

DESTINATION GRADUATION

December Graduation • Saturday, December 17, 2011



Second Century Celebration



Southern Methodist University



smu.edu/decgrad

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INVITATION FROM THE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST



We invite you to participate in this year's December Graduation Convocation, a time of celebration as the SMU community gathers to recognize our students' accomplishments. December Graduation Convocation will be a memorable occasion for you and your family. The personal attention so important to SMU takes center stage as each graduate is individually recognized and Moody Coliseum becomes transformed by the pageantry.

December Graduation Convocation is Saturday, December 17, at 10:00 a.m. in Moody Coliseum at which time the University assembles degree candidates from all of SMU's schools. The activities that make up December Graduation Convocation express some of the best traditions of Southern Methodist University. Students and faculty in academic regalia march with their respective schools, accompanied by music and applause from proud families.

The ceremony is expected to last approximately two hours. Information concerning December Graduation can be found on the December Graduation Website, smu.edu/decgrad. Guests do not need tickets to attend the ceremony. Complimentary parking will be available throughout the campus for friends and family.

The spirit of community combined with our celebration of the individual is what makes SMU's December Graduation Convocation a most joyous time. We hope that you will join us on December 17, 2011 as we pay tribute to the achievements and potential of the graduating students of 2011!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Gerald Turner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

R. Gerald Turner
President



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul W. Ludden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul W. Ludden
Provost

DESCRIPTION OF EVENTS



On Saturday morning, December 17, 2011, the all-University December Graduation Convocation assembles degree candidates from all of SMU's schools and professional programs. Moody Coliseum becomes transformed by the pageantry. Students and faculty in academic regalia march following the colorful banners of their respective schools, accompanied by music and applause from proud families.

Our graduation speakers provide words of timeless wisdom. The personal attention so important to SMU takes center stage at this ceremony where Doctoral candidates are hooded and the President confers degrees as each graduate walks across the stage and is individually recognized.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the University hymn is played as the coliseum lights are dimmed and a prayer is said for the newly appointed alumni.

The ceremony lasts approximately two to two and a half hours. Guests do not need tickets.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

On Saturday morning, candidates will report to the Dedman Center for the Candidate Line-up. Assemble with your degree group. Signs will be posted and faculty marshals will be on duty to help you find your group and direct you to your seat. Once in the coliseum, remain standing until invited to sit.

All participating candidates must wear academic regalia to be admitted into the Dedman Center. However, no honor ribbons or other decorations or adornments are worn to the ceremony. This includes messages or images on mortar boards. Students without regalia or with adorned mortarboards will be directed to the SMU bookstore to rent a new cap and/or gown.

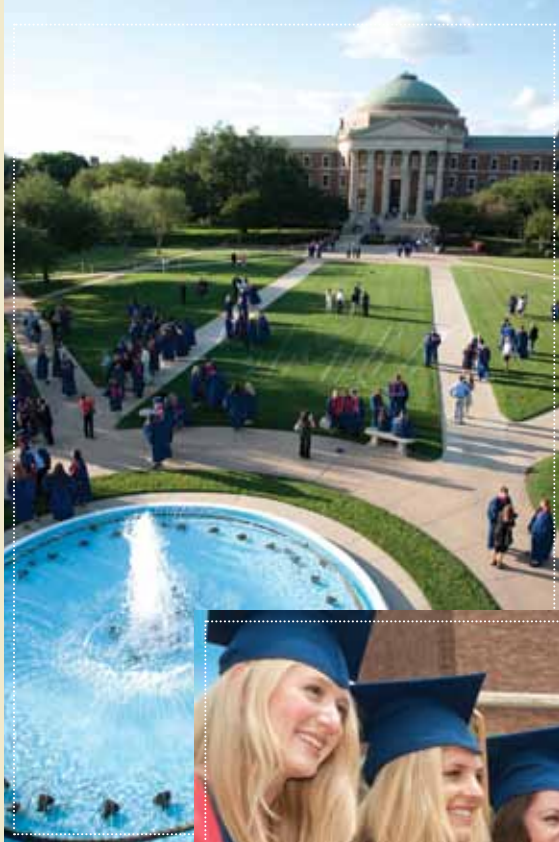
Diplomas will be mailed to your home address on Wednesday, January 18. If you prefer that your diploma be sent to a different address, please provide a Diploma Address in Access.SMU.

Candidates who owe money to the University may participate in the graduation ceremony, but diplomas will be held until accounts are cleared. For questions regarding your account, please contact Enrollment Services by calling 214-768-3417.

