Dr. Taylor Eighmy, President  
The University of Texas at San Antonio  
One UTSA Circle  
San Antonio, TX 78249

Dear President Eighmy,

I am writing today in the support of the University of Texas at San Antonio in their effort to establish the National Security Collaboration Center (NSCC), which aims to advance research, education, and workforce development in the areas of cybersecurity, data analytics, and cloud computing as they apply to national security and global defense. As evidenced by the UT System partnerships with the Army Research Laboratory and the National Security Agency, federal agencies are calling for greater collaboration related to America’s national security infrastructure protection. I applaud UTSA’s effort to develop physical and virtual resources for government, industry, and academia to collaborate, conduct leading research, and develop state of the art technologies under the NSCC. This powerful model will address the ever-growing cyber threats facing our government and impacting our nation.

UTSA’s goal of developing a new 5-story building to enhance the cybersecurity ecosystem in the region is proof of the institutions commitment to supporting their federal partners in solving the nation’s most difficult and ever changing issues of national security. The new Computational Research Building (CRB) will provide 50,000 square feet of state-of-the-art space housing the NSCC and all computational capabilities, including a Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF) and an Innovation Factory where academia, industry and government can rapidly develop products for application in the national security enterprise. Being that one of the nation’s largest footprints in federal and private-sector cyber capabilities is located in San Antonio, the NSCC and associated CRB facility could serve as a regional hub to facilitate activities that support and foster innovative partnerships throughout Texas.

As an HSI with established programs related to national security, e.g., cybersecurity, information and security assurance, cloud computing forensics and detection, global affairs, UTSA is exceptionally well positioned to lead this effort. In addition, the NSCC will benefit from its location in “Military City USA,” including US Army North and US Army South Headquarters, and the many intelligence and military related professionals linked to organizations, such as the National Security Agency (NSA) Texas, the Federal Bureau of Investigations and the US Secret Service. The NSCCC will further strengthen and forge linkages with UTSA’s top-ranked Cybersecurity degree program, as well as the regional ROTC programs located at UTSA.

I appreciate your swift and thoughtful consideration of the NSCC concept, should you have additional questions please contact my office at (202) 225-4511.

Sincerely,

WILL HURD  
Member of Congress