

# Weekly Update | November 4, 2022

Elizabeth G. Loba, Ph.D. Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dear Faculty and Staff,

These weekly updates will serve as a tool to keep you informed and engaged with SMU's Academic Affairs division as, together, we work toward achieving the goals that fall within our four priority areas through 2021-2025 Strategic Plan and 4) Inclusive Excellence. Excellence/ top 50, 2) Road to R1: Research and Scholarly/Creative Excellence, 3) 2016 – 2025 Strategic Plan and 4) Inclusive Excellence.

If you have suggestions for what we should include in future communications, please send your ideas to this [email address](#). Previous newsletters are available [here](#).

Today's update falls into three categories: 1) Fall 2022, 2) Road to R1: Research and Scholarly/Creative Excellence, and 3) News and Noteworthy.

## Fall 2022

### Executive Board Meetings this Week

This week, President Turner, Vice President for Development and External Affairs Brad Cheves and I joined Dean Jason Nance in a meeting with the Dedman School of Law's executive board.

#### Dedman School of Law

I updated board members on SMU's – and Dedman Law's – recent accomplishments toward greater academic excellence and provided introductions of our newest deans – Jason Nance, Judge James Noel Dean of the Dedman School of Law, and Robin Poston, Dean of the Moody School of Graduate and Advanced Studies and Associate Provost for Graduate Education. I concluded with an update on our search for a new dean of the Lyle School of Engineering.

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## Deadline Extension: Last Day to Drop a Course (Grade of W)

In light of Tuesday's disruption to classes, the Registrar's office notified students that November 11, 2022 will now be the last day to drop a course with a grade of "W." We appreciate this flexibility and quick response from the Registrar's Office in service to our faculty and students.

## Reminders from Last Week

### Invitation to Participate in December Commencement

Please access the [December Commencement RSVP](#) webpage to let us know if you will attend the December ceremony and participate in the academic procession. The deadline to RSVP for attending the ceremony is **Friday, December 2nd**, by 4:00 p.m. Clark Hunt '87, chairman and CEO of the Kansas City Chiefs and FC Dallas and member of SMU's Board of Trustees, will be the commencement speaker.

Prior to the ceremony, there will be a faculty breakfast beginning at 7:45 a.m. in the Miller Champions Club in the Miller Event Center, directly inside the entrance to the Coliseum on Binkley Avenue. [If you want to attend the breakfast, please RSVP by clicking here.](#) The deadline to RSVP for the breakfast is

