In the coming week, beginning Sunday, 6th November, 2005 The University of Trinidad and Tobago commences a number of functions that will serve to establish the University in the consciousness of the population as a whole.

The Chairman and The Board of Governors are pleased to announce that His Excellency, Professor George Maxwell Richards, T.C., CMT, PhD, President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, has accepted an invitation to be the Institution’s first Chancellor, and will lend his presence to several of these functions.

Professor Richards is a distinguished Professor of Chemical Engineering and former Principal and Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University of the West Indies (UWI) at St. Augustine. His appointment as Chancellor is a milestone in the development of tertiary education in Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean.

The UTT will be conferring Honorary Doctorates upon significant sons of the soil. These are mathematical scientist Rudranath Capildeo (posthumously), multi-faceted performing artist Geoffrey Holder, photography icon Noel Norton, music guru Mungal Patasar, and outstanding engineer and entrepreneur Robert Yorke.

To mark the occasion, two exhibitions have been arranged. On Monday 7th November an exhibition of Noel Norton’s photographic works will be opened at the Clico Art Gallery. On Tuesday 8th November an exhibition of Geoffrey Holder’s works opens at The National Museum.

The University of Trinidad and Tobago, which was conceived as an institution of higher learning focused on technical education, has joined the ranks of leading universities the world over by embracing within its framework as an essential part of the University an Academy for Arts, Letters, Culture and Public Affairs. The Academy will bring to the University an empowering awareness of the region's artistic and cultural practices and will integrate the radical (indigenous) thinking taking place in the Human and Social Sciences. The Academy offers internships, courses, and programmes to expand the standard programme offerings at the UTT and is mandated to build insights from the Human and Social Sciences into the outlook and approach of members of the UTT. Already in operation at The Academy is a Pan Lab. which currently runs a course in
Advanced Pan Tuning under Mr. Bertie Marshall and which is making preparations for research and experiment in the technology of pan production. Future events at The Academy include an Inaugural Conference ‘Managing Cultural Diversity’, an ‘International Steel Pan Symposium’ and early in 2006 a major Think-Tank event on The Family in Trinidad and Tobago and other Caribbean territories.

At this time, the UTT wishes to announce that a number of Honorary Distinguished Fellows have been nominated and appointed by the Board of Governors. These individuals, distinguished in their respective fields, will bring their international prestige, talent and experience to the benefit of the Academy for Arts, Letters, Culture and Public Affairs.

They are:

- Pat Bishop
- LeRoi Clarke
- Father Anthony de Verteuil
- Earl Lovelace
- Bertie Marshall
- Peter Minshall
- David Rudder
- Derek Walcott

The following events are scheduled:

**Sunday 6th November, 2005** Inauguration of the UTT Battery Point Campus in Buccoo, Tobago, in conjunction with the Tobago House of Assembly (THA). UTT will establish at this location a sophisticated international conference facility related to the industrial and economic needs of Trinidad and Tobago. The UTT Campus at Battery Point will cater for Transition Studies and Marine Research, Continuous Professional Development (short) Courses of one week to six months duration. In addition, Battery Point’s Marine Research facility will be set up for post-graduate work leading to the Master’s and Ph.D. degrees.

**Wednesday 9th November, 2005** A Start-of-Construction ceremony at Waller Field to inaugurate construction of the Tamana InTech Park as well as the Tamana Campus, core campus of the UTT. The Park is being developed by e-TecK, a Government agency that is responsible for the development of industrial parks throughout Trinidad and Tobago for promoting diversification of the country’s industrial sector, expansion and modernisation of local businesses and sustainable, meaningful employment opportunities.
Friday 11th November, 2005 There will be two major events.

I. Inauguration of the O’Meara campus, by the Honorable Prime Minister Patrick Manning.

II. The first Graduation Ceremony of UTT will be presided over by the Chancellor of the University, His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Professor George Maxwell Richards, T.C., CMT, PhD.

III. Some 500 students will receive Degrees and Diplomas, wearing gowns designed for the UTT by Ms. Pat Bishop using as a symbol, the Moriche Palm. This is a reflection of the UTT’s commitment to preservation of the environment and its particular recognition of the value of the Moriche Palm Reserve at Wallerfield.

Until the UTT’s permanent main home at the Tamana InTech Park is completed in 2008, O’Meara will be the main campus of the University. UTT’s first campus, the Point Lisas campus, will focus on Process and Utility Engineering programmes. The O’Meara campus will focus on BSc and MSc programmes in other areas. The core of the University of Trinidad and Tobago (The Tamana Campus) will be located in the Tamana InTech Park.

The mandate of UTT is to create a new generation of multi-disciplinary thinkers and leaders who are industry-ready and are committed to team work.

The major programmes at UTT are industry-aligned to meet the immediate and future needs of the country. During this initial period, these programmes will be:

- Upstream Technologies
- Process and Utility Engineering
- Maritime Industry
- Information and Communications Technology
- Industrial Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Management
- Construction Industry
The activities and functions of Learning, Teaching, Research, Community Development and Enhancement Services will be integrated under six (6) Centres.

- Centre for Energy Studies
- Centre for the Maritime Industry
- Centre for Information and Communications
- Centre for Innovation, Development, Entrepreneurship and Strategies C-IDEAS
- Centre for the Construction Industry
- The Academy at UTT for Arts, Letters, Culture and Public Affairs.

The efforts of UTT will be directed towards re-organising traditional methods of learning and the way we construct knowledge in keeping with the joint motto of e-TecK and the UTT ‘Righting the Future’.