

DES NEWSLETTER

The Division of Enrollment Services Newsletter
Southern Methodist University
An Electronic Newsletter of
Undergraduate Admission, Financial Aid, Student Financial Services, and the University Registrar

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Staff News from DES

NEW STAFF

Kelly Milazzo - Student Financial Operations

STAFF LEAVING

STAFF PROMOTIONS

Lydia Babbit - Federal and State Grant Coordinator

Bill Chandler - Loan Operations Coordinator

Colleen Franklin - Federal, State, and Private Loan Coordinator

Birthdays

Cruz Lopez - May 3

Stephen Forrest - May 7

Tony Tillman - May 11

Walter Jimenez - May 16

Patricia May - May 20

Irma Herrera - May 21

Sherreetta Robertson - May 22

Stephany Coleman - May 24

Cheryl Swift - May 24

Jean Porter - May 27

Rick Diaz - May 29

Kimberly Wratilaw - May 31

Anniversaries

VIPs - Very Important Ponies



Some of our **VIPs** this month are:

Stan Eddy - Thank you for the pro-active effort to keep your students well informed and thank you for sharing all of your "Pre-mail" to other members of Financial Aid. This is such a good customer service initiative.

Cheryl Swift - Thank You - A million thanks for always being there to answer all our \$\$ questions. You have been much appreciated the last 2 years. Thank You,



Gretchen, Student Records Staff, Damon - It can become a tired saying, but things keep getting better. This year's Honors Convocation was the best ever! Thanks Gretchen for your leadership, and thanks everyone for your work on this important event. Recognizing our top academic achievers is important, and I think with your help we did an excellent job at this. From the web site to the balloon towers on the steps of McFarlin, everything made this a special evening for our honored students and their families. Thanks again for all you do for SMU and our students. *John Hall*

The Grade Roster Calling Team - Sylvia Wiseman, Enrollment Resources, and Mitzie Goff. Yes, I do see the fruits of [our] labors. Please know that the communication plan to encourage prompt posting of grades has been a success. Thank you.

DON'T FORGET

Division Meeting June 4th

Important Dates

May 16 - Baccalaureate

May 17 - Commencement

May 26 Memorial Day Holiday

May 28 - May AARO

May 29 - Summer I and III begin

May 30 - Summer I enrollment ends

June 3 - Summer III enrollment ends

June 27 - Last day of Summer I

June 28 - Summer AARO Begins

July 1 - Summer II begins

July 4 Holiday

Quotation of the Month

Schooling is what happens inside the walls of the school, some of which is educational. Education happens everywhere . . .

Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot



SMU Trivia

Question

Did UT Southwestern Medical Center begin as a part of SMU?

Answer

No. This is a common misconception. In the early 1900s, Dallas produced a number of medical schools. Most of these schools were not recognized by the Medical Education establishment at the time. One school was named Southwestern Medical School which transferred its operation to SMU in 1911. The Medical School ceased operations in 1915. The ancestor of UT Southwestern Medical Center did not open its doors until 1943. A copy of an SMU Doctor of Medicine diploma can be found on the 2nd floor of the Blanton Building.

- Joe Papari - 28 years!
- Paula Anderson - 10 years
- Monica Gomez - 7 years
- Marcia Miller - 5 years
- Consuela Mitchell - 3 years
- Lori Atkinson - 2 years
- Gretchen Voight - 2 years
- Pavielle Chriss - 1 year



To: Guild of Marshals & the entire Academic Ceremonies community

From: Brad Carter, Chief Marshal

It is my practice to write a personal note of thanks to those of you who serve our students by taking a part in the ceremonial life of our SMU community. I much regret that I am not able to do so for those of you who gave your time and energy to the Honors Day Convocation. This particular ceremony comes at such a very trying time of year for all of us. Exams and graduation weekend are just around the corner. Worried students knock at our door. We begin to fear our calendars. But SMU owes you a big *thank you*. So do I. I do so much appreciate your willingness to give your time to help us honor our best students.

