March 25, 2022

Dear Colleagues:

academic mission. These weekly updates will serve as a tool to keep you informed a

manage a safe, healthy and productive spring semester. If you have suggestions for what we should include in future communications, please send your ideas to this <u>email address</u>. Previous new sletters are available <u>here</u>.

Spring 2022

Faculty accommodations for remote teaching needs after spring 2022 Moving forward after the spring 2022 semester, faculty who need to request a reasonable accommodation on the basis of a disability for teaching will need to request accommodation through the Office of

Council (PEC) approved the following language and requested that it be shared with all faculty:

-to-face courses as emergency remote courses was authorized by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). In light of the expiration of the emergency remote authorization by SACSCOC, beginning with May term 2022, emergency remote teaching will no longer be allowed. Faculty who need to request a reasonable accommodation on the basis of a disability for teaching should contact IAE to request on-campus accommodations. IAE will continue to assess each request on an individualized basis. Any courses at SMU that are taught through online modalities must be approved by the Educational Programs Committee and fully follow the SMU GO process and

Monthly Council of Deans meeting recap On Wednesday, the Deans and I gathered for our monthly Council of Deans meeting. Sheri Kunovich, Associate Provost for Student A cademic Engagement and Success, and Dayna Oscherwitz, Associate Provost for Institutional Planning and Effectiveness, facilitated a brief discussion around a proposal to review communication protocols and operational processes around key academic policies for undergraduate and graduate students. I provided brief updates Wes Waggoner, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, concluded the meeting by sharing a proposal for SMU to partner with Sister2Sister an international organization focused on improving the lives of women and children from underprivileged, difficult, and even at times, dangerous backgrounds by expanding their access to education.

SMU Giving Day on March 22

a 24-hour opportunity to rally the Mustang community in shaping our future. In just one day, over 3,500 donors committed more than \$8M in support for the SMU people and causes that matter most to them. Thank you to all who participated and, by doing so, showed the world what Mustangs can do in just one day!

Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) reaccreditation visit next week reaccreditation team will be on-site next week for campus interviews, including a meeting on Tuesday with President Turner and me. Thanks to Cox administrators, faculty and staff for their hard work preparing for and responding to the AACSB reaccreditation process.

Reminders from previous new sletters:

 Please complete the brief survey you received from OIT to improve our facilities/OIT data On Tuesday, March 8.56 TJ03e956 TJ03eq0.002(a)(40.0d 6.3) Policy changes in response to adverse events and inclement weather Based on faculty and staff suggestions, as well as feedback stemming from the working group of faculty and academic staff assembled to

has decided to return to our previous (prior to spring 2020) approach of canceling class during inclement weather. The relevant policies (<u>Policy</u> 7.7 and <u>Policy 9.12</u> <u>University Policy website</u>. See ______ for additional information.

o Planning for May and summer terms

ations and High-performance The keynote will consider the impact and promise of these technologies across the disciplines from science and engineering to the humanities and will be held via Zoom webinar on Monday, March 28, at 6:00 pm. More information and the link to register can be found here: <u>R&I</u> <u>Week Keynote Talk</u>.

You can find information about all of the Research & Innovation Week events at <u>www.smu.edu/riw</u>. Other events include the Undergraduate Poster Session (Tuesday, March 29, 3:00 6:00 pm, Hughes-Trigg Student Center Ballroom), Graduate Poster Session (Wednesday, March 30, 2:00 -5:00 pm, Hughes-Trigg Student Center Ballroom), and Panels with Student Winners of National Fellowships (Friday, April 1, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, Hughes-Trigg Student Center 121 and 226). In addition, a number of departments are organizing events in conjunction with Research & Innovation Week. A listing of departmental events can be found here: <u>R&I Week Departmental</u> <u>Events</u>.

Ribbon cutting for Biolabs grand opening at Pegasus Park This week, I attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for Biolabs at Pegasus Park, a 40,000 SF state-of-the-art, flexible lab, training and office space that aims to serve as the epicenter for regional life science innovation and to enable biotech trailblazers in their pursuit of the next big scientific breakthrough.

Pegasus Park, developed in a partnership between Lyda Hill Philanthropies and J. Small Investments, opened in 2021 after years of planning and develo

nonprofit and corporate innovation. SMU is in talks with Pegasus Park to establish a partnership that will give our faculty exposure to opportunities for expanded research and innovation. Be on the lookout for additional information on this exciting opportunity.

Key leadership searches underway

- Dedman Law Dean Click <u>here</u> to go to the website where the position profile is posted that will guide our search for the next Dean of the Dedman School of Law. And, please share with prospective candidates from within your network. The search committee will review the developing applicant pool during a half-day meeting scheduled for April 6.
- Vice Provost for Research and Chief Innovation Officer Interviews and campus visits for two of our four finalists took place this week with the remaining two campus visits scheduled for early April. We will share more details in subsequent new sletters. As a reminder, all candidates arriving to Campus should remain confidential. Please do
- Dean of the Moody School of Graduate and Advanced Studies and Associate Provost for Graduate Education This week, search committee members and I conducted airport interviews with our seven semifinalists with plans to narrow the field and bring 3-5 finalists to campus for interviews in April.

News and Noteworthy:

SMU Dean named President of Clarkson University As <u>announced</u> <u>yesterday</u>, Marc Christensen, Dean and Lyle Professor of Engineering Innovation in the Lyle School of Engineering, has accepted an offer to become the next president of Clarkson University in Potsdam, New York on July 1, 2022.

Next week, I will be meeting with the Lyle Executive Board and with Lyle faculty and staff to begin a series of conversations that will guide our search for a new Dean and inform my decision on an Interim Dean. We

replacement, and I have asked Sam Holland, Dean of the Meadows School, to chair the search. Together, we will charge a search committee in early fall to identify candidates for the permanent Dean of the Lyle School of Engineering.

Dean Christensen has been at SMU for 20 years and served as Department Chair or Dean for 15 of those years. He has worked very effectively with