

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.

**Spring 2026 Course Materials Due November 10th.** Please remind faculty that orders for spring 2026 course adoptions are due by November 10th. We are currently at only 36% of adoptions for the spring term. Please contact Liz Nosse, the SMU Bookstore contact, should you have any questions: [enosse@smu.edu](mailto:enosse@smu.edu) You can [log in to the AIP system](#) at this link and view the data for your respective areas sorted by course prefix using the top left corner filter option.

**Junior Year Student Experience Survey.** The SMU Student Experience Survey is now open, and we are asking for your help in encouraging our juniors to participate. This important survey asks students about their academic and extracurricular experiences at SMU—including engagement opportunities and campus life. In addition to helping us better understand and enhance the undergraduate experience, the survey also allows students to indicate areas of interest for personalized follow-up (such as research, internships, or study abroad). This ensures that students receive information and opportunities aligned with their goals. Your support in reminding juniors during classes, advising meetings, or departmental communications can make a significant difference in participation rates. Please emphasize that their feedback is valuable in shaping future programs and initiatives at SMU. Thank you for your partnership in encouraging students to share their experiences and perspectives. Address any questions to the Office of Institutional Planning and Effectiveness.

**Common Curriculum Assessment.** As we near the end of the term, we would like to ask for your assistance in reminding your faculty who teach Common Curriculum (CC) courses to submit their student assessment work to the Office of Institutional Effectiveness. This year's assessment cycle focuses on the following CC components: Exploring Sciences (ES), Technological Advances and Society (TAS), Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS), Global Perspectives (GPS), and Human Diversity (HD). Faculty submission of student work is essential to maintaining our ongoing accreditation and ensuring the continued quality and improvement of the SMU curriculum. Your help in reminding and encouraging faculty to complete this process promptly is greatly appreciated. Please don't hesitate to contact the assessment team at [assessment@smu.edu](mailto:assessment@smu.edu) with any questions.

**Outstanding Graduate Student Instruction Award Nominations Open:** Sponsored by the Moody School of Graduate and Advanced Studies and the Office of Student Academic Engagement and Success, Outstanding Graduate Student Instruction Awards recognize exemplary contributions to the teaching of SMU undergraduates by graduate student instructors and teaching assistants. Two awards, each including a \$1,000 prize, are made annually. In recognition of the very different ways graduate students can contribute to the teaching of SMU undergraduates, one award is granted to a graduate student whose

primary teaching experience has been as instructor of record of a course and one award is granted to a graduate student whose primary experience has been as a teaching assistant, lab instructor, or other similar role. Both departments and programs not housed in a specific department may nominate one graduate student. [Nominations should be submitted here](#) by the department chair or graduate program director by Friday, Nov. 7. The call for nominations can be found [here](#). Questions can be directed to Dr. Alan Itkin ([aitkin@smu.edu](mailto:aitkin@smu.edu)).

**Summer Research Proposals.** The Department of Statistics & Data Science and the Office of Engaged Learning invite faculty to propose summer research projects for the NSF REU site [Advancing Data Science in the Public Interest](#) (June 1–July 24, 2026). We welcome projects from any discipline that apply data science to issues of public interest in Dallas and beyond. Selected faculty mentors will work with a team of 3–4 fully funded undergraduate researchers (plus a funded graduate assistant), meet with them weekly (in person or via Zoom), and receive computational/statistical support from PI Dr. Monnie McGee. [Submit your project at this link.](#)

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.](#)