OPENING CONVOCATION

SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

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

A Distinguished Tradition

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 DeVeria ’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
“Varsity”
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!

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

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.