

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 IX, Issue 6 Summer 2010



Staff News from DES

NEW STAFF

Gina Kelbert - Financial Aid

STAFF LEAVING

Kim Wartislav - UG Admission
Alan Ramirez - UG Admission
Pavielle Chriss - UG Admission
Ginger Oravsky - UG Admission
Sheryl Winston - Enrollment Resources
Summer Kocic - Financial Aid

STAFF PROMOTIONS

Stephanie Nonnemacher - Business Systems Analyst - Financial Aid
Braunshay Pertile - Information Systems Analyst - Financial Aid

Birthdays

Ginger Oravsky - July 1
Cindy Luetzow - July 7
Paulette Caraway - July 8
Mirjan Laci - July 12
Tali Koerner - July 14
Fernando Del Rio - July 15
Penny Griffin - July 20
Bill Chandler - July 20
Yaw Bonsu - July 30

Deveron Ellison - August 12
Marcia Miller - August 13
Sunsharae Thierry - August 17
Ron Moss - August 18
Adrienne Hawa - August 19
Sherry Reinwald - August 24
Mary Compian - August 26
Cate Hamilton - August 30
Kim Scott - August 30

Anniversaries

July

John Hall - 39 years
Sharla Coursey - 11 years
Eartha Walls - 11 years
Angie Flores - 7 years

August

Susan Evans - 36 years
Carol Morris - 20 years
Rick Diaz - 19 years
Cheryl Moore - 15 years
Damon Wilkins - 8 years
Stephany Coleman - 5 years
Mirjam Laci - 4 years
Paola Sotomayor - 4 years
Charmissa Ajakaiye - 4 years
Veronica Decena - 3 years

VIPs - Very Important Ponies



Some of our VIPs this month are:

Bill Chandler - My son Joseph is a student at SMU. He was having some difficulty with a student loan -- getting the money disbursed to his account. Bill Chandler was able to figure out the problem and rectify it. Even though he is not Joe's financial [aid] advisor, he took action to solve the problem and the loan has been disbursed to my son's account today. We appreciate his efforts. Bill is very professional and customer friendly! Thanks Bill! *Happy Dad*

Cheryl Swift - I wanted to thank you again for your time and help this morning. SMU is a great institution and I am very proud my daughter has chosen to study there. We look forward to four years of watching her grow and learn in the SMU community. Thank you again. *Happy Dad*

Damon Wilkins, Todd Chiscano, Cate Hamilton, and Paley Wu - I would like to thank all of you for helping to set up CLEM 120 for AARO. The room looks wonderful and ready to handle the 1700+ new students that will come through over the next eight weeks! I know that Dedman Advising appreciates it, too; Kathy Stephens has already called to tell me so.

Mary Beard - Professional, quick, and efficient. . no surprise. You are fantastic and we appreciate all you have done for Staci. Our heartfelt thanks. *Happy parents*

Kelly Milazzo and Adrienne Montgomery - Above and beyond is all I can say. Kelly, thank you for working AARO Saturdays and getting lunch for all who worked. Adrienne, thank you for assisting a student who just showed up and need help with the Release of Education Records. Both of you put the "service" in Enrollment Services.

Cheryl Moore and Kathy Rowe - Thank you so much [for correcting the mistake I made in canceling my daughters summer II classes over the 4th of July weekend]. I can now sleep this weekend. *Happy Dad*

Angie Flores and Mirjam Laci - I want to commend Angie and Mirjam for the incredible work they do with the various organizations that pay for students to attend classes in Lyle. They work hard to make sure that billing and payment is seamless for both the student and his/her third party provider.

Gretchen Voight, Cate Hamilton, Nancy Skochdopole, Damon Wilkins, and Stanley Stubblefield - A huge note of thanks to the team that decorated the first floor display cabinets and surrounding walls and the shelves at the service counter. It all looks great and really has a nice SMU feel. *John Hall*

Mitzie Goff - Ms. Goff went above and beyond for [my son] since he was having computer glitches and could not access his transcript. Ms.

