



DES News

A publication of the Division of Enrollment Services



December 2013

Volume 2, Number 4

The Quick List

Important Dates for the term

November

- 22 – Students should file for May graduation
- 26 – Last day to withdraw from university
- 27 – “No Class” Day
- 28-29 – University Holiday

December

- 4-9 – No final exams or unscheduled tests and papers
- 9 – Last Day of Instruction
- 10-11 – Reading Days
- 10 – DES Holiday Luncheon 12pm
- 12-18 – Exams
- 19 – Residence Halls close at 10:00am
- 19 – PAYMENT DUE DATE for J-Term
- 21 – Official Close of Term and Conferral of Degrees

November is a time to celebrate our **Veterans**, look ahead to **Thanksgiving** and realize we are almost at the close of the first semester. We all have much for which to be grateful. While there never seems to be any “down” time anymore; at least the collective work we do is making a difference in our student’s lives. As can be seen below, we attend conferences to get better at what we do. We take time to gather as a staff to bond, grow and express appreciation. We celebrate with our children and welcome new additions to our DES family. On **December 10th** starting at noon we will gather to feast and fellowship at the **Division Holiday Luncheon**, I look forward to seeing you there.

Irma

December Commencement Convocation

December Commencement will be held at 10:00 AM on Saturday, Dec 21st in Moody Coliseum. Academic Ceremonies is always in need of great volunteers! If you would like to help with December Commencement, please email Meg Scott at mhscott@smu.edu and you will be provided with an assignment and ceremony attire.

If you have a family member or relative participating in Commencement on December 21, 2013, Academic Ceremonies would love to celebrate with you and your family! Please complete the online RSVP form here:

<https://sites.smu.edu/des/rsvp/DecemberCommencement/?audience=des>

Kimberly Scott

A Great Reason to Celebrate!



December Birthdays

- 10 - Charmissa Ajakaiye
- 15 - Joseph Knight
- 16 - Mitzie Goff
- 20 - Cheryl Moore
- 22 - Pam Fincher
- 23 - Don Moorman
- 25 - Stan Stubblefield
- 26 - Shannon Grandberry
- 30 - Sue Brunz
- 31 - Rod Jackson

December Work Anniversaries

- 1 - Anna Gomez (15 years)
- 1 - Tom Gibbs (2 years)
- 4 - Walker Self (6 years)
- 9 - Charles Harper (55 years)
- 15 - Braunshay Pertile (5 years)

If we missed your birthday or work anniversary please email iherrera@smu.edu.

- 21 – December Commencement Convocation
- Dec 24 - Jan 1 – University Offices Closed
- 25 – University Holiday, Christmas

January

- 1 – University Holiday, New Years Day
- 6 – First day J-Term classes
- 7 – Add/Drop day J-Term
- 9 – Undergrad PAYMENT DUE DATE for Spring
- 12 – Residence halls open
- 14 – AARO
- 15 – Last class & exams J-Term
- 17 – First day of Spring classes
- 20 – University Holiday, MLK Jr. Day
- 24 – Add/Drop & file for May grad last day

DES Spotlight

Yaw Bonsu on the Admissions Technology Team has developed an internal process to eliminate manual processing of 80% of our application documents. This new process eliminates the bottle neck of thousands and thousands of documents we receive right before and after our admission application deadlines. Yaw's process has automatically indexed & linked over 17,000 documents so far this year! Now, instead of taking weeks applicant's checklist are being updated within a day or two from the time documents are received.

*Great job Yaw!
~Cruz*

I'm glad [my] situation has been resolved. The Bursar's Office has been exceptionally helpful this year and I really appreciate what you do for us students.

*Thank you,
(Student) Steven*

Please join me in congratulating Joe Papari, the President Elect nominee for SACRAO. Joe will take office February 2014 and will serve a year each as President Elect, President and Past President. Joe has previously served SACRAO as Treasurer, and is currently serving as VP Technology.

Also, please join me in congratulating Nancy Skochdopole who has been tapped for Golden Key Honorary Membership. Nancy's induction was November 13. To learn more about Golden Key go to www.goldenkey.org.

John Hall

SMUSA Holiday Luncheon



Save the Date – the annual SMU Staff Association Holiday Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, December 11th beginning at 11:30am. Please be sure to keep an eye on your email inboxes as more information about the luncheon, as well as the Holiday Service project, will be coming out soon.



It's Good to Know...

Members of the Financial Aid and ER offices attended the SWAFSAA Conference in Little Rock, AR at the beginning of the month.

Ashley Griffin and Lacey Porter attended financial aid training "boot camp."



Later in the week they were joined by Christopher Cornell, Minerva Chihuahua, Penny Griffin, and Walker Self.



Bursar Annual Conference in Houston





Claudia & Paola



Damon, Pat, & Deveron



Angie

Bursar's Office Retreat

The office of the Bursar took a day to gather together at the Springhill Retreat Center in Richardson.





Lorea from HR gave a great presentation on creating a better workplace environment.



Damon, Beth, John, and Charles work together to create the tallest balloon structure for their team building exercise.



Thank you to Federico Muñoz for taking this beautiful picture!



Anna and Paola happily enjoy a pot luck soup and salad lunch.

DES Kids – Halloween Adventures!



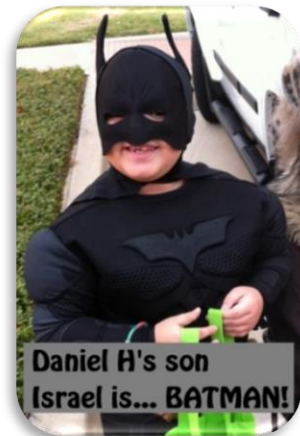
**Cindy C's
Batman
& Buzz
Lightyear
Boys!**



**Claudia F's
"Bootiful" Witches!**



**Priceless poses from
Tiffany H's kiddos!**



**Daniel H's son
Israel is... BATMAN!**



**It's good to "bee"
as sweet as
Gina K's Shelby!**



**Sunsharae's Logan
and Olivia with cousins
Jocelyn and Isaac!**

Introducing Our Latest Additions...

Jill Branson
holding
her newest
grandbaby
Max.



**Say hello to Kellen Lewis's
brand new baby girl, Simone!**