

GRARG

into a new era



2023-2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

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Letter from SMU President and Chair of the Board of Trustees

The SMU Annual Report celebrates our landmark achievements and the crucial role that donor generosity plays in our success.

The 2023–2024 year proved especially meaningful, starting with the September 1 announcement of our invitation to join the Atlantic Coast Conference, placing us among the nation's top colleges. This news sparked overwhelming support from our alumni and donors, culminating in record-breaking fundraising for both athletics and academics. As of December 6, 2024, supporters have contributed \$1.39 billion to the *SMU Ignited: Boldly Shaping Tomorrow* campaign, moving us closer to our \$1.5 billion goal.

Additionally, the past year saw the impact of our investments in the tools and resources needed to equip innovators and leaders in a changing world:

- The completion of new and renovated facilities to further graduate and business education, collaboration and research.
- The addition of new athletic facilities and sources of financial support for student-athletes as they compete on the field and in the classroom.
- Expanded educational access through scholarships, mentoring and student support programs.
- Increased funding for faculty and student research that has real-world impact beyond our campus.

The last twelve months also set the stage for an exciting year ahead. We have officially entered the ACC and this upcoming year will conclude the University's ten-year strategic plan, which launched our second century with strength, unity and vision. Also this coming year, the Board of Trustees will conduct the search for the 11th president of SMU.

Each new year on the Hilltop brings familiar traditions and exciting developments. As you review this report, we hope you feel deep pride in the work we do together to impact our students, employees and the organizations and communities they ultimately affect. On behalf of the SMU administration and Board of Trustees, we thank you for your enduring support that is forging a brighter tomorrow for SMU, Dallas and beyond.

R. Daite Sum

R. GERALD TURNER *SMU President*



DAVID MILLER '72, '73 Chair, SMU Board of Trustees



Board of Trustees 2024–2025

Jennifer Burr Altabef '78, '81 William D. Armstrong '82 Michael M. Boone '63, '67 Tucker S. Bridwell '73, '74 Bradley Brookshire '76 Christa J. Brown-Sanford '04 Thomas G. Burish Laura Welch Bush '68 Pastor Richie L. Butler '93 Kelly Hoglund Compton '79 Secretary Jeanne Tower Cox '78 Katherine Raymond Crow '94 Gary T. Crum '69 Robert H. Dedman, Jr. '80, '84 Martin L. Flanagan '82 Gerald J. Ford '66, '69 Antonio O. Garza, Jr. '83 David C. Haley '86 Cynthia Fierro Harvey '99 Frederick B. Hegi, Jr. '66

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Bryan S. Sheffield '01

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John E. Waldron, III

Richard Ware '68

Abigail Williams '94

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TRUSTEES EMERITI

Linda Pitts Custard '60, '99 Alan D. Feld '57, '60 Milledge A. Hart, III Gene Jones

University Administration 2024–2025

R. Gerald Turner *President*

PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Elizabeth G. Loboa Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

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ACADEMIC DEANS

Nathan Balke ad interim Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences

Samuel S. Holland Algur H. Meadows School of the Arts

Nader Jalili Bobby B. Lyle School of Engineering

Holly Jeffcoat SMU Libraries

Stephanie L. Knight Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development

Hugo Magallanes ad interim Joe and Lois Perkins School of Theology

Matthew B. Myers Edwin L. Cox School of Business

Jason P. Nance Dedman School of Law

Robin Poston Moody School of Graduate and Advanced Studies

Impactful investment over

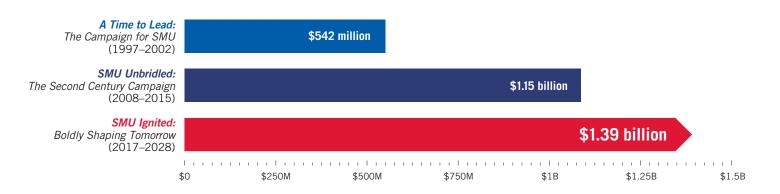
THREE DECADES

Over the last 30 years, SMU has improved dramatically. The quality of the student body, the excellence of the faculty in teaching and research, and the campus facilities are all stronger – thanks in large part to donors who have invested in the University during three comprehensive campaigns.

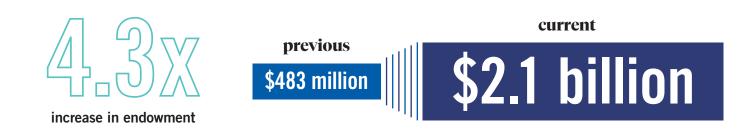
Our Board of Trustees, administration and donors have committed to a vision of SMU as one of the leading universities in the nation. Our fundraising successes have generated great momentum for the continuous growth of the University's impact.



given during three campaigns

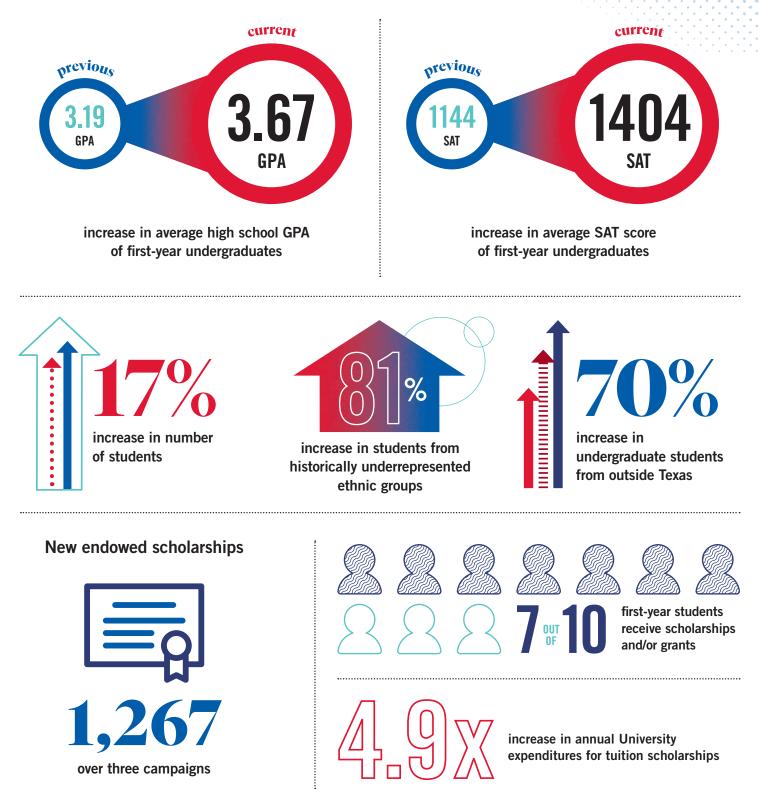


Investment in the SMU endowment provides substantial, sustainable funding for every area of the University.