DECEMBER GRADUATION CEREMONY TIMELINE

8:30 a.m.	Dedman Center Opens
8:30 a.m.	Formal Portrait Sessions are Available
9:15 a.m.	Candidate Groups will Begin Forming
9:40 a.m.	Doors to Dedman Center Close
9:55 a.m.	The Student Procession Begins
10:00 a.m.	December Graduation Ceremony Begins
12:00 – 12:30 p.m.	December Graduation Ceremony Concludes





COMPLETE YOUR ACG

Students must file an Application for Candidacy to Graduate form with their school of record before they can participate in the ceremony. If you have not informed your Academic Dean that you will participate in the December Graduation ceremony, you must do so immediately.

For questions regarding your degree program and graduation status, contact your Academic Dean's Office.

CEREMONY RSVP

Students will indicate their intent to participate in the December Graduation Ceremony on the Application for Candidacy to Graduate Form. An Academic Records Counselor will confirm your attendance closer to the date of the ceremony. Your participation in the December Graduation ceremony is expected by the university, but is not mandatory.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INVITATIONS

Herff Jones is the University's preferred provider of announcements and invitations. These personalized items may be ordered at the Graduation Fair, the SMU Bookstore or directly from herffjones.com/college/smu.

These announcements and invitations contain the name and degree of the candidate. For additional information, please call the SMU Bookstore at 214-768-2435.

GRADUATION FAIR

The Graduation Fair will be held in rooms 108, 110 & 112 of the Laura Lee Blanton Building on:

Thursday, October 13
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Friday, October 14
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The following organizations will have representatives available at the Graduation Fair to help prepare you for graduation:

Academic Ceremonies	Ceremony instructions and guest information
Balfour	Order your SMU Ring from Balfour representatives
Flash Photography	Get professional cap & gown photographs taken
Herff Jones	Order regalia, invitations, and announcements
Student Media Company	Order your SMU Rotunda yearbook
Young Alumni	Stay connected with SMU even after you graduate

ACADEMIC REGALIA

We are excited to share with you a special SMU Commencement tradition! Graduates began wearing academic regalia designed especially for SMU in May 2009. Incorporating our school colors and symbols, our custom regalia represents the spirit of SMU!

All participating candidates must wear academic regalia; however, no honor ribbons or other decorations or adornments are worn to the ceremony. This includes messages or images on mortar boards. Students without regalia will be directed to the SMU Bookstore to rent a cap and gown before being allowed into the Dedman Center for Lifetime Sports for lineup.





Undergraduates will wear a mortarboard, robe and stole of gratitude.



All Master's candidates will wear the hood for the degree they are about to receive. All Master hoods should be rented from the Bookstore and worn to the ceremony.



Ph.D. and D.E. candidates' hoods are provided as a gift from the University.

Students must be present during the December Graduation ceremony to receive the hood.

☞ All graduates keep their caps and tassels. Undergraduates keep their stoles. ☜

ACQUIRING RENTAL REGALIA

Academic regalia must be pre-ordered at the Graduation Fair or through the Herff Jones Website at herffjones.com/college/smu by November 11. Pre-ordered regalia will be available for pickup from the SMU Bookstore beginning December 12.

If you do not pre-order your regalia, a limited selection of regalia will be available at the SMU Bookstore the week of December 12. The SMU Bookstore may have your size available but there is no guarantee. Telephone and in-person orders will not be accepted at the SMU Bookstore.

Students are responsible for knowing their degree type and discipline color when placing their order. Please review your Degree Progress Report and the Inventory of Academic Programs to determine your degree type and discipline color.

If you are a Doctoral candidate and are unsure if you will graduate in December, please place an order. If you do not need the regalia, you will not be responsible for the rental fee.

Payment for all regalia will be made upon pick-up, not during the ordering process.

PRICES QUOTED ARE FOR PRE-PACKAGED ACADEMIC REGALIA ORDERS.

Bachelor Regalia	\$62.00
Master's Regalia	\$82.00
Law Regalia	\$105.00
Doctor of Ministry	\$105.00
Doctoral Regalia	\$105.00
(Ph.D. and D.E.) (hood provided by University)	\$85.00

All rented gowns and hoods should be returned to the SMU Bookstore by 5:00 p.m. graduation day. A \$10.00 per-day late return fee will be applied on Monday, December 19.

