

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

Volume VIII, Issue V May 2009



Staff News from DES

NEW STAFF

Melissa Guerra - Financial Aid

STAFF LEAVING

STAFF PROMOTIONS

Damon Wilkins - Manager of Enrollment Services

Birthdays

Cruz Lopez - May 3rd

Stephen Forrest - May 7th

Tony Tillman - May 11th

Walter Jimenez - May 16th

Patricia May - May 20th

Irma Herrera - May 21st

Braunshey Pertile - May 21st

Shereetta Robertson - May 22nd

Stephany Coleman - May 24th

Cheryl Swift - May 24th

Joann Martinez - May 26th

Jean Porter - May 27th

Rick Diaz - May 29th

Kimberly Wratistlaw - May 31st

Anniversaries

Joe Papari -29 years - May 28th

th

VIPs - Very Important Ponies



Some of our VIPs this month are:

Rod Del Rio - Thank you for bringing to my attention the letters we send to students with none sufficient funds to cover a check written to the university. I appreciate you thinking that with all the new payment procedures and options, these letters need to be updated. Great job! *Pat Woods*

Summer School Office (SSO) - undergraduate summer enrollment is tracking slightly ahead of last year! The SSO continues to actively market summer courses on campus, at Taos, and Abroad. The friendlier financial policies and availability of aid and loans, combined with a wider variety of course selection and a great team effort between the schools, academic departments, Taos, Education Abroad, Visiting Student office, Enrollment Services and the SSO have lead to this success. *John Hall* I can't thank you and all your hard-working leaders and team members enough! This is good news and I know how long and hard the group has worked on this. Cheers to all! *Tom Tunks*

Paley Wu - thank you so much for ordering and installing my new printer. It is perfect and it works every time! Most importantly, however, thank you for all you do for DES and for your always professional and caring attitude. I am so please to have you as a colleague. *Ron Moss*

Student Financial Services - Pat, the thanks and appreciation [of this parent] go to you and your staff . . . I know the stress of these families ends up at your doorstep. Your help is greatly appreciated by all. *Dr. Deanie Kepler* - Director of Family Services - I wanted to pass on the kind words which are for all of you [SFS staff]. We appreciate Deanie and her support of our area. *Pat Woods*

DON'T FORGET No Meeting in May Division Meeting

Important Dates

May 25 - Memorial Day Holiday

May 31 - May Term Ends

June 1 - Full/Summer I begin

July 1 - AARO begins

July 2 - Summer I ends

July 3 - University Holiday

July 6 - Summer II begins

Aug. 4 - Full/Summer II end

Aug. 17 - Int'l AARO begins

Aug 25 - Opening Convocation

Aug 26 - Fall Term begins

Quotation of the Month

Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as you can.

John Wesley



SMU Trivia

Question

What do Eric Dickerson, Jim Krebs, Steve Lundquist, and Kyle O'Brien Stevens have in common?

Answer

All were inducted into the SMU Athletic Hall of Fame this year. Eric Dickerson ('83) - All-American and member of Pro Football Hall of Fame, Jim Krebs ('57) - All-American Basketball player and LA Laker, Steve Lundquist - All-American, 2 time Olympic gold medalist and International Swimming Hall of Fame, Kyle O'Brien Stevens - All-American Women's Golfer and

Paula Anderson -11 years - May 18

Monica Gomez -8 years - May 27th

Marcia Miller -6 years - May 27th

Consuela Mitchell -4 years - May 9th

Lori Atkinson -3 years - May 15th

Gretchen Voight -3 years - May 25th

Pavielle Chriss -2 years - May 7th

Kelly Milazzo -1 year - May 19th

Enrollment Services Highlights

SWAT - under the continuing directions of Assistant Provost Tony Tillman, staff from Enrollment Services, Dedman Advising, RLSH, and the Dean of Student Life Office reach out to students who have not enrolled for fall 2009. Initiatives have been developed for all students -- rising seniors, students with financial holds, and students who historically have not needed financial assistance. Students who must leave SMU for a period of time may request a Leave Of Absence (LOA) by contacting Tony Tillman in 100 Blanton or atillman@smu.edu. The LOA assists the student in returning to SMU and keeps SMU connected to the student through Tony Tillman's office.

Quick Reference Course Catalog

Check out the new Quick Reference Course Catalog and Schedule of Classes on the Summer in The City web page http://smu.edu/registrar/soc1/summer2009_CSI.asp. This new tool combines the course catalog information and the schedule of classes information into one handy reference document.

This is ideal for Summer School where you want students to quickly and easily see, in one click, what and when it is being offered.