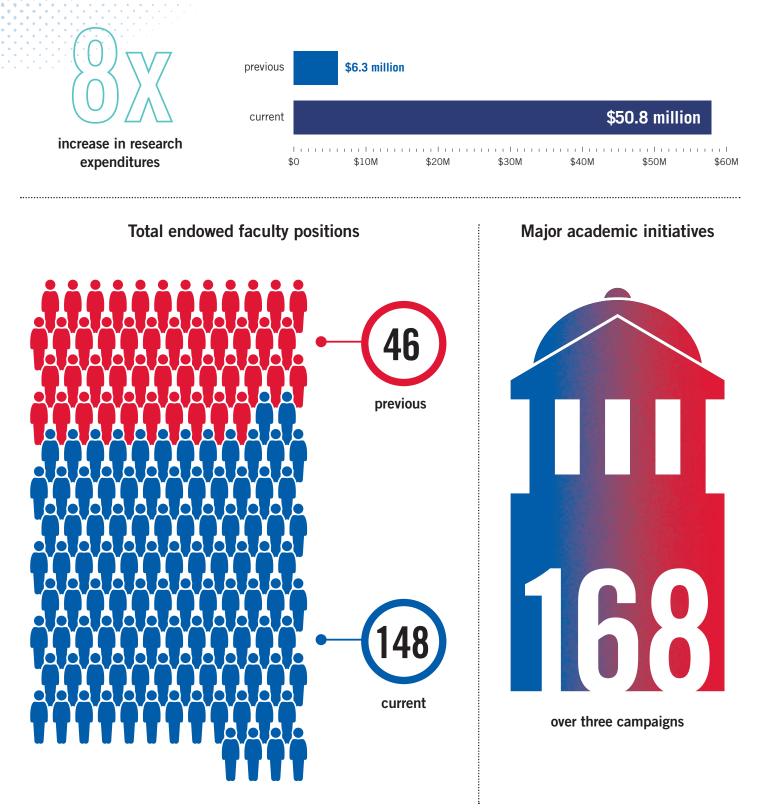
Empowering outstanding students

Put simply, SMU now serves more students, who are more highly accomplished, from a wider variety of geographic and ethnic backgrounds. Gifts to scholarships have been critical to these improvements.



Enriching teaching and research

By expanding endowed positions for faculty members, resources for research and travel, and the number of academic centers and institutes, SMU can better attract teachers and graduate students who provide thought leadership in their fields and tackle complex challenges that are important to communities around the world.



Enhancing campus and community support

Investments in facilities for academics and athletics create a vibrant environment where students and faculty excel.



major new and renovated facilities

plus the addition of the George W. Bush Presidential Center

SMU Ignited to date:

- Armstrong Fieldhouse and Miller Boulevard Ballroom
- Bolin-Bridwell Hall
- Clements Foundation Scholars Den renovation
- Trammell Crow Building renovation
- Crum Lacrosse and Sports Field
- Joseph Wylie Fincher Memorial Building renovation
- Gerald J. Ford Hall for Research and Innovation
- Holt Hickman Outdoor Pool
- Hughes-Trigg Student Center renovation
- Gene and Jerry Jones Grand Atrium and Plaza
- Cary M. Maguire Building renovation
- Meadows visual arts facilities
- David B. Miller Business Quadrangle
- Frances Anne Moody Hall
- Rees-Jones Library of the American West
- Robson & Lindley Aquatics Center
- Nancy C. and Richard R. Rogers Center for Visual Arts
- Kim and William C. Shaddock Hall
- Bryan S. Sheffield Hall
- Southeast Hall
- Thomas House
- Washburne Soccer and Track Stadium
- Garry Weber End Zone Complex

SMU Unbridled

- Armstrong Residential Commons
- Arnold Dining Commons
- Caruth Hall
- Cooper Centennial Pavilion
- Crain Centennial Promenade
- Kathy Crow Residential Commons
- Crum Basketball Center
- Crum Residential Commons
- J. Lindsay Embrey Engineering Building
- Fondren Library Center renovation

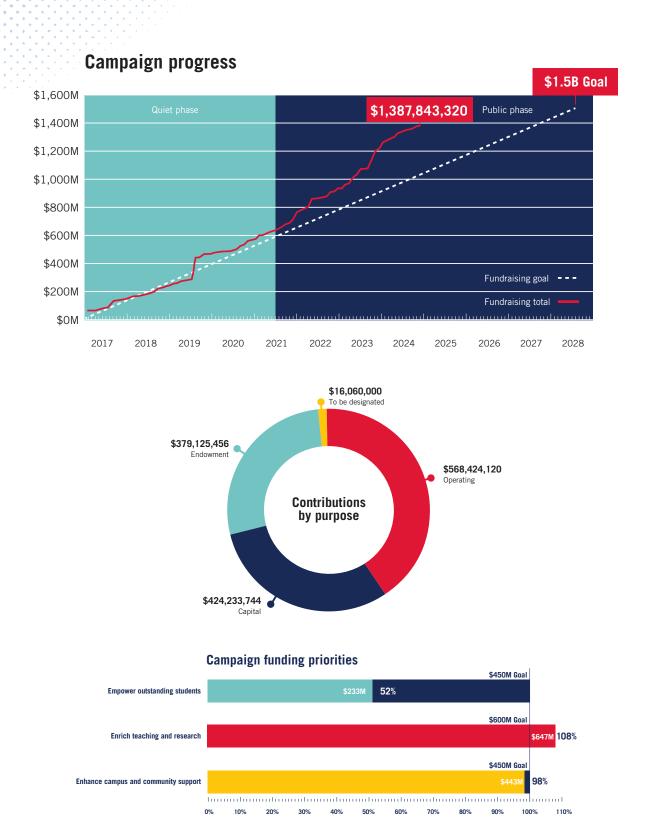
- Val and Frank Late Fountain
- Loyd Residential Commons
- Martha Proctor Mack Ballroom
- Carolyn and David Miller Campus Center at SMU-in-Taos
- Moody Coliseum and Miller Event Center
- Mustang Band Hall
- Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Hall including Kirby Hall and Selecman Hall renovations
- Annette Caldwell Simmons Hall
- Harold Clark Simmons Hall
- Dr. Bob Smith Health Center
- SMU-in-Taos Faculty and Student Housing
- Payne Stewart SMU Golf Training Center at Trinity Forest Golf Club
- Styslinger/Altec Tennis Complex
- R. Gerald Turner Centennial Quadrangle and Gail O. and R. Gerald Turner Pavilion
- Ware Residential Commons