COMMEMORATE THE OCCASION

SMU CENTENNIAL RING

In 1997, students, faculty and alumni felt the need to preserve the timeless tradition of the SMU Centennial Ring originally created in 1924. The SMU Centennial Ring is the tangible and recognizable symbol of pride in SMU and its history. The SMU Centennial Ring is a link with classmates, friends and alumni spread all over the world. For questions regarding the Ring Ceremony, please call 214-768-4740.

The SMU Centennial Ring can be viewed and purchased online at smu.edu/smuring or by calling **1-800-BALFOUR**.

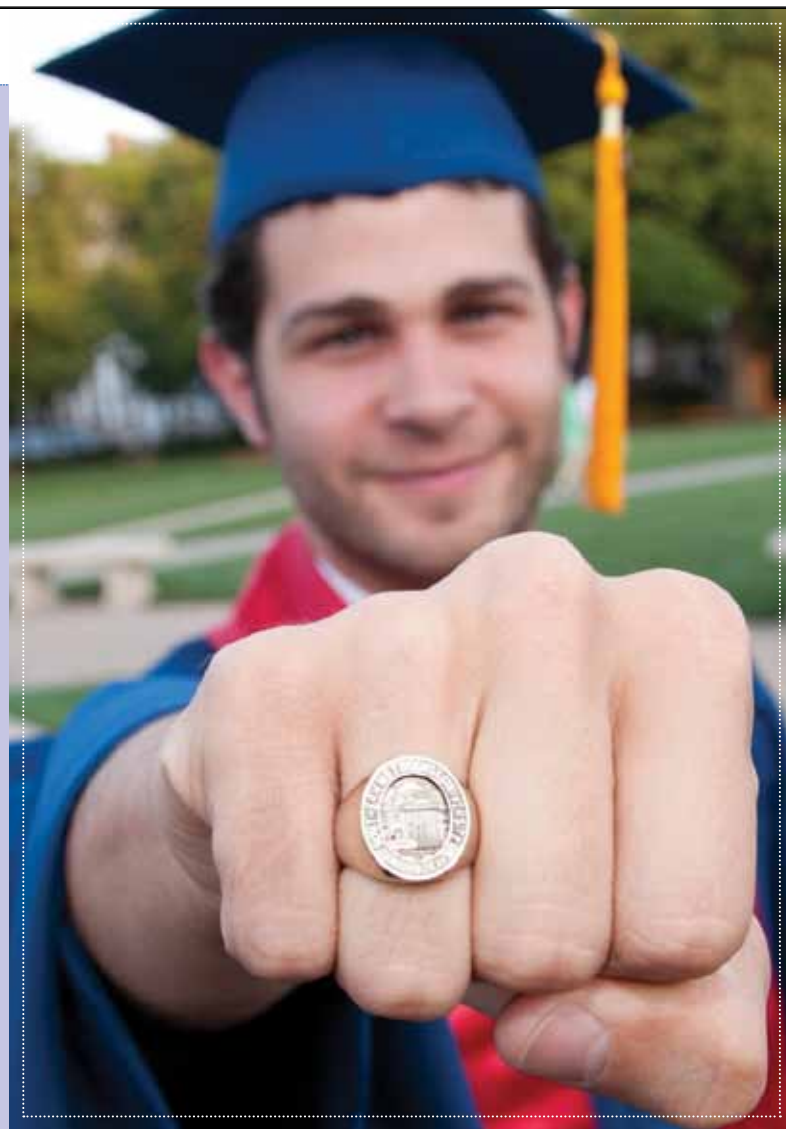
DIPLOMA FRAMES

You will have an opportunity to purchase a diploma preservation frame from the Michael Sutter Company after graduation. Each diploma preservation frame will contain a second, complimentary diploma!

Please visit michaelsutter.com/pqf.html to view the variety of frames available. All graduates will receive an email from the Michael Sutter Company after graduation with information on how to order a diploma frame.

SMU GRADUATION DVD

SMU is partnering with GradMemory to provide a professional video of the December Graduation ceremony. The Graduation DVD contains the complete graduation ceremony with all keynotes and speeches as well as all candidates walking across the stage. The DVD package can also be personalized with the graduate's name and picture. This perfect graduation keepsake is available to order now at gradmemory.com. You can contact GradMemory at **1-866-977-GRAD**.



PHOTOGRAPHS

Personal photographs may be taken only before and after the December Graduation ceremony. Guests are not permitted in the aisles during the ceremony. Arrangements have been made with a professional photographer to take candidates' photographs as they walk across the stage at the December Graduation ceremony. If you have questions concerning photographs, please contact Flash Photography at **214-443-9393**.

