

# THE DAILY TEXAN

Serving The University of Texas at Austin community since 1900

4A

Thursday, July 13, 2006

## OPINION

THE DAILY TEXAN

Editor: JJ Hermes  
Phone: (512) 232-2212  
E-mail: editor@dailytexanonline.com  
Associate Editors:  
Claire Harlin  
Clint Johnson  
Ryan Miller

### FOUND POETRY

*This generic disaster response by the UT Office of Public Affairs is available in the event of a Level 3 or Level 4 incident. PIO is the acronym for public information officer, who controls information for the media during a volatile situation.*



#### Sample PIO Response to Inquiries

This is what we can confirm at the present time:

At approximately (time) we experienced a (brief description). At this point we cannot accurately tell you the extent of the damage or injuries other than to say that it has involved (Specific building, facilities—if known) and (number) people. Their names and conditions will not be disclosed until next of kin have been notified. We have requested emergency assistance from (AFD, EMS, etc.) and have notified our management. (If appropriate) They have asked that members of the media stay in touch with (OPA or other designated spokesperson, location, phone) so they can be briefed as soon as additional information is available.

*If you are asked additional questions, make the following statement:*

That is all I can confirm at the present time. I am sure you understand we all are very busy trying to deal with this situation, and we'll need your patience for a few hours. As soon as we have more information that has been confirmed, it will be disclosed to the public via the news media. Anything involving the students, faculty, and staff will be disclosed to their families and loved ones first. That will be handled by (the Office of Public Affairs, Employee Assistance Program, Human Resource Services, the Office of Student Affairs). They have been alerted and are en route to assist us at the scene. Please bear with us in the meantime.