A Time to Lead

- Altshuler Learning Enhancement Center and Blanton Academic Development Complex
- Laura Lee Blanton Student Services Building
- James M. Collins Executive Education Center
- Cox School of Business classrooms
- Dedman Life Sciences Building
- Dedman School of Law classrooms
- Fondren Library Center, Laura Bush Promenade and Selecman Tower
- Gerald J. Ford Stadum and Paul B. Joyd Jr. All-Sports Center
- Linda and Mitch Hart eCenter facilities
- Jerry R. Junkins Electrical Engineering Building
- Meadows Museum
- Owen Arts Center theatre shops and Pollock Gallery
- Perkins Chapel renovation
- Umphrey Lee Center digital newsroom and TV studio

SMU Ignited progress

Through December 2024, SMU is 93% toward our goal. This momentum allows current faculty, researchers and students to forge a brighter future for our Mustang community.













David B. Miller '72, '73 and Donor and Chair, SMU Board of Trust













Advocating for

Working to reform the early stages of the criminal legal process, the SMU Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center has partnered with the Child Poverty Action Lab (CPAL), a Dallas-based nonprofit that utilizes data to improve public systems and community programs to combat generational poverty. Furnished with an \$800,000 grant from the Department of Justice, the "Hasty decision-making can lead to unfair or even dangerous results. But delays in the decision can be equally problematic," said Pamela Metzger, director of the Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center at the SMU Dedman School of Law.

Delays in pretrial processes can jeopardize employment, family stability, housing and health.



On average, parents detained in Dallas County jails are separated from their children for more than a month. The Deason Center and CPAL seek strategies to reduce these family separations. The Deason-CPAL initiative is working with the Dallas County District Attorney's Office to

Deason Center and CPAL are helping Dallas county prosecutors, judges and defense attorneys make informed decisions – faster – about when to file criminal charges. expand services to help victims in assault cases – including family violence and aggravated assault – and provide additional support throughout the process.

June/July 2023



Backing student investors A \$1.7 million grant from the Phillips Foundation establishes the SMU Impact Lab, giving students practical, hands-on experience investing in socially useful commercial opportunities.



SMU recognized by Project Unity

Project Unity presents SMU with the Advocate Award for organizational unity at a special celebratory event, *Together We Sing*, in recognition of its commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion.



University Park Citizen of the Year

Brad E. Cheves, SMU senior vice president for Development and External Affairs, is recognized for two decades of civic service at the conclusion of the city's 2023 Independence Day parade.

Exploring the ties between art and empire

For doctoral candidate Jennifer Laffick '27, the power of art and the power behind politics are intricately connected. A Meadows artistic scholar, University Ph.D. fellow and Fulbright Scholar, Laffick's combined passions for history, art and curatorial work led her to SMU Meadows School of the Arts. Now, donor support and graduate programming are aiding her research on how France's imperial power influenced and was shaped by the visual arts in the years surrounding 1800.

Growing up in Central Florida, Laffick's love of art history was born in an introductory art history class at the University of Central Florida taught by SMU alumna Margaret Zaho '94. At SMU, Laffick's work has garnered her the Provost's Doctoral Candidacy Fellowship and the Provost's Summer Research Grant.

During the 2024–2025 academic year, Laffick is expanding her research into the period by studying at the

Université Grenoble Alpes in France as a recently announced member of the Fulbright Scholars program. The grant was awarded from the Department of State and the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

"In that first art history class, I began to see art as a prism to understand history and humanity," said Laffick. "Through my research, I hope to help make art, especially the art that seems removed from our present moment, more accessible, engaging and relevant to a wide range of audiences, whether they be in the classroom or a museum gallery."



DATA DRIVEN research and learning

The O'Donnell Foundation advanced the digital future with a \$30 million gift to name and endow SMU's data science institute and support engineering excellence.

Championing meaningful research and preparing students in engineering and other fields for a datadriven world increasingly relies on a university's strengths in data science, research computing and digital innovation.

The gift from the foundation created by the late Peter O'Donnell, Jr. and the late Edith Jones O'Donnell includes endowment and operational gifts in two areas.

- \$15 million for the O'Donnell Data Science and Research Computing Institute, which launched in 2020 and serves as the hub for students and researchers across the campus and community who access the SMU supercomputing system and data science resources.
- \$15 million for the Initiative for Digital Innovation in Engineering and Computer Science in the Lyle School of Engineering, which further strengthens interdisciplinary research and teaching across engineering fields.

Since SMU launched its first supercomputer in 2014, the University has broadened data-driven curricula and research across disciplines with the support of gifts for enhanced technology, endowed faculty positions, facilities that strengthen collaboration, and the creation of the Moody School of Graduate and Advanced Studies.



"

HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING AND THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN INTEGRATED DATA SCIENCE INITIATIVE ARE KEY COMPONENTS TO THE SUCCESS OF GREAT MODERN UNIVERSITIES."

William T. Solomon '64 O'Donnell Foundation President and CEO

August 2023

Creating a hub for innovation, collaboration and interdisciplinary research

Distinguished scientist and executive, Neena Imam, joins the O'Donnell Data Science and Research Computing Institute as the inaugural Peter O'Donnell, Jr. Director. She concentrates on the University's commitment to information-driven education and next-gen computation research.



PRESTIGIOUS

ACC invites SMU to join

SMU accepted an invitation to join the Atlantic Coast Conference in all sports, alongside the University of California, Berkely (Cal) and Stanford University, starting with the 2024–2025 school year.