This was one of the very best Honors Day events. All of you did so very well. It was a great and wonderful treat to have choral music as part of the celebration of excellence. The Meadows Chorale was superb. We owe much to Prof. Elrod both for her conducting and for her choice of *Rytmus*. With all its acoustical limitations McFarlin comes alive with the sound of unaccompanied human voices. Professors Palmer and Cheney and Ms. Lovelace added their special magic as we entered and recessed. Professor Spiegelman added the glory of the well crafted spoken word. Gretchen's balloon arches and the large banners also served to remind us that this was a celebration. And this year it felt like a celebration.

By your efforts you served some of our most talented and gifted students. You also helped to honor Ross Murfin who restored Honors Day. You have demonstrated your interest in our students and your belief in the importance of our corporate life. Gretchen Voight, Nancy Skochdopole, and I are always amazed and what we all can, and do, make happen. Bless you and thank you.



Commencement

Two beautiful days graced the finale of the academic year. Baccalaureate, Commencement, and the Diploma Ceremonies show SMUs finest -- our graduates, our faculty, our administration and staff, and our alumni.



May 2008 presented 1,846 graduates. Nine-hundred fourteen receiving bachelor's degrees and 932 receiving graduate degrees. Nine-hundred and eighty-eight participated in the Commencement Ceremony during which the graduates and guests enjoyed an interesting speech from Professor Allen Weinstein, noted historian and overseer



Student Employee Recognition

April 14-18, 2008 was Student Employee recognition week. Mary Beard, Associate Director for Student Employment and Scholarships, and others in Enrollment Services held a luncheon to honor Student Employees who distinguished themselves in their work over the past academic year.

Twenty-three student workers were nominated for recognition. Each contributed significantly to his or her work assignment. The nominees were Mohammed Aqeeluzzaman Khaleel, Emily George, Derek R. Jones, Brittani M. Arrington, Gerardo Daniel Palos, Megan Walker, Braunshay Pertile, Natalia Jones, Mittie Muse, Meleah Chriss, Jeramaih A. Burbee, Catalina Aguirre.

Braunshay Pertile (pictured with Executive Director Marc Peterson) was chosen 2008 Student Employee of the Year to represent the fine work of all of SMU's student employees.

Congratulations Braunshay!



TxBUC\$ Regional Workshops

The Texas Bursar's for Universities and Colleges (TxBUC\$) provides several drive-in workshops in different location in Texas each year. The purpose of Texas BUC\$ is to share and brainstorm ways to improve customer service, improve processes and to problem solve issues common among the member institutions. SMU Student Financials Services staff members attended

of the National Presidential Libraries.

Over 400 graduates participated in Baccalaureate. Students and families were inspired by the sermon of the Reverend Dr. Sheron Patterson. The evening ended with the traditional Rotunda Recessional in which graduates walked from McFarlin Auditorium through Dallas Hall mirroring their entrance into the academic community with Rotunda Passage.

Congratulations to our graduates, their families, and all of the people at SMU who make this possible.



AARO Kick Off - Ice Cream Social

Dr. Lori White, Vice President of Student Affairs and John Hall, Executive Director of Enrollment Services invite you to join them for the 3rd annual AARO Kick-Off symbolizing the beginning of another academic year.

The kick-off is celebrated with an Ice Cream Social held in the Commons of the Hughes-Trigg Student Center on June 26th between 1pm and 2pm - brief remarks at 1:15pm.

We hope you will join us. It always is a good time when the SMU community comes together.

Special thank you to Stephen Forrest and Damon Wilkins for the photographs.

several of the Regional programs.

In the month of March, Paulette Caraway and Charmissa Ajakaiye attended the Houston Regional Meeting. In April, Cheryl Swift, Mirjan Laci and Claudia Favela attended the Forth Worth Meeting. Anna Gomez and Cindy Castro attended the San Antonio Meeting in May.

These staff had the opportunity to meet their counterpart from other universities and make new working relationships. This was a motivating experience. Others gained ideas from the round table discussions.

All of the conferences were very productive and the attendance was the best yet.

