WISHING YOU THE WARMEST HOLIDAYS

As we wrap up the fall semester, we look back with Pony Pride at the accomplishments of our faculty, staff, and students. We feature some highlights below, and are grateful for work at the Simmons School, which encourages us to rise and meet the challenges of an ever-evolving world.

COMPETING FOR THE ADULT LITERACY XPRIZE

Meet the adventurers above who are featured in a smartphone game that SMU Simmons, SMU Guildhall, and Literacy Instruction For Texas are developing for competition in the Barbara Bush Foundation Adult Literacy XPRIZE. SMU and LIFT's partnership, known as PeopleForWords, was created to formulate a game that helps low-literate adults learn and practice reading. The team completed the first phase of the competition December 9. Read more.

KETTERLIN GELLER TO DIRECT NEW STEM TEACHER ACADEMY

A new SMU academy for Dallas Independent School District science teachers will help them share the wonders of science and technology with as many as 47,000 middle-school students. A $1.7 million grant from the Texas Instruments (TI) Foundation will help fund the academy on campus. Leanne Ketterlin Geller, Simmons Texas Instruments Endowed Chair in Education, will lead the STEM Academy. Read more.

THE SCIENCE BEHIND POGO STICK FLIPS

For fun facts, check out the KERA video narrated by Peter Weyand, Glenn Simmons Endowed Professor, as he analyzes Xpogo tricks. Weyand, a member of the Applied Physiology and Wellness Department, directs the Locomotor Performance Lab.

SAMPLING SIMMONS: THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Graduate Liberal Studies hosted a successful three-part series on presidential elections with SMU political science professor, Dennis Simon. Featured below is the post-election lecture. Read more.

BRIAN FENNIG GETS TOP NATIONAL RANKING FROM STUDENTS

For a second year in a row, Wellness professor Brian Fennig, received a top national ranking by students in Rate My Professors, an online site. He is no. 4 on the Highest Rated University Professors of 2015-16 list.

BETTY GILMORE HONORED WITH LOWRY AWARD

Betty Gilmore, director and faculty member of the Center for Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management was chosen by her peers to receive the ninth Randolph Lowry Award. Read more.

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS AND REVOLVING DOORS

Michael Harris, associate professor of higher education, and graduate students Molly K. Ellis and Brittany Barker presented their study on changing tenures of university presidents at the Association for the Study of Higher Education annual conference. Read more.

LEADING A PATH TO COLLEGE

John Williams, Jr. was recognized by Dallas ISD's The Hub as an alumnus who gets first generation students to college. Williams is a program director for College Access in Simmons. Read more.

The Simmons School of Education and Human Development is changing—and challenging—the way we think. Our commitment to rigorous, research-driven programs promote evidence-based, effective practices and policy. Fresh thinking and breakthrough research will drive meaningful change in the fields of education and human development.