"Joining the Atlantic Coast Conference is a historic milestone in our institution's history, and the start of a new chapter in SMU Athletics," said R. Gerald Turner, SMU president. "From early in my tenure, we had a vision to reestablish SMU Athletics as a nationally recognized and relevant program, one to complement our outstanding academic reputation – things we could not have done without the support of our Board of Trustees and the financial support of so many generous donors."

SMU has a long and storied history of program-wide success, boasting nine overall national championships, almost 200 team conference championships, over 100 individual national championships, more than 150 NCAA Top-10 finishes, nearly 2,000 All-American honors and over 150 Olympic appearances. Over just the past decade, all of SMU's 17 programs have reached the postseason and 15 different programs have won conference championships. SMU is the only NCAA FBS program in Dallas, and, since 2013, has invested over \$250 million to develop and enhance championshipcaliber facilities.



September 2023



Charging ahead

To ensure our student-athletes can compete effectively in the elite conference, SMU launches the ACC Competitiveness Campaign, which raises \$100 million in the first week and \$125 million in the first year. Donor support enables SMU to increase coaching and administrative stuff, upgrade facilities, and cover travel and onetime transition costs.



Stampeding to the future Joseph G. Beard, Sr. '83 and Sherry H. Beard give \$2 million in support of the Garry Weber End Zone Complex and the Letterwinners Lounge – a premium gameday experience reserved for former letterwinners.

Golden giving

During their 50-year reunion, the SMU Class of 1973 presented combined gifts of more than \$6 million to *SMU Ignited: Boldly Shaping Tomorrow*. The Golden Mustangs reunion was co-chaired by SMU Trustee Tucker S. Bridwell '73, '74; James L. Deem '73, '77 and Katharine Wilson Deem '73; Stephen D. Sims '73; and Susie Frey Woodall '73.



Advancing graduate education and research

SMU dedicated Frances Anne Moody Hall, the new home of the Moody School of Graduate and Advanced Studies.

The 44,000-square-foot, three-story building named for SMU trustee and Moody Foundation Chairman and Executive Director Frances Anne Moody-Dahlberg '92 provides valuable resources for SMU graduate students, who comprise more than 40% of the student body. Moody Hall and the Moody School are supported by a \$100 million gift from the Moody Foundation – the largest gift in SMU history.

"Frances Anne Moody Hall will be a place of groundbreaking research and graduate education," said SMU President R. Gerald Turner. "Thanks to the generosity of the Moody Foundation, SMU provides our graduate students with a place to launch their academic success and future innovation."

The Moody School, which began

operations in fall 2020, brings doctoral and other graduate programs in several schools under one institutional umbrella and supports students with competitive fellowships and other essential resources, allowing them to conduct groundbreaking research, launch successful careers and become leaders in their chosen fields.

Moody Hall serves modern pedagogy with state-of-the-art seminar and classrooms as well as collaborative and quiet spaces for graduate research, writing and study. Moody Hall also houses the SMU Office of Research and Innovation.



Learn more and see video of Moody Hall at **smu.edu/24moody**

Dedman School of Law reaches community service



Continuing its work to ensure equitable access to legal assistance, the SMU Dedman School of Law celebrated the 75th anniversary of its legal clinics, a hallmark of the University's community engagement. The clinics provide exceptional legal services to those who may not be able to afford representation otherwise. Faculty supervise hands-on experiential learning that enriches our students' legal education.

The program has grown from one clinic with five students in 1948 to 80 students each term supervised by more than 20 faculty and staff in 10 clinics:

- Child Advocacy Clinic
- Civil/Consumer Clinic
- Criminal Clinic
- Federal Tax Clinic
- First Amendment Clinic
- Innocence Clinic
- Judge Elmo B. Hunter Center for Victims of Crimes against Women
- Patent Law Clinic
- Small Business and Trademark Clinic
- VanSickle Family Law Clinic



Anniversary festivities included various opportunities for students and faculty to network and learn more about the clinics and their history. Events concluded with a special address by civil rights attorney



Deborah Archer, president of the ACLU and director of the civil rights clinic at NYU School of Law.



THAT'S 75 YEARS OF FREE LEGAL SERVICES TO THOUSANDS OF REAL PEOPLE WITH REAL PROBLEMS AND WITHOUT THE MEANS TO HIRE A LAWYER. THAT'S 75 YEARS OF ENSURING FAMILIES HAVE SAFE AND AFFORDABLE PLACES TO LIVE. PROTECTING THE LIBERTIES OF THOSE IN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM, SAFEGUARDING SENIORS' FINANCIAL STABILITY. AND ENSURING THAT EMPLOYEES **OBTAIN THE BENEFITS TO WHICH THEY ARE ENTITLED."**

> **Jason P. Nance** Judge James Noel Dean of the Dedman School of Law

Mary Spector Director, Civil/Consumer Clinic

October 2023

Fueling student education and leadership

As part of her estate plan, the late Mary Frances McClure Burleson '57 directed several gifts to SMU totaling more than \$1.4 million. The longtime supporter of SMU and the Willis M. Tate Distinguished Lecture Series was well known in Dallas as president and CEO of the Ebby Halliday Companies for nearly thirty years.

Honoring excellence

Recipients of the 2023 Distinguished Alumni Award the highest honor SMU awards to its graduates – include Ray W. Washburne '84, Emily Rich Summers '66, and Robert H. Dedman, Jr. '80, '84, as well as **Emerging Leader Award recipient** Brittany K. Barnett '11.

Shining a light on Spanish culture

The University celebrates the dedication of the Custard Institute for Spanish Art and Culture at the Meadows Museum, as well as its inaugural symposium. Made possible by the generosity and vision of longtime supporters Linda Pitts Custard '60, '99 and William A. Custard '57, and The Meadows Foundation, the institute highlights the material culture and heritage of Spain.

Guiding technological collaboration

SMU is designated the lead agency for a federally funded economic development initiative to strengthen the semiconductor supply chain in North Texas and Oklahoma. Dubbed the Texoma Semiconductor Tech Hub, the new initiative seeks to unify the semiconductor supply chain and spur innovation through regional collaborations and workforce development.

