

Department Chairs, Associate Deans, Deans, and Academic Affairs Staff,

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.

**Important Upcoming Dates.** As a new addition, we will provide an overview of key internal governance deadlines for the month ahead.

**February 1:**

- Tenure Dossiers Due to Provost Office ( [facultysuccess@smu.edu](mailto: facultysuccess@smu.edu))
- Faculty Activity Report--Updates Due. This is the date by which faculty need to have updated their FAR, including the Annual Report of External Activities. The information is self-contained in Interfolio, such that the Provost Office *does not request standalone reports* from the CSUs. Note that all CSUs share annually updated CV's through Box.

**February 13:**

- Fall Course Scheduling Entry Deadline ([Visit Wiki](#))
- CC Assessment Survey Training Deadline (email  [bguelker@smu.edu](mailto: bguelker@smu.edu))
- FERPA Training Deadline. All faculty must have completed FERPA training. Reports will be generated and sent to leadership for follow-up. ( [facultysuccess@smu.edu](mailto: facultysuccess@smu.edu))

**New Feature to Spotlight Programs and People: SMU Today.** Amazing things are happening across SMU, and we want to help celebrate them! We're excited to share a new, easy-to-use submission form where schools and units can brag a little (or a lot!) about the great work happening in your area. You can use the form at the link below to submit the following: exciting wins and milestones for your school or program; standout student or faculty stories; and upcoming events from your school or department that deserve a spotlight. Submissions may be featured on the Provost's social media channels and in other SMU channels. Submit your stories here: <https://bit.ly/SMU-wins-form>.

**Upcoming Campus Events for Undergraduate Students.** Please find the attached schedules for the 2026 Celebration of Excellence and the new student orientation - Stampede. We want to raise your attention to these, as campus spaces might be particularly tight during Stampede, and many of your faculty will be invited to participate in both events. We sincerely appreciate the time faculty give to recognize student achievements and to welcoming the new students to campus. Your Associate Deans will be providing you with additional information about the fall in the coming months.

**Schools on EPC Moratorium.** All academic degree programs at SMU are required to establish meaningful student learning outcomes, assess the extent to which students achieve those outcomes, analyze the results, and use those findings to improve both programs and student learning. Departments must document and report these assessment results in Anthology Planning by July 31 each year. Beginning Fall 2025,

schools that do not achieve 100% completion of program assessment reports by December 31 are placed on a curricular change moratorium. While on moratorium, a school and its departments may not make substantial catalog changes or submit new program or program modification proposals to the Educational Programs Committee (EPC) until full reporting compliance is achieved. Effective January 1, 2026, the following schools are on moratorium: Dedman College, Lyle School of Engineering, and Meadows School of the Arts. These schools will remain on moratorium until all academic programs within the school have successfully completed their required assessment reports. For questions about how this moratorium affects school-level approvals, please contact your academic Associate Dean.

**Tableau Dashboards Updated.** The [DFW dashboard](#) has been updated to include the fall academic outcomes, and the [Fall 2026 3 Year Course Demand](#) has been updated to help you compare your current fall 2026 schedule with prior years. The course demand dashboard will update each morning as Fall 2026 schedules are still being built and often adjust over the course of the spring until students start to enroll. If you have feedback about these dashboards or questions please send them to [academicsuccess@smu.edu](mailto:academicsuccess@smu.edu) and you will be connected with the correct person(s) to answer the questions. If you need access to Tableau please connect directly with Salma Mirza in UDS: [salmam@smu.edu](mailto:salmam@smu.edu)

**Important Reminders about Course Modalities.** Please become familiar with this [overarching website online programs at SMU](#). You will find one-stop shopping for all relevant information about online courses, programs, proposals, timelines, and definitions. In February 2022, the university began implementing Course Modality Definitions, Training Requirements for Online Faculty, and Online Program and Course Development Processes. This [document clearly lays out the definitions of the four formats](#) that were approved by a group of stakeholders representing faculty, academic leadership, the registrar's office, the Council of Online Education, the Office of Information Technology, the Data Governance Committee and the Provost's Office. Every online or hybrid program or course launches only after rigorous evaluation, including university-wide quality standards. For questions, please contact the Council of Online Education by emailing Kimberly Rutigliano ([krutigliano@smu.edu](mailto:krutigliano@smu.edu)).

