

Dennis P. McCabe
Self Evaluation 2006-2007 Academic Year

My experience as President of Tarleton over a 16-year span of time tells me that my successes (and failures) for the 2006-07 school year were mixed. **First, here are some accomplishments which have moved Tarleton forward toward meeting its mission:**

I am particularly proud of conferring our first four doctoral degrees.

I am particularly proud of how the faculty and staff responded to the MLK incident. Even though I rate this response as a positive and that this campus experience has strengthened us as a community, I must also register a negative mark simply because it happened to Tarleton students. Somehow, I can't get past the idea that it should never have happened.

I am particularly proud of the new campus initiation ritual for all freshmen. All freshmen are asked (required) to (1) light their Tarleton candle solidifying their rightful place on Tarleton's 109 year-old roll, (2) sign a pledge that they will value and honor the ideals associated with "Civility, Integrity and Diversity," and (3) sign a pledge that they will make every effort to complete their baccalaureate degrees in four (4) years. Although symbolic in nature, I truly believe this ritual will "catch on" creating a strong and special tradition that will help delineate the Tarleton experience from that found at other schools.

I am particularly proud of securing \$75M for new construction over the past 15 months.

I am particularly proud of how many of Tarleton's employees have responded to my call for extending ourselves to the Southwest Metroplex (Fort Worth) and Waco.

I am particularly proud of the progress made over the past year in moving Tarleton—Central Texas forward toward a maturing, complex institution of higher learning.

For these items listed above, I believe my performance as CEO is noteworthy. As I indicated, the year was a mixture of accomplishments and shortcomings.

Now, here are some areas that will need more attention. They were in some way incomplete or distracting from our ability to meet our mission.

I am disappointed that I could not continue raising faculty salaries at the same rate as that realized for the past three (3) years.

I am disappointed in the fact that an investigation was required by the TAMUS Audit Division and that there is strong indication that a person(s) misused funds.

I am disappointed that Tarleton does not receive better coverage (exposure) in the Dallas-Forth Worth media market.