Improving health

OJIGOMES

through transportation access

SMU Lyle School of Engineering is working with transportation nonprofit Feonix – Mobility Rising and other universities to improve health disparities in Dallas and Detroit. Janille Smith-Colin, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering, and colleagues Smith-Colin specializes in advancing sustainability and resilience goals through transportation infrastructure systems research, education and analysis. As part of this project, she will develop a framework for quantifying costs and benefits of



investing in transportation assistance hub resources to reduce transportation barriers to health.

from Texas A&M, University of Michigan and Michigan State University received a \$6 million award from the National Institutes of Health for the study.

The team will investigate whether improved transportation in both cities leads to better health outcomes for people with chronic medical conditions and women with high-risk pregnancies. These findings will build on previous research from Smith-Colin and others that demonstrates a lack of transportation creates barriers to services such as medical care, prescription services, grocery stores, education and other social determinants of health.



November 2023

Empowering a new era of football

Allison Wortley and Michael J. Wortley '98 make a \$7.5 million gift to the ACC Competitiveness Campaign and the Mustang Excellence Fund for SMU Football.



Building a reputation for excellence

SMU Guildhall, the University's premier graduate-level video game development program, celebrates its 20th anniversary.



Sustaining Hilltop traditions

Students, alumni, faculty, staff and neighbors gather for one of the campus' most beloved pastimes, the annual Celebration of Lights.

SMU inventor

RECOGNIZED

J.-C. Chiao, the Mary and Richard Templeton Centennial Chair and professor in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department in the SMU Lyle School of Engineering, was named a fellow of the National Academy of Inventors (NAI). He and 161 other inventors were inducted on June 18, 2024.

Election as an NAI fellow is the highest professional distinction awarded to academic inventors. The program recognizes those with a demonstrated a spirit of innovation in creating or facilitating outstanding inventions that have made a tangible impact on quality of life, economic development and the welfare of society.

Chiao is widely recognized for his research on using electromagnetic waves in medical applications including pain management systems and gastric motility management. In January 2023, *Dallas Innovates* called Chiao a "boundary breaker" for these and other inventions and publications.

Under the leadership of the SMU Office of Research and Innovation, Chiao was also one of three professors to receive the Texoma Semiconductor Tech Hub

designation and strategy development grants.

"I am very honored to have been nominated by SMU Provost Elizabeth G. Loboa, an NAI fellow, and supported by Vice Provost for Research and Chief Innovation Officer Dr. Suku Nair and many of my colleagues," said Chiao.

December 2023



Inspiring the next generation of Mustangs

Antonio Garza '83 delivers the 2023 December Commencement address on the 40th anniversary of his own graduation from SMU. A member of the University's Board of Trustees, Garza is a distinguished diplomat and attorney who served as the U.S. ambassador to Mexico from 2002 to 2009.

Leading with purpose

Throughout the year, the University welcomes experts and leaders to vital positions across campus, including ten new members to SMU's Board of Trustees who will serve four-year terms: Cynthia Fierro Harvey '99, Christopher W. Kleinert '88, Steven J. Lindley '74, Kyle D. Miller '01, James T. Mobley '80, Bryan S. Sheffield '01, Brian S. Tyler, William H. Vanderstraaten '82, John E. Waldron, III and Abigail Williams '94. Student representative Jude Ludo '25 and faculty representative David Sedman will serve one-year terms.

Additionally, two faculty members were named deans ad interim: Hugo Magallanes, Perkins School of Theology associate professor of Christianity and cultures, and Nathan Balke, Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences professor of economics.

In Athletics, Andy Enfield was chosen head men's basketball coach.



Expanding a championship site

SMU celebrates the dedication of the Holt Hickman Outdoor Pool at the Robson & Lindley Aquatics Center. The facility, named for the late Holt Hickman '54, was made possible by the Robson, Lindley and Hickman families and supported by many generous donors.





Clearing pathways for language

SHY CHILDREN TEND TO BE RESERVED IN EVERYDAY LIFE, INCLUDING WHEN COMMUNICATING WITH OTHERS.

Shyness can influence a child's performance in language assessments, depending on the level of social interaction required to complete the test, according to a study from SMU Assistant Professor of Psychology Sarah Kucker and a student she mentored at Oklahoma State University.

Shy children tend to be reserved in everyday life, including when communicating with others. The study concludes that the behavior can make accurately assessing a child's language abilities more challenging since shy children find it harder to verbally engage with clinicians and teachers than during less socially demanding tests.

The results of the research revealed significant differences in children's performance across tasks that involved looking, pointing and speaking verbally. However, all children, regardless of their shyness level, performed well on the pointing task.

> "A child's temperament, especially their shyness, could strongly impact how they will do in language tasks," said Kucker. "When children are given assessments to evaluate their language abilities, clinicians and teachers should take into account the child's shyness level, perhaps using tasks that are less burdensome for them, such as pointing tasks instead of verbal ones."

January 2024



Honoring the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

SMU honored the life, legacy and influence of the civil rights leader with Dream Week, a series of campuswide events.



Reaching new heights SMU-in-Taos celebrated 50 years of adventurous education and opportunities for exploration and unique learning experiences in the foothills of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of New Mexico.



Discovering passion through study

Engaged Learning Fellowship grants allow undergraduate SMU students to design and pursue capstone-level projects in research, service and creative activity. Students – including those below – receive up to \$2,500 to fund their project, multiple opportunities to share their work with the public, and coaching and support from faculty mentors and staff.



Ella Dabney '24

PROJECT: Voice Disorders and Care **MENTOR:** Carolyn Smith-Morris

The double major (in vocal performance and health and society) examined the attitudes, behaviors and treatments of patients seeking specialized vocal care at UT Southwestern Medical Center.



Jenna Davis '24

PROJECT: Fabric **MENTOR:** Christopher Ham

The double major in dance performance and film and media arts studied the use of fabrics in artistry and performance. She also explored identity through tactile and emotional relationships.



Theo Morris '24

PROJECT: SMU Guildhall Capstone Recording Sessions: Year Two **MENTOR:** Rob Frank

Expanding on a previous Engaged Learning project, the music composition major organized multiple liveinstrument and vocal recording sessions for two original, student-composed scores for capstone video game projects at SMU Guildhall.



Princess Igwe-Icho'25

PROJECT: Gendered Rhetoric and F-3 Family Sponsorship: Unveiling Narratives, Influencing Policies **MENTOR:** Zoe Charney

Born in Nigeria and raised in Dallas, Igwe-Icho (a quadruple major) looked at how gender roles and cultural expectations affect people applying for family sponsorship in the U.S. through the F-3 visa.