**2026 Future Texas Business Legend Scholar Award—please encourage students to apply.** We encourage you to help highlight SMU and connect our entrepreneurial students with one of the most prestigious business networks in Texas. The Texas Business Hall of Fame is identifying exceptional students to be considered for the 2026 Future Texas Business Legend Scholar Award. This competitive award includes a \$15,000 cash prize, tremendous recognition, and lifetime access to the Texas Business Hall of Fame network. It is designed for serious business builders—students who are the owner, founder, or controlling shareholder of an operating business and who plan to continue growing Texas-based ventures. If you know a student who fits this profile, please encourage them to learn more and apply by February

8th: <https://texasbusiness.org/awards/aboutawards/> Thank you for helping connect our students to this outstanding opportunity! For questions, please contact  [facultysuccess@smu.edu](mailto: facultysuccess@smu.edu).

**Help Encourage Participation in SMU “Lab Hopping.”** The Office of Engaged Learning is hosting the next ["Lab Hopping"](#) event on Thursday, February 12th, 4-6 p.m. During this event, students can visit open labs or offices to learn about research happening around campus. Faculty members from any department are welcome to participate (and you may enlist a postdoc or grad student to host on your behalf). It can be a wonderful recruiting opportunity. If you are interested in opening your lab/office for this event, please contact OEL's Faculty Fellow for Undergraduate Research, Dr. Chrystyna Kouros at [kouros@smu.edu](mailto:kouros@smu.edu) or Program Manager for Undergraduate Research, Dr. Adam Neal at [asneal@smu.edu](mailto:asneal@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](mailto: facultysuccess@smu.edu). You can [find past issues at this link.](#)

## Stampede Fall 2026 schedule – Version 6

	Wednesday 12-Aug	Thursday 13-Aug	Friday 14-Aug	Saturday 15-Aug	Sunday 16-Aug	Monday 17-Aug
<b>Morning</b>	Stampede Guide Move-in	SG Training	Move-in	Move-in	Off Morning Panhellenic Recruitment and Open House	<b>Opening Session/Convocation</b>
<b>Afternoon</b>	Stampede Guide Move-in	SG Training	Move-in Family Fest Special Interest Parent Session	Move-in Family Fest Special Interest Job Fair Parent Session	FSL Orientation	DEA Celebration on the Lawn Transfer and Commuter Lunch RBW activity Transitioning to SMU (Transfers)
<b>Evening</b>	SG training	SG Prep	Parent Goodbye Family Dinner Movie Night	Parent Goodbye Family Dinner <b>RLSH Floor Meetings</b>	Commons Welcome	Transfer Social <b>Kickoff</b> (Includes Class Photo)

	Tuesday 18-Aug	Wednesday 19-Aug	Thursday 20-Aug	Friday 21-Aug	Saturday 22-Aug	Sunday 23-Aug	Monday 24-Aug
<b>Morning</b>	<b>Mustang Mindset</b> <b>Academic Open Houses</b>	Morning of Wellness FSL Philanthropy RBW Activity	Returner Move-in Scholar Programs Retreat/Training Call for Programming 1	Scholar Programs Retreat/Training Call For Programming 3	Scholar Programs. Retreat/Training (If necessary) FSL Bid Day DFW Excursions (Optional)		
<b>Afternoon</b>	<b>Academic Open Houses</b> RBW Activity	FSL Philanthropy <b>EMWBV</b>	Returner Move-in Scholar Programs Retreat/Training FSL Sisterhood Ready, Set, Rec!	Scholar Programs Retreat/Training FSL Preference On-Campus Service Project - Engage Dallas	Scholar Programs. Retreat/Training (If necessary) FSL Bid Day DFW Excursions (Optional)		First Day of Classes
<b>Evening</b>	Chilltop on the Hilltop Stampede Sundown	FSL Philanthropy Stu Cen Act - Talent Production	Returner Move-in Scholar Programs Retreat/Training FSL Sisterhood Call for Programming 2	Scholar Programs Retreat/Training FSL Preference Call for Programming 4	Scholar Programs. Retreat/Training (If necessary) FSL Bid Celebration Drone Show	Off Evening	

