Staff News from DES

NEW STAFF

Mitzie Goff - Associate Registrar
Cristina Coronado - Coordinator of Administration for Registrar's Office
Myriah Garcia - Academic Records Counselor
Cate Hamilton - Academic Records Counselor
Walker Self - Financial Aid Advisor

STAFF RETIRING

Peggy Park - Associate Director of Financial Aid

Birthdays

Darrah Rippy - Jan. 5

Anniversaries

Lorinda Lamb - 16 years
Monica Cordero - 13 years
Marc Peterson - 9 years with DES
Jenny DeMasi - 7 years
Shannon Grandberry - 7 years

Peggy Park Retires

VIPS - Very Important Ponies

Some of our VIPs this month are:

Academic Records Staff - Many thanks to the Academic Records staff lead by Sylvia Wiseman, Nancy Skochdopole, and Susan Evans for their dogged determination to get the grades processed in a timely manner.

Enrollment Resources - And a huge note of thanks to the DES ER team lead by Irma Herrera who make hundreds of gentle phone call to faculty until they submit their grades. This "front line" calling of instructors as soon as the 48 hour due period had passed made a big difference. We are very fortunate to have the ER team.

Enrollment Resources - Colleagues, just a quick note to thank you for your superb work the past few days in response to Early Action letters having been received. I have had several very favorable comments from counselors, students, and parents with whom I have also visited. Your ability to respond professionally and helpfully at the initial point of contact is key to our success in this process.

Student Account Refunds take another step into the future

Federal regulations require that Title V funds (from Federal Financial Aid Programs) in excess of charges must be refunded to the student within 14 calendar days after the first class day for the
... but does not leave

At the end of her seventeenth year at SMU, Peggy Park retired as the Associate Director of Financial Aid. As Associate Director Peggy managed the undergraduate Financial Aid staff to insure that students receive the financial assistance for which they are entitled. This includes the staff that award federal and state aid, staff that process scholarship awards, and staff that facilitate student employment. Since a high percentage of SMU student receive aid in some form, Peggy has been busy training her staff on the latest governmental regulations.

Even though Peggy’s official last day of full time employment was December 31st, She will continue to lend here expertise to the Financial Aid Office as a casual employee. Peggy will continue to work with training, procedure documentation, and providing her knowledge to the undergraduate Financial Aid staff.

However, these assignments in the office will be scheduled around Peggy’s retirement lifestyle. She will spend time with her favorite activities -- spending time with her eight grandchildren and traveling.

A celebration of her retirement is in the planning stages. She retains her SMU e-mail address and telephone number to facilitate her occasional work.

began encouraging students and their families to consider one of SMU’s three summer school programs at Family Weekend. The staff made contact with approximately 1,000 family members and provided them with information on SMU in Taos, Study Abroad, and SMU in Dallas.

The Summer School staff explain that students should include plans to participate in one or more summer school experience as part of their four years at SMU. By planning ahead, the cost can be more effectively managed and the student may be able to receive additional academic credentials such as a second degree, a second major or minor, or experience new cultures in Taos and around the world.

The spring term will have a number of initiatives to make families and students aware of the various summer school programs. We hope by getting a much earlier start this year, the Summer School Office will exceed its success from the summer of 2007.

For information on Summer School go to our website:  www.smu.edu/summer/

Who's New in the Registrar's Office

When you come to the Registrar’s Office in the Blanton Building, you will see some new faces. We are proud to welcome these new people to Enrollment Services and some to SMU. Please take the next opportunity to stop in to introduce yourself.

Associate Registrar- Mitzie Goff begins Feb. 1

Assistant Registrar- Nancy Skochdopole began Nov. 26

Coordinator for Administration- Cristina Coronado began Jan. 2

Business Systems Analyst - Melissa Stanford begins Jan. 7

Business Systems Analyst- Nada Elsayed begins Jan. 14

Academic Records Counselor- Myriah Garcia began Jan. 3

Academic Records Counselor- Cate Hamilton
began Dec. 20