For more details about these projects visit **smu.edu/24engaged**

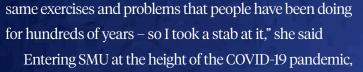
Making the

When Presidential Scholar Ying-Chu Chen '24, '25 lookedOfor opportunities to study dance in college, she neverSanticipated an SMU President's Scholarship would openOthe door to becoming a mechanical engineer.r

As a small child in Taichung, Taiwan, Chen trained in

ballet. Her adventurous ambition led her to study at the Idyllwild Arts Academy in California, where her teachers encouraged her to consider the SMU Meadows School of the Arts for her collegiate studies. Learning that SMU encourages double majors, she chose mechanical engineering as her secondary major.

"Dance and mechanical engineering are similar in that you need to spend time to practice the



Chen spent her first term studying remotely from Taiwan. She took a class from Ali Beskok, the George R. Brown Chair in mechanical engineering and associate dean for research innovation and industry partnerships in the Lyle School of Engineering. As a result of her experience,

she decided to make mechanical engineering her primary major.

Following a summer internship at Texas Instruments, Chen is continuing her studies through the Lyle School Accelerated Pathways Program, where students earn both bachelor's and master's degrees in five years by taking graduate courses while undergraduates.

"I want to advance technology and create new innovations that can

transform people's lives on an everyday basis," Chen said. "I want to learn something new and make something new at the same time."

February 2024

Engineering a brighter future

An anonymous donor makes a \$11.3 million gift for the Endowed Engineering Research Fund within the Lyle School of Engineering.



Igniting business education

Anita Ray Arnold and Truman Arnold increase their commitment toward the renovation and expansion of the Cox School of Business, to a total of \$8 million. Linda Wertheimer Hart '65 and Milledge A. "Mitch" Hart, III give \$3 million to the Cox School

renovation and expansion.

Record-breaking year for Athletics

During 2023–2024, SMU won seven conference championships, the most in a single academic year, plus a national championship.

At the end of the year, the University was named the No. 1 American Athletic Conference program in the LEARFIELD Director's Cup standings.

Mustang football capped their AAC championship season by finishing in the Associated Press Top 25 College Football Poll for the first time since 1984. Additional championships included:

- Equestrian winning its second consecutive National Collegiate Equestrian Association championship.
- Women's golf earning back-toback conference titles for the first time in program history.

- Women's tennis winning a second consecutive AAC championship.
- **Rowing** securing its fourth consecutive AAC conference championship win.
- **Volleyball** earning its first AAC championship title since 2016.
- Men's swimming and diving winning its third consecutive AAC championship.
- Men's soccer earning five major conference awards during their last season in the AAC.

Among the University's spirit squads, **SMU cheer** reclaimed the NCA Collegiate National Championship trophy.



Examining the American West

Augmenting their landmark gift in May 2023, Jan and Trevor D. Rees-Jones '78 give an additional \$30 million toward the Rees-Jones Library of the American West. The University plans to break ground in May 2025 for the new library, which will feature a collection of thousands of works ranging from the rarest first editions to quotidian examples of ephemera from as early as the 17th century. The Rees-Jones Collection will complement existing SMU strengths on related topics, comparing favorably with the holdings of some of the best institutional collections in the country devoted to the history of the American West.



to the global stage

SMU alumni and faculty share their talents in many fields – through magic, music and comedy – and gain loyal followings both online and on the screen.

Adam Waheed '16

With over 50 million followers across his social media channels and over 30 billion lifetime views on social media, Waheed attributes his success to his universal approach to comedy and the work ethic he learned as a student-athlete. "A lot of [my] mentality comes from playing football at SMU and being a walk-on who has to fight to get on the field," he says. "Everything's earned; nothing's given. That stuck with me through my years at SMU and translated to what I do now."





Marcell Silva Steuernagel

With assistance from the Scholarly Outreach Award from the Perkins School of Theology, Steuernagel, assistant professor of church music, released a fulllength congregational worship album he had been composing since the mid-1990s. Working with Tiago Brandão, a recording engineer and drummer from South Brazil, Steuernagel blended pop-rock aesthetics and congregational songs for worship.



Listen to the album smu.edu/24worship-album



Trigg Watson '12

Appearing on *America's Got Talent* for the second time in two years, Watson made it to the semifinals with cutting-edge magic acts that incorporate robots, tablets, cameras and futuristic technology that doesn't seem to exist yet. A former President's Scholar who graduated from the Cox School of Business and Meadows School of the Arts, Watson says he double majored in "show business."

Crystal Tigney '23

When she stepped on set to audition for *American Idol*, Tigney never expected she would soon be living a dream that only a handful of people experience each season. A recipient of the Meadows Artistic Scholarship, she performed in various SMU productions, including a starring role in the web series *Gro Up*, and served as a student ambassador for SMU Meadows.

March 2024

Enriching art education

A \$3.5 million gift from the estate of Anne Bromberg supports the endowments of the Meadows Museum and Meadows School of the Arts.



Enhancing life on the Hilltop

On the annual SMU Giving Day, more than 4,100 alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff and community members give over \$3.4 million to more than 200 causes across SMU.

Honoring exemplary scholarship on Spanish Art

The Mark A. Roglán Publication Award by the Custard Institute for Spanish Art and Culture at the Meadows Museum names its inaugural recipient Claudia Hopkins, professor of art history at Edinburgh College of Art at the University of Edinburgh.

Meadows at the Meyerson

The 31st Meadows at the Meyerson gala features seventime Grammy Award-winning rock musician Stewart Copeland who performs his hit show *Police Deranged for Orchestra* with the Meadows Symphony Orchestra.

Profiles in

Mustang Class of 2024

Arlo Kadane '24

After entering SMU to pursue an international studies major, Kadane added a minor in environmental anthropology and began working as a research associate. Thanks to the SMU-in-Italy program, he fell in love with city design and architecture, and through Engaged Learning took his interests to Colombia, where he studied the environmental impacts of smallscale mining and deforestation. Kadane recently began his graduate career at the University of Southern California, where he is pursuing a master's degree in landscape architecture and urbanism.



