

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. Please note that this Roundup contains hyperlinks to several important documents stored in Box. Buckle up--this is a packed update!

### **Important Upcoming Dates in June:**

- 8: International Office Deadlines: F-1/J-1 Summer Enrollment and Packets
- 30: Recommended Deadline for Sending External Reviewer Requests for Promotion Process

**Welcoming our New Faculty in August!** Department chairs should have received an invitation to a lunch on Thursday, August 20th in Moody Hall during the New Faculty Orientation Day. Even if your department does not have any new faculty joining this fall, please consider welcoming our new colleagues that day! Please find at these Box links: 1) [a list of all \\*confirmed and signed\\* incoming faculty](#), and 2) [a welcome email](#) that was sent this week from the Office of Faculty Success to welcome our new colleagues to campus. There will, of course, be a few more faculty whose contracts come in over the summer—but for now, the attached list provides a comprehensive overview. THANK YOU to all of you for the roles you have played in bringing such amazing talent to our community! For more information, reach out to [facultysuccess@smu.edu](mailto:facultysuccess@smu.edu).

**Digital Dossiers and Standard Interfolio Templates for Promotion Review.** Following years of feedback on the need to improve our processes within Interfolio for promotion review, a working group of associate deans and the Office of Faculty Success worked over the spring term to revise the standard components of the dossiers for greater clarity and precision. In addition, we have now moved to a completely *digital* system, such that *paper copies (e.g., binders) are no longer required*. Mandy Graham, Senior Faculty Affairs Professional, has used the standard template to create Interfolio cases for all faculty going through the promotion process in AY26-27, including both tenure-line and professional track faculty. All dossier shells have been shared with the relevant Administrative Professionals (over 50 of whom have already attended Mandy's workshop on this new rollout). Kudos to Mandy—and thank you in advance to everyone involved, both past and future, in refining our processes. We look forward to hearing any feedback – send us a note at [facultysuccess@smu.edu](mailto:facultysuccess@smu.edu).

**Faculty Working Group on Academic (Dis)honesty and AI—and Call for Faculty Engagement.** A working group of faculty across all college, schools, and units (CSU's) convened across this academic year to examine issues arising around AI and academic (dis)honesty. The particular charge was to explore the current impact on cases brought to the Honor Council and to determine constructive next steps for the SMU community to consider. [A full report, including working group membership, can be found at this link.](#) A

clear outcome of this group was the need for more faculty engagement with the SMU Honor Council and University Conduct Council. To that end, we ask that deans, associate deans, and chairs begin to consider which of the faculty in their areas they will nominate to participate in the coming academic year as part of the service load distribution. The Office of Student Conduct & Community Standards (SCCS) needs faculty to serve on one of the councils: the Honor Council and the University Conduct Council (UCC). [For a full overview of both Councils, please review this 2-page overview.](#) Faculty participation is essential to maintaining fair, educational, and values-based conduct processes that support student learning and uphold the academic mission of the University. These councils rely on faculty expertise, perspective, and judgment to ensure thoughtful and consistent decision-making in cases involving alleged student conduct. Council service provides faculty an opportunity to engage meaningfully with students outside the classroom while supporting institutional values. Faculty voices help ensure conduct proceedings remain grounded in educational principles rather than solely disciplinary outcomes. For more information, please contact: Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (214-768-4563/[conduct@smu.edu](mailto:conduct@smu.edu)). Please note that the Office of Faculty Success will reach out in July to make specific requests for faculty representation, so please consider who on your faculty will serve well in these roles!

**Workshops and Collaborations with Marketing and Communications.** We are excited to announce an upcoming series of workshops for department chairs and faculty across the summer and upcoming academic year that will focus on collaborations with Marketing and Communications (“Marcom”). Planned topics include the following:

- **Showcase Sample:** Many faculty at SMU are called upon for their expertise and receive national and international visibility through a number of networks. Marcom maintains a list of “Experts” at SMU. In this Showcase Sample, we will highlight faculty who are often featured—and we will ask chairs to help us identify new faculty experts whose voices should be better amplified. Visit this website for a current list: <https://www.smu.edu/news/experts>.
- **Building and Managing Your Engagement with Public Scholarship.** This workshop and panel will focus on managing expectations and time investment. It will cover low-hanging fruit ideas for how to build up a network and feature faculty who have successfully navigated the translation of their work across venues. It will also provide ideas for how academic writing can be parlayed into public-facing venues. We will feature different media venues and explore examples of moving ideas flexibly across audiences.
- **Speed Dating at SMU.** We will host “meet-and-greet” events to ensure that SMU faculty create more internal visibility and denser internal networks on campus to generate strong synergies across ideas and perspectives.

Interested in getting started? Try these two first steps: 1) [Follow Research at SMU LinkedIn at this link](#); and 2) subscribe to SMU in the News by emailing Megan

Jacob: [meganjacob@smu.edu](mailto:meganjacob@smu.edu). You can find a [sample SMU in the News email at this link](#). Be on the lookout for invitations to workshops and events from [facultysuccess@smu.edu](mailto:facultysuccess@smu.edu).

**Course Scheduling: New and Noteworthy.** We are starting the Jan/Spring scheduling process early again and you will be able to begin scheduling at the end of June. Please note, *you are not required to begin scheduling until August 3rd* if you do not wish to use the extra time. The final schedule publishing date is still in early October. As always, there is a lot of information to share about the process, so please review these standards carefully at this link: [Course Scheduling Standards](#). Note that, while we have always had guidelines on the course grid and section time distribution, we have new, more formal, protocols that we will be following beginning with the Spring 2027 scheduling period. These protocols, developed by the SMU Academic Space Committee and endorsed by the Provost, are designed to improve scheduling efficiency, maximize the use of instructional space, and support student progress toward timely degree completion. Darrah Rippy hosted a Spring 2027 zoom information session on May 20th and covered the scheduling process, a review of the protocols, and answers to questions. Darrah encourage you to schedule a meeting with her if you need any assistance as you are working on your schedule entry. Email Darrah Rippy ([drippy@smu.edu](mailto:drippy@smu.edu)). In addition, training resources can be found on the [Course Scheduling Home](#) page, which has been updated with Spring 2027 scheduling information.

**Moody School Leadership Academy Wraps Up Pilot Year, Expands for Year Two:** In Academic Year 2025-2026, the Moody School of Graduate & Advanced Studies piloted the Moody School Leadership Academy, a series of workshops for PhD students intended to equip them with essential skills in teaching, research, professional interactions, and career advancement and to prepare them for future trends in academia and industry. Sessions were organized by the Moody School collaboratively with campus partners such as the Center for Teaching Excellence, the Office of Research and Innovation, SMU Libraries, the Hegi Family Career Center, and faculty recipients of Moody Outstanding Mentor Awards. Seventeen PhD students across the humanities, sciences, education, and engineering completed the program by participating in at least ten sessions. They gave overwhelmingly positive feedback: As one participant wrote, “I learned so many new things. Specially about job searching strategies. But every session was worth and I learned something new every time. Thanks for organizing this program.” Another wrote, “Being exposed to other PhD students from different disciplines was a great experience. Additionally, the structure of the program was really good.” For 2026-2027, the Academy will expand to include sessions open to all graduate students, with students earning a completion certificate and the title Moody Leadership Scholar upon completion of ten different Leadership Academy sessions over the course of their graduate studies at SMU.

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](#).