



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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*William Powers, Jr., President*  
*University Distinguished Teaching Professor*  
*Hines H. Baker and Thelma Kelley Baker Chair in Law*  
*Main Building 400 • PO Box T • Austin, Texas 78713-8920*

*Direct Number (512) 471-1232*  
*Facsimile Number (512) 471-8102*  
*president@po.utexas.edu*

July 25, 2008

Dr. Chris Myers Asch and  
Mr. Shawn Raymond  
U.S. Public Service Academy  
1225 I Street NW, Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Chris and Shawn:

I write to offer my enthusiastic endorsement of the proposed United States Public Service Academy, modeled after the five service academies of the United States federal government. Such an academy would complement the work of the military and maritime academies in a way that is necessary as we move forward into the new century—and through the new millennium. Training a selection of the nation's best and brightest students to enter into the constructive work of public service would strengthen our nation in unprecedented ways, and further enhance and improve our important role as a welcome and appreciated leader within the community of nations and peoples around the globe.

I appreciate the vision, courage, and determination that has gone into the efforts to make this monumental undertaking a reality. As a former law professor of one of the principal figures in the Academy's leadership, I am well informed on the purpose of and principles unpinning this innovative concept. I can state without hesitation that as Congress and the American public encounter the decisions they will face regarding the future the Academy, they should have full confidence in the abilities and the sincerity of the leadership that has conceived it and brought it to this point in its development. This academy is something that needs to happen. Shawn and Chris, you have done outstanding work so far—with, I hope, much more work to do in the days and years to come to build the Academy and open the doors to its first class of future public servants.

The vision behind this idea is clear, and the time is right for the United States to develop an academy to complement the good work done by the Military, Naval, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine Academies. A successful civilian counterpart to our military and maritime academies would move our nation forward in an unprecedented way. The world would be a better place because of it. I strongly urge the American people, and our Congress, to create the United States Public Service Academy and support it in all that it does.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill", written over a large, stylized initial "B".

William Powers, Jr.  
President