operation. Also, no-cost [COVID-19 testing is available through your medical provider](#).

SMU building and facilities crews began removing pandemic-related signage around campus on May 16th.  If you have signs in your classroom, office or hallway referencing masks or other COVID-19 policies, please remove them to prevent confusion.

Departments and units should check websites and other online resources to ensure that any outdated references to COVID-19 or SMU pandemic protocols are removed. If desired, [a link to the Mustang Strong website](#) can be provided for the latest information.

Thank you for your continued commitment to keeping our campus healthy and for the great lengths you have taken these past two years in service to our students and our community.

Faculty support available to build professional websites on people.smu.edu – [People.SMU](#) allows faculty, staff, students, and SMU organizations to quickly and easily build and customize websites. Faculty members can have one individual site and multiple additional sites to facilitate academic, teaching, or research needs.

The Office of Information Technology (OIT) offers a [WordPress consultation service](#) to help faculty create professional sites. Click here for more information on the service and to [book an appointment](#) with a consultant.

Road to R1/Scholarly Creative Excellence:

SMU Supercomputing Updates: Launch of NVIDIA SuperPOD, M3 Updates, & Center for Research Computing (CRC) Newsletter – After a long wait, all of the pieces of SMU's new NVIDIA DGX SuperPOD are

finally assembled and being prepared by the Office of Information Technology (OIT) for faculty use!  The first round of SuperPOD on-boarding will begin the week of May 23rd when our High-performance Computing (HPC) support team will begin migrating several projects to our new syst19.66 438.3ology (OIT) f

Initial SuperPOD on-boarding projects will focus on developing workloads in the areas of artificial intelligence/machine learning, molecular dynamics, and GPU algorithm development.  In the weeks ahead, additional on-boarding and training will be provided.  As we launch the SuperPOD, we are also excited to announce that after almost twelve months of writing, vetting, and awarding a new RFP, the joint CRC and OIT team, led by Dr. Tom Hagstrom, a contract has been completed to build the next generation HPC environment: M3.

o Lyle School of Engineering Dean – The search committee for the permanent dean will be appointed and charged at the start of the fall 2022 semester and Sam Holland, Dean of the Meadows School, will chair the committee.
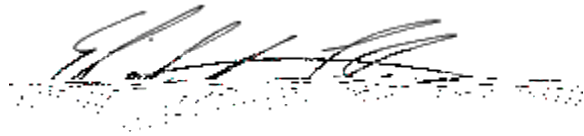
News and Noteworthy:

SMU faculty and staff receive additional Hilltop Excellence Awards – The [Hilltop Excellence Awards](#) is SMU's most prestigious awards ceremony, annually recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of students, staff, and faculty at SMU. Each spring, the Division of Student Affairs invites nominations from the entire SMU community.

In last week's newsletter, I recognized recipients of the "M" award. This week, I wanted to feature additional faculty who received much-deserved recognition during the event:

o Outstanding Faculty/Staff Volunteer – Owen Lynch, Associate Professor and Altshuler Distinguished Professor of Corporate Communications in the Meadows School of the Arts' Division of Corporate Communication and Public Affairs.

o Willis M. Tate Award – Mark Fontenot, Clinical Professor ca

Announcing new Faculty in Residence for fall 2022 (FiR) –Acting on the recommendation of the FiR Recruitment and Selection committee, last week we [announced](#) that Ashley Stone, Clinical Assistant Professor in the Simmons School of Education's Department of Education Policy and Leadership, will begin service this fall as a FiR in McElvaney Commons. Congratulations, Dr. Stone! And, thank you to all our faculty applicants.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth G. Loboa, PhD
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Southern Methodist University
https://www.smu.edu/provost
World Changers Shaped Here