

Weekly Update | April 28, 2023

[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 w234.48 Tm0j-2.9 (20T)-17one 9 (

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](#)