OFFICIAL GRADUATION T-SHIRT

The Official Graduation T-Shirt will be available for pre-sale at the Graduation Fair on October 13 and 14.

T-Shirts will also be for sale before the ceremony at the Mustang Plaza outside of Moody Coliseum. For a limited time following the ceremony, T-Shirts will be available at the SMU Bookstore.



INFORMATION FOR GUESTS

Guests do **not** need tickets to attend the all-University December Graduation Convocation that will be held on December 17, 2011 in Moody Coliseum at 10:00 a.m. Doors to Moody Coliseum open at 8:30 a.m. and guests are encouraged to be seated by 9:45 a.m.

Moody Coliseum
6024 Airline Road, Dallas, Texas 75275
214-768-3417

DECEMBER GRADUATION TIMELINE

8:30 a.m.	Moody Coliseum Opens and Pre-Ceremony Slideshow begins
9:45 a.m.	Guests Should be Seated
9:55 a.m.	The Student Procession Begins
10:00 a.m.	December Graduation Ceremony Begins
12:00 – 12:30 p.m.	December Graduation Ceremony Concludes

GUEST ATTIRE

Guests should dress with comfort in mind as campus is crowded and the Moody Coliseum steps are very steep; therefore, low heels or flat shoes are recommended. To keep students and faculty in regalia cool, the temperature in Moody Coliseum is kept low. Guests prone to chills should bring a light jacket to stay comfortable. Men traditionally wear khaki pants and a sports coat or a suit. Women tend to wear dress slacks and a nice blouse or a dress.



GUESTS WITH DISABILITIES

Doors to Moody Coliseum open at 8:30 a.m. Disabled guests are encouraged to take their seats at that time. Disabled guests who are driving themselves may park on Binkley Avenue. Guests will need a current state-issued disabled parking placard or license plate. Guests riding with family may be dropped off at the Mustang Statue at the corner of Airline Road and Binkley Avenue.

Disabled guests should use the northeast entrance to Moody Coliseum at the bottom of the large downward ramp, each guest will be permitted to have one attendant join them. A total of 5 seats for guests and 5 seats for attendants are available on the Coliseum level and a limited number of guest and attendant seats are available on the Moody floor.

Persons with difficulties climbing stairs may be seated with one attendant in the first three rows of Sections A, B, C, D, O, P & Q. These seats are accessible via the front doors of Moody Coliseum, and a total of 142 seats for guests and 142 seats for attendants are available. All seats are first-come first-served and ushers will be available to escort guests to the proper area.

Please contact **214-768-3417** for additional questions regarding guests with disabilities.

LODGING AND TRANSPORTATION

PREFERRED HOTEL SPONSORS



Hyatt Regency Dallas

Offers SMU graduates and their families a \$109 rate, based on availability, December 14-19, 2011. The \$109 rate may not be combined with any offer or discount. Call **800-233-1234** and request rate plan SMUV or visit hyattregencydallas.com and use **Group/Corporate #CR37662** to make reservations.



Residence Inn by Marriott – Dallas Park Central

SMU guests benefit from our discounted rates of \$85 for our Studio and One Bedroom suites and \$125 for our Two Bedroom Suites. To make reservations contact the hotel **972-503-1333** and ask for the **Southern Methodist University Rates** or go online at: <http://cwp.marriott.com/dalrp/smuadmissions>. Go Mustangs!



THE STONELEIGH
HOTEL & SPA

Stoneleigh Hotel

SMU visitors will receive a special rate starting at \$169 for a Deluxe room accommodation. Please call **214-871-7111** for reservations and ask for the SMU rate. Visit stoneleighhotel.com for more information and photos.

AIR TRAVEL

American Airlines is offering a discounted fare for travel to and from Dallas-Fort Worth between December 15 and December 21 for persons attending SMU's December Graduation Ceremony. When booking your flight online, enter **Promotional Code 13D1BA** when making your reservation to obtain a 5% discount. If you need assistance, please call the American Airlines' Meeting Services Desk at **1-800-433-1790**. Tell the agent that your travel arrangements are for the December Graduation ceremony at Southern Methodist University.