Guadalupe Roman'24

With triple majors in human rights, educational studies and Spanish, Roman was first introduced to SMU and to humanitarian work in the eighth grade, when Human Rights Program director Rick Halperin spoke to her class. Empowered by a President's

Scholarship, Roman became the student director for Engage Dallas, an assistant with the Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and the co-strategic director for the Human Rights Council. Now, Roman is utilizing her skills in Goldman Sachs' compliance office, where she previously interned and now works full time to promote equitable policies and procedures.

Opal Lee

Known as the "Grandmother of Juneteenth," 97-yearold Opal Lee received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from SMU. A nationally recognized civil

rights activist, retired teacher and counselor, Lee's perseverance and optimistic insight led to a national grassroots walking campaign that resulted in the 2021 establishment of June 19 – the date commemorating the end of U.S. slavery – as a federal holiday.

April 2024

Vital initiative for law school

In celebration of its centennial anniversary in 2025, SMU Dedman School of Law launches a scholarship challenge, with the school offering to create permanent endowed scholarships that match operational-scholarship gifts of at least \$100,000.

Encouraging those devoted to the arts

The Spaht Family Foundation gives \$2 million to the Meadows School of the Arts, endowing the chair of the Division of Art and financing opportunities for exceptional students to focus on intensive creation and study of their craft.

Inspiring excellence

A gift from the Jeanne R. Johnson Foundation supports of the renovation and expansion of the Cox School of Business as well as adjunct music faculty at the Meadows School of the Arts.

Centennial celebration

SMU participates in events celebrating the 100th anniversary of the City of University Park. Additionally, the University provides a letter for the city's centennial time capsule and the SMU Board of Trustees issues a resolution recognizing the city's 1924 founding.

Professor honored

Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson names Simmons School of Education and Human Development professor and award-winning poet Mag Gabbert poet laureate of Dallas.

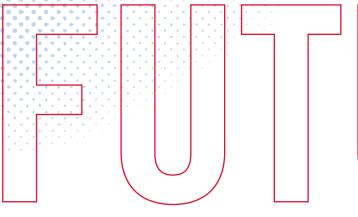
SOLAR SPECTACLE

On April 8, thousands of spectators gathered on the Dallas Hall lawn to witness our region momentarily shadowed in darkness during the total solar eclipse. Guests came equipped with pillows, blankets, specially designed sunglasses and even pet dogs to partake in the once-in-a-lifetime spectacle.

The rare celestial event was complemented by discussions from physics professors and astronomers, telescope observations (both in-person and projected digitally), events at the Meadows Museum, and live demonstrations led by student journalists from *The Daily Campus*. The George W. Bush Presidential Center offered viewings in the Laura W. Bush Native Texas Park and tours of the park by Texas Master Naturalists.

2023-2024

Forging the





On May 3, SMU celebrated the dedication of the David B. Miller Quadrangle, home of the Cox School of Business. The \$140 million project increases the school's footprint by 32% and provides the facilities needed to prepare students for an ever-more collaborative and technologically integrated world.

"The enhancement of the Cox School of Business facilities shows that we're serious about business

of business education

education for the long-term future," said R. Gerald Turner, SMU president. "We thank David and Carolyn Miller and our other generous donors for their commitment that benefits the Cox School and also makes a positive impact on the University and North Texas."

Carolyn Miller and David B. Miller '72, '73, cofounder of EnCap Investments LP and SMU Board of Trustees chair, helped launch the renovation and



WE ARE EXCITED THAT SO MANY HAVE CHOSEN TO INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF THE SCHOOL BY ADVANCING THE EDUCATION OF FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS AT SMU AND ACROSS NORTH TEXAS."

> David B. Miller '72, '73 Chair of SMU Board of Trustees







expansion project as part of a \$50 million gift in 2019. Nearly 60 donors have made principal gifts of \$1 million or more toward the project and nearly 300 other alumni and supporters have joined the milestone endeavor.



Learn more about the future of business education at the Cox School **smu.edu/24cox-future**

May 2024

Saluting public service and work

A \$1 million gift from Linda Wertheimer Hart '65 and Milledge A. "Mitch" Hart, III establishes the David Gergen Director of the SMU Center for Presidential History.

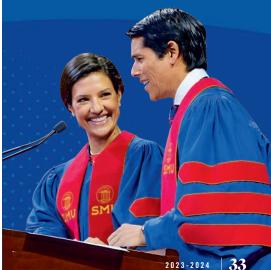


Inspiring future leaders

The Hart Global Leaders Forum Regional High School Seminar Series features Theresa May, former United Kingdom prime minister and current Member of Parliament.

Creating world changers

During May Commencement ceremonies, Megha and Nirav Tolia – who in September 2023 were named co-founding directors of the William S. Spears Institute for Entrepreneurial Leadership in SMU's Cox School of Business – encourage more than 3,000 graduates in their pursuits to change their communities and the world beyond.



Charging into the future

As we reflect on another successful year at SMU, we remain grateful for the continuing generosity and dedication of the donors who make these achievements possible. This year, the University received \$40 million in new gifts to advance SMU's educational and research missions. Donor support of SMU student-athletes is also making a transformative difference on the field and court, bringing pride to all who cherish our institution. Marked by our recent move to the Atlantic Coast Conference on July 1, 2024, SMU's upward trajectory continues, shining a national spotlight on our excellence in athletics and academic programming.

Our third comprehensive fundraising campaign, *SMU Ignited: Boldly Shaping Tomorrow*, has further strengthened a wide range of campus programs including academics, research, athletics and facilities. The careful stewardship of our endowed gifts by SMU's Investment Office continues to be a priority, ensuring a stable source of income to support the University's operations in the years ahead.

\$306,711,223

TOTAL NEW COMMITMENTS

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The Rees-Jones Library of the American West Acquisition Fund The Rees-Jones Library of the American West Endowed Fund The Rees-Jones Library of the American West Renovation Fund The Rees-Jones Library of the American West Staff Compensation Fund

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Mustang Excellence Fund for Men's Tennis SMU Cheer

S.V.P. for Development & External Affairs Discretionary Fund

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First Week Society
SMU Fund for Greatest Needs
The Mary and Richard Templeton Endowed Dean Fund
The Mary and Richard Templeton Endowed Engineering
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Raymond Thomason '72

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First Week Society Garry Weber End Zone Complex MBA Scholarships

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Neal Yanofsky

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Life After Ball

Youngkin/Phos Center for Faith and Learning Staffing, Scholars and Events Fund

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As the *SMU Ignited* campaign continues, we thank the following donors of cumulative gifts and commitments of \$1 million or more from January 1, 2016 through May 31, 2024.

