



SMUSM

Office of the Provost

The Faculty
Southern Methodist University

Dear Colleagues:

President R. Gerald Turner and I invite you to join us for the ninety-fifth Opening Convocation to honor the entering students of 2009, on Tuesday, August 25, at 5:30 p.m. in McFarlin Auditorium. Jeff Talley, chair of the Department of Environmental and Civil Engineering and Bobby B. Lyle Professor of Leadership and Global Entrepreneurship, will deliver the keynote address.

On the evening of Convocation, the faculty will assemble in academic regalia **no later than 5:00 p.m. in the foyer of the Perkins Administration Building**. At 5:15 p.m. the entering students will march through the Rotunda and down the diagonal walk between Dallas Hall and McFarlin Auditorium; please make your way to Perkins Administration in a way that does not intersect that line of march. Faculty marshals will be on hand to greet you and lead the faculty procession into McFarlin Auditorium. Retired faculty will march at the head of the procession followed by current and new faculty.

If you need academic regalia for the evening, it will be provided by the SMU Bookstore, compliments of the Office of the Provost. You may send your regalia order to sm526@bncollege.com, to the attention of Marilyn Hartman. Please include your name, height, weight, degree information, and institution where degree was earned. Academic regalia may be picked up from the SMU Bookstore the week prior to the ceremony.

If you plan to attend Opening Convocation, please RSVP by Monday, August 3. For further information about Opening Convocation, please refer to the Opening Convocation website or contact Gretchen Voight in the Registrar's Office at 214.768.2037.

Opening Convocation and the preceding Rotunda Passage is an exciting beginning of the academic year for our new students. I hope you will be able to join us for this important celebration of our academic community.

Sincerely,

Paul W. Ludden
Provost and Vice President for
Academic Affairs