

# DES NEWSLETTER

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

Volume I, Issue V March 2002



## Star Staff for March

### Kelly McMillan

Transcripts Certification  
Services/University  
Registrar's Office

### DIVISION MEETINGS

As we have mentioned the Division Staff meetings will see some changes in the future. Click on the title to get more details.

### Next Division Staff Meeting

- April 3 - 8:30am H-T  
Forum

New Football Coach Bennett  
is our guest.

### Winner of "On Time"

Awards (this month it was  
one hour off coupon)

Chadd Bridwell

Rod Jackson

June Hagler

Monica Gomez

Bimpe Ayanwola

### STAR ACHIEVEMENTS

Undergraduate Admission  
Fall First Year Acceptance  
Letters are out!

Applications numbers are  
up and the quality of  
students accepted is higher

## VIPs - Very Important Ponies



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

**Shirley Lin** - is always smiling and definitely giving those students a great first impression of DES. She is flexible and efficient enough to handle all of her tasks. Where would we be without her!!!

**Jennifer Russell** - I always am impressed with people who are helpful even when they are busy. Jennifer took time in the middle of the final folder review in Admission to help me find staff to cover the phone and the desk when SFS/FA were out for a retreat. She did it with a smile.

**Ernie Calderon** - makes it fun to come to work. In the middle of any hectic day, I will get an e-mail with information I have requested. Ernie will have added a remark that makes me laugh. It is a wonderful break in the day.

**Chris Salone** - has really stepped up to the plate. In addition to his regular duties, he has coordinated three searches in his area. His desire to do an excellent job motivated him to participate in an interviewing workshop. Chris enthusiastically expands his knowledge and skills.

**Cathy Smith** - I have observed Cathy assisting several colleagues with problems with their printers when other assistance was not available.

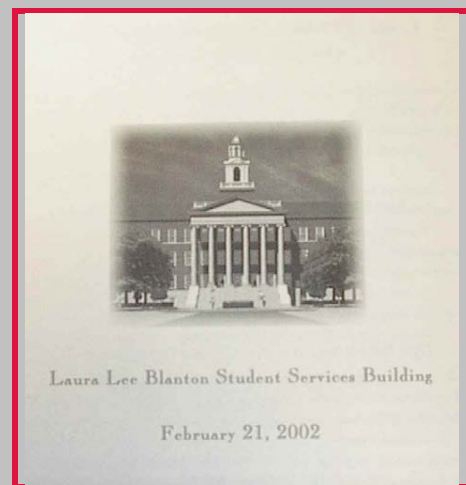
### SMU as Lender

More accurately, the "SMU Graduate and Professional Student Loan Program" is being initiated by the SMU Financial Aid area for the fall of 2002. This program will allow Graduate and Professional students to select

## Division Highlights

### Blanton Bldg. Groundbreaking

The first step in our long anticipated move to the Laura Lee Blanton Student Services Building began with the groundbreaking ceremony on Thursday, February 21. Click below for photo highlights.



### Important Dates and Things:

**Financial Aid Awarding** - begins for First Year students on March 18.

**Scholarship Weekend** - March 22 and 23

**Springfest** - March 23

**Emergency Loan Deadline** - March 28

**Enrollment for Summer and Fall 2002** - begins April 1

### May Commencement

Still time to mark your calendars for May Commencement 2002 which will be held Saturday, May 18 at 9:30 a.m. in Moody Coliseum.

If you are **interested in volunteering**

than ever.

**Transfer Application  
deadline April 1.  
Application pool is looking  
good as well.**

---

### CONGRATULATIONS

**Ron Moss** - Chair Elect of the College Board SW Regional Council for 2002-03. SW Regional Council includes Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Arkansas.

