The afternoon you have become a part of our community. The Rotunda Processional symbolizes this transformation. You were assembled by faculty. Your march was heralded by the SMU Trumpet Ensemble. You were led by Peruna, living symbol of the University. You marched through Dallas Hall, our oldest building. You were guided by alumni who are also parents of fellow entering students. These alumni represent the lifetime connection to SMU, a connection which you now share.

At the conclusion of Convocation we will lower the historic Ovilla Curtain to signify the completion of your initiation. Here is the story of that curtain. During the 1830s, the parents of Robert McFarlin, for whom this auditorium was named, lived in Ovilla, Texas. There was no Methodist church in the area; instead, the Methodists were served by a circuit rider. The McFarlins gave the circuit rider the land and money to build the Ovilla Methodist Church, pictured on the curtain, which Robert McFarlin attended.

Upon your graduation you will leave McFarlin Auditorium in the Rotunda Recessional, marching back through Dallas Hall, again led by alumni, alumni whose ranks you will join the next day following Commencement.

The Rotunda Passage, which students walk when they first enter SMU, and the Rotunda Recessional, their final walk taken the evening before May graduation, recognize the importance of Dallas Hall to our campus life. Dallas Hall is the oldest building on our campus. In 1915 when classes began, it housed all of the academic and administrative functions of the University. It is pictured on SMU’s seal. And just as Dallas Hall is central to SMU, the rotunda is at the very center of Dallas Hall. Thomas Jefferson’s rotunda at the University of Virginia stands alone. Our rotunda is the centerpiece of a magnificent three-story building that stands on the highest spot, or “hilltop,” of the land given by the citizens of Dallas to attract SMU to this city. It is fitting that Dallas Hall is named in honor of the generosity and vision of those citizens. It is appropriate one becomes part of the SMU community by marching through it to Opening Convocation.

Southern Methodist University will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, or veteran status. SMU’s commitment to equal opportunity includes nondiscrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.
CARILLON CONCERT AND CALL TO CONVOCATION
Lorn L. Howard, Chief Marshal Emeritus, Carillonneur
Fondren Science Tower, 5:00 p.m.
Julian Gibbs, Creative Director of University Events and Special Projects

CONVOCATION PROGRAM

THE PROCESSIONAL
The Imperial Brass
Cassus in D
Parahemihemisperic
Cyne the Great
Bagpiper
Trumpet Voluntary

INVOCATION
Judith Hennanberger, Associate Chaplain and Coordinator of Religious Life

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
Paul W. Ludden, Process and Vice President for Academic Affairs

REMARKS
Michael M. Boone, Vice Chair, SMU Board of Trustees
Dennis A. Foster, President of the Faculty Senate
Rob Hayden, President of the Students’ Association

SPECIAL MUSIC
Meadows Convocation Chorus
I Can Tell the World
arr. Moses Hogan

GREETINGS AND PRESENTATION OF THE SPEAKER
B. Gerald Turner, President of the University
ADDRESS
What is...What now?
Cornelia Candellato, Dean ofSMU College

PRESENTATION OF THE ENTERING STUDENTS OF 2008
Rom Moss, Dean of Undergraduate Admissions and Executive Director of Enrollment Services

CHARGE TO THE ENTERING STUDENTS OF 2008
President R. Gerald Turner

UNIVERSITY HYMN
Amanda Hart Walker, President and Vice President for Music in Meadows School of the Arts

CHARGE TO THE ENTERING STUDENTS OF 2008
President R. Gerald Turner

UNIVERSITY HYMN
Amanda Hart Walker, President and Vice President for Music in Meadows School of the Arts

REMARKS
Michael M. Boone, Vice Chair, SMU Board of Trustees
Dennis A. Foster, President of the Faculty Senate
Rob Hayden, President of the Students’ Association

SPECIAL MUSIC
Meadows Convocation Chorus
I Can Tell the World
arr. Moses Hogan

THE CONVOCATION PROCESSION
Bradley Kent Carter, Chief Marshal
Thomas B. Fomby, Procession Marshal
Kenneth Hamilton, Assisting Procession Marshal
Joseph Kryzkij, Marshal Announcer