Opening Convocation



Mark your calendar
Aug. 22, 2010

Important Dates

Aug. 15-16 - International AARO
Aug. 18 - New Student Move In
Aug. 21 - Halls officially open
Aug. 22 - Opening Convocation
Aug. 23 - First day of class UG students
Aug. 27 - Last day to enroll/drop/add
Sept. 6 - Labor Day Holiday
Oct. 11-12 - Fall Break
Nov. 1 - Enrollment begins for Spring 2011
Nov. 5 - Last day to drop
Nov. 23 - Last day to withdraw
Nov. 24 - no classes
Nov. 25-26 - Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec. 6 - Last day of instruction
Dec. 7 - Reading Day
Dec. 8-15 - Final Examinations
Dec. 18 - December Graduation

Quotation of the Month

No one has completed his education who has not learned to live with an insoluble problem.

Edmund J. Kiefer



SMU Trivia

Question

With what Texas city did Dallas compete for SMU?

Answer

Fort Worth.

Dallas locked in its selection with a gift of 100 acres of land by the Caruth family (later giving an additional 33 acres) and an endowment of \$200,000 from the Dallas business community.

Showcasing SMU History

From its dedication in November of 2003, the Laura Lee Blanton Building has showcased SMU history with its 1st floor lobby decor. Vintage photographs hang in the vestibule and six large frames hold a chronology of SMU from 1911 to 1994. These pieces of SMU traditions were an anonymous gift honoring President A. Kenneth Pye and first hung in the lobby of Perkins

Enrollment Services Highlights

Gradebook debuts - ACCESS.SMU adds Gradebook to the tools offered to faculty for class management. During the end of May and June, thirty-one faculty members were trained to use Gradebook. Seven faculty used it for grading in Summer II and another 18 will use it beginning this fall. Once faculty see the features of Gradebook, we expect 100 faculty to use it in another year. Not only does it assist faculty, it provides a quick, safe and efficient way for students to view their grades privately within hours after they are posted. If you are interested in learning more about Gradebook, contact Mitzie Goff or Sylvia Wiseman in the Registrar's office. Thanks to Mitzie, Sylvia, and Sunsharae Thierry for the implementation of Gradebook.

TOAD - second successful year - the Transfer Open Advising Day drew enthusiastic students to SMU the last week in May. John Hall, expressed "Congratulations on a fine event. I found it particularly gratifying to see how excited these future students (and, so many with parents) were about coming to SMU." One such parent stated, "Thanks for being so helpful to Jamie. I think she has decided as of today to attend SMU and a lot of it has to do with the great attitude you have and the energy you have put into the transfer students and transfer day. I am very proud to be part of the SMU family." Nancy Skochdopole, Director of Transfer and Transition Services (TTS) reports 83 transfer students attended, received advising, and left saying they are excited to attend SMU. TOAD is planned by the TTS in conjunction with Transfer Admission and staffed by Academic Advisors from all schools and the College.

EOS assists with collections - The University Bursar's office is charged with collecting tuition, fees, and other cost of attending SMU. Each year, University Bursar Pat Woods looks for ways to assist students and families meet their financial obligation to SMU. However, at the beginning of each term, some accounts have outstanding balances. The sooner these students can be contacted and payment arrangements made, the less the balance will grow. EOS, an accounts receivables service, has been contracted to assist in contacting students with outstanding balances in order to resolve the remaining charges.

Textbook link - Class Search on ACCESS.SMU offers a new feature this fall -- textbook information. With the standard class section information, students may find the name of materials, the author, the ISBN, and the cost of textbooks assigned for that section. Nada El-Sayed and Joe Papari worked with SMU Business Services, the SMU Bookstore, Barnes and Noble, and OIT to provide this new services. This initiative was as a part of compliance with one of the new Higher Education Opportunity Act requirements.

Goff returned all our calls and followed up to ensure that he had what he needed. He was able to arrive at his interview with transcript in hand. *Happy Mom*

Kathy Rowe and company - Thank you again for assisting. You and your team are terrific . . . I know we wouldn't get this kind of support at very many schools, and it's clear you set the standard for your department. *Happy Mom*

Official Transcripts at the speed of the net!