Many thanks to the Stephen Forrest, Darrah Rippy, Cheryl Moore, Paley Wu, Kathy Rowe, Sunsharae Thierry and Susan Evans for their work in developing this handy dandy publication.

Update on Katrina Students

In 2005, SMU was one of many colleges and universities in the nation to open its doors to college students from the flood ravaged Gulf coast. More than 200 students were welcomed, enrolled, and housed for the fall term. As the schools on the coast reopened, many of these students returned to their former institution but a few remained at SMU.

Stephen Forrest, Assistant Registrar, responded to a request from the Provost regarding any students graduating this May who came to SMU following the Katrina and Rita disasters. Four students graduated from SMU previously, three who came to SMU from Tulane and one from Loyola. Five students have

Gretchen Voight and the Honors Day Team - Thank you for all your hard work and extra effort in helping SMU recognize our highest achieving students this evening. *John Hall* - Again, add my thanks and congratulations on a job well done. John is absolutely right -- the looks on the faces said as much as we need to know about how well it went over. *Tom Tunks*

Stanley Stubblefield, Melissa Stanford and Kathy Rowe - A special thank you to all of you for putting together such a fabulous [Honors Day] reception!! I know self-catering is quite a bit of work for us, but we saved a ton of money and had one of the best receptions turnouts I've seen! *Gretchen Voight*

Stephen Forrest - you are amazing at what you do. Your work with tracking the revenue and expenses for summer school is truly going to make a difference. The schools will be able to maximize their efforts to attract students to summer programs and insure the success of our efforts.

Dallas One of the Best!

According to *Forbes Magazine*, the Dallas-Plano-Irving area is the #5 best big city to get a job.

"The Texas dominance of this list starts with Dallas. The city has actually experienced negative growth, by 0.1%, since 2007. The biggest gains [in employment] came from government - 3.4% and education and health services - 4.6%". *Forbes* - April 13, 2009.



Marshalling the troops,
Chief Marshal Tom Fomby

inductee into the National Golf Coaches Association Player Hall of Fame.

Recruit, Rejoice

Retain,

How are we doing? Within Enrollment Services, anywhere on campus, and often off campus, this is the question. How is enrollment looking for fall 2009?

As anyone will tell you, we are not there yet and anything could happen, but for the moment we are doing okay.

SMU's new and continuing undergraduate enrollment is tracking closely to past years at this time. Each area of Enrollment Services has its own barometer - new student deposits, requests for extension on deposits, acceptance of financial aid, registration for AARO, number of payment plans set up, and, of course, actual enrollment for fall 2009. Summer School enrollment is tracking closely to the summer of 2008 as well.

Rejoice for the efforts of everyone at SMU. Our success is the culmination of the work that all of us do -- in Enrollment Services, in the Schools, in the administrative and student services areas and in our student support staff. The beauty of the campus and the welcoming atmosphere make SMU a place that students want to come and to stay.

Thank you - SMU community. But . . . Recruit, Retain, and Rejoice, we still have a few more months to go.

Commencement 2009 Memorable in many ways!

For the graduates and their families, Commencement is memorable and 2009 is that and more. Two particular noteworthy aspects were the introduction of the custom regalia and the third member of a family to serve as the Commencement Speaker.

For ninety-four years, SMU has celebrated the graduation of our

applied for graduation this May and one in August. Four of the students graduating this spring will receive degrees from Dedman College, one from the Lyle School of Engineering, and one from the Meadows School of the Arts. We will have one Law student graduate in 2010.

Congratulation to all who assisted these students achieve this milestone.

Congratulations to All -

Another wonderful

Commencement Weekend!



Even the new Marshal's Robes sparkle



The Hilltop emblazoned in Red and Blue

students through a formal commencement ceremony at the conclusion of the spring term. SMU is unique in that it actually had graduates prior to opening its doors in 1915. [a few students received degrees in medicine from a medical college affiliated with SMU after its chartering in 1911]. Over these many years Commencement has slowly evolved and has become one of the universities most cherished traditions. Graduates dressed in traditional academic robes of black only adorned at the masters and doctoral level. This year, through the work of many, SMU adopted custom regalia which enhanced the beauty of our ceremonies. Undergraduate in royal blue robes with red, crested stoles, filled the main quad with color as they processed into McFarlin Auditorium for Baccalaureate.

At the Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, the graduates and their guest were treated to the third member of a family to speak at Commencement as Laura Bush, former First Lady, took the podium. Mrs. Bush follows her husband, George W. Bush who spoke while he was governor of Texas, and George H. W. Bush who spoke while president of the United States.