J. Matthew Wilson, Marshal
THE PHIL RITA KAPPA GREETERS

Jeffery L. Kennington
Thomas Osang, and
William J. Puhn, Marshals
ENTRANCE OF STUDENTS OF 2008

Thomas B. Fomby, Marshal
THE FLAG BEARERS

Mary Vernon, Marshal
THE ALUMNI MARSHALS
Benjamin H. Johnson and
Donna Mayer-Martin, Marshals

FACULTIES OF THE UNIVERSITY
Barbara Hill Moore, Marshal
O F FICE OF THE PROVOST CORPORATE OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

Barbara Hill Moore, Marshal
O F FICE OF THE PROVOST CORPORATE OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

Donna M. Simon, President
PLATEFORM PARTY

John B. Attanasio, Dean of the Disbab School of Law
Michael M. Boone, Vice Chair, SMU Board of Trustees
José Antonio Bowen, Dean of Meadows School of the Arts
Cornelia Candellato, Dean ofSMU College

David J. Chard
Dean of the Annise and Kake Simmons School of Education and Human Development

Pamela Erols
Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities

Dennis A. Foster
President of the Faculty Senate and D.D. Foyle Professor of English

John A. Hall
President of the Staff Association

Robert Thomas Hayden III
President of the Students’ Association

Judith Hennanberger
Associate Chaplain and Coordinator of Religious Life

William B. Rammel
Dean of Perkins School of Theology

Paul W. Ludden, Process and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Gilman M. McCants, Dean and Director of Central University Libraries

Ron Moss
Dean of Undergraduate Admissions and Executive Director of Enrollment Services

Alfret W. Nicos, Jr.
Dean of Elder’s Law School of Business

Geoffrey C. Onuk
Dean of the School of Engineering

R. Gerald Turner
President of the University

Amanda Hart Walker, President and Vice President for Music in Meadows School of the Arts

Lori S. White
Vice President for Student Affairs

THE CONVOCATION PROCESSION
Bradley Kent Carter, Chief Marshal
Thomas B. Fomby, Procession Marshal
Kenneth Hamilton, Assisting Procession Marshal
Joseph Kryzkij, Marshal Announcer

J. Matthew Wilson, Marshal
THE PHIL RITA KAPPA GREETERS

Jeffery L. Kennington
Thomas Osang, and
William J. Puhn, Marshals
ENTRANCE OF STUDENTS OF 2008

Thomas B. Fomby, Marshal
THE FLAG BEARERS

Mary Vernon, Marshal
THE ALUMNI MARSHALS
Benjamin H. Johnson and
Donna Mayer-Martin, Marshals

FACULTIES OF THE UNIVERSITY
Barbara Hill Moore, Marshal
O F FICE OF THE PROVOST CORPORATE OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

Barbara Hill Moore, Marshal
O F FICE OF THE PROVOST CORPORATE OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

Donna M. Simon, President
PLATEFORM PARTY

John B. Attanasio, Dean of the Disbab School of Law
Michael M. Boone, Vice Chair, SMU Board of Trustees
José Antonio Bowen, Dean of Meadows School of the Arts
Cornelia Candellato, Dean ofSMU College

David J. Chard
Dean of the Annise and Kake Simmons School of Education and Human Development

Pamela Erols
Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities

Dennis A. Foster
President of the Faculty Senate and D.D. Foyle Professor of English

John A. Hall
President of the Staff Association

Robert Thomas Hayden III
President of the Students’ Association

Judith Hennanberger
Associate Chaplain and Coordinator of Religious Life

William B. Rammel
Dean of Perkins School of Theology

Paul W. Ludden, Process and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Gilman M. McCants, Dean and Director of Central University Libraries

Ron Moss
Dean of Undergraduate Admissions and Executive Director of Enrollment Services

Alfret W. Nicos, Jr.
Dean of Elder’s Law School of Business

Geoffrey C. Onuk
Dean of the School of Engineering

R. Gerald Turner
President of the University

Amanda Hart Walker, President and Vice President for Music in Meadows School of the Arts

Lori S. White
Vice President for Student Affairs