

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 Twenty-Second of August
Two Thousand and Twenty-One
Half Past Five O'Clock
McFarlin Memorial Auditorium*

A DISTINGUISHED TRADITION

Welcome to SMU's 107th Opening Convocation. One hundred and six 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

Quarter until Five in the Afternoon
David Y. Son, Carillonneur
Fondren Science Tower

ROTUNDA PASSAGE

ORDER OF EXERCISE

PROCESSIONAL

Imperial Brass

PRESENTATION OF
RESIDENTIAL COMMONS BY
FACULTY IN RESIDENCE

Willie Baronet, Armstrong
Debra Branch,
Morrison-McGinnis
Carol Dickson-Carr, Virginia-Snider
Sandra Duhé, Cockrell-McIntosh
Daniele Forlino, Kathy Crow
Leanne Ketterlin Geller, Crum
Andrew R. Graybill, Ware
Jim Hart, McElvaney
Alice Kendrick, Loyd
John R. Levison, Boaz
Alberto Pastor, Mary Hay-Peyton-Shuttles

INVOCATION	Elisabeth A. Garvin Chaplain and Minister to the University
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS	Elizabeth G. Lobo Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
REMARKS	David B. Miller '72, '73 Vice Chair of the SMU Board of Trustees Pia Vogel President of the SMU Faculty Senate Austin T. Hickle '22 Student Body President
SPECIAL MUSIC	<i>SMU Forever</i> by Jimmy Dunne Meadows Convocation Chorus Led by Pamela Elrod Huffman Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities Joshua Boyd, Accompanist
PRESENTATION OF THE SPEAKER	R. Gerald Turner President
CONVOCATION ADDRESS	Kenechukwu (K.C.) Mmeje Vice President for Student Affairs
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
UNIVERSITY HYMN	<i>Varsity</i>
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	Craig C. Hill Dean and Professor of New Testament of Perkins School of Theology
RECESSIONAL	Imperial Brass

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PLATFORM PARTY

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

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, Leon Simmons Dean of Annette Caldwell

Simmons School of Education and Human Development

Thomas W. Mayo, Senior Associate Dean and Professor of Law of
Dedman School of Law

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

Stephen Sekula, Platform Party Marshal and Professor of Physics

Harold W. Stanley, Vice President for Executive Affairs

Melinda Sutton '97, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and
Dean of Students

GUILD OF MARSHALS

Jodi Cooley, Chief Marshal

Bradley Kent Carter, Chief Marshal Emeritus

Thomas B. Fomby, Chief Marshal Emeritus

Nathan S. Balke, Procession Marshal

Hon Keung (Tony) Ng, Assisting Procession Marshal

Karisa T. Cloward, Student Marshal

Anindita Das, Student Marshal

Jill DeTemple, Faculty Marshal

Kevin Paul Hofeditz, Ceremony Marshal

Anne E. Lincoln, Marshal for the Alumni Marshals

Sidharth Muralidharan, Student Marshal

Gregory A. Sommers, Student Marshal

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 more than 12,000 graduate and undergraduate students become ethical leaders in their professions and communities who change the world.