**\*Bold designates required events**

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<b>Wednesday, August 12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stampede Guide Move-in</li><li>• Stampede Guide Training</li></ul>
<b>Thursday, August 13</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stampede Guide Training</li><li>• Stampede Guide Prep Time</li></ul>
<b>Friday, August 14</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Move-in</li><li>• Family Fest</li><li>• Special Interest Activities and Info Sessions</li><li>• Mustang 101 – Parent Session</li><li>• Parent Goodbye</li><li>• Family Dinner</li><li>• Program Council – Movie Night</li></ul>
<b>Saturday, August 15</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Move-in</li><li>• Family Fest</li><li>• Special Interest Activities and Info Sessions</li><li>• Mustang 101 – Parent Session</li><li>• On-Campus Job Fair</li><li>• Parent Goodbye</li><li>• Family Dinner</li><li><b>• RLSH Floor Meetings</b></li></ul>
<b>Sunday, August 16</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Panhellenic Recruitment – Open House</li><li>• FSL Orientation</li><li>• Residential Commons Welcome</li></ul>
<b>Monday, August 17</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>• Opening Session/Convocation</b></li><li>• DEA Celebration on the Lawn</li><li>• Transfer/Commuter Lunch</li><li>• Red, White, Blue (RWB) Activity</li><li>• Transitioning to SMU</li><li>• Transfer Social</li><li><b>• Kickoff (Includes Class Photo)</b></li></ul>
<b>Tuesday, August 18</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mustang Mindset</li><li><b>• Academic open houses (or other academic activity)</b></li><li>• RWB Activity</li><li>• Chilltop on the Hilltop</li><li>• Stampede Sundown</li></ul>
<b>Wednesday, August 19</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Morning of Wellness</li><li>• Panhellenic Philanthropy Day</li><li>• RWB Activity</li><li><b>• Every Mustang Will Be Valued (EMWBV)</b></li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Center and Activities – Talent Production</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday, August 20</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Returner Move-in Day</li> <li>• Scholar Programs/Retreats/Trainings</li> <li>• Call for Programming 1 and 2</li> <li>• Panhellenic Sisterhood Day</li> <li>• Ready, Set, Rec!</li> </ul>
<b>Friday, August 21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scholar Programs/Retreats/Trainings</li> <li>• Call for Programming 3 and 4</li> <li>• Panhellenic Preference Day</li> <li>• Engage Dallas – On-Campus Service Project</li> </ul>
<b>Saturday, August 22</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scholar Programs/Retreats/Trainings (if necessary)</li> <li>• Panhellenic Bid Day</li> <li>• Discover Dallas Excursions</li> <li>• Panhellenic Bid Day Celebration</li> <li>• Drone Show</li> </ul>
<b>Sunday, August 23</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Off Day</li> <li>• Worship Escorts</li> </ul>
<b>Monday, August 24</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Day of Classes</li> </ul>

# SMU® Celebration of Excellence Weekend 2026

	Thursday April 23	Friday April 24	Saturday April 25	Sunday April 26
Morning	<p>*indicates event is open to the public; others invite only **red events planned by SA; blue by AA</p>		<b>Ring Ceremony</b> Dallas Hall @ 10 am Molly Bishop	
Lunch	<b>Engaged Learning Undergrad Research Lunch</b> HTSC 220 @ 11:30 am Adam Neal	<b>Mothers' and Dads' Club Outstanding Senior Awards</b> HTSC Ballroom @ 10:30 am Sidney Gardner & Connor Terry	<b>Phi Beta Kappa</b> HTSC Auditorium @ 11 am HTSC Ballroom @ 11:30 am David Doyle	<b>Hyer Society</b> HTSC Ballroom @ 12 pm David Doyle
Late Afternoon		<b>Honors Cords and Stoles</b> Mack Ballroom @ 2 pm Sheri Kunovich & Alex Leever		
Evening	<b>Greek Awards*</b> HTSC Ballroom @ 6 pm Ashley Fitzpatrick	<b>Hilltop Excellence</b> Ceremony: HTSC Ballroom @ 5 pm Renée Gibson & Bonnie Pickett	<b>Turner Scholars Gala</b> HTSC Ballroom @ 6 pm Nikole Melgarejo & Briana Morales	<b>RLSH End of Year Celebration</b> HTSC Ballroom @ 6 pm Renée Gibson