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Consolidated financial reports

The information on pages 48-49 was derived from the audited financial statements of the University for fiscal year June 1, 2023, through May 31, 2024.

JUNE 1, 2023 - MAY 31, 2024 (IN 000S)

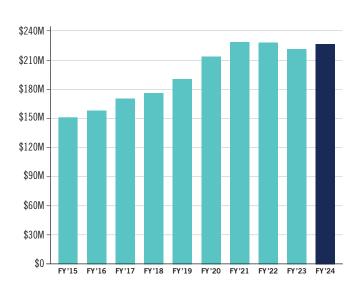
BALANCE SHEET

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY		
Revenue Net tuition and fees	\$394,949	
Gifts	\$240,304	
Endowment income, net of investment expenses	\$7,7847	
Net realized and unrealized gains on investments	\$185,179	
Grants and contracts	\$33,485	
Organized activities	\$11,118	
Other sources	\$86,918	
Auxiliary activities	\$42,163	
Total Revenue	\$1,001,963	
Expenses Program expenses:		
Instructional	\$207,878	
Academic support	\$109,958	
Research	\$50,763	
Organized activities	\$14,531	
Student services	\$176,224	
Auxiliary activities	\$32,863	
Total Program Expenses	\$592,217	
Institutional support	\$120,812	
Total Expenses	\$713,029	
Other changes	\$(4,621)	
Change in Net Assets During the Year	\$284,313	

BALANCE SHELT	
Assets Cash and cash equivalents	\$225,668
Accounts receivable	\$46,929
Pledges receivable	\$324,970
Investments	\$2,338,120
Property, plant and equipment	\$1,523,341
Other assets	\$34,052
Total Assets	\$4,493,080
Liabilities	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$207,786
Accounts payable and accrued expenses Deposits and deferred income	\$207,786 \$47,486
Deposits and deferred income	\$47,486
Deposits and deferred income Long-term debt	\$47,486 \$628,267
Deposits and deferred income Long-term debt Other liabilities	\$47,486 \$628,267 \$2,996
Deposits and deferred income Long-term debt Other liabilities	\$47,486 \$628,267 \$2,996

Expenditures toward strategic goals

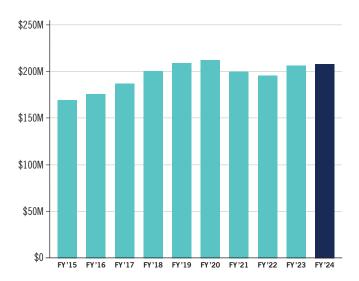
During the past decade, SMU has increased annual expenditures for scholarships, faculty and academic achievement in support of goals identified in the University's Strategic Plan.



STUDENT SUPPORT Annual University expenditures for tuition scholarships

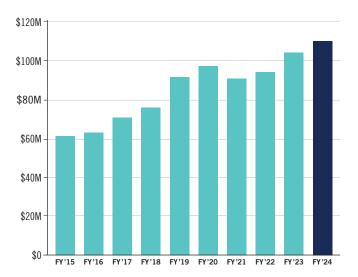


for academic instruction



ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Annual University expenditures for academic support, including library, advising and technology resources

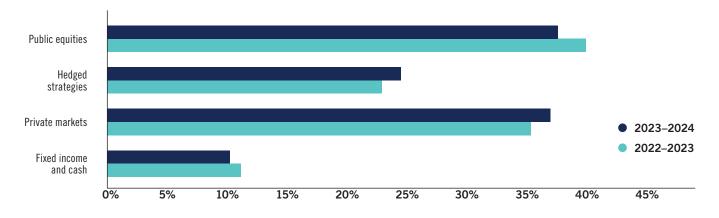


2023-2024 49

Investing in our future

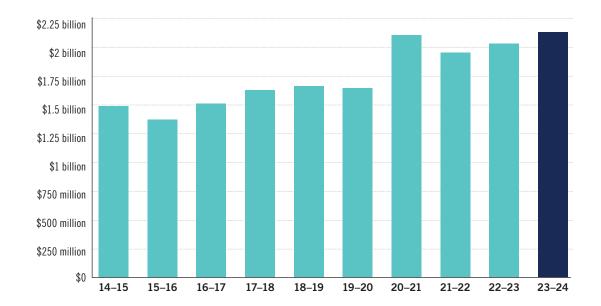
Gifts to support SMU's endowment continue to play an ever-growing role in the health and strength of the University. Over the past fiscal year, global equity markets reached new all-time highs in June as inflation concerns and economic uncertainty eased. Despite ongoing uncertainties surrounding an election year and rising geopolitical tensions, the University remains committed to its long-term investment strategy, focusing on growth while maintaining prudent levels of liquidity, risk and diversification.

The endowment pool's investment portfolio achieved a 7.6% return for the fiscal year ending June 2024. Over the past five years, the portfolio has delivered an annual return of 7.4%, surpassing the 7.0% return of a passive 70/30 index of global stocks and bonds over the same period. As of June 2024, the endowment's fair market value stands at approximately \$2.1 billion. A robust endowment is essential to sustaining SMU's mission. In FY24, the endowment contributed \$99 million to support the University's operations. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support and trust in our stewardship of these vital resources.



ENDOWMENT POOL ASSET ALLOCATION

ENDOWMENT MARKET VALUE 2014-2024

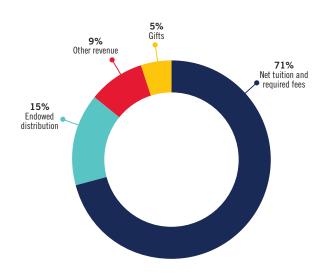




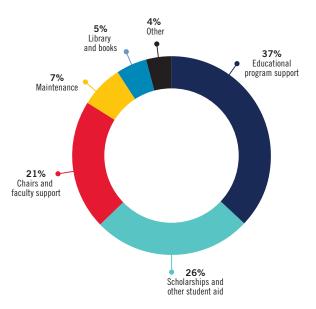
64 NEW ENDOWMENT FUNDS ESTABLISHED IN FY24



2023–2024 REVENUE SOURCES



2023–2024 ENDOWMENT DISTRIBUTION BY DESIGNATED PURPOSE





















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