Deans, Associate Deans, and Chairs,

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 reminder about SMU Alcohol Policies. Please take time in your department-level and School-level conversations to remind faculty leadership and faculty about the two policies guiding SMU on alcohol: Policy 1.15 Alcohol and Policy 1.6 Alcohol Sponsorship. A dedicated webpage to this issue can be found here:
http://www.smu.edu/StudentAffairs/VPSA/Alcohol. Please read the guide on this webpage thoroughly prior to submitting a request for approval to serve alcohol on-campus. Please direct any questions related to this Guide to the Vice President for Student Affairs at vpstuaff@smu.edu.

Generative AI in the classroom and research. Since January this year, a group of 50 faculty and staff have joined to form an interest group on the topic of Generative AI for research, teaching, and policy. The CTE has also created a new webpage dedicated to this topic. Each week, the interest group stays in communication through an email that provides information about upcoming SMU workshops and panels, as well as links to many relevant articles and sources. CTE has hosted two faculty-led panels on this topic this term; recently, participants asked about how faculty could/should communicate expectations in their syllabi about the appropriate use (or the prohibition of use) of ChatGPT and other Generative AI tools. Please encourage faculty to join this interest group by emailing facultysuccess@smu.edu if they would like to receive the weekly information updates and to participate in campus-wide conversations.

Faculty search and hiring process: updates and improvements. With over 60 active searches this year, we anticipate that a high number of new faculty colleagues will join our community in the fall! We realize that searches are both rewarding as well as time-intensive for everyone. This year, a group of representatives from each School/College has been meeting monthly with the Office of Faculty Success, the Diversity Office, and IAE, to identify obstacles in the paperwork process so that we can make both real-time and long-term improvements to our internal infrastructure. Their joint efforts have concluded in a number of recommendations, which will be implemented over the summer to streamline the process and signature flow for searches beginning in August 2023. For more information, please reach out to facultysuccess@smu.edu.

We welcome your suggestions for future areas to feature in the monthly roundup; email facultysuccess@smu.edu. You can find past issues at this link.