

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.

Mental Health, Depression, Anxiety, and Wellness: Help communicate resources at SMU. Many people in our community are coming together to bring a heightened awareness to the resources available at SMU to support individuals who are facing challenges—from immediate crisis to ongoing stress and bewilderment during challenging personal, political, social, or academic times. As academic leaders, please use your positions to help make more visible the many resources that SMU provides to students, faculty, and staff. You can circulate the main landing page of [Counseling Services](#) -- or better yet, actively explore with your community the many resources available that are featured: [Mental Health Apps](#), such as 24/7 Teletherapy, TogetherAll, a 24/7 peer community, WellTrack, an interactive app for supporting mental health, Campus Well, and more. SMU also offers [psychiatric care](#), [counseling services](#), [substance abuse and recovery](#), and [crisis care](#). Become familiar with the national crisis helpline: 988. By helping spread the word, you will be reaching people who can benefit from additional attention and care.

Important Upcoming Information on Schedule of Classes for May through Fall Terms 2024. Key milestones in building the schedule of classes are on the immediate horizon. Detailed instructions and processes for the room scheduling period will be distributed in early November, along with an invite to an overview meeting for all schedulers to be held on November 27. On November 6, the Production Calendar will be distributed to all departments and will include a full set of dates, milestones, and resources. On November 27, the Prior Term Copy will be run for May, Summer, August, and Fall terms. Please note—the deadline of Friday, February 9, for finalizing the schedules, is similar to past deadlines. However, we have heard from many chairs and department coordinators that they would like to have the option of more time to work on the schedules. Therefore, we are providing the PTC much earlier—in late November rather than in early January-- to allow for more time for those who prefer to begin earlier. As in the past several semesters, the schedule of classes will be built by centrally assigning a selection of pre-assigned rooms and large-capacity rooms (>50 students). For questions, reach out to Darrah Rippy at drippy@smu.edu.

Road to Tenure and Promotion Discussion on Friday, November 10th from 2:00 to 3:00 in Annette Caldwell Simmons Hall 138. All assistant and associate professors have received an invitation to a discussion on promotion and tenure. Please help encourage interested faculty to join this discussion if they would like more information about the processes and policies on promotion and tenure. In the spring term, we will offer a monthly brunch series with a focus on associate professors who are mapping out their road to full professor. **We need volunteers** from our academic leaders, so if you are interested in participating either as a *panelist* for the November discussion or as a *guest* at one of the Springboard brunches this fall or spring, please reach out to Paige Ware at pware@smu.edu.

Informational Video Resources and an Updated Model for Search and Recruitment are now Available. A series of 8 short (2- to 5-minute) videos about the processes behind faculty search and recruitment is now available on the [SMU Faculty Search and Recruitment Resources webpage](#). The 2023 revisions to the [Model for SMU Search and Recruitment](#) are also now complete and available. Updates include important revisions to the Variance to the Standard Hiring Process. Please feel free to circulate these resources among search chairs and committee members. For questions, reach out to facultysuccess@smu.edu.

Faculty Technology Governance Council Calling for Budget Requests. The Faculty Technology Council (formerly *Academic Technology Council*) is a group comprised of faculty representatives from each school, the SMU Guildhall, Faculty Senate, SMU Libraries, and the Provost's Office. This group meets monthly to prioritize academic technology projects and strategies and to ensure that technology services are aligned more effectively throughout the University. Your representatives enable the faculty and academic areas to participate directly in providing strategic direction and budget prioritization in technology decision-making for the campus. At this time of year, each member canvasses faculty in their areas for technology needs to bring those forward in the budget decision-making process. Please reach out to your representative to ensure that your faculty needs are represented. For more information, [visit this website to contact your representative](#).

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. You can [find past issues at this link](#).