

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.

**Fall 2024 Enrollment.** Thank you for welcoming a tremendous class of new students to SMU. This includes 1,716 new first-year students and 314 new transfer students. In addition to their record academic achievements, 37% of first-year and 55% of transfer students identify with a traditionally underrepresented race or ethnicity. As well, 18% of first-year and 37% of transfer students are eligible for federal Pell Grants. Overall enrollment for Fall 2024 totals 12,129 with 7,296 undergraduate and 4,833 graduate students. More [enrollment reports](#) are available online from the Office of University Decision Support.

**Promotion Guidelines Available for Tenure-Line and Professional and Teaching Faculty.** All school/college- and department-level promotion guidelines are now housed centrally in Box folders. The overarching university-wide policy for Promotion and Tenure is found in [Policy 2.11 Guidelines for the Award of Rank and Tenure](#). Departments and schools have shared their most recent versions of unit-level guidelines to be centrally available to all faculty. Annually, each school/college can submit any revisions made during the previous year to the Provost Office in May. Promotion guidelines can be found at these links through password-protected Box folders: 1) [guidelines for faculty on tenure-track lines](#) and 2) [guidelines for faculty on professional and teaching lines](#). For more information about these portals or other related issues, visit the [Faculty Success webpage on Faculty Governance and Policies](#).

**Faculty Awards Challenge: Two faculty per department:** We are asking each department chair to identify two faculty colleagues and ask them to make a one-on-one appointment with the Faculty Awards Director, Brenna Rivas at [brivas@smu.edu](mailto:brivas@smu.edu), in the Awards Office located on the first floor of Ford Hall. Brenna will work with them individually to conduct a CV inventory and identify awards and/or fellowships that are suitable for their career trajectory. We have been having great success when faculty at SMU apply for awards; please help us invest in supporting our faculty to receive honors for the amazing contributions they are making. As always, please let us know if you have received an award (or have been nominated for an award)– or if you have nominated an SMU colleague-- [at this link](#).

**EthicsPoint.** As a reminder, SMU has a [confidential reporting tool](#), EthicsPoint, for any faculty, staff, or student to submit concerns about a range of issues within the areas of Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Athletics, Code of Ethics Matters, Research, Financial Matters, Technology/Data Security, and more. Individuals may choose to remain anonymous and will receive a report “key” to receive updates during the time in which the SMU Internal Audit and Consulting Services team conducts an investigation into the concerns. The parameters of EthicsPoint are guided by the following SMU policies: [1.2](#)

[Code of Ethics, 1.12 Protection of Whistleblowers](#), and [7.28 Dishonest, Fraudulent, or Illegal Practices](#). For more information, visit the [SMU EthicsPoint website](#).

**Upcoming Change for Logging In at SMU:** OIT is about to change the way we log in. Over the Winter Break, SMU will transition to a new single sign-on service called Microsoft Entra ID. We are announcing this now because we are in long transition period; from now until the change is fully made in December, you can log in *either* with your SMU ID (e.g., 8-digit ID) or your *NetID*, which is your SMU email address (e.g., [pware@smu.edu](mailto:pware@smu.edu)). We strongly encourage everyone to begin logging in with their NetID as soon as possible (e.g., SMU email) to get used to the upcoming change. For almost all users, your NetID is your [@smu.edu](mailto:@smu.edu) email address. OIT has created a new My Profile page, <https://myprofile.smu.edu>, where you can confirm your NetID. [More information is available here](#).

**Open Access Journals and Processing Charges.** SMU Libraries has publishing agreements to pay Article Processing Charges (APCs) for individuals who wish to publish articles in select open access journals. These journals are considered "Gold Open Access," which is a journal that requires publishing authors to pay the processing charges for their article to appear in the journal. In this case, SMU Libraries' agreement covers SMU authors' fees. The benefits of publishing in a Gold Open Access journal include immediate free access of your journal article and authors' ability to retain more of their rights by applying a Creative Commons license of their choosing to the article. To view a list of the journals that SMU Libraries has publishing agreements with, including journals published by Elsevier, Springer Nature, and Wiley, please visit the Open Access Guide at <https://guides.smu.edu/openaccess/publish>. For more information, contact Dr. Carrie Johnston, Director of Research and Scholarly Initiatives, at [cjohnston@smu.edu](mailto:cjohnston@smu.edu).

**Extra Compensation Categories in PeopleSoft for Faculty.** As one of the outcomes of the Task Force on Extra Compensation, the coding categories in PeopleSoft have been updated to provide clearer information. The revised categories will allow for better determination of research expenditures, relocation expenses, and other payments that had previously been coded as "Other." All department coordinators and executive assistants learned about the new categories at the Administrative Assistants Workshop on September 17th. The new categories are as follows: Teaching – Overload; Teaching –Online; Teaching—Course Design; Teaching Intersessions; Research - Externally funded; Research - Internally funded; Faculty Supplementary Pay; Faculty Extraordinary Pay; Service Overload; Employment Agreement; Awards; Relocation; and Other. For more information, email [facultysuccess@smu.edu](mailto:facultysuccess@smu.edu)

**Nominations Now Open for New Moody Outstanding Mentor Awards.** The Moody School of Graduate and Advanced Studies and the Center for Teaching Excellence are now accepting nominations for Moody Outstanding Mentor Awards. These awards recognize exceptional mentoring of graduate students and postdoctoral scholars by SMU faculty. Four awards are given each year. Each department may nominate one faculty member for

this award each year. All full-time SMU faculty who work closely with graduate students and/or postdoctoral scholars are eligible for nomination. Moody Outstanding Mentor Awards provide a fund of \$10,000, to be used by the end of the following academic year, to support research and professional development expenses for graduate students and postdoctoral scholars under the awardee's mentorship. In addition, awardees will each receive \$1,000 for their personal use. Nominations should be submitted via the online form [here](#) no later than **Friday, Oct. 11**. Further nomination instructions and selection criteria can be found in the [call for nominations](#) and the [evaluation rubric](#). Faculty are encouraged to work with department colleagues to nominate an exemplary mentor for these awards.

**Policy Revisions: Discussions with Stakeholders.** Over the last three months, faculty, faculty leadership, and the Faculty Senate have had opportunities to provide input on revisions to three Academic Affairs policies (1.3.2, 2.8, 2.17). This feedback has resulted in the refinement of each of these policies for greater clarity. Next steps will be for a final Office of Legal Affairs and President's Executive Council review in mid- to late October, once the feedback period has concluded. For more information, email [facultysuccess@smu.edu](mailto:facultysuccess@smu.edu).

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](#).