



The Giant Magellan Telescope will be 10 times stronger than Hubble when it comes online in the 2020s.

Courtesy of GMT Corporation

EDITORIAL BOARD

A worthy investment

A&M shows incredible foresight with Thursday's telescope commitment

Fifteen years ago, Texas A&M was a small dot on the national astronomy roadmap, with a limited amount of students and faculty, older buildings and a department that wasn't officially recognized until 2009.

Nothing could be further from the truth today.

The future of astronomy belongs to those who are willing to invest in humanity's next-generation telescopes, and Texas A&M demonstrated it is ready to do so with Thursday's decision to fulfill a \$50 million commitment to the Giant Magellan Telescope. The GMT will be the world's largest telescope when it comes online in the early 2020s. Its size and breakthrough technologies will allow researchers to literally peer into the past — to use it as a time machine of sorts and shed light on some of the universe's most coveted secrets.

The chance to be a partner in such a pivotal undertaking is a once-in-a-generation opportunity that Texas A&M is right to secure. The easiest analogy for the importance of the GMT to Texas A&M might be seen in the Hubble Space Telescope. Twenty-five years after it was launched into space, the Hubble continues to produce cutting edge science and to inspire people around the world. Any organization that wishes to stand at the forefront of science would have spared no

resource to partner with Hubble, considering the intellectual and cultural wealth it continues to yield.

If all goes to plan, the GMT will have an even greater impact on humanity's understanding of our place in the universe. It will be 10 times stronger, it will be easier to maintain and Texas A&M will have unique access to its breathtaking capabilities. Not every institution has the foresight to invest in something whose dividends will be paid in scientific discovery, and A&M's gamble might not pay off in the foreseeable future. But in decades to come, astronomical breakthroughs will most likely be stamped with a familiar maroon and white logo.

Who knows what the next 15 years will have in store?

The Battalion's editorial opinion is determined by its Board of Opinion, with the editor in chief having final responsibility.

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GMT CONTINUED

"The total amount of funds gives us enough of a share and stake in the project so that we can have representation on the science advisory committee and on the board," DePoy said. "It definitely puts us in the position of some prominence in this master astrophysics research facility, as well as to be on par with other partners like Harvard, Chicago, the Carnegie Institution for Science and the country of Australia."

DePoy said this \$22 million commitment

will be spread out over a number of years until it is realized.

"What we do is give a certain amount of money every year until we reach that goal, and we will raise that money in various ways," DePoy said. "Part of it is that we will now get access to grant funding that we otherwise would not have been able to get, because of our participation in the GMT. Grants give a ton of money to the university and that will create a kind of revenue stream that will then go to pay for the telescope. We also have philanthropy money."



Allison Bradshaw — THE BATTALION

The Board of Regents holds its meeting Thursday in the Bethancourt Ballroom.

Regents name new crop of Texas A&M System leaders

New deans, president, vice chancellors among list

By Lindsey Gawlik

▷ The Texas A&M Board of Regents made a number of key decisions at its Thursday meeting that included the appointment of a new college dean and a new A&M system president.

The Health Science Center and Texas A&M University-San Antonio received a new dean and president, respectively, and several A&M System administrative positions were filled. Regents Awards recipients were also named for their exemplary contributions to Texas A&M.

The board announced Thursday Jay Maddock will be the new dean of the Texas A&M Health Science Center School of Public Health.

Brett Giroir, CEO of the Texas A&M Health Science Center, said in a release that Maddock brings a unique combination of vision, accomplishments, energy and personal qualities to advance the school in achieving its educational, research and service goals.

"We are honored to have Dr. Maddock at the public health helm, training and leading the next generation of public health professionals in improving the health of populations throughout Texas and around the world," Giroir said in the release.

The board appointed Philip Ray as the

vice chancellor for business affairs and Therese McDevitt as the new vice chancellor for marketing and communications for the Texas A&M University System.

Chancellor John Sharp said in a release that Ray and McDevitt have both already provided tremendous value to the Texas A&M System.

"I'm looking forward to continuing our progress as we work together to make the A&M System the best system of higher education in the nation," Sharp said.

The board also announced Cynthia Teniente-Matson will serve as the second president of Texas A&M University-San Antonio.

"I am humbled to have been appointed by Chancellor Sharp and the Board of Regents to lead this great university," Matson said in a release. "The campus has an aggressive growth agenda to meet the research, economic, and workforce needs of the state, nation and world. We will be focused, agile and audacious in our thinking and approach."

The board also recognized 10 professors and seven A&M System workers for what Board Chairman Phil Adams called significant contributions to the Texas A&M System by granting them Regents Awards.

"The recipients come from different backgrounds and areas of expertise, but the common thread they have is their dedication to their professions and the A&M System," Adams said.

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13 National Barbecue Month
18 Proofs of age, e.g.
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26 Canal clogger
28 Ultimate inspiration for Survivor
29 Sloop or skillet out at (reproved)
31 Rumomonger's intro
32 At one's station

34 Word before marshal or mattress
37 "I finally get it!"
38 Lae of the Shakers
41 Bout count conclusion
42 Hunting garb, for short
47 Kept for years in a cask
50 Loud speaker
53 Get used (to)
54 Narrator of *Evita*
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ACROSS
1 Gloat about
6 It's east of Thailand
10 "Beg your pardon"
14 All together
15 Impertinent glance
16 Vegan Starter Kit provider
17 TRIPLE DOUBLE
20 Gradually became
21 Hiding place
22 Curt denial
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DOWN
1 Clanged
2 Person downloading apps
3 TRIPLE DOUBLE
4 Sort of
5 Circus safety device
6 Benatar's battlefield
7 TRIPLE DOUBLE

8 Outdated
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