

New TylerPaper.com Mobile Edition!
 sponsored by
Citizens 1st BANK
 Click here to register >>




Drs. Wesley Hickey and Peggy Gill
 National Journal Co-editors

Tyler Paper.com

Tyler Morning Telegraph



Mekala Taylor and Jessica Shackelford
 Backstage at JTHS Graduation

Search Recent News Archives Web for

Welcome **Guest** | [Register for Email Newsletter](#) | [Member Benefits](#)

- Autos
 - Classifieds
 - Dealer Inventory
- Jobs
- Real Estate
- Obituaries
- Death Notices
- Local Shopping
- Coupons
- Classifieds
- Place An Ad
- Weddings/Anniversaries
- Contact Us

[Back to home](#) » [Opinion](#) » [Editorials](#)

Friday, June 20, 2008

Editorials

Posted on Tuesday, June 10, 2008

Tuition Costs Symptom Of Problem Systemwide

Tuition increases for higher education are hitting families hard, the Texas Public Policy Foundation's Brooke Leslie Rollins says, but the math is simple: fewer free-market principles in place plus increasing bureaucracy equals unsustainable increases in college costs.



"Just as another class of Texans graduated from college, the Texas Public Policy Foundation and Gov. Rick Perry gathered Regents from the state's major university systems on May 21 to discuss how to take Texas higher education to the next level," Ms. Rollins said. "One of the foremost challenges facing higher education is increasing costs. Colleges and universities claim that reduced state funding has forced them to increase tuition, but appropriations per student at Texas's four-year colleges and universities have remained steady in inflation adjusted dollars."

Rising tuition is merely a symptom of a larger problem, she contends: the unsustainable growth in higher education cost.

"Unfortunately, there is little incentive for public universities to operate efficiently or respond to what their customers — the students and their parents — actually demand," Ms. Rollins says. "Increasing state appropriations actually perpetuates the unsustainable growth in spending by public universities."

But the universities themselves seek to blame tuition de-regulation.

"Many in the higher education establishment have turned in Oscar-worthy performances playing the role of martyrs, and casting blame on Texas policymakers for deregulating tuition in 2003," Ms. Rollins says. "This clever act aims to convince legislators to further the status quo and provide even more state aid."

The Foundation's May summit sought real solutions.



tyler tube
 TylerPaper.com
 Tyler Morning Telegraph

Let's see those videos!

"One of the first recommendations from the summit was for universities to adopt results-based learning contracts to help students measure the quality of their experience," Ms. Rollins notes. "Research shows that students are excellent judges of learning, especially when deliverables for a course are clearly stated. Contracts between students, deans, and teachers should disclose graduation rates and job placement for similar students, average class size, teaching evaluations for faculty, and the skills or lessons the class is designed to convey."

Universities should also re-focus their efforts on delivering education.

"Another recommendation was assuring students that tenured professors can — and do — actually teach," Ms. Rollins says. "Before offering professor tenure, universities must revisit their primary mission of educating our children and require professors applying for tenure to demonstrate an ability to teach. Unfortunately, demonstrated teaching ability is currently not a prerequisite for a lifetime teaching job at most universities."

Other free-market principles could help, as well.

Local Weather Forecast

Today: Current: 76	Friday: 86/71	Saturday: 88/67
-----------------------	------------------	--------------------



[Complete Forecast for Jun 20 2008](#)

Top Jobs

- [PURCHASING AGENT Horizon Industries, Front Office DISPATCH/ RECPT Exp multi-tasker to](#)

[View All Top Jobs >](#)

Top Homes

- [For Sale: Builder's Home. Blt 14,](#)

[View All Top Homes >](#)

- News
- Sports
- Business
- Opinion
 - Columns
 - Kenneth Dean
 - Lauren Grover
 - Casey Knaupp
 - Shelia Lewis
 - Cindy Mallette
 - Roy Maynard
 - Megan Middleton
 - Hugh Need
 - Leo Rossler
 - Kelly Prew
 - Everett Taylor
 - Cal Thomas
 - Walter E. Williams
 - Letters to the Web Editor
 - News, Sports & Business

Clubs & Organizations
Newsletter
Today's Front Page
Rose Festival
KFC Trial/Special Edition

SITE SERVICES

Maps & Directions
Yellow Pages
Contact Us
Who We Are
About Us
FAQ
Print Services
Tyler Paper Jobs
Community Links
Copyright Policy

BIBLE VERSE

... and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed. — Hebrews 12:13

More Editorials

■ **Despite Hopes, Biofuels Prove Costly To Produce-**
06/18/2008 11:17 PM

■ **Hensarling's Action Plan One GOP Should Follow-**
06/17/2008 08:24 PM

■ **Fat Amtrak Subsidies Must Change To Sleek** -06/16/2008
08:15 AM

■ **Locking In 2003 Cuts Would Be Wise Move**-06/14/2008
10:06 PM

■ **Congress Pays Little Heed To Word From The People-**
06/13/2008 11:46 PM

■ **New IRS Leader Could Ease Draconian Mindset-**
06/12/2008 11:13 PM

■ **Dems' Energy Solutions Failed Policies Of**
Past-06/11/2008 08:36 PM

■ **Would Franchise Tax Change Hurt Business?**-06/10/2008
08:26 PM

■ **Tuition Costs Symptom Of Problem Systemwide-**
06/09/2008 11:43 PM

■ **Possible Military Cutbacks Dangerous And Ill-Advised-**
06/08/2008 07:07 PM

■ **Smith Commissioners Connect With People**-06/07/2008 09:32
PM

■ **What Do Pledges Mean Coming From Politicians?**-06/07/2008
09:31 PM

■ **Federal Statistics Show Workers Treated Fairly** -06/07/2008
01:07 AM

■ **New Driving Program Aimed At Uninsured** -06/05/2008 07:04
PM

■ **Medal Of Honor Recipient Allowed East Texans To Survive-**
06/05/2008 01:30 AM

■ **Feds Must Not Re-Visit Failed Banking Bailouts**-06/03/2008
09:44 PM

■ **Reducing Recidivism Key For Texas Prisons**-06/02/2008 10:14
PM

■ **Chile's Economic Example Successful Plan To Follow-**
06/01/2008 07:19 PM

■ **Lieberman Bill Would Hit Taxpayers Hard**-05/31/2008 10:35 PM

■ **Attorney General Offering Help Against ID Thefts**-05/31/2008
05:15 PM

[News](#) | [Sports](#) | [Business](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Features](#) | [Food](#) | [Arts & Entertainment](#) | [Religion](#)
[Contact Us](#) | [Who We Are](#) | [About Us](#) | [FAQ](#) | [Print Services](#) | [Tyler Paper Jobs](#) | [Copyright Policy](#)