VIPs - Very Important Ponies

Some of our VIPs this month are:

Lorinda Lamb, Damon Wilkins, and Ryan Hayden - What an incredible job you have done with the Bursar's area in the attic of Perkins Administration Building. Sorting documents, labeling, making sure the proper documents were destroyed in a safe manner, and organizing our area took many days in that dusty area and I appreciate it. You greatly reduced the amount of space we have in PAB which is important. Thank you.

Stephen Forrest, Kim Kondel, and Nancy Rowe - Thank you so much for your work on the summer enrollment project. It could not have been done without your assistance. Even though the report only scratches the surface, it is remarkable how much we did in a short time. I appreciate your time and your willingness to put this project ahead of other things in order to meet the deadlines. Kathy Rowe Thank you all for all your hard work on this. Harold Stanley

Paley Wu - has gone above and beyond being patient and helpful with endless updates and revisions to the FA websites. He never makes me feel like a bother, and always gets things finished well before I would expect or have asked. Give that guy a high 5! Nancy Skochdopole and Abbi Pfister

SMU Trivia

Question
What is the actual date of SMU’s founding?

Answer
February 4, 1911 was the date that the Methodist Church chartered a university to be located in north Texas.

9.0 Upgrade Features

Faculty Center

Many of the Faculty Center features found in 8.9 have been redelivered in 9.0.
- Catalog and Class Search
- Faculty Search
- Class and Grade Rosters
- View Advises; View Drop-in Advises (labeled Advisor Center)
- Notify All/Selected Students
- Notify All/Selected Advisees

Two new exciting features are photographs attached to instructors’ class rosters and view access to the Student Center for their advisees and non-advisees. The photo feature enables instructors to look up an individual
law by President Obama. There are several changes, however, the most significant change is that the law creates a national maximum for veterans enrolled in a private or foreign institution. Private and foreign institution costs (tuition and fees) will be capped at $17,500 annually, beginning August 1, 2011. This may impact the number of veterans we currently have attending. University officials will be meeting soon to discuss these new legislative changes.

Enrollment Services at Our Best

Being interconnected to resolve problems is the value of Enrollment Services. Here is the story of how a “village” in DES helped a parent.

At 10:13am on February 9th, Enrollment Resources (ER) - the call center for Enrollment Services - was contacted by a parent wishing to cancel a loan and thus the subsequent refund of money disbursed to SMU. ER responded with the procedure for canceling the loan, the e-mail of the Financial Aid Advisor to send the written request to cancel, and the follow up that would be done. The parent immediately sent a cancelation e-mail to Financial Aid, the Advisor canceled the loan, notified the parent and informed her that he had contacted the Loan specialist to return the funds to the Lender. He stated that the student's regular Advisor was out that day but would be happy to follow up with this when she returned the next day. He would brief her on the situation.

The parent responded that her daughter had just been notified that the check was sent. The Advisor assured the parent that the Bursar's office was notified and gave contact information in that office. The ER staff member copied on the e-mail contacted the refund team in the Bursar's Office and informed the parent that she would be contacted that afternoon. By 3:31pm the parent was notified that the check was void and the loan cancelation complete. Great job Walker Self, Tiffany Hawkins, and Irma Herrera - part of our village.

Enrollment for Spring - The Registrar’s office reports spring enrollment at 10,595 for the total university. This is 1% higher than spring enrollment in 2010. Undergraduate enrollment is reported at 5,899 0.1% higher than last spring and graduate/professional enrollment at 4,621 - 1% higher than last spring. Complete enrollment report may be found at [smu.edu/registrar/reporting/](http://smu.edu/registrar/reporting/).

Transfer Equivalencies, available on the Transfer website, continues to grow. In mid-January the SMU Transfer and Transition Services had increased the number of equivalency rules in ACCESS.SMU from 24 to 50 schools and doubled the number of courses that SMU provides the equivalents for transfer students. John Hall, University Registrar, states, "Having this large number of schools and equivalencies on our website and in ACCESS. SMU is great news. It will not only benefit prospective students but staff can evaluate transcripts automatically. " Thank you, Monica Gomez, Jessica Dixon, Nancy Skochdopole, and Susan Evans.

Another collaborative effort that is being reapplied in 9.0 is "posting partial grades" and it gets even better because instructors will be able to do multiple partial postings instead of just one-time partial posting, the current practice in 8.9. Grade Book, a classroom management product, has not changed in 9.0. Instructors can continue to define and grade assignments, papers, quizzes/tests, and final exams, calculate their students' scores, and upload their mid-term and final grades into Access.SMU.