**Mike Novak** - serves as a member of the Regional Council of the College Board

**Mary Beard** - will be published in the SASEA newsletter and a presenter at the SASEA conference in May.

**Eartha Walls'** son Bryce was named to the Chancellor's List in recognition for a 4.0 gpa.

---

### NEW STAFF

**Deveron Ellison**, Student Financial Services - Collections

**Sarah Parsons**, Enrollment Resources Specialist

**Summer Kokic**, Information Systems Specialist, Financial Aid

---

### STAFF LEAVING

**Tommy Newton**, March 1 - moving to Meadows School of the Arts.

---

### ANNIVERSARIES

**Epi Ramirez** - 12 Years!

**Ron Moss** - 9 years

**Ginger Oravsky** - 2 years

**Rod Del Rio** - 2 years

**Marilyn Prokup** - 2 years

**Josh Ruiz** - 1 year

SMU as their lender for Federal Stafford and Private Alternative Loans.

SMU has contracted with the North Texas Higher Education Servicing Corporation and the National Educational Loan Network (NELNET) to provide servicing for the loans through SMU. NELNET is the second largest servicing organization in the United States so the risk of students having loans serviced by multiple companies is significantly reduced.

SMU will use the profits from the loans for a number of student and DES initiatives. For example, most lenders charge an origination fee that can amount to 3% of the gross amount of the Federal Stafford loan. Private and Alternative loan origination fees can sometimes exceed 3%. SMU will return the student's origination fee on both the Stafford and the Private loans. In short, the student will receive the full borrowed amount versus a reduced amount of the loan payment.

The profits also will provide SMU with an opportunity to establish scholarships and provide additional staff support and services that directly impact students. For example, two new Senior Financial Aid Counselors will be located in the Graduate and Professional areas -- one in the Law school and one in the Business school. This will provide greater student access to our staff and more inclusive counseling.

Most importantly, students will see no change in the way they apply for loans. Students will continue to apply for the Stafford through the Loans by Web system. Private Alternative loan applications will also be online and linked directly from the SMU website. Although, the program will be heavily marketed to first year Graduate and Professional students, we think that continuing students will find the benefits so attractive that they will apply for loans using SMU as their lender.

In addition to online applications, we will be offering the capability for Electronic Signature which will drastically cut processing and receipt time. SMU will be one of only 3 lenders in the nation currently working with Texas Guaranteed Student Loans that has E-signature capabilities.

As Stan Eddy says, "This is an incredible opportunity for our students and SMU."

at any of the academic ceremonies please contact Erin O'Neil at 8-2037 or [eoeneil@mail.smu.edu](mailto:eoeneil@mail.smu.edu).

### Quotation of the Month

The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook.  
William James

Stephanie Nonnemacher - 1  
yr

---

**BIRTHDAYS**

Mark Gomez - March 2

Mike Holt - March 16

Laura Harrington - March  
28

Fay Gough - April 1

Anna Gomez - April 2

Laura Phelps - April 12



## STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Below are links to outlines of material developed or collected at Professional Conference, Workshop, or Seminars. Click on the title of the item in which you are interested. Material is formatted so that you may print the outline.

**Are you ENGAGED in your work?**

Gallup Organization Survey

**There first meeting was staged, but it worked out well.**

A Love Story - Laura and Floyd Phelps

*Dallas Morning News March 3, 2002*



## STAR STAFF PROFILE

### Division of Enrollment Services



**Kelly McMillan**

**Star Staff for March 2002**

"Kelly does a wonderful job as the leader of the Student Advisor Group and as the Management Team Leader Coordinator that meets once a month. Kelly helped Student Financial Services in putting together a dual access for address holds. Kelly also brought warm, homemade cookies during the long nights we had in January. But, most of all, Kelly is very friendly and kind to everyone she interacts with."

**Title:** Manager of Transcript Certification Services

Kelly has been a member of the University Registrar's staff for the past two years. She says she is computer literate and picks up things quickly.

She lives with her partner Christina and their three pets -- dogs, Meka and Shadow and cat, Soba. All of the rest of Kelly's family live in various parts in Texas.

Kelly facilitates crafts and story times at Border Bookstore in her free time.

And even though she has canceled her cable television, she is addicted to Hawaii 5-0. Her other addiction is tattoos. Love that body art!!!



## LAURA LEE BLANTON STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING

Groundbreaking

February 21, 2002



One Step Closer.



Dr. R. Gerald Turner, President

Ruth Altshuler, Chair SMU Board of Trustees



Dr. Tom Tunks, Associate Provost







We are on our way!



The Party Goers!



Who are these guys???