

Ed Whitacre

LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP



The San Antonio Chamber of Commerce
602 E. Commerce
San Antonio, Texas 78205
(210)229-2100 | www.sachamber.org

Ed Whitacre

LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Application deadline:
October 31, 2016

ABOUT ED WHITACRE

Ed Whitacre grew up in Ennis, Texas. His dad was an engineer on the Southern Pacific Railroad for 50 years and his mother was a homemaker. Naturally, Ed planned to work for the railroad, but his mother had a different idea. She wanted him to be the first in his family to go to college. Mom decreed it; that settled it.

He went to Texas Tech and got his degree in industrial engineering. Whitacre would not take "no" for an answer when asking for his first job at Southwestern Bell. Ed got a summer job with the Telephone Company surveying and driving stakes for pole lines. After graduation, he was hired as a Facilities Engineer.

Ed met Linda, his wife in Lubbock right after college. They raised two wonderful daughters and have four grandchildren.

Whitacre did not set out to be the Chairman and CEO. He modestly says he just seemed to be in the right place at the right time. To be in the right place, he moved 19 times and held 21 other positions within the company before becoming Chairman and CEO. His hard work, attention to detail, and straightforward way of working with people helped his 1990 selection as Chairman and CEO of Southwestern Bell (SBC).

Whitacre knew that SBC Communications had to get bigger to survive. He guided SBC through an era of unbelievable expansion, leading a series of mergers and acquisitions that dramatically changed the telecommunications industry. Whitacre eliminated regional brands to make way for the single, unifying national brand of SBC. Whitacre's vision and decisive leadership continued to create long-term value for shareowners by providing reliable and innovative telecommunication services. He set SBC apart from others by promoting its financial strength and stability. After the 2005 acquisition of AT&T Corporation, the company adopted the AT&T brand recognized world-wide. In 2006, Forbes magazine named AT&T "Company of the Year."

In June 2007, after 44 years with the company, Whitacre retired as AT&T CEO and Chairman of the Board. Two years later, Whitacre got a call from the government,

appealing to his sense of patriotic duty. They needed him at General Motors. Whitacre joined GM as Chairman of the Board just as the automaker emerged from bankruptcy. Whitacre's same tough, competitive, focused leadership helped transform General Motors. His vision for GM was: *GM would Design, Build, and Sell the World's Greatest Vehicles*. Before Whitacre, front-line employees could not verbalize the Company's vision. Whitacre made it clear, simple and personal. In December 2009, Whitacre became the interim CEO; in January 2010, the permanent CEO. He overhauled GM's management and brands and returned the company to profitability. Whitacre accomplished what he set out to do at GM.

Whitacre's leadership extends beyond the corporate community into community service. In 1993, Governor Ann Richards appointed Ed to the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents. He was chairman from 1995-1998. Ed served as the national campaign chairman for Texas Tech's Horizon Fundraising Campaign. He has been instrumental in securing some of the largest gifts to Texas Tech. In 2008, the Texas Tech School of Engineering was renamed the Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering.

Ed served as the 1998 Chairman of the United Way Campaign for San Antonio and Bexar County. He was the national president of the Boy Scouts of America in 1999 and 2000. Whitacre was named one of the Top 25 Executives of the Year by *BusinessWeek*. Whitacre has been inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame and the U.S. Business Hall of Fame.

When he received The San Antonio Chamber of Commerce's Pathfinder Award in 2010, the Ed Whitacre Leadership Scholarship was created with an initial grant from the General Motors Foundation. In the Pathfinder Award presentation, Whitacre was described as "an American icon whose life is a testimony to hard work and the American dream. A larger-than-life legend, Ed Whitacre is John Wayne in a business suit."

Ed Whitacre

LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Application deadline:

October 31, 2016

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Scholarship Amount: \$5,000-\$10,000

- \$5,000 will be given to recipients who attend one of the Alamo Community Colleges
- \$10,000 will be given to recipients who attend one of the public or private universities eligible for submission.

Qualifications:

- Exhibits leadership traits in academic and campus activities
- Has good academic credentials (3.5 or above on a scale of 4.0)
- Has outstanding moral character
- Is a U.S. Citizen
- Is willing to personally complete the forms as requested
- Is willing to attend The Chamber Gala on December 1, 2016.
- Is available for interviews as needed
- Demonstrates a financial need for the scholarship

Upon selection to the next round, applicants will be asked to submit an additional essay. The essay question will be provided to the second round applicants only.

The application deadline is October 31, 2016.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| ☐ | COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM |
| ☐ | SHORT ANSWER RESPONSES (2) |
| ☐ | NOMINATING LETTER FROM UNIVERSITY
PRESIDENT OR DEAN OF SCHOOL/COLLEGE |
| ☐ | TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATIONS
- ONE MUST BE FROM A
PROFESSOR AT COLLEGE |
| ☐ | MOST RECENT OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT |

*Do not submit until all items are attached with
a paper clip (no staples please).*

Submit all required materials **by October 31, 2016**

The San Antonio Chamber of Commerce

Attn: Ed Whitacre Scholarship

602 E. Commerce Street

San Antonio, TX 78205

or email to pcamacho@sachamber.org

Questions? Contact **Priscilla D. Camacho**, Vice President of Education and Workforce Development at (210) 229-2134 or pcamacho@sachamber.org.

Ed Whitacre

LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

Application deadline:

October 31, 2016

NOMINATING UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY NAME

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

PHONE

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Please provide contact information for May-September.

FULL NAME (No initials please)

ADDRESS

EMAIL

PHONE

TEXAS RESIDENCY (According to
Admissions/Records)

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

DATE

____ RESIDENT

____ NON-RESIDENT

**United States citizenship required.*

Please include the following items as a part of your application:

- Color Photo (Professional headshot, no candid photos)
- Resume with the following items:
 - Education attainment which should include high school and college. College information should also include major and/or Degree, major GPA and cumulative GPA and graduation date.
 - List scholastic/professional/civic organizations involvement (include the organization and position held).
 - List scholastic/creative honors/ prizes/ awards/ achievements.

SHORT ANSWER ATTACHMENTS

Answer the following on a separate sheet of paper. Each response should be 500 words or less.

- After reading about Ed Whitacre, compare and contrast your leadership qualities and experiences that are preparing you to make a significant impact.
- What have you done in the past to demonstrate leadership and how do you see yourself continuing that into the future?

Will the applicant be enrolled in the 2016-2017 school year?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Will the applicant be able to attend The Chamber Gala Dinner on Dec. 1?

☐ Yes ☐ No