

C H A R T E R O F P R O G R E S S

**GRADUATE RESEARCH CENTER
of the SOUTHWEST**



C H A R T E R O F P R O G R E S S

**GRADUATE EDUCATION and ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT in the SOUTHWEST**

Lord Acton, in 1895, had this to say about men in science: *“Theirs is the logic of discovery, the demonstration of the advance of knowledge and the development of ideas, which as the earthly wants and passions of men remain almost unchanged, are the CHARTER OF PROGRESS, and the vital spark of history.”*

P r e f a c e

The history of our nation, ignited by the “vital spark” of the imagination and ideas of its founders and sustained by the industry, inventiveness and pioneering spirit of its people, has been a brilliant one. The fruits of two revolutions — the detachment from the mother country and the great industrial revolution — have matured, and the United States, along with its world neighbors, is swept along in a third revolution equally portentous and challenging as its predecessors. This revolution, that of mid-Twentieth Century technology, has as its charter of progress the discovery, knowledge and ideas stemming from the astonishing new scientific concepts of the past half century. To maintain its leadership in the world, our nation must exploit to full measure the new science and its resulting technology through the brainpower of its citizens in all geographic regions.

The Southwest has played an important though relatively recent role in the nation's extraordinary growth. This role has been chiefly that of producer and developer of natural resources, including the land and its increase. The new technological revolution, nurtured on scientific research and advanced education, calls for mobilization of a more basic resource — the mind of man. It is the purpose of this brochure to show how an aggressive educational program — particularly graduate education — in the Southwest can preserve and increase the region's economic strength and assure its proper contribution to the nation's defense and future growth.

The attainment of this broad objective is the job of the Southwest's community leadership, its educational institutions, and its industry. The Graduate Research Center of the Southwest will play an integral role in the really key task — the achievement of academic excellence in the region. By establishing a center for advanced research and by maintaining close liaison with southwestern universities and colleges in their future planning, this organization will be a dynamic factor in producing the highly trained individual on whom the Southwest's future depends. The Graduate Research Center of the Southwest has grown out of an original concept of a dedicated group of southwestern businessmen whose vision comprehended the impact of the new technology, the advanced scholarship it demands, and the inescapable need for positive action.