



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 2025: 1) Academic Excellence, 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 [submit your ideas through this form](#). Suggestions received before noon on Tuesday will be reviewed and considered for publication in that week's Friday newsletter. Others will be held until the following week. Previous newsletters are available [here](#).

Today's update falls into four categories: 1) Spring 2024, 2) Academic Excellence, 3) Road to R1: Research and Scholarly/Creative Excellence, and 4) News and Noteworthy.

Spring 2024

SMU welcoming newly-admitted students to the Hilltop

On Friday, March 15, President Turner [sent a message](#) to

current term. It is distributed around midterms and has built-in interventions to connect struggling students with SMU's array of campus support resources.

In the next four class days, I encourage faculty to allocate 30 seconds of class time for students to complete this survey or to announce the survey to students via Canvas. The mid-semester check-in survey runs through March 31, 2024.

Moody School of Graduate and Advanced Studies and Office of Student Academic Engagement and Success announce winners of Outstanding Graduate Student Instruction Award

Sponsored by the Moody School of Graduate and Advanced Studies and the Office of Student Academic Engagement and Success, the Outstanding Graduate Student Instruction Award recognizes exemplary contributions to the teaching of SMU undergraduates by graduate student instructors (a) 1996 (e) 147 (r) 17 (s) 96 (t) 1 (u) 224 (v) 1 (w) 109 (x) 5 (y) 167 (z) 7 (aa) 106 (ab) 102 (

Research team from SMU, University of Maine, and Fairfie Id win National Teachers grant

on topics such as discovery, plea bargaining, bail, motion practice and litigation strategy. They will also map critical research and policy questions concerning how AI technologies can advance equal justice, due process and public safety.

[Register here](#) for the workshop; please note that space is extremely limited. When you register, please use the promo code "research" to access the tickets reserved specifically for SMU faculty and staff.

SMU civil eng

SMU students Raleigh Dewan '24 and Mason Morland '24 will be taking their [SteadySpoon](#), a self-stabilizing utensil mobility aid, to compete in the [Atlantic Coast Conference \(ACC\) InVenture Prize](#) competition on March 27, at 6 p.m. CST. This competition gathers top student innovators from across the ACC to compete for start-