

Chairman's Letter

We are the Texas Lyceum, a thoughtful, diverse group of 96 leaders from across Texas. Our passion is the future of Texas. Our values are...Texas values! In November, we will host our 2006 Public Conference, continuing our tradition of examining key challenges. This year, we focus on our economic future.

As leaders in the global economy, we must increase the State's competitiveness, expand our markets. Thomas Friedman explained the flattening of our global economy and the implications of relying on yesterday's best practices. To reach new markets for Texas products and services we need new approaches, increased coordination of resources and legislative support that leverages our strengths and talents to position Texas to thrive in the 21st Century.

In this *Journal* and at our Public Conference, we hear from the world's best thinkers on economic development. The Lyceum strives to consider not "both sides," but, rather, all sides of the most pressing public policy issues facing Texas. What we do with this state-of-the-art thinking is up to us. We need you! Share this information and get involved in this topic.

The Texas Lyceum is committed to keeping Texas a vibrant force in the life of our country. The pace of change is accelerating; our economy is evolving. In the face of challenging times, we are certain of this: the dual forces of Texas values and strength of character are timeless beacons guiding our future.

Jordan Cowman
Chairman