After establishing the “Bhagwan Mahavir Professorship of Jain Studies” at Florida International University in Miami in 2010, JERF has been instrumental in establishing this second Professorship at UNT. The purpose of these Professorships is simple:

- Enhance the collaboration among universities everywhere to inject into their undergraduate and graduate curricula, the study of Jain philosophy and its principles that improve the quality of life of its followers
- Form a network of Jain Scholars worldwide to advance research in Jain Studies, and
- Increase the number of future specialists in Jain Studies by supporting graduate research

A check for the commitment of $500,000 was presented to President Smatresk.