"Effective June 16th SMU added an electronic delivery (PDF) option for official academic transcripts," announced John Hall. With the Registrar's vendor that provides an online option to request transcripts, the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC), and OIT, person's may request his/her official transcript be delivered through electronic mail. Anyone attending SMU after summer 1996 may request an electronic transcript through NSC or in person at the Registrar's office. The Registrar's staff send the official transcript to NSC and the receiving party is notified how to retrieve the PDF of the official transcript from NSC. SMU has provided same day or next day service for a number of years but this electronic option can beat that delivery time for a much reduced cost.

SMU is among the first schools to implement this service with NSC. During the first 3 weeks after the electronic option was live, 83 transcript requests were delivered electronically.

Safeguard for the security for the transcript PDF ensures against tampering and improper handling. Recipients of the electronic transcript have 14 days to view/print the document. If the transcript is not retrieved by 30 days, the document expires and a new transcript must be sent. Recipients are notified 3 times before the document expires. The document cannot be saved to a computer. It only can be viewed and printed.

Other details may be found at <http://smu.edu/registrar/transcripts.asp>.

SMU and DCCCD offer Reverse Transfer Option

Reverse of Transfer Credit is an agreement between SMU and the Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD) that allows student to transfer academic credit earned at SMU to complete an Associates Degree at one of the DCCCD campuses. To take advantage of this program, students must have at least 18 semester credit hours from DCCCD, earned at least 15 credit hours at SMU, transferred to SMU from DCCCD as the last school attended, and be in good standing with both schools. SMU President R. Gerald Turner and DCCCD Chancellor Wright L Lassiter, Jr. will sign the agreement in early fall.

Administration Building. "The Early Years" cover the presidencies of Robert S. Hyer - 1911 to 1920 and Hiram Boaz - 1920-22. Presidents Selectman (1923-38) and Umphrey Lee (1939-54) represent a "Time for Growth." The significant impact of the Willis M. Tate presidency (1954-1972) expands over two periods, "Building the Future" and "Continuing Traditions." The 1970s were "Creating a Vision for Tomorrow" during the Harden (1972-74) and Zumberg (1975-80) years. The sixth "Recognizing SMU Heritage" covers the period of Donald Shields (1981-86) and A. Kenneth Pye (1987-94).

Last summer a project was initiated to continue honoring significant times and people over SMU's almost 100 years. One display case on the 1st floor exhibits the custom regalia unveiled at Commencement 2009. Also in that display case are other ceremonial pieces such as the first university mace and the Howard Lantern. Pictured are past Chief Marshalls who shaped the academic ceremonies SMU presents each year.

This summer, after a generous gift from the wife of Willis M. Tate, the other display case was designed to chronicle the symbols surrounding the SMU presidency. Mrs. Tate donate President Tate's academic regalia. President Turner's new custom regalia is on display as well as the president's medallion. Photographs of some of the past Honorary Degree recipients and Commencement speakers are shown in this case.

Please come by Blanton to look back on SMU's proud history.

People in the News

Chriss moves to Assistant Provost's staff - undergraduate Admission staff member Pavielle Chriss assumed a new position as Assistant Director for Student Success Programs the end of June. Working with Anthony Tillman, Assistant Provost for Strategic Initiatives and Student Success, Pavielle will manage programs targeting student success such as the Mustang Scholars and the Fall Academic Bridge Program.

Papari elected to SACRAO committee - at the spring meeting of SACRAO, Joe Papari, Director of Information Systems for Enrollment Services was elected to the 2010-11 N&E Nominations and Elections Committee. He will work with four other members to select the slate of SACRAO officers for 2011-12.

Voight and Rippy lead SMU Staff Association - Gretchen Voight became President of the SMU Staff Association at the President's Picnic in May. She is joined on the Executive Board by Darrah Rippy who was elected Vice President of Service and Activities for 2010-11.

Congratulations to all.