AUTOMOBILE TRAVEL

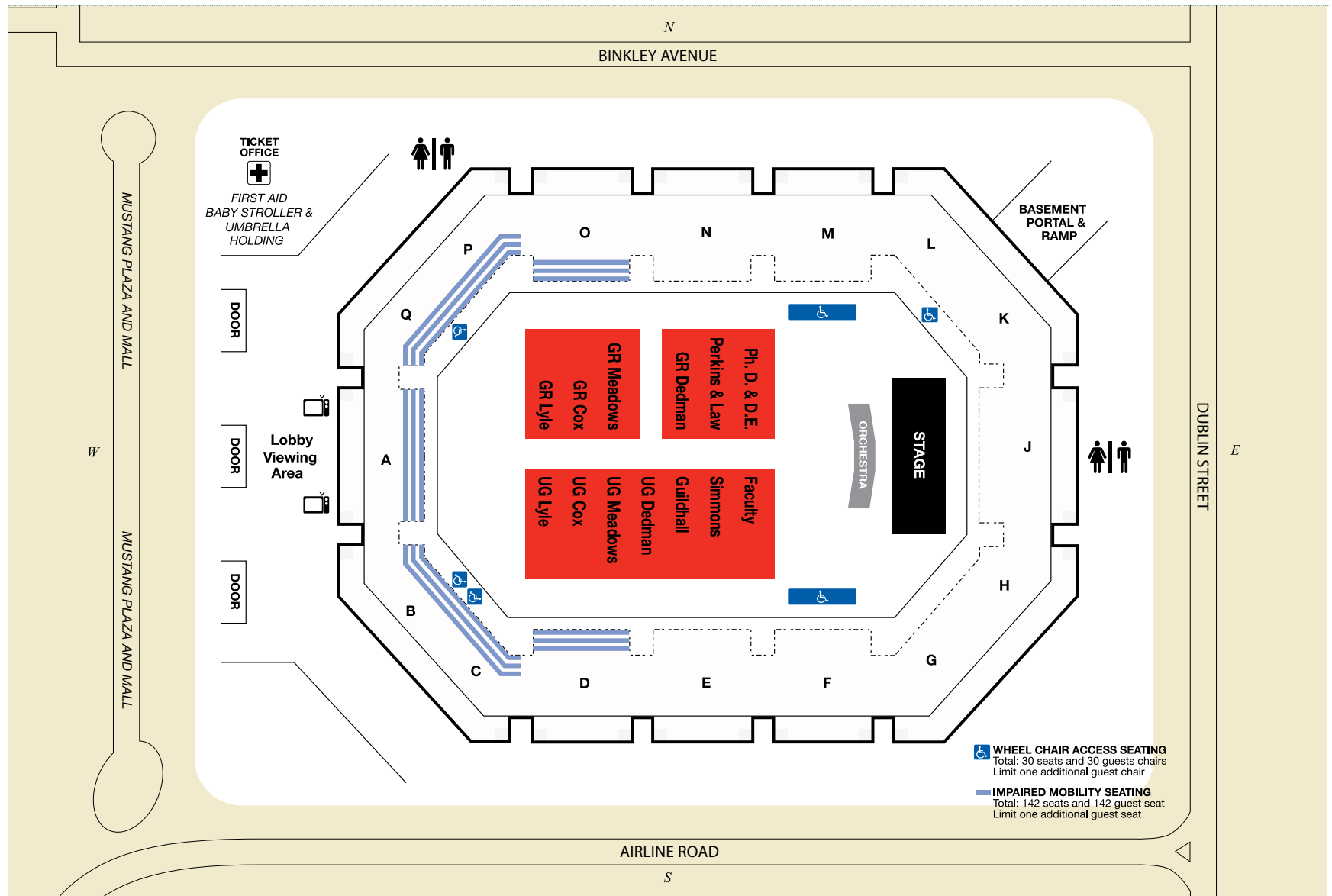
Avis Rent-A-Car is also offering a discount. The Avis Worldwide Discount (AWD) **Number is A906399**. Use the AWD number when calling Avis directly at **1-888-757-8878** to receive the best possible car rental rates available.

MAPS & PARKING

Those attending December Graduation activities may park free of charge in any of SMU's parking facilities. Please allow extra time to find parking for this event.

Maps and directions to campus are located at smu.edu/maps.

MOODY COLISEUM / SEATING



IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Academic Ceremonies

smu.edu/ceremonies
214-768-3417

Balfour

smu.edu/smuring
1-866-225-3687

Flash Photography

flashphotography.com
214-443-9393

Grad Memory

gradmemory.com
1-866-977-4723

Herff Jones

herffjones.com/college/smu

Office of the University Bursar

smu.edu/bursar
214-768-3417

Office of the University Registrar

smu.edu/registrar
214-768-3417

SMU Bookstore

3060 Mockingbird Lane
214-768-2435

Look Inside For Valuable Information or Visit Our Website at
smu.edu/decgrad



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