

O P E N I N G  
C O N V O C A T I O N



S O U T H E R N  
M E T H O D I S T  
U N I V E R S I T Y

*The Nineteenth of August  
Two Thousand and Eighteen  
Half Past Five O'Clock  
McFarlin Memorial Auditorium*

## A DISTINGUISHED TRADITION

Welcome to SMU's 104th Opening Convocation. One hundred and three entering classes before you participated in this ceremony, which marks the beginning of the academic year.

This afternoon, you officially become a part of the SMU community, symbolized by the Rotunda Passage. You passed through Dallas Hall, the University's first and grandest building, guided by alumni who are also parents of fellow entering students. These alumni represent a lifetime connection to SMU, a connection you now share. Upon graduation you will engage in the Rotunda Recessional, symbolizing the completion of your studies at SMU.

Opening Convocation signifies the start of the academic adventures ahead of you. Today you and your classmates are presented to, and charged by, the University's president to rise to these academic challenges and avail yourself of the many opportunities here at SMU.



CARILLON CONCERT AND  
CALL TO CONVOCATION

Quarter Past Four O'Clock  
Fondren Science Tower  
John E. Wheeler, Carillonneur

ROTUNDA PASSAGE

ORDER OF EXERCISE

PROCESSIONAL

Imperial Brass

PRESENTATION OF  
RESIDENTIAL COMMONS BY  
FACULTY IN RESIDENCE

Ann Batenburg, Virginia-Snider  
Martin L. Camp, Crum  
Miroslava Detcheva, McElvaney  
Sandra Duhé, Cockrell-McIntosh  
Liljana Elverskog, Mary Hay/  
Peyton/Shuttles  
Alice Kendrick, Loyd  
Mark Kerins, Morrison-McGinnis  
Rita Kirk, Armstrong  
W. Keith Robinson, Kathy Crow  
David Y. Son, Boaz  
Thomas W. Tunks, Ware

INVOCATION	Betty McHone Assistant Chaplain and Coordinator of Religious Life
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS	Steven C. Currall Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
REMARKS	Robert H. Dedman, Jr. '80, '84 Chair of the SMU Board of Trustees  Dayna Oscherwitz President of the SMU Faculty Senate  Nathan DeVera '19 Student Body President
SPECIAL MUSIC	“SMU Forever” by Jimmy Dunne Meadows Convocation Chorus Led by Pamela Elrod Huffman Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities Sarah England, Accompanist
PRESENTATION OF THE SPEAKER	R. Gerald Turner President
CONVOCATION ADDRESS	Thomas DiPiero Dean of Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences
PRESENTATION OF THE ENTERING STUDENTS	Elena D. Hicks Dean of Undergraduate Admission and Executive Director of Enrollment Services
CHARGE TO THE STUDENTS AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONVOCATION REGISTRY	R. Gerald Turner
ALMA MATER Oh we see the Varsity, Varsity, Varsity, As she towers o’er the hill Over there. And our hearts are filled with joy, SMU, SMU, Alma Mater, we’ll be true Forever!	“Varsity”
BENEDICTION	Betty McHone
RECESSIONAL	Imperial Brass

## OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PLATFORM PARTY

Evelyn L. Ashley, *Dean of Students ad interim*

Gary Brubaker, *Director of The Guildhall at SMU*

Brad E. Cheves, *Vice President for Development and External Affairs*

Marc P. Christensen, *Dean and Bobby B. Lyle Professor of Engineering Innovation of Lyle School of Engineering*

Jennifer M. Collins, *Judge James Noel Dean and Professor of Law of Dedman School of Law*

Samuel S. Holland, *Algur H. Meadows Dean of Meadows School of the Arts*

Holly E. Jeffcoat, *Dean of SMU Libraries*

Stephanie L. Knight, *Leon Simmons Dean of Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development*

Jill McGinness, *President of the SMU Staff Association*

Kenechukwu (K.C.) Mmeje, *Vice President for Student Affairs*

Barbara Hill Moore, *Platform Party Marshal and Professor of Voice*

Matthew B. Myers, *Dean and Tolleson Chair in Business Leadership of Cox School of Business*

James E. Quick, *Associate Vice President for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies*

Harold W. Stanley, *Vice President for Executive Affairs*

## GUILD OF MARSHALS

Thomas B. Fomby, *Chief Marshal*

Bradley Kent Carter, *Chief Marshal Emeritus*

Nathan S. Balke, *Procession Marshal*

Hon Keung (Tony) Ng, *Assisting Procession Marshal*

Rhonda Blair, *Marshal for the Alumni Marshals*

Heather DeShon, *Marshal for Entering Students*

Edward J. Fox, *Marshal for Entering Students*

Kevin Paul Hofeditz, *Ceremony Marshal*

Barbara W. Kincaid, *Faculty Marshal*

Daniel Reynolds, *Phi Beta Kappa Marshal*

David Sedman, *Marshal for Entering Students*

Steven B. Vik, *Faculty Marshal*

Paul Yovanoff, *Marshal for Entering Students*

Todd Chiscano, *Director of Academic Ceremonies*

**World Changers Shaped Here**



**SMU**

For more than 100 years, SMU has shaped minds, explored the frontiers of knowledge and fostered an entrepreneurial spirit in its seven degree-granting schools. Taking advantage of unbridled experiences on the University's beautiful campuses and SMU's relationship with Dallas – the dynamic center of one of the nation's fastest-growing regions – alumni, faculty and nearly 12,000 graduate and undergraduate students become ethical leaders in their professions and communities who change the world.