## OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PLATFORM PARTY

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

Jodi Cooley-Sekula, Platform Party Marshal and Professor of Physics Thomas DiPiero, Dean of Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences Samuel S. Holland, Algur H. Meadows Dean of Meadows School of the Arts Holly E. Jeffcoat, Dean of SMU Libraries

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

Kenechukwu (K.C.) Mmeje, Vice President for Student Affairs Matthew B. Myers, Dean and Tolleson Chair in Business Leadership of Cox School of Business

James E. Quick, Associate Provost for Research and Dean of the Moody School of Graduate and Advanced Studies Harold W. Stanley, Vice President for Executive Affairs Melinda Sutton '97, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students

Raina Watts, President of the SMU Staff Association

# RESIDENTIAL COMMONS BY FACULTY IN RESIDENCE

Willie Baronet, Armstrong Ann Batenburg, Virginia-Snider Debra Branch, Morrison-McGinnis Sandra Duhé, Cockrell-McIntosh Liljana Elverskog, Mary Hay/Peyton/ Shuttles Leanne Ketterlin Geller, Crum Andrew R. Graybill, Ware Jim Hart, McElvaney Alice Kendrick, Loyd W. Keith Robinson, Kathy Crow David Y. Son, Boaz

### GUILD OF MARSHALS

Jodi Cooley-Sekula, Chief Marshal Bradley Kent Carter, Chief Marshal *Emeritus* Thomas B. Fomby, Chief Marshal *Emeritus* 

Todd Chiscano, Director of Academic Ceremonies



For more than 100 years, SMU has shaped minds, explored the frontiers of knowledge and fostered an entrepreneurial spirit in its eight 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.

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



# SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

The Twenty-Third of August

Two Thousand and Twenty

Half Past Five O'Clock

McFarlin Memorial Auditorium

# A DISTINGUISHED TRADITION

Welcome to SMU's 106th Opening Convocation. One hundred and five 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, supported 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.

ROTUNDA PASSAGE

CARILLON CONCERT Ouarter until Five in the Afternoon

Fondren Science Tower

Cchea Nugent, Carillonneur

ORDER OF EXERCISE

PRELUDIAL MUSIC Meadows Symphony Orchestra

and SMU String Faculty

INVOCATION Steve W. Rankin Chaplain and Minister to the University

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Elizabeth G. Loboa Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

REMARKS

Robert H. Dedman, Jr. '80, '84 Chair of the SMU Board of Trustees

Aurelie Thiele

President of the SMU Faculty Senate

Molly E. Patrick '21 Student Body President

PRESENTATION OF THE SPEAKER

R. Gerald Turner

Elena D. Hicks

President

CONVOCATION ADDRESS

Elizabeth G. Loboa

PRESENTATION OF THE ENTERING

Dean of Undergraduate Admission and

STUDENTS

Executive Director of **Enrollment Services** 

CHARGE TO THE STUDENTS AND

R. Gerald Turner

ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONVOCATION REGISTRY

ALMA MATER

"Varsity"

Oh we see the Varsity,

The SMU Belle Tones

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

Craig C. Hill Dean and Professor of New Testament of Perkins School of Theology