

DES NEWSLETTER

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

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Staff News from DES

NEW STAFF

Tom Gibbs - Registrar's Office

STAFF LEAVING

Birthdays

Gordon Brannon - Nov. 2
Angie Flores - Nov. 3
Mary Ann Frye - Nov. 5
Federico Munoz - Nov. 12
Jill Branson - Nov. 14
Kerry Schneidewind - Nov. 19
Jessica Dixon - Nov. 20
Adrienne Montgomery - Nov. 23
Jackie Wilborn - Nov. 26
Monica Gomez - Nov. 28

Anniversaries

Jean Porter - 12 years
Jill Branson - 8 years
Paulette Caraway - 7 years
Lydia Babbitt - 6 years
Colleen Franklin - 6 years
Stanley Stubblefield - 4 years
Nancy Skochdolope - 4 years
Kimberly Scott - 3 years
Jameela Hudson - 1 year
Julio Lopez - 1 year

Managing Strengths in the University Bursar's Office

Each summer the Central Association of College and University Business Officers sponsor the Leadership Development Institute at Wichita State University. In June 2011, three staff from the University Bursar's office participated in a four day workshop, "How Effective Leaders Get Things Done." R. P. Clinton Distinguished Professor of Management at Wichita State, Dr. Gerald Graham, uses the concepts of Strength Based Leadership to teach senior and middle managers in business, finance and administrative roles a new approach to hiring, placing, and supervising staff. Dr. Graham states, the program is "designed to promote your continued professional development" by enhance your knowledge of the impact of leadership styles.

Participants identify their personal strengths through a online assessment. Dr. Graham uses *Strength Based Leadership* by Rath and Conchie, *First Break All the Rules* by Buckingham and Coffman, and *The Five Dysfunctions of a Team* by Lencioni as the text. Participants work through the concepts presented and apply them to their particular work situation.

Pat Woods, SMU University Bursar, is translating her

VIPs - Very Important Ponies



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

Student Account Services - Shout Out! for your great customer service. Several times in the last few weeks a student has come to Blanton to resolve an enrollment hold after regular service hours. Each time one of the Student Account staff gladly talked with the student in order to assist him or her with the hold. Great Customer Service.

Yaw Bonus - One of our prospective students thought she had paid her application fee twice. Yaw confirmed that he only saw one payment but then contacted the help desk to confirm. In my second follow-up conversation with the student, she mentioned that she could not believe how helpful we were as a staff. She stressed that from her prospective we more than met her expectations as a university that cares.

Marcia Miller - perseverance! That is what it took for Marcia to make sure that the Tuition Calculator was in place on the Financial Aid website in compliance with federal regulations. Thank you for the hours of work on this.

Gretchen Voight - was selected Secretary of the Texas Association of College Registrar's and Admission Officers. Congratulations, Gretchen.

Kelly Milazzo - Thanks, again. You were phenomenal helping us figure out the payment thing for my niece. You really stepped up and I like to acknowledge performance. I greatly appreciate your help. We were able to finalize the payment and complete her enrollment. *Happy Uncle*

Undergraduate Admission has busy fall

The Undergraduate Admission staff as well as the recruiters from the undergraduate schools are wrapping up a busy fall that clocked many miles across the United States and around the world. The reports on Early Action applications show an increase of not only the number of applications but a significant increase of completed applications. Wes Waggoner, Dean of Admission, feels the Mustang App has enhanced the completion of the admission applications. The quality of the applicants also shows an increase in SAT scores.

An addition to the undergraduate admission calendar is the school Spotlights. Dedman College and the 4 schools offering undergraduate programs invited prospective students and their families to SMU for a more in depth look at each of their degree programs. Held on different days throughout the fall term, prospective

Blanton Holiday Party



Mark your calendar
December 14th

Important Dates

Nov. 17 - J Term Invoices processed
Nov. 18 - Spring 2012 SMU Abroad and Hart Invoices processed
Nov. 22 - last day to withdraw from the university
Nov. 23 - no classes - offices open
Nov. 24-25 - Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec. 5 - last day of instruction
Dec. 6 - reading day
Dec. 7-14 - examinations
Dec. 15 - residence halls officially close
Dec. 17 - December graduation
Dec. 19 - payment due date for spring
Dec. 26-Jan. 2 - Winter Break

Quotation of the Month

The will to succeed is important, but what's even more important is the will to prepare.

Bobby Knight



SMU Trivia

Question

When is the only time SMU played Stanford in football?

Answer

1936 Rose Bowl
The only time SMU played in the Rose Bowl. The revenue from the game paid off the bonds for Ownby Stadium.

Tuition Calculator Allows Families to Understand the Cost of Attendance

In August of 2008, the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 was signed into federal law. The legislation requires postsecondary institutions receiving federal student aid and enrolling first time, full-time undergraduates to provide a net price calculator (NPC) on the schools website. The Act states the NPC is "to help current and prospective students, families, and other consumers to estimate the individual net price of an institution of higher education for a student." Net price is the difference between

experience to her managers. She has provided managers with access to the Strengths assessment and copies of the books used at the Institute. The managers in small groups are working through the *Strength Based Leadership* book in preparation for a two day retreat prior to the end of the fall term.

Woods is implementing several of the Strength initiatives in hiring and placing of staff.



Happy Thanksgiving

students could tour the facilities of each school, talk with faculty, and discuss their educational goals with recruiters.

Dedman College welcomed over 300 prospective students and their families. Students sat in on two classes in their area of academic interest while parents got tips about the partnership they have with SMU when their student matriculates. Deanie Kepler, Director of Parent and Family Programs shared the ways that parents of successful students can support the growth of their student as they become Emerging Adults. Parents also were treated to a lecture by Professors David Meltzer and Mark Chancey.

The spotlights were a pilot. The responses from the schools as well as the families will determine the future of this type of programming.

a college's average cost of attendance and the need/merit based grant aid awards available to the student. Elise Miller, program director of the U. S. Department of Education Postsecondary Education Data Systems states, "We just want to break down the myth of 'sticker price' and get beyond it. This is to give students some indication that they will not be paying that full price."

Prior to the signing of the Act, Bradley University and several other colleges posted calculators to assist students in estimating the cost of attendance. David Pardieck, Director of Financial Assistance at Bradley, explains "In order to best serve our student population, we are dedicated to providing a fully transparent financial process."

The SMU Net Price Calculator was posted prior to the October 29, 2011 deadline and can be located on the Financial Aid website.

Information provided from "Meeting the Federal Net Price Calculator Mandate" Bill Smith, Carri Frechette, David Childress, and Marc Alexander - June 2011 "studentaid service"