Department Chairs, Associate Deans, and Deans,

With a goal of staying connected on internal governance issues, the Provost Office sends a monthly Roundup on the final Friday of each month to the internal university leadership.

Guidelines for the Use of Generative AI in Dissertations and Theses: The Moody School of Graduate and Advanced Studies section of the 2025-2026 Graduate Catalog will include guidelines for the use of generative AI in dissertations and theses. These guidelines include resources, advice, and expectations for departments that offer graduate programs which require dissertations and theses; for dissertation and thesis advisors and committee members; and for graduate students working on dissertations and theses. The guidelines were developed by the Moody School Graduate Council, and received input from faculty and student committees including the Faculty Senate Academic Policies Committee (APC), the Academic Affairs Forum, the Faculty Technology Council, and the Moody School Graduate Student Advisory Board. You can find the guidelines here. Questions can be directed to Dr. Alan Itkin at aitkin@smu.edu.

New Queries Available to Monitor Grade Submission Timeliness. Timely grade submission is crucial for students to ensure they receive their final grades promptly for academic standing, degree progress, and financial aid eligibility. It also supports the Registrar's Office in meeting reporting deadlines and maintaining accurate records. University Decision Support (UDS) has created two new queries to help monitor whether grades are submitted on time for specific schools and departments. They are available for use: U_SRX_RPT_GRADES_POSTED and U_SRX_RPT_GRADES_POSTED_DATA**.** Additional information on using these queries can be found at these links:

🔗 U_SRX_RPT_GRADES_POSTED
🔗 U_SRX_RPT_GRADES_POSTED_DATA

These reports are accessible to department chairs and deans and show whether a grade was submitted within the required three-day window following final exams or if it was reported late. Designed to respectively provide insights at both the course level and in aggregate by school**,** these queries offer a comprehensive view of grade submission trends, helping track and address delays as needed. If you have questions about access to queries, please reach out to your Associate Dean for Academic Affairs or attend the upcoming Academic Leadership Query Workshop to be held on Zoom on Wednesday, April 2nd, from 12:00-1:00. We will send a reminder and calendar invitation to all department chairs and associate deans in the March Roundup.

R1 Status! Changes within Academic Analytics. We are thrilled to celebrate having achieved R1 status—a hearty shout-out around the campus to all of you! Chairs, Associate Deans, and Deans will note that our status has been updated in Academic Analytics, such that all reports will be updated to reflect R1 status no later than March 7th. We encourage all chairs, associate deans, and deans to send in any requests for new reports or needs. The Academic Analytics team can create a variety of reports and queries to assist relative to our new R1 status and the changing landscape. Also of note: the Academic Analytics

leadership team will soon be offering a webinar for all executive leadership in higher education in response to changes in the funding landscape and executive orders. We will send an invitation to all appropriate audiences when the invitation is out. For more information or to make requests, reach out to Dr. Brenna Rivas, Director of Faculty Awards, at brivas@smu.edu.

Important Dates--SMU Bookstore Adoptions. Thank you to the early adopters who have submitted course resources well ahead of the upcoming March 13th due date for Summer 2025 (and March 31st for the fall 2025 term). Our goal is to have all adoptions posted before registration begins so students have full transparency into their course costs. Please encourage faculty to make their selections via the AIP Adoption Tool for any sections that have not yet confirmed course material adoptions. Our colleague in the SMU bookstore, Elizabeth Nosse, will be holding several "webinars" to assist you with any questions or troubleshoot any issues. For additional questions, contact Elizabeth Nosse at enosse@bncollege.com or 214-483-0223. Click on any date and time below to connect to a webinar:
Tuesday 2/25 3pm
Thursday 2/27 3pm
Tuesday 3/4 12pm
Thursday 3/6 3pm
Tuesday 3/11 1pm
Thursday 3/13 4pm

Faculty Position Requests: Data Available Soon. In keeping with our annual updates to the longitudinal data for faculty position requests, all academic leadership will receive a link to the 2024-25 updates to the 8-year trendlines (e.g., faculty counts, adjunct counts, student counts, student credit hours, and research expenditures) in the week prior to spring break. Please know that this will be sent as a standalone email from the Office of Faculty Success with a link to a password-protected Box folder. Chairs and associate deans use this data each year to support conversations among deans and the Provost each May as they determine priorities for faculty position searches in the upcoming academic year. For questions, reach out to facultysuccess@smu.edu.

Keep the community informed about faculty awards: Please let us know if you have received or have been nominated for an award – or if you have nominated an SMU colleague at this link.

We welcome your suggestions for future areas to feature in the monthly roundup; email facultysuccess@smu.edu. You can find past issues at this link.