December events included DES celebrating a great lunch, getting out admission decisions and ending a busy month with Graduation. I hope all of you will enjoy the holidays and time with family and friends. Kelly and I appreciate all the positive comments about DES News; please continue to share events going on in your areas and take pictures!

Irma

**The Quick List**

*Important Dates for the term*

**December**
- 15th - December graduation
- 19th - J Term payment due date
- Dec. 24-Jan. 1 - Offices closed

**January**
- 7th-16th - J Term at SMU-IN-PLANO
- 14th - Spring AARO
- 9th - Payment due date for Spring term

**Staff Leaving:**
- Jaynell Dalby - Financial Aid

**Achievements:**
- We had some folks graduating this December!
- Lydia Babitt - MS in Entrepreneurship
- Randy Trevino - MLS
- Pavielle Chriss - Masters in Dispute Resolution

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**Blanton Building Holiday Luncheon**

(l-r): Joe, Jay, Stephanie, Jill, Wes, Jeannie, Yaw, Deena

(l-r): Veronica, Monica, Nancy, Jackie

(l-r): Jeremy, John, Grant

(l-r): Mary Ann, Claudia, Deveron

(l-r): Joseph, Bill, Missy, Meredith, Marcia

(l-r): Anna, Angie
Joyce Stubblefield  
(Stan’s wife)  
Masters in CSE

Jonathan Miller  
(Marcia’s son)  
BS in Economics with Finance Applications

DES Spotlight
Meet your Blanton Holiday Luncheon Team and the Building Decorating Committee!

Luncheon (l-r): Candace, Damon, Stan
Décor (l-r): Mary Ann, Katie Beth, Gina

The Information Processing Team has been working nonstop to link application materials into the system.
All of Admission has been prepping decision letters to send out.

The ladies of Information Processing

IP (l-r): Angie, Sherreta, Shelley, Shannon (f), Joann
Admission Staff hard at work on prepping admission packets!
Graduation Update from Cate

Thank you, all for helping to create a wonderful event for our graduates and their families! This year, our graduates consisted of a number of our own in DES: Stan Stubblefield's wife, Joyce, Marcia Miller's son, Jonathan, Lydia Babbitt, Pavielle Chriss, Randy Trevino and even a friend of mine from high school!

Some exciting news: December Graduation had the second largest online webcast audience with 763 online viewers! We've been out-watched only by the Dalai Lama's visit to campus. I think it’s no surprise to the ER team and Kimberly Scott who fielded a number of calls and e-mails showing interest in the webcast. A big thank you to the online webcast team and the Crum Auditorium simulcast team for making this wonderful service to our families come together so effortlessly!

A huge thank you to our volunteers for giving up their Saturday morning to help us make such a great event happen!: Kelly and Chris Milazzo, Grant and Charles Harper, Angie Irvin, Anita Nazmul, Cristal Mendez, Abbi Pfister, Anna Gomez, Mirjan Laci, and Pat Woods!

Once again, thank you all for making the Academic Ceremonies team look good! Nancy, Kimberly and I appreciate your hard work and dedication. Have a Happy Holiday season and safe travels!

Our very own Bursar, Pat Woods, lending a hand at Commencement!

Ceremonies team:
(l-r): Kimberly & Cate (See Nancy’s pic below)

It’s Good to know…

John Hall reports that the Office of Transfer and Transition Services has received a $10,000 donation from the family of a recent SMU transfer student. The student had a very good transition to SMU and her family wanted to provide support for future transfer students. The funds will be used to pilot an Oracle class designed specifically to help a large number of future transfers make a smooth transition to SMU.

As John states, “This donation reflects the excellent leadership Nancy Skochdopole is providing in her role as director of transfer and transition services, and equally reflects the good work of all who work with transfers.” John adds, “Congratulation to Nancy, and to all of you for the wonderful work done to support transfers at SMU. As the saying goes, it does take a village, and transfers are no exception.”

(l-r): Nancy and Monica

Men’s basketball at 8-2 is off to its best start since 2006. Next home games are 12/30, Jan. 2 and 6. Our women’s basketball team stands at 7-2 with 2 more games at home over a 6 day period. Pony Up!