email address. Previous newsletters are available here.

Today's update falls into three categories: 1) Spring 2023, 2) Road to R1: Research and Scholarly/Creative Excellence, and 3) News and Noteworthy.

Spring 2023

Honors Convocation 2023

Honors Convocation occurred today, April 28, at 2:00 p.m., and marked the 26th celebration of SMU's outstanding students whose intelligence, dedication, and hard work contribute greatly to the life of the University. Thank you to Dr. Lynne Stokes, professor in Dedman College's Department of Statistics (which will be part of our new interdisciplinary Department of Statistical and Data Science in August), for being this year's featured speaker. And congratulations to the 540 students who were recognized for their academic excellence. See a full list of award recipients here.

Annual Faculty Senate Dinner

On Wednesday, April 26, my office hosted the Annual Faculty Senate Dinner at the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden. This long-standing tradition honors Faculty Senate members for their work done in service to the University and our faculty. Thank you to all who were able to attend.

Lyle Executive Board spring meeting recap

This week I joined President Turner, Brad Cheves, Vice President for Development and External Affairs; and Nader Jalili, inaugural Mary and Richard Templeton Dean, at the Lyle Executive Board's spring meeting. During my remarks, I reviewed SMU's enrollment forecast for fall 2023, as well as our strategies to keep enrollment strong going forward. I focused particularly on graduate student enrollment and, among recent successes, acknowledged Lyle's projected graduate student increases for fall 2023.

Additionally, I shared our plans for expanding our research impact through innovation and entrepreneurship. Recent investments, such as leasing space in Pegasus Park, transitioning the Incubator@SMU to the Office of Research and Innovation, conducting a national search for the inaugural Peter O'Donnell, Jr. Data Science Institute Director and receiving an incredible gift from Mary and Rich

Templeton to endow both the Mary and Richard Templeton Engineering Excellence Program and deanship are an exciting start to our growing focus on research and innovation.

Provost participating in informal conversations with college/school faculty this spring

On Monday, April 24, I met with faculty from Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences. Thank you to the faculty who participated and shared their perspectives during this insightful conversation.

To wrap up these spring conversations, I will be meeting with the Dedman School of Law faculty on May 9, at 10:00 a.m. in the Hillcrest Appellate Courtroom and Classroom in the Underwood Law Library.

Updated procedures for the service and sale of alcohol on campus

Please take a moment to read the updated guidelines, recently approved by the President's Executive Council (PEC), regarding serving alcohol at on-campus events per SMU Policy 1.15, Alcohol Policy. It is important that all members of the SMU community follow these policies for their own safety as well as for the safety of others. If you have any questions, please contact your dean or department chair.

Generative AI & Chat GPT Follow-Up Panel

Yesterday, the Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) hosted the Generative AI & Chat GPT Follow-Up Panel. This panel was initiated by a group of faculty and staff across campus who came together to begin