of graduate students improved once the financial aid began to be offered.

The resignation of Dr. James Tanner, after only six years, was unfortunate for the school. He had been an organized administrator who carried out some crucial decisions. Tanner left in 1977 to become Vice-President for Academic Affairs at Louisiana College. He soon left there to assume the same position at William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, where he still serves.
President Skiles used to say that one of his mottoes was, "I give people the opportunity to invest." There were very few of those opportunities which Skiles missed.

In 1966, the average cost to teach, house, and feed a full-time student was approximately $2,150. Student payments covered about $1,400 each, leaving a gap of about 33.3 percent to be filled by grants, gifts, scholarship funds, and funds from endowment. Tuition in 1966 was $23 per semester hour and over a ten year period tuition increased to $42 per hour. Room and board in 1966 ranged from $300 to $335, and a decade later, room and board was still less than $500 per semester. Although the Board voted to keep tuition low purposely to allow as many students as possible to attend, the decision left areas such as faculty salaries and equipment constantly short of funds. There was very little government-based aid available to students so much emphasis was placed on encouraging gifts for scholarship help.

Clyde J. Childers arrived at HSU to assist Lee Hemphill in 1967 and became Vice-President of Development the next year. He and his wife, Lois (Draper), had been living in Wichita Falls and serving as missionaries over a thirteen county area. His pastor had been James H. Landes, who left Wichita Falls' First Baptist Church to serve as president of HSU. Landes had suggested that Childers consider working for the school. Childers and Skiles had been roommates at Baylor University, where both men had completed B.A. degrees many years before. Childers headed up a productive fundraising effort, climaxed by the Profile for Progress. The President's Club was developed during his tenure.

Friends of the school who are willing to donate $1,000 or more annually to be used as unrestricted funding are included in this group. (In 1989, the Simmons Society—donors giving $5,000 or more each year—was begun in 1989. Childers was honored with a Doctor of Divinity degree by Howard Payne University, and HSU recognized his Christian character and multiple talents with an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree in 1985. After ten years of successful fundraising efforts for the University, Childers was invited—not to retire—but, at the age of sixty-seven, to be the first full-time development officer for the Baptist Memorial Hospital System of San Antonio, where he remained on staff for over ten years. Childers was made Vice-President Emeritus of HSU in 1979, only the third man so honored in the school's one-hundred year history, joining W. T. Walton (1968) and Lee Hemphill (1975).
In 1967, the total endowment was under $3,500,000.\textsuperscript{76} By the end of Skiles' administration in 1977, it was $8,000,000. The value of the entire University plant in 1967 was just over $7,000,000, but a decade later it was approaching $16,000,000.\textsuperscript{77}

In 1970, an increase of eighteen percent in enrollment was seen over the year before.\textsuperscript{78} A state-wide scholarship program for every student was being discussed in 1970. State Tuition Equalization Grants were begun in the early seventies. These grants are based on the extent of each individual student's need to help make up the difference between the cost of tuition at public colleges and universities compared to the cost of independent institutions.\textsuperscript{79}

Approximately 1,200 students enrolled at HSU in the fall of 1971. There was a trend away from on-campus living; only 630 lived in residence halls that year. About 71 percent of the student population claimed Southern Baptist affiliation, close to the more typical 80 percent Baptist student population each year.

In 1973, two new government aid programs helped approximately 250 students receive a total of $100,000. In a report issued in October of 1973, the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education concluded that higher education was "in the process of recovering from a period of depression."\textsuperscript{80} The Basic Educational Opportunity Grant (BEOG) and the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG) did much to further that recovery. By 1990, it is possible that between $200 and $900 per semester per student may be available, based on need. By 1974, tuition had been raised from $35 to $39 per hour. By 1976, eighty-five percent of students received some type of financial aid.\textsuperscript{81}

PROFILE FOR PROGRESS CAMPAIGN

In July, 1969, President Skiles had called for a detailed projection of the school's capital and financial needs for the next decade. More than two years of planning went into the development campaign which was named the Profile for Progress.

Phase I was completed in 1973, making possible the construction of a new library. Thousands of alumni and other friends, plus foundations and corporations contributed to the Campaign.

Early in 1975, Phase II was begun to complete other building programs. This phase was called the "Ninety-day Wonder." On April 7, the trustees of the J. E. and L. E. Mabee Foundation pledged $1,000,000 as a challenge gift
if the school could raise $1,350,000 in new money to meet their pledge in a short period of about three months. When the challenge gift was brought to the Board of Trustees in 1976, Dr. William B. Irvin, who had already given much to the University over the years, said that he was not able to give a large amount but that he would gladly give 1 percent of that amount—$13,500. This creative idea caught fire. Vice-President Childers, David Ray, and others put together an attractive challenge which they delivered personally to many people and were very successful in raising the funding. The campaign climaxed with a gift of $100,000 from the Kresge Foundation. S. S. Kresge wrote on the back of the last check, “In the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ.” The total in gifts and pledges from that effort was $2,631,063. Within ninety days, the total exceeded $2,500,000.

Phase III, the People Phase, raised over $1,000,000 for faculty salaries and equipment. A major emphasis was then begun to achieve a special endowment fund to be used particularly for the faculty. By December of 1976, $5,530,000 had been given or pledged, and faculty salaries were increased between ten and thirteen percent.

Mrs. Lucille Kelley, who was working for Clyde Childers during this Campaign, remembers a poignant story about one of the givers. She records receipting one gift, accompanied by a letter, in the amount of fifty cents from an elderly lady living in a nursing home who spoke of her love for Hardin-Simmons and her desire to be a part of the Campaign. The goal of the Campaign had been to raise $5.5 million and $6,397,347.15 was raised in the ten-year period. By 1977, the school had completed seven years in a row without a deficit. The increasingly good financial picture at the University reflected the generosity of University friends, the expertise of the chief fundraisers, and the beginning of a financial boom across all of Texas.
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